

The *Winkler • Morden*  
**Voice**

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JULY 7, 2022

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# Celebrating Canada Day

Sisters Zerayah and Avery Peters were all decked out in red for Winkler's Canada Day celebrations at the Parkland hill Friday. For more photos of Morden-Winkler's July 1st festivities, see Pg. 10.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/  
VOICE

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# getinformed

## Winkler police, firefighters roll up their sleeves

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Fire Department and the Winkler Police Service went head-to-head against each other last week.

Both were vying to have the highest percentage of their members give blood through Canadian Blood Services' Sirens for Life campaign.

They were rolling up their sleeves at Thursday's blood clinic at the Winkler Mennonite Brethren Church—and encouraging the community to do the same in the months ahead.

"We have a little friendly competition going," said Captain Ernie Froese from the fire department. "We work together a lot, and so doing this together is a natural thing for us."

"We'll be keeping track of how many members from each department show up," explained police Deputy Chief Chris Kalansky. "It's just a friendly



thing to try and also raise awareness and encourage the public to come out and donate blood as well. We can't do

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

From left: Winkler police officers Rudy Loewen, Anthony Dueck, Thomas Froese, and Chris Kalansky, Canadian Blood Services' Brett Lawrence, and Winkler firefighters Garry Reimer and Ernie Froese at the Sirens for Life event last week, where local emergency services members rolled up their sleeves to donate blood.

it without the public's help."

Froese and Kalansky both donate as often as they are able and stress it's really not a difficult process at all—nor as scary as some people may fear.

"It's not a big deal," said Froese. "Yeah, you get a little poke in the arm but that's nothing compared to what the people who need this blood might be going through. So it's a very, very small sacrifice to do for someone who really needs the help."

"We've had one of our members' family members who needed blood quite a bit. So that certainly sticks out in my mind that people within our own group have needed it," he added, noting they've also seen firsthand the injuries a person might sustain in a serious accident and how much blood is needed to get them through it.

"It's about an hour of your time, it's a fairly easy process, and once you get into the swing of it it's just an hour every couple months," said Kalansky. "It's a small thing to do on our part and it's life-saving thing for someone on the other end of it."

Canadian Blood Services community development manager Brett Lawrence noted they have a number of police and fire departments across Manitoba taking part in Sirens for Life this summer.

"It's a great opportunity to get our first responders out to show their support of the blood system as well as share any experience they might have had, because these guys are on the frontlines, they see scenarios where blood transfusions may have been needed," he said. "It's just a great reminder for the public to say your blood is going to patients in need."

Blood donor numbers tend to drop in the summer months, making awareness campaigns like this all the more important, Lawrence said. They've also seen an overall drop in regular donors from pre-pandemic levels.

Every single donor is needed.

"We'll collect about 96 units here today. Eight of those could be going to one person a week for leukaemia treatment," Lawrence noted. "Someone in a car collision could need up to 50 units of blood. So 50 different people need to donate for one car crash victim."

Upcoming blood donation clinics in our area include Morden July 25, Altona Sept. 8, and Winkler Sept. 22.

You can book an appointment at the next blood donor clinic in your community by going to [blood.ca](http://blood.ca), calling 1-800-2-DONATE, or downloading the GiveBlood app.



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Morden





# Berry picking season is well underway

By Ty Dilello

It's open season at berry farms across Manitoba.

Despite the flooding, cooler temperatures this spring, and fruit crops slightly later to harvest, most growers are really encouraged by how their crops are looking.

"The last couple of years, especially for strawberry growers, have been

tough with the weather, but growers are very optimistic and hoping for bountiful crops," Sam Connery-Nichol, Prairie Fruit Growers Association vice-president, noted last week.

Local berry farmers share that sentiment.

Berry Hill Farm just east of Altona is under the new ownership of Henry and Betty Schellenberg, who have moved back to the area after 27 years

in Calgary.

"We wanted to get back to our roots and do something a little more organic," said Betty Schellenberg. "I was sitting at my island in Calgary on a Sunday morning and looking at MLS listings like we were doing for five years looking for that perfect opportunity, and this one came up. Within two days, Henry was here looking at it. We sold our business out there, sold our house, and moved here."

The original owners have been very helpful with guiding the Schellenbergs through their first spring and summer seasons.

Right now they're offering pre-picked strawberries, raspberries, and fresh asparagus. Later in the season they'll have everything from cucumbers and sweet corn to squash and bitter melons.

"We are very excited to serve customers this year and have people out

to our berry farm," said Schellenberg. "We're hoping for a good couple of months for this later-than-usual berry season."

Nettie Friesen of Mini Acres Farm in Gndenthal southeast of Winkler is feeling optimistic as well.

"The berries are looking very good this season, so I guess we got the right amount of rain," she said on Monday. "Our strawberry patch did not flood at all, so that was a very good thing for us."

Mini Acres are offering both pre-picked and self-picked berries right now. You can reach them at 204-331-4325.

Berry Hill Farm can be reached at 204-319-7089 or [berryhillfarm2022@gmail.com](mailto:berryhillfarm2022@gmail.com).


You can also find the other local berry farms across southern Manitoba by heading to the PFGA website: [pfga.com/farms/](http://pfga.com/farms/).



PHOTO BY TY DILELLO/VOICE

Berry Hill Farm's Betty Schellenberg is very excited to have people out at their farm picking berries and taking in the good weather as berry season gets into full swing across southern Manitoba.

**Devotion**  
If you do not know Jesus before you die, Heaven will not be your home.



*The* **Voice**  
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## > BTHC EXPANSION, FROM PG. 3

takes us essentially until this fall," said MacNair. "Based on the design development, then we're going to develop the construction documents that will get tendered out.

"Probably site preparation will happen this fall ... fencing the site and levelling and clearing ... then full construction will begin this winter."

The timeline for the project is difficult to pinpoint, noted MacNair.

"There's a lot of supply chain issues right now ... if everything goes well, we'll be opening the community services building in the second quarter of 2024 and the in-patient expansion, the new beds wing, in the third quarter of 2025."

It is a complex project, as it is only

once they have the two new buildings done that they can finish moving programs and services and then start on renovations of the hospital.

"Those renovations will take a longer period of time again, beyond 2024-2025, because as we open up spaces we'll be renovating spaces."


The project was included in the 2021 provincial budget, which included a \$812 million capital investment in building, expanding and renovating health care facilities across the province in support of the clinical and preventive services plan. The plan identified expanded services at BTHC as being key to efforts to support better care sooner and close to home.

On behalf of our community, the Western School Division Board of Trustees would like extend a heartfelt

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to our amazing school staff. All of the hard work, and hours of love you have poured, directly or indirectly, into the lives of students will surely reap great rewards for generations to come.

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## Darlingford hosts 100th memorial service



SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE ROBBINS

The community of Darlingford gathered at the Darlingford Memorial Park Sunday for their 100th in-person memorial service honouring the local men who served in the First and Second World Wars. The service included guest speaker Harvey Kinsmen sharing his family's journey of remembrance and was followed by a community lunch. Darlingford's war memorial was dedicated on July 5, 1921 and includes two marble plaques listing the names of all the men the community lost in the wars.

# Gateway staff rose above during a challenging year

By Lorne Stelmach

The past year posed trials and tribulations for Gateway Resources, but it also served to shine a spotlight on the dedication of all involved with the organization, which works with people in our community with intellectual disabilities.

Whether it was dealing with pandemic related restrictions or facing the aftermath of the recycling facility fire, there was ample perseverance, strength, adaptability, resiliency and commitment, CEO Kim Nelson suggested at the annual meeting June 28.

"The resiliency and the dedication of each and every employee has amazed me throughout all of this," said Nelson. "They showed up, when they had no more strength to give, they continued to show up, and they continued to do it in every fashion."

"The employees really is what impressed us so much," agreed board chairperson Brian Derksen. "People were really flexible with their roles and just saw this is the need, so we are going to meet it."

Nelson touched on some of the challenges faced in the past year such as in the operations department, where the wood room dealt with supply chain issues. Despite that, the department still saw sales increase to over \$2.3 million with over 49,000 items built.

"The wood shop has always been something that has provided for us really well on top of the funding that we receive from the government, so it gives us some flexibility to do some repairs or renovations to homes with-

out having to go to the government," Derksen noted.

The day services program normally has 29 participants and 13 staff, but much of the year saw participants remain at home. As well, the learning centre and community learning programs were largely on hiatus, and the senior activity program also saw limited activity.

The residential division faced challenges as individual day time routines were interrupted, but all residential supports continued. Residential services had 53 people living in 14 community residences, and there were 29 receiving supports in their own homes or apartments, 12 in home share settings, and four in supported individual living cluster model homes.

"The programs team continued to be inventive and creative as they navigated services amidst the pandemic, offering services in the residential homes, offering virtual programming opportunities, offering critical services while maintaining staff levels, community involvement and contracts to ensure the services are still here when supported individuals return," Nelson wrote in her report.

"It was very hard to navigate all of the requirements and all of the pandemic related challenges," she said following the meeting.

"Having everyone return and being able to fulfill our vision and our mission statement is an exciting opportunity," she continued. "It's so great

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**JULY 11 - Brandon**  
Victoria Inn  
3550 Victoria Avenue  
**1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**AUGUST 4 - Steinbach**  
Days Inn  
75 PTH and Road 12 N.  
**4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.**

**JULY 11 - Neepawa**  
Neepawa Public Library  
280 Davidson Street  
**4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

**AUGUST 10 - Winnipeg**  
Winnipeg Grand Mosque  
2445 Waverley Street  
**6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

**AUGUST 4 - Winkler**  
Best Western Plus  
1705 Diamond Drive  
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**AUGUST 11 - Winnipeg**  
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Manitoba 

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The *Winkler Morden*  
**Voice**

# getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS



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**OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS**



• **FAITH FOCUS**

## A song for every day

**D**o you hear the birds singing every morning? One of the delights of each season can be listening for and watching the birds that live in and visit our yards and communities as they express themselves in song each day.

I like to hear the birds sing in the morning and at various times through the day. They use the voice God gave them and they seem eager to make the most of the day at hand.



**By Randy Smart**

God has given them an understanding of how to be resilient in all kinds of weather. When we stay indoors because of wind, rain or snow the birds have ways of finding shelter. When the sun emerges so do the birds—ready to sing again.

Many birds also demonstrate a great commitment to their young. They bring food to feed their young until they can begin to fly and learn the skills they will need when they leave the nest.

If we could interview a songbird they could tell us of the hard times and challenges of being birds. We have observed that when the hawks come to visit our neighbourhood the smaller birds are silent.

The difference between us and birds is that God created us with a soul designed for an active spiritual relationship with Him, with a capacity to know about and respond to God's design and care for us.

In the teaching we call the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapter 5-7),

Jesus was teaching the people about life-giving values, and choices that God wants us to know and practice.

Worry can rob us of joyful living. We can be preoccupied about so many things and we lose sight of the ways that God can provide for our basic and greater needs for each day and situation.

Jesus mentioned the birds as an example of a simple trust in Him for our daily needs. In Matthew 6:25-27 we read: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

King David wrote to God "... I will

Continued on page 7

# Letters

### ALVEY BRIDGE REPAIRS NEEDED NOW

In 1987, the Morden Kinsmen had a vision: the Morden community bike path.

By 1988 it was a reality. It runs from the west end of Alvey street to Col-ert Beach.

The Kinsmen thought it was important because it would make the

trip to the beach safer.

Too many people, children in particular were taking their bikes along the highway and going to the beach. It worked. Hundreds used the path daily. Until a few weeks ago.

When the Alvey street bridge washed out, people were once again forced to the highway to get to the beach because the community path was inaccessible. We are seeing

bikes, walkers skateboards and even a unicycle today. All going along the shoulder of Hwy. 3. It's become dangerous.

So are there any solutions?

We could fix the Alvey St. bridge. Or at least making it passable for pedestrians and bikes.

We could fix the highway so its

Continued on page 7

*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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# Winkler Farmers' Market returns



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Farmers' Market kicked off another summer of fresh goodies last week. They have over a dozen full- and part-time vendors lined up for the season, along with a few buskers to provide a soundtrack for the event. The market takes place in the Winkler Curling Club parking lot (650 Park St.) every Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. into fall. Above, from left: Last week's kick-off had vendors Margaret Reimer and her daughter Sheila all smiles as they sold their baked goods; Clare Zhang of Fertile Farm with some of her organic produce; Vanessa Wieler of D&M Farms with the fresh strawberries they had on offer.

## > GATEWAY RESOURCES, FROM PG. 5

to walk the halls and walk the whole area again and hear the stories and to hear everyone's hopes and goals and dreams and how we can help and facilitate those things."

"We've kind of been on hold for quite some time, just trying to survive and maintain things," said Derksen. "We weren't able to plan and move forward on a couple different plans that we had in place, so it is very freeing now to be able to move forward and to be able to act on some of the plans that we had, and I think it's going to really help the participants."

And of course rebounding and rebuilding after a fire last fall destroyed the recycling sorting building has been the biggest challenge of all.

"It was devastating ... but with every

## > FAITH FOCUS, FROM PG. 6

sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble..." (Psalm 59:16)

Our lives have many challenges. When you are tempted to worry, remember the example of the birds. God provides for their needs and he has an even greater and personalized concern for you and for me. We can talk to God about our questions, concerns and needs. As we trust in and learn from the words of Jesus, God can give us a song for every day.

*Randy Smart has been a pastor in Southern Manitoba since 1979. He is currently senior pastor at Bethel Bergthaler Mennonite Church.*

challenge, we, as an agency, are able to come back stronger, and we are able to take this and look at ways to improve the services that we offer, to improve the way we offer services, and that is how we are looking at this," Nelson said. "The initial shock, once we got

## > LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

safer for bikers. We could reduce the speed in the 70 and 100 kph zones to 50 kph. We could fill the cracks on the paved shoulder so the bikes that use the shoulder can more safely ride up and down the hill (currently the unfilled cracks and potholes both in the highway and paved shoulder makes

past that, it was, okay, let's figure out how we can better support the individuals and do the work that we do in an efficient manner."

"We are excited with the new opportunities ahead of us both in our programming and in our social enterpris-

it hazardous to all). We could have the street cleaner clean the loose gravel on the paved shoulder so the riders have more control.

We could build a new bike path.

Or ... back to fixing the Alvey street bridge. That would be the safest and least expensive option.

es," added Derksen. "Over the next year and a half, there will be some significant additions to our facilities that will allow us to better serve the people of Gateway."

Even if we fix the problems on the highway, it will still be the highway. A dangerous highway.

**Dr Alain Kolt,  
Morden**



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## RRTVA open house shows kids the opportunities available to them

By Lorne Stelmach

A two-day open house last week offered local Grade 8 students an opportunity to check out their options for vocational programs.

The tours held last week gave the instructors a good chance to sell the students on the merits of their programs, which are among the offerings of the Red River Technical Vocational Area. RRTVA is a partnership of the Border Land, Division Scolaire Franco-Manitobaine, Red River Valley, Garden Valley and Western school divisions, serving 12 high schools across the region.

"I feel very privileged that we are such an important part of this program. We have all these divisions working together to give these kids fantastic opportunities," said Anne Weaver, who teaches hairstyling at Northlands Parkway Collegiate in Winkler. "This is good because they get a chance to see what's in the high schools they are going to or possibly going to be connected to ... so it's definitely important."

Now into a sixth year as instructor for piping trades in Morden, Jason L'Heureux has seen the program continue to build year after year. His first



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Gr. 8 students from across the region got the chance to tour RRTVA programs to see what options are available to them. There were stops at the culinary arts (left) at NPC and the piping trades program in Morden (above).

graduating class had three students who are working in plumbing, and he now has six who graduated this year already in plumbing jobs with another two who are looking at getting into it by the end of summer.

"Now I have more returning students from section one than I ever have had before, so out of this year, almost all of the students who took section one are returning for section two," he added.

L'Heureux sees the course as having a lot going for it.

"The curriculum is written in a way that there's a lot of room to figure out how to teach, what to teach," he suggested.

"It's a really important field, even if you are into helping the world. The number one reason people are dying today is lack of clean drinking water and wastewater disposal," he said. "We're one of the highest paying trades in the RRTVA, and we have access to some of the highest paying jobs in Manitoba and in Canada."

"Your ceiling is endless; your opportunities are endless, and you just have so many options," said L'Heureux, who noted they now also have the new building on the way.

"The program has been so successful as far as the school division is concerned that Manitoba had us on their list as one of the first builds for after COVID," he said. "That new facility is going to be state of the art, and they're shooting for the best facility in Canada, so it looks like it's going to be awesome."

Weaver, meanwhile, has seen interest in the hairstylist program remain strong year after year.

"It's very good. There's always a waiting list to get into the program. My numbers are high," said Weaver, who takes a maximum of 20 students. "It's a good trade, and a lot of my kids are working out in the community," she noted.

Weaver said the appeal can simply start from "even just taking care of their own hair ... but if you can make somebody happy by doing their hair, that's one of the greatest gifts for a person."

"Everything here is top notch," she noted of the school's salon. "We don't spare any expense. The kids need to be prepared for what's out there in a salon."

Continued on page 11

# GOOD FOR ME GOOD FOR MB

Watching my community thrive demonstrates the hog sector's commitment to rural Manitoba.

Marilyn Crewe  
Economic Development Officer  
Neepawa, MB

Manitoba's hog sector contributes 14,000 jobs and \$1.7 billion annually to our local economy.

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

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are less likely 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.

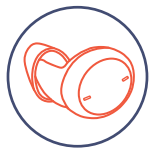
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# Morden-Winkler marks July 1st



**PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE**  
Morden-Winkler came out in full force to celebrate Canada Day last Friday. Morden held its celebrations at Colert Beach, which was packed (left). The line-up included cultural performances (above), musical acts, a sand sculpture contest, and more, and wrapped up with a fireworks show after



dark (left). Winkler's celebrations took place at the Parkland hill, kicking off with a car show and then including a petting zoo (right), stage performances from groups like Brandon Post (top, left), and a \$5 barbecue supper hosted by Co-op (below) into the evening.





FACEBOOK.COM/MORDENFIRERESCUE

Morden Fire and Rescue hosted a ground search and rescue (GSAR) workshop recently, training local firefighters, police officers, and Southern Emergency Response Committee members to be part of the Pembina Triangle GSAR team.

# Local emergency crews get GSAR training

By Lorne Stelmach

The region's search and rescue team has been further bolstered after a recent training weekend.

Morden Fire and Rescue hosted a ground search and rescue (GSAR) course with eight of its members among the 17 participants who included members from the Winkler Police Service and the Southern Emergency Response Committee (SERC).

With this training, they can now be part of the Pembina Triangle GSAR team that consists of members from local fire departments and SERC. The Morden fire department serves as the host site for the team.

"We've got a number of guys who have been on it for quite a number of years, but we had a few fellows who were new on the department and wanted to be part of it," said Chief Andy Thiessen.

Topics covered in the GSAR basic course included first aid and survival skills, transportation and

equipment safety, navigation, communication procedures, lost person behaviour, search techniques and specialized resources.

The training then concluded with a search exercise in heavy brush south of Morden, and it offered a good taste of what will be required of them, said Thiessen.

"When we do a search, it involves GPS and a grid so that we don't overlook anything," he noted. "It's more intense than you might think ... it can be complicated."

"It's turned out positive in some of the searches that we have been to," he added. "That's the main thing. We want it to be successful."

"It's always interesting in how people get to the places they get to or the predicaments they find themselves in," Thiessen said. "You need to have this type of training to make sure you don't overlook anything."

The Pembina Triangle GSAR can be dispatched

across southern Manitoba by the Manitoba Office of the Fire Commissioner to help locate missing individuals.

"It's a pretty wide area they will go to if called upon," said Darin Driedger, who is the emergency co-ordinator for SERC.

"It's something we encourage with our volunteers. It's another way they can work with our first responders ... it's a way that we can help out," he said. "Thankfully, major disasters or events don't occur very often, but it's a way that we can all be better prepared."

"It takes a lot of co-ordination ... and depending on the situation, you'll have either police department or fire department or both co-ordinating it."

"They have a methodical approach. It's very deliberate how they go about doing their work, so it does require some training," Driedger said. "And there is some difficult terrain out in the escarpment and in the valley."

## > RRTVA, FROM PG. 8

Now going into her 10th year teaching esthetics at NPC, Brenda Richer has also seen interest stay steady.

"We have a wait list now normally, as opposed to when we first opened up when nobody had even heard of the word esthetics," she said, noting they will have up to 12 nail technicians and eight skin care therapists.

Richer suggested one appeal is "the employment skills that they learn, and I also have a lot of students who are out working in the industry right now."

"And it's an actual running salon here, so they get work experience. A

lot of the trades you have to go out and do a practicum, and here it's in the salon right here."

Also based at NPC is culinary arts, which instructor Paul Henderson says usually attracts about 15 students.

"The numbers have been solid, almost full," noted Henderson, who suggested a lot of the students "come into this program because they want some basic skills for home ... and what they normally get is a lot of transferable skills."

"A lot of people aren't going to get into the industry, some will, and

we've had some red seals come out of this program, so they've gone all the way through ... and they're in the industry."

"They learn how to work on a team, working with others ... they learn how to problem solve. So all those transferable skills can apply to anything that you do," he continued.

"All of the equipment we train them on is usually even better than industry standard," Henderson noted. "There's also a lot of fun things that we do; we see hotels in the city, we see dairy farms and hog farms ... and we do some fun stuff here as well

... we do an iron chef competition."

Other RRTVA programs offered in the region include autobody in Morris, automotive technology at GVC in Winkler, automotive technology in Dominion City, baking and pastry arts at Northlands Parkway Collegiate in Winkler, carpentry in Altona, culinary arts in Altona, electrical technology at NPC, heavy duty equipment technology at GVC TEC in Winkler, welding in Morden, and welding in Morris.

More information can be found online at [rrtva.blscd.ca/home](http://rrtva.blscd.ca/home).

# United Way Pembina Valley distributes \$3K in scholarships

By Lorne Stelmach

It is heartening for an organization like United Way Pembina Valley to see youth who are engaged and involved in their communities.

The agency last month handed out a trio of annual \$1,000 youth scholarships to graduates from Garden Valley Collegiate, Morden Collegiate Institute, and Northlands Parkway Collegiate who demonstrated social awareness and leadership through volunteer service.

Honoured were Nathan Lepp from GVC, Cade Zacharias from NPC, and Matthew Elliott from MCI.

"I think community involvement is really two-sided. Service and involvement obviously benefit the community, but they also benefit the one serving and getting involved," said Lepp, who plans to study architectural engineering.

His volunteer work included working with youth at church camp, library programming, and a local thrift shop. He also valued the opportunity to participate in mission work both on the streets of a large Canadian city and in Mexico.

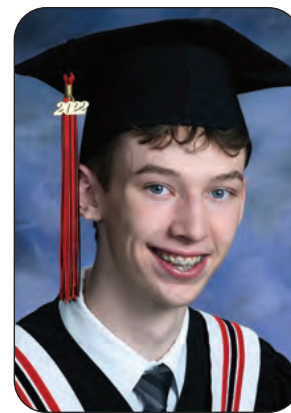
"I know my own volunteer experience has helped shaped me into the person I am and has probably influenced me in more good ways than I realize right now," said Lepp. "And I'm especially grateful to the United Way Pembina for allowing me the opportunity to keep volunteering and serving my community by supporting me in my next step of post-secondary."

Elliott was recognized for volunteer involvement that includes the Corn and Apple Festival, community clean up events, the FCC food drive, South Central Cancer Resource, and school events and extracurricular activities.

"I'm very honoured to have received this award, and the generous support has helped make it possible for me to continue to achieve my education and career goals," said Elliott, who plans to pursue civil engineering.

"Volunteering has not only given me skills, knowledge and experience but also allowed me to provide a service to people and to make a positive impact on my community," he said. "I'm a believer that volunteering makes me a healthier and happier person, and I want to continue to be a vested member in my community and give back."

**"WE HAVE SOME STUDENTS WHO ARE SHOWING A LOT OF LEADERSHIP QUALITIES AND A LOT OF WILLINGNESS TO BE INVOLVED AND TO GIVE TO THEIR COMMUNITY."**



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

From left: Matthew Elliott, Nathan Lepp, and Cade Zacharias were selected to receive United Way Pembina Valley's 2022 youth scholarships.

Zacharias has done volunteer work that includes a lot of leadership roles involving music within his church and community. He also gained some valuable experience providing home care services for an elder within the community.

"I'm so thrilled to receive this scholarship. It is helping me to get my first year of university paid for," said Zacharias, who is planning to pursue post-secondary studies in music and education. "I feel motivated to volunteer because it helps to grow my character and maturity, all the while helping others thrive through serving the community."

Audrey Armstrong, a scholarships committee member with the United Way, noted there were a number of good candidates for them to consider this year.

"We had quite a few strong applicants and some with more experience in volunteerism and social activism than others," she said. "We certainly encourage more students to apply because we know there's lots of kids in the communities who are out there in the community volunteering in many different capacities."

"It's a lot of different types of contributions too, and that's one of the nice things about the scholarships," she added. "We really like to see a broad swath of different experiences within school and in the community."

"We have some students who are showing a lot of leadership qualities and a lot of willingness to be involved and to give to their community. That's the kind of thing we certainly want to encourage."

In addition to the scholarships, United Way Pembina Valley also provides two other bursaries of \$750 to each of the three high schools. Those recipients are selected by the schools.

## City of Morden testing for lead in drinking water

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is doing free testing for lead in drinking water as part of a provincial mandate for all municipalities.

Testing for lead of course is done regularly at the water treatment plant, but this initiative now focuses on testing for the presence of lead in the distribution system, said Tim Reimer, director of operations for the City of Morden.

"It's being done throughout the province," he said. "A big focus is for users who are using the water for consumption ... and of those users, a main objective is to narrow down es-

pecially to places like day cares, care homes and places like that where a higher volume of water is used for consumption."

Lead exposure can have effects on everyone, but children are the most sensitive. Health Canada guidelines state lead concentration in drinking water should not exceed 0.005 mg/L.

Water entering the distribution system from the City of Morden water treatment plant meets the lead limit guidelines, but lead can enter the water from lead-containing materials in the plumbing in homes.

Lead services lines were largely phased out by 1975 and lead-containing fixtures and solder by 1990, but

some newer homes may have plumbing fixtures containing lead.

The city has been inviting any residents interested in having the drinking water in their home tested for lead to contact them by July 8, but it was selecting homes in residential areas that are more likely to have lead-containing materials in their plumbing.

"We have to do 30 different locations ... that number is based on population, so that's how they determine the number of samples we have to do," Reimer explained.

"The other thing that we have to do is we have to determine three zones, so basically it is a low risk zone, a medium risk and a high risk zone. How

we determine that is basically done by the age of the infrastructure in those zones. Of course, the older the infrastructure, the higher the risk."

Testing the drinking water will help the City of Morden assess whether lead is present in residential drinking water and will inform Manitoba Health and the city on the best course of action to take if it exceeds guidelines.

Residents will receive the results of their drinking water test. If the drinking water has elevated lead levels, the City of Morden will provide advice on how to reduce lead in the drinking water.

News or sports tip? E-mail [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca) or call 204-325-6888



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden Farmers' Market kicked off for another season June 23. It runs every Thursday starting at 4 p.m. at its usual location in the heart of downtown Morden (beneath the clocktower). It usually features up to 20 vendors as the summer progresses, with at least a new one or two alongside a committed group that comes every week. You can keep up to date with the market on Facebook.

# Kicking off the season



## WISE Kid-Netic Energy day camps coming to Morden, Altona

STEM camps, TechToks camp running later this month

By Ty Dilello

The WISE Kid-Netic Energy program is returning to our region this summer.

The STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) day camp for kids has sessions scheduled for both Altona and Morden later this month. It's run by the University of Manitoba's Price Faculty of Engineering.

It's a chance for youth age nine to 12 years old to get hands-on with science, says program administrator Caleigh Bell.

"Some activities youth will do throughout the week include working together to complete design challenges such as protecting an egg from a fall, excavating bones like paleontologists, chromatography, trying out tech tools to create their own video game or animations, and determining their reaction time or designing their own mini-golf course," she said.

The Morden camp will run July 18-22 at Morden Collegiate. Altona's camp takes place July 25-29 at the Altona Curling Club.

Camp programming runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Registration is \$215 per child.

For older kids, WISE Kid-Netic Energy is also hosting a TechToks camp

at Morden Collegiate, also July 18-22.

This camp is aimed at 13-15-year-olds and includes eight different themed sessions. Youth can register for all of them or pick the ones that interest them the most.

"TechTok sessions let youth test out different tech tools and try out cod-

ing," explained Bell. "Session topics include building and programming a robot, looking at social media and programming different tech tools, such as Backyard Brains, to use your muscles to control a cyborg's hand.

"All the sessions are introductory level, so no prior background knowl-

edge in coding is needed."

Thanks to funding, the TechTok sessions are all free, though pre-registration is required.

Morning sessions are from 10 a.m. to 12:30 and afternoon sessions are from 1:30-4 p.m.

For more information or to register, head to [www.wisekidneticenergy.ca](http://www.wisekidneticenergy.ca).

## Open House Winkler is on this weekend

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Fifteen participating businesses and organizations around town are flinging their doors wide open to the community this weekend.

The Winkler and District Chamber of Commerce is hosting Open House Winkler Friday, July 8 from 1-4 p.m. and Saturday, July 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

It's a chance to check out locations you've perhaps never had the chance to set foot in before, says chamber executive director Tanya Chateaufeuf.

"It's all about exploring businesses here in Winkler," she says. "The fun part is there is no major commitment for the people visiting the businesses other than showing up and just having an open mind and checking out maybe a business they've never been

**"FOR THE BUSINESSES, IT'S REALLY ABOUT THEM GETTING TO CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY IN A DIFFERENT WAY."**

to before.

"And for the businesses, it's really about them getting to connect with our community in a different way."

The various stops will be offering things like special deals, free samples, product demonstrations, and behind-the-scenes tours.

"We're encouraging them to find unique ways to interact with the people who are coming for the open house," says Chateaufeuf, noting there will also be over \$500 in gift card prizes up for grabs.

The list of stops includes VB Entertainment/King Pinz, Supplement King, Bloom Floral, Quality Inn, Winkler Library, Earth Buds Florist, Co-op Fashions, Clay Owl, Mary Brown's Chicken, the City of Winkler water treatment plant, Sunny Day Products, Gamers Disco, Flavor of Mexico, Charley B's, and the Pembina Threshermen's Museum.

A detailed breakdown of what these stops are each offering is available on the Winkler chamber's various social media pages and website.

Check out the Voice online at [www.winklermordenvoice.ca](http://www.winklermordenvoice.ca) or [altonavoice.ca](http://altonavoice.ca)

# sports & recreation

## Bisons win two, Orioles stumble

By Ty Dilello

The Altona Bisons had another solid week of baseball, winning two of their three games.

Last Wednesday, the Bisons began their week by knocking off Winnipeg South 10-7.

"It was one of those games where you can sense the guys were a bit flat," said manager Curt Letkeman. "We were short on guys, and with the game time being pushed back to 8:00 pm, and having just come off a big sweep of Pembina Valley, we were a bit sluggish."

Winnipeg made a few errors which helped keep Altona in the game; through six innings they left 11 runners on base and struck out seven times with runners in scoring position.

"It seemed like it would be game over in the seventh as we trailed 7-4, and our first two guys made outs," said Letkeman. "Our next hitter hit a routine grounder to third but hustled down the line, and their guy threw it away. Four hits and a walk later, and it's tied."

"WE GOT OUT OF THERE WITH A WIN WE LIKELY DIDN'T DESERVE."



Kris Beatty of the St. James A's slides safely into second base for a double ahead of the throw to Pembina Valley's Julien Bruhn.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

"James Penner then has a huge double down the line to score three, and we take a 10-7. Isaiah Letkeman pitched and shut them down in the seventh, and we got out of there with a win we likely didn't deserve."

Altona then met up with the Carillon Sultans for a doubleheader Sunday afternoon.

The first game was a classic pitcher's duel between Connor Cory and Linden Meilleur that ended 1-0 for Carillon. Altona made a throwing error in the bottom of the sixth, which allowed the only run to score as both

pitchers threw complete games, and there were only five hits combined all game.

Altona was able to defeat Carillon 6-3 in the second game to end their week on a high note.

"Game two was tight as well, and we capitalized on their pitchers' control problems and broke it open in the top of the seventh with three runs," said Letkeman. "Maddux Mateychuk also pitched a great game going six innings, striking out ten while only giving up four hits. Trent Peters came in to get the last three outs."

The Bisons continue to stay in third place in the MJBL standings with a record of 12-7.

The Pembina Valley Orioles were also in action over the weekend but were unfortunately on the losing side of a doubleheader with the St. James A's. The final scores were 12-2 and 11-5.

"The first game, we gave up a lot of walks which resulted in quite a few runs for St. James," said manager Jim Odlum. "They're one heck of a ball

Continued on page 15

## Whips down Mud Hens, split games with Twins

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Whips bolstered their Border Baseball League record with a pair of wins last week, including one against the top-ranked Morden Mud Hens.

That victory came Tuesday, June 28

in Morden, with the Whips taking it 9-6.

Winkler went on to split a doubleheader against the visiting Cartwright Twins. The Twins took game one 11-10 and then the Whips bounced back for a 3-2 victory in game two.

Meanwhile, also on June 28, the Al-

tona Bisons played their second-last regular season game in Carman. They fell 3-2 to the Cardinals.

At press time, Morden had a hold on first-place in the East Division with a record of 7-3 followed by Carman (5-4), Winkler (6-5), and Altona 6-6.

This week, the Whips travel to Alto-

na to play the Bisons on Tuesday while the Mud Hens are in Cartwright. On Friday, Morden hosts Baldur and Winkler plays in Pilot Mound.

For next week's final week of regular season games, Morden plays in Carman Sunday and then hosts Pilot Mound Tuesday, July 12.

# Storm, 'Canes struggling

By Voice staff

The Pembina Valley's senior soccer teams are having a challenging summer.

The Winkler Storm, playing in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Premier Division, fell to the NKMB Saints 1-0 in Winnipeg last Wednesday night.

The Storm are at 1-3-1 and in second-last place in their division.

Meanwhile, the South Central Hur-

ricanes, playing in the Winnipeg Womens Soccer League, are currently 1-5-2 for the summer thus far, putting them in last place in the league's Second Division.

This week, the 'Canes are scheduled to play at Hornets SC Tuesday while the Storm play at the last-place Luso Canadian CCS Wednesday.

On Sunday, Winkler hosts the Saints for a rematch. Game time is 6 p.m. at the 15th St. soccer field.

## > MJBL, FROM PG. 14

team, and you can't give them any freebies.

"We had runners in scoring position a number of times but didn't get the key hits. In the second game, we didn't give up the walks but just didn't get the clutch hits," he noted. "We have some injuries, so when those guys come back, that'll help. Our boys need to elevate their game to a higher level, and we should see better results."

The Orioles drop to seventh out of eight teams in the MJBL standings

with a 7-12 record.

The Orioles have a jam-packed week to close out the season. They're on the road to play in Altona Wednesday at 7 p.m. and then in St. Boniface Friday night. On Sunday they have a double-header at Winnipeg South.

Altona also has several games this week, following up the game against the Orioles with doubleheaders on Friday and Sunday against St. James and at home against St. Boniface (game one starts at 1 p.m.), respectively.



Cricket pitch poured

FACEBOOK.COM/WINKLERCRIKET

Headway has been made on Winkler's long-awaited first cricket field. Workers were on hand early last week to pour the concrete for the pitch near Northlands Parkway Collegiate. Generous community support coupled with a donation of artificial turf from the Manitoba Cricket Association (a few members of which, above, were in town for the pouring) has helped make the pitch a reality. The Winkler Cricket Club plans to host a community cricket event there later this summer to celebrate.



# Berry Pickin' Time Get your baskets ready! It's Berry Season!

## Berry Picking in Manitoba

On the Prairies, most strawberries are harvested on a U-Pick basis. This method eliminates the need for harvesting, picking staff, containers, handling and grading facilities, and storing or shipping equipment.

A U-Pick operation requires high quality berries and fields that are neat, high yielding and free from weeds, diseases, and insects.

### Time to Pick

Yields are highest when ripe berries are harvested, so pickers should be encouraged to select fully ripened fruit. Ripe berries weigh more and are

larger. In fact, there is a 76% increase in berry size from the white to the fully red stage.

Customers should pick only when there are adequate numbers of ripe berries on the plants. Weather conditions determine the rate of fruit development and thus the number of times a field should be picked each week. In hot weather, fruit ripens faster and picking every two days may be required. When cool weather delays ripening, picking every three

days will be sufficient.

### Postharvest Handling and Storage of Berries

Berries are very perishable and maintaining fresh quality after harvest depends on proper handling, transportation, and storage. Optimum storage

conditions for strawberries (7-10 days), blueberries (2-4 weeks), raspberries and blackberries (2-5 days) are 0°C and 90-95% relative humidity. Cranberries (2-4 months) are chilling sensitive and therefore, should be stored at 3°C. In general,



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# take a break

> GAMES

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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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!

### CLUES ACROSS

- Ancient Greek sophist
- Genus of insects
- Culinary herb
- Neutralizing antibody
- Plan
- Pa's partner
- A city in S Louisiana
- TNT sportscaster
- Atomic #25 (abbr.)
- Well-known bug
- Body parts
- Monetary unit of Albania
- Kids' play things
- Coastal city in Malaysia
- Famed French physician
- Flourishing
- Excessively overweight
- Pampered
- Emerged
- Order of tailless amphibians
- Indian term of respect
- Shift sails (Brit.)
- Beloved Mexican dish
- Scottish tax
- Health insurance
- Monetary unit of Samoa
- Move about
- Execute or perform
- Taste property
- Unit of dry measure
- Blood group
- Something you can up
- In great need
- Breezes through
- Spoke
- Become acquainted with

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		
60						61	62						63	
						64							65	

### CLUES DOWN

- A particular part
- Spanish neighborhood
- Business
- Reddish browns
- Extinct Hawaiian bird
- Disney town
- Part of the Bible (abbr.)
- Atomic #22 (abbr.)
- The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
- In a moment
- Monetary unit of Vietnam
- Submerge in a liquid
- Yellowish cotton cloth
- , denotes past
- Hoopster Morant
- Not
- Indian title of respect
- Horsley and Marvin are two
- One thousandth of a liter (abbr.)
- Hoover's organization
- Round globular seed
- University official
- Spherical body
- Iraq's capital
- To any further extent
- Swollen lymph node
- Anger
- Technological marvel
- Peruvian district
- Salt of acetic acid
- What Santa says
- Israeli city \_\_\_ Aviv
- Late Heisman winner
- Reveal the presence of
- Long upholstered seat
- Most wily
- Sword
- Respiratory disease
- The Ocean State
- Fleshy watery fruit
- Lying down
- Superheavy metal
- The ancient Egyptian sun god
- Indicates position

### PUBLIC NOTICE

## 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:

**CITY OF MORDEN BY-LAW 09-2022**  
Being an AMENDMENT to the CITY OF MORDEN ZONING BY-LAW 08-2017

**HEARING LOCATION:** Morden Civic Centre  
195 Stephen St., Morden, MB

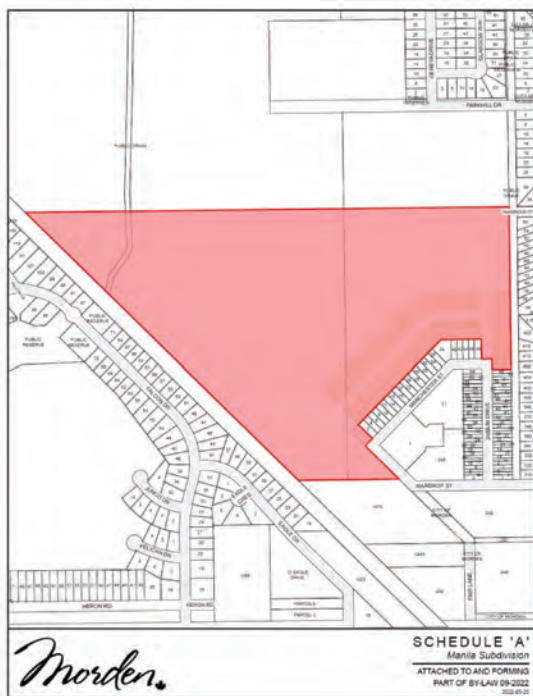
**DATE & TIME:** Monday, 25 July 2022 at 7:00 pm

**From To:** "CR" Community Reserve RT" Residential Two-Family and "RM-M" Residential Multi-Family-Medium

**AREA:** Part SE 7-3-5W  
Morden, MB

As shown outlined in red lines on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A", and forming part of this by-law.

**FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Santokh Randhawa, M. Eng., P. Eng.  
133 7th Street, Morden, MB. R6M 1V3  
Phone: (204) 822-2567



*Morden.*

SCHEDULE 'A'  
Morden Subdivision  
ATTACHED TO AND FORMING PART OF BY-LAW 09-2022

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

Sudoku Answer

T	E	M		D	E	T	A	O						
S	O	V												
E	A	C												
E	N	T												
Y	I	L												
L	V	L												
S	S	S												
N	E	S												
E	B	E												
E	R	E												
K	L	E												
N	M													
V	M													
I	X	O												

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A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.

# get informed

## New fire danger sign goes up at Morden fire hall

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden Fire and Rescue is aiming to keep area residents informed about the current conditions for burning.

A new sign was recently installed in a visible location on the front of the fire hall, and there are plans to have a similar one in place somewhere at Lake Minnewasta as well.

The current rating that sets out what is allowed in the Morden area can be

easily seen driving past the fire hall, but they also aim to have regular updates posted on Facebook, noted fire Chief Andy Thiessen.

"It gives them a good indication of where things are at," said Thiessen, who noted the current status can be changed mid-afternoon when get they are updated with current conditions based on readings taken at the local research station.

"People driving by can take a quick glance and if they basically see anything less than a three, they can have a fire pit no problem. If it's a four, then there's no burning at all," the chief explained.

"Zero is pretty wet ... one or two is pretty normal and most things are fine," Thiessen continued. "And then three is where restrictions start



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Fire Chief Andy Thiessen in front of the new fire danger sign up at the fire hall. The city also plans to put one up for campers at Lake Minnewasta to consult.

to come into place. Fire pits are allowed, but open burning is not. For recreational fire pits, as long as they are set up properly, it should not be a problem.

"In level four, there's no burning at all ... we were in level four a lot last year," he noted. "When there's dry conditions and high winds, that's when things can get a little crazy."

"IT GIVES THEM A GOOD INDICATION OF WHERE THINGS ARE AT."

## 4-H Manitoba hands out \$42K in scholarships

By Voice staff

Four current and former 4-H Manitoba members are getting a helping financial hand with their post-secondary education.

4-H Manitoba last month announced the winners of its 2022 Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarships.

The \$1 million scholarship endowment fund was created by the Manitoba government with the Brandon Area Community Foundation. The fund generated \$42,500 for this year's scholarships.

"The calibre of scholarship applicants was exceptional," said 4-H Manitoba president Philip Fenez. "Our program is proud to support our members, enabling them to take future leadership roles in agriculture, environmental sustainability and

their community as a whole."

4-H Manitoba's goal is to build leadership in youth and adults and enhance the development of life and leadership skills as youth "Learn To Do By Doing."

"More than 100 years ago, Canada's 4-H movement began here in Manitoba, paving the way for a long and successful history of opportunities for Manitoba's youth to develop leadership and communication skills while learning about agriculture and environmental sustainability," said Agriculture Minister Derek Johnson. "On behalf of the Manitoba government, I congratulate all of the 2022 scholarship recipients and extend my heartfelt wishes as they head toward a bright future in our province."

This year's Leaders of Tomorrow scholarship winners include:

- Kaitlyn Crowe, University of Manitoba, \$12,500 presented in honour of Sandra Duchak, Gainsborough Combined 4-H Club
- Christyna Caldwell, Brandon University, \$10,000 presented in honour of Norma Wood, Morden Achievers

4-H Club.

- Emily Robb, University of Manitoba, \$10,000 in honour of the late Pat Baker, Newdale 4-H Club.

- Caleb Fenez, University of Winnipeg, \$10,000 in honour of Eleanor Penner, Steinbach Sizzlers 4-H Club.

"THE CALIBRE OF APPLICANTS WAS EXCEPTIONAL."

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# Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2022



Clockwise from right: NPC graduates file into the school gym; A GVC grad gives principal Carrie Friesen a hug; MCI principal Janice Bonner on tassel-turning duty; NMC's Class of 2022 head to their outdoor ceremony.

## Congratulations GRADUATES Class of 2022



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info@cameronfriesen.ca



**Josh Guenter**  
MLA for Borderland  
info@joshguenter.ca  
204.324.8957





# Garden Valley Collegiate

## *Congratulations* to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

# “This is only the beginning”

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Garden Valley Collegiate’s Class of 2022 worked hard to navigate the challenges of high school, and, at a ceremony at the Winkler Mennonite Church on June 23, they reaped the rewards.

“Anonymous once said, ‘Everything you do, everything you say, every choice you make sooner or later comes back around,’” noted valedictorian Dmitrij Polishuk. “Class of 2022, we have lived through lots in our high school tenure, including sports, COVID, and math classes.

“We sacrificed our time, our sleep, our money at The Zone, and put in lots of effort to successfully and memorably live through our years at Garden Valley Collegiate. And we did it. Those sacrifices definitely paid off.”

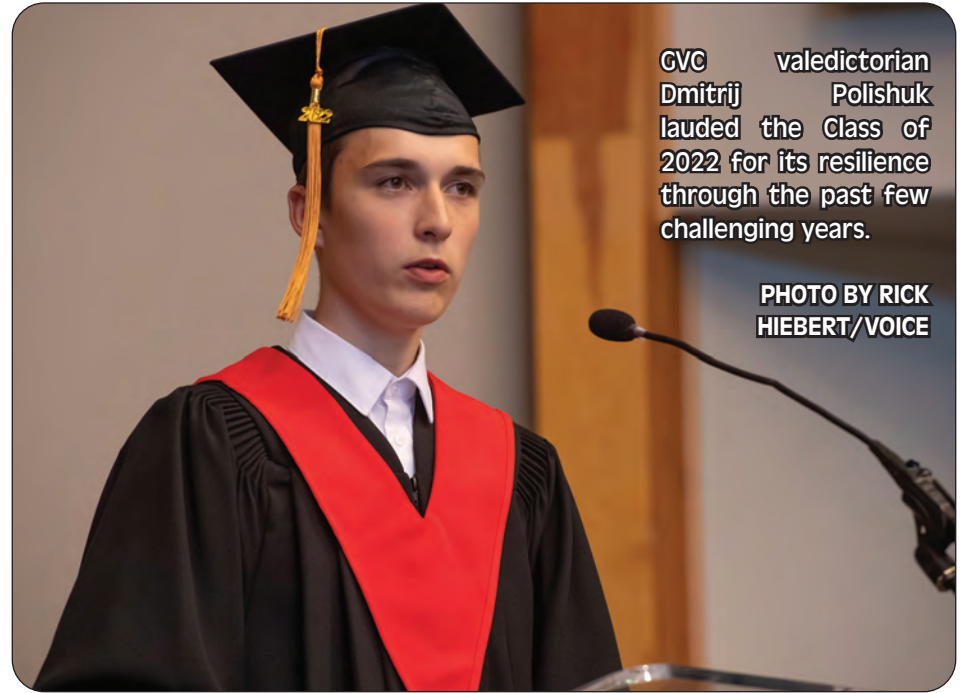
Their time at GVC was filled with memories, and before diving into a few of them Polishuk took time to thank those who helped make those memories possible.

“I would like to thank our parents for your patience and love that never seems to cease. You’ve constantly motivated us, pushing us to do better, to be better,” he said, noting the parents have “helped raise up a group of great young people capable of making a difference.”

He also thanked GVC’s teachers and support staff for their commitment.

“Your years of work put into teaching us, creating our assignments, helping us adapt to change, reminding us to be social by turning our cameras on during periods of isolation, creating a positive environment, and having meaningful discussions on morality and ethics have been helpful as we prepare for our lives ahead of us.

“We’ve learned lots, not only academically but also personally. You’ve helped us develop passions in academics and potential career fields, grow as humans, and progress in practical understanding ... your work has helped shape our futures, and we



GVC valedictorian Dmitrij Polishuk lauded the Class of 2022 for its resilience through the past few challenging years.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

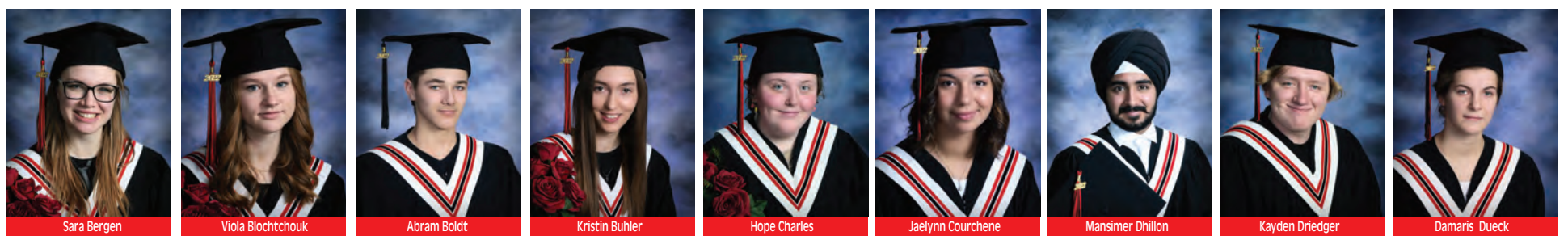
thank you.”

Polishuk went on to reflect on the past four years, noting much of their time at GVC was shaped by the global pandemic.

“A supposed two-week break off school to prevent the spread of COVID-19 turned into no school attendance for the remainder of the year.

For some, this may have been a dream come true ... for others, this may have been a burden. All the extracurricular events we longed to be part of were cancelled and we no longer had the opportunity to come to school to learn and make memories.”

Continued on page 3



Sara Bergen

Viola Blochtchouk

Abram Boldt

Kristin Buhler

Hope Charles

Jaelynn Courchene

Mansimer Dhillon

Kayden Driedger

Damaris Dueck

• CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 • CLASS OF 2022 •

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CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

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Today's graduates are tomorrow's leaders, and we're filled with hope and pride as the Class of 2022 celebrates this milestone achievement and takes the next step.

May you always remember the importance of hard work, integrity and kindness in your future roles and endeavors. Congratulations, best wishes and thanks for giving us so much to celebrate!

CITY OF **winkler**  
DREAM. BUILD. LIVE.



# Garden Valley Collegiate

## Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2022

From Pg. 2

But the resilient class rose above the changes the pandemic brought to make it through to their senior year, where things returned to something more like normal.

"Our grade's resilience has been displayed immensely as we survived the sudden changes due to the virus and we adapted to the old normal," Polishuk said. "It is evident that the Class of 2022 is a strong group. We've faced challenges, roadblocks, high levels of screen time, and growth spurts, but we're here."

He urged his classmates to consider that we all reap what we sow.

"As we progress in our lives we must remember this fact: everything we do shapes us and every moment spent in good will be rewarded," he said. "It is essential that we continue in the good we do and strive to improve to the point where the true good is seen in us."

"We made it," Polishuk said in closing. "But this is only the beginning."

During her address as guest speaker, GVC business teacher Susana Hawryshko shared how her plans for her life changed a great deal from the time she was in high school.

She originally wanted to be a police officer, then a nurse, and then finally fell in love with her business classes in college.

"The point here is that my plans changed and yours could to. Embrace those changes," she said.

Hawryshko encouraged the grads as well to embrace the lessons that can come with failure, especially at this early stage in their lives.

"It is only when you fail that you can learn from your mistakes," she said. "Now is the time to explore new things, make new friends, and willingly learn as much as you can from everyone and everything around you."



Guest speaker Susana Hawryshko urged the grads to find their passion.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Continued on page 16



Lena Dueck

Nancy Dueck

Darryl Dyck

Dimitrius Dyck

Kaden Dyck

Tyler Dyck

Lea Ediger

Alia Elias

Saxon Enns

Jamez Engbrecht

Andrew Fehr

Morgan Fehr

Rachel Fehr

Topanga Fehr

Pete Fehr Kauenhofen

Laureen Felski

Claire Friesen

Senitta Friesen

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# Garden Valley Collegiate

*Congratulations*  
to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

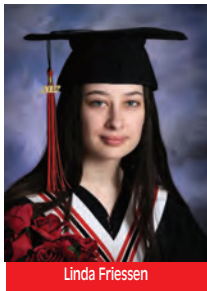
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Theo Friesen



Timothy Friesen



Linda Friessen



Ellis Froese



Kyle Froese



Nathaniel Froese



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Rebecca Giesbrecht



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Ruth Green



Susana Guenther



Keira Hamilton



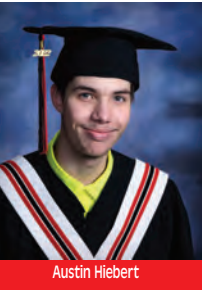
Nolan Hamm



Joshua Harder



Kaylee Heide



Austin Hiebert



Felina Hiebert



Haley Hildebrand



Jeremiah Janzen



Jacob Jeswiet



Aiden Keast



Christina Klassen



Jennifer Klassen



Owen Klassen



Savannah Klassen



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Kendra Loewen



Marilyn Loewen

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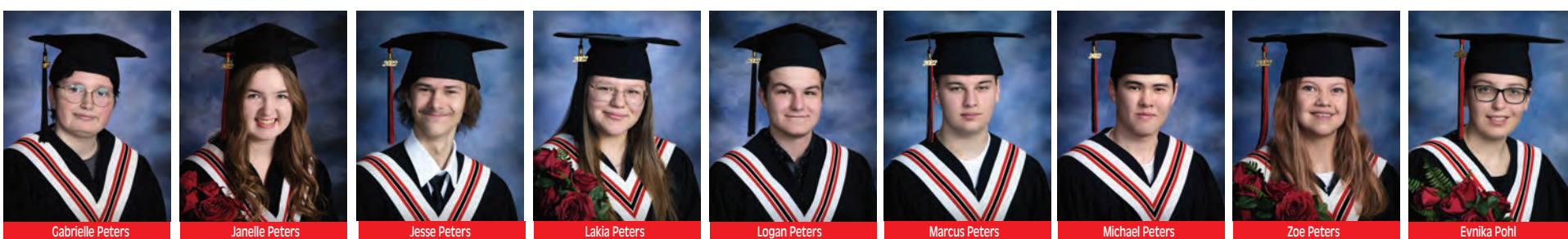
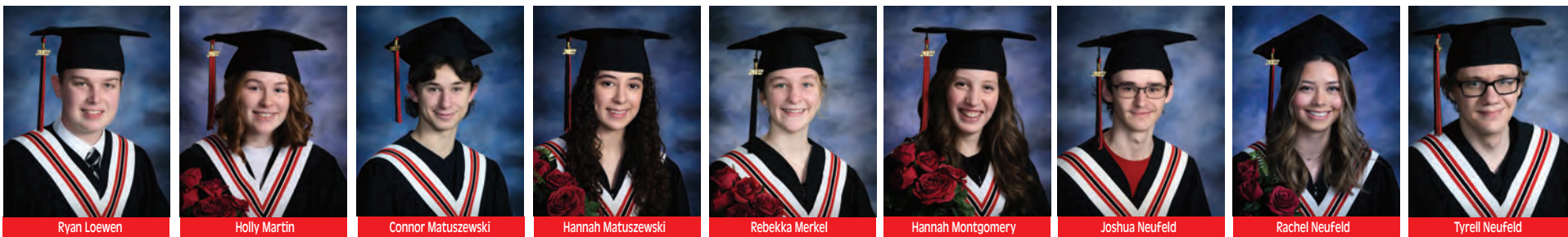
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# Garden Valley Collegiate

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# Garden Valley Collegiate

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Laurena Pohl



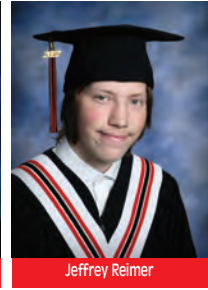
Dmitrij Polishuk



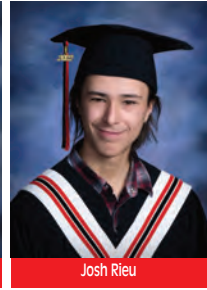
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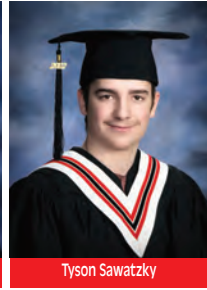
Clayton Reimer



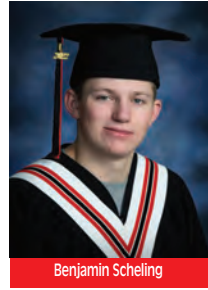
Jeffrey Reimer



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Faith Schellenberg



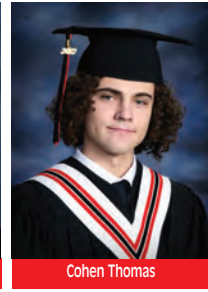
Willy Schroeder



Emma Sorich



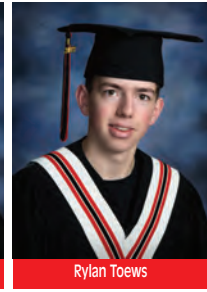
Madeline Sundquist



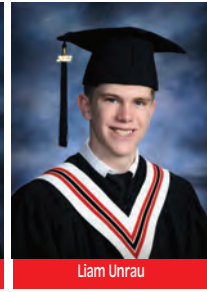
Cohen Thomas



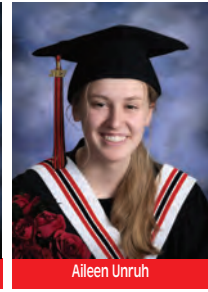
Grace Toews



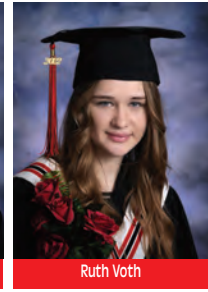
Rylan Toews



Liam Unrau



Aileen Unruh



Ruth Voth



Carter Wall



Joshua Wall



Marissa Wall



Spencer Wall



Evan Warkentin



Cole Warkentine



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Shawn Wiebe



Rebecca Wiens



Luke Wilson



Mikayla Wolf



Joanne Zilke



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- Joshua Dunham
- Reid Dyck
- Saxon Enns
- Koi Epp
- Gwendelyn Freeheart
- Artem Golovchenko
- Thomas Heinrichs Siemens
- Tyson Hildebrand
- Melanie Isaak
- Emily Klassen
- Lea-Sophie Kraemer
- Carrie Lambert
- Lena Neustaeter
- Luke Nickel
- Alvin Penner
- Ryan Penner
- Andrew Redekop
- Lena Rempel
- Johannes Schlegel
- Bettina Schroeder
- Julian Stuermer
- Aleksis Temmerman

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Any way you slice it, we couldn't be more proud of this year's graduating class!

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# Northlands Parkway Collegiate

*Congratulations*  
to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

## “We are a class that has triumphed over challenges”

By Lorne Stelmach

The Class of 2022 of Northlands Parkway Collegiate in Winkler were celebrated June 24 as a talented and diverse group of graduates.

Among the 144 grads were 34 honour roll students and another 26 who earned honours with distinction. The class also shone on the sports field, speakers noted.

The class overcame a lot to achieve those successes.

“We have a group of individuals here who have accomplished so much in their high school years,” said principal Jeff Osinski. “To say that your high school years have been a journey would be an understatement ... you have had a very unique high school experience.

Continued on page 8



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

NPC celebrated the graduation of 144 students on June 24.



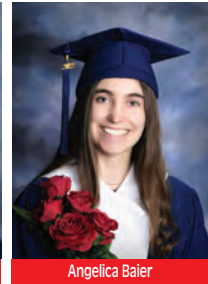
Tolu Adeniji



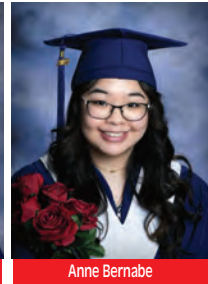
Anghela Ancheta



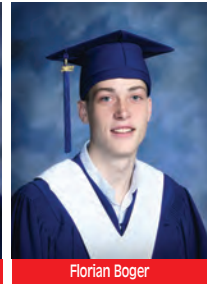
Lea August



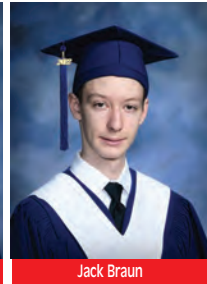
Angelica Baier



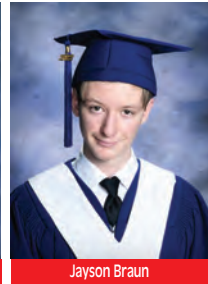
Anne Bernabe



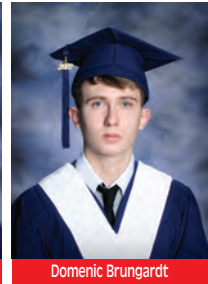
Florian Boger



Jack Braun



Jayson Braun



Domenic Brungardt

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# Northlands Parkway Collegiate

*Congratulations*  
to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

From Pg. 7

"It's easy to look at the circumstances you were presented with in a negative way. You had remote learning; every second day in-person learning, possibly without your friend group. No athletics, no spectators, having to wear some face coverings, band class without playing any instruments," he observed.

"I choose to look at things a little differently and I try to find the positive. I look for the silver lining in every situation; I look at the glass as half full ... I look to try to make the best of every situation thrown my way," said Osinski. "I encourage you, the graduates, to look for the positives in life ... You have shown perseverance and resilience, and you are ready for your next journey."

Other speakers made similar observations along with offering some advice for the grads.

"The last number of years of your school career have been unusual to say the least ... throughout your 12 years of school, you have persevered," said interim GVSD superintendent Janice Krahn. "Remember a few things ... learning and the acquisition of knowledge never actually stops."

"May you be filled with hope, courage, confidence as you continue to make a difference in our world," said GVSD board chair Laurie Dyck, who also quoted Michelle Obama as saying "our greatness comes when we appreciate each other's strengths, when we learn from each other, when we lean on each other."

History teacher Garrett Speers, who was serving as graduation guest speaker for a fourth time, began by noting how great it felt to have everyone back together in the building to celebrate this occasion.



NPC teacher and guest speaker Garrett Speers encouraged the grads to face life's challenges head on.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Continued on page 9



Abigail Bueckert

Levi Bueckert

Mackenzie Chateaufneuf

Isaac Clarke

Leon Dekker

Maxim Dell

Matthias Derksen

Armaan Dhillon

Simran Dhillon

Reagan Doell

Owen Dueck

Jaskirat Dullat

Anna Dyck

Chloe Dyck

Melanie Dyck

Olivia Ehnes

Thomas Enns

Kiana Ens

Lauren Ens

Edan Epp

Kamden Fehr

Linda Fehr

Olivia Fehr

Lynn Franz

Christopher Friesen

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# Morden Collegiate

*Congratulations*  
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## “Don’t give up until the ref blows the whistle”

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Morden Collegiate Institute’s Class of 2022—121 students strong—gathered at the Access Event Centre June 27 to mark the end of one chapter and the start of another.

Valedictorian Keenan Yaschyshyn likened the group’s time in high school to a sporting competition.

And, just as in sports, he encouraged his teammates to never give up until the final whistle.

“Growing up, I played a lot of sports. I remember one of the coaches from minor hockey telling us, ‘Don’t give up until the ref blows the whistle because you don’t know what could happen.’”

It’s the same in life, he noted, “a lot of things can change throughout the game.”

Gr. 9 was like the first period for the students, where they found themselves in unfamiliar surroundings and had to

learn to adapt quickly.

“I’d say after that first semester we were losing 2-0,” Yaschyshyn said. “But second semester started and our game got better. We got over our first exams and got the hang of high school ... by the end of Gr. 9 we ended up tying the game 2-2.”

Period two, Gr. 10, proved to be more challenging than anyone could have imagined.

“Our game went sideways after we took a huge hit that knocked us down hard,” Yaschyshyn said of the pandemic, which saw the students move to remote learning. “It was really unfortunate because we’d just figured out the groove of everything.”

The score after that difficult year, he reflected, “was 7-2, because it was pretty rough.”



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

In making it to graduation, valedictorian Keenan Yaschyshyn said the Class of 2022 has won one of the hardest games of their lives.

Continued on page 12



Aidan Agnew



Kier Bautista



Grace Bell



September Bisschop



Faith Blatz



Sam Blatz



Amber Bourns



Leah Braun



Lila Buhr

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As you embark on this new chapter of your life, remember there are no limits to what you can accomplish. With passion and drive, success is limitless.

Best wishes and God bless all of this year's graduates!

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M.P. for Portage-Lisgar

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# Morden Collegiate

*Congratulations*  
to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

From Pg. 11

Things got a bit more on track in period three, Gr. 11, though it was still a challenge, with the class split in two and virtual classes still being a requirement for at least part of the time.

"But we persevered. We figured out our opponent's weaknesses, fig-

ured out how to be successful at on-line learning, and against all odds we shocked our opponent, came back and tied the game up 7-7."

That left Gr. 12. Overtime. It was a welcome return to normal.

"We were unstoppable on all fronts," Yaschyshyn said, noting the class' accomplishments in sports, band, choir, and drama. "We were able to reunite as one and play like a team once again."

Taking out a whistle, Yaschyshyn blew a short blast to signify the game was now finally complete.

"We finished our game with a score of 8-7. We did it. We won probably one of the hardest games of our lives. We played, gambled, worked extremely hard, stayed committed, and came out victorious.

"Today we are all winners, because we never quit, despite the challenges we encountered," Yaschyshyn said, wrapping up by thanking his classmates for an "unforgettable 13 years. You all made it incredible."

"There is no other group I would want to play this game with."

Whatever challenges life may throw at them in the years ahead, he encouraged the Class of 2022 to continue to fight hard and play hard, just like they learned to do in high school.

"Don't give up until the ref blows the whistle."

Guest speaker and local entrepreneur Earl Gardiner urged the grads to fill their life toolbox with a variety of attributes.

"Consider what you've learned in high school as the beginning of an accumulation of tools that will start you on a trek for a new phase of life," he said. "The attributes of resilience and openness to change that you've developed over the past few years may well be the most impactful tools collected thus far."

He encouraged them to add things like curiosity and humility to their toolbox, along with a strong network of personal relationships built on trust, integrity, honesty, and reliability.

Continued on page 16



Rebecca Seo receives the Governor General's Bronze Medal.



Guest speaker Earl Gardiner.



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Kale Curry

Nathan Dalebozik

Hayley Devloo

Benji Dueck

Eva Dyck Peters

Jonathan Dyck

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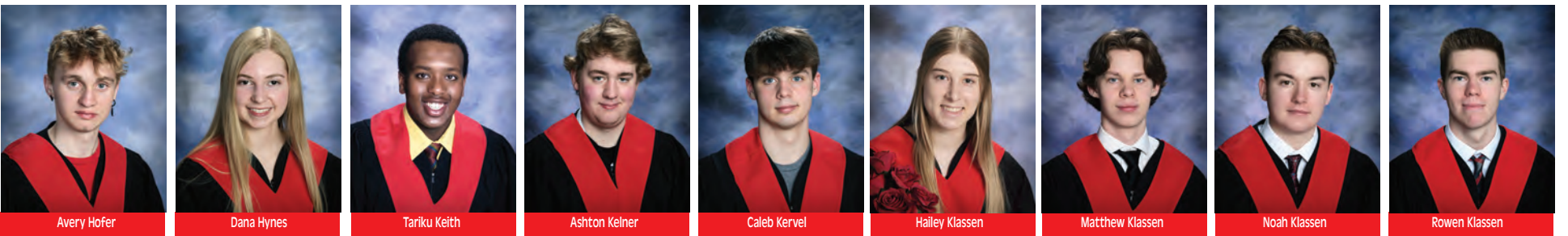
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# Morden Collegiate

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**Congratulations to the World's Best Graduates!**

You've faced no shortage of challenges leading up to this day, and we admire your hard work and perseverance. We know you'll contribute great things to the world around you, and we wish you continued success and great happiness!

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Avery Lumgair



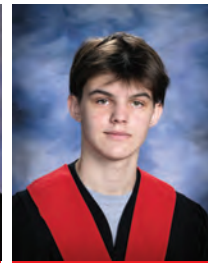
Luke Magarrell



Zac Magarrell



Cambree Martens



Zakhar Martynov



Chloe Meilun



Vanessa Metzler



Grady Mitchell



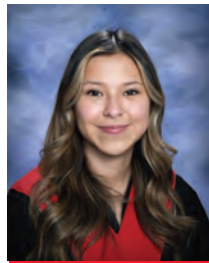
Justin Morgan



Dom Neudorf



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Toni Pashe



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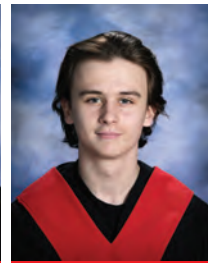
Nathaniel Penner



Rylee Penner



Sage Penner



Colton Rach



Kenneth Ramones



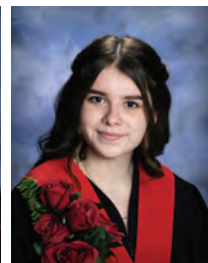
Amber Reimer



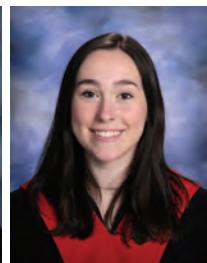
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Olivia Sawatzky



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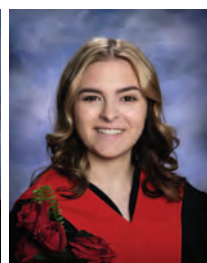
Finn Soltis



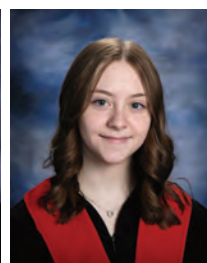
Mei Stoesz-Gouthro



Julius Suderman



Paige Sugden



Danika Thiessen



Stephanie Toledo



Joy Trongoso

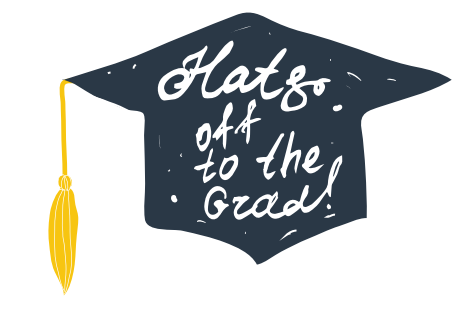
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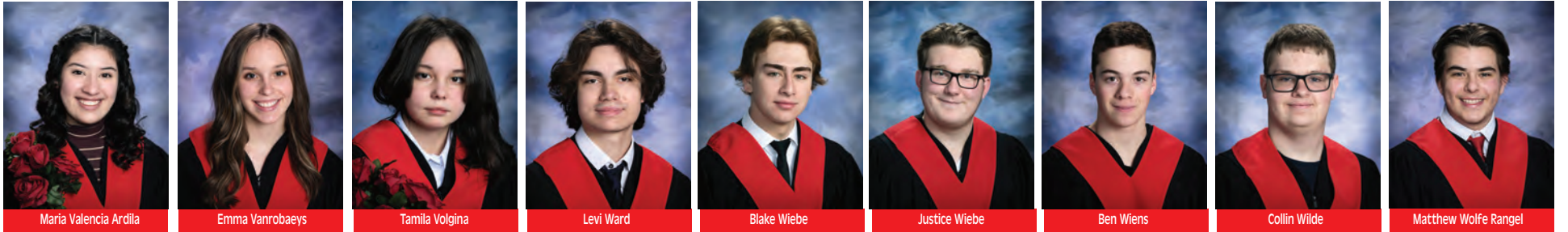
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# Morden Collegiate

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Levi Ward

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Justice Wiebe

Ben Wiens

Collin Wilde

Matthew Wolfe Rangel



Emma Wood

Hailey Wood

Keston Worley

Keenan Yaschyshyn

Gabriel Zahn

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Owen Berg  
Nick Charriere  
Lucas Friesen  
Ryan Friesen  
Tyson Friesen

Logan Giesbrecht  
Denise Hetke  
Sven Krecker  
Aleks Masyutenko  
Sanjay Naha Espejo  
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# Nellie McClung Collegiate

*Congratulations*  
to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

## “It’s hard to say goodbye”

By Lorne Stelmach

Manitou’s Nellie McClung Collegiate celebrated the 19 graduates of 2022 at a windy outdoor ceremony June 25.

All of the speakers applauded the students for overcoming the adversity presented by the pandemic through much of their high school years.

“Your class has had such a different senior high experience, but I know that’s not what you want your legacy to be,” said principal Pat Nakonechy.

“If anything, I want you to be proud of yourselves for getting through it but then leave it,” he said as part of a message where he emphasized the good that can be found through facing change, gaining personal growth, and embracing the unknown. “Today is the start of your life after high school ... and there are good things ahead for all of us.”

Guest speaker Terrianne Lea reflected on some thoughts and advice in connection to well-being.

“It’s important to look after yourself mentally, physically, emotionally, and

spiritually,” she said in encouraging the graduates to gain control of their lives and live a healthy lifestyle.

“As all the mechanics out here know, if you want a high performance engine, you have to give it the best attention.”

Her advice went on to touch on things like connecting with nature, practicing gratitude, employing critical thinking and searching for what’s true, standing up for what you believe in and showing compassion.

Class valedictorians Libbey Cobb and Sarah Sharpe jointly reflected on their classmates.

“Throughout the years it felt like this day would never arrive, but now that we are finally here, it’s hard to say goodbye to our classmates.

“We have a lot of different personalities in our class, from the quiet bookworms or fanatic gamers to self-proclaimed dirt crew members ... and because of this, we’ve had a lot of laughs and caused our teachers quite the strife as we passed through high school.

“Even though we’ve had trials and



NMC held an outdoor graduation service June 25 that featured addresses from guest speaker Terrianne Lea (above) and co-valedictorians Libbey Cobb and Sarah Sharpe (above, right).



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

tribulations through school, it truly has been a joy to grow up with all of you, and we are going to miss you guys as we head our separate ways.”

Dolores Larson, representing Prairie Spirit School Division, noted how

graduating will open further doors for them now.

“Life is a journey, and all the accomplishments you achieve during its course should be taken as starting points in further achievements.”



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### > MORDEN COLLEGIATE, FROM PG. 12

“Kindness and empathy are extremely useful tools that I feel need a special place in a person’s toolbox,” Gardiner added. “Please, never underestimate the importance of these two tools in getting important things done.”

He went on to lament the divisiveness Canada has seen in recent years, and voiced his hope

the Class of 2022 will be the ones to help guide our nation back to one that once again values civil debate and compromise.

“We need some young people like yourself to grow into leaders. People like yourself that have already been able to embrace change ... we need your help to lead us back to a civil society.”

### > GVC, FROM PG. 3

Above all else, find your passion, Hawryshko urged.

“Find something in your life that you absolutely love. Find something that makes you feel satisfied, excited, motivated, and fulfilled. It doesn’t matter what it is that you have a passion for—just have passion for something.

“Go out in the world and make your mark. Go and change the world.”



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



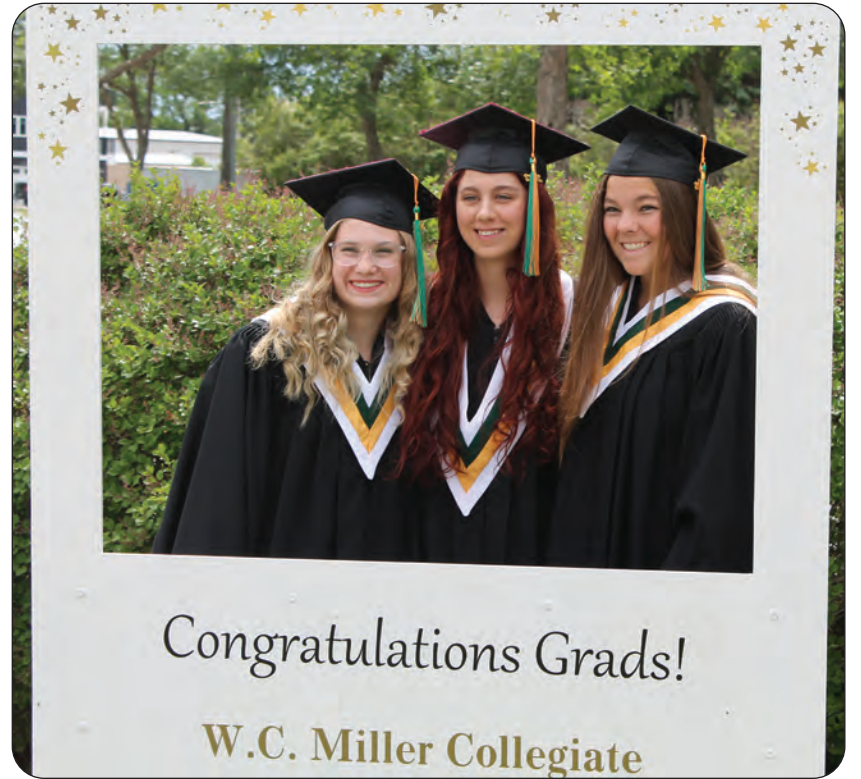
# Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2022



Mennonite Collegiate Institute's 2022 graduates celebrate at the end of their June 26 ceremony.

Right: W.C. Miller Collegiate graduates Autumn Neufeld, Samara Peters, and Erin Hamm take advantage of a fun photo op that was set up outside after the ceremony.

PHOTOS BY  
TY DILELLO/  
VOICE



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Best wishes and God bless all of this year's graduates!

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CLASS OF 2022

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# Mennonite Collegiate Institute *Congratulations* to the *Graduating Classes of 2022*

## “Today is an amazing day”

By Ty Dilello

Mennonite Collegiate Institute held its graduation ceremony for its 2022 class of 22 students at the Altona Bergthaler Church on June 26.

The class come from as local as Rosenfeld and Morden to as far away as Mexico and China.

Valedictorian Halle Hildebrand of Rosenfeld

reflected on the group’s years together.

“Today is an amazing day. A day that we will never forget. And the memories we all have here at MCI will stay with us forever,” she said. “The joy we experienced will never leave our hearts.

Continued on page 19

MCI graduating choral students sing “The Lucky Ones.”



PHOTO BY TY DILELLO/VOICE



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# Mennonite Collegiate Institute *Congratulations* to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

From Pg. 18

“These past couple of years have been very difficult at MCI. We faced a global pandemic that swept through our entire school, and that was really hard for all of us as we had to stay home,” Hildebrand reflected. “It was hard to do school at home, stay on track and keep a strict schedule. But we did it.”

“To the grads, this has been a really long year, and despite it all, we are here. We’ve all grown so much as a whole and as individuals, and without you guys, I wouldn’t be here today. I’m so proud to be a part of this graduating class.”

“Even though our high school experience is coming to an end, it doesn’t mean our lives end. This is a new beginning for each of us, and we’ll go on

to do greater things with the memories of our class.

“You are all amazing people, and I’m so thankful to be here with you all.”

MCI teacher Nolan Thiessen then

addressed the grads, saying, “You’ve taken MCI, a school known for its community, and turned it up to 11. You’ve welcomed new classmates in and treated other grades with dignity and respect. Thank you!”



Valedictorian Halle Hildebrand.

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# W.C. Miller Collegiate

*Congratulations*  
to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

# “Graduation is not our end goal, but a beginning”

By Ty Dilello

W.C. Miller Collegiate held its grad ceremony on the morning of June 29 at the Millennium Exhibition Centre in Altona.

Samantha Bueckert and Rorie Pilkington served

as co-valedictorians for the 2022 grad class as they addressed a packed crowd full of family, friends, and supporters.

“Standing in front of our classmates and families is a bittersweet feeling. Even though we have been

preparing for this day for the past 13 years, there are so many things that we will miss,” said Pilkington.

“Graduation is not our end goal, but a beginning,” added Bueckert. “Over the past 13 years, we have grown into capable young adults from the moment that we leave the comforts of high school and our real lives begin. This is that moment. Some will choose to further their education, and some will enter the workplace. My hope is that we all pursue our passions and do the things that we love.”

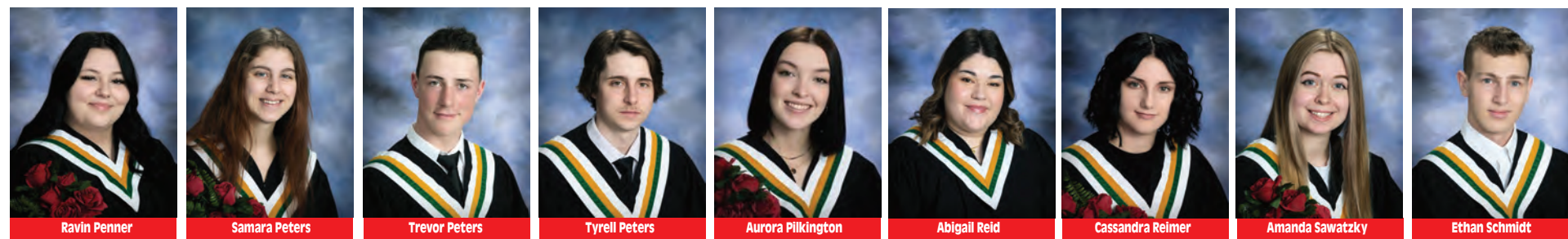
“We worked hard to reach this moment,” said Pilkington. “We have grown into intelligent adults. A small but mighty group that will do incredible things.



Valedictorians **S a m a n t h a Bueckert** and **Rorie Pilkington** address the Class of 2022.

PHOTO BY TY DILELLO/VOICE

Continued on page 23



Ravin Penner

Samara Peters

Trevor Peters

Tyrell Peters

Aurora Pilkington

Abigail Reid

Cassandra Reimer

Amanda Sawatzky

Ethan Schmidt

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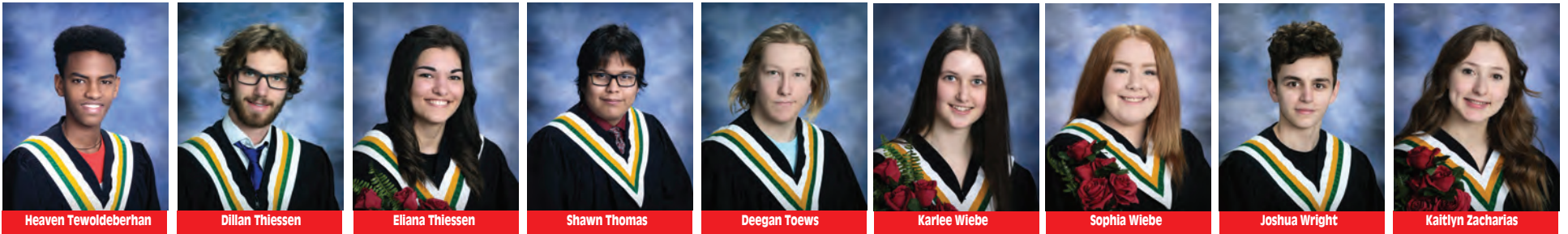


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# W.C. Miller Collegiate

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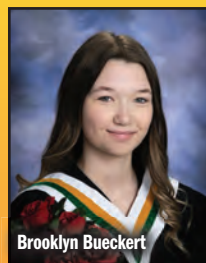
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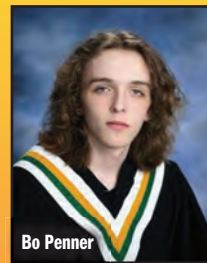


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# Roseau Valley School

*Congratulations*  
to the **Graduating Classes of 2022**

## “We did it”

By Ty Dilello

Roseau Valley School in Dominion City celebrated its nineteen 2022 grads on June 25, with the ceremony taking place in the school gymnasium.

RVS principal Jason Mateychuk spoke to kick things off, saying, “Thank you to all of our graduates this year for showing up every day and striving to be the best person that you can be. We’ve enjoyed seeing you grow over the years and are sad that you are leaving us but happy to see where life will lead you on.”

Albert Klassen provided greetings on behalf of the Border Land School Division, as did Chief Craig Alexander from the Roseau River Anishinabe First Nation.

“I wish students all the success that will come their way with continued guidance and support from their families,” said Alexander.

“The steps you take today will help shape where you go from here,” school resource staffer Kerry Peterson said in his address to the grads. “You’ll all go on your different paths, and we’re all very proud of what you’ve accomplished.”

Co-valedictorians Abbey Chubaty and Darci Wilkinson reflected on their time at RVS.

“We would like to congratulate everyone for being here. We’ve been through a lot together, such as COVID-19, global warming, acne, basically World War 3, Will Smith being banned from the Oscars, and, the worst of them all, high school. But through all that, we are all here graduating together,” said Chubaty.

“This year is also the year we had a new perspective on school: appreciation,” Wilkinson added. “Appreciation for all the coaches,



PHOTO BY TY DILELLO/VOICE

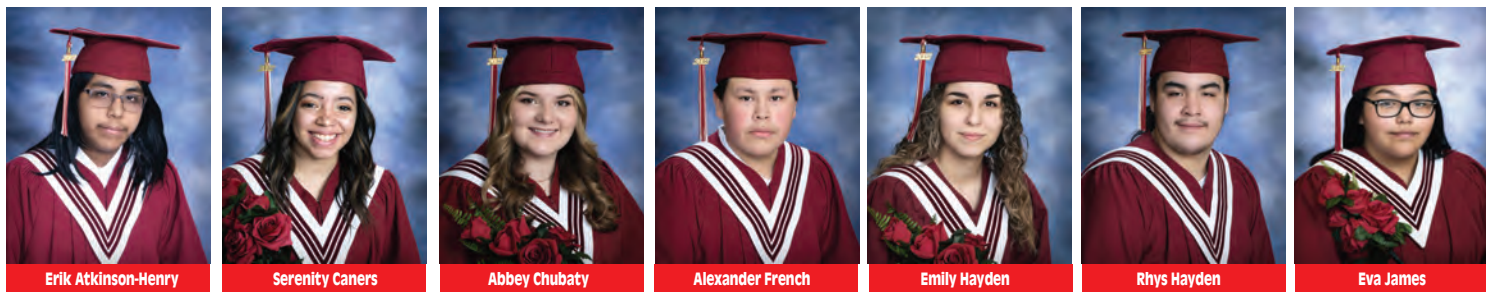
Roseau Valley School's Class of 2022 toss their caps high after their June 25 ceremony.

teachers, parents, and families for putting up with us all this time.

“Today, we will be entering the daunting world, the first day of the rest of our lives. We are armed with all the knowledge learned in high school to prepare us for it,

like dividing polynomials, analyzing literature, and identifying the mitochondria, which is the powerhouse of the cell. You know, things adults do all the time in their daily lives.”

“Class of 2022, we couldn’t have asked for better people to spend our time here with,” said Chubaty. “Thank you for letting us be a part of your story. We may be leaving here different, but we’re leaving here with the same smile you put on our faces 13 years ago. We did it!”



*Roseau Valley School*  
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**2022**  
*Class of*

*As you take your next steps into your future  
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de l'ERSJB, Division Scolaire Franco-Manitobaine, Miller Environmental Corporation Scholarship, Caisse Groupe Financier, Chevaliers de Colomb Saint-Jean-Baptiste, Université du Manitoba Queen Elizabeth II

Entrance Scholarship, Français pour l'avenir: Abigail Sabourin.

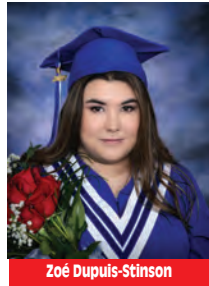
- AGT Foods: Mercedes Sarrasin.
- Morris Bigway, Winkler/Lowe Farm Co-op, Miller Environmental Corporation Scholarship, Lavallée Trucking, Université du Manitoba Guertin Centennial Entrance Scholarship: Logan Wiebe.
- Dylan-Bérard Award: Katelyn Loewen.
- Principal's Award for Leadership: Abigail Sabourin
- Governor General Award: Abigail Sabourin.



Griffin Ayotte



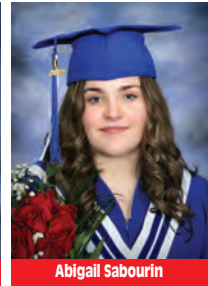
Zoé Barnabé



Zoé Dupuis-Stinson



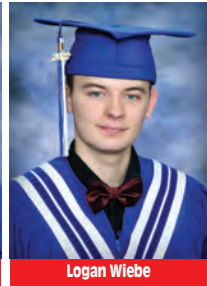
Katelyn Loewen



Abigail Sabourin



Mercedes Sarrasin



Logan Wiebe

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## > W.C. MILLER COLLEGIATE, FROM PG. 20

"To the graduating class of 2022, we wish you all the best. This is where the rest of our lives begin."

W.C. Miller staff Paul Krahn and Vanessa Zacharias gave a farewell address to the graduates.

"I want to encourage you all to try new things and take risks," said Zacharias. "Only time will tell whether that risk will turn into a new opportunity or if it's just another twist and turn down the road of your life journey."

While the graduates all received their high school diplomas, several awards and scholarships were also handed out. Most notable, the Governor General's Bronze Medal was awarded to Pilkington, who had a Grade 11 and Grade 12 average of 99.2 per cent. Erin Hamm received the Tom Dueck Memorial

Award, while Autumn Neufeld received the Pembina Valley Pharmacy Shaping Our Future Environmental Sciences Scholarship.

Speaking with the *Voice* after the ceremony, the co-valedictorians reflected on their favourite memories of their four years at W.C. Miller.

"Sports were a big thing for me as that's where I made most of my friends," said Bueckert. "And that's where I became close with teachers and coaches."

"Just spending time with my friends in our grade. It was a good experience," added Pilkington. "We missed a couple of years in the middle, but being able to hang out with everyone every day has been great. I'm going to miss everybody."



W.C. Miller graduates celebrate with the traditional cap toss after the ceremony  
PHOTO BY TY DILELLO/VOICE

**GRAD!**  
CBVD!

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Keep adding to the goodness and beauty in the world.  
Keep developing those unique dreams and talents that make you who you are!

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**Congratulations Class of 2022**

**Bruce D. Gregory**  
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Hats off to the hardworking Class of 2022!  
We wish you the best today and always.

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**Altona Regional Alternative Education** *Congratulations to the Graduating Classes of 2022*

# Passing the test

By Ty Dilello

Altona's Regional Alternative Education Centre celebrated its grads June 23, with five of the school's eight graduates in attendance.

"Our learners have worked diligently to earn their diplomas," said RAEC director Kelly Skelton. "Coming back to school as an adult is challenging, as most of our learners are working and taking care of their families. They all have clear goals for their future and have been

motivated to complete coursework around their busy lives."

"Over the past couple of years, each of you has been tested in both your personal and school lives," said Border Land School Division superintendent Krista Curry. "This is not the usual test when you think about school, that you know is coming in advance, that you can study for, ask your teachers for help to prepare for it and when it's over you can move on to the next thing.

"This test was one that no one



RAEC grads Amber Herkert, Jason Herkert, Dililah Keck, Peter Isaac, and Rebecca Wiens.

knew would be coming, how long it would last, how it would impact you and what the path was to finish.

"You had to learn to adapt your schooling. For those of you who preferred in-person learning, you adjusted to learning online. Some of you had to work more independently at home, and some had to learn a whole new way of learning with technology. Your teachers supported these challenges, and you adapted, persevered, and

here you are today."

Instead of focusing on the loss of the last two years, Curry challenged graduates to focus on the growth.

"What did you learn as a result of learning in a pandemic? Think about the skills that grew in you and flourished. Those are the skills that you need to be proud of and brag about to your next employer.

"Congratulations to all graduates for the culmination of your success. You should be proud. Balancing work, life, and school are difficult in the best of times, and you all persevered. I wish you joy and all the best in the future."



NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

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## Congratulations, Graduates!

**High School Grads, Class of 2022**  
Learn about career training close to home at [rrc.ca/winkler](http://rrc.ca/winkler)

**RRC Polytech Grads, Class of Spring 2022**  
Learn about benefits available to RRC alumni at [rrc.ca/alumni](http://rrc.ca/alumni)



## Let's CELEBRATE

*Congratulations to all 2022 graduates of our community*



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