

VOLUME 12 EDITION 22

# The *Winkler Morden* **Voice**

THURSDAY,  
JUNE 3, 2021

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# Please do your part

SUPPLIED PHOTO

COVID-19's third wave has hit the Boundary Trails Health Centre hard, pushing medical staff and resources to their limits. Health care providers are calling on the community to do their part to help battle the illness, including getting vaccinated and following public health orders. For the full story, see Pg. 2.

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# “People need to know we have limited capacity”

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic had hit the Boundary Trails Health Centre hard, and health care workers are calling on the community to step up and do their part to help them battle the virus.

BTHC had set aside 15 of its 94 beds for COVID patients, but in recent weeks have seen as many as 20 people of all ages require hospitalization for the virus.

Many of the hospital's four special care units are also routinely filled with COVID patients who require intubation to survive. (Special care units are similar to intensive care units, though patients who progress to the point of requiring long-term ventilation are sent to ICUs in Winnipeg or Brandon.)

“We had planned to set aside 15 beds. We’ve surpassed that,” Dr. Denis Fortier, regional medical lead and chief medical officer for Southern Health-Santé Sud, said last week. “As far as we’re concerned, we’re going to be seeing the effects of this surge for weeks to come.”

“Having all these patients come in



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The Boundary Trails Health Centre has seen an increase in COVID-19 patients in recent weeks. Staff are pulling double shifts and oxygen reserves are being severely taxed. Health care workers are pleading with the community to step up and do their part: follow public health orders and get vaccinated as soon possible.

who are sicker and require more complex care, that is taking up a great deal of resources.”

The rate of COVID infections in the Morden-Winkler area have soared in recent weeks. On Monday, Winkler had 79 cases, making it one of the worst infected communities outside

of Winnipeg, beating even larger urban centres like Brandon. There are also many area residents refusing to be tested for the virus despite showing symptoms, so it's likely the actual case number are many times higher.

Meanwhile, the city's vaccination rates are among the worst in the prov-

ince, with just 24.9 per cent of Winklerites having received their vaccination as of Monday. The only region with fewer vaccinated residents is the RM of Stanley, in last place at 13 per cent.

Continued on page 3

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## > BTHC, FROM PG. 2

Low vaccination uptake coupled with a not insignificant number of community members intent on ignoring public health restrictions has made this stretch of the pandemic the worst yet for the region.

"Unquestionably this wave is the biggest wave so far," said Dr. Don Klassen, who has practised medicine in Winkler for over four decades. "I don't think I have ever seen something that has put the whole health care system in this province, in this country, and beyond on such an edge.

"Hospitals do get overwhelmed, and it's looking like our hospital system in the province and locally is overwhelmed now," he said, pointing to the fact Manitoba has begun sending ICU patients out of province for care—there simply aren't enough beds here.

### SHORT-STAFFED, LIMITED RESOURCES

Rapidly rising infection rates in the Pembina Valley have increased the chances that health care workers will be identified as close contacts of someone infected with COVID-19, which requires them to self-isolate with their families.

In recent weeks, as many as 16 BTHC staffers at one time have had to miss work while quarantining, requiring other staff to pull double and even triple shifts.

"I think most people are unaware how much we are stretched in terms of both human and physical resources ... the pub-

lic does not see this side of our work, does not understand the lengths we have to go to keep the system going," said Dr. Ganesan Abbu, a Winkler family physician and anesthetist. "Many of us have worked an entire day, all through the night, and still had to cover shifts until the next evening.

"We do this not because we want to make more money or are supporting a conspiracy. We do it because we do not want to fail you as our patients; because we care."

"Folks are tired," Klassen said of the mood at the hospital, explaining that the use of personal protective equipment—gowns and gloves that must be changed between every patient, uncomfortable masks that must be worn for hours at a time—take their toll on doctors, nurses, and support staff. "It impacts all areas of functioning ... it wears people down."

Unfortunately, the long hours aren't likely to let up any time soon, despite the fact many staff

"IF EVERYONE  
GETS SICK ALL  
AT ONCE THEN  
PEOPLE WHO  
WOULD HAVE  
SURVIVED WILL  
NOW DIE."



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder got his COVID-19 vaccination shot in April. The community currently has one of the lowest vaccination rates in Manitoba.

have since reached the end of their isolation periods. That's because unless the number of COVID cases in the area start to drop significantly, the risk of it happening again and again are high.


"This is never-ending," said Fortier. "As long as the case counts are high in the community our providers are going to continue to be at risk of being in contact with [infected] people."

Continued on page 5

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PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

# Honouring stolen children

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Flags at local schools civic centres, and government buildings were flying at half-mast this week as the community paused to honour the victims of Canada's residential school system.

Last Thursday, the bodies of 215 children were discovered near a former residential school in Kamloops, B.C.

"To our knowledge, these missing children are undocu-

mented deaths. Some were as young as three years old," Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation Kukpi7 (Chief) Rosanne Casimir said in a statement, explaining ground-penetrating radar was used at the site to find the bod-

ies. "We sought out a way to confirm that knowing out of deepest respect and love for those lost children and their families, understanding that Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc is the final resting place of these children."

The discovery has renewed calls for accountability when it comes to Canada's residential school system, which for over a century took Indigenous children from their families in a bid to forcibly assimilate them into non-Indigenous society. Thousands of children died while attending these facilities, some of which were open well into the 1990s.

Local leaders added their voices to the call for both action and remembrance

"The City of Morden stands with the victims, the families, the survivors of the residential school system," said Morden Mayor Brandon Burley as community members laid out shoes and hung orange (a colour that has become synonymous with the lasting impacts of the residential school system) clothing and cloths in Morden Park Monday night to honour the found children.

"This is a terrible part of our past and continues right to our present," Burley said. "The City of Morden is committed to doing what we can to recognize and to right this wrong that was done."

Continued on page 5



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# "We need to step up. We need to be leaders ..."

From Pg. 3

(One silver lining, Fortier added, is that there haven't been a significant number of health care workers who have contracted COVID-19—most have long been fully vaccinated against the virus.)

The hospital has also been struggling with its oxygen unit, routinely being forced to dip into its backup oxygen tanks to meet rising demand.

"Every system is built for a certain capacity, which should be easily managed for normal times. This is not normal times," said Fortier. "COVID patients require enormous amounts of oxygen.

"We're going through it so fast we have to find a different way to keep up that we've never had to do before," he said, explaining that includes ordering in more supplemental oxygen than ever before on a regular basis.

Meanwhile, with more COVID patients coming in for care all the time, BTHC has had to shuffle staff from other departments around to provide care. Two of its three operating rooms have been completely shut down for weeks and aren't expected to reopen for many more. The third OR is only open for emergency surgeries.

All this means the pandemic isn't just hurting those who contract CO-

VID—people are in pain and are dying of other illnesses because there's simply no capacity to care for them at Manitoba hospitals drowning in COVID cases.

"COVID is what everyone talks about these days, but then there's also people who have cancer ... or those who thought they were going to get their hip replaced and then they are told they're not," said Fortier. "Those are people who are going to suffer with pain, suffer with an illness that progresses.

"Those are the hidden, the invisible patients," he said. "They don't have COVID, but COVID is affecting them, affecting their care."

"People need to know we have limited capacity, whether it is oxygen, whether it is ICU beds, whether it

is hospital beds," echoed Abbu. "What about the heart attacks, the strokes—all the other things that need beds? Maybe you or your family members are in an accident and you need an ICU bed. Now you won't have it because they're filled with COVID patients.

"If everyone gets sick all at once then people who would have survived will now die."

## "IT IS REAL"

Drs. Klassen and Abbu are appealing to locals to take this pandemic se-

riously and do what's needed to get us all through it safely.

"Not wanting it to be here doesn't make it go away," stressed Klassen. "Not being tested and arriving days later quite sick at the hospital is not the way to go. People who have symptoms need to be tested."

"The way out of this is not to declare COVID a hoax or to deny that it exists. It is real and our only tool right now that will get us out of this is the vaccine. It's been proven already in our nursing home populations. Our Indigenous First Nations folks in Manitoba have done a very good job of getting their vaccination rates up and it's showing its effects on their rate of illness. Other countries with high vaccination rates are showing the same thing.

"Winkler has always seen itself as trying to be a leader," Klassen observed. "Right now it feels to me when we're on the very low end of the vaccination list that we are far from being what we say we want to be. I think we need to step up. We need to be leaders in this respect as well."

The region certainly has a ways to go on that front. Abbu noted the vast majority of local COVID patients requiring hospitalization have not been

vaccinated, in some cases despite being eligible to do so for some time.

Some patients hang on to their pandemic denials right to the very end, refusing even to be tested for COVID while in hospital.

"Unfortunately, even some when they're dying they still don't believe it's real. Some that have died haven't believed it's real," Abbu said. "I think the public perception that this is not real, that is the problem. The hesitancy with using masks and taking this seriously, that is the problem."

Abbu urges people who have been praying for a way through this pandemic to consider that God may have already provided that path:

"We live in a faith-based community and my colleagues and I respect that. But consider for a moment the following: The God that made you, made me too. The God that made us get COVID was perhaps the same God that has placed its solution in the hands of doctors. It is just possible that your prayers have been answered.

"Take the vaccine, use your mask, and keep social distance. It's not only the right thing to do but what is expected of every responsible human being so that we can all get over this quickly."

"UNQUESTIONINGLY  
THIS WAVE IS THE  
BIGGEST WAVE SO  
FAR."

## > STOLEN CHILDREN, FROM PG. 4

"We cannot bring these children back, but we can recognize that they are a catalyst for identification of the wrongs that have faced First Nations across Canada for so long."

"This is a place to come, to walk, and to remember," said Diane Guilford, a representative of the local Truth and Action Working Group spearheading the display in the park.

The group hopes people will take a moment to recognize that residential schools aren't simply artifacts of history—they continue to have an impact on Indigenous people today.

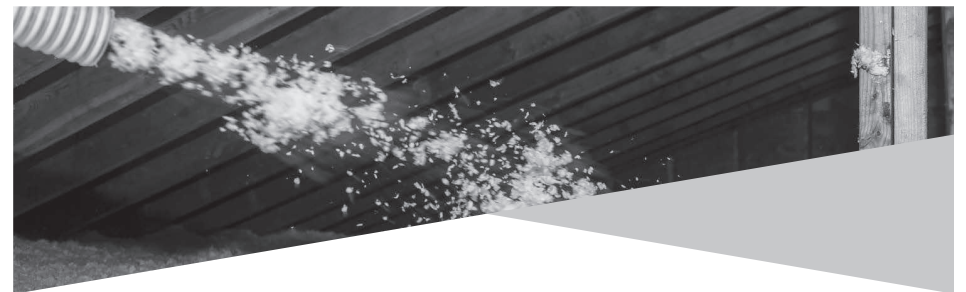
"We're doing this so that we remember and not forget, and so that our children can learn from the past," said group member Tammy Hendrickx. "The past should not longer be covered up. It needs to be

revealed."

While the discovery of these lost children is tragic, it also serves to provide evidence for the atrocity that was the residential school system, Guilford noted.

"As sad as I am about this, I'm also grateful that there's clear truth in the evidence that back up the stories that we tend to remove ourselves from," she said. "And we'll find out more at Birtle [former site of a Manitoba residential school] and all the places here where the schools were happening."

Similar memorials were also on display at the Pembina Hills Arts Council in downtown Morden and the front lawns of schools such as Garden Valley Collegiate in Winkler and Maple Leaf School in Morden.



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# getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

## Please get your COVID-19 vaccine

**W**e are in a bad situation here in Winkler—our current COVID cases per capita are double the provincial rate. This is especially bad since Manitoba has the highest rate of any province or state in Canada or the U.S.

Worsening this situation still further is our incredibly low vaccination rates. The R.M. of Stanley has had only had 13 per of adults get at least one shot. Winkler only 24.9 per cent. This is far below the provincial average of 65 per cent, and more importantly it is far below what is needed to stop this COVID pandemic.

Of the 94 beds at Boundary Trails, over 20 are filled with COVID patients. This doesn't include those sent to ICUs in Winnipeg, or those that have died. Without better vaccination rates COVID will continue spreading in our communities, causing restrictions, economic hardship, illness, and death.

I have heard some people say there is a debate as to whether COVID vaccines are safe and effective, or whether they are necessary. I can assure you, there is no debate within the medical or scientific community about getting a COVID vaccine as soon as you can. That is why more than 95 per cent of Manitoba doctors have already got their vaccines. Don't just take my word for it: try to find any government, medical association, hospital or university recommending against vaccination. Do not believe what you read on social media. Look for reliable sources.

Vaccines are safe. The two vaccines being used at the supersites, Pfizer

and Moderna, have each been given to well over 100 million people worldwide. This was after they were proven safe and effective in studies involving tens of thousands of participants. The study participants were vaccinated in July 2020, so we already have a year of data.

Although these particular vaccines are new, from decades of experience using vaccines of all kinds, there is no reason to believe new side effects will show up beyond one year.

There has been rigorous monitoring for side effects, without any major concerns being found. The monitoring of vaccines is so intense that even the very rare side effect of blood clots with the AstraZeneca vaccine was discovered, even when it only affected about 1/100,000 people. If you already had one dose of AstraZeneca, the risk of a blood clot with the second dose is even lower at about 1/600,000. If you have not had AstraZeneca already, you'll receive Pfizer or Moderna.

Vaccines are effective. This was initially proven in studies, where the rate of COVID infection was 95 per cent lower in people who were vaccinated. It has been confirmed in countries with better vaccination rates than ours showing declining case counts. For example, Israel has fully vaccinated (both doses) 56 per cent of their population, in Canada we are at four per cent fully vaccinated. That explains why they are averaging ~30 cases a day in a population of nine

million, while our province is averaging close to 500 cases per day in a much smaller population.

We now have even further evidence from Manitoba ICU data showing the vast majority of people being admitted to ICU have not been vaccinated. Only a few hundred Manitobans have been infected with COVID after vaccination, compared with tens of thousands who have become ill without a vaccine.

Vaccines are necessary. Some people think that they are too young or too healthy to need a vaccine. However, COVID affects people of all ages. There have been Manitobans in

their twenties who have died from the virus. Many of those who become severely ill have no underlying medical problems, or only minor things such as obesity and high blood pressure.

Even if your own risk is lower, getting a vaccine protects your family, your neighbors, your community. Getting your vaccine will help stop the spread of COVID, which will allow us to return to a more normal life with families gathering and businesses opening. Please get vaccinated as soon as you can. Do it for your family, for your community, for yourself.

If you have questions, ask your doctor or nurse practitioner. Book your vaccination appointment at [protectmb.ca](http://protectmb.ca) or call 1-844-626-8222.

*Dr. Hunt is a family physician at the C.W. Wiebe Medical Centre*

**"DO IT FOR YOUR FAMILY, FOR YOUR COMMUNITY, FOR YOURSELF."**



**By Dr. Dan Hunt**

## Letter policy

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

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are unlikely to be published), on-topic, and respectful.

The *Voice* reserves the right to edit, condense, or reject any submission.

Please include your full name, address, and phone number for verification purposes. Your name and city will be published with your letter. We do not print anonymous letters.

Send your letters to us by e-mail at [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca).

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



# letters

## THANK YOU FROM THE MORDEN HANDI-VAN

The Morden Community Handi-Van would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Morden Chamber of Commerce member who paid our Chamber of Commerce membership fee earlier this year.

Your thoughtfulness and generosity was greatly appreciated as our service has taken a huge hit in ridership since the start of COVID-19 in the spring of 2020.

The support and generosity of people like you make it possible for us to continue to serve and assist those in our community, and together, make Morden a great place to live.

Thank you so much!

From the board and staff of the Morden Community Handi-Van.

## A NEW STAR IS BORN

Living rural in our beautiful Manitoba can be a hard challenge if one wants to take part in the daily global goings on, therefore using the internet.

It is not only my very painful experience which I had with a local internet service provider (ISP)—poor internet is a Canadawide unsolved problem.

For many years I was a more or less suffering customer of this ISP, who had no ear to my beggings to improve the service of the internet connection supplied. I had not a single outage with my always in time payments, but this provider had outages en masse in regards to servicing internet to my home.

After long years as a suffering customer, my last complaint was one too many and I was “fired” as a customer. Without internet I and my wife were facing a catastrophe.

Having internet is an important part of all of our lives these days, which is why we’re looking forward to the new “star” on the horizon: Elon Musk’s Starlink Internet.

Musk has the intention of bringing satellite internet service worldwide to all rural living and with internet underserved people for an affordable price.

His visions about how to realize these plans are looking so auspicious that one can become gasping—for a fixed monthly cost customers get a no-limit down/upload internet service with speeds many users have never heard of. The goal is to achieve a download speed up to 300Gbit/s in

the next two years.

The reality shows mercilessly to all competitors on this market—Musk is not only talking but doing. Successfully.

I’m not making promotion for another internet service provider. But this information is in my point of view so important that it should reach every customer in this country who has unreliable and expensive internet access.

The local providers have had decades to build up a reliable and well-running internet and deliver it to the paying customers, including rural customers. But most ISPs didn’t.

Collecting a lot of money over years and years for a service which isn’t worth it in many cases has consequences. Customers are no more willing to put money in a grave without getting an appropriate service in return.

What I said here is all available to find on the internet (if you have access) by searching “Starlink Internet.”

Fun it is to see the “Satellite Trains” in the nightly sky over us, which have been deployed by a SpaceX starship. The bright future has begun!

Michael & Martina Engelmann  
Plum Coulee

## WAKE UP

I truly feel sorry for our pitiful neighbours to the east for their self indulgent, selfish ideals regarding the pandemic.

Science (which only fills a convenient part of your lives) proves beyond a doubt that masking, distancing, and vaccines will end this plague yet you seem to be ambivalent to the facts.

Your God has given us the ability to identify that these preventions will free us of COVID-19, yet you choose to disbelieve. Why? Do you not believe in your God? He also gave us the ability to create these vaccines in record times and are saving millions of lives around the world.

Your rejection of public health orders put the rest of us at risk but you think it’s okay because your God tells you in your dreams it’s okay to infect your fellow citizens? Give me a freaking break! Get off your high horse and save yourself and the rest of humanity. You have no inherent right to attend church at the risk of society. That’s a public health issue. You do have the right to pray to your God, just not at the risk of everyone else’s

health.

Wake up people ... or you may very well cause others to die! Is that your God’s mission? Heaven help us!

Bill Potter,  
Morden

## A CHALLENGE TO ALL

I am writing you in response to the letter you published on May 27, 2021 titled “Food for Thought.”

We are in the middle of what was once a global pandemic, but is now only a pandemic right here on our doorsteps as we in this region have become the laughingstock of COVID-19, mainly due to the ignorance of a large number of people within the community.

This ignorance has prevailed despite warnings and caution given by top health professionals all over the world. We have cast aside hard scientific evidence and first-hand accounts from those on the frontlines of this pandemic in exchange for interpretations from a book written thousands of years ago and relying only on prayer for protection.

In the midst of this crisis, how could you in good conscience print something like that letter last week? How, while people are sick and dying and unable to have the comfort of a loved one at their side, could you print something that directly aims to shame and stigmatize anyone who simply participates in a Pride Parade and women who, as it was so eloquently put, “kill their babies?”

This is hate speech. Whether it’s just an opinion piece or not, it’s hate speech. Whether it reflects the beliefs of your publication or not, it’s hate speech. To read this directly across from a page where you printed another letter applauding two members of the community for their efforts as they relate to Pride Month in June isn’t even ironic. There would have to be a new word for whatever that is.

Now let me clarify that I am not writing you in an effort to shame you for it. I’m writing you to challenge you, myself, and anyone else who reads this: If there was ever a time to take a pause from calling others evil and sinful, it’s now.

The word “freedom” is thrown around so often without any real regard for what it means for anyone beyond ourselves. Why should any person have the right to say what freedoms anyone else is or isn’t allowed, so long as those freedoms don’t hurt those of others? Well, the correct answer is the simplest one: No one should be allowed to do that.

What we all have the freedom and obligation to do is to look around us

and realize what consequences our actions have. Don’t concern yourself with how someone else chooses to exercise their freedoms, when in reality yours and theirs can co-exist in harmony. And don’t kid yourself: they can co-exist. It happens all over the world.

To use an example, seeing a Pride Parade bring joy and comfort to people who long for it does not need to be counter-acted by anything based on what your beliefs may be. The people marching in that parade are doing nothing to harm your freedoms or way of life. The same way someone who does not believe in God shouldn’t feel anger or hatred driving past a church parking lot full of cars.

Now on the other hand, refusing to consider the health and well-being of EVERYONE around you whether they be gay, straight, Christian, Muslim, etc., is putting your own freedoms first and stripping them away from others.

As I’m sure you can tell, I am referring to wearing a mask and following guidelines put in place by real certified medical experts. Not advice from our opinionated uncle on Facebook, not our friends who hear “facts” at the coffee shop, but the same experts you would have no problem trusting with your life if you were in any other situation.

Don’t put your own freedoms ahead of others. Be kind and considerate. As painful and tiresome as these restrictions are becoming week after week, just remember that they are the same for all of us. The sooner we pull together and realize that it is for the greater good, the sooner we can get back to life as we used to know it.

This area has been getting dragged through the mud recently for what we have going on here. Although this has been a trying time for everyone, and we’ve all had moments where we aren’t at our best, I am still very proud to call this place home. I honestly believe there are more genuinely good people here than anyone knows, and it’s time that we prove that to everyone else.

Matt Sibbald,  
Morden

*[Ed note: Last week’s Letters to the Editor page unfortunately did not have the usual editorial oversight we strive for here at the Voice, owing to the fact the editor was on holidays for the week. As a result, the process for the considered selection of letters was not followed as it should have been. I sincerely apologize for this and have taken steps to ensure it will not happen again.]*



• GUEST COMMENTARY

# We are all tired, but we will get through this

**T**his week, Morden's vaccination super-site passed an important milestone with 20,000 people having received their COVID-19 vaccine at the site. The site registered another 'first' with 797 doses administered in a single day.

For over a year now, Manitobans have been bombarded daily with pandemic numbers and statistics, but these two numbers are encouraging, because they provide hope that we will emerge from COVID-19 after the long and wearying restrictions we have endured.

It is no secret that people in our

community and across the province are tired. It has been more than a year of navigating the global pandemic, learning about COVID-19, hearing from Public Health officials, and living under restrictions that have impacted interactions with family and friends, worship, shopping, travel and much more.

Adding to our individual and collective fatigue is this third wave of the pandemic, arriving later in Manitoba than other provinces, and resulting in new and stricter public health measures, precisely when the situation seemed to have been improving.

The divisions in our community don't make this any easier. In families, social groups, business places, restaurants and churches, (and on social media where

some people have all sorts of new courage), dividing lines are drawn, harsh words are exchanged and blame is assessed. Tempers are running hot with the new restrictions in place. My constituency office hears it from both sides: on one hand, those who say that only a full-scale shut-down will work; and on the other hand, those who say restrictions must end now due to the long-term negative impacts of these rules.

For a weary community and province that has been living with COVID-19 for over a year, relief is badly needed. Our hope and our prayer is that this current surge of cases will represent the "last of the worst".

And yet there is cause for encouragement. While provinces continue to struggle to receive consistent and adequate vaccine from the federal government, last week Manitobans learned that 60 per cent of the population had received at least their first shot. Despite further federal distribution setbacks, we are on track to have 70 per cent of the population vaccinated in June.

Constituents seem to agree on at least one thing: that we need to know what the plan is to get back to normal.



**Cameron Friesen,  
MLA**

Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario and most other provinces have already conveyed strategies to lift restrictions in a planned and phased-in approach, as vaccination rates increase and daily case counts fall. For people anxious to see their loved ones, attend a worship service, go to restaurants, resume recreation activities, and attend weddings, graduations and funerals, this is welcome news.

Morden-Winkler constituents can be reassured that this work is also underway in Manitoba, and will be released to the public soon—a set of commitments to reopen based on milestones we pass on vaccination, case rates and other indicators.

It's encouraging that our local vaccine supersite continues to set records for daily volumes and total vaccines administered. We are all tired, but those milestones remind us that we are getting there. What each of us can all do right now is get our vaccine, encourage others to do so, and do the work that will allow restrictions to be lifted.

We will emerge from this pandemic.

*Cameron Friesen is the MLA for Morden-Winkler*

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## Notice of Environment Act Proposal

Manitoba Conservation and Climate has received a proposal pursuant to The Environment Act regarding the following operation and invites public participation in the review process:

**SOUTHERN MANITOBA POTATO CO. LTD. AND KROEKER FARMS LTD. - DEADHORSE IRRIGATION PROJECT - FILE: 6110.00**

An Environment Act Proposal has been filed by Southern Manitoba Potato Co. Ltd. and Kroeker Farms Ltd. for the construction and operation of an irrigation project in the Rural Municipality of Stanley. The project includes a proposed off-channel reservoir in SE 18-3-4W filled from a pumpsite on Deadhorse Creek in NW 20-3-4W and supplemented by a pumpsite on a waterway in SE 18-3-4W. Water would be pumped to the reservoir during the spring runoff period and during periods of high summer flows using buried pipelines. Water from the reservoir would be used to irrigate 28 fields totaling 1387 hectares in a three to four year rotation, with up to 405 hectares per year irrigated. Construction of the reservoir and water diversion works is planned to begin in the summer of 2021, with some irrigation occurring in 2022 and full development completed by 2025.

Anyone likely to be affected by the above operation and who wishes to comment on the proposal should contact Bruce Webb, Senior Environmental Engineer, in writing or by email at [Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca](mailto:Bruce.Webb@gov.mb.ca) not later than July 03, 2021. Further information is available from the Online Public Registry: [www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries](http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries)

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry established in accordance with Section 17 of The Environment Act.

Environmental Approvals Branch  
Manitoba Conservation and Climate  
1007 Century Street  
Winnipeg MB R3H 0W4  
Toll Free: 1-800-282-8069  
Fax: 204-945-5229

Website: [www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries](http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries)



## Second-dose vaccine eligibility continues to expand

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba public health officials reported 303 new cases of COVID-19 on Monday, bringing the province's active caseload to 4,504.

Officials noted, however, that due to technical issues the day's numbers were an undercount of actual case numbers. Tuesday's report—released after this edition went to press—was expected to include the missing cases.

The Winnipeg health region continues to see the greatest daily increase in cases, reporting 226 on Monday. Next up was 37 new cases in Southern Health-Santé Sud, 15 in the Prairie Mountain Health region, 13 in the Northern health region, and 12 in Interlake-Eastern.

Manitoba has seen a total of 1,053 deaths due to the virus and 45,533 recoveries.

At press time, there were 308 people in Manitoba hospitals with COVID,

Continued on page 9



# Honouring Morden's citizen of distinction

Morden Area Foundation representatives officially presented the 2020 Citizen of Distinction Award last week to Dave Destoop. Pandemic restrictions prevented the organization from holding an event in his honour, but foundation board members Allison Braun and Sasha An-namuradova paid him a visit Friday to hand off the trophy. "It's been quite a busy month," said Destoop, who had previously donated the \$1,000 grant that comes with the award to the Morden Legion.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

## Strict public health orders in effect to June 12

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitoba last week further extended stricter restrictions as it continued to struggle to get the third wave of COVID-19 under control.

A combination of both new and strengthened public health orders went into effect last Saturday and will remain in place at least until June 12, and Premier Brian Pallister and chief provincial public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin both urged Manitobans to stay at home as much as possible to reduce COVID-19 transmission rates and help protect the health care system.

The announcement last Thursday came on a day when the province recorded eight more deaths, which was the highest daily number during the third wave. As well, the province that day announced continued remote learning for a number of school divisions including Garden Valley in Winkler, while a COVID-19 outbreak was declared at Tabor Home in Morden.

Pallister said the ongoing restrictions are necessary to protect and safeguard Manitoba lives and to bend our COVID curve back down.

"While Manitoba's COVID-19 case counts have somewhat improved ... our health care system is still facing critical pressures," said Pallister, as he particularly emphasized the need to target gatherings, workplaces, and retail establishments.

"Manitobans must stay home as much as possible ... so that our hospitals and our medical teams have the capacity to care for Manitobans,

have the ability to care for people when they need that help.

"These decisions are not easy ones ... these are tough measures because we're in a tough situation," said Pallister. "We need the full participation of all Manitobans ... the more we follow the rules, the more we beat COVID."

The public health orders included the following restrictions:

- Indoor public gatherings are not permitted, and visitors are not permitted on private property except in certain circumstances.
- Employers are required to allow employees to work from home as much as possible.
- Outdoor gatherings with anyone from outside a household are not allowed. This applies to all recreation spaces including playgrounds, golf courses, parks and sports fields.
- Retail businesses may only operate at 10 per cent capacity or 100 customers, whichever is fewer, and only one person per household is allowed to enter a business, with some exceptions such as a single parent with children or someone who requires a caregiver.
- Increased requirements for malls to manage capacity and access to eliminate gatherings and ensure compliance with shopping.
- Many businesses and organizations will remain closed for in-person service including gyms and fitness clubs, restaurants and bars, personal service businesses, museums, galleries and libraries.

Kindergarten to Grade 12 schools currently learning remotely in the cities of Winnipeg and Brandon as well as in the Red River Valley and Garden Valley school divisions will continue to do so until at least June 7.

Additionally, Roussin noted they will utilize health hazard orders to close businesses if necessary where there are multiple cases and transmission is a risk.

"You will begin to see Public Health more actively use orders under the Public Health Act to close individual facilities, businesses and workplaces where we're seeing multiple cases and transmission," he said. "We know we have to take stronger action to help protect the health system and the health of Manitobans.

"We are implementing these new, strengthened public health orders because our health system is facing critical pressures that are not sustainable. Manitoba's ICU numbers and hospitalizations are extremely high and are still expected to climb in this third wave," said Roussin.

"Our health care system is under great strain. Manitobans are tired, but our health care system is depending on us to bring down these numbers," he concluded. "Our health system depends on all Manitobans doing their part."

### > COVID-19, FROM PG. 8

including 71 in ICU. Another 36 Manitobans are receiving ICU care in Ontario and Saskatchewan.

In the Pembina Valley, Winkler is leading the way in cases with 79. Morden was reporting 41 cases on Monday, the Altona area was at 38, Carman had 14, Morris 13, Red River South 11, Lorne/Louise/Pembina six, Stanley four, and Roland/Thompson, Grey, and MacDonald all had two cases.

On the vaccine front, all Manitobans age 12 and up are eligible for their first dose.

Second-dose eligibility continues to expand rapidly. At press time, anyone who had received their first dose on or before April 13 is able to

book their second dose.

All Indigenous people as well as individuals with specific health conditions are also eligible to book their second dose, as long as they meet the minimum time interval between doses.

The province has announced that anyone who received a first dose of AstraZeneca/Covishield is now eligible to receive a second dose of any mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna), provided they meet provincial eligibility criteria for their second dose.

Detailed eligibility criteria and booking information is available online at [manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine](http://manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine). You can also call 1-844-MAN-VACC (1-844-626-8222) to make an appointment.

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# Winklerites asked to conserve water this summer

Weekly lawn watering, odd-even house number schedule in place under drought plan

By Ashleigh Viveiros

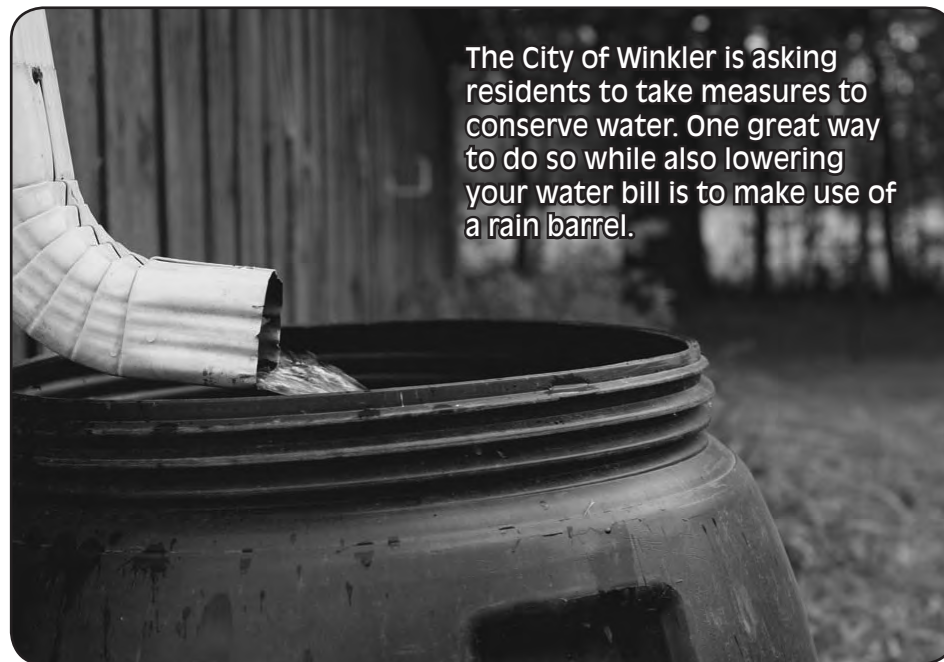
As we head into what's expected to be a pretty dry summer, the City of Winkler is asking residents to do what they can to conserve water.

The city announced last month that its drought plan is in effect due to the low levels of the Winkler Aquifer.

"The decision is based off a number of factors, one of them being the Canadian Drought Monitor," explained Scott Toews, Winkler's director of planning and engineering.

Toews noted that system is updated by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada on a monthly basis, though he doesn't expect the few days of rain we've had lately will have had much of an impact on the June status update.

"While the rain was great, I think we'll need a lot more," he said. "This year we didn't see much for [aquifer] recharge—almost nothing. Right now we're just below the median for this time of year but, without that recharge that we typically see in the spring, we're trending downwards."



The City of Winkler is asking residents to take measures to conserve water. One great way to do so while also lowering your water bill is to make use of a rain barrel.

More rain will help recharge the aquifer, but in the meantime Winklerites can do their part by following a few simple conservation measures.

The city is asking residents to water their established lawns only once a week. If you live in an odd numbered

house you're asked to stick to Saturdays, while Sundays are earmarked for even numbered houses.

If you have new trees, shrubs, or grass that need a little extra water, you're asked to stick to a thrice weekly schedule—Mondays, Wednesdays,

and Saturdays for odd houses and Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays for evens.

There are currently no restrictions on garden watering, though you are encouraged to use rain barrels as much as possible—they not only lessen the burden on the civic water supply but can also have a positive impact on your household water bill.

Further conservation measures might be needed if dry conditions persist this summer. Check out the City of Winkler's social media pages and website ([cityofwinkler.ca](http://cityofwinkler.ca)) for updates.

Winklerites are usually pretty good about doing their part when it comes to limiting water usage, Toews noted.

"I think every time we have put a request out to the community they've responded well, and that goes a long ways towards helping the city manage some of these conditions," he said. "We definitely appreciate the help from the community in helping to manage these dry conditions."

## Morden council commits to looking into public transit

By Lorne Stelmach

Development of public transit may not be in the works just yet, but Morden city council wants to at least have dialogue about it.

Council will be looking to engage the community on the issue in some way after having received a letter from a resident calling for action.

"It is something we have talked about for some time, but we've always kind of had a private option on the backburner," Mayor Brandon Burley said following the May 25 council meeting. "I think we owe the public at least the duty of engagement on it because it would be useful for a lot of our residents."

Burley said there are a couple key considerations that are connected, including the operating cost and potential usage of the service.

"Just how much uptake would there be ... I don't know at this moment how you get those numbers or how you determine the usage level," he said. "I think certainly if we had a petition from the public that was in the hundreds and commitments of people who say they would use it, I think that could go a long way in informing our decision."

"Then we would also want to know

on top of that what the usage would look like, whether they're using it to get downtown or whether they're requiring something to get to Winkler or whether they want to get to Boundary Trails [Health Centre].

"You can provide a service, but if it's not used ... there's not only the economic cost but also the environmental cost."

Burley suggested they would work with economic development officer Jason Dyck in helping develop further discussion on the issue.

### LAGOON OPTION

City council is also looking into a possible solution to its lagoon capacity concerns.

A number of options regarding wastewater capacity have come up in discussions with the Manitoba Water Services Board, and one idea being considered is developing a new lagoon with a full wetland.

"Obviously, that takes a fair amount of land, and we have to be not in close proximity of the city," stressed Burley.

The next step for council is working with Golden Plains Consulting to look at all options for acquiring land for such a project.

"If we can't prove we can get the

"I THINK WE OWE THE PUBLIC AT LEAST THE DUTY OF ENGAGEMENT ON IT BECAUSE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR A LOT OF OUR RESIDENTS."

land, we can't move forward with exploring that option," said Burley, noting they would need a large enough block of land and of course owners who are willing to sell. "This does put us in the starting gate to be able to explore that option."

### COST INCREASE

Council last week also gave its approval for a cost increase for the Huron Window arena improvement project at the Access Event Centre.

With the event centre remaining closed to events, staff have kept busy replacing the rink's brine line system, flooring, and boards.

Now, a recommendation came back to council to upgrade to a "smart" energy compressor which will increase the energy efficiency and reduce the operating cost over time.

It will add an estimated \$370,000 to the project, which has also faced

about \$400,000 in other cost increases since it was tendered, so it will bring the project overall closer to a \$2.9 million price tag.

"It is a substantial upgrade," said Burley. "Doing it now is cheaper than doing it later ... so we're adding that in now."

Finally, council is also looking at a slower speed limit on a road in the northwest corner of the city.

The reduced speed zone is being considered for Road 14 N west of Mountain Road - PR 432, and council recognized there is increased traffic now from residential development in the area.

"Exeter Drive will connect to Road 14 this summer ... and you can't have a 100 kph road crossing into a residential site," said Burley. "You're barely gaining speed and you have to slow down again ... so it's not a high impact decision."



# getinformed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

## Morden teacher honoured

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden student who received a prestigious national scholarship has in turn paid tribute to one of the teachers who helped him earn that honour.

A 2017 Loran scholarship recipient in his Grade 12 year at Morden Collegiate, Finley Wheeler nominated École Morden Middle School teacher Heather Clyde for the Loran Scholars Foundation Teachers Building Leaders Award.

To receive it, a teacher must be nominated by a former student who has become a Loran Scholar—a young person selected for Canada's most comprehensive undergraduate award from a pool of over 5,000 applicants on the basis of character, service, and leadership.

"It's a pretty big honour that he chose me out of all the people he could have picked," Clyde said last week.

"It was really unexpected and I am super excited to be receiving the award," she said. "It's been 21 years of teaching and a lot of students over those years ... it's really nice to know that it means as much to him as it does to me."

**"SHE PLAYED A PRETTY INFLUENTIAL ROLE IN SHAPING THE KIND OF PERSON THAT I'VE BEEN ABLE TO BECOME HERE SO FAR."**

"She played a pretty influential role in shaping the kind of person that I've been able to become here so far," said Wheeler, who is now looking ahead to his final year at the University of British Columbia.

In his nomination of Clyde, Wheeler noted how much he has been shaped and influenced by growing up in a small town that values connections. He said he owes much of his success to the leaders in the community and

especially teachers like Clyde, who he cited for the compassion she has for helping all of her students succeed to the best of their abilities.

"Her dedication to building personal connections with her students and her willingness to prioritize fun and engaging methods of learning has positively impacted the kids she teaches for decades now," he wrote.

"I was lucky to have Heather as a direct influence in my life for most of my grade school experience," Wheeler noted. "I recall entering Grade 5 as a fairly shy, reserved and closed off personality. Opening up, finding my own confidence, and learning to believe in myself are traits that Mrs. Clyde guided and encouraged me to find."

"Clyde was incredibly supportive of my journey and would always check in on me, helping to weigh decisions, and encouraging me to broaden my

Loran scholars Finley Wheeler with teacher Heather Clyde at his graduation in 2017. Wheeler nominated Clyde to receive the Loran Scholars Foundation Teachers Building Leaders Award, which she received this spring.

SUPPLIED PHOTO



scope of learning. I truly looked up to her and admire her to this day as an educator, mother, role model and community leader," he continued. "Mrs. Clyde approaches teaching not as a job but as an opportunity to positively influence her student's development."

"I think it's recognition for a lot of years of work and a lot of connections made with a lot of students," suggested Clyde, who went on to heap praise on Wheeler.

"Finley is an awesome student and has become a friend over the years, and it was really exciting to hear that he had taken the time out of a very busy life to put in that nomination,"

she said. "He was always very confident, very positive, very passionate about everything he's done over the years. He's going to go incredible places in life because he's got a drive and passion for everything single thing he does."

"It ultimately was her ability to connect with all of her students on a personal level," noted Wheeler, who also remains grateful for the scholarship, as it has provided support for everything from tuition to living expenses and more.

"I've had numerous opportunities now with this scholarship throughout my university career."

## Minnewasta School moves to remote learning for a week

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A Morden school moved to remote learning this week due to a jump in COVID-19 cases.

Western School Division last Thursday announced it had been instructed by Manitoba Education and Public Health to move Minnewasta School to remote learning for the week of May

31 to June 4. At press time, students and staff were expected to resume normal class learning on June 7.

In a letter to the community, superintendent Stephen Ross explained why only Minnewasta was making the move to remote learning, rather than all the schools in the division:

"At this time, based on different circumstances in each of our other

schools, they continue to remain safely open," he said. "Communities and school divisions which have had all of their schools move to remote learning have done so as Public Health has believed there was the potential for transmission within all their schools due to the pervasiveness of COVID cases in the community."

At present, that does not seem to be

the case in Morden, Ross said, though the division remains in regular contact with health officials in case that should change.

"Although there have been some COVID cases within Morden which affect students and staff, there does not appear to be transmission in schools," he said.

News or sports tip?

Reach our editorial staff at: [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca)



## Thank-you to frontline workers



By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler's Emmanuel Mennonite Church paid it forward by handing out hundreds of ice cream treats last week.

"We wanted to try and say thank you to our frontline workers," said Corey Hildebrand, pastor of family ministries. "They are really on the front lines and they're putting themselves at risk, their families at risk every day



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Earl Reimer (left) and Tina Fehr Kehler (above) were among the volunteers at the Emmanuel Mennonite Church last week handing out ice cream treats to front line workers.

for so many of us.

"We really have no idea what's happening inside the hospital, we have no idea what our police officers or teachers are all having to navigate every day," he added. "Things keep chang-

ing and they just keep pivoting and they keep pushing on.

"We just wanted to show them a little bit of support."

## Pay It Forward May spreads kindness, smiles

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Morden-Winkler residents certainly found plenty of ways to celebrate Pay It Forward May last month.

The kindness campaign spearheaded by the local community foundations was a success, say organizers, in spite of the many challenges thrown up by pandemic restrictions.

"It went better than we expected, actually, considering all the restrictions in place," noted Julia Blais, scholarship and marketing coordinator with the Winkler Community Foundation (WCF).

"We just saw so much support and so many businesses, even, just chiming in and doing their part to pay it forward," she said. "So many small businesses were the ones that were affected this past year [by ongoing restrictions], but they just said the com-

munity has supported us so much that we want to pay it forward, so that was nice to see."

"Social media has been flooded with different businesses taking on initiatives and kindness stories," agreed Jennifer Ching-Faux community foundations co-ordinator for the Morden Area Foundation.

Countless businesses did everything from delivering flowers to seniors to handing out free goodies to donating proceeds of gift card sales or staff fundraisers to local charities.

"There were lots of different ideas," said Ching-Faux. "It seemed like every day somebody was coming up with a gift card giveaway or something fun."

"It's been really neat to see the imag-

ination and the creativity that people are bringing to this to help people smile and feel good."

There were also plenty stories shared of people paying for the orders of the person behind them in line at the drive-thru or doing some other random act of kindness for a stranger.

"We know there's more stories than what was shown in social media," noted Myra Peters, WCF executive director. "It's been so exciting to see the community come together, share kindness. What warms my heart is you see people are looking for it and are seeing it."

Paying it forward doesn't have to stop, of course, now that the campaign is over.

"Our goal is just to highlight all the kindness that's going on in May, but definitely we encourage it to keep going," stressed Blais.

"It changes your day when somebody shows you kindness when you're least expecting it," added Peters. "It's encouraging and I think that's what we all need—we need that encouragement these days."

One more boost of encouragement is on the horizon for Morden residents: the foundation's Pay It Forward parade originally planned for last week is now scheduled to take place on Thursday, June 24. Route details and event updates are available on their social media pages

**"IT CHANGES YOUR DAY WHEN SOMEBODY SHOWS YOU KINDNESS WHEN YOU'RE LEAST EXPECTING IT."**

## Stanley okays five-year fire service agreement

By Lorne Stelmach

A new agreement is in place for the RM of Stanley to continue paying the cities of Winkler and Morden for fire protection services.

Stanley council recently approved the new five-year special service plan to provide for protective services to the municipality.

The cost for the current year is \$653,469 and council estimates it will

increase annually to \$685,000 in 2022 and eventually \$805,000 in 2026.

The special service tax charged to ratepayers is calculated on the portioned value of assessed property, and the mill rate will be 0.933 based on the 2021 total assessment of \$700,856,540. On a property with a value of \$250,000 (with a portioned value of \$112,500), it means there will be a special service tax of \$104.96 this year.

"It would cost us way more doing

this ourselves," noted Reeve Morris Olafson. "As far as the fire agreements with the two cities, we have no issue with it whatsoever. They do a great job for us all the time. We really feel we're getting decent bang for our buck with this deal."

Council has also given final approval to its financing plan to move ahead with its part in the regional wastewater treatment project.

Continued on page 21





## COMMUNITY NEWS



# Masen's Mission puts call out for drink can tabs

By Lorne Stelmach

A Winkler youth is pursuing a lofty goal to help someone else by collecting drink tabs.

Calling the campaign Masen's Mission, Sherri Rempel's eight-year-old son Masen wants to collect the millions of tabs needed to be recycled to provide for a wheelchair for someone who needs one.

The Parkland Elementary student was inspired in part through know-

ing that his mother had previously required a wheelchair herself.

"I used to use a wheelchair because of my MS [multiple sclerosis]. He was too young to remember it, but he has seen pictures," said Rempel.

"He wants to pay it forward and help someone else get a wheelchair," she said, noting that her son also knows one of her friends requires a wheelchair as well. "So he knows how important a wheelchair is to somebody. He knows I used to be in a wheelchair

and knows how important it can be for some people."

"My mom needed to use one ... if someone else needs to use one ... they can melt the tabs down and make another wheelchair," said Masen.

Many organizations and individuals have taken to collecting drink tabs because they are small and easy to collect and compile for recycling, although it does require a large quantity to be able to pay for a wheelchair.

Rempel noted they understood that

it could require as much as 14 million tabs, but they are not daunted.

"It's 300 to 350 garbage bags to make one or two wheelchairs," said Masen.

They have a good start to the collection but will need a lot more yet.

"We don't really drink a lot of pop here, so for us to collect that many is going to take a lifetime, so we need some help," Rempel said.

"His school is on board and they are

Continued on page 15

Eight-year-old Masen Rempel is collecting drink can tabs to purchase a wheelchair for someone who needs one.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY MANURE INJECTION, MB.

## Maximizing the value of manure nutrients

Manitoba hog farmers adopt new and emerging nutrient management methods, technology, and best management practices, optimizing the benefits of manure fertilizer and reducing the environmental impact of hog farming.

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Manitoba hog farmers have made significant progress over the past decades in improving manure management practices and protecting our natural resources. Using proven scientific methods and third-party expertise, hog farmers are responsible stewards of the land focused on safeguarding natural resources for future generations.

To learn more, visit [manitobapork.com/environment](http://manitobapork.com/environment)

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# Winkler's first roundabout is coming this summer

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler's first roundabout is on its way.

City council last week awarded the tender for the intersection overhaul at 15th St. and Roblin Blvd. to Meseyton Construction.

The Portage company came in with the low bid of just over \$1.1 million—well below the \$1.4 council had budgeted for the project.

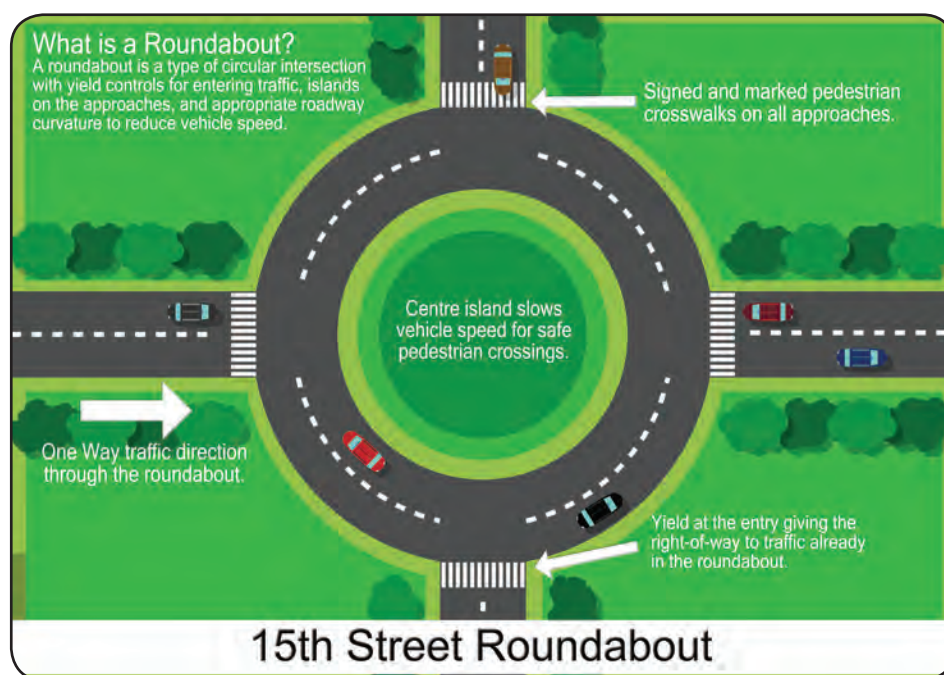
Mayor Martin Harder explains that a four-way stop at the busy intersection simply isn't feasible given its proximity to PTH 14.

"We feel that this is going to be the best solution for that corner," he says, noting a roundabout should keep vehicles moving continuously, preventing long lines from backing up to the highway.

These flowing circular intersections are popular in Europe and have been popping up closer to home in recent years, but are Winkler drivers ready for them?

Harder is confident we'll all get the hang of it.

"I think Winkler drivers have been



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well adapted to going to Winnipeg—they've made that trip many times on Hwy. 3 and they've gone around that roundabout [by Oakbank] and they know the routine," he says, adding with a chuckle: "All you got to do is go in circles. If you miss one turn-off you go to the next one."

Work on the roundabout will get underway this summer and should be completed by fall.

Another project slated to be completed this summer involves a major upgrade to the Emerado Park outdoor skating rink.

Council okayed spending up to

\$25,000 on installing a concrete base in the rink to transform it into a space that can be used year-round for ball hockey and pickleball.

The actual cost of the project, however, is closer to \$100,000—the bulk of which is being covered by a group of generous local businesses.

"Not one of the individuals that I called said no. Everyone said yes," Harder says of the donations of materials and labour the project has yielded, noting it's an example of the 'Yes Winkler' slogan brought to life.

Harder at last week's council meeting thanked Parkside Lumber, Winkler Concrete, George Klassen Construction, Kevin Ginter Concrete, Dan Peters Concrete, and John Krahn Construction for contributing to the rink upgrade.

"It's partnerships like this that allow us to move projects forward quite often years before we could afford to do them," noted Councillor Henry Siemens. "I think the community itself is going to love having this there and the options that it opens. And the fact that we have businesses and members of

Continued on page 21



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# Calling all green thumbs



By Ashleigh Viveiros

## > TABS, FROM PG. 13

collecting for him," she said, noting that Masen's teacher Kristen Mbabazi has helped him and had a container set up in each classroom to collect tabs.

In addition, a teacher at Northlands Parkway Collegiate who also has MS has that high school involved, and the Winkler Library and Winkler Emmanuel Church are both accepting tabs for Masen as well.

"I've put it on my social media, so I've had a lot of people drop tabs off already. They just bring them to the front steps, and I spray them down with Lysol or some cleaning product," said Rempel.

It is meaningful to her to see her son motivated to help and to be taking the initiative.

"They've been learning a lot in school about kids with disabilities ... I don't know if there's any kids in his school who use wheelchairs, but if it happens that someone needs it," she said.

"It is a proud mother moment. I'm very proud of him. It's a big undertaking for him, for a little guy, but it's something he wants to do, so I will help him as much as I can," she said. "We definitely appreciate all the tabs we get, and he's excited every time he gets another big pile of them."

"HE WANTS TO PAY IT FORWARD AND HELP SOMEONE ELSE GET A WHEELCHAIR."

Got some time on your hands on Monday? The Winkler Horticulture Society could use your help.

Volunteers have spent all this week planting thousands of flowers in public green spaces and gardens throughout the city.

They're hoping to wrap it all up with one final planting push on Monday, but they could use a few more helping hands.

"The more, the better," says board chair Margaret Penner, who stresses you don't need to be a veteran green thumb to help. "We have experienced helpers in all of the areas that people will be planting to direct people in what to do."

If you'd like to volunteer, simply come to Bethel Heritage Park at 8:30 a.m. on Monday to receive an assignment. You can also call or text Penner at 204-362-2552 for details.

Be sure to bring along a mask and a trowel.

Winkler Horticultural Society volunteers, shown here during last year's planting blitz, have been at work all this week beautifying the city. They could use a few extra hands to wrap things up Monday.  
VOICE FILE PHOTO

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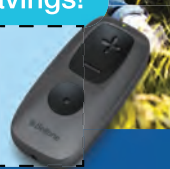


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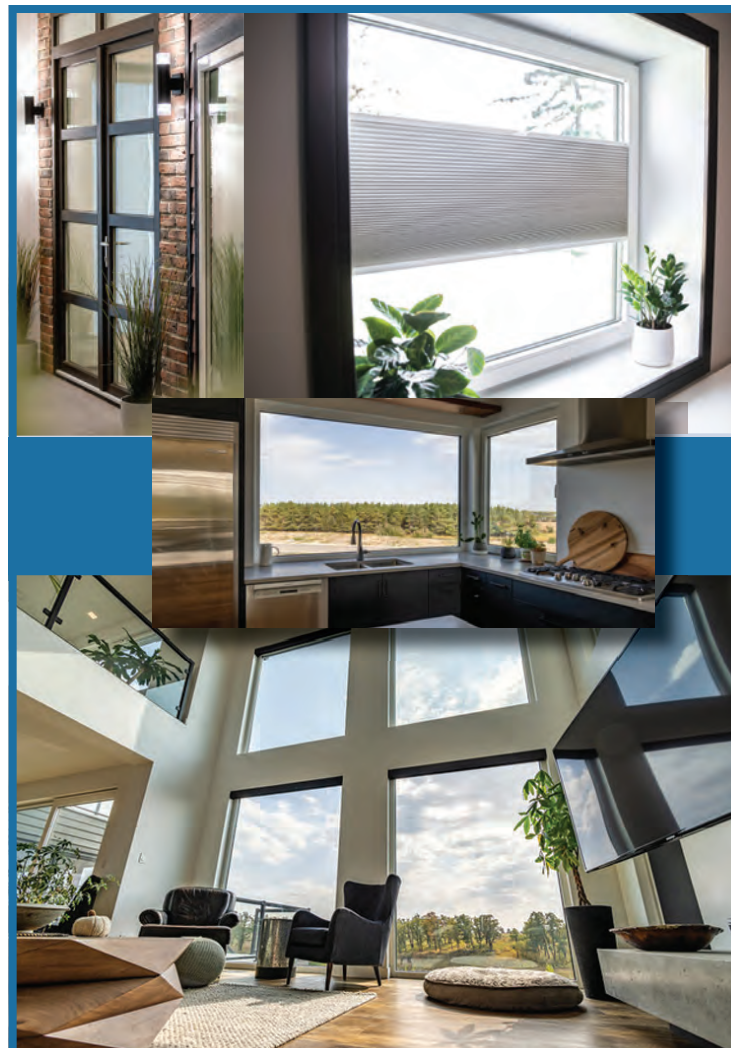
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## JUNE IS TURKEY MONTH IN MANITOBA

# Let's talk turkey

By Tyler Searle

In 1952, two brothers hatched a plan to start a turkey farm on a plot of land four kilometres west of Gunton.

Nearly 70 years and three generations later, the Charisons Turkey Hatchery is one of the largest turkey hatcheries in Canada and still family-owned and operated.

Stan and Alex (pronounced Alec) Charison started with a few meat birds, a flock of breeder hens and an informal agreement to produce eggs for a hatchery in Winnipeg.

"They were shipping eggs, and after about six weeks, the guy said, 'I got too many eggs, I don't need yours,'" recounts Curtis Charison, son of Stan Charison and owner of the Charisons Turkey Hatchery.

"He said, 'do whatever you want with them, but I'm not taking the eggs.'"

Left in a lurch with thousands of eggs and no way to incubate them, Stan and Alex took it upon themselves to find a solution, Curtis continued.

The brothers purchased two used incubators/hatchers that they saw in the Manitoba Co-operator and the Charisons Turkey Hatchery story began.

The Charisons now had two incubators but no electricity to run them. So, they struck a deal with their neighbour Harold Cosens who had a dairy farm and electricity.

"He said, 'well, there's room in the corner of the barn here, if you want to put them there and plug them in—go ahead,'" Curtis recounts.

The men produced eggs on their farm and incubated them at the neighbours—travelling half a mile

in each direction every four hours to turn the eggs. Curtis remembers his father sharing the story of how his dad paid \$15 for hydro that year.

The following year Manitoba Hydro installed an electrical line on the Charisons property.

In 1952, there were 28 turkey hatcheries across Manitoba, with each one vying for its share of the market. That year, the Charisons hatched 13,000 baby turkeys, known in the industry as poults.

Today, the hatchery produces between 7.5 to 8 million poults annually. It can hatch 13,000 in three hours and is the second-largest hatchery in Canada.

Suffice to say; the operation has evolved over the years, and any time you eat turkey today, there is a very good chance it originated from the Interlake.



The fertilized eggs are stored in a temperature controlled room for up to 20 days before being placed in the incubators.



The incubators are all controlled electronically to control temperature, humidity, ventilation and egg turning cycle.

The modern facility consists of the hatchery, a shop and a truck bay.

On separate sites, the Charisons have a commercial turkey farm that produces birds strictly for processing, two grower barns where birds reach maturity, and two-layer barns where staff collect eggs.

Silver Turkey Breeders, Bay Shore Farms, Frontier Farms, Bedrock Farms and Bonkowski Turkey Breeders also work as contract farms, grow turkeys and produce eggs for the hatchery.

The hens spend 33 weeks inside the growing barns



**VOICE PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER**  
Cameron and Curtis Charison with Thursdays hatch.

before reaching maturity. Once they enter their laying cycle, they move to the layer barn, where they are artificially inseminated on a weekly basis and produce eggs for up to 32 weeks.

While inside the barns, birds roam freely with 24/7 access to feed, water and fresh air.

The Charisons carefully choose their staff when hiring and ensure that everyone knows the importance of their FLAW protocol - Food, clean Litter, lots of fresh Air and clean Water.

The Charison's primary concern is always the welfare of their birds, said third-generation turkey farmer Cameron Charison.

Cameron works in the hatchery and manages their two breeders barns alongside his father Curtis to ensure the daily operations run smoothly—it's a responsibility he takes seriously.

The Charisons protect their barns and hatchery with stringent biosecurity protocols, which require employees and visitors to remove their clothing and footwear and take a shower before entering each barn.

This process ensures the birds' health and prevents the spread of viruses such as the avian flu, said Cameron.

"The better job we do of taking care of our birds, the better job they're going to do of laying eggs."



Curtis and Cameron inspect a shipment of toms headed to the U.S. on Wednesday.



Once the poult breaks the shell, it uses a scissor tooth on its beak to saw its way out. Within three days, most of the eggs have hatched and the turkeys are on their way to their forever farms.



## FEATURE - CHARISON TURKEY HATCHERY

Every bird can lay four to five eggs per week, and the collection process is largely automated. Hens are naturally inclined to seek privacy when they lay, so they enter specialized pens on their own accord.

Once inside, a door closes behind them to prevent other birds from entering. After 45 minutes, a mechanized plate coaxes the hen out and collects her egg.

A conveyor belt transfers the eggs into another area where staff date and assess their integrity—ensuring they have no cracks and are a proper size.

Healthy eggs move on to the hatchery.

The hatchery boasts 42 incubators, with each capable of storing 24,960 eggs. Rows of incubators line the hallways. Electronic alarms blurt out sporadically, alerting staff of fluctuations in humidity or temperature and a strong current of fresh air streams through vents in the ceiling.

The hatchery can process as many as 60,000 poults in one day.

After 25 days of incubating at an average temperature of 99 degrees F., staff transfer the eggs into a hatcher where the eggs will remain for the next three days.

“Once we transfer the eggs over and put them into the hatchers, then we’re going in there and manually checking to see what stage the birds are at,” said Cameron.

The staff enters the hatchers four times per day to monitor the eggs and poults. They can adjust temperature and humidity levels to soften the shells and facilitate the hatching process.

Contrary to popular belief, poults do not peck their way out of their eggs. The birds hatch using a temporary egg tooth on the tip of their beak, which they use to saw out of their shells. The process takes approximately 20 minutes and resembles a can-opener effect.

From the hatchers, birds move on to be sexed and sorted for shipping.

A team identifies the sex of the poults and separates the toms and hens and counts them into groups of 100.

The entire sexing and sorting process takes less than one second, and the Charison’s take pride in their staff’s 99.5 per cent sex accuracy rate, said Cameron.

Finally, these birds are ready to be shipped.

The Charisons employ just under 100 staff, including 11 drivers who operate a fleet of 10 poult delivery vehicles—ranging from vans to 48’ trailers.

The delivery trucks are temperature-controlled and fitted with vents to allow ample airflow during transit. Drivers operate them in tandem, alternating between sleeping and driving. The longest road trip for the poults would be those travelling to Vancouver Island. The poults will arrive at their new farm within 36 hours of being hatched.

Each poult has a yolk sac that provides enough nutrients for up to five days, so the birds never go hungry.

Charison’s turkeys travel to family and commercial farms across western Canada and into the U.S. When the turkeys reach maturity, most are harvested for their meat for grocery stores, restaurants, and homes.

Hens will finish between 10-20 lbs and are more suitable served whole for turkey dinners, while toms are typically 45-50 lbs and are separated into cuts of meat.

Amusement parks like Disney World sell whole tom drumsticks, while chain restaurants such as Subway use processed tom meat in their sandwiches.

Turkey isn’t only a festive meal of the holiday season, but it can benefit your overall well-being throughout the year. It is a powerhouse of many nutrients and contains minimum fat and cholesterol content. Turkey comes with amazing health benefits that include strengthening the immune system, boosting metabolism, maintaining psychological health, and supporting weight loss. It also promotes cardiovascular health, is a good source of protein, supports teeth and bones health, maintains cholesterol levels, manages diabetes, treats anemia and promotes healthy skin.

The Charisons Turkey Hatchery is one of the largest employers in the Teulon, Gunton and Balmoral area. It has employed not only the Charisons but their friends, neighbours, and community members for generations.

“Our biggest strength is our team of management and our dedicated staff who show up daily that make this place run,” said Curtis.



Charison Turkey Hatchery will be celebrating 70 years since their first batch of poults in 2022.

The Charisons show their gratitude in the form of community donations. Their most significant contributions being toward the Fireman’s Ball and the Christmas Cheer Club.

“Basically, anything that comes up locally here we end up being a part of

and supporting,” said Cameron.

The Charisons Turkey Hatchery will soon enter its 70th year with no signs of slowing. The Charison family hopes to keep the legacy alive for many decades—and generations—to come.



### Grilled Herb-Infused Turkey Pieces

#### Ingredients

- 3.5 lbs (1.5 kg) turkey cuts; (drumsticks, boneless, skinless breast or thighs.)
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- 1 tsp (5 ml) balsamic vinegar
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) fresh poultry herbs; (sage, thyme, rosemary & parsley)
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) garlic, finely chopped
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) shallot, finely chopped
- 1/2 tsp (2.5 ml) sea salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) ground pepper

#### Directions

Preheat barbecue to 375°F (190°C). Combine all ingredients in a bowl to make rub and coat turkey well. Grill pieces over indirect heat. Pieces should be turned once after 30 minutes. Pieces are cooked when a digital thermometer reaches 170°F (77°C). Remove from grill, cover loosely with foil and let stand for 10-15 minutes before serving.

Find more recipes & cooking tips at [turkey.mb.ca](http://turkey.mb.ca)



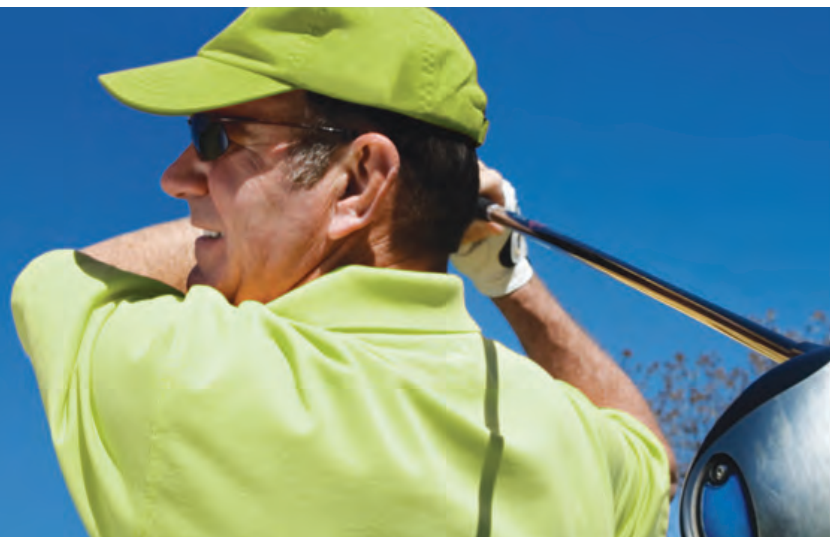
The poults are sexed, sorted into hens and toms and then counted into 100s in a state of the art facility that is sanitized after every hatch.



Poults are shipped in colour coordinated air vented boxes, green for toms and white for hens.



# SWING into GOLF season!



The Kyle Memorial Golf Course is located 15 kilometers from the Canada/ United States border in Dominion City, Manitoba. The original course was created by the late Garnet Kyle. It originally started out as a 3 hole course and has transformed over the past 20 years to what is now a 9 hole, challenging par 33 course, including water hazards on 3 of the holes. The course is open to the public, and anybody aged 17 and under can golf for free. There is a licensed Club House which provides snacks and food as well. The course and club house are available for 1/2 day or full day private rentals, and or tournaments. For more information on rentals, please call or email the Golf Course.



The Carman Golf and Curling Club (CGCC) is located in Carman, Manitoba. The club was originally established on May 12, 1924 as a five hole club. In the spring of 1930 land was purchased and nine holes were opened on the "old side". On August 28, 1953 the first tournament was held. The course began production on the "new 11 holes" in 1982 and opened the 18 Hole Golf Course in the spring of 1984. On August 17, 1990 the new clubhouse officially opened and is enjoyed today! Carman Golf and Curling Club is known as a select destination for golf in the summer and curling in the winter months. Formerly two clubs, the CGCC amalgamated its executive and combined all operations to be a year round facility managed by a general manager and offering something for everyone. CGCC features a beautiful restaurant with an attached patio, a 200 capacity banquet facility, a five sheet curling arena, and an 18 hole golf course. Both the golf course and curling club have been recognized as top-notch clubs hosting many prestigious provincial and local events.



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# SWING into GOLF season!



Scotswood Links is looking forward to another busy golf year. An 18-hole course, with two large patios, one overlooking the course and the other underneath cover, Scotswood is a great place to come enjoy some golf, food, and drinks with friends this summer. Come try out golf and enjoy the great outdoors!

Scotswood features an 18-hole golf course and a new 9,000 square foot clubhouse. The clubhouse features an upper-level lounge/patio and a 3,000 square foot private banquet room. Before COVID, we had started hosting numerous weddings with great success. We are looking forward to getting back into weddings as soon as we are able!

This beautiful golf course is located in Southern Manitoba, about a half-hour drive West of Winnipeg. It's country setting, quiet and relaxing atmosphere, and charming hospitality make it a top-notch golf destination. Book tee times and order food and drinks at our website.



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Looking for a fantastic course to play a game of golf? Well Pleasant Valley Golf Course is just the place for you! Situated in the Pembina River Valley at the south end of Pelican Lake about 100 kilometers southeast of Brandon. This course hosts large, undulating greens; which incorporates changing elevations; fully manicured fairways; and picturesque vistas. Its 18 hole championship course runs a length of 5875 yards from the Men's tees, with four par-three, 11 par-four and three par-five holes for an overall par of 71.

Since becoming owners, the Berry family (from Cypress River/Glenboro) have made renovations to the clubhouse and added a front outdoor patio area. We placed new tee box markers and yardage markers throughout the course. We have added new limestone on our cart paths. Each year, there are tweaks and continual fine tuning of the golf course. We welcome corporate events and large family outings.

There is no other golf course in the area quite like Pleasant Valley and our catch phrase is 'Nothing Quite Like It!'

Check out our upcoming events at [www.pleasantvalleygolfclub.ca](http://www.pleasantvalleygolfclub.ca)



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# June Is Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month

## 10 Early Signs and Symptoms of Alzheimer's

Memory loss that disrupts daily life may be a symptom of Alzheimer's or other dementia. Alzheimer's is a brain disease that causes a slow decline in memory, thinking and reasoning skills. There are 10 warning signs and symptoms. If you notice any of them, don't ignore them.

### #1 Memory loss that disrupts daily life

One of the most common signs in the early stage, is forgetting recently learned information. Others include forgetting important dates or events, asking for the same questions over and over, and increasingly needing to rely on memory aids (e.g., reminder notes or electronic devices) or family members for things they used to handle on their own. Typical age-related change - Sometimes forgetting names or appointments, but remembering them later.

### #2 Challenges in planning or solving problems

Some people living with dementia may experience changes in their ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers. They may have trouble following a familiar recipe or keeping track of monthly bills. They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things than they did before. Typical age-related change - Making occasional errors when finances or household bills.

### #3 Difficulty completing familiar tasks

People with Alzheimer's often find it hard to complete daily tasks. Sometimes they may have trouble driving to a familiar location, organizing a

grocery list or remembering the rules of a favorite game. Typical age-related change - Occasionally needing help to use microwave settings or to record a TV show.

### #4 Confusion with time or place

People living with Alzheimer's can lose track of dates, seasons and the passage of time. They may have trouble understanding something if it is not happening immediately. Sometimes they may forget where they are or how they got there. Typical age-related change - Getting confused about the day of the week but figuring it out later.

### #5 Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships

For some people, having vision problems is a sign of Alzheimer's. This may lead to difficulty with balance or trouble reading. They may also have problems judging distance and determining color or contrast, causing issues with driving. Typical age-related change - Vision changes related to cataracts.

### #6 New problems with words in speaking or writing

People living with Alzheimer's may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue or they may repeat themselves. They may struggle with vocabulary, have trouble naming a familiar object or use the wrong name (e.g., calling a "watch" a "hand-clock"). Typical age-related change? Sometimes having trouble finding the right word.

### #7 Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps

A person living with Alzheimer's

disease may put things in unusual places. They may lose things and be unable to go back over their steps to find them again. He or she may accuse others of stealing, especially as the disease progresses. Typical age-related change - Misplacing things from time to time and retracing steps to find them.

### #8 Decreased or poor judgment

Individuals may experience changes in judgment or decision-making. For example, they may use poor judgment when dealing with money or pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean. Typical age-related change - Making a bad decision or mistake once in a while, like neglecting to change the oil in the car.

### #9 Withdrawal from work or social activities

A person living with Alzheimer's disease may experience changes in the ability to hold or follow a conversation. As a result, he or she may withdraw from hobbies, social activities or other engagements. They may have trouble keeping up with a favorite team or activity. Typical age-related change - Sometimes feeling uninterested in family or social obligations.

### #10 Changes in mood and personality

Individuals living with Alzheimer's may experience mood and personality changes. They can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful or anxious. They may be easily upset at home, with friends or when out of their comfort zone. Typical age-related change - Developing very specific ways of doing things and becoming irritable when a routine is disrupted.

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# getinformed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

## Winkler Cheerboard Fund continues to grow

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The new Winkler Cheerboard Fund created in memory of Frank and Viola Wiebe got another big boost last week.

A group of close friends of the Wiebes have jointly donated \$9,350 to the fund, which is overseen by the Winkler Community Foundation (WCF).

"This was a cause that was near and dear to Frank and Vi's heart; they were very community-minded people," said Dr. Don Klassen on behalf of the group of seven couples who made the donation.

The fund was launched earlier this spring by the Wiebe family in honour of Frank and Vi and all the work they did during their lives to better the community and support those in need.

In the weeks since, and with this most recent gift, the fledgling endowment fund already totals nearly \$60,000. Interest from it will generate grants for the Cheer Board every year moving forward.

"I think it's a wonderful demonstration of kindness and I'm excited to see the lasting impact it will have on our community," said Myra Peters, WCF



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

From left: Kris Derksen, Winkler Cheer Board, Dr. Don Klassen, and Myra Peters, Winkler Community Foundation, were at City Hall last week to celebrate a gift of \$9,350 to the Winkler Cheerboard Fund.

executive director.

"This gift means that each year the Winkler Cheer Board will be getting funding towards their annual Christmas Cheer campaign. At the same time, the fund continues to grow, so year after year it will impact the community and people in our community.

"It's so exciting to see the legacy

that started from Frank and Vi," Peters added.

Winkler Christmas Cheer Board president Kris Derksen said the fund provides a welcome measure of stability for the holiday care hamper campaign.

"It's knowing that, first of all, the community is on board with what

we're doing, which is awesome to see. And to have that money come in each year with out us having to go solicit it is great," she said. "As a whole Cheer Board I think we're overwhelmed with how this has come together and ballooned to that [\$60,000]."

Klassen was equally thrilled to learn of the support the fund has received in recent weeks and hopes it continues.

"Part to our motivation as a group of friends was having just, having heard about the fund, seeing it in action, it's Pay It Forward May and we thought we need to pay this forward and encourage the community to get even more on board. They've done that in spades already."

He says Frank and Vi would have been humbled to see all this support being generated in their memory.

"Frank, being an accountant, he knew the value of a foundation ... he understood numbers and he understood the value of having something that gives in perpetuity. So, yeah, Frank would be very impressed and Vi would be right there with him."

You can learn more about donating to the fund by calling the foundation at 204-362-9292 or heading online to [winklercommunityfoundation.com](http://winklercommunityfoundation.com).

### > COUNCIL, FROM PG. 13

our community who are prepared to step up and make that happen, it's fantastic. It's amazing."

On a more sombre note, city council also passed a resolution to show its support for the creation of a three-digit suicide prevention hotline in Canada.

The Conservatives are calling on the federal government to consolidate all existing suicide crisis numbers into a national hotline accessible by dialing 988.

"The City of Winkler recognizes that it is a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those in a crisis and seeking help," read council's resolution, which was passed unanimously.

The emotional and psychological impacts of the ongoing pandemic have been severe, leading to increased demand for suicide preven-

tion services across the country, notes Mayor Harder,

"We want to make sure that we're there to support whatever help can be there for people," he says of why

### > STANLEY, FROM PG. 12

It will allow the municipality to borrow around \$5.3 million with the debt to be paid over 20 years. It was estimated that based on the latest assessment roll that it would require an estimated levy of 0.667 mills on tax bills.

The project will see the City of Winkler construct a new wastewater treatment plant that will also serve the RM of Stanley for a total future population of 28,800. Stanley will purchase a portion of the capacity as well as construct a new wastewater conveyance system to accommodate future growth within the municipality.

council felt it so important to voice its support for the 988 hotline initiative. "We just want them to know we stand behind them in making sure that this line is made available."

The estimated total cost is over \$49.3 million, with federal funding of \$19.3 million and provincial funding of \$16. The City of Winkler will contribute \$10.6 million while the RM of Stanley will provide almost \$3.4 million towards the project.

The estimated total cost of the RM's wastewater conveyance system is around \$7.4 million, which is to include \$3 million in federal dollars, \$2.4 from the provincial government, and \$2 million from the municipality.

The borrowing plan does not include the extension of the wastewater con-

The City of Winkler will be sending out a letter of support on the matter to provincial and federal health representatives and the CRTC, among others.

veyance system within the existing communities of Reinfeld and Schanzenfeld, noted the bylaw. A decision on whether to extend the system into those communities will be made at a later date.

"It gives us the capability to borrow that money for that project ... we're not utilizing that at this point," said Olafson, who noted they are basically waiting now for the federal government to finalize its commitment to the project. "We're good to go with it."



# Morden family issues 'Support Local Challenge'

By Lorne Stelmach

It started with Ashley Funk looking for things for their family to do amidst continued pandemic restrictions.

Now the Morden resident has put the challenge she and her kids came up with out to the community.

The Support Local Challenge is a bingo board filled with fun activities to do close to home in both Morden and Winkler this summer.

It's a chance to celebrate what we have right here in our own backyards and spread some positivity, said Funk.

"Our mental health really needs a break ... we need to focus on the good," she said. "It's driving us crazy, so we're just trying to get out as much as possible ... and our kids' mental health is a huge priority for us, so we want to make sure they are still having a fun summer."

Funk is encouraging people not just to tackle the 40 different activities on the cards but to also share their adventures on social media.

**"WE'RE JUST TRYING TO GET OUT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE."**



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Kevin and Ashley Funk along with their kids Sawyer, Oakley and Jersey were checking out the wooden caves at Livingston Park last week as part of their Support Local Challenge.

In Morden, the bingo spots range from going for ice cream at George's to posing for photos with Bruce at the Morden sign. In Winkler, the ideas include a photo in front of the giant hockey stick, going for a walk at Discovery Nature Sanctuary, and checking out the skate park.

It may not seem like much, but it

could make a difference to the communities, said Funk, as it can not only be fun but also provide a welcome boost for some local businesses.

"Last summer, when everything had shut down, we had basically taken our kids on a field trip across Manitoba. We wanted them to see and do as much as possible rather than being

stuck inside," she said.

"We're essentially encouraged not to travel about, so we thought let's do the same kind of idea this year but focus it in Morden and Winkler and see and do all the things we normally don't have time to do and check out."

Her goal for her family was to find some fun challenges and perhaps pick a few things to do and see each week.

"I was trying to get a broad overview of what we can do in this area, but there's definitely more things that could be added," she said.

"There's nothing more fun for kids than having a bingo sheet on the fridge where they get to scratch off things they do," she said. "This is especially for the kids; all their sports have been cancelled, they can't have play dates, can't go to camp, can't essentially do anything. They can't hang out with their friends, can't have sleepovers."

"It's really important because I think kids are really struggling," Funk said. "We want to get parents doing things with their kids that are positive."

People can find the Support Local Challenge bingo board photos on Funk's Facebook page, but she noted that a few places in both communities have also begun printing them off on their own to hand out to customers.

## Local maternity wear business promoting mom confidence

By Becca Myskiw

Comfortable cute maternity clothing was hard to find, but thanks to a Carman woman it isn't anymore.

Ashlee Bart is the owner and creator of Milky, a sustainable and stylish postpartum clothing company based in Carman. Bart started it because she felt like there was a missing market for Canadian-made maternity wear.

"There are lots of kids brands and I like supporting Canadian companies," she said. "Moms should have an option as well."

So, at the beginning of the pandemic, Milky was born. Bart designs everything then sends it to a manufacturer, Shelly Ediger, in Winnipeg. Ediger will give her samples based on the designs and once Bart's happy with it, the clothing is made for selling.

Milky has a large selection of clothing for pregnant and breastfeeding women. There's hoodies, crewnecks, t-shirts, and pants, all of which come in a selection of four colours. Customers can choose from a rose pink, a

moss green, slate grey, or black.

"I just wanted something that was both stylish and comfy," said Bart. "Lots of maternity wear is oversized, this is more fitted."

All of the clothing is breathable bamboo cotton, and a nice fabric was one of her priorities going into it. They're soft, stretchy, and the materials for each piece come from a company in B.C. and the zippers from YKK Canada.

The clothes, Bart said, also gives mom confidence while in their role as a mother as they breastfeed or pump with friendly zipper access to the breasts. They also grow with the women as they get a bump.

"That's our motto," she said. "Making them comfortable and confident in their role as a mom."

Keeping her whole business local is important to Bart, as it reduces the company's (and its customer's) carbon footprint, making it more sustainable for the future.

Milky was at a few pop-up markets last year and Bart's hoping to do



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Ashlee Bart (middle) is the creator of Milky, a maternity and postpartum wear company based in Carman.

more this year. When women have the chance to touch and feel the clothing, she said, it's a big factor when buying it because it's so soft. In the meantime, Milky does have an online store

(stylebymilky.ca). Customers can use the code "LOCALLOVE" to receive a 10 per cent discount. There's also an option for free local pickup in Carman when checking out.



# getinformed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

## • INCREDIBLE CREATURES

# Celebrating National Insect Appreciation Day

By John Gavloski

Tuesday, June 8 is the third annual National Insect Appreciation Day. There are many ways insects are beneficial and deserve our appreciation. This month's Incredible Creatures will focus on National Insect Appreciation Day; how you can participate, and why insects should be appreciated.

### What is National Insect Appreciation Day?

All are invited to celebrate National Insect Appreciation Day (NAIAD) on June 8th with thousands of insect enthusiasts, both amateurs and professionals, all across Canada. For a second year, because of COVID-19, the celebrations will take place online and use social media. People can participate in the "insect picture challenge" on social media. To participate in the challenge, a person will have to post at least one picture of an insect during the National Insect Appreciation Day on June 8th. When posting the photo, the participant should include associated hashtags (#InsectPictureChallenge and #NationalInsectDay). You can nominate friends by inviting them to also post an insect picture. It is hoped that this challenge will prompt the public to develop their curiosity towards insects and raise awareness about the presence of insects all around us.

### Why Be Thankful for Insects?

For some, being grateful for insects may be a chal-



PHOTO BY JOHN GAVLOSKI

lenge. Some species will feed on our plants, or our blood, and some don't like finding them in their homes. But the reality is we could not survive without insects. There are many valuable services provided by insects that can be overlooked or underappreciated. There wasn't room to publish my top 20 reasons we should appreciate insects, but here are a few to consider:

- Pollination. Without pollinators we would not have many fruits, vegetables or flowers. Pollinators are the reason flowering plants exist. It is estimated that 80% of plants depend on insects for pollination.
- They keep our yards and natural areas clean: Insects help decompose dead trees, plants, leaves, dead animals and dung. Without these services, things would get quite messy.
- Keep other animals alive: Insects can also be underappreciated for their role in the food web. They

are the sole food source for many amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. It is estimated that 60% of birds rely on insects as a source of food. They are an important food for some fish as well.

- Free biological control: Some of the insects that do feed on the plants in your garden would get to pest levels much easier if they were not part of the diet of insects like lady beetles, lacewings, hover flies, ground beetles, etc.

- Summer songsters: Summers would not be the same without the songs of cicadas, katydids and crickets. Visit [songsofinsects.com](http://songsofinsects.com) to hear and get to know some insect classics.

- Fascinating behaviours to observe: Whether its bees collecting nectar and pollen, ants tending aphids to feed on their honeydew, or a dragonfly hunting for prey, insects can be fun to watch. Just in a backyard there are endless hours of interesting things to observe.

- Some are quite beautiful. Beauty is subjective. Most would agree that butterflies are interesting to look at. But look carefully and many beetles, caterpillars, and even some flies are mini, crawling works of art.

So take the time to show your appreciation for insects. Put a few flowering plants in your garden and watch the show. Or go critter dipping in your favourite pond. Snap a few insect photos, and see if you can add a few things to my list of reasons to appreciate insects. What do you appreciate most about insects?

# Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors must be certified

By Nicole Brownlee

Officials urge Canadians to look for certified symbols when purchasing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

"Smoke and CO detectors in the home are critical," said Dennis Kim, consumer product safety officer for Health Canada. "They are life-saving devices."

COVID-19 restrictions have led to more Canadians shopping online, noted Kim.

"With the emergence of these online shopping platforms, Health Canada takes action to advise consumers of safety hazards with these types of products."

When purchasing detectors, consumers should look for Health Canada's certification mark that shows the product meets design and safety requirements. Approved products will have CSA, cUL, ULC or cETL on both the product and the packaging.

"The main function of these alarms is to alert [residents] in their homes when an adverse event is happening, like a fire or a carbon monoxide

leak," said Kim. "The major issue, of course, is by having an uncertified product in the home, they might fail or operate incorrectly."

"Failure in this type of product with a certain adverse event going on could pose a major risk to the Canadians living there."

All living residences such as homes, ice fishing shacks, cottages and campers must have detectors installed.

"We remind Canadians that whatever living space you have, that the manufacturer's instructions are followed for both hard-wired and battery-operated alarms," said Kim.

Building codes dictate where to place detectors throughout residences, and local fire departments can help ensure the devices are properly installed and operating.

"Questions about any requirements, where they should be in a living space, can be directed to your fire departments," said Kim.

Residents should also note the life expectancy of the detector listed on the packaging, Kim noted.

For more information, visit Health Canada's

Consumer Product Safety page at <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/consumer-product-safety.html> or contact your local fire department.

## What's *Your* story?

### We want to hear from you.

The Winkler Morden Voice connects people through stories to build stronger communities.

Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service?

A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday?

A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca) Phone 204-332-3456

The Winkler Morden  
**Voice**



# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Odlum has stellar third year in Minot

By Lorne Stelmach

A Mordenite's softball season down south came to an end without a championship, but it was a stellar year nevertheless for Jamie Odlum.

Odlum was one of two members of the Minot State University softball team to earn second team all-star honours in the Northern Sun Inter-collegiate Conference.

She was one of the statistical leaders for Minot State, which clinched the eighth seed in the conference tournament, where unfortunately the Beavers came up short.

"It was a really good season for me," said Odlum. "I was pretty happy and pretty honoured to be named all conference this year. I think it was just kind of reassuring to know that all of my hard work throughout the season is paying off."

Softball has been a part of her life since her early years growing up first in Pilot Mound and then in Morden. She played for a time in a Winnipeg league before going to Minot, where she is studying communication disorders.

Odlum was aiming to have a strong third year after having much of her

second season shutdown because of COVID-19, and she succeeded in nearly every aspect.

In her first season in 2019, she started 33 games and hit for a .318 average with 34 hits in 107 at bats while scoring 23 runs and driving in another 17. She also recorded 159 defensive put-outs with a fielding percentage of .988.

In the 2020 season, where she started 16 games, she hit 18 times in 55 at bats for a .327 average and scored and drove in 10 runs.

This year, Odlum led the team with a .415 batting average, which is seventh in Minot State's single-season records, and she was second on the team in slugging percentage at .561 and third in RBIs with 23. She was also second on the team in on-base plus slugging at 1.064 and total bases at 69, and she committed just four errors in 184 total chances for a .986 fielding percentage.

In the end, Odlum was instrumental in the Beavers winning five of their last six games to move up into the conference tournament, and she looks forward to returning next year for at least one more crack at it with the eligibility for a further year due to the previous season ending as a result



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY ARBAUT PHOTOGRAPHY

Morden's Jamie Odlum earned second team all-star honours as her season with Minot State came to an end this spring.

of the pandemic.

"I think, even from last year, I've been improving my hitting ... I did a lot of training in Morden over the summer with Ray Mutcherson," Odlum

noted. "I've put in a lot of extra hours, and it's even just having great teammates that we're helping me through everything."

## Decor Charity Classic scheduled for Aug. 5

By Lorne Stelmach

Plans are in place for the annual Decor Charity Classic golf tournament to return this year.

Organizers are adapting their plans to work within whatever pandemic restrictions may be in place by the scheduled Aug. 5 date and see no reason the event should not be able to go ahead.

"Obviously, this is a different type of year, and we've got to adapt to regulations as they come," said co-chair Dave Schellenberg.

"At this point, our expectation is we

will be able to hold a tournament," he said, noting however that they will not be able to include the usual banquet. "We still want to go ahead with the tournament, but we will change things up a little bit and try to incorporate some things."

Since its inception in 2004, the Decor Charity Classic has raised over \$1,240,000, with the proceeds going to three local charities: Youth For Christ, Pembina Counselling Centre, and Pembina Valley Pregnancy Care Centre.

The tournament could not be held in 2020 due to COVID restrictions, but

the Chip In 4 Charity trick shot challenge amply filled the void. The event brought in close to \$70,000, which when matched at 50 per cent by Decor Cabinets for a total of around \$100,000 for the charities.

This year, the tournament is scheduled to take place at Minnewasta Golf & Country Club with a tee time of 11 a.m. One change is that there will be no in-person registration due to gathering restrictions.

The entry fee of \$175 includes the green fee, power cart and a \$75 donation receipt. There are prizes up for grabs and food will be provided on

the course throughout the day. The deadline to enter is July 30. Head to [decorcharityclassic.com](http://decorcharityclassic.com) for more details.

Schellenberg noted it may be more important than ever to support these local charities right now amidst the challenges being faced as a result of the pandemic.

"I think all of them are affected by social distancing because they are hands-on with people all the time," he suggested "I can only imagine that's it been a lot more difficult and that it

Continued on page 25



# Lace up and take the Gutsy Walk this weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

Her own experience is all the motivation that Darrah Horobetz needs to help build awareness and support for Crohn's and Colitis Canada.

Having lived with Crohn's for 14 years, the Winnipeg resident now serves as a development co-ordinator for the organization and is seeking to help further their cause, including seeing this weekend's Gutsy Walk fundraiser grow across the province.

"We would love to spread the word ... there's still so many people who don't know about it and about us," said Horobetz.

On Sunday, June 6, thousands of Canadians will walk as part of the virtual Gutsy Walk, which has raised over \$46 million nationally since 1996 and is the largest fundraiser in support of the 270,000 Canadians living with these chronic diseases.

The Gutsy Walk helps Crohn's and Colitis Canada provide vital support programs and fund promising research into what are the two main forms of inflammatory bowel disease.

Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are diseases that inflame the lining of the gastrointestinal tract and disrupt your body's ability to digest food, absorb nutrition and eliminate waste in a healthy manner.

These are lifelong conditions, and people can experience acute periods of active symptoms and other times when their symptoms are absent or in

remission.

Signs and symptoms can include abdominal pain and cramping, severe diarrhea, rectal bleeding, blood in stool, weight loss and diminished appetite.

The exact causes of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis remains unknown, and there is no cure for either illness. Causes and risk factors of Crohn's and colitis include genetics, the environment and microbiome.

Horobetz, now 27, was diagnosed with Crohn's disease at age 13.

"It was not an easy diagnosis. I was sick for seven months, and they didn't really know what was wrong with me," she recalled. "It was an adjustment. I had to adjust to a new normal and get used to how my life was going to work and know that I'm going to have my good and my bad days. Now, I've adjusted to that, but it still has its challenges.

"It seems to affect everyone differently," Horobetz noted. "There's a lot of similarities between people's experiences, but no two stories are the same. They're all different in some way. You would think it would be a little more consistent, but that's just not the case."

Horobetz first got involved as a volunteer with the chapter in Winnipeg in 2014 and started doing the Gutsy Walk herself.

"The volunteering became a passion for me, and I fell in love with the organization and what they are do-



CROHN'S AND COLITIS CANADA PHOTO

Crohn's and Colitis Canada's annual Gutsy Walk takes place virtually this weekend.

ing, and obviously I have a personal stake in it," she said, noting she did not hesitate when the opportunity to work for the organization came to her. "I jumped at the chance ... it's been a journey for sure, but I love what I do."

Thinking about how her family knew nothing about these conditions drives her to help others, said Horobetz.

"Now it seems like everybody knows somebody with Crohn's or colitis. The numbers just keep rising, which is unfortunate, but that's just the case," she said.

The Gutsy Walk today takes place in about 70 locations across the country, with Manitoba usually hosting events

in Winnipeg, Westman, and Thompson as well as the virtual walk for all other participants.

The virtual participation remains the only option for now under pandemic restrictions, but Horobetz would love to see them expand further and get more involvement in areas like Morden and Winkler.

"Usually, in Manitoba, we have close to 500 walkers in total for all our walks," she said. "And we would love to have a walk in every small town. That would be my dream."

For more information or to make a donation, head to [www.gutsywalk.ca](http://www.gutsywalk.ca).

# Manitoba 55+ Games returns with online format

By Ashleigh Viveiros

After a pandemic-induced year's break, the Manitoba 55+ Games are back.

Organizers are taking the "Olympics" for older adults online this year and stretching the participation window out to include five weeks: June 14 to July 16.

"We saw there was a need," says coordinator Karyn Heidrick, explaining they've been hearing from Games participants for months now

wondering if the event would be going ahead in some way in 2021. "We've seen so many things going virtual right now and working and still being able to connect with people that way,

so that's what we've decided to do a well."

Games participants can sign-up to complete a range of featured events, including walking, running, cycling, Bocce ball, Nordic pole walk, 9-hole and 18-hole golf, horseshoes, arts

and crafts, pickleball, badminton, tennis, cribbage, whist, and Scrabble.

"We ask people to participate safely in their own household

or their own 'bubble,'" says Heidrick. "Pick something you already do or maybe try something new and then track that for four weeks.

"At the end of that period we're ask-

ing people to share their stories with us," she says. "We'll be able to share all that with the other participants and create some storyboards and really be able to share what everyone is able to accomplish. We can't do so many other things right now so let's focus on what we actually can do."

Registration is free. Participants who send in their activity trackers and stories of their Games experience will be entered into a draw for some active aging prizes (walking poles, exercise bands, gift certificates).

"We're trying to motivate people to stay connected because that's always been such a huge part of it," Heidrick says, adding that "being able to move and being physically active is so good for your mental health too.

"Until we can meet again, this is a great way for all of us to still be part of something together."

Head to [www.activeagingmb.ca](http://www.activeagingmb.ca) to download the registration form or contact the Games office at 204-261-9257 or [manitoba55plusgames@gmail.com](mailto:manitoba55plusgames@gmail.com).

**"UNTIL WE CAN MEET AGAIN, THIS IS A GREAT WAY FOR ALL OF US TO STILL BE PART OF SOMETHING TOGETHER."**

## > DECOR, FROM PG. 24

has put a strain on them at this time.

"We want to ensure we can still provide them with financial support because a lot of these charities are struggling through COVID," Schel-

lenberg said. "They're very good charities that are entrenched in our community and serve a very good and valuable purpose in our community."





The Greg Ens Memorial Park project took a big step forward Monday as Winkler Horticulture Society volunteers planted most of the large trees slated to go into the green space in front of the Winkler arena. Shrubs will be planted next after some landscaping work on the space is completed. "We thank everyone that purchased in memory trees and shrubs," says society president Margaret Penner.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



# take a break

> GAMES

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

### Here's How It Works:

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

### Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

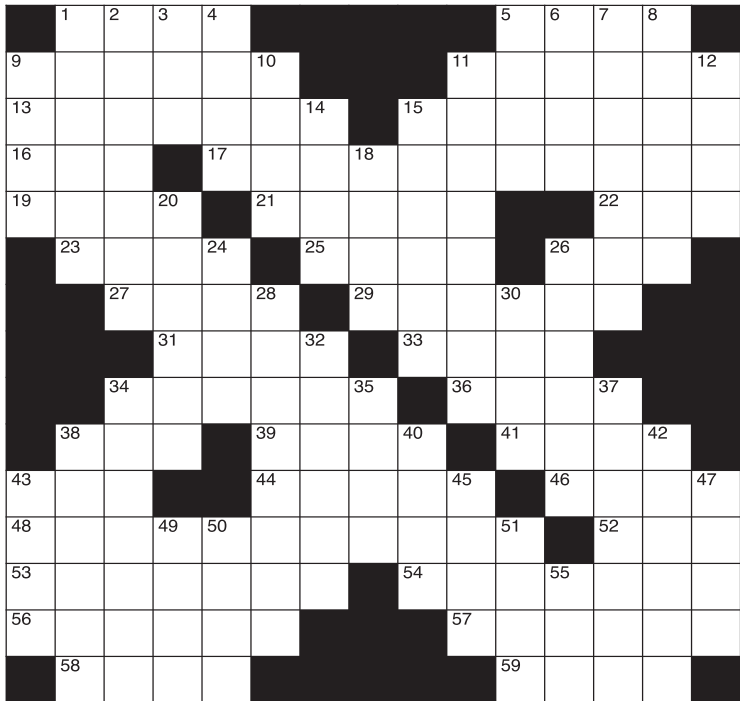


## CROSSWORD

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Partner to "flows"
- 5. French industrial city
- 9. Diagrams
- 11. Diplomat
- 13. Hires
- 15. Hawaiian island
- 16. Set aflame
- 17. Very happy
- 19. Blue dye
- 21. Small terrier with short legs
- 22. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- 23. Northern pike genus
- 25. Expression of annoyance
- 26. Female deer
- 27. Casella and Kellerman are two
- 29. Actor's lines to audience
- 31. Days (Spanish)
- 33. Close a person's eyes
- 34. Cloaked
- 36. Comedic actor Rogen
- 38. It's all around us
- 39. Neutralizes alkalis
- 41. Native people of New Mexico
- 43. No seats available
- 44. Famed "Air Music" composer
- 46. Fit of irritation
- 48. Psychic phenomena
- 52. Knicks' first-rounder Toppin
- 53. Seed used in cooking
- 54. "WandaVision" actress Hahn
- 56. Samples food
- 57. In a lucid way
- 58. Stair part
- 59. Adieus

### CLUES DOWN



- 1. Type of moth
- 2. A Christian sacrament
- 3. It lends books to Bostonians (abbr.)
- 4. Turn away
- 5. Impersonal
- 6. Shortly
- 7. Indigenous Alaskans
- 8. Subtle difference of meaning
- 9. Sicilian city
- 10. Put in harmony
- 11. Administrative divisions
- 12. As happily
- 14. Horse mackerel
- 15. Muddy or boggy ground
- 18. Monetary unit of Italy
- 20. Construction site machine
- 24. 22
- 26. Tracts at the mouths of rivers
- 28. Earnings
- 30. Insect repellent
- 32. Runner-up
- 34. Musician
- 35. Serious or urgent
- 37. Esteemed one
- 38. Where rockers play
- 40. Work furniture
- 42. Greek prophetesses
- 43. Quantitative fact
- 45. Missing soldiers
- 47. Minute
- 49. This (Spanish)
- 50. Maintain possession of
- 51. Assault with a knife
- 55. Holiday text message greeting



# get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



## Easy Breakfast Quiche

In skillet, cook chopped bacon 4 minutes. Add green onions; cook 2 minutes. Add mushrooms; cook 4 minutes, or until bacon is completely cooked and mushrooms are tender. Drain onto paper towel over plate. Set aside.

In medium bowl, whisk eggs and milk until combined. Add broccoli and cheese mixture. Add 1 cup cheese. Stir to combine. Set aside.

In pie shells, divide drained bacon mixture evenly. Divide broccoli mixture evenly and pour over bacon mixture. Sprinkle remaining cheese over both pies.

Bake 40 minutes.

Allow to cool at least 12 minutes before serving.

Note: To keep edges of crust from burning, place aluminum foil over pies for first 20 minutes of cook time. Remove after 20 minutes and allow to cook uncovered until completed.

Servings: 12  
1 package (10 ounces) frozen broccoli with cheese  
12 slices bacon, chopped  
1/2 cup green onions, sliced  
1 cup mushrooms, sliced  
4 eggs  
1 cup milk  
1 1/2 cups shredded cheese, divided  
2 frozen deep-dish pie shells (9 inches each)  
Heat oven to 350 F.  
In medium bowl, add broccoli and cheese contents from package. Microwave 5 minutes, or until cheese is saucy. Set aside.



## Bacon Cheeseburger Tacos

1 medium tomato, chopped  
8-10 romaine lettuce leaves, torn  
In large frying pan or cast-iron skillet, cook bacon until crispy. Remove slices from skillet to drain on paper towel. Pour bacon fat from pan.

Shape ground beef into four burger patties, seasoning both sides of patties with salt and pepper.

In skillet over medium-high heat, cook burgers about 4 minutes per side for medium doneness.

Top each burger with one slice cheese then cover skillet with lid and cook until cheese melts. Remove from heat.

Servings: 4  
8-10 slices Coleman Natural bacon  
1 pound ground beef  
salt  
pepper  
4 slices cheese  
1 cup canola oil  
8 soft corn tortillas  
1 medium red onion, sliced  
1 avocado, skin removed and sliced

## Oatmeal Creme Cookies



Recipe courtesy of chef Haley Williams @IfYouGiveABlondeAKitchen  
Prep time: 10 minutes  
Cook time: 12 minutes  
Oatmeal Cookies:  
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon ground cloves (optional)

1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, at room temperature  
3/4 cup C&H Dark Brown Sugar  
1/2 cup C&H Organic Raw Cane Sugar  
2 large eggs, at room temperature  
1 1/2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract  
3 cups quick oats  
Creme Filling:  
3/4 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature

2 cups C&H Confectioners' Sugar  
1-2 tablespoons heavy cream  
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract  
1 pinch salt

To make oatmeal cookies: Preheat oven to 350 F. Line two cookie sheets with parchment paper and set aside.

In large bowl, whisk flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and cloves, if desired. Set aside.

In bowl of stand mixer, beat butter, dark brown sugar and raw cane sugar on medium-high speed until light and creamy,

## Expert Patient Here to Help!

By Susie Schwartz

As I write this, and after a battle all night last night trying to get my blood sugar down from 'Hi' (Which is actually HIGH on my meter meaning it is over 33 mmol and too high to read. It is not being friendly.) to a respectable level under 8, my blood sugar is once again at 18 and climbing. Sigh. Another insulin pump site change with some new insulin will hopefully do the trick. Meanwhile, I am exhausted. This is not a sympathy grab. The moral of this sob story of living with Type 1 Diabetes? No matter what health struggle you are going through...

Don't. Give. Up.

This does NOT mean that you can't have a pity party once in a while. (At least I hope that's the case! I allow myself one about every six months, ranting and wailing and crying and snotting - all of this under my Duvet. It's not pretty, but it helps.)

What it does mean, is that after feeling like totally giving up many times, I am proof that things can get better. (And then maybe worse again, but then better, and on it goes.) "Susanne, you have stage 3 retinopathy," said Mr. Doctor. I then became blind in each eye, had surgery, and gained my sight back; "If this gastric pacer implant doesn't work, I don't know how else to treat your Gastroparesis and Intestinal Failure. We're at the end of the road." I had the pacer implanted, it added to my troubles, I was dying, had it removed, and then without reason the Gastro issues improved...enough.; "I believe you have ME/CFS." Too weak to lift a



Susie Schwartz

fork, push the buttons on my insulin pump or get myself to the loo, and wracked with pain, I wanted to die. I let time and rest do its thing, found out that I have a histamine intolerance which was exacerbating the issue, made changes, and am so glad I lived.

Here's what I'm trying to say. I am proof that things can feel/seem hopeless, and then drastically improve even when you are SURE they can't. I'm not saying everything always gets better - we know that isn't the truth, with too many losses of loved ones old and young. But what I keep finding out is that you just never know.

Give up? I'm so glad I haven't.

Less health stress, yes?

A published author and motivational speaker, Susie currently lives in the UK. She welcomes feedback and questions. Find her on FB @medicalmissstress, Instagram @medicalmiss\_stress and her website lesshealthstress.com

about 1 minute. Add eggs and vanilla; beat until combined. Scrape down sides and bottom of bowl.

With mixer on low, slowly add dry ingredients to wet ingredients. Mix until combined while avoiding overmixing. Add oats and mix until incorporated.

Scoop about 2 tablespoons dough onto prepared cookie sheet. Space dough balls at least 3 inches apart. Bake 10-12 minutes, or until edges are light brown. Let cookies cool 5 minutes before transferring to wire rack to cool completely.

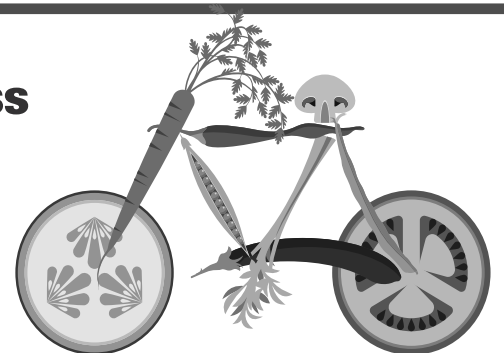
To make creme filling: In bowl of stand

mixer, beat butter on medium-high speed until light in color, about 3 minutes. With mixer on low, gradually add confectioners' sugar and mix until well combined, about 1 minute. Add 1 tablespoon heavy cream, vanilla and salt. Beat on medium-high speed until fluffy. If filling is too thick, add second tablespoon heavy cream.

Once cookies cool, pipe or spread creme filling on flat sides of half the cookies. Top with remaining cookies to form sandwiches.

**Do you have a Health or Wellness Business?**

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## TENDER

### FARMLAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed written tenders for the property in the RM of Rhineland described below must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at:

Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office  
Box 99, 1 880 J 15th Street  
Winkler, Manitoba R6W 4A4  
or email [joan@fhwlaw.ca](mailto:joan@fhwlaw.ca)

Properties owned by John Sawatzky and Gertrude Sawatzky. The land is located in the Gretna/Halbstadt area.

**LAND 1: THE W ½ OF THE NW ¼ OF SECTION 1-1-1 WPM RM of Rhineland**

**80 Acres of BARE FARMLAND**

**Risk Area: 12 Soil Zone: D32**

**LAND 2: W ½ of NE ¼ 12-1-1 WPM RM of Rhineland**

**80 Acres of BARE FARMLAND**

**Risk Area: 12 Soil Zone: C32**

**LAND 3: LEGAL SUBDIVISIONS 9 AND 16 OF SECTION 12-1-1 WPM RM of Rhineland**

**80 Acres of BARE FARMLAND**

**Risk Area: 12 Soil Zone: C32**

**LAND 4: THE E ½ OF THE NW ¼ OF SECTION 12-1-1 WPM RM of Rhineland**

**80 Acres of BARE FARMLAND**

**Risk Area: 12 Soil Zone: D32**

Tenders may be submitted for any 80 acre parcel OR for multiple 80 acre parcels.

### Conditions of Tender:

1. The parcels described will be sold "as is".
2. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
3. Possession is November 2, 2021.
4. Tender must be accompanied by a refundable deposit of 5% of the amount offered (cheque made payable to Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office).

### Terms of Sale:

1. The successful bidder(s) shall enter a formal agreement for sale for the payment of the balance on date of possession.
2. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
3. GST and property taxes are the responsibility of the purchaser as of date of possession.

**For further information contact  
Franz Hoepfner Wiens Law Office at 204-325-4615.**

## CAREERS



Border Land School Division invites applicants for a

## DIVISIONAL BEHAVIOR SUPPORT TEACHER/SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

This 0.6 FTE term position will commence Sept 7, 2021 and conclude June 30, 2022.

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Email your resume and Tabor Home application to [info@taborhome.ca](mailto:info@taborhome.ca) Or Mail to:

**Tabor Home Inc.**

**Attention: Director of Resident Care  
450 Loren Drive, Morden, MB R6M 0E2**

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# Classifieds Announcements

The Winkler Morden Voice

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

You are cordially invited to  
**Tabor Home Inc.**  
**ANNUAL**  
**GENERAL MEETING**  
**Friday, June 18 • 2:00 p.m.**

Due to the Pandemic, and in effort to maintain physical distancing this meeting will be held virtually by conference call.

For more information please call  
204-822-7711 or email [info@taborhome.ca](mailto:info@taborhome.ca)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting  
for the  
**Winkler Senior Centre**  
will be held via Zoom on  
**June 17, 2021 at 2:00 pm.**

Pre-registration is required by visiting  
<https://www.winklerseniorcentre.com/newsevents.html#/> or calling the Senior Centre at (204)325-8964. Voting for upcoming Board Members will be happening during the meeting or at advanced voting polls at the Senior Centre by filling out a ballot between

**June 15-17, 2021.**

You must be a current member to vote.

## IN MEMORIAM



Helen Dyck

August 4th 1925 - June 10, 2018

Its been three years since our Lord took you to heaven. Singing and playing her steel guitar was mom's favorite past time and she would entertain us for hours. Many times I listen to her recordings and smile because I know she is singing in heaven with all her heart! We miss your loving ways and great sense of humor, mom. Some day we will meet again! Love you mom

Sincerely,  
Wendy Wiebe

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## OBITUARY

### YOUNG



On May 23, 2021 Blair suddenly and unexpectedly but peacefully passed away at the cottage where he was the happiest, spending his days fishing surrounded by people that he loved. He leaves the love of his life with a broken heart but was able to fill it with love and memories every waking day.

Alexander Blair Young was the much loved husband of Danielle; stepfather of William Thomas and Jacqueline Thomas; fun loving Papa to Austin and Ariella; loving son of Bonnie and David Young of Morden, Manitoba; big brother to Sherri Young-Waterchief of Morden, Manitoba and Keith Young (Melanie) of The Pas, Manitoba; loving uncle to Ross, Erin, Landon, Alexa, Dylan, McKenzie, Quinn; great-uncle to Emmitt and Frankie; son-in-law of the late William and Joyce Boissoneau; brother-in-law of the late Diana Jamieson (Alan), Donna Kozak (late Tom), Denise Engelage (John), Darlene Siemers (Mike), Donald Boissoneau (Michelle), Dina Seabrook (Paul), late Danny Boissoneau (Doreen), Derinda Lannigan (Tom), and late Derrick Boissoneau (Joanne), and adored uncle of numerous nephews and nieces.

Blair grew up on a grain and livestock farm in Miami, Manitoba where he nurtured his love for animals and the outdoors. From his earliest days, he would be found adventuring with his Chesapeake Bay Retriever "Lady". As his love of the outdoors developed, he was a member of the Darlingford Boy Scouts, Miami 4H Beef Club, and Darlingford Archery Club. He was an avid archer and won more than one of the archery competitions on a touring circuit. As a teenager, he was given a pool table by his uncle Garry and then spent many hours refining his skill.

Blair's formal education started (K-12) in Miami and then continued on at the University of Brandon where he received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Geology. After several years working in Geology, he left for Thunder Bay to manage the local Power Vac franchise that he soon made his own and successfully operated it for over 25 years.

Blair had a passion for fishing that directly put him on a path to meet the love of his life, Danielle. Danielle brought Austin and Ariella into Blair's life giving him the sense of purpose that he had been missing for so many years.

Many hours were spent on the lakes with his fishing buddies and family and friends no matter what the season. If you couldn't reach Blair, you could find him on a boat with a line in the water, or drilling ice holes with a huge smile on his face.

Blair's heart is as big as the man that he was.

Special thank you to Ted and Jan, Ken and Marge, Laurie and Ernie, and Alyssa, for their support and cherished friendships. Thanks also goes out to Upsala EMS and O.P.P. for their quick and kind response.

Donations in memory of Blair may be made to the Canadian Diabetes Association or the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Condolences may be offered at [www.harbourviewfuneral.ca](http://www.harbourviewfuneral.ca)

Harbourview Funeral Centre, Thunder Bay, Ontario in care of arrangements

## CAREERS



### CAREER OPPORTUNITY IN MORDEN PARTS SALES / RENTAL ADVISOR

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*The Winkler Morden*  
**Voice**

## OBITUARY



### Katharina (Tina) Bergen (nee Schmidt) 1934 - 2021

It is with great sadness that we share the passing our dear mom, grandma and great-grandma, Tina Bergen.

Mom was born on February 27, 1934 in Mexico to Peter and Katharina Schmidt. Her family immigrated to Manitoba in 1952. She married the love of her life, Dave Bergen on October 31, 1954. Mom had a strong faith in Jesus, her Lord and Saviour whom she accepted into her life at an early age. She was a prayer warrior, praying daily for each family member by name. We covet all those prayers that will be so missed. Mom and Dad faithfully attended and served in church and now she listened to the weekly DVD's

from the Zion Mennonite Church. She also attended the Morden EMMC with Tina and Isaac or the services at Homestead. Mom was known to her family and many friends for her kindness, hospitality, generosity and love but most by her big smile and positive attitude. She loved to serve in ladies fellowships in church, teaching Sunday School and in Christian Women's Club. Going for coffee and enjoying the company of family and friends any chance she could was a highlight. Mom looked forward to the monthly breakfasts with her brothers and sisters-in-law. Mom and Dad travelled throughout Europe, Holy Lands and Florida and went to visit family in Ontario, Texas and Mexico. She loved supporting her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren at all their hockey games, figure skating, curling, baseball, piano recitals and concerts. Mom was always happy when she had a paintbrush and roller in her hand. She painted homes for many years at Braun's Custom Homes and later had her own painting business. Mom enjoyed living at Homestead South for the past three years and made many wonderful friends and enjoyed all the activities there. Mom experienced many surgeries and a lot of physical pain in her life, but she never complained. Mom was admitted to the hospital on Friday, May 21, 2021 and she peacefully went home to be with Jesus on Monday, May 24, 2021.

She leaves to cherish her memory four children, five grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren: daughter, Tina (Isaac) Wiebe, Joel (Shelley) Wiebe, Emily and Olive, Alissa (Michael) Dyck and Karsen and Kyler, Almira (Travis) Penner and Kierra, Easton, Koen and Oakland, son, Peter (Kathy) Bergen, Kelly (Jeffrey) Guenter and Everett, Keith (Rena) Bergen and Arlo, and daughters, Helen Bergen and Annie Bergen and one brother, Neil Schmidt. She was predeceased by her husband, Dave in 2014, both parents and three brothers, Isaac, Peter and John Schmidt.

A private family service was held on Sunday, May 30, 2021 with interment at Hillside Cemetery.

Thank you to everyone for the love, prayers and support you have shown to our family. We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Dr. Convery for the many years of caring for mom and a special thanks to Dr. Chudley and the Boundary Trails Staff during the past weekend. Your compassion and care were so much appreciated. Thank you to Wiebe Funeral home for all the funeral arrangements.

Donations may be made in her memory to the new Christian school in Morden, Prairie Crossroads School ([admin@prairiecrossroads.ca](mailto:admin@prairiecrossroads.ca)) or Lakeside Christian School, Killarney ([www.lckillarney.com](http://www.lckillarney.com)) where her great grandchildren attend.

We know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

Wiebe Funeral Chapel, Morden  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



## CAREERS



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## OBITUARY

### Lorraine Waldner (nee Dyck) 1954 - 2021



Shortly before 7 p.m. on Sunday, May 23, 2021, Lorraine Waldner, age 67 of Winkler, Manitoba passed away. In 2015, Lorraine's husband of almost 45 years, Hardy died, and it was only seven days after his funeral that her fight with cancer began. Lorraine was rescued from her physical pain and struggles, and with family by her side, peacefully went to be with her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and reunited with Hardy.

Lorraine was born at the Winkler Hospital on April 15, 1954, an Easter Sunday, to Henry and Justina Dyck. The day she was born, it was a very dry and windy day. A week after when her parents brought her home to their house in Friedensruh, there was a late winter storm and they had to follow a snowplow to get home.

When Lorraine was three years old her dad, Henry died. She was nine when Justina, her mom, married Jan Michnik. It was at that time, the family moved to LaRiviere, living there for just over a year. From there they moved to Kaleida. Lorraine attended school from grades 3 to 8 in a number of schools within the Manitou Consolidated School District. By grade 9, they moved to a house near Reinfeld. Lorraine went to Garden Valley Collegiate for grade 9. Even though her family moved away from the area, Mom always remembered many people from her family's time living in the Manitou area, often sharing memories. On January 22, 1971 when she was 16, Lorraine married the love of her life, Hardy Waldner. Lorraine and Hardy were blessed with four children: Tammy in 1971, Richard in 1974, Pamela in 1977 and David in 1981.

Lorraine had a heart for people and was very compassionate. Her light-hearted humour and sweet nature touched so many people everywhere she went. Even while in her hospital bed, not able to move without help, her humour and ability to brighten the day of those around her remained. Even through her suffering, the light of God shone through our mom. Mom would always be willing and ready to go to bat for any of her children, having more than one meeting with school staff coming to our defense. No matter what, Mom had our backs; always believing the best of us. And at family events, she would often just sit back and look on her children and grandchildren and just quietly smile. And I would ask "What are you smiling at Mom?" and her response would simply be "My family." Family was her treasure, a treasure that lives on with us. For many years, Mom loved walking and some would say became obsessed with it, often walking up to 15 kilometres a day. Eventually, her love of walking would turn to a love of bike riding. With the help of her studded tires, even a Manitoba's winter could not keep her off of her bicycle. Mom also loved spending time with her siblings. When they could, they would enjoy weekend trips to Grand Forks, booking multiple camp sites, weekend sleepovers in Winnipeg at her sister Trudy's, or enjoying many cups of coffee at Dairy Queen. Over the years, Mom held a number of jobs. In her younger days, she worked at the sewing factory in Morden and also packed weekly newspapers for the Winkler Times. She worked for a short time at Gateway Resources in Winkler and as an E.A. for the Garden Valley School Division for a school year, where she worked at Parkland School. To add to her resume, she also served customers at McDonald's for a short time, finding it to be quite the accomplishment when she learned how to use the till! In 1990, mom worked very hard to earn her G.E.D. Math was especially a challenge, but she pushed through and got very good marks. After receiving her G.E.D. along with two of her sisters, Mom completed the Red River Health Care Aide Course in 1991. Mom worked full-time as a health care aide at Salem Home for more than a decade and after leaving Salem, held a casual position in the rehab unit at Boundary Trails Health Centre. In 2003, mom acquired her licence to become a marriage commissioner and performed many wedding ceremonies over the years, many in her own chapel. She continued to see couples marry up until last year. She took this role seriously and enjoyed meeting the many newlyweds and their families over the years.

Mom is survived by her daughter Tammy Waldner, Tammy's children: Jordan and his wife, Tiana, Emily and her husband, Justin and their two sons, Carter and Charlie; her son, Daniel; her son and daughter in-law, Rick and Christel Waldner and their children, Jerrod, Avery, and Sydney; her daughter and son in-law, Pam and Johnathon Fedack and their children, Nathaniel, Georgia, Allison and Savannah; her son and daughter in-law, David and Shirlee Waldner and their three sons, Landon, Jesse, and Liam. Lorraine is also survived by six sisters and their families, six brothers and their families, two sisters-in-law, one brother-in-law and their families. Mom was predeceased by her husband, Hardy; parents, Henry and Justina; stepfather, Jan; mother in-law, Susanna and father in-law, Jacob; brothers, Herb and Bill; sisters, Ruth and Sara.

The family would like to thank Maranatha Christian Fellowship for their love and support. Also, thank you to the caring staff on the medical and rehab ward as well palliative and spiritual care at Boundary Trails Health Centre for their grace and care of our mom. We also want to thank the home care staff that helped care for our mom over the last year. Thank you to Wiebe Funeral Home for their compassion and service during our time of grieving. As Mom would say, "Later, its Mom!"

Private funeral service was held on Thursday May 27, 2021 at Maranatha Christian Fellowship with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Lorraine's memory to the BTHC Foundation designated to Palliative Care of the Spiritual Care program.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
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## OBITUARY



### Katherine Zacharias (nee Friesen) 1934 - 2021

Katherine "Tina" Zacharias (Friesen) passed away with family at her side in the early morning hours of Tuesday, May 25, 2021.

She was predeceased by her parents, husband, Jacob, son, Wesley, granddaughter, Sheryl and five siblings. She leaves to mourn her son and two daughters: Eunice Janzen and children, Steve and Nancy (Hannah and Calvin), Jeff and Susie Zacharias and children, Kim and Chad LeBrun (Keira and Charlotte), Stacey and Juston Schmidt (Austin, Levi, Ivy, Ellis and Violet), Leslie and Bennie Harder (Weston) and Scott and Melanie Jantzen and their children, Sara and Jonas, her sister, Helen Wiebe, brother, Cornie Friesen, Zacharias siblings, nieces and nephews.

Katherine Zacharias was born in Plum Coulee on September 6, 1934. She grew up in the village of Osterwick with her parents and seven siblings. Mom had fond memories of hoeing beets and growing up with the village kids. On September 5, 1953, she married Jacob Zacharias, a taxi driver she met while waitressing at a local restaurant. Mom demonstrated her strong will and independence by choosing to wear a long, baby blue wedding dress, rather than a mid-length black dress as the church requested. Her story and dress have recently been accepted to the archives at the Steinbach Mennonite Museum. Within the span of 11 years, Mom and Dad had four children: Eunice, Wes, Jeff and Melanie, who were all born and raised in Winkler. Our family lost Wes at the age of 17 (1974) in a car accident. This loss forever changed the landscape of our family and left us all with a profound grief. Mom always said, "Losing a child never stops hurting, it just doesn't hurt as much over time." Mom's love for others led her to embrace new opportunities. Whether it was putting school supply kits together for children in Northern Manitoba communities, making egg rolls with new Canadians from the Philippines or advocating for her children, mom had a heart for others. Mom was a great cook and baker. It brought her great joy to have Aunt Helen's boys come over and devour her baking. We have all loved and benefited from her fresh buns, homemade chocolates and Christmas baking. She was employed as an assembly line worker at Triple E for 12 years and then worked in housekeeping for 14 years at Eden Mental Health Centre until she retired. Creativity and problem solving were two of her many strengths. When money was tight, she would sketch out an outfit she saw at the store, create a pattern for it from paper grocery bags and sew it to perfection. Details and precision were traits of her work. Sewing, crocheting, ceramics and making China dolls were a few of her creative pursuits. Our Dad, Jacob, died in 2016 after a lengthy illness and a year in Salem Home. Mom was a committed care giver and wife. She continued to live on her own at Lions Court in Winkler, enjoying the company of close neighbors, visits from family and Nellie's home cooked meals. Mom had a deep love for her family. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the light of her life. She loved their visits and hearing what they enjoyed doing. She took great pride in their achievements and their heartaches became hers. Mom was a woman of faith and prayed for us all on a daily basis. She believed God had a plan for her life and she could trust in Him. Daily Bible reading and prayer were what sustained her through the years. She and Dad enjoyed serving as part of the Winkler Mennonite Church community until they could no longer attend due to failing health. In February of 2021, Mom was admitted to Boundary Trails Health Centre and in April was transferred to the care home in Manitou. She settled into life at the nursing home and loved and appreciated the tender care she received there. She passed away with family members at her side early on the morning of May 25th.

A private family funeral was held with interment at the Winkler Cemetery.

Our family would like to thank Dr. Margie Hesom for the love and care Mom received over the years. We are thankful for the regular visits and phone calls Mom received from Dave and Ruth Thiessen. A special thanks goes to the Manitou Nursing Home staff. The unconditional love, acceptance, and sense of community you provided mom made her feel she had found a new home. Thank you for your tender care for mom and our family during the last days. For this we are so grateful.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Katherine's memory to the Pembina Manitou Health Centre 232 Carrie St. Manitou, MB R0G 1G0.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



## OBITUARY



### Peter Hiebert 1935 - 2021

The family of Peter Hiebert of Winkler, MB are deeply saddened to announce his passing on Monday, May 24, 2021 at the age of 85 with his daughter by his side.

Dad will be lovingly remembered by his daughters and their families: Cathy and Bruce Reid of Myrtle, along with grandchildren, Ashley Corrie and Jamie Haegeman and great-grandchildren, Lexie, Samuel and Thomas; Amanda and Steve Van Cauwenberghe and great-grandchildren, Charlie, Bailey, Theo and Nash; Chelsey and Dean Nichols and great-grandchildren, Owen and Brody; his daughter, Audrey and Peter Redekopp of Winkler; grandchildren, Vanessa and Lyndon Giesbrecht and great-grandchildren,

Kathryn, Anthony, Asher, Seeley, Elletra and Rhiannon; Darin and Michelle Unrau; Colin and Eva Unrau and great-grandchildren, Malachi and Ariana. He will also be missed by brothers, Ben (Tina), John (Mary Anne), Corneil (Anne), William (Mary) and sisters, Sarah and Anna along with sisters-in-law, Gertrude and Annie and many nieces and nephews.

Dad was predeceased by parents, George and Sarah (Giesbrecht) Hiebert; four brothers, George, Abram, Isaac and David and two sisters, Helen and Tina. He was also predeceased by brothers-in-law, Isaac Wiebe, Wesley (Howard) Chen, Isaac Wiebe and Henry Falk, son-in-law, Gerald Unrau and niece, Norma Mossington.

Dad was born on June 15, 1935 in Hochfeld, MB. He was one of 13 children and was baptized upon the confession of his faith in Jesus Christ in 1958 in the Sommerfelder Church. Dad completed grade 8 in school, and then continued his education by helping to work on the home farm. He married Anita Suderman on December 3, 1961. They started their family in July 1963 with the arrival of Catherine, and Audrey was born 15 months later. At the time they lived in Pilot Mound, where he worked on a farm and drove truck as a long-distance hauler. Life for Dad included many moves and just as many jobs before ending up in Winnipeg where Dad worked at a concrete company. Dad worked until 2002, when he retired and moved to Winkler. Dad had many jobs throughout his life, but by far his favorite thing to do was stripping copper wire. During his retirement Peter could be found sitting in his driveway stripping copper wire or dismantling electric motors to recycle the metal. He took regular trips to Urban Mines in Winnipeg to recycle the copper, aluminum, and other metals that he had collected. Many a person remembers driving by his house on Mountain Ave. in Winkler where he was known as Copper Pete or Mexican Pete. His evenings were usually spent in his favorite chair stripping copper wire while watching sports, either baseball or hockey. He also enjoyed watching wrestling on TV and was very excited when he was able to take his two young girls to a wrestling match in Winnipeg. His girls definitely did not share his excitement in this experience! Dad loved to socialize with family and friends and could be found most mornings at Dairy Queen for coffee or at Toppers Restaurant at lunch time. He enjoyed people and had a keen interest in their lives and always had a way of engaging people in conversation and making them feel comfortable. He took many trips to Mexico over the years and in recent years one of the highlights for him was to go back to Mexico for a few weeks with his daughter Cathy to visit extended family and friends. He thoroughly enjoyed this time. Dad will be missed by many near and far, evident in the many texts, messages and phone calls we have received. He is gone but will never be forgotten. We'll miss you Dad.

Private funeral was held on Sunday, May 30, 2021 at Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler with interment at the Hochfeld Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Peter's memory to the BTHC Foundation designated to Palliative Care or to the Heart & Stroke Foundation.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



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