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VOLUME 11 EDITION 15

THURSDAY,
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Words of wisdom

...SOME
a Beautiful
day begins
with
a beautiful
Mindset



DRAW
SOMETHING!
BE KIND!!

The young (and young at heart) of Morden-Winkler are spreading words of love and encouragement with sidewalk art. The City of Winkler is encouraging people to post photos of their creations with #yeswinkler and #alonetogether, while in Morden the Morden Mennonite Church created the Morden Chalk Walk: Coming Together While Being Apart Facebook event page to encourage people to spread some joy around town.

PHOTO BY LORNE
STELMACH/VOICE

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

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JOIN THE FIGHT TO DEFEAT COVID-19

PROTECT yourself, PROTECT your loved ones, PROTECT your community

COVID-19 IS HERE, MANITOBA. WE ALL NEED TO DO OUR PART TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD.

It only takes
one person to
infect many.

**DON'T BE THAT
ONE PERSON**

To defeat COVID-19, we all need to take social (physical) distancing seriously, right now. Those who don't are not only risking their health, but the health of others as well.

DO THIS:



Stay home as much as possible

Things you can do at home like reading, watching TV, playing games, sitting on your deck, spring cleaning, yard work, and cooking are all good! Staying home whenever it is possible makes us all safer right now.



Use technology to keep in touch with your friends and loved ones

We all need to keep in touch with our friends and loved ones, especially when keeping physical distance. Phone calls, texting, and video chats are all great options.



Get outside

Take a walk, go for a run or bike ride or hike in open spaces away from crowds, on your own or with members of your household only.



Keep at least 2 arms lengths away (2 metres or 6 feet)

For those times when you must be out in public, always use caution by keeping at least 2 metres or six feet distance from others as much as possible. Also remember to wash your hands well and often, avoid touching your face and cough and sneeze into the bend of your arm.



Shop wisely

There are things we need like groceries, fuel, prescriptions and the like. Use caution when out by washing your hands well and often, avoid touching your face, and cough or sneeze into the bend of your arm. Whenever possible, try to use online shopping and home delivery. Please remember that panic buying is not needed.

DON'T DO THIS:



Play dates, sleepovers & in-person visits

We must not have non-essential visitors in our homes, be in a car, or spend time outside with anyone not from our household. It's important to keep in contact with those we care about in non-physical ways, like phone calls, texting or video chats.



Crowds or groups

It doesn't matter if we know the people or not, things like birthdays, dinner parties, weddings, funerals, religious services and team sports must be avoided.



Physical greetings

Handshakes and hugs are out. We need to get good at non-physical greetings like waving or nodding. Limiting unnecessary touching makes us all safer right now.



Touching surfaces people touch often

Walking or exercising outside is great, but keep your distance from others, and avoid whenever possible things like hand rails, public play structures and public phones.



Contact with people at higher risk of COVID-19 (older adults or those in poor health)

We all have a responsibility to protect those in our community who are most at risk from COVID-19. This includes members of our family. We can use non-physical ways to stay in touch, and where possible we can maybe even help these people with getting groceries and other essential errands.

REMEMBER THIS:

- Wash your hands well and often, and avoid touching your face.
- Always cough or sneeze into the bend of your arm.
- Disinfect frequently used surfaces (like countertops and door handles).
- Be kind to one another. We're all trying our best to cope with these changes, and a little kindness will go a long way these days. We're in this together, Manitoba.



YOU MUST:



STAY HOME: If you feel sick, or suspect you may be sick, you must self-isolate by staying at home for 14 days, even if your symptoms clear before then.

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covid19manitoba.ca

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WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER, MANITOBA.

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Manitoba



Staying close while staying apart

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Last Friday, Mary Martens arrived at the Co-op truck stop between Morden and Winkler armed with some food and a lawn chair.

She and her husband John broke bread together in front of his parked semi truck, keeping several feet away from each other throughout the afternoon spent enjoying one another's company.

"We just sat there, distanced, and spent some time together," Mary says. "As tough as it is, we can still do this at least."

It's not the typical way Mary's family spends Good Friday, but as it's the closest she's been able to get to her husband in weeks, she considered it a blessing.

"He's a long distance trucker and because he goes way down into the U.S., to B.C., Alberta, and everywhere else, there's been no two weeks where he's been in Manitoba since this all started," she says. "So he hasn't been able to come home in a long time."

Two weeks is how long health officials advise people to self-isolate after travelling outside the province to see if they're likely to come down with or be an asymptomatic carrier of COVID-19.

As a result, the Martens, who have

been married for 35 years, haven't been able to embrace in over a month, not since the novel coronavirus up-ended day-to-day life for us all.

"It's been really, really tough on our family and I know it is for other truckers, too," says Mary. "We all know what we're supposed to do, but it is hard."

John, who spent the last few weeks in the southern U.S. and was only back in town for a couple of days before heading back down there with another load, isn't feeling sick, but he's not about to take any chances.

"I couldn't say whether I'd be contagious or have any dangers as far as contacting other people go," he says. "But, in the interest of precaution, I don't want to

compromise my family."

And so last weekend John slept in his truck, and he'll do so again if need be the next time he's home between loads.

It's been a challenging few weeks, he says. In his 15 years as a trucker, it's been knowing his family is there waiting for him at the end of a run that's kept his spirits up during long, lonely hours on the road.

"The thing I feel most is this separa-

Continued on page 6

"WE ALL KNOW WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO, BUT IT IS HARD."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mary and John Martens celebrated Good Friday at a distance from one another at the Co-op truck stop. It's been over a month since John, a trucker, has been able to be home with his family.

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Local companies switch gears to start making masks, face shields

By Lorne Stelmach

Local companies are among a growing list of businesses and manufacturers that are contributing to efforts to battle the novel coronavirus.

Whether it's ICON Technologies in Winkler switching from making RV

parts to face shields or Deasil Custom Sewing in Morden ramping up production to make cloth face masks, it is not only about doing business but being able to make a difference against COVID-19.

"We're very excited that we can employ people again. That is the

highlight. It's been a complete turnaround," said Ron Funk of Deasil Custom Sewing. "We went from donating the masks in the beginning for free and now it's just such a huge demand."

Deasil's business took a significant downturn initially when it lost a major customer and supplier after Canada Goose had to shut down due to the pandemic.

The company had 54 employees but were forced to scale back to just four people. The layoffs were devastating to everyone, Funk said.

"The biggest joy that we're seeing is we actually get to call our people back," he said.

Deasil got the ball rolling by contacting Fabricland and Softlined Fabric in Winkler, both of which were willing to donate fabric and elastic for the masks.

For Abe Penner of Fabricland, it was an easy decision to contribute.

"Basically, that's a lot of our business that we're doing now ... face masks for everybody," he said. "We help where we can."

In exchange for the masks, Deasil

has been accepting donations for the Agassiz Medical Centre renovation fundraising campaign.

Growing interest in their masks led the company to also connect with the Main Street Project in Winnipeg.

"We donated 130 masks there, plus a friend of ours asked for 24 masks and then he donated \$5,000 on our behalf to the Main Street Project," said Funk. "Since then we've also raised about another \$1,000 just giving them away here at the front door."

"The demand from our existing customers started to cut in where we started getting orders and inquiries for masks," Funk said, noting the Winkler and Morden Co-op stores were among their first customers, with 500 masks ordered.

"That was kind of our first initial ramp up into production of the masks. Then we have another customer that placed an order for just under 30,000 masks," he said. "So from there, it's just gone up ... now we're ramping up to full production. We're recalling people, we're hiring new people, and we're taking on people to sew at

Continued on page 5



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Morden's Deasil Custom Sewing and Winkler's ICON Technologies have begun mass producing cloth face masks and plastic face shields, respectively, to help in the fight against the novel coronavirus.

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Food cupboards grateful for community's support

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler and District Food Cupboard continues to be blown away by the community's generosity, even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

When they put out a call in recent weeks for donations of some of the staples volunteers were struggling to find on store shelves, the community stepped up, says board chair Herb Dick.

"We're extremely grateful for the amount of stuff people have been leaving," he said, noting they've set up a donation box outside the door of their space at the Central Station Community Centre (545 Industrial Drive).

Central Station has been posting weekly updates on its social media pages about what items are most needed (this past week it was canned fruit, soup, peanut butter, and jam) and getting the word out that way has certainly helped ensure the hampers

being handed out are well stocked.

"We like to think we're providing a pretty good, nutritious amount of food," Dick said.

The food cupboard has shifted from weekly Wednesday morning pickups to deliveries instead to meet physical distancing restrictions.

The demand for food has fluctuated week to week, but Dick expects they'll see increased need as the economic fallout of COVID-19 really starts to hit home over the next couple of months.

"This week we had 10 brand new families," he noted, adding they're working hard to keep their shelves stocked each week so they can meet the demand as it grows.

If you're struggling to put food on the table, the food cupboard is there to help, Dick stressed, urging anyone in need to call Central Station at 204-325-0257 for information on getting a food hamper delivery.

Meanwhile, The Hub Community Centre in Morden has also shifted



its food hamper distribution from a weekly Tuesday pick-up service to deliveries.

Donation bins are set up at the Cop food store and Giant Tiger. Items most needed include spaghetti, cereal, pork and beans, juice, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, and canned meat, fruits, and vegetables.

"Thank you everyone for helping feed our community," food bank organizer Denise Thiessen posted recently on the agency's Facebook page.

If you live in Morden and require a food hamper, email thehubcommunitycentre@gmail.com to arrange for delivery.

Morden to welcome Valley Fiber to town for high-speed internet

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is turning to Valley Fiber to bring better high speed internet service to the community.

The announcement came Tuesday that Valley Fiber was selected from among 10 bids that came in response to the city's request for proposals.

Coming after a year which saw much controversy around the city walking away from its own Morenet high speed internet service, council was clearly sold on moving ahead with Valley Fiber.

"Valley Fiber was the best performer in the group ... it was hands down that this was the way go ... when looking at not only cost but service," suggested Mayor Brandon Burley. "We were very pleased with what they came back with ... it was not only the lowest cost but also significantly deliverable and that far exceeded our expectations for the value."

Burley noted one of many factors in Valley Fiber's favour was their reliability and proven track record.

"We did ask for several things with the RFP ... one was stability of the company. We wanted to know that they were in a position to carry on with this for a long time."

As well, he sees this overall delivering a significant reduction in ongoing operational costs for the city, with added efficiencies as well as security and stability.

Under the overall cost of about \$850,000 over two years, the city is getting a 12 strand dedicated loop between their various city facilities.

"The return on investment for the city was what was really attractive to the city ... by having our own internal dedicated loop, we can connect all our facilities together, have one internet connection ... and we also only need to have one server location," Burley explained.

"And these connections will be able to serve the community, not just for

now but for decades to come ... so it's a solution to a very real present need that is scaled for the long term."

"The weight on taxpayers this year will be nil. There will be no change in your tax bills this year or next year," he added.

The City of Morden is slated to receive federal gas tax revenue that had been delayed pending completion of audited financial statements. That funding will cover the \$850,000, the mayor said, "and then we have \$30,000 that can still be used on an-

other eligible project."

Burley expects work will get underway this year.

"The majority of that completion is to occur this year. The one caveat there of course would be with COVID if it gets out of hand," he said.

"We think it's an important issue ... we need to address the issue of connectivity."

Details on price packages for residential and business customers are available at valleyfiber.ca.

> SWITCHING GEARS, FROM PG. 4

home if we can find them.

"The phone's been ringing off the wall ... we're inundated with requests. We're trying to fill that big order but also continue to service the local community too."

Funk stressed their priority has been to do it all safely.

"We distance ourselves inside. Luckily we have a very large building and we're able to scatter the machines around, so we have safe distancing."

"The biggest challenge of all of it has been the supply of raw material," said Funk, adding they are starting to branch out into producing protective gowns as well.

ICON Technologies also pivoted

to find a way to support front-line health care professionals as they work to combat COVID-19.

The Winkler company has begun to produce PPE face shields and similar equipment to help medical staff limit their exposure to the virus.

The idea came from production manager Howard Sawatzky, who has a number of family members involved in health care.

"It came to him that with the materials we have on hand and the tools we have on hand, we could mass produce a face shield," said marketing manager Jordan Martindale. "Everybody's looking for ways to protect themselves right now."

After completing all of the recon-

figuration that was needed, they got a working prototype done.

"We had an initial batch made and they disappeared quickly," Martindale said. "We're looking at ramping up production."

He sees the potential for them to be getting up into the tens of thousands of pieces in the next few weeks.

"The whole team here at ICON all put in a lot of work ... everybody here's had a really important part in this," said Martindale. "We all know we're helping do our part ... the team wanted to keep moving and find a way to produce something tangible. They really pulled together and accomplished this, and we're all feeling really good about it."

The Winkler Morden
Voice



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

How do we grieve?

In these days of disruption and loss it seems appropriate to talk a little bit about grief: how we grieve, why we grieve, and how we should respond to one another's grief.

Recently I shared something of my grief over the impact COVID-19 has had on my daughter's Gr. 12 graduation year via social media (as one does).

She and her peers around the world will not have the year that we, as a society, have built up for them for almost their entire lives. School trip to Europe? Cancelled. Classes? Cancelled. Social life? Cancelled. Sports? Cancelled. Graduation and all the celebratory events that go with it? Likely cancelled.

It has been hard for her, not to mention my son who has had his universi-

ty plans disrupted mid-degree. I feel heartbroken for both of them.

Of course, I should have predicted the response from one person on the post which amounted effectively to "at least she's not dead and/or has not lost a loved one."

This is true. There is no argument against the "at least you/he/she is/are not dead" card when it comes up in a discussion of grief.

But it does not help.

Such a response is not designed to comfort. On the contrary, it is designed to shame a person into remembering that however difficult their life is they have it easy compared to the next person. No matter how deep their grief, someone else's is deeper. Therefore, don't complain. Keep your grief to yourself.

This is a little like when you are having to go through the sustained trauma of eating vegetables for dinner and Mum finally and in exasperation says, "You know there are children starving in Africa that would love that food." To which you respond wittily, "Fine. Send it to them." (This generally results in further trauma for you.)

It does not help to tell people that they have it good compared to other people.

Grief needs to be shared whatever

the level. If I stub my toe and run crying to my mum, she does not immediately say, "Oh for heaven's sake, Peter, there are people being beheaded for their faith in other parts of the world. Suck it up." No. She simply listens and wraps her arms around me and gives me a big hug because she knows intuitively it is what I need.

This is what we are supposed to do. We are supposed to comfort one another, not berate each other for expressing pain which is less than someone else's.

I'm here to tell you that if your favorite scotch glass falls to the floor and breaks you are allowed to complain about it and grieve it publicly, despite the fact that someone else's cat just passed away.

I'm here to tell you that if your cat dies you are allowed to grieve it publicly, even though someone's mother just passed away.

No matter what you are grieving, it is okay to share it. It is not selfish. It is how we process and move on. It is not a statement that your grief is somehow more grievous than mine. It is simply a cry of "Ouch! This hurts!" to the world because we need to say that once and a while instead of keeping it bottled up and letting it fester.



By Peter Cantelon

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

> STAYING CLOSE, FROM PG. 3

tion from family, the emotional, relational aspect. That's hard to get used to," he says, noting phone calls and video chats can only go so far, especially when it comes to his granddaughter. "That's the hard part, not being able to physically hold her and interact with her."

"We've got two daughters and a granddaughter and we love our family time," says Mary. "This is not what we want to do, but right now it's something we have to do."

"We want to do what's best right now and save lives," she says. "This too will pass."

THE NEW REALITY

Not being able to be with their fam-

ilies like usual after a job is just one way life has changed for the truckers working to keep North American supply lines up and running.

Truck stops remain open but the variety of food options has diminished significantly as restaurants across the continent close their doors to dine-in eating.

"So you're limited to basically pre-packaged sandwiches and food. You don't have a lot of choices," John says, noting another side effect of so many public spaces being closed is that it can be difficult to find an open washroom on some stretches of road.

On the upside? Those roads have never been emptier.

"I've been able to drive through downtown Chicago—which as a rule most any time of the day is bumper to bumper traffic, slow going—and I was able to go through there in rush hour at full speed," John says. "That's a first."

John isn't expecting things will go back to the way they were anytime soon.

"I think we'll be feeling ramifications of this whole situation for a long time to come because supply lines have been disrupted and manufacturing has been disrupted," he says.

"It's not going to go back to the same normal we had. It will be a new normal."

Spreading hope, building community

By Ashleigh Viveiros

One Plum Coulee native isn't letting social distancing requirements stop her from spreading hope.

Violinist and vocalist Rosemary Siemens marked Easter Sunday with a piano hymn sing-along on her social media pages.

Siemens launched a weekly Sunday Hymn Serenade on her YouTube channel last fall. Her videos quickly went viral, reaching over 2.7 million views by people all over the globe.

"I've always had this passion to bring back hymns," Siemens said in a phone interview from her home in B.C. "I thought this would be a different way to do it."

She never dreamed how wide of a reach her videos would have.

"I just started getting a lot of subscribers and a lot of comments from around the world," Siemens said. "People kept tuning in like a TV show every week."

"I was shocked by the comments about how these songs were affecting people so strongly," she added. "People were just so thrilled to find a place where they could go and get these hymns that they hadn't heard in a while."

In recent weeks, Siemens has expanded her streaming offerings to include a Worship Wednesday series featuring more music (a mix of old and new worship songs) and stories.

"When this coronavirus happened I decided to do it twice a week to bring more encouragement to people," she said, adding Sunday's sing-along was a further extension of the project. "It's really turned into an awesome kind of ministry."

Siemens has heard stories from fans for whom

the videos served as inspiration to turn their lives around or reconnect with God.

"It's bringing people back to church ... back to the Bible, back to their faith," she said.

At a time when traditional church services are on hold, gathering together virtually serves as a balm to people missing the fellowship of their faith communities.

"We have this little community there and it's growing every day," Siemens said, noting she responds to comments live as the videos are posted each week. "I think the beautiful thing about this is the fact that people can sense the community online even though they might be alone in their homes."

"I never expected this to turn into a musical ministry, honestly," Siemens said. "It's so amazing how God orchestrated it all."

Check out Siemens' page on YouTube or head to RosemarySiemens.com for more details.

SIEMENS WINS TWO GMA AWARDS

Earlier this spring, Siemens was honoured with two Covenant Awards from GMA Canada.

She took home Instrumental Song of the Year for her and husband Eli Bennett's cover of Lauren Daigle's "You Say." She also won Children's Song of the Year for the song "You and Me" that she wrote with Jaylene Johnson in honour of Siemens' first child, Theodore.

"It was so special to not only win the Gospel Music Award for Children's Song of the Year for the song I wrote for Theodore, but to accept the



Rosemary Siemens has been reaching out through on-line streaming to keep peoples' spirits up.

award together with him and my husband Eli was just a blessing," Siemens said. "Theodore was on my lap while we were giving the acceptance speech [from home] and because this was his song, having him be a part of it just meant so much to us."

Non-critical businesses to remain closed until April 28

By Lorne Stelmach

The message this week called for continued vigilance to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the province, but there was also a glimmer of hope offered at the daily press briefing Monday.

Four new cases of COVID-19 brought the total number of lab-confirmed positive and probable positive cases in Manitoba to 246.

As part of his update, chief provincial public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin extended the public health order that closes all non-critical businesses until April 28.

The order continues to limit public gatherings to 10 people or less. Restaurants and other commercial facilities that serve food remain prohibited from doing so on-site, though take out and deliveries are allowed.

Roussin remained cautious and urged Manitobans to continue social distancing efforts.

"These restrictions will not be in place forever, but if we double our efforts now, we could, in the near future, be able to relax some of these public health interventions," he said.

"We can't relax our efforts at this point," he stressed, noting the province is actually considering options to further enhance some of the restrictions this week. "If we can double our efforts, we may be weeks away from being able to scale back some of these restrictions. But we need to ensure that we keep on top of this for now and then follow our numbers closely."

"The degree of social distancing that we have right now, I don't expect to keep that in place for until

Continued on page 14

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Quilters encouraged to show off their work

By Lorne Stelmach

Quilters will not be able to gather in Morden this spring for the annual Barnswallow quilt show, but organizers are still hoping to have the work on display.

With the May 1-3 show cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Barnswallow Quilters are looking to instead hold Quilts by the Yard on Saturday, May 2.

They are asking quilters to hang their creations in their yards from 10

a.m. to 4 p.m. that day, weather permitting.

"I think it could potentially be quite a nice display. It's a way to get the community involved," suggested organizer Lenore Lavery.

The idea was inspired by the International Quilting Day 2020 quilt hanging celebration where people were encouraged to hang quilts wherever possible—on railings, balconies, fences.

It gives quilters a chance to showcase their work from the past year from a safe distance.

"We thought, in one shape or form, let's get them out there ... and if that

can somehow be a little uplifting and maybe colourful on a street without interfering with the lives we should be living," Lavery said. "There had been some discussion about postponing [the show] until the fall, but in the end we just felt this was a better way to do it and start fresh again next year."

Lavery noted they will publish a list of streets on which quilts will be displayed on their website at barnswallowquilters.wordpress.com.

If you wish to participate and would like to add your street to the list, email mordenquilters@gmail.com.



VOICE FILE PHOTO

COVID-19 has put the kibosh on the Barnswallow Quilters' annual quilt show next month. Instead, the group are inviting people to take part in a Quilts by the Yard event on Saturday, May 2.

Morden teen dies in crash

A Morden teen was killed in a two-vehicle collision near Roland last week.

Emergency crews were called to the intersection of Highway 23 and Provincial Road 428 Thursday just after 7:15 p.m.

Pembina Valley RCMP say the initial investigation has determined that a car travelling north on PR. 428 came to a stop at the intersection and then proceeded through and collided with

a semi-trailer going east on Highway 23.

The driver of the car, a 17-year-old female from Morden, was pronounced deceased at the scene. Her passenger, a 13-year-old male, was transported to hospital.

The driver of the semi-trailer, a 50-year-old man from Steinbach, was not injured.

RCMP continue to investigate.

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IMPORTANT MESSAGE: Due to COVID-19, all April auctions are now ONLINE BIDDING ONLY. Please no auction day attendance.

Saturday, April 18 Ray Doerksen Estate Farm Equipment Auction

Due to the sudden passing of Ray Doerksen, we will sell all this well maintained equipment to the highest bidder. **TIMED ONLINE ONLY CLOSING BEGINS 12.** Saturday April 18. Sommerfeld MB. 2 miles South of Altona on Hwy 30 and 4½ East on PR 421 OR from Hwy 75 West on PR 421 till Sommerfeld MB.

2007 John Deere 7830 front suspension, 165 hp, 4 remotes, 3pth, 20.8 x 48 duals air seat buddy seat, wheel weights, power quad plus E trans, 2226 hrs. Serial #A005088. New Holland model TN 75S. FWA w/New Holland 33LA loader joy stick, pallet forks and 8ft bucket. Remote hyd, pto, 3pth, super steer. 912 hrs. 1993 John Deere 7700 two wheel drive, 125 hp, front weights, 3 pth, quick dual pto, power shift radar unit, 18.4 x 42 duals. Serial #002323, 4402 hrs. 1985 IHC 5288, 20.8 x38, 3pth, triple hyd, cab air etc 5800 hours. 2nd owner, vin 002384, consigned by local farm who no longer needs this machine, call me 204 325 4433 cell 6230. 1995 truck White Freightliner F-L 80, Cummins diesel automatic, 20ft steel box hoist. John Deere 7720 combine two speed cylinder, 212 pickup head, long unload auger, chaff spreader, chopper etc, new 24.5 x32 tires, 2848 hrs showing. Very solid machine. Garden Ricon Quad 4x4 nice unit. Spray coupe rear wheel drive 220 gas w/mudder wheel attachments. Inland 84" 3 pth snow blower. Millar wire welder, drill press floor model. LKS 180 amp stick welder. Bourgault air seeder F-H 424-28 tiller, complete w/Bourgault 2115 II air cart, jet openers. John Deere 7000 maxi merge planter 8 row 30" dry fertilizer, insecticide, seed box extension. Leon 550 push off scraper. Alloway 8 row 30" 3pth row crop s tine cult. Elmers band sprayer semi mount sprayer, hyd pump drive. White 23ft tandem disc 18" blades. Inland 70ft sprayer w/400 gal ploy tank. John Deere 3100 6 x 16 plow. Gates Magnum super harrow 5 bar 60ft Midway harrows hyd tilt. Farm King 10 x 70 auger w/low hopper and bin full alarm. Farm King 8" x 31 loading auger w/mover total electric. Wilrich deep tiller 22ft. Saturn 40 ft chisel plow. Brent 972 Grain cart pto drive, real nice. Wilrich field cultivator w/mulchers 24ft. Cockshutt 23ft deep tiller w/ NH applicator. Tormaster 65ft diamond harrows. Kirchner V ditcher. Farm King 620 3pth rotary mower. 18ft dual tank drill fill system hyd drive augers. JD 224 ft combine head w/20ft sund pickup. JD 224 ridged grain head w/batt reel. JD 925F flex head w/ air reel, tilt, etc. Shop & Misc Items. Oil barrel on cart w/air powered dispenser and meter. 60 gal upright air compressor. Large retractable air hose reel. LKS 180 amp stick welder. Miller 100 amp wire welder. Floor model drill press. Bolt selection drawers set. ¾ air impact wrench, also ½, 3/8 etc die

grinders etc. All machines are running well. And all the other good tools found at well equipped farm shop. Auction begins with tools, farm hardware, etc.



Monday, April 20 Hink Farms Inc. – Vince And Shelley

Please note this is the machinery line up which will sell Monday April 20 at timed online auction, it will begin to close at 4 PM AN ITEM SELLING EVERY 3 MINUTES go to www.billklassen.com to register and begin bidding this online auction. The rest of the Hink farm equipment advertised earlier, will sell hopefully at a summer auction At the farm. 1949 DC4 Case tractor, with front end loader may run. 1953 IHC super WD6 tractor. 1949 K-5 IHC truck w/ box hoist. 1955 new Holland # 55 side delivery rake. 1998 Flexicoil 550 72 ft sprayer hyd pump. 2005 Bourgault 950 110 ft sprayer w/ hyd pump. DegelMan 570 rock picker reel type pto drive. DegelMan 570 rock picker reel type pto drive. Westfield TR 10 X 50. 1980 Flexicoil #80 tine harrow 60 ft 5 bar model. 2005 Bourgault 6000 Mid size tine harrow 72 ft. 1979 IHC Model 4500 cultivator w/ mulchers 26 ft. 1994 John Deere 610 seeding tool 36 ft, used as chisel plow. 1981 John Deere model 2x10 ft 9350 press grills pan wheels serial #. 2005 John Deere 2210 Air Drill, 36 ft, w/ 1910 Cart complete, One owner. 1974 Dodge 600 361 V8 5&2, 15' X 8.5 steel box hoist 56098 miles. 1994 John Deere 8770 4wd 12 speed standard, 4 spool remotes, air seeder return line, new 20.8 x 38 duals. Serial #RW88705001819. 6307 one owner hours. 1996 John Deere 8100 FWA, Power shift, 380/90/50 rear axle duals. 380/185./ 34 fronts, triple hyd, 3 pth w/ quick hitch. Large 1000 PTO, very nice clean tractor from Ross White, 9100 hrs, serial # 8100P002514



Monday, April 27 Cram Farms Retirement Farm Equipment Auction

Due to the Virus threat this auction will be run timed online only, you may visit the farm for machinery inspection with owner Rick Cram. Please call ahead to arrange apointment we can only have less than 50 persons in yard at any given time, we ask machinery lookers to be space consience at all times, please call Rick to arrange visit at 204 823 0237. **Attention all buyers you will need to register prior to Bidding, please register early and bid on few items to become Familiar with the system this will build your confidence and make it an enjoyable auction from your home computer or device.**

Closing begins 11.30 am. Tractors. 2005 Versatile 2360 standard transmission, 4 spool hyd, air seeder return line, Trimble auto steer, tires 90% 710/70/38 duals. Hrs 3660. 2005 Massey Ferguson 6475 FWA, 3pth, 3 hyd, 18.4 x 42 rear duals, 14.9 x 30 fronts c/w 2012 Allied 2795 self level loader and material bucket. 3400 hrs on this tractor. Never seen a cow. Extra 7ft snow bucket sells separate. Pallet forks for above loader sell separate. 1985 John Deere 8650 4wd, quad shift, 3 hyd, Outback guidance system 18.4 x 38 duals, 8500 hrs showing.. 2005 John Deere 9760 STS combine, standard up grade rotor, TRS chopper, JM hopper topper, c/w 2008 MacDon PW7 9 belt pickup head, contour header height control, 20.8x 42 duals, and 28L / 26 rear tires, 3451 engine, 2509 separator hrs. Only 600 acres after 2019 green light. Terms???. 2006 John Deere 608C chopping corn head 8 row c/w two wheel transport. 2006 John Deere 630 hydro flex head fore and aft. 1999 MacDon 2930 sp swather 25ft pickup reel. Only 1732 hrs. CI Implements pto swather 25ft. **Sprayer:** Wilmar 8100, Cummins diesel, 90ft booms, 825 gal tank, Outback S15 guidance system, Midtec controls w/Outback boom shut off controls, 14.9 x 46 tires w/ crop dividers, 2832 hrs. Clean looking machine. Flexicoil 39ft seeding tool w/ 2340 pull behind tank, single chute applicator. 2005 John Deere 730 air disc drill. 44ft double chute complete w/ 787 230bu tank



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Local school divisions navigating unknown waters

By Lorne Stelmach

The indefinite suspension of in-school classes as a result of the pandemic has school divisions continuing to learn and adjust how they are delivering education to students.

The only certainty right now is that there won't be any immediate end to remote learning.

"It's a new challenge for everyone," said Stephen Ross, superintendent of Western School Division in Morden. "It's something that systemically no one in Manitoba was really set up to do well, so we're kind of learning and crafting that on the fly."

"I think we've been really pleased with how much the teachers have really gotten into trying to make this all work in the best possible way."

"We recognize this as a unique and challenging time for everyone," agreed Todd Monster, superintendent of Garden Valley School Division based out of Winkler. "I think overall people are trying to find ways to adjust to the new reality that we're trying to operate in with COVID-19."

"I think that people, our parents and students, are being very gracious and being very patient as we work through all of the challenges of coming up with distance learning," he added. "We have a great staff who have been and will continue to work countless hours to have the structures in place to support our students and families."

The province is assisting school divisions across Manitoba with initiatives such as a supplemental online resource that officially went online last week.

The My Learning at Home portal is designed to assist families in supporting the work of teachers as they continue to educate students. It's going to be updated regularly with new resources for all ages, the province has said.

Ross said that support and direction from the provincial government is important.

"Direction continues to still trickle out about the many, many questions everybody has in regards to the bottom line from the province ... and I know they are really working through that, and they are consulting everyday with school divisions in regards to what's working and what isn't."

He said there are a few important considerations for the division moving forward.

"We know that with what's going on

"WE'RE TRYING TO DEVELOP NEW WAYS OF REACHING OUT."

in the world that school maybe isn't always in the forefront of everybody's mind," Ross said. "Locally, we've certainly heard that parents have appreciated the effort of people, but at the same time we can't overwhelm families."

He also noted it is a challenge to address the varying needs of individual students the best they can.

"We're trying to find a single, focused connection for each child ... instead of having every teacher that perhaps connects with that child contact the home. That becomes overwhelming for the parents, I think."

"We're trying to develop new ways of reaching out ... we're going to try to get technology and other resources like books and things into homes that need them," Ross continued. "We're in that process right now, of staff going through and checking with every student and their class to determine who has technology that they could use and who doesn't have the technology, so that we can plan best for every student."

That assessment is ongoing, but Ross noted that "there's kids in every room who don't have access to technology ... there's numbers of kids who don't have access to a phone even ... so we are going to work on print packages for families as well."

Looking further down the road, there will also be some challenges when kids return to school.

"Some kids may have been away from learning for up to five months by the time school starts again," Ross said. "We may need to do quite a bit of recovery or catching up with kids before they're really ready to take on new learning."

GVSD is also continuing to assess and adapt to these circumstances on a week-by-week basis.

"Our best laid plans could not have anticipated the implications that COVID-19 has had on our society and our normal operations of an education system," Monster said.

"All education systems worldwide are looking at different ways to continue to provide remote learning to children, and we're no different," he



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Even the weather could not deter the members of St. Thomas Anglican Church on Easter Sunday. Reverend Diane Guilford, Sunday School teacher Claire Goertzen and her kids Luke and Emma toured the city to visit the homes of shut-in Sunday School kids to wish them a happy Easter.

continued. "We're actively working to ensure that our students and families, along with our staff, first of all, are as safe as possible. At the same time, we're trying to provide some sense of normalcy and calm in the midst of these uncertain times."

Access to technology can be an issue for some families, Monster noted.

"We're trying our best to be able to

meet the needs of each family," he said, explaining they are offering a combination of print-based learning packages as well as an online format.

"In some cases, a combination of both of those are happening at the same time ... some of that as well is dependent on the age of the students," he added.

Continued on page 15

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Foster families give PVHS dogs, cats a welcome break from the shelter

By Lorne Stelmach

There was little or no hesitation earlier this year when Lorna and Glen Wieler read on social media about an expectant mother dog at the Pembina Valley Humane Society.

The Roland area family had fostered for the society in the past as well as for the Winnipeg Humane Society, and they stepped up again in response to the appeal to quickly find a foster home for what became a litter of six Great Pyrenees puppies.

"It kind of touched our hearts, and we said maybe we should do this at least one more time. We thought that poor girl can't have puppies there [at the shelter]," Lorna Wieler recalled recently.

"It was a lot of work, but she deserved it," added Wieler, whose family got the pups when they were not even a full day old and cared for them for the next two and a half months.

They have all since been adopted, while their mother, Noelle, is in a foster home right now.

It is another in a run of successful foster matches for the society, who are trying to get the word out about how invaluable foster families are to the cats and dogs they care for.

"We definitely have ramped up our push for fosters," said PVHS chairperson Stephani McLean.

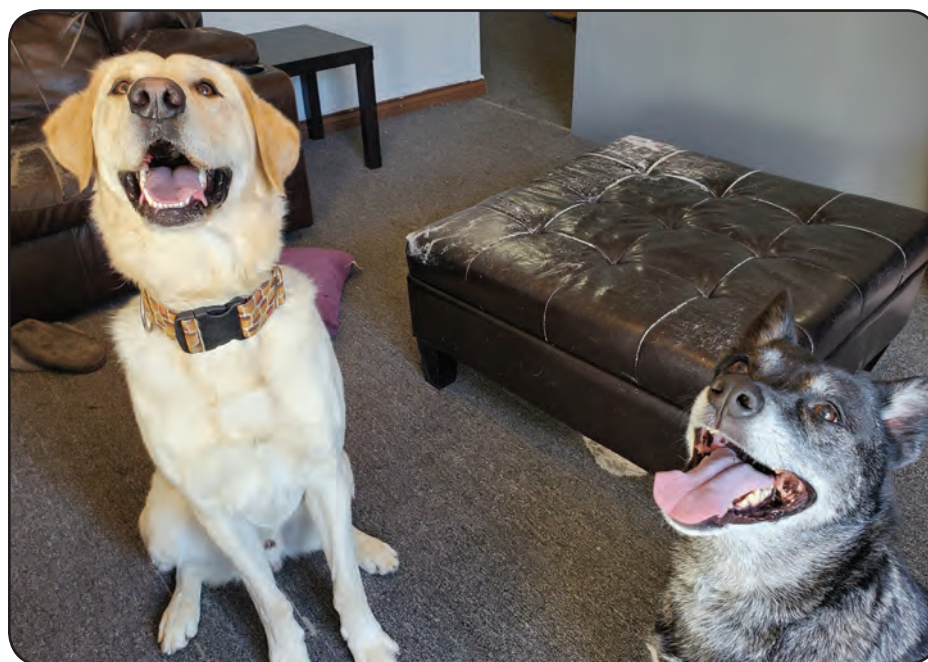
"We know that when animals are interacting on a regular basis with people, they're going to socialize better, they're going to have less behavioural issues, and they just get more comfortable with people," she said. "We do see a lot of animals come to the shelter who have not had adequate socialization or due to previous circumstances have some anxieties or are very unsure around people or children."

McLean said it is vital to get the animals some personal interaction, even if it is just temporary. That's become all the more important in the days of COVID-19.

"We don't have as many people coming into the shelter, so we want to make sure the animals we care for are still being provided with enrichment," she said.

"We find the foster program really helps them come out of their shell and realize they can be loved," McLean added. "When they do go to their adoptive families, they can be much more successful with adoption because they're better acclimatized and ready for it."

PVHS currently has about eight cats and six dogs in foster and they're hoping to find more fosters for maybe 15 cats and three dogs.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Dogs like Trooper (above, left) have found their forever homes thanks in large part to the work of foster families who provide the animals with a break from the shelter. Right: This litter of puppies started their lives in a welcoming foster home before eventually all being successfully adopted out.



"It can be a revolving door. Once one comes out, another goes in, and we just try to replace our foster spots," said shelter manager Alesha Unrau.

She reiterated the important role played by the foster homes.

"They are able to get a lot of the basic training and a lot more proper socialization and enrichment that they wouldn't get just sitting in a kennel much of the time," she said.

"Most adopters tend to go for animals that have a little more training than an animal that comes in with nothing," she added. "So we find that

if a dog would even spend a month in foster and come back, they would be a lot more relaxed, a bit more obedient and generally have a more rounded personality and then a better chance at getting adopted."

Sometimes it's the foster families themselves who opt to make a temporary relationship more permanent.

"We call them 'foster fails,'" said McLean. "It's always wonderful when that occurs, when the people who are putting their time and effort to providing these animals with a temporary home and love and nurturing ...

it's always great to see that develop into a lasting family dynamic."

While not all foster families are able to go down the adoption route, many do open up their homes to fosters again and again.

"A lot of them have been continuous fosters for several years, and they seem to really enjoy the experience," Unrau said.

As for the Wielers, who have two dogs and a couple of cats of their own, fostering a litter of puppies was a lot of work, but the experience also came with a lot of joy.

"This mother dog was good with all of them, and she was a really good mother," said Wieler.

She added it was particularly special to be able to see them start to grow and develop even in terms of their characteristics.

"Each of them had their own personalities ... people don't think that at eight weeks they would have a personality, but they do," she said.

"And when we had people come in, you could see the puppies almost pick the people. It was kind of neat to see that; they were somehow drawn to that little child. The puppy would just follow her around," Wieler added. "Some were just rambunctious ... you knew that one needed to go somewhere with people who had lots of energy or it needed a job."

In the end, it was kind of hard to let go of them, but Wieler was glad they took it on and will consider fostering again.

"Yes, for sure, although we need a break right now," she said, adding she sees the value of a foster program "to make it more adoptable and to learn to trust a human ... so it's very valuable, and they are almost guaranteed to go to a good home."

If you'd like to learn more about welcoming a foster dog or cat into your home, head to pvhsociety.ca

> PROVINCIAL UPDATE, FROM PG. 7

the summer," he noted. "It will be a very gradual rollback of the restrictions. That would usually start with a rollback on the restrictions on businesses."

In the meantime, as of Monday, eight individuals are currently hospitalized with COVID-19, including four in intensive care. Four Manitobans have died of the illness, while 99 have recovered.

These current statistics may be a reflection of the effect strict social distancing measures have had, Roussin said, but it's too soon to let our guard

down.

"I'm cautioning Manitobans not to interpret our low numbers to mean that our risk is reduced," he said. "We're still early in this outbreak, but these numbers show that our efforts are having some benefit."

"Extending these measures will help us to continue to flatten the curve and decrease the impact of this virus on Manitobans," Roussin said. "This virus is in every health region in the province. Every Manitoban, regardless of where they live, needs to stay home as much as pos-

sible, wash their hands and only go out for necessities."

Meanwhile, public health officials continue to emphasize the importance of educating businesses and the public to ensure compliance with the public health orders.

Manitoba put some teeth behind those orders last week with the introduction of fines for those failing to comply, including tickets of \$486 for individuals, including sole proprietorships and partnerships, and \$2,542 for corporations.

Physiotherapy offices move services online

By Lorne Stelmach

Local physiotherapists are taking their services online in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

With physical distancing orders now in effect, staff of the Winkler Physiotherapy, Morden Physiotherapy, and Carman Physiotherapy offices have instituted tele-health/tele-rehab virtual physiotherapy sessions.

Physiotherapist Ashley Froese said it was important for them to help continue the rehab journeys of their clients.

Some may have waited months and even years to have orthopedic surgeries performed and now they have no access to post-op rehabilitation, she noted, while others have suffered a new injury or deal with chronic pain.

"We feel that tele-rehab will not only be an ideal option during COVID but one that will continue to stick around as it will allow up to continue to improve accessibility to care for rural patients," Froese said.

"We have used video for exercise prescription and that sort of thing in

the past," said athletic therapist Tim Shantz. "For patient communication, this is pretty new with one-on-one patient care. So far we've only been doing it with existing clients, but we are rolling it out for new patients."

"It may feel like life has stopped these days ... but we have patients who were active patients with injuries that had occurred before this and new injuries that are still happening," Shantz noted.

Tele-rehab will deliver contact-less therapy services using a secure link delivered to the patient's e-mail. They can access their appointment via a computer, iPad, or smart phone.

Therapists will use video chat to ask questions about a patient's health history and mechanism of injury. They will then instruct and walk the patient through specific movements to perform an assessment, deliver a physiotherapy diagnosis, and come up with a plan of care.

"Although this plan of care will not include direct hands-on care, we will assist the patient in coming up with self management techniques regard-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

With social distancing in place, Winkler Physiotherapy and Morden Physiotherapy are now offering remote sessions using tele-health and tele-rehab programs.

ing the use of rest, activity, heat, ice, self massage, self trigger point release, foam rolling and others," said Froese. "Most importantly, we will be able to instruct and set up a patient with a detailed home exercise program so that they can start their rehab journey."

"It's definitely the best case scenario when in-person isn't an option," added Shantz.

"To be able to not only see them but have them see you ... sometimes even a reassuring face is the best part," he said. "Unfortunately, there's no replacement for hands-on treatment, but we like to think that our plan of care and patient management is now and always was kind of the greatest asset for our treatments, so that can be continuous through video health."

Winkler Community Fdn. pushes back application deadline

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Community Foundation has pushed back the deadline for applications for its 2020 grants.

Instead of the usual mid-April due date, local charities and community projects now have until Aug. 30 to apply for support.

"After talking with several charities it became clear many of them are in survival mode," says executive director Myra Peters.

The fact that no one knows when various projects and programs are going to be able to take place once

again makes it difficult for non-profits to plan for the future, she says, and the community foundation didn't want to add to that stress.

"It's hard to put extra time into putting an application together when there are so many unknowns right now," says Peters, noting the late summer deadline hopefully provides charities with a bit of breathing room and a chance to hit the ground running once COVID-19 restrictions ease up. "We want to be able to support our local charities in the best way that we can once things start to get back to normal."

The foundation expects to be able to grant approximately \$38,500 from its community endowment fund this year.

That's on top of the more than \$50,000 going out through its various other targeted endowment funds and the \$90,000 it will distribute through its scholarship program.

The scholarship committee is in the process of assessing the applications received earlier this year with an eye to announcing the winners by June, Peters says.

The community foundation's board are also discussing how to tackle an-

nual projects like Pay It Forward May and the Citizen of the Year Award in light of ongoing social distancing restrictions. More details will be released later this month.

Peters notes as well that while school is out indefinitely, the Garden Valley Collegiate and Northlands Parkway Collegiate Youth in Philanthropy groups are still moving ahead with their spring grants to local charitable projects.

Applications are available on the NPC and GVC websites. NPC's deadline is April 24 while applications to GVC's YIP need to be in by April 30.

> EDUCATION, FROM PG. 13

"WE WANT TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL CHARITIES IN THE BEST WAY THAT WE CAN ONCE THINGS START TO GET BACK TO NORMAL."

Monster said they are also very mindful of not overwhelming students and parents.

"We need to be aware that our families are dealing with lots of different stresses right now," he said. "Some families are worrying about financial situations, some families are really struggling with this idea of

teaching their children while they're trying to work at home themselves in some cases.

"So there's lot of different stressors that are coming into play. We just want to do our best to support and come alongside our families and provide what they need during these unusual times.

"We realize there will be learning recovery needed ... some of those students may require a little bit more," Monster said. "In the meantime, we continue to make plans and address the fact that right now distance learning is the new norm."

Event centre staff hard at work on facility improvements

By Lorne Stelmach

Work continues behind the scenes at local civic facilities like the Access Event Centre.

Even though it is closed to the public as part of the efforts to stem the spread of COVID-19, there are plenty of things to be done.

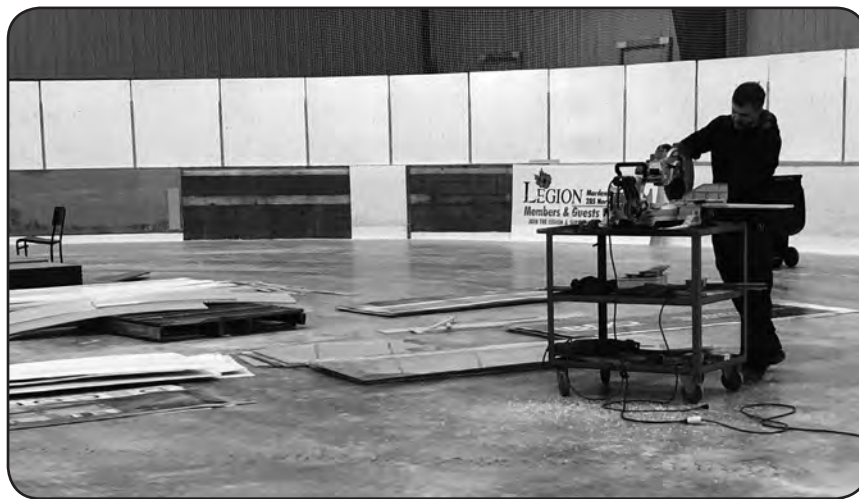
"Just because the doors are closed doesn't mean the work has stopped," said Clare Agnew, community services and events manager for the City of Morden.

In fact, having the building closed to the public offers an opportunity to check off a number of things on the to-do wish list.

"It's kind of these jobs that are hard to do when there's normally people here in the building all the time," said Agnew.

"This is some uninterrupted maintenance time for us. It is an opportunity that we never get ... hopefully, it doesn't last too much longer ... but we've never closed the building and just had a month to be able to do work without it being interrupted by the public."

The Co-op Arena and the commu-



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Access Event Centre staff have been taking advantage of the facility being closed to the public to spruce up the place.

nity hall have both gotten fresh coats of paint in recent weeks. Staff have also made repairs to the rink's boards.

Other jobs range from waxing the tile floors to painting the dressing rooms and bleachers.

"This unfortunate circumstance has provided the city maintenance staff with an opportunity to complete some projects that are difficult to do when there's people in the buildings," said Tim Harsant, facility maintenance manager. "When we are able to open our doors again, I hope the public will be happy with what they see."

Also in the future is work on inside seating in the Co-op Arena, although that had already been in the works for this summer anyway, Agnew noted.



Projects aside, event centre staff are also busy keeping track of the many event/program cancellations and rescheduling that needs to be done.

"Some of it is just keeping ahead of what's being cancelled and rebooked ... we're trying to stay on top of all of that kind of stuff," Agnew said. "We need to be ready for whenever that time is that we are able to reopen."

GVSD reviewing language course offerings

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Decreasing demand for German language classes has led Garden Valley School Division to launch a formal review of its second language programming.

The GVSD board last month gave senior administrators the go-ahead to take a closer look at the languages courses currently offered in local schools.

Janice Krahn, assistant superintendent of programs and curriculum, says the number of kids taking German, especially, has dropped significantly in recent years.

"We offer French and German in almost all of our [middle years] schools and our German numbers have really declined while French has gone up," she said, pointing out that many students are opting to go with French because it's our nation's official second language and a requirement for certain jobs, especially outside the community.

Further complicating the language programming in GVSD is a shortage of qualified teachers, both German and French, Krahn said. This review will help the division decide how to

best focus its recruitment efforts.

"Of course, we still need to offer a second language, and we want to, but we need to do some research into what should this look like and what direction do we need to go with this," Krahn said.

Krahn noted German has not been

offered at Winkler high schools for a number of years, ever since the province removed the second language requirement for graduation. Class enrolment in German was low then, as well, while French enrolment was and continues to remain high.

Spanish was briefly offered at the

high school level but, again, finding a qualified teacher and enough students interested in taking it proved to be challenging, Krahn said.

Recommendations from the review are expected to be brought before the board in early 2021.

ACU donates \$15,000 to area food banks

Access Credit Union is doing its part to help keep local food banks keep up with increased demand due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The financial institution last week announced it has donated \$15,000 to community food banks across Southern Manitoba, including those

in Winkler, Morden, Altona, Carman, Gretna, Grunthal, Morris, Winnipeg and the RMs of Thompson, Emerson-Franklin, and Piney.

"The health and safety of our communities is our top priority right now," says president and CEO Larry Davey. "For those at-risk popula-

tions who are struggling, it's important that they are acknowledged and supported.

"COVID-19 may reshape our world but we are determined to meet these challenges together, as neighbors, friends, and communities: all of us."

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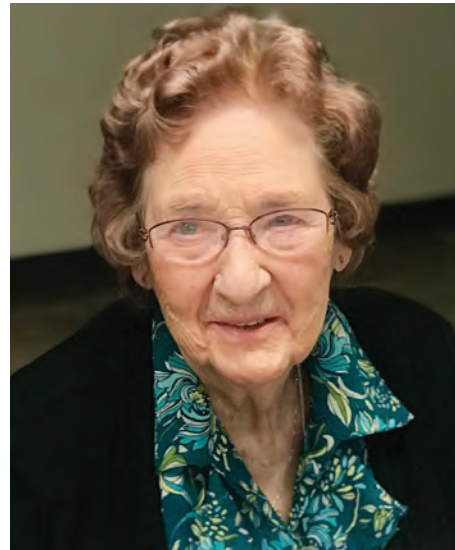
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BIRTHDAY



Happy 100th Birthday Daisy Watchorn

Daisy Watchorn of Morden, Man. (formerly of Miami, Man.) celebrates her 100th birthday April 28, 2020. Due to COVID-19 she won't be able to receive your well-wishes in person. To help her celebrate please send letters or cards with details about you and your family to Suite 301 - 400 Loren Dr., Morden, MB. R6M 0E2.

Happy 100th Birthday Mom!

-Love from your family!

ANNIVERSARY



Happy 60th Anniversary Jacob and Elisabeth Froese

AUCTION

ATTENTION

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the Farm Auction for David and Colleen Dueck near Lowe Farm will be **POSTPONED** and announced for a later date

Sorry for the inconvenience.

Please check our website www.billklassen.com



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cell 204 325 6230

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF WINKLER Notice to Residents

THE ANNUAL BRANCH SHREDDING PROGRAM will run from April 20th to May 1st.

Branches should be placed neatly on the curb no later than 8:00 a.m. on May 1st. Any piles containing garbage, steel wire or roots will not be cleaned up.

No large tree removal, tree prunings only.

Any branches brought to the curb after May 1st must be bundled to comply with garbage pick up regulations.

THANK YOU.

Public Works: 325-7535

City Office: 325-9524

AUCTION

ONLINE TIMED FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION Monday April 20, closing begins at 4 o'clock



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OBITUARY



George David McGregor

October 29, 1921 – March 31, 2020

Our beloved father George David McGregor passed away on March 31, 2020 at Tabor Nursing Home in Morden, Manitoba.

Born October 29, 1921 he was the youngest child of Scottish immigrants George Gall McGregor and Elizabeth Watson Scott. He was predeceased by his four sisters and two brothers Annie Gorrell, Mary Bannister, Jean McTavish, Helen Bell, Walter and Bob McGregor. Dad is survived by his daughter Helena (Burke) Wilson and sons Glenn (Lorna) McGregor, Michael (Linda) McGregor, Jim McGregor and Kevin (Florence) McGregor; grandchildren David Wilson (Amanda), Julie Wilson, Bruce Cooke (Lisa), Marie McGregor (Kevin), Lauri e McGregor (Sam), Steven McGregor (Sarah), Colin (Jacinth) McGregor, Nolan McGregor, Katherine

McGregor, Amy McGregor, Kim McGregor, Kim (Brock) Jansen and 10 great-grandchildren.

Dad was raised on a farm approximately seven miles north of Manitou. Dad gained his lifelong passion for hockey playing for the rural Middleton district hockey team but attended school in Manitou.

With WWII being declared Dad left the farm to enlist with the RCAF to serve his country. After completing his training he was assigned to RAF Special Duty Squadron 957 based in Karachi, India as a Bomb Aimer/Navigator in a B-26 four engine bomber. His missions mainly were long range, low altitude, night time missions in mountainous terrain to drop agents and supplies deep into Japanese held territory at pinpoint drop points without the benefit of GPS or radar. He and his crew were very proud of their mission success rate and maintained contact and held reunions until Dad was the last surviving RAF. Up to that point the furthest Dad had travelled was to Winnipeg but by the end of the war he would have seen a great part of the world.

After the war, Dad accepted an assignment in England with the RAF. It was in Portsmouth, England that Dad had the good fortune to meet his future wife, an attractive Southern Irish young woman, Mary Murphy. When Dad returned to Canada in 1946 he arranged for a loan, bought 160 acres of farmland with a house, barn and yard. In 1947 Mom came to join Dad. They were married May 10 of that year and the love affair lasted 72 years until Mary died in 2019.

Their first farmhouse was humble with no electricity, no telephone or indoor plumbing but times were quickly changing. Before the war they farmed mostly with horses but when Dad got back it was all tractors. As Southern Manitoba emerged from being a rural backwater the Green revolution in agriculture took hold with soil tests, fertilizers, herbicides, new plant varieties and continuous cropping. Dad embraced the changes, was always willing to innovate and take some calculated risks. By the time they retired in 1987 and sold their impressive line of modern machinery they truly had witnessed a multitude of changes.

The family grew in quick succession to include five children, one girl and four boys. Both Mom and Dad were active in their community and supported their children in 4-H, minor sports and school activities. As dedicated parents they worked hard to keep their children active and busy. As a hockey coach Dad won a Provincial title with a team that included one of his sons. Finally selling the livestock in the 1970's Dad took up golfing and curling with a passion. He won an impressive array of medals in Provincial and National Senior Games (golf) and in curling his team won the Manitoba Masters Curling Championship. Dad was initially reluctant to move away from Manitou but he developed a liking for the Minnewasta Golf Club and continued to play there until his mid 90's. Always a diehard sports fan, Dad continued to follow curling, golf, the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and the Winnipeg Jets until COVID-19.

Dad and Mom loved to travel. In retirement they returned to Ireland many times and travelled throughout Europe and North America. Whenever they returned they always declared that Manitou was the best place to live. However, in 1996, Mom suffered a health scare and a long, delayed ambulance ride. That year they sold the farm and moved to the Elk's Place in Morden where they enjoyed many years of wonderful friendships and activities. In 2017 they moved to Homestead South for assisted living. Eight months after the death of Mom in 2019 Dad moved to Tabor home.

Messages of condolences may be made online at Wheatland Funeral Service www.wheatlandfs.com

Wheatland Funeral Service
In care of arrangements

OBITUARY



Peter Z Hoepfner

1937 - 2020

After a long struggle with Parkinson's, Peter Z Hoepfner, age 83 of Morden, MB passed away on Sunday, April 5, 2020 at the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

Dad was born on the family farm south of Morden to Anthony and Annie (nee Zacharias) Hoepfner on January 26, 1937. He was the fifth of seven children. He attended Valleyfield School south of Morden, completing grade eight. Dad learned to know and love God and was baptized as a teenager at the Glencross Church, also south of Morden. Growing up he worked on the family farm and in the off-season worked at the Manitoba Sugar Factory in Winnipeg. Dad married Erna Peters on December 9, 1962 in Winkler. After marriage Mom and Dad lived on a farm in the 1-6 area southwest

of Morden for three years, then settled on a farm nine miles south of Morden. Dad was a full-time farmer. In addition, he worked many different jobs including welding and painting at JB Agri, carpentry work for Art Thiessen and Jim Penner Construction, Toupin Brothers and various construction businesses, trucking and field work for Kroekers, and farming for Ron Braun. Dad was a Jack-of-all-trades. Mom and Dad farmed for 53 years, up until retirement in 2015. Dad was a family man, always taking time for the family. From young on he taught us all to have a good work ethic. From sunup to sundown Dad was busy and never short on tasks and energy. He was very thrifty and spent little.

He is survived by his wife, Erna (nee Peters); sons, Dale (Ann) and children, Krista (Ian Friesen), Dylan, Cody (Emily), Brooke (Steve Wall); Don (Kristen) and children, Shaun (Trudi), Oren, Eaton, Keston; Wendell (Sadie) and children, Rob, Tim (Melanie) and daughters, Sheila (CJay Elias); Sheryl (Steve Klassen) and children, Rowen, Teagan and seven great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, one sister, two brothers and one brother-in-law.

A private interment was held at this time with a memorial service at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Parkinson Canada or the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation designated to Palliative Care.

Special thanks to Homecare for bringing light into a difficult situation daily for our Dad. A heartfelt thank-you to the doctors and nurses in ER and on the ward who, despite dealing with COVID-19 restrictions, allowed compassion to shine through. To all those who have called and respected social distancing, had food and flowers delivered, sent texts and emails and said many prayers, we thank you so much. -The family

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



OBITUARY



Herman (Herb) Klassen

1929 – 2020

Peacefully on Monday, April 6, 2020 at Lorne Memorial Hospital in Swan Lake, MB, Herb Klassen passed away.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Irene; three sons, Gordon (Nadine), Wayne and Darrell (Josephine); son-in-law, Mike Polson; grandchildren, Riley (Carly), Jodi (Kristjan), Christopher; great-grandchildren, Asher, Aria as well as one brother and two sisters. He was predeceased by his daughter, Marlene, six brothers and two sisters.

Private service was held at Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden with interment at Southside Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Herb's memory to the charity of one's choice.

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OBITUARY

Helen Doell (nee Peters) 1924 - 2020



Helen Doell passed away peacefully of natural causes at the age of 96 on Saturday, April 4, 2020 at her last place of residency (eight years) Salem Home in Winkler, MB. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, only one family member was allowed to visit at one time. Individual family members were screened, temperature read etc., and then were allowed to enter and directly escorted to her room.

She leaves to mourn her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Helen (David) Reimer, Shane and Dana; Conrad, Ashley and their soon to be born daughter, Dave (Shirley Friesen), Melissa and Geoff, Asher and Makenna L'heureux, Charity and Jason, Rowan, Keelyn and Jayden L'heureux, George (Debbie), Vicki and Eric Sawatzky, Brian and Rina Doell. Helen was the

second oldest of six girls and three younger brothers: Mary (Jake) Klassen, Betty (Jim) Aimoe, Kate (Peter) Klassen, Eva (George) Giesbrecht, Sue (Peter) Thiessen, Peter (Helen) Peters, Jake (Mary) Peters, Bill (Betty) Peters. Helen was predeceased by her parents and husband, Dave (1991), numerous siblings and in-laws.

This is a short story of Helen Doell's long life. Helen was born January 19th, 1924 on a cold winter's day in Mennon, Saskatchewan to Peter and Helen Peters. The family moved to Swan Plain, Saskatchewan to homestead. When her dad passed away in 1937, it became impossible to keep their homestead. The family then moved to Chortitz, Manitoba. Her mom cleaned the Old Colony Church to earn some money to live on. Mom and her sisters hoed beets and picked potatoes in the U.S. to help bring home some additional money for the family. Mom was a housekeeper for many people in various villages in southern Manitoba. Mom and Sister Kate also worked in Winnipeg doing housekeeping chores. Here they met two other sisters, Mary and Tina Doell and they became good friends. Tina and Mary informed mom about a handsome brother they had. His name was David. The two of them hit it off together and after a short courtship, they were married on April 18th, 1947 and settled down in Winkler. Dave worked at a garage and later took it over. Mom worked very hard out of her home – sewing, perms and babysitting to name a few. Many residents of Salem have told us she sewed various things for them years ago. Some of her hobbies were baking, knitting socks for dad, crocheting and later playing scrabble until she became blind. When her eyesight failed, and she could not read any more she listened to the Bible on CD's.

At home she had a very large garden, growing enough potatoes to last the winter and all kinds of vegetables which she preserved for the winter. She canned pickles, chicken, venison; all for winters use. She had a very green thumb – beautiful roses, pansies and a lot of other flowers. Dave and Helen were very happy, and Mom lived for 64 years on the same yard. In 1971, they could finally build a new house, complete with all the amenities, especially indoor plumbing. As the family grew up, Helen worked at the Winkler Bethel Hospital for 19 years. There she did cleaning, laundry duties and sewing. She designed and sewed many items which the doctors needed and requested.

She loved all her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and was always happy when they came to visit.

Private funeral service was held at Wiebe Funeral Home in Winkler with interment at the Winkler Cemetery.

Rest in peace. We will miss your smile and the LOVE you shared with us. I will miss calling you every day and singing "You are My Sunshine". "LOVE YOU TO THE MOON & BACK"

We, as a family want to thank all the staff at Salem Home (Cottonwood) for their love and compassionate care. We want to thank Wiebe Funeral for the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Helen's memory to the Salem Foundation Inc.

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



OBITUARY

Terezia (Teri) Szeremley 1944 - 2020



With sad hearts we announce the passing of Teri, our Mom, Gramma, Gigi and friend, on April 07, 2020.

Mom died peacefully from complications of diabetes at Boundary Trails Health Centre with her son Les and daughter Capri by her side. With grateful hearts we acknowledge that her grandsons Kyle (via phone), Bobby and Garrett could be with her prior to her passing and that Shari, her daughter-in-law could also say goodbye.

Born in Budapest, Hungary on February 07, 1944, she came to Canada at the age of 12 with her mother and two brothers, Steve and Pete. They were fleeing from the Hungarian Revolution and were refugees in 1956. They settled in Victoria, B.C. in 1957.

She was the loving Mother of Les (Shari) and Capri (Bob). She was the proud Gramma of Kyle (Carla), Bobby (Kaylee) and Garrett. She was also Gigi to Chloe, Eli, Jaxon and Grady (all of whom she loved to spoil). Predeceased by her loving partner Stanley Moroz in 2014, her mother Teresa Kovacs in 2012 and her beloved son-in-law Bob Meakin in 2018.

Mom worked at Malcolm Construction and later at INCO in Thompson for the duration of her working life. We are sure there are a great deal of tall tales that can be told of Mom's time in her many roles through the years.

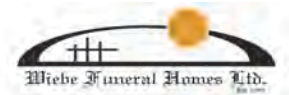
She loved to cook and demonstrated her love much of the time through family dinners and pots of soup too numerous to count. We were fortunate to learn this craft and will keep the family well fed in her honour. She also loved to shop and loved shoes, any kind of shoes...she did not discriminate. When off on a shopping trip, she would arrive home with numerous packages in hand and inevitably one or two boxes of shoes. She enjoyed reading a great deal and a game of cards or solitaire were never far away. She loved her friends and felt a sisterhood to many of them. Time spent with them and many luncheons were all cherished times for Mom. Gloria, Cathy, Julie, Sya, Grace, Elfrieda, Pat, Doris....we will be in trouble for only naming a few.

Mom was generous, stubborn, dramatic and at times exasperating, but loved just the same. She will be missed and forever in our hearts.

In lieu of flowers or cards, a donation to Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation or Pembina Valley Humane Society would be welcome.

Our family would like to Thank Dr. Brian Duff, Joanne, Amber and the staff at Boundary Trails for their compassion and understanding in making a very difficult time a little easier. Thank you also to Brent Gouthro for your care of Mom through the years. We are blessed to have a health care unit that are second to none here in Morden.

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In care of arrangements
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Manitoba 150 celebrations postponed to 2021

Due to the significant public health concerns surrounding COVID-19 and large public gatherings, Manitoba 150 celebrations are being paused for 2020, Premier Brian Pallister announced last week.

"As Manitobans, we all love our beautiful summers and we were looking forward to celebrating Manitoba's 150th anniversary, but right now, health and safety must come first," said Pallister.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of Manitoba joining Confederation and many activities and events to commemorate the milestone were planned by the Manitoba 150 Host Committee Inc.

All remaining events and public activities associated with Manitoba 150 are being postponed, but

funding will remain in place to support community projects and events when Public Health advice advises it is once again safe to hold large public gatherings, said Monique LaCoste and Stuart Murray, co-chairs of the Manitoba 150 Host Committee.

"We invited Manitobans to be 'United in Celebration' in 2020 and instead we are united in the fight against COVID-19," said Murray. "Manitoba 150 celebrations may be on hold for now, but we know this pandemic will end, and when it does, we'll be ready with a celebration like no other."

Questions about Manitoba 150 programming can be emailed to aimee@manitoba150.com.

The provincial government also remains com-

mitted to helping other community celebrations weather the COVID-19 storm, Pallister said.

Every year, the province provides support to nearly 50 community events and major festivals.

For organizations under the province's Community Festivals and Events program that must cancel their events this year due to COVID-19, the province is committed to covering up to 50 per cent of eligible funding.

"Ensuring funding continues to flow will help ensure these Manitoba's cultural organizations remain viable into the future," Pallister said.

Organizations with questions about events and funding should email artsbranch@gov.mb.ca.

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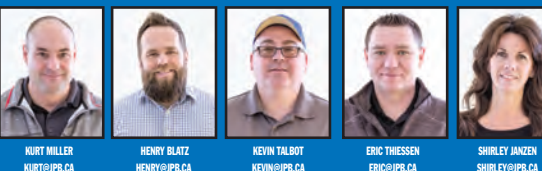
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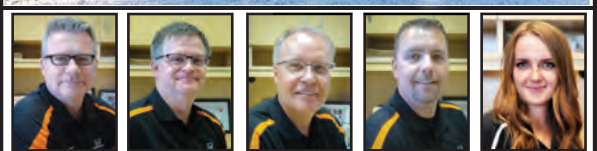


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