

The *Winkler Morden* Voice

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Healing hands

Simba the lion gets a splinter removed from his paw at the Teddy Bear Picnic in Winkler Saturday, which gave kids and their stuffed pals the chance to learn about the work of local health care professionals. For more photos, see Pg. 11.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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Morden celebrates National Indigenous Peoples Day

By Lorne Stelmach

A message to mark National Indigenous Peoples Day acknowledged the difficult reality that still exists while also remaining hopeful.

Swan Lake First Nation elder David Scott spoke Sunday at Lake Minnewasta as part of a program that also included a performance by powwow dancer Kelly Chinchilla and her youth hoop dancer daughter Rilee Sandberg along with a performance by One Night Stand band.

Scott said Indigenous Peoples Day is simply a recognition that Indigenous people exist in this country and that the relationship we have with our neighbours needs work.

"It's sad that we have to do a day to recognize Indigenous people as a race in this country, but it's a step forward. I really believe that we need things like this to happen throughout our community, not only on Indigenous Day but throughout the year," he suggested afterwards.

Scott touched on a few points in his address, including noting how when Mennonite people settled here they were given reserves, and the chief at the time met with them.

"We made a treaty with them; it was more a sharing of knowledge," he said. "Land stewardship was a big part of that treaty."

"It was a historical point in Canadian society that you will never ever read about," Scott added, citing the prohibition at the time that prevented interaction without permission.

The world obviously has come a long way, but there is still much more to be done.

"The relationship we're supposed to have needs to be regenerated," Scott said. "The promise of us living together and to not break that code of looking at each other as human beings and the promise of the land that we were supposed to share ... that was what we intended."

"The relationship of how we co-exist, that's what treaty is all about ... I see it as that relationship that we are supposed to have," he said. "We take Western societal values and apply to a people that inherently is not that way. It creates problems for us, and the teachings of our people, of our language, is a teaching of who we are as a race of people in this country and who we are supposed to be."

And while observing that there has



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Kelly Chinchilla (right) and her daughter Rilee (above) performed at Morden's National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration Saturday. Elder David Scott (below) spoke about how far our nation still needs to go when it comes to Indigenous relations.



been a degree of stagnation in the reconciliation process, there continues to be progress, Scott suggested.

"I think discussing Indigenous issues is a big part of it ... continuing these kinds of events, but individually teaching their kids that Indigenous people are not that people, that

the history that they have learned or that our generation has learned, was incorrect and that it has to be corrected," he said. "A big part of the work that I'm doing now is to try to correct that history. Our children need to learn that, that's our big hope."

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SCRL putting up book boxes in Darlingford, La Riviere

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Starting this summer, families in La Riviere and Darlingford won't have to make the trek to their nearest library branch to stock up on books.

The South Central Regional Library (SCRL) is installing mini library boxes in both communities later this month.

They got the Darlingford box and the initial books to go in it through the Free Little Library Impact program, which was created to put libraries in neighborhoods with limited book access.

“Darlingford is a distance from the public library branches [in nearby Manitou or Morden] and so the kids don’t have the same kind of access during the summer to a library,” says SCRL staffer Debra Petersen, who has taken the lead on this project.

Petersen is also putting up a SCRL book box on her front yard in La Riviere. This one she built herself, repurposing a cabinet she found at a thrift store.

Both boxes will be filled not just with books for kids of all ages but also a variety of novels for adults to enjoy.

They'll also be registered with the Little Free Library world map so travellers to the area can easily find them and pick up a tome or two for the road.

"I'm anticipating the La Riviere one might see a few truckers stop by," Pe-

tersen says.

Using these tiny libraries is simple: just stop by and pick up a book for free (no SCRL library membership required), perhaps leaving a different book in its place to help keep the stock fresh.

Trouble finding something to fill the shelves isn't something Petersen ever anticipates having.

"Part of the agreement is that we can keep the libraries stocked, and with all the donations we get for our book sales we're not going to run out of books anytime soon," she says.

SCRL staff have also been brainstorming other ways to use the boxes to reach out to families.

"Some of our librarians that are very into the children's end of it have pointed out for summer we can also be supplying activities for the kids in promotion for the summer reading program," Petersen says. "That way if the kids can't make it into the public libraries they can still take part."

"Now with gas prices going up and whatnot, people can't always be running to the branches. So we'll come to them."

Petersen plans to have both boxes up and running before the end of the month.

You can learn more about Little Free Library and find a box near you by heading online to littlefreelibrary.org.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The South Central Regional Library's Debra Petersen with one of the book boxes going up in Darlingford and La Riviere this month.



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A yellow banner for SuperThrift. On the left is a blue logo of a stylized person with arms and legs raised. To its right, the text "Adult & Teen Challenge" is in small red font, and "SuperThrift" is in large blue font. Below the logo are two red starburst shapes: the left one says "SHOP AND DONATE" and the right one says "NEW ITEMS GOING OUT DAILY". To the right of these is the address "324 CARGILL ROAD, WINKLER" in black. Further right, under the heading "HOURS OF OPERATION:", are the hours: "Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:30 pm" and "Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm". At the bottom right is a blue box with the text "Like Us On facebook" and the Facebook logo. On the far right is a photograph of the SuperThrift building, a single-story structure with a dark roof and light-colored walls, with a few cars parked in front.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Headlining the Morden Corn and Apple Festival this year is Snake Oil (left) and Big Wreck (above). The festival runs Aug. 26-28.

Snake Oil, Big Wreck to headline Corn & Apple

By Lorne Stelmach

The Corn and Apple Festival will return this summer with two rockin' headline acts.

Friday night will feature the second festival appearance by rock tribute band Snake Oil while Saturday eve-

ning's stage lineup will be anchored by long running Toronto-based hard rock act Big Wreck.

Executive director Tim Hodge is happy to be able to be talking about the festival again post-pandemic.

"It's exciting ... first year back after a couple years off," he said. "It's

really nice to be talking about our main stage entertainment again. We haven't been able to do that for a few years."

Big Wreck is a Canadian-American rock band formed by Ian Thornley and Brian Doherty in Boston in 1994. They disbanded in 2003, and Thornley pursued a solo career with his own band.

In 2010, Thornley and Doherty reunited for a cross-Canada tour. In 2012, under the name Big Wreck, the band released their third studio album, Albatross. They have since released the albums Ghosts in 2014, Grace Street in 2017, and But For the Sun in 2019.

Doherty passed away in 2019 after a battle with cancer, just before the band issued But for the Sun. The new lineup has since released a trio of EPs that will be put together to make their seventh full-length album, Big Wreck 7.

"They'll have a bunch of new stuff out there leading up to the festival," said Hodge. "They've been synonymous with Canadian rock now for three decades ... they've got a huge breadth of songs to play. We're really excited. We think they put on a solid rock show."

Snake Oil, meanwhile, is an act whose 2017 festival performance people are still talking about.

"They bring a fantastic show," Hodge said. "They are the group that I have heard about the most from fans of the festival."

Snake Oil will bring their Ikons Of Rock arena rock show to town, which can portray the music, the look, movements, and mannerisms of such classic acts as AC/DC, Aerosmith, Alice Cooper, Def Leppard, Evanescence, Heart, Kiss,

Continued on page 6

"IT'S REALLY NICE TO BE TALKING ABOUT OUR MAIN STAGE ENTERTAINMENT AGAIN ..."

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Students have a blast at DNS water festival

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The sounds of children enjoying themselves joined the natural soundscape at the Discovery Nature Sanctuary earlier this month.

The Winkler nature preserve hosted its second Discovery Water Festival on Friday, June 10, welcoming over 200 Morden-Winkler students for the day.

Continued on page 7



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Discovery Nature Sanctuary in Winkler hosted hundreds of schoolchildren June 10 for the second annual Water Festival.



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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

One summer day

In a field next to the rail yards close to where I lived as a 12-year-old there was a large storm drain that poured its contents out, covered by a largely neglected iron grate. The concrete pipe was large enough that a boy my size could almost stand up in it.

In the heat and humidity of a southern Ontario summer, my friends and I were wandering past the opening (having tried to alleviate our boredom by climbing in and out of nearby parked rail cars) when we noticed the grate was broken and could be pushed open slightly.

In no time we went to our various homes to fetch supplies, which consisted of rubber boots and flashlights.

So there we were, three 12-year-old boys in shorts, T-shirts, and rubber rain boots on a hot sunny day standing in front of the storm drain preparing for our inaugural spelunk into Guelph's underworld.

Did our various parents wonder why we needed flashlights and rubber boots at high noon on a sunny day? Perhaps, but not enough to ask any questions. They were probably just happy we were outside.

I went in first and the world became dark. Ahead of me was a long

narrowing tube that ended in blackness. Behind, a receding window into the outside world. Where would this lead? We had no idea. We were just thrilled to explore the labyrinth with no map, slowly getting lost in the twists and turns.

At one point we entered into a small pipe off the main. Small enough that we had to belly crawl for several minutes until it opened up into another larger pipe.

"I think I just heard a toilet flush somewhere," one of us remarked.

We stood still, wondering what we would do if a tidal wave of human waste came at us. Absolute silence. We had no idea that these pipe were meant for rainwater runoff only. This tells you how little we cared for safety and hygiene since we entered these passages thinking there might be actual sewage.

Thankfully the feared "crap storm" never materialized and we continued on our way, periodically testing the echo by shouting randomly into the distance ahead.

We wondered if we would encounter rats. The prospect was terrifying and thrilling at the same time. Unfortunately none of us had thought to bring a weapon like a stick or a baseball bat. Next time.

No rats.

After what felt like hours, having traversed kilometers of pipes we came to a large square room with a ladder going up to a round metal cover with two small square holes that let in the light. We climbed the ladder one after the other until we were at the cover.

Just as I was about to push the cover up the thunderous sound of a car's tires running over our heads rang through the room and we practically

leapt off the ladder in fear.

We wondered out loud what would have happened if we had managed to get the cover up before the car had run over it and were silently grateful that this never happened.

We continued on our way with a heightened interest in ending our adventure, hoping to avoid more near death experiences (for now).

Eventually we made our way to another, smaller space with a much older set of iron rungs leading up to another cover with small square eyes of sunlight. Cautiously we approached this next cover. We waited beneath it for what seemed like hours. Nothing. Silence.

Eventually we worked up the courage to push the cover off. It took two of us using all of our strength to shoulder it open, whereupon we found ourselves in the very back of an overgrown yard at the base of a hill behind someone's house.

We climbed out and as we made our way home after our subterranean creeping we all agreed that the next adventure would require weapons.

> HEADLINERS, FROM PG. 5

Joan Jett, Ozzy Osbourne, Pat Benatar, Rob Zombie, Van Halen, Whitesnake, Journey, Queen, Motley Crüe, and more.

"They've got elaborate costumes and wardrobes, and they are a super high energy show," Hodge said.

The rest of the festival entertainment lineup is expected to be announced in July.

The 2022 Morden Corn and Apple Festival runs Aug. 26-28.

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 Voice.

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Filipino community celebrates independence

By Voice staff

Close to 400 Filipinos from the Morden-Winkler area came together recently to commemorate the anniversary of their home country's independence from Spain.

The event featured Filipino food, dance, and songs at the Access Event Centre June 12 on the 124th anniversary of independence.

"With the help of several volunteers, I was motivated to push with what has been an idea of mine for a few years: to have our first independence day party in our community," said Jewel White, who was one of the organizers of the celebration. "I felt that our country's independence story must be shared to the community."

The Philippines was a Spanish colony for over 300 years, starting when explorer Ferdinand Magellan arrived in 1521 and claimed the islands for Spain, naming them in honour of



SUPPLIED PHOTO BY ALDRICK LAGMAY

A few hundred members of the local Filipino community gathered in Morden last week to mark the 124th anniversary of the Philippines independence from Spanish rule.

King Philip II.

Many customs and traditions—religion, food, and even language—in the present day Philippines can be traced back to the centuries of Spanish influence that followed.

Filipino nationalists revolted against Spanish rule in the late 1890s, eventu-

ally earning their independence with the victory at the Battle of Manila Bay.

Revolutionary leader Emilio Aguinaldo declared the Philippines as independent on June 12, 1898, and this day is still celebrated by Filipinos around the world.

"Knowing our history will give the

community a better understanding of our culture," said White. "It is also imperative for the younger generation to remember our history and that, regardless of where we are, we must give honor to the heroes who fought bravely so we can have the freedom we enjoy today."

> WATER FESTIVAL, FROM PG. 5

DNS held its first water festival back in 2019 but then had to push pause on the annual event through the pandemic.

Co-organizer Renee Waldner feels it returned in fine form.

"I think it went really well. I heard so many good things about it," she said, noting they hosted students and teachers from four different elementary schools (Parkland, Winkler Elementary, Emerado Centennial, and Minnewasta).

A team made up of retired teachers, University of Manitoba students, City of Winkler staff, and representatives from the province, the Pembina Valley Watershed District, and Kroeker Farms helped guide the kids through a variety of hands-on activity stations designed to teach them about the importance of water.

"Each station we tried to do a little bit of an education component and an activity to get them running around and doing different things as a field

day for them," Waldner said.

"Our main focus was on water issues—anything pertaining to water, to wetlands. We did stuff on watersheds and critter dipping where they got to dip in the pond and identify the different critters that they saw. We had a beaver station that talked about the different adaptations they have to suit their environment."

There were also stations focused on soil, trees, and the migration of Monarch butterflies.

"We did a water cycle station as well," Waldner added, "where the kids acted as the water molecule and they moved around to the plants and the animals and the clouds and the oceans. That one I heard was a big hit."

DNS plans to make the water festival an annual tradition moving forward.

"We live in a time where we have such a changing planet," Waldner observed. "Watersheds play a really

important role—they hold our water, they reduce flooding and drought, and they purify our water for us. We want kids to understand that importance and how that ties into the water coming out of their tap, the water that supplies every plant and animal and

person on the planet."

It's a weighty subject, but one that can still be made fun to teach and learn.

"The kids were all smiles," Waldner said. "They had a blast."

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Manitoba

Winkler Harvest Festival announces stage lineup

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Harvest Festival is going a little bit more country than usual this year.

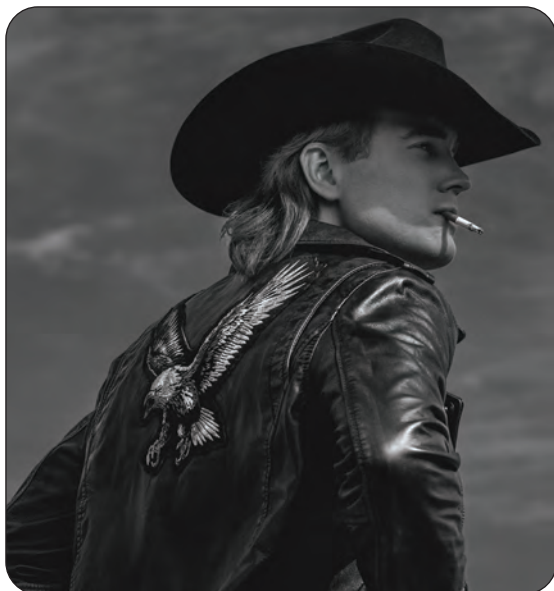
Festival organizers announced the

Friday and Saturday night headliners this week for the Aug. 12-14 celebration.

Anchoring the Friday evening show is Winnipeg band Petric featuring brothers Jason and Tom Petric and Jordan Day.

The group took the country music scene by storm back in 2015 with the release of their debut single Here Goes Everything, which cracked the top 20 on Canadian country radio. In the years since they've had numerous charting singles and top 20 hits and have accumulated over 15 million worldwide online streams.

"It's nice to highlight some Manitoba talent," said festival director Kathy Bueckert. "They are a little bit more on the country side than we usually see on a Friday night at



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Petric (above) takes to the Winkler Harvest Festival's Friday night stage while Jade Eagleson (left) and Tenille Arts (right) co-headline the Saturday night entertainment.

the festival, but I do think that they'll appeal to a broad audience with their sound."

Opening for Petric are local band Link and the Moustaches and the Royal Canadian Air Force Band, which will both bring the classic rock sounds usually heard festival Friday.

"They do a bunch of fun covers," Bueckert said of the RCAF Band. "A lot of older rock style music."

For Saturday night on the main stage this year, the festival is welcoming not one but two headline acts.

"We wanted to go big for our Saturday night, so we decided to go with co-headliners," Bueckert said. "Thanks to the generous sponsorship from Triple E we were able to make that happen."

Taking the stage that evening will be Jade Eagleson and Tenille Arts, both rising country music stars.

Eagleson has been making a real name for himself on the international country music scene since the release of his debut self-titled album two years ago.

"We're thrilled to have him on his way up," Bueckert said. "We love to bring people in as they're building their careers and then a couple years down the road we can say, 'That guy played in Winkler.' It's a cool thing to be able to do."

Arts, meanwhile, has become a familiar face in Canadian country music since her self-titled debut album in 2016. Her latest album, *Girl to Girl*, was released last fall and her single "Back Then, Right Now" is in radio rotation. Last year, Arts was inducted into the CMT Next Women of Country Class of 2021.

"I've been familiar with her music and so I was so excited that she was



an option for us," Bueckert said. "I think they'll both put on a great show."

Opening for Eagleson and Arts will be homegrown country crooner Joe Wilson performing a blend of heartfelt originals and classic covers followed by country rockers the Johnson's Creek Band.

That just leaves Sunday, which traditionally features Christian music acts. Bueckert is still working on the details of who that headliner will be.

"Planning the first festival after the pandemic certainly comes with its challenges," she said. "Some of our music bookings have been a challenge in that way and so we're not ready to announcing our Sunday headliners just yet. But as soon as we can, we'll put that out there."

The festival has announced that opening Sunday night's stage entertainment will be comedian Matt Falk.

"With all of the division that has happened in the community the last couple of years, I just thought it was such a great opportunity to bring everybody together to laugh. It's so healing," Bueckert said.

Following Falk will be Christian music singer-songwriter Jordan St. Cyr.

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More BBQ Turkey Recipes at:
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Darlingford memorial service marks 100 years July 3

By Lorne Stelmach

It's better late than never as far as Darlingford gathering to celebrate a century of its annual memorial service.

The milestone was technically reached last year, but the pandemic prevented the community from meeting in person at the Darlingford Memorial Park, so organizers look forward to being able to get together this year on Sunday, July 3 at 11 a.m.

"This year's service is pretty special for everybody. There's a lot of people who were disappointed we couldn't have a live service last year," said spokesperson Glenn Rasmussen.

"This year, the committee set out to try to contact relatives of everybody named on the two plaques in the building, and they were invited to attend this year's service. We had a pretty good response to that, so we're really excited about having a bunch of new people and the regulars come to the service this year."

This service is dedicated to and honours the locals who gave their lives in service to their country.

This year's guest speaker is Harvey Kinsman, a former resident of Dar-

lingford who will speak on his family's journey of remembrance. Their story includes a fallen soldier as well as several members of the Kinsman family who served in the world wars. Kinsman will also speak on his visits to Normandy, France in 2013 and 2017.

Dedicated on July 5, 1921, the memorial building at the Darlingford Memorial Park features two black marble plaques that list the names of the men who served and died in the First and Second World Wars.

The building itself is rather unique, noted Rasmussen.

"It's actually the only freestanding building in the province dedicated to the men who served in the two wars and those who lost their lives," he said.

"It really has been important to the community," Rasmussen added, noting the park is maintained by local volunteers. "We've always been supported very strongly by the community. Whenever we had a major project come along, we just let people know it was for the park and there was always money that came in to more than cover the expense, so it's been a tremendously important thing for the



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Darlingford Memorial Park is the site of the community's 100th memorial service July 3 in honour of the men who served and died in the world wars.

community and for the area."

If it should rain, the event will move inside to the Darlingford Community Hall, which is hosting a by-donation lunch following the service. Proceeds from lunch will go to the Zion Calvin United Church.

The Darlingford School Museum will also be open that day from 1-5 p.m.

You can learn more online at the Darlingford Memorial Park Facebook page or www.pembina.ca.



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getinformed

Projects in the works to connect communities, create safer pathways

By Lorne Stelmach

Two projects that will provide vital links in two communities have received provincial funding to help make them a reality.

Provincial representatives last week presented the grants from the Building Sustainable Communities program to community representatives in Schanzenfeld and Plum Coulee.

Borderland MLA Josh Guenter and Eileen Clarke, minister of municipal relations, first presented \$103,000 to the Schanzenfeld pathway committee and RM Stanley council reps for the proposed Schanzenfeld to Winkler walking path.

They then headed to Plum Coulee, where members of the Plum Coulee pedestrian bridge committee received \$64,000 for that project.

The two initiatives were among 15 projects across the constituency which received a share of \$650,000 in funding.

"The region is growing really rapidly, and we know the growing pains that many of these communities are going through," said Guenter.

Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson said this funding together with the matching amount from the municipality

will make the Schanzenfeld project happen.

The path will go from the village on Road 10 North and continue on Road 22 all the way to Winkler, where it will connect into the city's pathway system. There will also be two crosswalks put in place as part of the project.

"Along with that, we're paving about a half mile of Road 22 ... we're just starting that project," said Olafson, who reiterated they believe the entire cost should be covered. The tendering process is already underway.

"We're pretty confident that's going to be close," he said. "It could come together this summer or at least be well on the way."

"It's a safety thing," Olafson said of the need for the pathway. "It's been on our agenda for quite some time, and we got a bit of a push for it from the community groups who thought this would be a really good idea."

"We're very confident that along the way it will really get used a lot," he said. "Eventually, there will also be a pathway from Reinfeld into Winkler ... the idea is to inter-connect that whole population."

"We were very pleased to be able to meet with members of the committee and talk about the project and hear their vision," said Guenter.

"It will be a great project ... it will really serve the growing community of Schanzenfeld and further unite the communities, but also there's a real safety aspect here. Highway 32 is incredibly busy and just not safe at all for cyclists and pedestrians."

The Plum Coulee project, meanwhile, will build a pedestrian bridge across the Hespeler drain, which currently divides the community.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS
Borderland MLA Josh Guenter and Minister of Municipal Relations Eileen Clarke were in Schanzenfeld (above) and Plum Coulee (right) last week to present provincial funding for key community projects.



"It's not a frivolous thing. It's a very necessary thing," said committee representative June Letkeman. "There isn't a safe way for us to walk from the one site to the other except on Highway 14 or on PR 306, which are very, very busy ... it's just not safe, so this is a necessity."

They have now raised \$174,000, including the \$64,000 grant, so that pays for phase one of the project that starts with a geo-technical study—a necessity given the size and length of the bridge. It is also expected that piers for the bridge will be put in this summer with the hope that the bridge could be completed next summer.

"We still have to raise a lot more money because our budget is a little bit over \$400,000," said Letkeman. "It's a long bridge ... about a 140 feet; it has to be from berm to berm, so that's what makes it so expensive."

"We're going to get as much done as we can ... once we start, it will be easier to raise more money too."

Guenter said they "recognize all their work on that really important, really needed project. It's a bridge that's going to unite the two halves of Plum Coulee."

"Again, another growing community in the constituency," he added. "There's been a real fundraising effort put forward by the members of the committee and really supported by the community."

Guenter noted the value of the Building Sustainable Communities program, which in the last provincial budget was doubled to \$25 million overall and attracted perhaps over \$40 million in requests.


"It's a program that's always over-subscribed because it's a unique program ... it rewards those grass-roots efforts," he said. "Why I think the Building Sustainable Communities program is so great is it is a 50 per cent matching funds, so it rewards committees and volunteers who get out there and do the work."

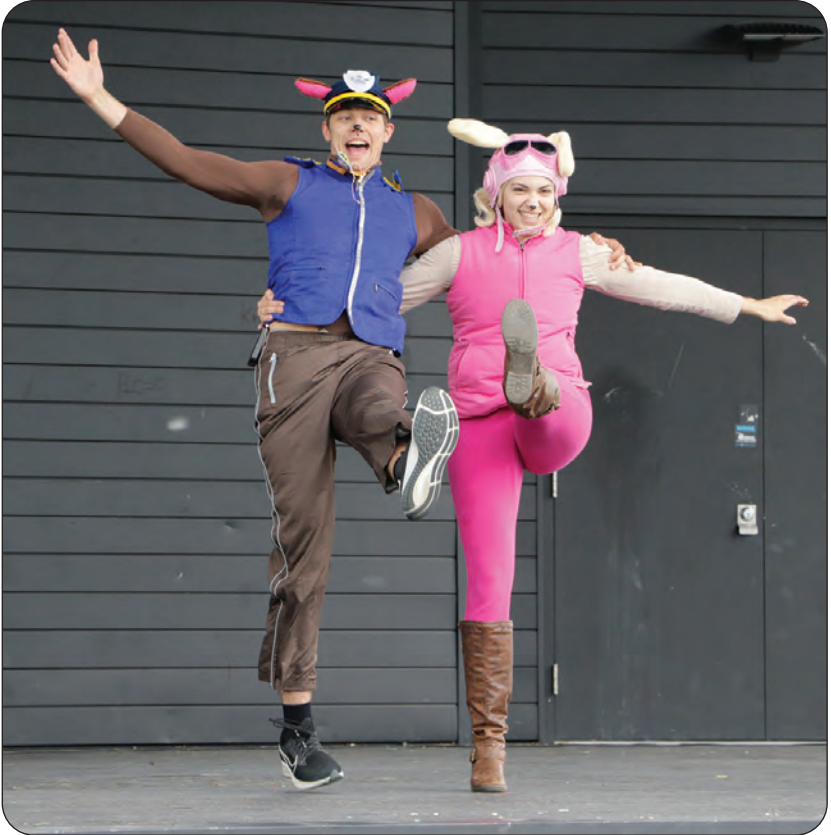
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The Winkler Family Resource Centre and the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre hosted the area's first Teddy Bear Picnic in years last Saturday in the Winkler Parkland. The day gave kids and their favourite stuffies the chance to interact with local health care professionals to learn more about the work they do. Clockwise from above: Bandaging up a wee patient; the Paw Patrol Show performs; demonstrating how an EpiPen works; local police and firefighters were also on hand to meet with kids; filling cavities with Play-Doh; the face painting station was, as always, a huge hit.

PHOTOS BY
ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



A playground for all abilities

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The features of the Jumpstart Inclusive Playground in Winkler Park were getting quite a workout last Thursday.

Several classes of local students joined project supporters, dignitaries, and Jumpstart representatives at the official grand opening for the playground.

At 7,000 square feet, it is the largest inclusive play space in the community. It's made up of a variety of accessible features designed to allow kids of all physical abilities to play, including things like wider ramps and seamless surfacing to better accommodate wheelchairs, static-free roller slides, and visual, auditory, and touch stimulation areas.

Since its completion in 2020, it has become one of the most popular playgrounds in Winkler.

"We walk by here all the time on our evening walks and this place is abuzz, which is so fantastic to see," noted David Dunseath, Winkler Canadian Tire dealer.

"I can't think of a better way to celebrate Jumpstart Month than to open this Jumpstart park," he said. "Certainly for us as a family this has been a wonderful, tangible way for us to give back to Winkler."

Dunseath spearheaded the push to

get the playground built in Winkler, supporting the project financially as well.

Scott Fraser, president of Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities, explained they set out a few years ago to build inclusive playgrounds in every province and were looking for communities of all sizes to partner with.

"We wanted to try in a smaller market ... Dave put his hand up right away," Fraser said. "He was one of the first dealers in Canada to say, 'Hey, I'd really like to see what we can do in Winkler' because he's so proud of his community. That's how it started."

Mayor Martin Harder recalled Dunseath bringing the project to council's attention in early 2020, and how fast things came together after that.

"It takes the initiative of one individual to bring something to fruition. A dream that came to reality."

The city found space for the playground in Winkler Park (in an area, Harder noted, that required no old-growth trees be removed—just four saplings had to be replanted to make space) and the Toews family stepped up as well with a donation in honour of the late Ryan Toews to help make it happen.

"THIS HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL, TANGIBLE WAY FOR US TO GIVE BACK TO WINKLER."



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The playground includes a variety of features designed to allow kids of all abilities to play, including a musical area (above) and a wheelchair-accessible merry-go-round (right).



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

From left: Canadian Tire Winkler dealer David Dunseath, Mayor Martin Harder, Randi Unrau, and Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities president Scott Fraser at the grand opening for the Jumpstart Inclusive Playground in Winkler Park last week.

"You need to say yes to a project and then the community comes together," Harder said. "We see that over and over and over again. Without the contribution of the community, these events wouldn't happen, this facility wouldn't be here."

Speaking on behalf of the Toews family, Randi Unrau explained the playground is a perfect legacy for her father, who would have loved to play on it with his grandson, Brody.

Brody uses a wheelchair and is visually impaired. This playground allows him to easily play right alongside his friends and family.

"For our family and many others, it's a brand new experience to be able to all as a family play on a playground," an emotional Unrau said, sharing that Brody's favourite feature is the merry-go-round. "He laughs and laughs when he gets to ride."

"My favourite part is that it's a great playground for everyone," Unrau

added.

That's music to the ears of Jumpstart, whose entire purpose is ensuring kids—all kids—are able to play. The national charity works to help children overcome both financial and accessibility barriers to sport and recreation.

"These playgrounds have become destinations for families to come together, but the real beauty is when you see kids of all abilities playing together and learning from one another. [It's] not this is a park for disabled or this is a park for able bodies," said Fraser. "Inclusion is a very powerful word and Jumpstart is so proud to be pushing that agenda, and these playgrounds are just the start of it."

By year's end, Jumpstart Charities will have 30 different inclusive projects up and running across the country, ranging from playgrounds like this to accessible baseball fields and hockey rinks.





Winkler grads on parade



The class of 2022 from Garden Valley Collegiate and Northlands Parkway Collegiate hit the streets of Winkler in their formalwear Monday night for the community's newest tradition: the grad parade. Family and friends lined the route to wish the graduates well. GVC's grad ceremony takes place Thursday afternoon while NPC's is Friday morning.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



Morden, Winkler Canada Day festivities return

By Lorne Stelmach

Canada Day celebrations are returning in both Morden and Winkler this year.

Organizers with both cities are excited to be able to host larger gatherings again for July 1 now that pandemic restrictions are gone.

"We're very excited and really hope that people come out and enjoy themselves," said Nicole Enns, community events co-ordinator for the City of Winkler.

"We're very excited. We've obviously had two quieter years, and we're looking forward to gathering every-

one together to celebrate Canada," said Stephanie Dueck, recreation programmer for the City of Morden.

In Winkler, the festivities take place in the Parkland area this year.

The fun begins with a car show at 1 p.m. by the Meridian Exhibition Centre.

"We knew we wanted to have that car show, and this is just a great area for everything to be in the one area," said Enns, noting the Winkler Parkland offers them a larger space and better facilities.

Following an opening ceremony at 4

Continued on page 14

Winkler Elementary students give back

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler Elementary School students got the chance to hand out over \$1,000 in grants to two community groups last week.

The school's Youth in Philanthropy program, run in partnership with the Winkler Community Foundation, operates as a short exploratory course for Gr. 7 students.

About 25 kids took part, spending their time planning and running fundraisers and then deciding where that money should go.

"It was a busy year," said student Libby Penner, who, along with classmate Callie Penner, explained what the group accomplished.

"For raising money we did a candy store and some other stuff," Callie shared.

The candy canteen was their big fundraiser, but the kids also tackled events for a mental health awareness day, custodian awareness and celebration day, and a women's awareness day.

They also set out to spread some kindness in the community, delivering coffee and doughnuts around town, making bracelets for other students, dancing and reading with

younger kids, cleaning up the school yard, and creating kindness cross-word puzzles, bookmarks, and notes for younger students.

"It was fun to help the community and do a lot of fun stuff while doing it," said Callie. "It's kind of a win-win."

On Monday, YIP reps. handed out \$530 to the Winkler Wizzards Special Olympics team and \$525 to Genesis House.

These organizations were selected from a long list of worthy potential recipients, Libby and Callie explained.

On hand to accept the Special Olympics donation were Sharon and Don Dueck, who were thrilled with the kids' support.

"I always think that it is awesome for kids to learn at a very young age to give back because this is their community and to feel ownership of it—and what better way than to help other causes in the community?" Sharon said.

Due to the pandemic, the Wizzards haven't been able to have regular programming for some time, but they recently started up again with weekly bocce ball sessions.

"When we hauled out our equipment we realized our bocce equipment



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Winkler Elementary School Gr. 7 students Sara Harder and Bella Nissley along with teacher Jason Grant presented Don and Sharon Dueck (far right) of Special Olympics with a donation of \$530 last week.

needed some replacement, so we are ordering six sets of new bocce balls and courts to be used right away," Sharon said in explaining how this donation will be used.

The Genesis House donation, meanwhile, will help the shelter for the victims of domestic violence purchase a new gaming system and related accessories for kids in their care to use as a fun distraction.

"We are so impressed with the young people in our communities' consideration of others in difficult situations," said executive director Ang Braun, thanking the students for their

generosity.

WES Gr. 7 Teacher Jason Grant said the kids really knocked it out of the park with the program this year, putting a lot of work in to the various initiatives.

He hopes they came away from the course with a little more knowledge about the role philanthropy plays in building community.

"You hope that they maybe are just a little kinder to their neighbours, a little more thoughtful, and that they realize giving is a pretty powerful thing."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Libby Penner and Callie Penner took part in the school's Youth in Philanthropy exploratory course this year and say they had a lot of fun planning and running various fundraising events and kindness activities. The girls are shown here with the \$530 donation YIP presented to Genesis House.

> CANADA DAY, FROM PG. 13

p.m., Brandon Post will take to the stage at 4:30 p.m. followed by the comedy illusions of Greg Wood at 5:45 p.m. and Jayme Giesbrecht and Frank McLean at 6:30 p.m.

A \$5 Winkler Co-op supper will be available from 5-7 p.m., and two costumed princesses and a superhero will be on hand starting at 4:30 p.m. for the kids, who will also be able to enjoy a petting zoo by Ricklyn Farm from 4-8 p.m.

"It will be a great day of activities for the whole family," said Enns. "We wanted to make sure there was a little bit of something for everyone."

Meanwhile, the Canada Day beach blast will be back at Lake Minnewasta.

Food vendors will be set up in the south parking lot all day, and the afternoon will have a number of activities including the sand castle competition, an obstacle course, and a scavenger hunt based out of the new Elks shelter.

There will be multicultural performances on the beach stage from 2-4 p.m., and Tipi Joe will be set up from 1-7 p.m. in the north green space.

"He shares stories, knowledge and may have some little crafts for kids to do," noted event co-ordinator Lili Krushel. "And we're celebrating Canada and the multiculturalism, so it's good to have multicultural performances on the stage."

The evening schedule then kicks off at 7:45 p.m. with greetings followed at 8 p.m. by a mascot dance-off.

"We're hoping we're going to have some mascots come out ... we welcome businesses or organizations that have mascots to come out that day," said Krushel.

The rest of the evening then includes Ivan Flett Memorial Dancers around 8:15 p.m., The Mood at 8:45 p.m., and Fun and Fire at 10:45 p.m. followed by fireworks at around 11 p.m.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Paddlefest returned last Saturday at Lake Minnewasta. Despite the strong winds, people were still keen to try out the canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards, and the Manitoba Paddle Association also came out with additional paddle crafts, including two dragon boats (above). The event also served to promote the local Morden Paddle Club, which offers rentals all season long at the lake.

Morden Police seize over 25 grams of crystal meth

By Voice staff

Several people are facing charges in connection to a series of drug busts in Morden this month.

On June 10, Morden Police Service officers were called to a local business regarding an assault.

A suspect was placed under arrest and, upon a search, was found to be in possession of almost three grams of methamphetamine.

The 31-year-old Morden resident was charged with one count of possession of a controlled substance. The

victim of the assault did not wish to press charges. The suspect will appear in Morden court in August.

The next day, June 11, officers conducted a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle on Victoria Street.

During the investigation, police became suspicious of the occupants. A K9 search was conducted on the exterior of the vehicle and indicated the presence of a controlled substance.

Police arrested the occupants and searched the vehicle, locating over three grams of methamphetamine.

The passenger, a 31-year-old male

from Winkler, was arrested and later released on an notice to attend Morden Provincial Court in August.

Later that same day, Morden officers were joined by members of the Regional Support Tactical Team in executing a search warrant on a residence in the 200-block of 1st Street.

Upon police arrival, the accused fled the residence on foot but was taken into custody by police a short distance away.

Police located approximately 19 grams of methamphetamine, Canadian currency, and a digital scale on the

accused.

A subsequent search of the residence revealed hundreds of new unused baggies, another digital scale, and a cell phone.

The 46-year-old Morden resident was charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance for the purpose of trafficking and released on an undertaking to attend Morden Provincial Court in September.

In total police seized over 25 grams of crystal methamphetamine, which would be the equivalent of 250 individual doses.



MORDEN POLICE PHOTO

Morden Police seized over 25 grams—about 250 individual doses—of crystal methamphetamine earlier this month. Three people are facing drug charges.

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Author John Einarson at Morden Library Thursday

By Lorne Stelmach

It won't be the last book John Einarson will author, but in some respects *Heart of Gold: A History of Winnipeg Music* would be a fitting finale.

Published last year, it offers an exhaustive history of Winnipeg's rich and diverse music heritage spanning multiple genres, and it seems the well-known musicologist, broadcaster, educator and author of more than a dozen critically-acclaimed music biographies was destined to write this book.

"Everything I've done kind of led me to do this book," Einarson said last week in advance of a book reading at the Morden Library Thursday, June 23 at 7 p.m. "I've said to people maybe it's the last book I'm going to do, but I don't know about that ... this book though was calling me for decades. I could no longer resist the call."

Einarson, who lived in Morden and taught at Morden Collegiate from 1978 to 1987, was an award-winning high school teacher and former consultant for the Manitoba Department of Education during a 30-year teaching career.

It is his writing career centred around

music, though, which has earned him the most attention and accolades.

Einarson wrote the Juno-nominated Bravo TV documentary *Buffy Sainte-Marie: A Multi-Media Life*, served as writer/consultant for A&E Biography Channel's Neil Young episode, and wrote CBC TV's *The Life & Times of Randy Bachman*. He also curated the acclaimed 2010 Manitoba Museum exhibit *Shakin' All Over: The Manitoba Music Experience* and organizes the popular Magical Musical History Tour of Winnipeg.

Four of his books have been on the *Globe & Mail* best-sellers list, while several have been ranked among the top 10 best music biographies in the UK and received award nominations.

It was his book *Shakin' All Over: The Winnipeg Sixties Rock Scene* that in a way led him to write *Heart of Gold*.

"It just seemed that I had left a lot out, and I'm learning more and more about Winnipeg music history in a much broader sense," said Einarson, who has not only hosted music shows on CBC radio but has also been a frequent contributor to the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

"I really cast a wide net with articles about classical music, articles about



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

Author John Einarson will be at the Morden Library this week to promote his new book: *Heart of Gold, A History of Winnipeg Music*.



Indigenous music, blues, all of it. And it really served to make me realize I needed to do a much more comprehensive book on Winnipeg music," he said. "It was gratifying for me to be able to pull of these different strands of music together. I'm the rock and roll writer guy, but there's so much to Winnipeg music and to Manitoba music than just rock and roll."

Singers and musicians from here of all musical stripes have gone on to shape and influence music across the country and around the globe, he suggested, and *Heart of Gold* presents a compelling case for Winnipeg being the centre of Canadian music for more than a century.

The book is an exhaustive exploration of multiple genres, including Indigenous, Francophone, country music, folk and roots music, classical and opera, dance bands and jazz, blues and rock 'n' roll.

"It's much more than a book about the big wheels who came out of Winnipeg," said Einarson. "It's not just about the big guys. It's a story about a lot of people who never scaled the dizzying heights of fame in whatever music genre, but they contributed to country or folk or classical ... there's been so much music going on in so many different places and venues and clubs."

Einarson stressed that he has always had a deep appreciation for all varieties of music, even as a musician himself, as he played in several well-known local bands through the 1960s and 1970s and has performed on stage with Neil Young, Randy Bachman, and Burton Cummings, jammed with

Frank Zappa's Mothers of Invention, and at age 17 even opened for Led Zeppelin before 14,000 people.

"One of the things that really excited me was the chance to talk about and present in great detail the Indigenous music scene. It's never been written about before in kind of detailed way," said Einarson.

"It was a real learning curve for me to write about that ... but it was the first chapter in the book because everything kind of starts with the drum. And then the fiddle came in ... and the fiddle is still very much a part of Indigenous and Métis music.

"It's been very gratifying to have the book so well received by the Indigenous community already," he added.

He also reflected on how the book required substantial research, but he had plenty of time during the pandemic

"It gave me a chance to hunker down in my office for a year and a half or more and do the book. It gave me the time and the opportunity to tackle what in fact is a pretty big book," said Einarson, who noted the book includes an index of 1,750 names and places.

As for what now lies ahead for him, Einarson is currently working on another project and a couple documentaries as well as a book he is calling *Words and Music by John Einarson*.

"Each of the books that I have done, what's the back story to all of it? For every book I have put out, there's a whole other book of the back story, the interviews," he said. "So this is how the music connected with me first and foremost."





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sports & recreation

Morden hosts girls baseball workshop

By Lorne Stelmach

A training camp meeting in Morden each Saturday over the past six weeks is part of an effort to get more girls into baseball.

The Baseball Manitoba program was aimed at girls between the ages of six and 13. Camps were offered in Winnipeg, Brandon, and Morden, with each featuring 90-minute sessions every week led by Team Manitoba members.

"They teach them all the basic skills like hitting, fielding, throwing," said Natalie Vigier-Hutton, who is the girls baseball contact with Morden

Minor Ball. "We have tried to get this going for a couple years now. Last year, we had a one-day event, but this year we were finally able to get the full experience."

The goal is simply to develop and improve baseball skills in young players and give them an opportunity to grow and develop in a fun, all-girls setting.

"No matter the skill level ... if they play softball or any other ball game, they were welcome to come," Vigier-Hutton said. "We hope to get some more girls playing baseball. Softball is really big around here, but there's a lot of opportunities for girls in base-



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Team Manitoba members were in Morden the past several weeks to host a training camp for young female baseball players. The last session took place on Saturday.



ball too with provincial teams and such."

The camp attracted about 20 players from all across the region, though predominantly from the Morden and Winkler area.

Participants like Lua Pauls, 12, said it had been a fun program with lots to learn about the game.

"This is my first time doing this camp, but I've always like to watch baseball, and I always like to do sports. I don't really play ball, but I do go play with friends," she said.

"I just kind of wanted to fill out my summer a little more ... and I just kind

of want to play more sports and be more active throughout the summer," Pauls added. "I think this really helps with the skills, and I've met some new friends here, so it's just a really good experience."

In 2022, Baseball Manitoba will be offering summer camps in July in addition to its spring programs in May and June.

"I think the girls have had a lot of fun

with it," said Vigier-Hutton. "We just want to give them a taste of what they can experience in baseball. We hope to be able to grow this program."

"WE JUST WANT TO GIVE THEM A TASTE OF WHAT THEY CAN EXPERIENCE IN BASEBALL."

Mud Hens, Bisons, and Whips all post wins

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Morden Mud Hens maintained their flawless record in Border Baseball League action last week.

Morden blanked Clearwater 6-0 Friday night to make it a perfect 6-0

season thus far, which is good for first place in the league's East Division.

In second place right now with a 5-3 record are the Altona Bisons, who bested the Pilot Mound Pilots 9-3 and 12-2 in a double-header Friday.

The Winkler Whips are in third place

at an even 3-3 for the summer after a 9-0 win against the Baldur Regals Friday.

Rounding out the division are the Carman Cardinals in fourth and last place at 2-4.

This week Tuesday Morden travels

to play Altona and the Whips host the Cardinals. Friday has the Mud Hens in Clearwater and the Whips in Baldur. On Sunday the Bisons travel to play a double-header in Clearwater while the Mud Hens host Carman.

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

Altona Bisons 3-1 for the week, PV Orioles 1-3

By Ty Dilello

The Altona Bisons and Pembina Valley Orioles both had a very busy week of MJBL baseball playing four games each, with Altona winning three of them and Pembina Valley just one.

Last Wednesday, Altona opened their week against an Interlake Blue Jays team that struggled with pitching depth, coming away with a 6-2 win.

“While we didn’t capitalize as much as we’d have like to, we managed to do just enough to win,” said Altona Bisons’ manager Curt Letkeman. “You have to win games like that against teams at the bottom of the standings.”

The next night, Altona defeated Pembina Valley by a wide 11-0 margin.

“Connor Cory pitched a great game for us, overpowering the Pembina

Valley hitters,” Letkeman shared. “Their pitcher ran into control problems in the bottom of the second, and we scored eight runs on only three hits. Connor pitched a five-inning complete game and struck out seven on 74 pitches. This was huge as it allowed him to come back and pitch again on Sunday.”

On a scorching hot Father’s Day, the Bisons met up with Winnipeg South for a double header. Altona split the games, losing the first 9-2 and winning the second game 8-6.

“It was a tough day to play two games. Game one started as a pitchers’ duel as Ethan Giesbrecht pitched well for us, striking out nine, but we gave up a two-out grand slam in the top of the sixth that broke the game open,” said Letkeman. “We came back in game two and scored five runs in the top of the first and felt

like we should cruise, but Winnipeg South battled and made it 5-4 in the third. Connor Cory struck out eight, and Maddux Mateychuk came in to get the final seven outs for the save.”

At week’s end, the Bisons move into third place in the MJBL standings with a 7-5 record.

The Pembina Valley Orioles rallied after getting blown out to Altona, coming back the next day and scraping out a 9-7 win over the Carillon Sultans.

On Sunday afternoon, the Orioles’ hands were tied as they were simply outmatched by a powerhouse Elmwood Giants lineup, losing both doubleheader games by 10-0 and 6-0 scorelines.

“They’re a pretty strong team and had their full lineup,” said manager Jim Odlum. “We were missing six guys, and that showed. But the score

wasn’t an indication of the games. We actually outhit them in the second game. A few walks, wild pitches, small mistakes, and a team like Elmwood jumps all over you. We had our chances in the second game but didn’t capitalize.”

Pembina Valley is currently in sixth place in the MHBL standings with a 7-7 record.

It’ll be another busy week for both the Bisons and Orioles. The Bisons play Carillon on Wednesday, St. James on Thursday, and a double header with Pembina Valley on Sunday afternoon. The Orioles also play St. James Wednesday night.

“We have St. James on Wednesday,” said Odlum. “I don’t know a lot about them other than the stats show they’re playing well. And then we’re looking forward to Sunday when we meet Altona as we always have good games.”

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

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!

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!

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer



CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Half-conscious states
- 8. Unnatural
- 13. Deep regret
- 14. Rogue
- 15. Took without permission
- 19. An alternative
- 20. After B
- 21. Partner to “flowed”
- 22. The best day of the week (abbr.)
- 23. Helps you hear
- 24. Egyptian river
- 25. Lake __, one of the Great
- 26. Make free from bacteria
- 30. Indigenous peoples of central Canada
- 31. Sanctuaries in Greek temples
- 32. Most unclothed
- 33. NJ senator Booker
- 34. Tibetan lake
- 35. Desecrate something sacred
- 38. John __, English educator 1467-1519
- 39. Obtains in return for labor
- 40. Views
- 44. Rugged cliff
- 45. Not quiet
- 46. Body part
- 47. Newt
- 48. German city
- 49. A way to save money
- 50. NBC’s Roker
- 51. Dire Straits frontman
- 55. Actress Lathan
- 57. Most meager
- 58. Poems
- 59. Companions

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Draws over
- 2. Recur

1	2	3	4	5	6	7				8	9	10	11	12
13										14				
15								16	17	18				19
20							21						22	
23							24					25		
26			27	28	29					30				
			31							32				
			33							34				
35	36	37						38						
39							40					41	42	43
44						45						46		
47					48							49		
50			51							52	53	54		
55		56								57				
58										59				

- 3. Current unit
- 4. Neither
- 5. Certified Radio Operator (abbr.)
- 6. Power of perception
- 7. Peace
- 8. Supplemented with difficulty
- 9. The last section or part of anything
- 10. Dorm worker
- 11. Bones
- 12. Most unnatural
- 16. Spanish island
- 17. The skill to do something
- 18. Where golf games begin
- 22. Untethered
- 25. Print errors
- 27. The sport of engaging in contests of speed
- 28. Ones to look up to

- 29. Stringed instrument
- 30. Gives whippings
- 32. Type of tie
- 34. Make more concentrated
- 35. Die
- 36. Part of a winter hat
- 37. Young men’s club
- 38. Bathrooms need it
- 40. U.S. president
- 41. American novelist
- 42. Take into custody
- 43. Hurts
- 45. Type of gibbon
- 48. American actor Lukas
- 51. Partner to cheese
- 52. Some are covert
- 53. Political action committee
- 54. To and __
- 56. Atomic #28

New basketball court for Morden

By Lorne Stelmach

Work is underway on the construction of a full size basketball court in Morden, and credit for the birth of the idea is being given to youth council member Bijan Salimi.

The project also came about now with over \$125,000 being provided by Valley Fiber, so Mayor Brandon Burley appreciates how it has all fallen into place.

"For us, it's not an idea that we probably would have been drawn to or noticed if wasn't for the youth councillor, so the value of that position is there for us," he said. "And community minded businesses that like to invest back in the communities they serve is always a good thing. We're very grateful to Valley Fiber for their financial commitment because it wouldn't have happened without them."

The outdoor court will be located in the BSI Insurance Skate Park on Wardrop St. It will feature a full-length court as well as two half courts once it is completed.

Work is already underway on the site, and Burley anticipates the full court will be in place this summer with the rest of the project finished next year.

Burley said they were grateful to have Salimi bring forward this idea as a result of engagement with other youth who identified a basketball facility as being a real need here.

"There was nothing really that would be a destination for basketball," he said, adding council wasn't really aware of the level of interest in basketball in the community.

After having started as youth council member last fall, Salimi consulted with other youth to gauge what they might identify as priorities.

"When I started to engage with the youth in our community, especially in my school, something that always came up was a major focus on athletics," he said. "And an issue that always seemed very major to students was the fact that we don't really have many basketball courts in Morden."

The limited existing options for basketball in Morden were not full or proper courts, and what there is has not been properly kept up, Salimi noted.

He gives full credit to both the mayor and council for listening and acting on the idea.

"I'm very excited, and I do believe that everyone in Morden, not just youth, will benefit from this," he said. "This will help us be a more active



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

A new basketball court featuring a full court and two half courts is under construction in the BSI Insurance Skate Park on Wardrop Street in Morden.

community."

Salimi noted he also sees further needs for more recreational facilities overall in the community, particularly more accessible playgrounds.

"Maybe we can work with organizations like Jumpstart to try to make our playgrounds more inclusive and accessible," he suggested.

Valley Fiber was pleased to be able to support the project.

"Many of our staff live in Morden or grew up in Morden, so being able to give back to the community that many of our staff call home is an honour," said Conley Kehler, senior vice-president of Valley Fiber.

"We feel fortunate to work with the City of Morden," he said. "We are

thrilled to make a difference in rural Manitoba and thrilled to be able to add a community basketball court for everyone to enjoy.

"The project itself aligned with our core value of giving back, and we understood from the city that one of locations for shooting hoops is the Access Event Centre parking lot, so not the safest place," Kehler added. "The city let us know that was something they were looking for, so the partnership and the project just made sense for us.

"Really, at the end of the day, it's important for us to give back ... this just aligned with everything that Valley Fiber wants to do with communities we are in."

Big Brothers Big Sisters reports on a challenging year

By Lorne Stelmach

While feeling the impact of the pandemic, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Pembina Valley remains in a solid position as it now looks to move forward.

Following the organization's virtual annual meeting last Wednesday, executive director Jenelle Neufeld said she is excited and hopeful about what the year ahead will bring after the past year of challenges.

"It wasn't the greatest year that we've had, but, all things considered, we are happy with the position we are in right now," she said.

"We have come out the other side with the unprecedented years behind us, and we are excited for what the future holds," Neufeld said in her report to the board. "We look forward to the new year ahead, moving forward while getting back to a new sense of normalcy, which will reflect heavily in our programming as well as our fundraising."

The organization is coming out of the pandemic years in a good financial position. Although it recorded a deficit of about \$38,000 in the past fis-

cal year, it still maintains an accumulated surplus of over \$93,000.

It saw an impact on revenues particularly with not being able to hold its Bowl for Kids, which is a fundraiser that can bring in upwards of \$32,000 each year.

"That's kind of an irreplaceable fundraiser for us," said Neufeld, who noted they held, in its place, the Big Night In fundraiser where they partnered with Mulligans and raised about \$11,000.

"It was something that we could do within the restrictions at the time," she said. "It was a way for people to still support our organization."

There was also some impact on their mentoring programs, especially in terms of the way they delivered them.

"With our programming, it has been affected a little bit, but as a whole, we're still in a strong position with our casework numbers," said Neufeld.

"It was just a different dynamic because you have to anticipate that some people were still not going to be comfortable attending events ... it was a little bit of a learning curve.

"It was hard to keep the connections

going," she continued. "We did transition to virtual matches, so they were meeting online, however they wanted to do it.

"If you're not able to see the person, though, it's harder to keep that connection going," she said, adding they also had their in-school matches transition to a traditional community-based match because it allowed a little more flexibility during a time when access to schools was limited.

Overall, the agency reported 19 mentored youth as of the annual meeting, with 15 on a waiting list.

Looking ahead, Neufeld noted they hope to start making in-roads into Carman, starting with a July 14 fundraising golf tournament there. They are also working to get some matches started in the community.

"We will need volunteers first in order to do that," she said.

Otherwise, one significant change for the organization sees Mark Bennett stepping aside as board chairperson. Rebecca Wiens is the new board chair.

In his final report, Bennett recalled the reason he had originally joined

the board.

"Jeremy Ward, who served as president in the early 2010s, told me that the reason he became involved was that he had learned that some children in need of our services had actually aged out of the program. That is to say, these children in need were on the waiting list for a match for so long that they had grown too old to qualify for the program.

"I know some of my fellow board members have heard me recount this story numerous times, but my hope in mentioning it yet again, in this context, is that the spirit, drive, purpose and vital importance behind what the agency is tasked with doing are embedded in the mindset of each of the members, donors and potential supporters that make our programs possible.

"Our mandate of ensuring that every child in need of a mentor in our region has a mentor remains unchanged," Bennett stressed. "Our focus for 2022/2023 remains unchanged. As an agency, we must continue to uncover mentors for youth in need of mentorship."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF HEARING - RE: RENT REGULATION - COMPLIANCE APPEAL

The Residential Tenancies Commission will be hearing an appeal for Residential Tenancies Branch Order Nos.: 2021WRR-000093, 2021WRR-000094, 2021WRR-000098 to 2021WRR-000116. The details of the appeal hearing are as follows:

Date: JULY 11, 2022

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

The rental unit addresses at issue in the appeal hearing are as follows:

Units 1 - 4, 161 - 2nd Street, Winkler, Manitoba R6W 4A9

The past tenants to be notified are as follows:

Abe Dyck, Melanie Fehr, Martin Volcko, Yvette Pockett, Henry Wall, Courtney Omar, Jeremy Hoffman, Helena Wiebe, Johanna Wirtz, Alexandra Fehr Hildebrand, Abe Wall, Tyler Banman, Willie Sawatzky, Kellen Pratt, Gerhard Thiessen, Karter Fehr and Elizabeth Adams.

The contact information for the Residential Tenancies

Commission is as follows:

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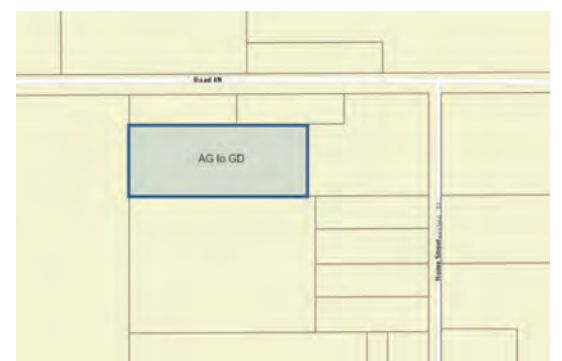
**Annual General
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June 28 @ 7:00 p.m.
Gateway Resources
Dining Hall**

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UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

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HEARING R.M. of Stanley
Council Chambers
LOCATION: 1-23111 PTH 14, SW 7-3-4W
DATE & TIME: July 7, 2022 at 9:05 a.m.

General Intent: To re-zone a portion of a parcel of
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From: "AG" Agricultural General
To: "GD" General Development
AREA: Part of Lot 1, Plan 600
Village of Friedensfeld West

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Melissa Groening,
Planning and Development Officer
Rural Municipality of Stanley
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Phone: (204) 325-4101
Email: mgroening@rmofstanley.ca

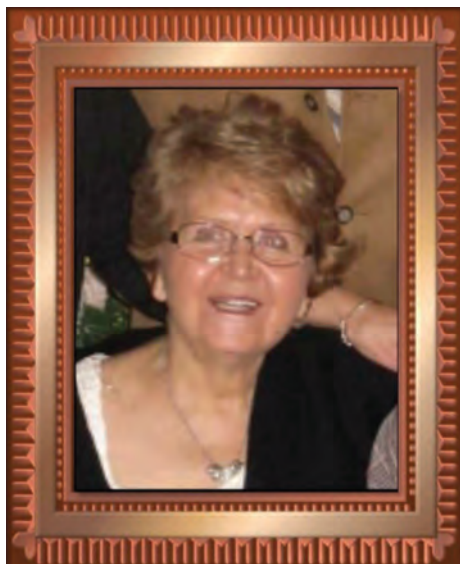
A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be
inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours,
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OBITUARY

Raymond John Warkentin 1939 - 2022



Raymond Warkentin passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 9, 2022 at Boundary Trails Health Centre at the age of 83 years with his family by his side.

He was born on March 29, 1939 to Jacob and Anne Warkentin (nee Friesen). Ray leaves to mourn his beloved wife of 58 years, Eileen Warkentin (nee Letkeman). He is also survived by his three children: son Darrell and wife Jacquie and their children, Janessa Warkentin, Danitra and husband Riley Lemky; daughter Danell and husband Allan Enns and their children, Chantal and husband Trevor Coulombe, Gavin and wife Lindsay Enns; daughter Darcia and husband Dwayne Unger and their children, Colton Unger, Ashton and husband Erwin Lau. Ray is also survived by four

great-grandsons, Ryder, Easton, Knox and Timber Lemky and one great-granddaughter, Cassie Lau. He is survived by two sisters, Evelyn and husband Rene Giuliani, Diane and husband Ed Sawatzky; one brother, Ron Warkentin, one sister-in-law, Ella Warkentin and their families.

He was predeceased by one grandson, Brady Enns, one brother, Lawrence Warkentin, one sister, Verna Peters.

Ray's childhood years were spent around the Haskett area and later in Morden. Ray worked on the pipeline, Texaco Service Station, gravel company, bridge construction, Triple E, Gardewine Transport, apartment maintenance for HF Wiebe, and part time at P.M Elias Trucking, all prior to his retirement. While working at the Texaco Service Station he met the love of his life, Eileen, at the Blue Moon Cafe where she worked. He fell in love with her ponytail, and she fell in love with his convertible. Needless to say, shortly after they got married, Eileen cut her hair and Ray had to sell his convertible to purchase furniture. Now that's true love!! Ray and Eileen were married April 25, 1964 in Morden. Their love for each other was clearly evident in their everyday life! They were blessed with three children: son Darrell (1965), daughter Danell (1967), daughter Darcia (1970). During their 58 years of marriage they enjoyed travelling, which also included delivering motor homes to many locations. And as a family they went on numerous camping trips with family and friends. Ray supported all sports and activities that his children were involved in and when he was blessed with grandchildren and great-grandchildren, hands down, he was their greatest supporter. Family was extremely important to Ray and he loved and was proud of each and every child, grandchild and great-grandchild beyond words and he cherished every moment spent with them. Ray enjoyed going for walks and bike rides and while doing so met up with many friends and family and he always took a moment to chat. You could also find Ray at many hockey games or baseball games. One Father's Day, he was so involved in watching his baseball he forgot to come home, so we started celebrating without him.

Ray was baptized in 1963 in Morden Bergthaler Mennonite Church and later became a member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1977. Here he was an active member and served on church council for many years. His faith, and trusting in the Lord, and attending church were very important to him.

Funeral service was held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at the Trinity Lutheran Church with interment at Westridge Memorial gardens.

We, the family, would like to thank the medical team at Boundary Trails, especially the paramedics, Dr. Jacob Miller, Nurse Jamie and Nurse Shelby, Brenda Unger for her medical assistance prior to the paramedics' arrival and for the many prayers, messages and calls, flowers, visits, and food deliveries; to Pastor Alex Klages and Vicar Nigel Prozenko for their spiritual guidance during this difficult time and to Wiebe Funeral Home for their service.

Heaven gained the sweetest man when you left us, and we know you are up in Heaven with your mother, who passed away when you were a young boy, and whom you've missed so much! We will miss you tremendously! Until we meet again...we love you!

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Mateychuk ready for NHL Draft

By Ty Dilello

Dominion City's Denton Mateychuk is beginning to make a name for himself in the hockey world.

At seventeen years of age, the 5'11 defenseman is considered a top prospect slated to go in the first round at next month's 2022 NHL Entry Draft.

Mateychuk credits his family and growing up in a small town in helping him get to where he is today.

"My dad played college baseball, and so he's always been a huge sports guy, while my mom was also into sports too," he said.

"Growing up in a small town, there are ups and downs as there are good things that come from it and some disadvantages as well. There was certainly more access to ball fields or hockey rinks in Dominion City than in other places, I'm sure," Mateychuk said, recalling his dad was always able to get a rink for him to practice on growing up. "I would skate for hours. That really helped, and it just gave me the love for the game that I have today."

Mateychuk just completed his first full season with the WHL's Moose Jaw Warriors, scoring 64 points in 65 games as his team fell in the second round of the playoffs.

"My first full season with Moose Jaw was great," he said. "It was a great group of guys, and I enjoyed it from start to finish. Of course,

it sucks coming up short in the playoffs, but it gives you motivation for the year coming up. Playing in the Top Prospects Game was also awesome, as well as being able to go with my teammate, Jagger Firkus."

Earlier this month, Mateychuk attended the NHL Draft Combine. The annual event held ahead of the NHL Draft is an assessment of the top prospects involving interviews, medical screenings, and fitness tests over four days.

"I really enjoyed the experience being at the NHL Draft Combine. I did quite a few interviews, and it's really nice to get to talk face-to-face and not just on Zoom," Mateychuk observed. "With the testing, I only did the upper body stuff, but I think I did well in it. I think most of my interviews went well."

Mateychuk doesn't care where he gets selected next month but would be over the moon if it was the Winnipeg Jets that drafted him with the fourteenth overall selection.

"It would be awesome to be picked by the Winnipeg Jets. Growing up going and watching the Jets and being able to go to some games, it would definitely be an awesome place to play."

Mateychuk has been keeping busy so far this summer playing a few games with the Altona Bisons junior baseball team. However, after the draft, he will probably stop playing baseball and focus on hockey and his training.

"It is nice to play a bit of baseball. I try to get out to the games if I have nothing going on,"



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Dominion City's Denton Mateychuk hopes to take the next step in his hockey career with the NHL Draft next month.

Mateychuk said. "I don't let it affect my summer training, so I make sure I'm not missing any of that."

Through it all, Mateychuk is building lots of excitement internally for the upcoming draft as he will finally figure out which direction he will be headed in regards to his future professional career.

"I am very excited for the draft. Going through the year, it was something I would think about a bit. But now that the hockey season is over, and that is the next thing up. It gets more and more exciting. It will be an awesome moment and something that I have worked hard towards for a long time."

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