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Voice

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Breaking ground

The Winkler Library's Jess Martens was joined by Mayor Martin Harder to break ground on the new reading garden last week, months ahead of schedule. For the full story, see Pg. 2.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

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get informed

Winkler Library getting to work on reading garden

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Centennial Library broke ground on its new reading garden last week.

What was originally meant to be a phased project taking place over the next couple of years is now on track to be completed sometime this fall.

Generous donations from the community not only covered the estimated \$50,000 the library originally was aiming for, but also brought in an extra \$20,000 or so to expand the scope of the project to now include two pergolas on either end of the garden as well as an entire patio area located outside the fenced space to provide accessibility outside of the library's operating hours.

"We want it to be a community space. Pretty much anytime you want to go hang out, that part will be accessible," branch administrator Jess Martens said, explaining that with the number of people who spend time in the library's parking lot to use the free Wi-Fi, they thought having a nice, nearby space for them to relax in was a good fit.

With the ground symbolically broken on the project by Martens and Mayor Martin Harder last Thursday, work will begin in earnest immediately.

"We've got contractors lined up, ready to go," Martens said. "We'll have a bit of prep work and then we're hoping to start with the landscaping portion next week or the week after.



A concept plan for the new reading garden at the Winkler Centennial Library. The plans have expanded to include two pergolas and a patio space outside the fenced-in area.

So it's a fairly quick timetable."

The space, located to the north of the Main St. library under the shade of a row of towering evergreen trees, will include several tables and chairs, benches, perennial flower beds, and a garden plot for kids to develop their gardening skills in.

Aside from the extra patio area, the rest of the garden will be enclosed by a fence, allowing the library to use the space for children's programming or rent it out to community groups for gatherings.

While the flowers won't be going in this year, the reading garden should be usable by fall, Martens said, and next year it will be filled with colour from the flowers planted in spring.

Mayor Harder is eager to see the finished space become a well-used part of the community.

"The library has become and con-

tinues to be a very vital part of our community. It's a gathering spot," he said, gesturing to the flurry of activity happening inside that day as the library's summer reading program hosted a craft workshop. "It's so good to see them grow and have different activities to make being a reader fresh and new.

"I think the kids are going to have a blast out here, and adults, too, being able to come here and have a quiet read."

Martens sends thanks out to everyone who donated to the garden.

"We never expected to be able to start it this year," she said. "We figured this would be a project that would take several years to actually get to the stage we're at now. To be able to actually break ground this year is amazing."

"WE FIGURED THIS WOULD BE A PROJECT THAT WOULD TAKE SEVERAL YEARS ... TO BE ABLE TO ACTUALLY BREAK GROUND THIS YEAR IS AMAZING."

Morden paves the way for industrial park expansion

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is preparing the way for more industrial development.

Council approved a borrowing by-law Monday evening that sets out the financing for what will be the first expansion of the industrial park in Morden since the early 1980s.

It will make another 142 acres of new industrial land available on the south side of Willcocks Road, and Mayor Brandon Burley said it had become a necessity at this point as the existing industrial park has filled up.

"It's full. We don't have land to sell, and we have people wanting to buy land," he said. "This is something we've been looking at for about a year, knowing that there are people interested in significant investment in Morden without places to put them.

"IT'S FULL. WE DON'T HAVE LAND TO SELL, AND WE HAVE PEOPLE WANTING TO BUY LAND."

"We did sell the last two major lots on Jefferson this past year ... and we have substantial commitments to the new industrial land as well."

The plan will have the MCDC (Morden Community Development Corporation) purchasing the land with the City of Morden essentially lending \$2.9 million to the MCDC for that purchase. Then five equal payments will come back from the MCDC to cover the loan over the next five years.

Burley said in part there was concern about the potential direction of interest rates right now and the cost of borrowing at a time when the city

in the near future will also be looking at borrowing for a wastewater project.

"This is just the funding mechanism now for the cost attached to it," he explained.

He anticipated there would be some development happening soon.

"We're looking at development in fairly short order. It will be phased so that we're not sitting on roads and sewers and things that we're paying for but haven't been purchased," he said.

"I think it's a good thing. It's been a while in coming," he said. "There's a lot of energy and a lot of traction on

the industrial side right now, and we want to make sure that we are prepared and ready for it.

"It takes one of two to show a big interest and then one thing leads to another, and it can take off pretty quickly," said Burley. "We want to make sure that we're there and ready to help them ... it will be a very good thing for the city.

"We're also interested in helping facilitate expansion of current businesses," he added. "A lot of the appetite is being driven by businesses that are growing, and we're kind of land-locked right now."

Lights, camera, action

Locals get a small taste of the limelight as Hallmark movie extras

By Lorne Stelmach

Area residents got a small taste of Hollywood over the past few weeks as the Hallmark TV movie *Pumpkin Everything* filmed at locations in and around Morden.

The production required extras to fill the background in a variety of scenes, and a number of locals were eager to get in on the opportunity.

Some saw it perhaps as a way to break into show business, while for others it was just a fun new experience to enjoy.

"I've always wanted to spend a day on a movie set, so I was like, well, here we go, let's just do it. Kick it off the bucket list," said Sonia Funk, who was involved as an extra for scenes being shot on Stephen Street.

"I just love Hallmark. I know other people who do it want to be actors, but I just love the Hallmark movies, so I thought it would be cool to be

part of it," said Jessica Waddingham, a Roland resident who has now been an extra in four Hallmark movies. "It's super fun ... it can be long days, but it's something you don't get to do all the time."

"I was so excited when I saw it on Facebook. I was in heaven, and my mom said, 'Come on, I know you can do it,'" said fellow extra Jessica Friesen. "It's very exciting for me."

For Friesen, her only previous experience close to this was when she auditioned for *Canadian Idol* years ago.

"I tried going for *Canadian Idol* when I was younger, as I love singing ... but this is something really different," said Friesen, who advanced from the first round of *Idol* auditions in Winnipeg and went to Ontario before bowing out. "I was a little too scared at the time, but it was pretty cool."

"I've always thought I wanted to be part of a movie or a singer or actor. But in a small town, it's kind of harder to do," she said.

"This is a very new experience, but I've always wanted to try it," said Friesen, who had her opportunity this past week while filming was happening in a few locations, including at Bella's Castle.

"It was my family and friends supporting me and encouraging me to do



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Jessica Waddingham and Jessica Friesen were among the locals who spent time on the Morden set of *Pumpkin Everything* as extras last week.

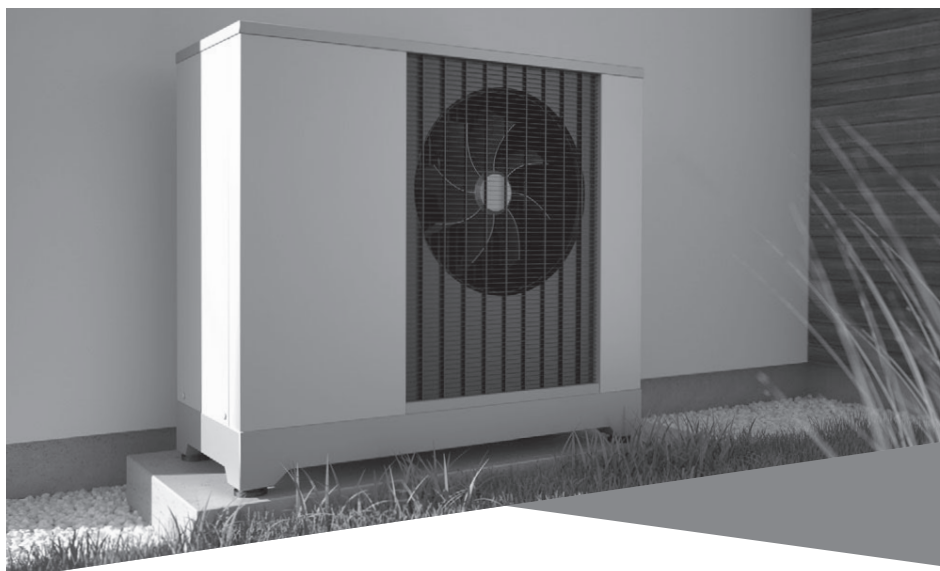
Continued on page 5

it," she said. "My whole family will be waiting for it to come out."

Waddingham has previously landed a spot as an extra in a trio of Hallmark Christmas movies, with two that filmed in Carman and one in Winnipeg, so she came into this with the benefit of knowing what to expect.

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WORK & WESTERN WEARHOUSE

Getting the lay of the land

Garden Valley SD's new superintendent is getting to know the community

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Garden Valley School Division's new superintendent is getting himself acquainted with the community this summer.

Dan Ward officially started in the role July 15, and he spent his first full week on the job doing a bit of exploring.

"I've been able to tour a number of the facilities. Janice [Krahn, assistant superintendent] has taken me around. This morning we were able to go to the bus garage and see GVC TEC as well, along with some of the other facilities," Ward said last week. "So it's been good. Really, this summer will be a good chance to learn about the division, see some of the facilities, and then by fall I'll be ready to visit the schools and get to know the school communities better."

Though he's new to this area, Ward is certainly no rookie when it comes to serving as a senior administrator.

He's spent the past few years as superintendent of Mountain View School Division (MVSD) in Dauphin. Prior to that, he was MVSD's assistant superintendent.

Ward's 26 years in the education field also includes time as a classroom teacher, school administrator, and working as a curriculum consultant and liaison for funded independent schools with Manitoba Education.

His move out of the classroom and into administration was a natural one.

"I've always been interested in systems and how systems worked," Ward said. "I think what drew me to those administrative positions was just wanting to learn more about how the school system worked and that interplay between government and boards."

"I've always believed very strongly in the importance of boards," he added. "Really, school divisions and school boards, it's the most direct form of democracy in our communi-



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Dan Ward is Garden Valley School Division's new superintendent. He started in the role July 15.

ties where folks can run for elected office and really have a voice in how schools operate.

"Arguably, there's nothing more important in a community in terms of outreach to families than schools, especially in rural Manitoba where the school is really the hub of the town, the village, the hamlet, or even a city

like Winkler."

Though he enjoyed his years at MVSD, Ward felt it was time for something new.

"My family and I had been in Dauphin for seven years and we were looking for a change," he said. "We loved the Parkland and we spent

Continued on page 5

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> GVSD SUPERINTENDENT, FROM PG. 4

lots of time at Clear Lake, but we were looking at other opportunities throughout the province. When Garden Valley came up, we definitely gave it some thought, and then applied.

"I know the school division has a great reputation for educational excellence. It's a division that's always

been known to be innovative," Ward said, noting he's eager to learn more about GVSD's technical vocational programs as well as the various partnerships it has developed with neighbouring school divisions when it comes to those programs.

Ward's family joined him in Winkler last week, and he said they like what

> EXTRAS, FROM PG. 3

"I mostly just like to watch and see how it all comes together," she said. "It's just a lot of walking back and forth for everyone. "It's a lot of fun ... you really want to make sure that you stay out of the way because there's so many people and so much equipment everywhere."

"There was one time when I was in the wrong spot at the wrong time," Waddingham recalled. "There's a lot of people everywhere shouting instructions, so it can be pretty intense, but it's also a lot of fun."

"With the first one that I did, it was really cool watching the movie later and seeing how it turned out."

She readily admits to being a huge fan of all Hallmark movies.

"People love them, though some love to hate them too, but I like them ... I like the predictability, actually, and they're just nice storylines," Waddingham said. "I started watching them because I'm a huge Christmas fan, and most of their movies are based around the Christmas season."

"I think this one will be a good one ... it's a fall theme, which is kind of nice," she said. "From what I've seen, it seems like there might be quite a bit of comedy in this one, so it could be fun."

"I've met some friends there ... you kind of get to know some of the people and maybe make some new friends," Waddingham said. "Maybe there's one or two Hallmark stars I might hope to get introduced to one day. They have some actors who appear in a lot of these movies."

Funk, meanwhile, came into it with some experience with television appearances earlier on when she was pursuing music, but this obviously is something quite different.

She was there for a day which unfortunately turned out to be uncomfortably hot.

"We spent the whole day out in the heat, and I actually did get heat-stroke," she said. "I just wanted the experience of a movie set. It's been on my list of things I would like to see one day, so I got to do it, and it was fun ... even with getting heat-stroke, it was worth it just to watch it all go down."

Funk came away from the experience impressed with what she saw and with respect for what all goes into making a movie.

"Everyone was just really nice and as accommodating as they could be," she said. "It was fun to watch it all go down and watch them make all the last-minute decisions on things like angles."

"It looked like a lot of work, and the people there were working 12, 14-hour days, and I think a lot of them were going back to the city and coming back each day," she noted. "I've always known there is so much more work than people really know ... it's a lot of people and a lot of work just to make one little movie."

"If they came back, I would put my name in for background again for sure ... and I would put money on them being back."

they've seen of the community thus far.

"It definitely strikes us as a community that is small enough where you get to know your neighbours but large enough where you have all the amenities of a large centre," he said. "That's, in a way, what we were looking for ... I wanted to continue to work for a rural school division and Garden Valley fits the bill."

"When you have 14 schools, you get to know every principal very well, you get to know the school communities, you get to know a lot of the teachers and support staff. That's just not possible in a larger metro division ... I really like the rural environment."

There are some challenges facing GVSD when classes resume this fall, including navigating the potential influx of students returning to the classroom after being homeschooled through the worst of the pandemic, either due to health concerns or an aversion to public health mandates.

There were over 1,300 homeschooled kids in the division when the board drafted its budget this spring—up from the usual 500 or so pre-pandemic.

It's unknown just how many of those students may return and what impact that will have on local schools, which have been staffed and funded for the lower enrolment numbers recorded last fall.

"We know that there have been families that have already returned and we're anticipating more in the fall," Ward noted. "There is an element of unpredictability there. And I'm certain there are some families that haven't decided yet."

Added to that uncertainty, many students who stayed in the public school system are still recovering from having missed so much in-classroom instruction the past few years thanks both to the pandemic and weather conditions causing so many school cancellations last winter.

"A lot of the fall, I think, will be dedicated to determining what our recovery learning needs are and what kind of supports our schools and our students need," Ward said.

GVSD students head back to the classroom Sept. 7 (K-9) and Sept. 8 (Gr. 10-12).

IMMIGRATION ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETINGS

Have Your Say

Share your views on Manitoba's settlement programs and services, and how Manitoba can attract and recruit more immigrants and business investors to the province.

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Meetings will be held over the summer, including sessions in:

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Best Western Plus
1705 Diamond Dr.

10:30 a.m. to noon

AUGUST 10 - Winnipeg

Winnipeg Grand Mosque
2445 Waverley Street

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

AUGUST 4 - Altona

Millennium Exhibition Centre
227-10 Avenue, NW.

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

AUGUST 11 - Winnipeg

Maples Community Centre
424 Adsum Dr.

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

AUGUST 4 - Steinbach

Days Inn
75 PTH and Road 12 N.

4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

AUGUST 18 - Arborg

Bifrost Community Centre
409 Recreation Centre

1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



A person of the left

Peter, use your right hand!"

This was a fairly common refrain I heard as a child in elementary school. For whatever reason, it was frowned upon for me to use my left hand, despite the fact that this was what I was most comfortable using.

Those older and disparaging voices have long since been silenced, having lost to my own stubbornness, and to this day I am a proud left-hander, as is my daughter. Some have suggested that I lean left in a number of other ways but this is purely hearsay.

Recently these memories came back to me after a friend posted an article on left-handedness and the cultural stigmas attached and their similarity to what is happening with transgender kids these days.



By Peter Cantelon

Statistically, between 10-12 per cent of people are born left-handed.

For some reason there has long been a bias against left-handedness. The Latin word for "left" is "sinister." It is also the Latin word for unlucky. In French the word for left is gauche, which also means awkward and clumsy.

There were many things about being left-handed I never really thought about except as annoying. For instance, the bottom of my left hand would become smudged and blue by the end of every school day as a result of dragging it across hand-written ink pages for hours at a time. I was forced to pivot my pages to ridiculous angles to get the desired right-hand slant to my cursive as well.

Scissors were always a bane to me, even to this day. A right-handed person holds scissors in a way that pulls the two blades together, making them cut easily, while in a left hand the blades of scissors pull apart slightly, causing the paper to fold rather than cut. I should really search out Ned

Flander's Lefitorium and buy a pair of left-handed scissors.

Very annoying. An interesting side effect of being left-handed was dealing with sports equipment discrimination. Having been raised in a poor family I never owned my own sports equipment. I used what was borrowed or available at school—all of which was right-handed. As a consequence, I have become a right-handed sports participant instead of using my dominant hand.

Thankfully we could afford to buy my daughter things like a right-handed glove so she could throw with her left hand, which she does comfortably to this day.

If there is one thing the historically negative reaction to left-handedness shows is that people do not like things that are different. We demonize difference and minority to such a degree that people in such categories try to hide their difference to avoid discrimination, fear and hate.

Continued on page 7

Letters

MORE PET-FRIENDLY RENTALS NEEDED

Those of you who do just fine without one, please bear with me. People seem to enjoy the company of their pet, should they have one. Now imagine if a person not only enjoys having a pet animal but actually receives a health benefit because of its gentle and unconditional

love. It seems that those who rent their homes are sometimes unlucky enough to have this opportunity be a non-starter.

Perhaps the owner and/or rental agency is stubborn. Set in their ways. No doubt they may have had problems with irresponsible tenants who give all pet owners a bad name.

Or, if a place went to new management under a strict no-pet policy,

then the fact that pets there in previous years were not a problem but a blessing (I'm guessing) is irrelevant. So it goes.

Will policy change in years to come when more and more people see the very real value of pet ownership?

**GP Brommell,
Winkler**

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Morden Festival of the Arts presents Loreena McKennitt Award

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Festival of the Arts recently honoured a local student for excelling in music.

The Loreena McKennitt Award was presented to Ben Wiens in recognition of having reached a high level of excellence in his musical studies.

The award was created to honour the Morden-born musical artist who began her performing career participating in the Morden Festival of the Arts.

Being named this year's recipient is a tremendous honour, Wiens said.

"I was pretty surprised because there's a lot of other people who have also done so much with music ... there's also a lot of people who have

done other instruments as well," he said.

Wiens began playing the violin when he was five years old, studying with instructor Wes Hamm. He has performed at the Morden Festival of the Arts since 2010.

Wiens has received several awards for his performances at the festival as well as adjudicator recommendations for both the annual highlights concert and the Associated Manitoba Arts Festival's provincial competition.

In addition to his festival experience, he has participated in the Cadenza summer music program, orchestra, and Adventures in Music, and he can often be seen busking at the Corn and Apple Festival or at the Co-op grocery store in December.

Wiens has focused some of his interest on jazz and fiddle music in the last few years and has been enjoying it. He has also studied piano and baritone sax and performed with the Morden Collegiate Institute band.

Music has just always been a big part of his life, noted Wiens.

"I've always done it since I was little ... it was definitely a big thing at home. Everyone, for the most part, has their instrument," he said. "I've always been involved in the festival.

Having graduated from Morden Collegiate last month, Wiens now plans to go into paramedicine.

"I'm definitely going to continue with music," he noted. "I'm not sure exactly what will happen, but I will continue with it in some way."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Ben Wiens is the 2022 recipient of the Loreena McKennitt Award from the Morden Festival of the Arts.

Armed man surrenders to police peacefully

By Voice staff

A potentially volatile situation ended peacefully in Winkler last week.

On Monday, July 18 at 6:47 p.m., Winkler Police received a report of an intoxicated male inside his residence on Pineview Drive who had a loaded handgun and was threatening to harm himself.

Police were on the scene immediately to secure the area, Chief Ryan Hunt

says.

"Both the Regional Crisis Negotiation Unit and the Regional Support Tactical Team were requested to attend the scene and, while waiting for those support teams to arrive, general patrol members made contact with a family member that had exited the residence," Hunt said in a release the next day. "Shortly afterwards, the only remaining family member inside the residence also exited and spoke

with police."

A few minutes later, at 7:09 p.m., the man exited the residence on his own and was arrested without incident under the Mental Health Act.

The tactical team arrived on the scene and did a search of the house to ensure it was safe for the family mem-

bers to return. They found and seized several unsecured firearms

The man was taken for an assessment by a medical doctor and subsequently released from police custody on an undertaking and with a charge of assault.

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

Maybe this experience is one of the reasons I do my best to celebrate difference and diversity in others ... who knows? What I do know is that before we give in to our superstitious and ridiculous prejudices about people who are different than us we should stop and consider the impact such bigotry has.

I was fortunate. Aside from being forced into using right-handed sporting equipment and made to feel like

something was wrong with me as a left-handed child, I have managed to attain to a reasonably privileged place in life. Others are not so fortunate and feel the pain of their uniqueness as a result of people's narrow-minded and often hurtful attempts to change them.

Bigotry and discrimination are small-minded and have no place in a world that should celebrate our myriad and diverse humanity.

Letter policy

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.

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Miami Museum celebrates 50th anniversary

By Lorne Stelmach

Fifty years is always a major milestone, but it is perhaps especially worth celebrating for a small-town museum.

The Miami Museum marked that anniversary Saturday afternoon with a brief ceremony where board president Joe Brown noted how challenging it can be for a community this size to maintain such a facility.

"It's been difficult, I'm sure, over the years for small museums in a lot of towns to sustain the interest and to keep operating," he said.

"The museum and board have contributed quite a bit to preserving its history. We have tried to do the best we can to preserve the important history of the area," Brown said. "The future generations, it will be on them

to sustain this organization and hopefully continue to preserve the history."

Brown, who originally hails from Kenora but then moved from Morden to Miami about 10 years ago, recalled being aware of the museum prior to getting involved with it, but not in-depth. He soon became impressed with what it all contained.

"It's amazing what's all in here, and the fact that it's now 50 years since it was set up kind of amazes me," he said.

"I've been doing a bit of research about museums in the area, and one thing that really struck me is how many started about 50 years ago, right after the Canadian centennial, so it must have inspired people," Brown added. "It's a real tribute to the community that they've sustained

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Miami Museum held a short ceremony Saturday to mark its 50th anniversary. Board president Joe Brown noted it's a "real tribute to the community" that the museum has been able to preserve so much local history for so long.

this here."

He offered a couple observations about what he thinks makes the Miami Museum stand out.

"One of the things that I really like about our museum is the fact that it makes really good use of property that may have otherwise not been used ... there's a church that we've got, there's a school building and an addition to it.

"And I think one of the benefits of our museum is that it's got a large scope in terms of the history. It's got paleontology, like fossils. It's got First Nation artifacts. It's got a lot of pioneer stuff, which a lot of museums have, but we've got a very eclectic mix.

"It's quite an extensive collection. Our inventory is something like 2,000 artifacts, so that's a lot of material."

Brown also alluded to the importance of the volunteers who have kept the facility going for so long.

"It's amazing. We've got volunteers on the board and who have been involved for like 35 years ... as soon as you see that, you realize the depth of the knowledge they have about the collection, but also the community.

"It's very good to have board members who have been around for such a long time," Brown said, reflecting, "I kind of feel like I'm a junior person on the board, and I'm over 70."

As far as what may lay ahead for the museum, Brown noted a grant last year from the Miami and Area Foundation will provide for a computer system.

"We're looking at improving our data and inventory ... we're looking at starting to create a better online presence," he said. "We do want young people to come, and it's nice to be able to see the physical things, but they need more incentive to come ... so we're looking at a web site and a few other things."

Kids under five now eligible for COVID-19 vaccination

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba children under the age of five are now able to be immunized against COVID-19.

Manitoba Health announced last week that it is expanding vaccine eligibility to include children age six months to four years old.

This change follows federal approval of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children in this age group, as well as clinical guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immuniza-

tion (NACI).

There are approximately 76,700 children this age in Manitoba, though not all will be able to get the shot immediately.

"While we will have enough vaccine for all children in the near future, our initial delivery is limited to 14,900 doses, which means we will have to initially prioritize who can get these initial doses," explained Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer, at a press conference last week. "We're going to first focus

on the children that are most at risk."

To start, the province is prioritizing the vaccine for children who have certain medical conditions, including those with chronic lung disease, airway abnormalities, congenital or chronic heart or circulatory diseases; children who are moderately to severely immunocompromised due to a medical condition or treatment; and those with neurologic disorders (including developmental delay), diabetes, chronic kidney disease, or any chronic disease related to premature

birth.

Also eligible are all First Nations, Inuit, or Métis children in this age group, regardless of where they live.

The province expects to receive more doses by early August, Roussin said, which will allow them to further expand eligibility to all kids.

"I know this day is a day that many parents have been waiting for for quite some time," he said. "I know many parents will feel that sense of

Continued on page 9

Sign up for the “happiest 5K on the planet”

By Lorne Stelmach

An event that has been referred to as the “happiest 5K on the planet” is returning to Morden.

The Morden Colour Run is a family friendly, untimed 5 km run where participants are doused with colour at every kilometer.

First held in Morden in 2018, it was not able to happen again during the worst of the pandemic, but the response to the inaugural event has led organizers to revive it now.

“These colour runs are very popular around the world. Some people even really dress up ... and that can be part of the fun as well,” said Morden events co-ordinator Lili Krushel.

The run gets underway at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13 at Lake Minnewasta with a route that takes participants through the beach and campground area.

Everyone starts off with a white T-shirt and there will be five stations where volunteers douse you with a different colour.

“It’s only five kilometres, so we’re not competing,” said Krushel. “It’s



The Morden Colour Run returns to Lake Minnewasta on Saturday, Aug. 13.

VOICE FILE PHOTO

for all ages and all fitness levels. You go at your own pace ... and it’s just a really fun way for the community to get together and for everyone to enjoy it.”

Participants get free entry to the lake

that day and can also take advantage of a 25 per cent discount for the Splish Splash water park.

Registration is required in advance and is \$40 for 13 and over and \$35 for under 12. You can find more informa-

tion and register through the City of Morden website.

Sponsors for this year’s Colour Run include Fuel United, Hywire Zipline, Eagleye Printing Design, Total Sound and Country Cycle.

> VACCINATION EXPANSION, FROM PG. 8

relief that their child is now eligible.”

Parents who have questions about the vaccine are urged to speak with their health-care provider.

“We know this vaccine has a very safe profile and is effective,” Roussin said. “It is a smaller dose, due to age of this cohort, but still provides that strong immune response.”

Full vaccination will require two doses administered eight weeks apart.

NACI recommends children receive their COVID-19 vaccine two weeks before or after any other vaccines to better monitor for any side effects. The province noted its approach is consistent with NACI, but children who have received a different vaccine within 14 days will not be turned away.

Parents and caregivers of eligible children can book appointments using the online vaccine finder or through the vaccine call centre at (toll-free) 1-844-626-8222 (1-844-MAN-VACC).

Parents and caregivers who need to book two or more appointments for their children can use either option, but the phone line is recommended as the best way to access multiple appointments at the same time and as close together as possible.

Appointments will be available at regional vaccine sites, public health

offices, and medical clinics. Manitoba is working with First Nations leadership to co-ordinate distribution to their communities.

MANITOBA NOT EXPANDING FOURTH DOSE ELIGIBILITY

Meanwhile, if you’re a healthy adult under the age of 50 wondering when you’ll be able to get a second booster shot, it likely won’t be any time soon.

“Right now we don’t have a plan of expanding our fourth dose or second booster campaign,” Roussin said, noting that the initial booster is still protecting people from severe outcomes when they contract COVID-19.

“The fourth dose isn’t showing us significantly benefit outside those that are high risk,” he said, “and those that are high risk are already eligible for that second [booster].”



Roussin noted there is a good chance a new vaccine will be available this fall that better protects against the more infectious variants of the virus that are becoming more prevalent.

“Because there’s going to be a three to six month interval between doses, a large fourth-dose campaign right now could potentially delay the receipt of a possibly better vaccine this fall,” he said.


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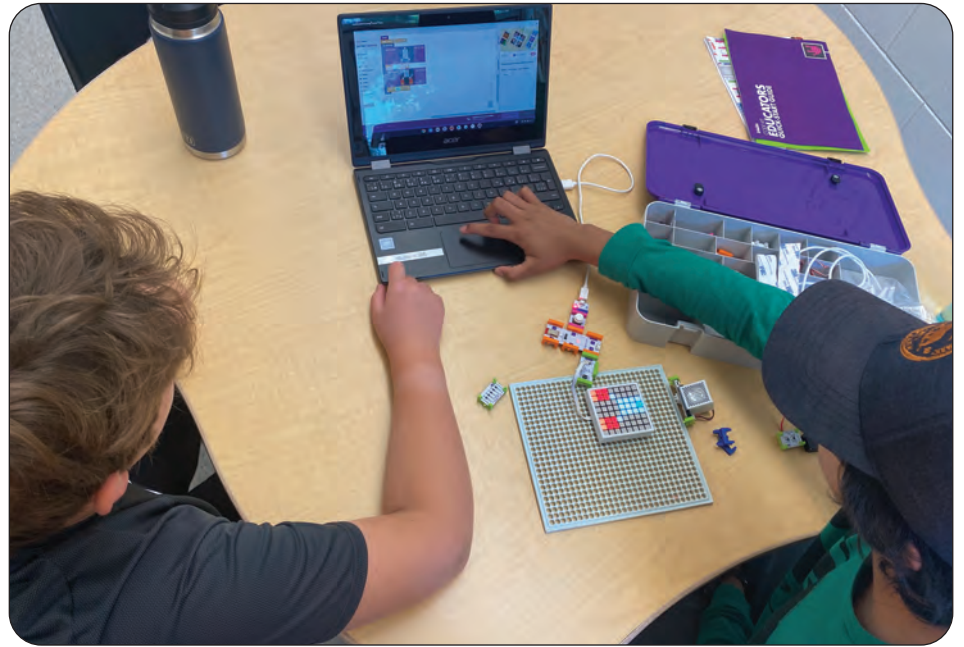
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SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The WISE Kid-Netic Energy summer science and engineering camps made a stop in Morden last week. They're in Altona this week as well.

Mentoring the next generation of scientists, engineers

By Lorne Stelmach

A summer camp in Morden last week aimed to help ignite an interest and lifelong passion in science and engineering.

The hope for the summer day camps of the WISE Kid-Netic Energy program is simply to offer youth an exciting world of discovery and innovation, but perhaps it will spark longer term interest in all of the sciences, say organizers.

"We want to create memorable, fun hands-on activities for them," said program administrator Caleigh Bell.

"It's a good way to expose them to all of it ... and hopefully they'll have a positive experience and they may want to learn more in these fields ... hopefully they will learn something new, and it will spark their interest."

WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) Kid-Netic Energy is an outreach program from the University

of Manitoba dedicated to increasing youth participation in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields.

A variety of programs annually engage over 30,000 youth throughout Manitoba through in-school workshops, summer camps, extracurricular clubs, and other special events, and there is a particular focus on reaching youth who may have additional barriers, including not only girls but kids in First Nations communities and the inner city of Winnipeg.

The summer camp programs offered in rural communities like Morden and, this week, Altona are also especially important, said Bell.

"We want to make sure that our programming can reach a wide audience and reach people who maybe don't have that opportunity to access these types of programs otherwise."

Camp participants explored science, technology, or engineering topics each

day of the week through a multitude of hands-on projects and activities.

Camps include indoor and outdoor components and incorporate everything from physical activity to creative design challenges to digital technology.

The STEM camps are tailored for ages 9-12, but there was also a new offering this summer with the TechToks for youth aged 13-15 that explored cool technology and digital literacy skills.

"We wanted to reach out to older youth than our STEM camp," said Bell. "They can learn some new things about tech, and we want to expose them to things like coding and working with the different tech toys that we have access to."

"We wanted it to be a little more customizable where they could pick ones they were interested in, or they could sign up for all of them. There's eight totally different sessions, and at

the end of the week there's little prizes they could enter to win with some little tech tools they could keep for themselves."

The summer camps are a culmination of what has been a busier time for the program since the easing of the pandemic. Throughout May and June, they were able to do a number of in-school workshops, including locally.

"We've always had really positive response in the Morden area with the camp programming we have put on," said Bell.

"We were super excited to be back ... during the pandemic, we were not able to deliver in-person the past few summers, so this is our first summer back," she said. "Our instructors have been giving us some great feedback about just having fun with the kids in-person again."

Talking online, phone fraud & scam prevention

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Services for Seniors in Winkler is hosting a pair of workshops next month that are open to everyone in the community.

First up, on Friday, Aug. 5 at 1:30 p.m., members of the Winkler Police Service will be on hand at the Winkler Senior Centre (650 South Railway Ave. in the Buhler Active Living Centre) to talk about fraud and scam

prevention.

The presentation will touch on online security measures, types of frauds and scams, and methods you can take to protect yourself from becoming a victim of fraud.

"In the news you're always hearing about frauds and scams, hearing about people getting phone calls or emails from scammers," said resource coordinator Cathleen Bergen. "We thought it was time to have another

presentation; it's been awhile since the last one."

In fact, it's been several years since the senior centre hosted such a talk, so Bergen urges people who may have attended one in the past to consider coming for a refresher.

"There's so many different kinds of scams and they're getting smarter all the time with them," she said. "It's a good idea to get updated and to find out what's new out there and the dif-

ferent ways of protecting yourself."

The talk is open to anyone of any age, though Bergen noted older adults can be especially susceptible to certain kinds of scams.

"They may not be extremely computer savvy, or if they have hearing difficulty they may not catch everything they're saying. Those kinds of things can create situations where it's easier to be scammed."

Continued on page 15

get informed



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Morden and District Horticultural Society teamed up with the Pembina Hills Arts Council for the Grow Your Roots art and garden tour Saturday. Among the many offered stops were those at the homes of Kim and Lorne Zacharias (left), Carol Toews and Wayne Benedet (above), and Kevin and Kathy Froese (below).

A tour through some of Morden's most beautiful yards

By Lorne Stelmach

Gardening is very much a labour of love for many people in Morden, and some prime examples of their efforts were on display Saturday for the Grow Your Roots art and garden tour.

Put on by the Morden and District Horticultural Society with the Pembina Hills Arts Council, the day-long self-guided tour offered about a dozen stops to view a range of garden spaces.

There was a variety of styles and approaches to take in such as the English garden feel of the home of Kevin and Kathy Froese, the sculptures and

water feature highlights of the Lorne and Kim Zacharias property, and the certified naturescape displayed by Carol Toews and Wayne Benedet.

"I just love flower gardening, being out and weeding and dead-heading, that's my therapy. I would much rather be in the flower garden than the vegetable garden even though that yields a great harvest in fall," said Kathy Froese.

They moved to 167 8th Street in the fall of 2020, and they inherited not only a home with heritage features but also one with significant garden space.

"There was so much garden that was

here already when we moved in, and that was, I think, part of what attracted me to the property ... the house stands on its own as beautiful but the garden just enhances it," said Froese.

There is much she enjoys there, but she particularly cited a favorite spot because it has a variety of different lilies and other flowers.

"Just the diversity of that area is probably my favorite right now," said Froese, adding she also likes a small area in front that she takes pride in because she established that spot with a dry pond feature.

She also didn't mind the work to get it all in prime shape for the tour.

"It was a great challenge for me. I love challenges, and it was an incentive for me to get out into the garden and keep the weeds down so that I didn't have so much to do."

Anyone who fondly remembers Hillside Greenhouses would appreciate the Zacharias yard at 565 Gilmour St., as much of it came from their former property just outside Morden.

"Most everything here was brought from the farm where the greenhouse was," noted Kim, citing ev-

"IT'S A WAY OF CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT IN THE CITY FOR NATURE ..."

everything from the plants and a shed to sculptures and rock features made by Todd Braun of Elemental Stone.

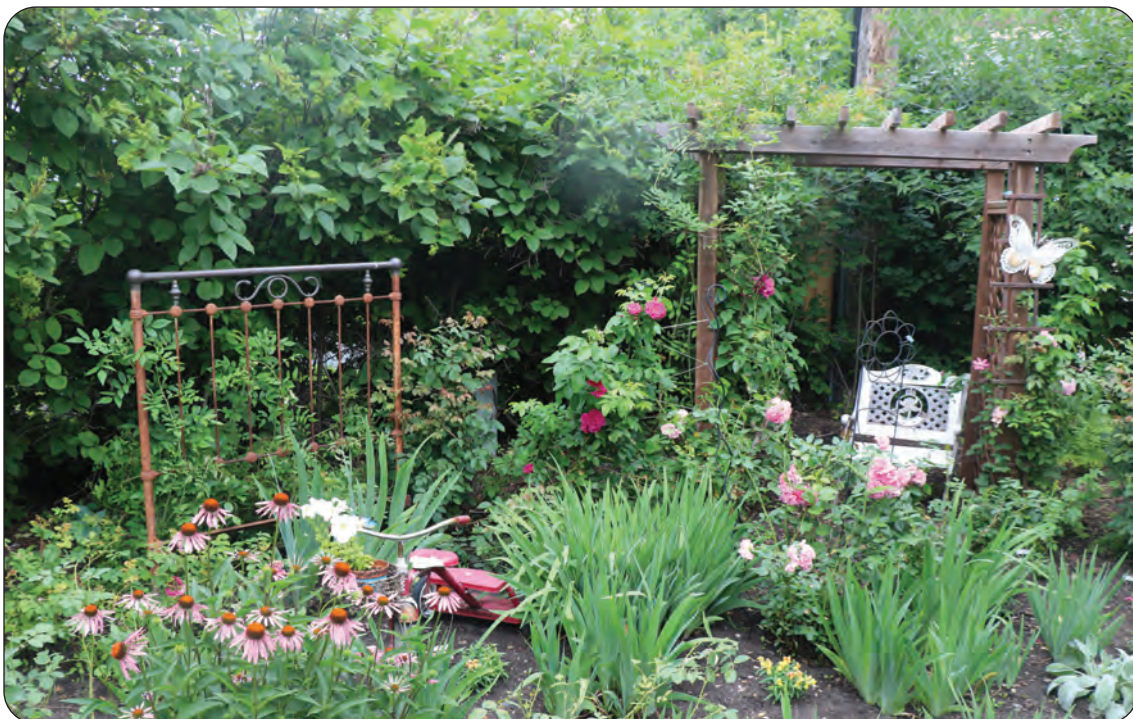
"We bought the property mostly because of the yard," said Lorne. "We have a bunch of plants that we brought from the farm in that one area so it's a little disorganized there ... it's kind of like our little experimental farm there."

"I like to push the zone," he explained, pointing to a few examples of plants that should not be able to survive in zone three. "I have zone five plants here, like the ornamental Japanese grass is one, Wisteria is another one and I've got two Magnolias growing that are zone five and zone four."

They both enjoy putting in the time to keep it all up, although perhaps in different ways.

"It's definitely teamwork; it couldn't be one person. She likes to pull weeds, and I don't," said Lorne.

Over at 151 Conner Hill Drive, Toews and Benedet enjoy a home that draws on solar power and a yard that



Continued on page 12

arts & culture

Creative theatrics

FTC hosts its first Summer Theatre Camp for kids

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A small but dedicated group of young thespians gathered at the P.W. Enns Centennial Concert Hall last week to take part in Flatlands Theatre Company's very first Summer Theatre Camp.

Headed up by FTC artistic director Jeanette Hoeppepner and board president Janice Dyck Epp, the day camp offered a morning session for kids

ages 5-11 and an afternoon one for 12-18-year-olds at the Winkler concert hall.

There were just a handful of kids for each session, but it was a good start, observed Hoeppepner last Thursday after teaching 12-year-olds Trepp Fehr and Oliva Thiessen some of the basics of stage sword fighting with foam swords and pool noodles.

"We wanted to do something to offer a chance for those kids who couldn't join us during the rest of the year," she said, referring to the winter theatre classes FTC offers.

"Sometimes doing something for a week feels more comfortable than committing to something for once a



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Flatlands Theatre Company artistic director Jeanette Hoeppepner runs campers Trepp Fehr and Olivia Thiessen through some stage fighting exercises.



week for three or four months, added Dyck Epp.

The schedule included a mix of acting exercises, script writing, and craft activities, culminating with a show for the young performers' families on Friday.

"We're just exploring different levels of creativity," Hoeppepner said, noted the goal was simply to get the kids ex-

Trepp Fehr gets physical with his improvised performance, in which the kids were given a bunch of props and tasked with creating a story that put them to use.

cited about the theatre and wanting to learn more. "And taking the stuff they learned back to whatever spaces they like, whether it's just at home creating or creating with friends or creating at school."

The aforementioned stage fighting lesson was a highlight for Fehr, whose long-standing love of the theatre brought him to the camp last week.

"I really, really like acting," he said, noting he's taken a few acting classes before and was eager to return to learn more about the craft.

Likewise, Thiessen was hoping to

Continued on page 13

> GARDEN TOUR, FROM PG. 12

is a certified Fort Whyte Alive naturesscape.

A range of native flowering plants and native grasses are part of creating a habitat to very much support all aspects of the natural world.

"It's sort of a bio-diverse environment for birds, bugs, butterflies and bees and such ... it's about providing food, water, shelter and space," explained Toews.

"It's a way of creating an environment in the city for nature as opposed to just having a yard that's maybe not as nature-friendly," she added. "This is very important to me ... I feel that this is doing my part, besides the fact that I love gardening. This is my part to having a

more bio-diverse environment.

"It is crucial ... especially with what we're seeing with climate change ... it's something I am trying to promote," said Toews. "You don't need a lot of space to do it ... it's kind of a messy kind of gardening where let things run together and you leave the leaves and let the plants stand over winter ... it's much more natural."

Among the area residents taking in the tour was Catherine Evenson, who also enjoys gardening and just appreciated the diversity of all of the yards and gardens.

"It's interesting to see what people have done, especially after the last two or three years when we've had



Garden tour stop host Kathy Froese by one of the features of her yard.

so much stress on plants ... how they have come back, it's incredible what nature can do," she said. "Everything

is so beautiful and so lush; it's almost like being in a tropical place."

A 'haunting' talk at the PHAC

By Lorne Stelmach

There is an eternal appeal to ghost stories, so it is not unusual that it would make its way into the art world as well.

The supernatural in art was explored last week as part of the Third Thursdays art talk series of the Pembina Hills Arts Council.

"There are the people who just outright don't believe ... then there's the people who wholeheartedly believe in these things ... and there's the people who don't necessarily believe or don't believe, but there's no way you're going to get them to a Ouija board or anything like that," said programs and outreach co-ordinator Tye Dandridge-Evancio.

The idea for the art talk grew from a personal interest in ghosts, and Dandridge-Evancio was spurred on then by hearing a claim about a ghost inhabiting the art gallery building.

"That got us talking more about ghosts ... and honestly, it's just my love of the supernatural and of things that are kind of eerie, kind of spooky," he said. "This kind of just felt like a natural pairing for one of the art talks we do for the Third Thursdays."

The supernatural and particularly ghosts or spirits probably come into play in a lot of art and in all of the various media, he suggested.

"It comes in just such a variety of different forms and a variety of different iterations ... but I had to narrow the scope, so I was talking about five or six of perhaps some of the most haunted paintings I had been able to find."

Dandridge-Evancio's presentation touched on such things as the advent of ghost photography. He recalled reading about a photographer who accidentally double exposed a portrait and then "realized, hey, I could make a living off of selling portraits of wealthy people sitting next to their late loved ones."

In general, the supernatural may be the clear intention, but the idea of spirits inhabiting a work often arises through others perceptions.

"A lot of the stories actually of the works wouldn't have necessarily had that as the original intent of the art-

work. It sometimes happened to be a certain work took on a life of its own," said Dandridge-Evancio.

A famous example is the work *The Hands Resist Him* by Bill Stoneham from 1972. It depicts a young boy and a female doll standing in front of a glass paneled door, against which many hands are pressed.

According to Stoneham, the boy is based on a photograph of himself at age five, and the doorway is a representation of the dividing line between the waking world and the world of fantasy and impossibilities, while the doll is a guide that will escort the boy.

The painting became the subject of an urban legend and a viral internet meme in 2000 when it was posted for sale on eBay along with a description implying that it was haunted

"It kind of shot to notoriety ... they were

selling this artwork, and in the discussion for the piece they actually described essentially that the work was haunted," Dandridge-Evancio said. "During the night, supposedly, the boy in the painting would exit the painting and wander around the house, trying to flee the doll in the painting."

"So this story gained tons of traction," he noted, although the artist had no idea originally that this was going on around his painting.

Another famous story revolves around *Man Proposes, God Disposes*, an 1864 painting by Edwin Landseer that was inspired by the search for Franklin's lost Arctic expedition 20 years earlier.

Now in the collection of Royal Holloway, University of London, it became the subject of a superstitious urban myth that the painting is

"I THINK WE ALWAYS WANT TO KIND OF BELIEVE THAT THE FANTASTICAL IS POSSIBLE."



WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Above: *The Hands Resist Him* by Bill Stoneham. Below: *Man Proposes, God Disposes*, an 1864 painting by Edwin Landseer. Both paintings are tied with supernatural claims and superstitions, PHAC's Ty Dandridge-Evancio said in his presentation on the supernatural in art last week.



haunted, supposedly as a result of a student who committed suicide and left a note accusing the painting of having told him to do it.

There then arose a superstition that anyone who writes their exam in front of or near that painting will fail the test.

"So then it's become a tradition that whenever exams are ongoing that they will actually cover the paint-

ing with a Union Jack," said Dandridge-Evancio.

No matter what one believes about the supernatural, there is no question of its lasting appeal, he concluded.

"I would say the appeal, to a certain degree, really is just the fantasy, the possibility that it really could be real ... I think we always want to kind of believe that the fantastical is possible."

> SUMMER THEATRE CAMP, FROM PG. 12

hone her acting chops ahead of next school year's theatre productions.

"I just love acting and I've always wondered, 'What if I could do that someday?'" she shared, noting she's been involved in a school musical in the past but hopes to get a speaking part one day.

"It's been a lot of fun," Thiessen

said, reflecting that one of her favourite parts was learning how scripts are written.

Both urge other creative-minded kids to give acting classes a try.

"I'd tell them to try something new, because you might like it," Thiessen said.

"It's super fun," said Fehr.

While youth will have to wait until next summer for another weeklong day camp, FTC does offer regular classes for kids and adults alike through the winter months. Details will be available this fall online at flatlandstheatre.com.

arts & culture



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Yodelling Farmer's Daughter from Birds Hill was part of the entertainment lineup Sunday at the Cripple Creek Music Festival. Back after a two-year hiatus, the festival draws people for its mix of traditional bluegrass, country, folk and gospel music. Also on the schedule were Agassiz Railroad, Ed Wayne, Joe Wilson, Orlando and Grace, Virginia Ridge, and others.

Cripple Creek Music Festival returns



Rosemary Siemens awarded Platinum Jubilee Medal

By Ty Dilello

Plum Coulee native Rosemary Siemens and her husband Eli Bennett were honoured last month with Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medals for their contributions to the arts.

"I am incredibly excited and honoured to have been awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal," Siemens said recently. "Giving back through music has always been the most important thing to me."

"To have the opportunity to organize and perform a concert for the flood victims in Abbotsford and to perform a private concert for veterans on Veterans Day was some of the most meaningful musical moments of this past year for me," she noted. "To be recognized by the queen for my contribution to the arts in Canada is absolutely amazing, and I am so humbled and honoured."

To close out the awards ceremony in

Abbotsford, B.C. last month, Siemens and Bennett performed their version of "God Save The Queen" featuring a 400-piece symphony orchestra and choir created by just the two of them.

Earlier this year they received a letter from Queen Elizabeth thanking them for their version of the song and stating she was touched by their work.

Both Siemens and Bennett were previously awarded The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals for their contributions to the arts in Canada in 2013.

Back home visiting family in Plum Coulee this summer, Siemens and Bennett have an upcoming free concert entitled Rosemary Siemens & Friends, From Plum Coulee To Carnegie Hall—A Journey on Four Strings, which will be taking place at Buhler Hall in Gretna on Aug. 5 at 7 p.m. in celebration of CFAM's 65th anniversary.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Plum Coulee's Rosemary Siemens and husband Eli Bennett received Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medals for their contributions to the arts in Canada.

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



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Swim Smart activities at the Winkler pool last week included obstacle courses (above) and water basketball (below), along with educational demos and stations.

Teaching swim smarts

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Aquatic Centre was a bustling place last Thursday as the pool hosted its annual Swim Smart festivities.

Educational stations and demonstrations were the name of the game that day, all in the service of getting kids thinking about water safety, said aquatic programmer Lani Ens.

"I hope the takeaway from today is just a broader knowledge of how to be safer on the water," she said. "At

each station they have different safety items they're telling kids about—sunscreen, boating tips, and so on—and I just hope kids realize that swimming is fun and it really is a skill for life."

The afternoon included a mix of educational demos—lifeguards showing off their rescue skills, for example—and fun competitions, including water basketball, obstacle courses, the ever-popular Coke dive, a relay race, and a diving event. There was also an hour of Aqua Fit offered.

> SCAM AND FRAUD PREVENTION, FROM PG. 10

"But it's not just seniors who get scammed," Bergen noted, recalling a scam phone call that made the rounds among staff at the senior centre recently, claiming to be from the bank. "Each one of us got a call where it was a local number and they were claiming there had been fraudulent charges on our debit cards."

No one was fooled into giving up any information in this case, but it's easy to see how you might be tricked into doing so, believing you're talking to a legitimate bank employee.

"That was scary because somebody not realizing that this was the bank could have 'pressed one' to go to the next step and who knows what might have happened," Bergen said.

The second presentation at the senior centre takes place a little later in the month, on Wednesday, Aug. 24, also at 1:30 p.m.

This one will see Bergen going over how to put together an Emergency Response Information Kit (E.R.I.K.).

"It's a kit that includes your health care directive, a medication card with all your medications on it, some of

your medical history, a patient advocate form, and an organ donor card," explained Bergen. "It's all in a package and you just fill it out and put it on your fridge. And then there's a sticker that goes on your door so that emergency services know that you have it."

Emergency crews have been trained to look for these kits when they're called to a home. They're also a handy way to have all your medical information in one, easy-to-grab place when you need it.

"It's great for anybody who's has any medical conditions, past or present, anyone who's living alone, someone with speech difficulties," said Bergen. "Paramedics and firefighters, they know where to look for this information and then they have it at their fingertips ... it can answer the questions that a person may not be able to answer right then."

The kits will be available at the session for a suggested donation of \$2. You can also pick up an E.R.I.K. anytime from the resource office at the senior centre.



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sports & recreation

Bisons finish off Orioles before getting knocked out in turn by A's

St. James and Elmwood to square off in the Manitoba Junior Baseball League final

By Ty Dilello

The Altona Bisons pulled out their MJBL quarterfinal series with the Pembina Valley Orioles in the third game of a three-game series.

Altona defeated Pembina Valley 9-2 in Game 1, while Pembina Valley squeaked out Game 2 by a 6-5 scoreline.

In Game 3 back in Altona on Friday night, the Bisons were able to find their bats and got a big performance out of ace pitcher Ethan Giesbrecht to win it 11-1.

"Ethan and Isaiah [Letkeman, catcher] work so well together," said Altona Bisons' manager Curt Letkeman.

"And Ethan was just on his game. We told him to pitch like you know that you're better than they are, and he did. He was aggressive early in the counts and really attacked the hitters. We scored a couple of runs in each of the first few innings, and the pitcher has more confidence when he knows that he has some runs to work with."

Pembina Valley was missing some of their top players, which was a let-down for them. But on the flipside, Altona has had to manage its pitching, with some of their top guys being unavailable as well.

"We were missing a number of guys, but our guys battled," said Orioles' manager Jim Odlum. "We're a young



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

It was a close game all the way, but the Pembina Valley Orioles eked out a 6-5 victory in game two of their MJBL quarter-final Thursday in Morden, and it set up the third and deciding game Friday night in Altona, which the Bisons won 11-1 to advance to the next round. Left: The Bisons celebrate a home run.



team, as only three guys graduated. So for those guys who come back, this year was about getting the experience. They'll be that much tougher to play against next year.

"I'm proud of all the guys. And we had a great coaching staff in Steve Sager and Kevin Booker. I think next year will be exciting."

After ousting the Orioles, the Bisons advanced to the best-of-three semi-finals against the second-seeded St. James A's. The top-seeded Elmwood Giants were paired with the Carillon Sultans in the other semi-final series.

The Bisons were forced to play with only ten players for Game 1 in Winnipeg on Saturday night. St. James was able to take advantage and win 6-4.

It was a different story for the Bisons back home the following night for Game 2. Altona got a strong pitching performance from Maddux Mateychuk and found the bats when they needed to, as they pulled out a 6-1 win to force a third and deciding game on Monday night.

"Maddux has really found it this year for us," said Letkeman early on Monday. "He's got the confidence, and he has the control, and the off-speed pitches going too, in addition to the heat he throws. Isaiah is catching everything he throws, so he's got the confidence knowing he can bounce a pitch. And he's wild enough to keep guys honest. He played huge in a game where he needed him to be."

Mateychuk also finished off the A's by hitting a home run in the final innings to seal the win.

"We couldn't quite get the key hit that we needed to break it open, but our guys were strong defensively," said Letkeman.

Monday's game did not go Altona's way—the A's won it 10-0 to advance to the finals and end the Bisons' season.

That same night, the Giants won their series against the Sultans with an 8-3 game three win. St. James and Elmwood will now face each other in the championship series..

Winkler Storm fall to Lucania FC, Luso Cdn. forfeits

By Ashleigh Viveiros

George Siemens scored Winkler's lone goal last week Thursday as the Storm fell to Lucania FC on the road.

The 3-1 loss came a couple days before the team was supposed to host Luso Canadian on Sunday. Luso forfeited due to a lack of players.

With that, the Storm's record for the

summer thus far is at 3-5-1, which puts them in last place in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Premier Division.

Winkler hits the road again this

week to face the Lions in Winnipeg on Wednesday.

They then host the Lions on Monday, Aug. 1 at 6 p.m.

Central Energy win gold



The 13UAAA provincial championship team includes: (back row, from left) Melissa Pearce, Ella Conrad, Taylor Wall, Kennedy Funk, Morgan Miller, Mya Richard, Taryn Toews, Tara Pettinger, (middle row) Shyanne Goertzen, Zoey Shantz, Ava Bonik, Bree Pearce, Addison Nikkel, Camryn Lavallee, and (front) Rory Perrin. Right: The team celebrates.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Central Energy retained its title at Softball Manitoba's U13 AAA Provincial Championship in Brandon last weekend.

The regional team—which this year has girls from Manitou, Winkler, Morden, Elie, Portage la Prairie, Oak Bluff, and Starbuck—kicked off the weekend with a 5-2 record in the round robin.

The win column included victories over the Smitty's Terminators (12-3), Manitoba Angels (12-2), Eastman Wildcats (3-2), Manitoba Thunder (7-3), and Winnipeg Lightning (11-4). Losses were by a score of 3-2 to both the Interlake Phillies and Westman Magic.

The Magic bested Central Energy for a second time that weekend in the 1 vs. 2 game of the playoffs, which Westman took 7-2.

"We had some tough losses in the round robin but stuck to the game plan of playing calm and confident," coach Tara Pettinger said on Monday. "Despite losing the 1vs2 game, the girls never doubted themselves.

"It is 10 games in four days for these player," she noted. "It is a tough grind physically and mentally. They were up for the task and knew they wanted gold again."

Win it they did, first dispatching the

Wildcats in the semi-finals 6-2 before squaring off against Westman once again.

Last year, Central Energy beat Magic 3-1 to win the title. They did it again this year with the same score.

The provincial championship wraps up a stellar summer for the team, who finished the regular season with a record of 24-3-1.



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

The Winkler Barracudas hosted a swim meet at the Winkler Aquatic Centre Sunday, where the 28 local swimmers dominated.



By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Barracudas swim team hosted Swim Manitoba Summer Swim's second meet of the summer last weekend.

Taking to the water in the Winkler Aquatic Centre alongside the 'Cudas were swimmers from Pilot Mound, Beausejour, Neepawa, Swan Valley, Treherne, and Manitou.

Winkler swimmers reached the podium in nearly every one of the events they competed in, clinching first place in many. The 'Cudas have 28 participants ranging in age from 7-17 this season.

The Summer Swim schedule continues with a meet in Manitou Aug. 7, Neepawa Aug. 14, and the championship in Beausejour Aug. 21.

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Northern Roots Hockey School run by Boe Leslie welcomed 35 U9, U11, and U13 hockey players to the ice in Morden last week.

Honing their skills

By Lorne Stelmach

It's not only a passion for the game of hockey that motivates Boe Leslie but also a desire to give back as well that is behind the Northern Roots Hockey School.

Having the opportunity to offer a session for U9, U11, and U13 players last week in Morden was a homecoming of sorts for the founder and director of the hockey camp.

"This is year number one [in Morden]. I've done camps all over the world ... and I'm finally back to my home," said Leslie, who grew up in Carman before the game took him to college in the U.S. and then to Europe for almost a decade.

"I then ended up starting my own business 15 years ago, but I'm based out of Washington right now ... and I've been itching for years to get back to Manitoba, to my roots."

All of the camp staff were born and

raised in Manitoba, including his father Bob, who coached professionally in Europe for over 20 years and had nine postings with Team Canada at the world championships, Deutschland Cup, and Spengler Cup.

There is also Barry Lewis, who is currently serving as the development coach at the Ontario Hockey Academy and is former head coach of Morris High School as well as former assistant coach in DEL Germany of the Swiss National League and the MJHL Winkler Flyers.

Leslie himself is a former Division 1 player at Union College and played eight years in Switzerland and England. He has 15 years working full-time in youth hockey development.

"I grew up here in a hockey family, so we're really excited to be back here doing this now," said Leslie, who aims to have each session include power skating, goalie-specific training, puck handling skills, battles, small area games and a scrimmage.

Leslie's first time bringing Northern Roots Hockey School to Morden-Winkler saw 35 kids register to take part.

"It's been going great," he said last Wednesday. "We're on the ice two hours a day."

"I couldn't be more happy with the staff I was able to put together to be with me here. I think the kids are having a great time, and I would love to build on it in the future."

His aim for the camp goes beyond just learning and improving on the basic skills.

"I am such a believer in what hockey can do for us from so many different angles of life. I want kids to improve ... and I know they will come out of the week being better as hockey players, but I've always felt that a hockey camp can be a place where players of different levels all get exposure to great coaching."

"We can figure out a way that they are all put in small groups over the course of the week where they can thrive and compete against kids of similar abilities ... and we can put kids in a position where they are going to come out of the week loving the game even more."

"For me, it's challenging kids, sometimes putting them in situations where they don't really know what skills they're working on, but we're pushing them to a place where they may be outside of their comfort level as well, but they are working on the skills," he said. "In the end, we want them to be challenged and thrive and then leave the ice at the end of every day with a smile on their face."



Winkler's Bobby Matuszewski slides safely around the tag attempt by Altona shortstop Colin Waldner at second base.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Whips take game 1

The Winkler Whips won game one of their best-of-three Border Baseball League semi-final playoff series against the Altona Bisons Monday night.

Winkler took the opener 5-0 in front of a hometown crowd. Game two was scheduled to take place in Altona Tuesday night with game three, if needed, back in Winkler Thursday.

The East Division's other playoff series pits the Morden Mud Hens against the Carman Cardinals Tuesday night in Morden, Wednesday in Carman, and back in Morden Thursday if a deciding third game is necessary.

Meanwhile, in the league's West Division, Cartwright is squaring off against Clearwater and Baldur is facing Pilot Mound.



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The Winkler Morden
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Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication Please Call 204-467-5836

CAREERS



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FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.BLSD.CA

CAREERS

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER RM OF PEMBINA

Completed tenders and a \$10,000.00 deposit per parcel are invited to be received up to 2:00 pm on August 15, 2022, for the land described below, at:

PKF Lawyers - 71 Main St S, Box 1240, Carman, MB R0G 0J0
Attn: **Mona Brown/Tammy Bisschop** Ph: 204-745-2028
mbrown@pkflawyers.com tbisschop@pkflawyers.com

LAND FOR SALE: (no buildings)
(Bids for one, two or all three parcels will be accepted)

1. NW 29-4-8 WPM 160 acres
2. NW 32-4-8 WPM 160 acres
3. NE 31-4-8 WPM 152.16 acres

Conditions of Tender:

1. Financing must be pre-approved.
2. Tenders to be submitted on the form prepared by PKF Lawyers. **To obtain tender form or more info., contact Tammy Bisschop or Mona Brown at 204-745-2028**
3. Each tender must be accompanied by a certified cheque, payable to PKF Lawyers (in trust), in the amount of \$10,000.00 per parcel. Deposits of tenders not accepted will be returned to the Tenderers.
4. Highest tender or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.
5. Vacant possession and the due date of the balance of tender price shall be October 1, 2022.
6. The maker of any tender relies entirely upon his/her personal inspection and knowledge of the land, independent of the representations made by the Vendor or the Solicitor and Agent of the Vendor. The land will be sold "as is" and the Bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and quality of the land.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE of **NORMA ROSE KOOP**, late of the City of Morden, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at 309 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba, R6M 1V1 within thirty (30) days of the date of this publication.

DATED at the City of Morden, in Manitoba, this 25th day of July, 2022.

McCULLOCH MOONEY JOHNSTON SELBY LLP.
Attention: **KELLY A. KENNEDY**
Solicitor for the Executor

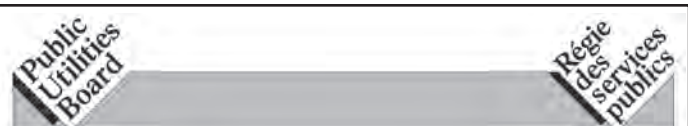
CAREERS



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PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF APPLICATION CITY OF WINKLER REVISED WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES WINKLER WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY

July 22, 2022

The City of Winkler (City) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for revised water and wastewater rates for the Winkler Water and Wastewater Utility (Utility) as set out in By-Law No. 2279-22, read the first time May 10, 2022. Rates were last approved in 2012 in Board Order No. 80/12, with current rates coming into effect March 1, 2012.

The current and proposed rates are as follows:

| | Current Rates | Proposed Rates | | | |
|---|---------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | By-Law No. 2273-21* | By-Law 2279-22 Year 1 | By-Law 2279-22 Year 2 | By-Law 2279-22 Year 3 |
| Quarterly Service Charge | \$ 18.15 | \$ 27.50 | \$ 27.50 | \$ 27.50 | \$ 27.50 |
| Water (per 1,000 gallons) | \$ 9.98 | \$ 10.18 | \$ 10.21 | \$ 10.23 | \$ 10.28 |
| Wastewater (per 1,000 gallons) | \$ 6.42 | \$ 7.13 | \$ 7.84 | \$ 8.54 | \$ 9.25 |
| Minimum Quarterly Charge** | \$ 67.35 | \$ 79.43 | \$ 81.65 | \$ 83.81 | \$ 86.09 |
| Bulk Water Sales (per 1,000 gallons)*** | \$ 13.73 | \$ 12.81 | \$ 12.81 | \$ 12.81 | \$ 12.81 |
| Wastewater Only Customers**** | \$ 69.51 | \$ 84.54 | \$ 90.22 | \$ 95.82 | \$ 101.50 |

*By-Law No. 2273-21 includes a pass through increase from Pembina Valley Water Co-op.
**Based on 3,000 gallons
***Pro rated for all quantities greater than 500 gallons. Minimum charge \$12.81 for all quantities less than 500 gallons.
****Based on 8,000 gallons, Flat Quarterly Charge

Details of the City's application are available for review at the City's office or the Board's office. Any questions concerning the application for revised rates, or the operation of the Utility, should be sent directly to the City.

If you have concerns/comments regarding the City's application for water and wastewater, rates please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and provide your comment. Please note all comments will be forwarded to the City.

Questions or comments should be sent on or before **August 22, 2022**.

The Board is the provincial regulatory agency that reviews and approves rates for water and wastewater utilities in Manitoba, with the exception of the City of Winnipeg. The Board's review process involves:

- the Utility filing a rate application to the Board,
- a public notification of proposed rate changes,
- the Board's review of the application through a public hearing or paper review process, and
- the issuance of an Order which outlines the Board's decision on the rate application and the rates to be charged.

The Manitoba Ombudsman has privacy guidelines for administrative tribunals. The Board is mindful of its obligations under those guidelines. Its decisions in respect of the application being considered will be sensitive to the guidelines. Personal information will not be disclosed unless it is appropriate and necessary to do so. However, the Board advises participants that these proceedings are public and that as a result, personal information protections are reduced.

The Board will then decide whether any further notice is required and whether to proceed with a public hearing or paper review process. All concerns received by the Board will be considered in the Board's decision on rates to be charged.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IN CONSIDERING THIS APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD MAY OR MAY NOT FIND IT NECESSARY TO DETERMINE RATES DIFFERENT FROM THOSE APPLIED FOR BY THE APPLICANT.

Note: All proceedings will be conducted in accordance with the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure, which the Board may vary in order to constrain regulatory costs. The Rules are available at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

"Original Signed By:"

Frederick Mykytyshyn

Assistant Associate Secretary
Manitoba Public Utilities Board

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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:

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF STANLEY BY-LAW 6-22 Being the adoption of the Schanzenfeld Secondary Plan

HEARING R.M. of Stanley
Council Chambers
1-23111 PTH 14, SW 7-3-4W
DATE & TIME: August 4, 2022 at 9:45 a.m.
General Intent: To adopt a secondary plan for the village of Schanzenfeld and surrounding area outlined on the map below. A Secondary Plan is a land use policy document that contains guidance on land use, infrastructure, servicing, and future zoning related decisions for the specific area.

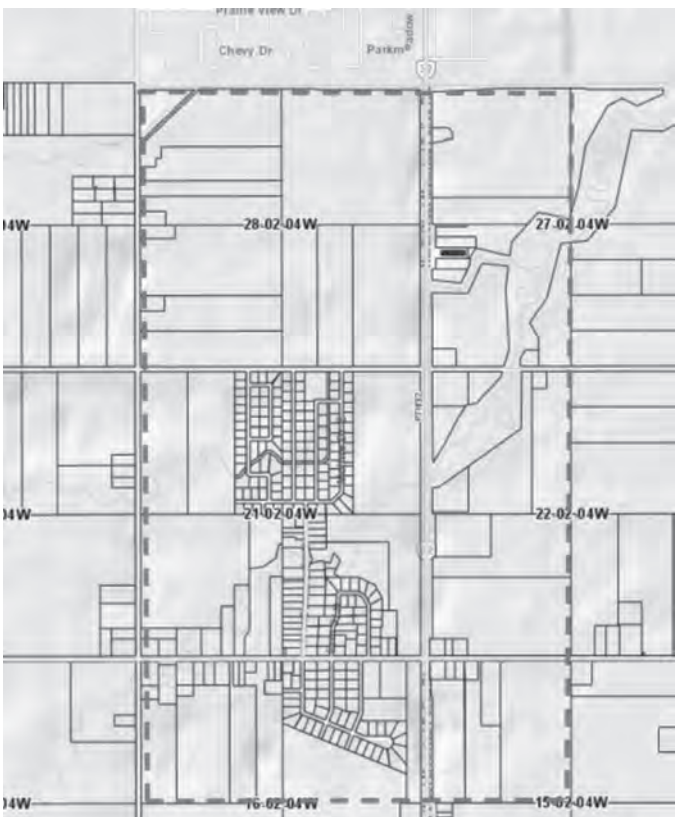
FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
Melissa Groening,
Planning and Development Officer
Rural Municipality of Stanley
1-23111 PTH 14, Stanley MB R6P 0B1
Phone: (204) 325-4101
Email: mgroening@rmofstanley.ca



A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken, upon request. A copy of the draft plan is on the RM website at www.rmofstanley.ca

You are welcome to attend the public hearing to make representations on the matter to be considered, however, you are not required to attend. If you are unable to attend but would like to make a representation, you may file a written submission in person, through regular mail, or by email (mgroening@rmofstanley.ca) with the RM prior to the public hearing. If you wish to participate in the hearing electronically, please contact mgroening@rmofstanley.ca or call 204-325-4101 a minimum of 2 business prior to the hearing. We ask that any member of the public wanting to attend a council meeting to also confirm with our office a minimum of 2 business days in advance of the meeting date so that we can ensure adequate seating is available. Please call the Administration office at (204) 325-4101.

AREA: Areas part of the Schanzenfeld Secondary Plan are shown within the dashed line below.



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OBITUARY

James "Elymer" Young



Peacefully on July 4, 2022, surrounded by his loving family, James Elymer Young passed away at the age of 87.

Elymer was born and raised in Manitou, MB. He was a fun loving guy with many friends. Never afraid to stand up for himself and others, he earned the nickname Butch. He worked as a bicycle delivery boy, in the local meat shop and bakery and would go on to train as a manager for his next job. Always outgoing, it was at one of the hall dances that he met the love of his life, Grace.

Elymer and Grace were married in Manitou, MB on August 16, 1958. They moved to The Pas, MB. in 1961 where he would manage the Robinson Store. He was affectionately known as "Mr. Robinson" by the kids who came into the store. Following the closure of the Robinson Stores, he transitioned to Western

Grocers where he continued his career in sales until his retirement. In 2013, after nearly 52 years in The Pas, they moved to Morden, MB to be closer to their roots.

Always friendly and active in the community, Elymer served on both the Hospital and United Church boards as well as being involved with the Kinsmen for many years.

He had a love of sports from a young age and this love continued throughout his entire life. Although curling and golf were his favorites, it was playing on The Pas Tee Pees baseball team that earned him a spot in the MB Baseball Hall of Fame. He also participated in many 55 Plus Games where he won many medals and made lots of new friends.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Grace and children: Dawn (Curtis), Brent (Jennifer), and Brad (Lisa); grandchildren: Kiley, Matthew, Rachel, and Brecken, who will miss their special Grandpa/Papa so much. Also, survived by his dear sister, Shirley Wheadon; in-laws, Clifford, Pearl, Ron and Betty Conner and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his brother and sister-in-law Bob and Sharon Young, sister and brother in-law Bernice and Walther Voth, brothers-in-law Ray Wheadon and Ralph Conner and sister-in-law Alice Conner.

A heartfelt thanks to the staff on the Neurology Unit 112 at Calgary's Foothills Medical Center for their kind and compassionate care.

In lieu of flowers, if you wish, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or St. Paul's United Church (353 Thornhill St. Morden, MB R6M 1M8).

A Celebration of Life will be held on Wednesday July 27 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church in Morden, MB.

"There on no goodbyes for us...
Wherever you are, you will always be in our hearts."

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING UNDER THE PLANNING ACT

The City of Winkler, under the authority of The Planning Act, will hold a hearing at which time and place the council of the City of Winkler will receive representation from the applicants and any other persons who wish to make representations in respect of the Rezoning Application No. RZ2022-013 and By-law No. 2286-22, being an amendment to Winkler Zoning By-law 2271-21 of the City of Winkler.

The general intent of the above By-Law No. 2284-22, is to zone the land described below, Namely:

All of Plan (Dep. 519/2020) MLTO in the SW ¼ 9-3-4 WPM

as shown outlined in a heavy solid line on the map attached hereto as Schedule "A" and Schedule "B", and forming part of this by-law, be rezoned

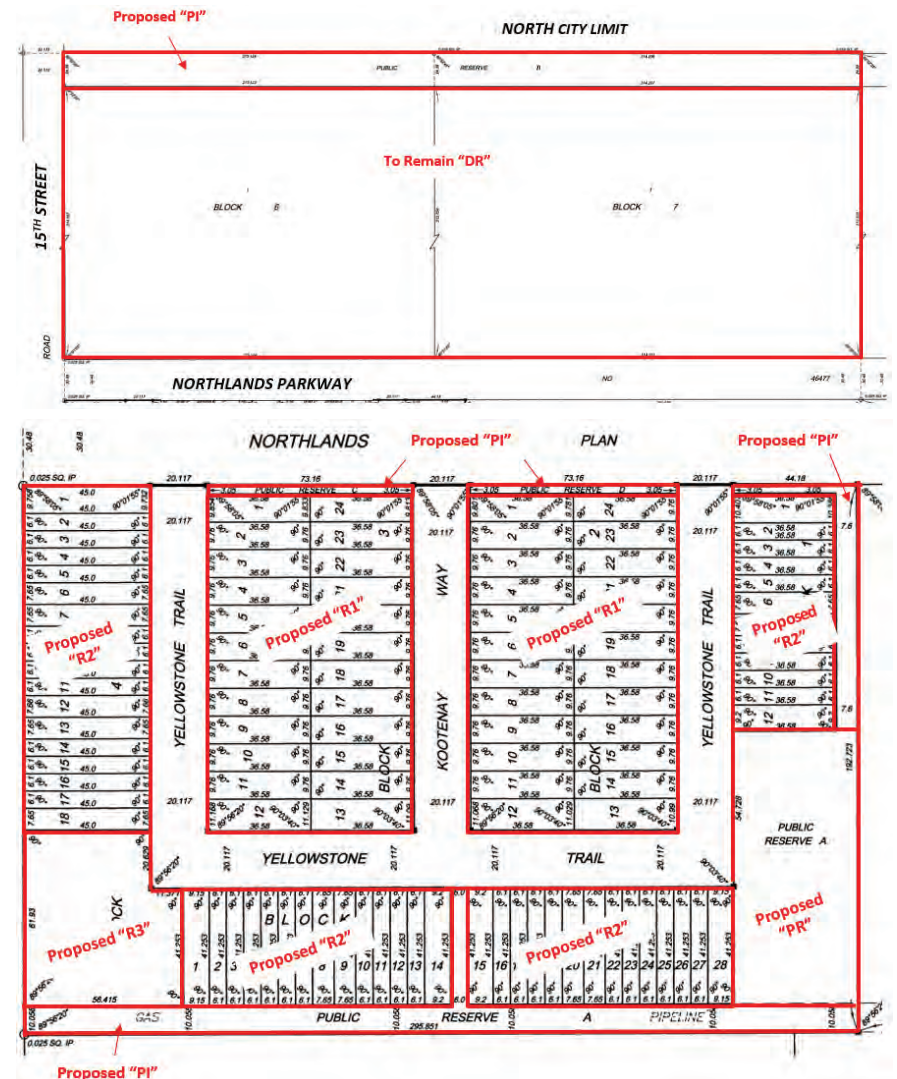
FROM: "DR" DEVELOPMENT RESERVE ZONE

TO: "R1" RESIDENTIAL LOWER DENSITY ZONE
 "R2" RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM DENSITY ZONE
 "R3" RESIDENTIAL HIGHER DENSITY ZONE
 "PI" PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE ZONE
 "PR" PARKS AND RECREATION ZONE
 "DR" DEVELOPMENT RESERVE ZONE

A copy of the above By-Law No. 2286-22 and supporting material may be inspected by any persons between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday and 9:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Friday, in the City Office.

Date of Hearing: August 9, 2022
Time of Hearing: 6:45 p.m.
Location: Winkler Council Chambers,
 185 Main Street, Winkler, Manitoba

DATED at Winkler, in Manitoba, this 7th day of July 2022.
 Designated Officer
 City of Winkler



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IN MEMORIAM



In loving memory
of our dear son Dwight
August 24, 1981 - August 3, 1999
Thank You Lord for Giving Your Son, so we
can anticipate seeing our son again.
-Karen and Bill Klassen
and family

OBITUARY

Tyler Douglas Klassen 1999 - 2022



On Monday, July 18, 2022 at Boundary Trails Health Centre, Tyler Klassen, 23 of Morden, MB passed away.

Tyler Douglas Klassen was born on February 10th, 1999 at 7:09 in the evening at the Morden General Hospital to Darrel and Tammy Klassen. Tyler was baptized upon the confession of his faith on April 24th, 2022 in his home by pastor Allen Kehler and pastor (uncle) James Peters. This was such a special day, Jesus was right there with His arms of peace wrapped around Tyler. Tyler loved Jesus and shone the light of His glory everyday of his life. So many times, we have been so blessed to hear stories of how Tyler was an example of the great love of Jesus. He was born with many health challenges and yet lived a life of joy, happiness, forgiveness and peace. He was always ready and willing to help whether it was mowing grass, or trimming the Saskatoon bush on the yard, knocking down walls in the garage, vacuuming for Mom, helping Dad at home or Mr. Enns fix things at school (Dad and Mr. Enns were always ready to let Ty help). Tyler loved tools, he would jump at the chance to use any of them big or small if someone would offer. He loved his years at school, he had so many fabulous people love and care for him. When they were younger Tyler loved playing kitchen or baby dolls with Daphne and sit on her bed while she worked or played in her room. Tyler always needed his sister Daphne or "Hi" as he called her, especially at bedtime. He would say I want Hi, I want Hi! After she got married to Tyler 2.0 he always had to FaceTime them to say goodnight. Tyler got a new camper trailer from the Make-A-Wish Foundation when he was young, camping was definitely Tyler's favourite thing to do. Helping Dad make a fire, having movie night in the camper and having friends and family join us for a visit. Tyler had the most fabulous respite workers, he was always loved and taken care of when we would go out for a couple of hours. When Daphne married, she gave him such a wonderful gift...a brother-in-law named Tyler. Becoming uncle Ty was also a huge joy, he loved Luke so much. Tyler loved to have them over for movie nights and go to their house. Tyler lost his Morden grandma and grandpa as well as great grandma and grandpa. This left a huge hole in his life. He spent a lot of time in the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg and Boundary Trails Health Centre. We are so thankful for all the love and care he received. He had homecare for the last couple of years and was so thankful for each and every one that came to care for him. Tyler has always been so loved and accepted by everyone and we know he loved each of us as well. Special thank you to Dr. Convery, palliative care nurse Deanne, homecare coordinator Sasha Munge and all the people that touched Tyler's life. Tyler's world had no limits, he was never told he could not do or be something he wanted to be. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends thank you all for the love you have poured out to Tyler over the 23 years of his life. A big thank you to the Morden Fire Department family, this was one of Tyler's biggest joys. With all your help you made his dreams come true, he became an honorary firefighter!

He is survived by his parents Darrel and Tammy Klassen of Morden, MB, one sister, Daphne, her husband, Tyler Penner, and their son, Luke as well as grandma and grandpa Klassen and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Tyler was predeceased by his great-grandparents, Diedrich and Sara Fehr and his Morden grandparents, William and Mary Klassen.

I can't think of anywhere Tyler would rather be than safe in the arms of Jesus. Till we meet again, our dear son!

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, 2022 at the Morden EMMC with interment at Hillside Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Tyler's memory to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba.

OBITUARY

Norma Rose Koop (nee Dueck) 1940 - 2022



Norma Koop, age 82, passed away Monday July 18, 2022 at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

She is survived by her four children: Dwight (Michele) from Saskatoon, SK, Gwendy (Steve) from Westport, ON, Twyla from Calgary, AB and Marcia (Nathan) from Coaldale, AB; her grandchildren: Ashlyn (Justin), Braden (Rachel), Charissa, Nicole (Jacob), Joshua (Janika), Alex, Erika, Luke, Karlin (fiancée, Shayla), Colton, Callisa and Kayleigh and her three great-grandchildren: Baylor, Calder and Oakley; one brother, Len (Pat) Dueck and one sister, Grace (Abe) Enns.

She was predeceased by her husband of 57 years, Daniel (Dan) Koop; her parents, Peter and Margaret (Barkman) Dueck her

stepmother, Ella (Barkman) Dueck and a brother, Leslie Peter who died at birth.

Funeral service was held on Friday July 22, 2022 at EMMC in Morden with interment at the Southside Cemetery.

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



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AUCTION



Timed on-line auction for Bill and Jan Lightly, Hwy 3, Brunkild, MB, closing Aug 5. Payment and pickup Aug 6 from 9 am to 2 pm. Good shop tools, like welders, air compressor, Special tools, etc. Good yard equipment, 1968 Volvo project car, Sebring car kit purchased in 1990, still in shipping crate, see www.billklassen.com

Timed on-line auction for Betty Jensen and estate of the late Brian Jensen, closing Aug 12, 6 pm. Payment and pickup, Saturday, Aug 13, 9 am to 5 pm at the farm 3 mile east of Inwood, MB on Hwy 229. 2004 Oldsmobile, 4 door sedan, 2004 Chev 2500 pickup 102000 km, JD 920 Industrial tractor w/ loader, IHC B 414 diesel tractor, MF 135, 65, AND OLIVER gas w/ forks, small bobcat w/ bucket and forks, all run and drive, also project motor home, tools and household, antiques, etc. See all at www.billklassen.com/nextlot

35th Annual Consignment Auction, TIMED ONLINE closing, Saturday July 30, payment and pickup will be Monday Aug 1. 9 am to 4 pm at the auction yard ¼ mile south of Hwy 3 and 14 Hwy. Winkler, Morden. This auction will have a wide variety of items from machinery to tools cars, trucks, RV, Lawn and Garden etc.

Yard is being filled up as we speak. SEE THE LINE UPS AT
www.billklassen.com 204-325-6230, 204-325-4433



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> MEAL IDEAS



Lentil Bolognese with Veggie-Based Penne

1/2 cup vegetable broth
1 box Veggiecraft Farms Cauliflower Penne

Toppings:
fresh basil
Parmesan cheese
red pepper flakes

Cook lentils according to package directions. Drain then return to pot and add marinara and vegetable broth. Stir well and simmer over low heat about 10 minutes.

Cook penne according to package directions.

Top cooked pasta with lentil Bolognese, fresh basil, Parmesan cheese and red pepper flakes.

1 cup dry French green lentils or brown lentils
1 jar (24 ounces) marinara sauce



S'mores Skillet

6 graham crackers, roughly crumbled, divided

Preheat oven or grill to 350 F.

Place medium heat-proof bowl over medium saucepan simmering with water. Add butter, 1/4 cup chocolate chips and unsweetened chocolate; melt. Remove from heat and allow mixture to cool 15 minutes.

In small bowl, whisk flour, baking powder and salt.

In large bowl, mix eggs, sugar and vanilla. Add chocolate mixture and mix until well combined. Stir in flour mixture. Add 1/4 cup chocolate chips, 1/2 cup mini marshmallows and three graham crackers to batter.

Pour mixture into 8-inch skillet. Top with remaining mini marshmallows, chocolate chips and graham crackers. Grill or bake 10-12 minutes. Remove from grill. Cool 10 minutes and serve.

Prep time: 30 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Servings: 6
8 tablespoons unsalted butter
3/4 cup semisweet chocolate chips, divided
2 ounces unsweetened chocolate
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 large eggs
1/2 cup Domino Light Brown Sugar
1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
1 cup mini marshmallows, divided



Popcorn Party Pizza

candy-coated chocolate pieces (optional)

Spray 12-inch pizza pan with nonstick cooking spray; set aside.

In large saucepan over medium heat, heat butter. Stir in marshmallows until melted. Stir in popcorn until well coated.

Spread mixture evenly onto prepared pizza pan.

Drizzle red piping gel over "pizza" for "sauce."

Cut small circles (about 1 1/4-inch diameter) from rolled fruit snack and place on pizza for "pepperoni" slices.

Decorate with jellybeans, coconut and candies, if desired. Cool completely before cutting into wedges.

Yield: 8 slices
Nonstick cooking spray
3 tablespoons butter
1 bag (10 1/2 ounces) mini marshmallows
2 quarts popped popcorn
1 tube (0.68 ounces) red piping gel
1 package red raspberry rolled fruit snack
green jellybeans (optional)
coconut (optional)

Expert patient here to help!



Susie Schwartz

By Susie Schwartz

As devastating as the pandemic has been on so many, I will dare say there have been a few positives. (I'd never ask for terrible circumstances to be the catalyst for positive change, but since we are going through it anyway, I for one, will take whatever we can get.) The introverts of the world are finding relief in less social pressure, the chronically ill are thinking, 'I always try to avoid people carrying viruses and stay home if there's the threat of a simple cold,' and some folks needing counselling can actually get to a zoom appointment from their bed, rather than having to find the energy to leave the house. I can think of one more positive:

Support groups are now everywhere online, and readily accessible.

I just looked at my FB account and I am part of seven groups covering an array of my health issues. I have found the M.E. and Gastroparesis groups particularly helpful as they are more rare diseases. I'm continually amazed at how much information other patients have and are

willing to share. And the emotional support is overwhelming. Recently, when my diabetic retinopathy became active again, I posted in one of my Type 1 Diabetes groups about how alone I felt inside my head, and how even though people are understanding, most can never understand. The response was a flood of comments from people recommending top-notch eye clinics in London, fellow patients telling me their journeys with eye disease, virtual hugs, and many offered to stay in touch privately to walk the road with me. These people got it.

As much as my family and friends are supportive, none of them can truly relate (apart from my aunt who lost her husband to Diabetes complications, eye disease included in my uncle's picture), and certainly none of them know the latest retinopathy eye treatments available and where to get them.

As much as I prefer face-to-face connection with people, I'd never have access to these supports if it weren't for online groups. (This does not only apply to health. I have made some tight music connections online during the pandemic as well!) And I'll dare say that patient lived experience is often more helpful than doctor book knowledge, especially considering I can talk with hundreds of patients online, with access to only one doctor.

Take advantage of the positives, yes?

Less health stress, yes?

A published author and musician, Susie currently lives in the UK. Find her on FB @medicalmissstress, Instagram @susie.suschwa, and lesshealthstress.com



Cheeseburger Turnovers

and onions are tender. Drain. Stir in ketchup and mustard.

Separate biscuit dough. On ungreased baking sheet, flatten biscuit dough to form 6-inch rounds. Spoon beef mixture onto one side of flattened dough. Sprinkle with cheese. Top with dill pickle half. Fold dough over filling. With fork tines, press dough edges to seal. Cut two slits in top of dough to release steam. Repeat with remaining dough, beef mixture, cheese and pickles.

Brush each turnover with egg wash.

Bake 18-22 minutes, or until deep golden brown.

1 pound ground beef
1/2 cup onion, chopped
2 tablespoons ketchup
1 tablespoon mustard
1 can flaky biscuits
1 cup shredded cheese
1 dill pickle slices, halved
1 egg, beaten
Heat oven to 375 F.
In large skillet, cook ground beef and onion until beef is thoroughly cooked

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A commitment to providing the best for your pets

His business is also very much a passion for Guy Britten.

With locations today in Niverville, Altona, and Morden, RuffMutts got its start from a desire to provide the best for people's pets.

"We always had a passion about dogs, and that's where it really started; about three and a half or four years ago, we opened up our first store in Niverville," shared Britten, who went on to open the Altona store in 2020 and the Morden one last year. "We really like working in southern Manitoba and dealing with the communities and the people in this area.

"When we first came to Morden years ago, we went to check out the pet store, and there wasn't one, so that was the initial thought," he said. "We recognize that people are getting more educated on pet nutrition, and they want some good quality options at competitive prices, so that's the niche that we try to fill. It's something we're conscientious about always."

Britten said their first year in Morden has gone very well.

"Stephen Street is such a beautiful street, so once we had the opportunity ... we jumped on it," he said. "The response in Morden has been fantastic."

RuffMutts offers a wide selection of pet food, toys, leashes and collars, and they not only emphasize offering quality products but also being knowledgeable about those products.

"One of the rules that we have here that I think kind of separates us is we have the rule that if we aren't willing to give it to our pets, we're not willing to sell it," said Britten. "We're selective about the pet food we bring in; we're selective about the products we bring in ... we make sure we're competitive with the pricing"

"We don't ever want to get stagnant, so we're consistently doing research," he said. "We're always looking for new initiatives, new ideas. We like to stay informed ... we adapt."

I AM A MEMBER!


mordenchamber.com

Morden Ruff Mutts manager Jessica Wynn-Penner with store hound Max.

"We have the best food available at every budget," Britten stressed, while noting they also offer grooming as well as a self wash option. In addition, they can do tag engravings and even sell live crickets for people who have pets like geckos or lizards.

And as much as he loves meeting the pets (who are welcome in the store if well behaved) he equally enjoys meeting the owners.

"I tell everyone one of the greatest things about working in a pet store is the clientele is the best, I think, in any industry," Britten said. "Pet owners are the best people, so it's always a treat working here and dealing with the people."

Stop by RuffMutts at 275 Stephen St. or head to ruffmutts.ca.

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