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Voice

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Taking a tight turn

Rylee Olafson and her horse Tebow round a barrel in a barrel race at the recent Manitoba High School Rodeo Association finals. See inside for more on this story.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

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

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CO-OP

The Hub shutting down

Personal reasons largely behind decision

By Lorne Stelmach

A Morden area food bank service is shutting down next week.

The organizers behind The Hub Community Centre announced August 17 would be the last day for the food program offered each Tuesday afternoon.

Spokesperson Brian Thiessen said there were a few factors behind the decision, but the key reason was a need for them to focus more on their family and home life right now.

"I think the biggest one is that our personal life required us to pay more attention to ourselves ... there's just things going on in our life that need our attention," he said. "We also have a small committee, and we have a small volunteer base.

"We know the need is still there, and that's the hardest part of the decision ... we really do hope that somebody else can pick it up and keep running with it."

The Hub started out as Donate

Love before evolving as well as going through a number of locations before settling in at the Morden Mennonite Church.

The Hub's main service was the weekly food bank program for Manitou, Darlingford, Miami and Morden residents, although it also provided clothing and some household items.

The food bank had been operating each Tuesday afternoon, and Thiessen estimated that they on average had served around a hundred families on a bi-weekly basis. They offered smaller hampers, so they had a higher turnover on an ongoing basis.

They hold out hope that another organization or group may be able to take up the torch.

"We checked a few avenues to maybe hand it off ... those doors had closed at the moment," said Thiessen.

"Hopefully, there are other organizations in the area that might be able to step up and fill the void. Maybe us continuing to do this is keeping someone else from fulfilling some dream or goal of their own," he wondered.

"It's unfortunate it meant closing ... but as you close one chapter then another one can open," Thiessen continued. "It's been a good run while we've had it. Everything has its ups and downs of course, but I think it just



VOICE FILE PHOTO

The food bank had been operating each Tuesday afternoon, and it was estimated that they on average had served around a hundred families on a bi-weekly basis.

came to a point where we needed to shift our focus from what we were doing to our own family.

"With every challenge comes huge rewards ... and we've always felt great community support every time we put out a plea, whether it be for volunteers or monetary needs to fill the shelves or even just food," said Thiessen. "The community has always stepped up ... and there's still those people in the community who care and are com-

passionate about each other.

"I know there's things possibly in the works for a central location for a lot of the services that are being provided within the community, and maybe there will be something from that to help fill the gap," he suggested. "And maybe there's something still down the road for us ... who knows where this will all lead."



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New case count remains low

Warnings of a possible fourth wave of COVID-19 continued even as the province last weekend welcomed a significant loosening of public health restrictions.

The new case count meanwhile remained low as of the regular update Monday, which noted 128 new cases of the virus had been identified since Friday including 29 cases Friday, 29 cases Saturday, 45 cases Sunday and 25 cases Monday. Seven cases were removed due to data correction, bringing the total number of lab-confirmed cases in Manitoba to 57,860.

Public health officials reported one new death of a person with COVID-19, and the death of the female in her 60s from the Winnipeg health region, linked to an unspecified variant of concern, brought the total number of deaths in people with COVID-19 is 1,184.

The current five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 2.5 per cent provincially and 1.6 per cent in Winnipeg,

Continued on page 7

Celebrating Winkler's diversity

By Lorne Stelmach

An annual event that highlights Winkler's diversity couldn't happen this year, but organizers still wanted to celebrate in some way.

In place of Culture Fest, which usually happens in conjunction with the Harvest Festival weekend in August, families were invited to Bethel Heritage Park Saturday for family photos.

In addition, Regional Connections was also promoting Culture Fest Food Week throughout Winkler this week.

"We certainly did not want to see this year go by without any celebration of the multicultural community that lives here in Winkler," said Robyn Wiebe, volunteer facilitator for Regional Connections.

"We decided to keep it as simple as possible by inviting families to the Bethel Heritage Park, where we were taking pictures of them, and then we're posting a slide show of them. Many of them were wearing their cultural clothing, and we were asking them to express why they love living in Winkler," she said.

"We wanted to be able to celebrate this community on Harvest Festival weekend as a way to make sure we celebrate these great people and why they love living here."

Now having called Winkler home

for about three years but having joined other family here, Sukhjinder Ubhi said she very much appreciates Winkler and how it has reached out to families like them.

"It's a very special community, and if we can be part of this festival, that's very amazing," she said after having their family photo done on the weekend.

"It's nice that we can represent our culture and share our culture with other people who are living here," she said. "It's easy to be connected to people through this festival and even other cultures also."

Wiebe said that Culture Fest gets a great response from the community and that people recognize how important it is to recognize and embrace the growing diversity in Winkler.

"People say that Winkler is a friendly and welcoming community. People are saying it's very peaceful."

"Many people come from countries for a variety of reasons," she noted. "When you choose to leave your home, it's a big decision, and there are lots of reasons why people come here, whether they're looking for better opportunities for their family ... lots of them come here because the countries they are leaving have a lot of unrest."

"Often, you don't see the diversity of



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Gurkupal and Sukhjinder Ubhi had a new family addition along with them for their family photo Saturday as part of the week's plans to take the place of Culture Fest, which is normally held in conjunction with the Harvest Festival.

people in the community," she noted. "You might not even realize they are a neighbour, they are people who are in school with your children ... so this is a way for us to propel the conversation ... the hope is that from seeing these faces, when you see them in person, you can maybe start a conversation."

Meanwhile, Culture Fest Food Week this week saw 10 local restaurants taking part in featuring either something already on their menu or creating something special for the occasion.

There was a great variety of things to be enjoyed ranging from gelato at Whitecap to porcupine meatballs at Outpost Grill, while there was Indian butter chicken at Mulligans, steak stir fry at Szutus or a Cuban at Kings Deli. "We've got a great selection, even things like Mexican enchiladas and vereniki," noted Wiebe.

"We're very grateful for our restaurants. We wanted to support them and have people take a trip around the world with their taste buds."

Morden schools getting in shape

By Lorne Stelmach

It may be some time before Morden's new school becomes a reality, but there are still a lot of other projects on the go for Western School Division.

There is always much to be done in the short time when schools are

closed for the summer, noted Carl Pedersen, secretary treasurer for Western School Division.

"It's been a very busy summer. It's a two month window for us ... so as soon as school is out, all the crews move in, and we've been going hard at it ever

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PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The site of what long ago was a poultry plant and has been open field at Ecole Morden Middle School was rehabilitated this summer.

LET'S SAVE WATER TOGETHER

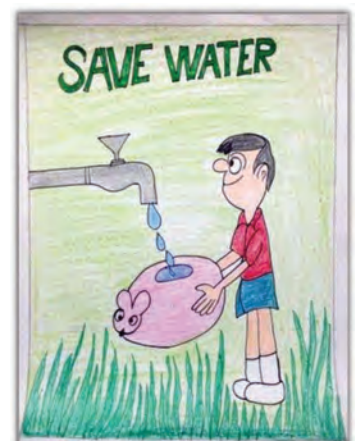
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Busy summer at Garden Valley schools

Winkler Elementary project coming along well

By Lorne Stelmach

A wide array of projects have been underway across Garden Valley School Division this summer to get the schools in shape for the next school year.

The most high profile of the work has been the substantial overhaul of Winkler Elementary School, where the building envelope, roofing and crawl space improvements continue, noted secretary treasurer Terry Penner.

"During the summer the intent is to complete the majority of the roofing replacement, install below grade insulation, begin masonry work and install windows. On the interior, some mill-work modifications will be necessary, and there will be a ramp installed for better accessibility in the gym foyer," Penner said via email.

"This project will make the building more efficient and will give it a much needed face lift as well," he said, adding that "interior work is to be completed before school begins with exterior work continuing into the fall."

Also underway at the school are some flooring replacements and a renovation converting the computer lab into a regular classroom, while two unused portables have recently moved off site to other divisions.

Penner also provided a summary of what is happening at other schools in the division.

- Blumenfeld

Flooring replacement in three classrooms is underway, and small sidewalk replacement is planned.

- Border Valley

They are adding sinks to five classrooms along with floor replacement in one portable classroom.

- Emerado

Thirty feet of sidewalk replacement has been completed

- Garden Valley Collegiate

The entire school is being converted to LED lighting which replaces very old original fixtures dating back to the 1960s in the main building and updates all other fixtures to modern and efficient LEDs.

Meanwhile, renovations to turn two main floor classrooms into one dedicated fitness room is planned with this work likely done in the fall.

- JR Walkof



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The improvements at Winkler Elementary School will not only make it more efficient but give it a much needed facelift.

A paint project is underway with the portable classroom interiors complete, while the gym and change rooms also received new paint and a fresh look with new trim colors.

As well, three small and very tired roof top units will be replaced on three of the portables, and three unused portables have been moved to other divisions with the area being returned to grass.

- Northlands Parkway Collegiate

Some significant changes are being made to the ground source heat pump system to replace failed compressors and to improve the performance and reliability of the system.

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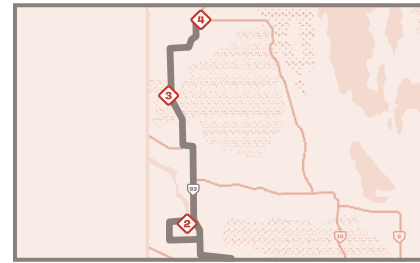
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↑ 9 Finger Ranch

Perfectly Parkland

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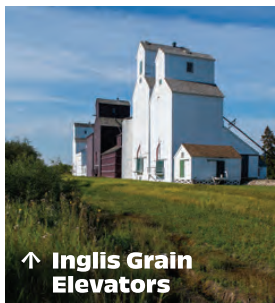


↑ East Blue Lake

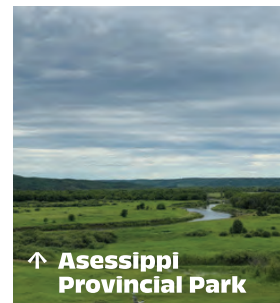
1 MAIN STREET STROLLS AND HORSEBACK RIDES

There's more to the town of **Russell** than Arthur, the eight-foot bull statue (although he does make for a fun photo). Walk beneath the arches that line the streets and head to a local coffee house to mingle with locals. You can also get to know the history of the town through a self-guided walking tour. Stops include the Smellie Block, the Red House and the Old Anglican Rectory.

Take a detour from Russell and surround yourself with rolling hills at **9 Finger Ranch**, located on the south end of Riding Mountain National Park in **Rosburn**. At this working cattle ranch, you can saddle up and take a ride off the beaten path on horseback for a chance to view wildlife and explore the area. Stay at the hostel here or rent a cabin, or head back to Russell to spend the night at a hotel.



↑ Inglis Grain Elevators



↑ Asessippi Provincial Park

2 EXPLORE THE PRAIRIES

Drive 20 minutes north of Russell to find the **Inglis Grain Elevators National Historic Site**. These five prairie giants are the last remaining row of standard country grain elevators still standing. Choose from a guided or self-guided tour to explore the site and its exhibits and enjoy the prairie views while enjoying a picnic lunch.

On your way out of Inglis, travel along Highway 83 to find the old **Asessippi Village**. Follow the

self-guided trail to find interpretative signage and remnants of an abandoned town. Best known for its ski and snowboarding hill in the winter months, by summer the **Asessippi Ski Area & Resort** caters to mountain bikers. There are five trails to choose from, ranging from beginner to advanced. If you're looking to spend more time in **Asessippi Provincial Park**, there are a number of camping options along with swimming, canoe rentals, tubing and more.

3 HIKING AND CAMPING IN THE DUCKS

For nature lovers, **Duck Mountain Provincial Park** is paradise on earth. Set your home base at one of Duck Mountain's campgrounds or rent a lakefront cabin and then spend the day hiking, fishing, swimming and enjoying the great outdoors.

Like much of the Parkland region, lakes are plentiful in the Ducks. One of the park's most impressive is East Blue Lake, a deep spring-fed lake with an unexpected turquoise water. There are many hiking trails

to choose from in this park. To name a few, the Copernicus Hill Hiking Trail features a viewing tower, while the Shining Stone Self-Guiding Trail follows along West Blue Lake.

At 831 metres above sea level, Baldy Mountain is Manitoba's highest peak. On clear days from the viewing tower of this peak, you'll be treated to a spectacular view of aspen and spruce forests that stretch as far as Riding Mountain National Park.



↑ Wellman Lake

4 SWAN RIVER VALLEY SIGHTS

Heading north from the park, enjoy the stunning views on the way to Swan River. Venturing into the past is a good place to start at the **Swan Valley Historical Museum and Heritage Village**. Behind the museum's grounds is the **Rex Leach Museum Trail** that is as peaceful as it is green with varieties of ferns that decorate either side. Golfers must play a round at the **Swan River Golf and Country Club** – not only for the fun of it, but also to tick off an important bucket list item: golfing at Manitoba's northernmost 18-hole course.

Located in the Swan Valley, **Magnet Hill** is a natural phenomenon that you need to experience to believe. Head out on Provincial Road 487 and look for the signs and a dip in the road. Once there – place your car at the bottom of the dip and

put it in neutral and it will seem like your car is being dragged back uphill!

Want to keep the fun going just a little longer? There are endless lakes, forests and parks to explore for the true outdoorsperson. The fishing here is a big draw, with fly fishing being particularly impressive. Catch species like rainbow trout, brook trout, bass, perch and pike. If you're an avid angler, Swan Valley is a great area to spend a few additional days on this road trip. Ask any of the residents where the best fishing in the area is and Whitefish Lake is one of the first names dropped.

For overnight stays, Swan River and the surrounding area has a number of accommodations, including the options at Duck Mountain Provincial Park along with hotels in Swan River.

Get more details on this and other road trips at travelmanitoba.com/road-trips.

Seeing drought firsthand

Government reps tour the region, meet with local leaders

By Lorne Stelmach

The area's MLAs and other officials toured the region this past Saturday to see the drought emergency first hand.

It also offered an opportunity for discussions with local municipal and regional leaders with the hope of enlisting provincial support to find ways forward both short and long term.

"This is important to be here to understand exactly how bad it is ... it is a Manitoba issue," said minister of infrastructure Ron Schuler, who was joined by MLAs Cameron Friesen of Morden-Winkler, Josh Guenter of Emerson and Blaine Pedersen of Midland on the tour.

Schuler said they wanted to come away with a good assessment of the situation in the region, so their stops included the Red River at Letellier, Lake Minnewasta in Morden and the treatment plant at Winkler as well as Carman.

"We know we're facing something of historic proportion. We haven't seen stuff like this since 1934. In some respects, we're hitting records," said Schuler. "We're here to help and certainly we're here to listen, and we're getting some very good feedback, some really good ideas."

"It demonstrates the urgency that the government is attaching to understanding what is going on and understanding what can be done to address this," said Friesen.

"Clearly, we are becoming aware that we need a very timely intervention here, but our water issues in southern Manitoba do need addressing on a more long term basis, and we know that work continues by municipal leaders and the Pembina Valley Water Co-op in co-operation with our government.

"We need to all put our thinking

caps on to think about what can be done to make sure that we can sustain water to sustain these communities."

Greg Archibald, CEO of the Pembina Valley Water Co-op, was able to present some data comparing the current situation to record low levels going back to 1934-35.

He noted that from mid-June to mid-July alone, the flow in the Red River went down from 1,530 to 750 cubic feet per second.

"The situation in the Red River is getting pretty critical ... this is fairly serious," he said. "The Red River was reduced by half at Emerson. In the last nine days, it's been reduced by half again.

"The uncomfortable feeling is with the Red going down so low, what happens when it freezes? If it gets too low, then will there be room for the water to run underneath."

Because of that, the water co-op has had to bring in portable intakes because the water level was getting too low, and the fear is that they could be further losing ground if conditions don't change.

In addition to lowering the intake levels, the water co-op is also taking a number of other measures including looking at the levels all the way from Morris to Emerson.

"We're looking for places where there are deeper holes where if the river goes down, we still have adequate (supply) ... the issue becomes elevation."

Another issue is storage capacity, so that is why a proposed reservoir in the Winkler - Morden corridor is a critical piece of the puzzle, he noted. Other ideas feeding more water to Winkler so that it would need to draw less from the aquifer and then perhaps further down the road be able to feed more water back into the system.

"We're really a regional system, and so we need to think more about that," he said. "We've had some good discussions."

"We're in an emergency," said Morden Mayor Brandon Burley, who was thankful for the opportunity to connect with the government and who felt they had some productive discus-



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

One of the stops Saturday for the government delegation was Lake Minnewasta, where they saw the low water levels on the lake and at the spillway.



sions.

He continued to preach the message to conserve but also stressed that "we are very aggressively pursuing re-sourcing and the ability to continue to provide water to the region through the winter. That winter water supply really, right now, is what's essential and what's emergent for us as well as for the entire region.

"At this point, we're in a situation where it's not us or them, it's us all ... the City of Morden is going to play our part in getting the Pembina Valley through this hardship.

"We've prioritized a certain number of issues, not only as a city but as a region," he added. "Diversification of our water supply for us is going to be a catchword moving forward."

"I think they might get it that this lake is lower; there's no question about that," said Stanley Reeve Morris Olafson. "We're looking six months up, and hopefully something will change ... six months from now, maybe we're talking a different story, and we're going to, worst case scenario, start hauling water, but let's hope it doesn't get to that point."

"With this visit, we wanted to create an understanding and enlist support from the provincial government, and I would say we were very successful," suggested Archibald.

"We'll take this back (to the government). There have been a couple ideas that have been suggested to us, and we're going to work on those," said Schuler.

and the division is working on relocating an unused portable from GVC to Parkland for use as a storage shed.

- Plum Coulee
New exit hardware is to be installed on four main entrances

- Southwood
Four portable exteriors are to be painted.

Aside from that, Penner said that "a

deep summer cleaning was the focus for custodians in July, and summer is also an opportunity to perform maintenance in many areas while the students are away, and we try to maximize that opportunity.

"We look forward to welcoming students back in the fall into clean spaces, some with noticeable improvements."

> GARDEN VALLEY, FROM PG. 4

A fire panel replacement is also underway due to the original panel becoming obsolete and parts unavailable, while interior blinds are being added to south facing windows in the school.

- Parkland

A small flooring replacement is

planned along with a renovation to the resource area to improve access to the quiet/opportunity room for special needs students.

Meanwhile, the parent advisory council is also installing a new play structure and sandbox to replace the old structure to the east of the school,

Region united around drought

Area facing a '50-plus' year event, says province

By Lorne Stelmach

The three local municipalities presented a united front Friday in not only stressing the continued urgency of the extreme drought facing the region but also in searching for solutions short and long term.

A joint news release by Winkler, Morden and the RM of Stanley emphasized the severity of the state of emergency for the region with the province having identified southern Manitoba as being in a D3 extreme drought - a 20 to 50 year event - but with Morden, Winkler and the RM of Stanley facing a D4 exceptional drought - a 50+ year event.

The three municipalities continue to work co-operatively towards both immediate strategies as well as long-term solutions, leaders stressed.

"It affects all of us ... if our lake runs out of water or the aquifer is in trouble; there's a limited amount of water available for the entire region to consume through the winter months," said Morden Mayor Brandon Burley.

"What we're looking at is that our conservation efforts in every community are going to effect the success

and the chances of the region making it through the winter with water," he said. "So it's an all hands on deck approach ... it's all for one and one for all at this point.

"We have to ensure that we minimize our consumption but also recognize that we know our water and how we use our water, regardless of what municipality it is, is going to effect every municipality.

"It also works to demonstrate the severity of the situation that we are in ... to impress upon the province just how dire it is here."

"We're here to act as a region and a responsible group of municipalities that depend on each other and in particular when it comes to water supply," said Winkler Mayor Martin Harder

"IT AFFECTS ALL OF US ... IF OUR LAKE RUNS OUT OF WATER OR THE AQUIFER IS IN TROUBLE."

He noted the need for the municipalities to keep their message and approach consistent.

"We don't want to have one set of rules in one place and another set of rules somewhere else ... we are here to support each other," he said, adding for example if Winkler would need to reduce to help supply more to Morden, which would mean Winkler could need to produce more and ensure consumption is low enough to be able to support the other municipalities.

"I think it raises the bar for the province to understand that we have a joint problem," said Harder, who

noted they had an application in to the province to increase their draw from the aquifer with the understanding it would be more brackish water that would require more capacity for treatment.

Meanwhile, the joint news release stressed residents and businesses need to continue reducing water consumption not only for now but to save for the future months if the region doesn't get a recharge in water supply over the winter.

"We are asking our residents and businesses to reduce water consumption not only for potable treated (city supplied) water but also for the raw untreated water as the bulk untreated systems pull water away from the treatment plants," the release stated.

"Earlier this summer we directed residents to use non-potable water because the main issue was the ability to treat and distribute the sudden surge in demand. However, through the summer, the drought has intensified, and we are now working to protect and preserve existing raw water sources throughout the region. This will provide protection in the event we do not have significant recharge through the fall, winter and spring."

It noted that the RM of Stanley has posted water reduction measures at all municipal bulk wells. The wells will remain open mainly just for agricultural, livestock and construction use, so all other users are asked to consider eliminating or significantly reducing the use of municipal bulk wells.

"The underground storages (aquifers) are what we are protecting to

carry us through the winter in the event that the Red River cannot produce enough water for us."

In addition to the community conservation plans, each municipality is implementing further measures:

- No lawn watering allowed from any municipal source of potable or non-potable water. Use rainwater, repurposed household water or water from your swimming pool when done with them for the season.

- The three municipalities have directed staff to stop all landscape watering effective immediately from municipal potable or non-potable sources. This includes grass, flowers, trees and shrubs. The municipalities will look for opportunities to use rainwater and repurposed water for limited uses.

"Government, industry and engineers are working tirelessly to implement drought management actions, plans and contingency plans to carry our area through this time including long-term measures to avoid this situation from happening in the future," stated the release.

"We jointly recognize that all three communities have done a tremendous job of conserving water and have an understanding of the situation we have been in and are facing in the long term. We are asking all residents and businesses to continue to follow their city or RM water conservation plan to help be part of a solution for our future." For more specific water conservation plans for you own municipality, visit www.WinklerWater.ca or www.RMofStanley.ca or www.Conservation.MyMorden.ca.

> COUNT REMAINS LOW, FROM PG. 2

and of the 25 cases reported Monday, eight new cases were in Southern Health-Santé Sud.

Across the region, the only districts with active cases were Lorne - Louise - Pembina with three and Winkler and the RM of Stanley with two each. Morden as well as Roland - Thompson, Carman, Grey, MacDonald, Morris and Altona had zero active cases.

Overall, there were 568 active cases and 56,108 individuals who have recovered from COVID-19.

As well, there were 89 Manitobans hospitalized with COVID-19 including 32 people with active COVID-19 as well as 57 people who are no longer infectious. A total of 14 Manitoba patients were receiving intensive care for COVID-19, including six people in intensive care units with active COVID-19 as well as eight people who are no longer infectious but con-

tinue to require critical care;

Possible exposure locations are listed online by region at the province's #RestartMB Pandemic Response System webpage. For up-to-date information on possible public exposures to COVID-19 in regions, visit www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/flights.html#event and click on your region.

Additional data is available at: geoportal.gov.mb.ca/. Data related to COVID-19, variants of concern, outbreaks and some downloadable and historic data can also be found at this site.

For up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Manitoba, including the online screening tool, testing criteria and locations, self-isolation requirements, public health fundamentals and the provincial response level on the #RestartMB Pandemic Response System, visit www.manitoba.ca/COVID19.

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EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Desperation breeds creativity

One of my children (who shall remain nameless) was relating to us the other day how they had been going through old emails and discovered old submissions of essays and assignments to school from years ago.

They spoke of how they hadn't realized how much they used to heavily pad essays to reach word counts with sentences like "herein begins the essay upon which subject I have been assigned to ruminate upon with much research and effort so as to present to you content related to the worthy topic of the fur trade in 17th century Canada ... that being more than three hundred years ago during a time substantially different from today but still in the same



By Peter Cantelon

country and place."

Whew.

This, of course, reminded me of my own young days in university seeking to reach word count on essays and attempting to trick professors with tricks they surely had not seen before in their 24 years of experience teaching students.

I would nudge my margins in very slightly. I would up my font from 12 point to 12.3 and increase space from double to double plus 1 point.

So many desperate measures.

Then there was the time I chose not to start three essays until the night before they were all due (including research). By the last essay (a book review), I decided to throw myself on the mercy of the instructor by gambling with honesty in my opening sentence:

"I have to be completely honest," I wrote. "I never read the book but, nevertheless, I have written a review."

A couple of weeks later I received my essay back with a nice sentence of bright red writing on the front in which the instructor wrote:

"I have to be honest. I never read your essay."

This was followed by a big red, circled capital F. A valuable lesson was learned in that moment.

We can be remarkably creative when attempting to eke out a few extra minutes of sleep as a university or high school student.

One of my roommates in university faked nearly every single interview he ever did for journalism class. He excelled, and his grades were always amazing. He has gone on to become a very successful lawyer (not joking).

Yes, desperation is the mother of invention, and that invention can be pretty ridiculous when you look back on it.

Another trick a professor revealed to me recently was to create a Word file and then intentionally corrupt it before sending it along as the final assignment to their instructor, only to have them not be able to open it. Then, after being informed they would shockingly learn that the original had been corrupted, thus earning an extra week to 're-write' the assignment.

Of course, this was not a trick that could be used too often on instructors before suspicions were raised. Still, very creative.

Of course, as mature and experienced adults, we would never stoop so low as to employ these tactics.

Now if you will excuse me I need to corrupt this file before sending along to the editor.

• **FAITH FOCUS**

Seeking renewal

My wife and I have spent some time at a small-town campground this summer.

The atmosphere of the camp has been friendly, yet provided enough opportunity for personal time and activities. A feature that we found very attractive was the natural opportunity to observe wildlife. Birds of various descriptions—each with their own songs to sing. Striped gophers, a doe and fawns coming to drink at the local river on a schedule each day, a

fish jumping, and on one evening a swimmer with a destination in mind—probably a muskrat.

There was also time for reading and walking but little outside distraction because cell phone service was limited.

You might choose a different atmosphere for "unwinding" from the busyness of life but the fact is that in one way or another we all need to seek renewal to help prepare us for the next season of activities that are usual or necessary in our lives.

Renewal has different stages. We should start with withdrawal. We



By Randy Smart

need to take time to step back from the daily duties, even for brief absences from work and regular tasks. You cannot leave the tension of the string on a hunting bow all the time. There must be times when the string is relaxed. God made all of us with a need for balance in our life between personal health and development and the tasks of daily living.

On one occasion, Jesus and the disciples had been busy with ministry. Mark reports: "...because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.'" Mark 6:31.

Along with stepping back from what we think normal is in our schedules, we also need to remember who we

Further easing of COVID-19 restrictions

Next vaccination target being achieved ahead of time

By Lorne Stelmach

A substantial easing of public health order restrictions took effect this past weekend as the province closed in on its next milestone for its reopening plan.

Manitoba was expected to reach the third vaccination target ahead of schedule with 80 per cent of Manitobans age 12 and over having received their first dose as of last Tuesday and 75 per cent expected to have received their second dose by this week.

It means many of the public health order restrictions were becoming recommendations and guidelines, but Premier Brian Pallister stressed some caution is still needed as the province shifts from pandemic to endemic COVID-19.

"We aren't out of the woods yet," said Pallister, who stressed they want to be able to sustain the good progress that has been made to date.

"We have moved somewhat cautiously compared to many other jurisdictions ... Manitoba's in a good place right now," said Pallister.

"We continue to meet and exceed the vaccination goals that we set. I'm told that we're leading the country in second vaccinations and that speaks well to Manitoban's desire to do their

part to help us stay safe, protect our health system," he continued.

"Manitobans should be very proud of their collective efforts to protect one another and get back to doing some of those things we love and have really missed."

The new public health orders and guidance that took effect Saturday one month earlier than forecast only restrict the most high-risk transmission environments.

Specifically, the new public health orders will allow the following sectors to open without restrictions: indoor and outdoor gatherings at private residences; gyms and fitness centres; libraries; personal services such as hair and nail salons; day camps; retail businesses, markets, garden centres and malls.

Other sectors will open with limited restrictions including:

- expanded capacity limits will remain in place for weddings, funerals and other public gatherings both indoors and outdoors including larger capacity limits for worship and cultural events like pow wows;
- restaurants and bars will no longer need to restrict the size or space between tables and dining will not be restricted to households or vaccinated individuals; however, patrons will still be expected to avoid congregating or socializing between tables;
- museums, galleries and movie theatres will remain limited to 50 per cent capacity but will no longer be restricted to vaccinated individuals;
- casinos and bingo halls, professional sporting events, horse and auto

racing, and concert halls will continue to be limited to vaccinated individuals; however, all these facilities may now open to 100 per cent capacity;

- indoor and outdoor sports and recreation will fully reopen with limits only on spectator capacity;
- overnight camps will be permitted with limits on camper cohorts;
- workplaces must continue to report cases to government for follow-up and public health-confirmed transmission of COVID-19 in the workplace may result in workplaces being ordered to close for a minimum of 10 days;
- remote working will no longer be required or recommended by public health, and workplaces will be encouraged to transition from COVID-19 safety plans to a general communicable disease prevention plan that focuses on basic risk-reduction principles to reduce the risk of workplace transmission of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.

Due to the ongoing presence of COVID-19 and the extra risk posed by the more contagious delta variant, provincial public health officials still strongly recommend wearing masks in indoor public spaces for everyone who is not fully immunized including children under 12 maintaining physical distancing of two metres (six feet) in indoor settings.

"Unless you are fully immunized, you are still at risk for more severe effects of COVID-19, such as requiring hospital care or even death," cautioned Manitoba's chief provincial public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin.

"We still want people to step up, protect themselves, protect their employees, protect their patrons, protect people around them," said Roussin.

"We know that COVID-19 will be with us. COVID-19 will be here in a post pandemic Manitoba as well as the other respiratory viruses. We're slowly approaching that post pandemic Manitoba that we've been discussing, and so this is why we have been able to lift some of these restrictions.

"The continued shutting down of our economy and our society is not realistic in the long term," said Roussin, adding it is very likely the province will see rising cases of COVID especially among the unvaccinated, so that is why they hope Manitobans will still take the recommendations to heart. "We have to learn how to live with COVID."

The new public health order will expire at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 7, and it will be reassessed at that time in the context of vaccination rates and the province's overall COVID-19 situation.

"We are very close to hitting that final milestone in our reopening path and reopening fully and completely," said Pallister. "We need everyone on Team Manitoba to for this final stretch. Get vaccinated – not once, but twice – and follow the public health orders and guidance designed to bend our COVID curve down and keep it down."

For more information on COVID-19 in Manitoba, visit www.manitoba.ca/covid19/.

> GETTING IN SHAPE, FROM PG. 3

since," said Pedersen. "I think we're going to be in pretty good shape for the start of school whatever that looks like, and we'll go from there.

"There were a number of projects at every school this year. We managed to do a bit of the LED light projects near the end of school ... we were able to do it in the high school because we were able to work on some areas that weren't occupied ... so we got a bit of a head start," said Pedersen, who provided a rundown of what all was being done at each school in Morden.

• Minnewasta School

The lights in the gym were being upgraded to more energy efficient LEDs, and there is also renovations to the kitchen staff room as well as the replacement of 30 sealed window units.

"And we're in the planning stage for

a portable classroom for delivery later this fall, so we're working on that as well," noted Pedersen.

• Maple Leaf School

There will be air conditioning for students in the gym, while about a dozen windows were replaced, and they are working on a boiler replacement which will likely to go to tender this fall.

"We did a major LED light conversion, so it is upgrading all of our fluorescent light fixtures there," added Pedersen. "We've also done some remodelling work in the library to make it a little bit more flexible for classroom space and kind of a learning commons area."

• Ecole Morden Middle School

One project involved replacing the wheelchair lift near the front doors,

but key projects at the school have been happening outside including rehabilitating the open field area to the east.

"We've dug it up and dug out the gravel and rocks and other rubble underneath there and then refilled it with soil so that we can reseed that once we get some moisture," said Pedersen.

"We're also redoing the playground, so we're getting a new play structure in there," he added. "Otherwise, the grounds there are pretty well done and good to go."

• Morden Collegiate

The high school is also getting LEDs to replace fluorescent lights as well as concrete work on the east side for wheelchair entry as well as air conditioning in the cafeteria and rec room areas.

"We also have two science labs that

got completely refurbished this year," said Pedersen. "All the old counters and everything from a long time ago were all taken out and replaced; the flooring was replaced and new cabinets and sinks and so on, so they've gotten a really good upgrade."

In the meantime, planning continues for the addition of a three classroom expansion as well as new space for the piping trades vocational program.

"We're hoping that will go to tender fairly soon ... and also for the expansion at the welding shop for the piping trades," said Pedersen.

As for the new school, there is still much to be done before that project can move forward, noted Pedersen.

"Just some of the initial planning has started for it, so it's still quite a ways down the road, but the wheels are starting to turn for that project."

Class will be back in session

By Lorne Stelmach

The province is largely lifting restrictions to allow students to return to in-class learning this fall.

The Manitoba government last week released its safe return plan for Kindergarten to Grade 12 students to classrooms Sept. 7.

While easing a majority of the restrictions, especially mask use, earned some criticism, provincial officials stressed students and staff will be expected to continue to follow the 'COVID-safe' basics and that masks will continue to be recommended.

It was also stressed public health officials will continue to closely monitor conditions on an ongoing basis, and individual divisions will have the choice to maintain stricter measures if they so wish.

"We do want to ensure that a safe and healthy environment is in place for all students and staff this fall," said education minister Cliff Cullen.

"After 18 months of facing the global impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic together, Manitoba is on the road to re-opening, including schools with near normal operations," said Cullen. "Children returning to full-time in-person learning is another example of a transition to a post-pandemic Manitoba and a closer return to normal life.

"Our government believes that students learn best in the classroom, and we know how eager students are to return," he continued. "Public health officials will continue to monitor key data and local conditions and schools will be prepared to implement possible additional public health measures."

Manitoba's chief provincial public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin also stressed there will be contingency plans in place.

"We are going to continue to see COVID-19 infections in the community; we're going to see them in the schools; we're going to see a return of other respiratory illnesses," Roussin acknowledged. "The strong determination of Manitobans has helped limit the spread of the virus. This has resulted in a reduction in overall case numbers, community transmission and test positivity rates. The strain on our health care system continues to decline as vaccination rates continue to increase.

"Exposures in schools are less likely to occur when community transmission is lower ... so as a result schools will be able to return to close to normal activities in September with some health and safety measures in place," he said. "These public health orders may change over time again

depending on what we see with transmission and risk of severe outcomes ... we can always revisit these restrictions ... nothing is off the table."

Cullen also noted that the 2021-22 school year will focus on addressing the mental health and well-being of students and the education workforce, ensuring supports for students with special needs as well as addressing the learning impacts from the pandemic.

As part of the province's plan to ensure the health and wellness of students, a renewed focus on immunizations for school-aged youth will also launch this fall.

Currently, about two-thirds of those aged 12 to 17 have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and about 52 per cent have received both doses. Immunization teams will attend all schools with students aged 12 to 17 to provide first and second doses beginning in areas with lower vaccine uptake to help reduce barriers to immunization.

Planning is also underway for a school-based campaign for children aged five to 11 once the COVID-19 vaccines are approved for use. School-based clinics will be one of many options available to students and their parents to get a COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccine appointments, community based pop-ups, medical clinics and pharmacies will continue to be options into the school year.

Public health and education officials are also putting plans in place to ensure young people can catch up on important immunizations that may have been delayed due to the pandemic such as HPV, hepatitis B, meningococcal disease and tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis.

Public health officials are also recommending changes to cohort sizes for child care facilities. Cohort sizes will increase from 30 to 48 children plus staff.

In addition, physical distancing within a cohort is no longer required, however it is strongly recommended the same staff work exclusively with the same cohort. Sharing staff across cohorts should be avoided to the greatest extent possible.

Schools will use student assessments to further understand and address the impacts of COVID-19 on learning and plans to hold stakeholder engagements to develop supports to improve the mental health and well-being of students and staff.

This will build on \$2.5 million in student mental health investments made last year over and above the allocations to school divisions. Another \$58 million is dedicated to supporting safe schools including a \$5 million fund provided to school divisions over the summer and at the start of the year to assess and address learning impacts because of the pandemic.

Funds dedicated to helping and protecting students include:

- \$40 million for additional staffing, learning and technology, and health and safety;
- \$6 million for masks and personal protective equipment;
- \$5 million for the Kindergarten to Grade 8 remote learning support centre for students who are immunocompromised.
- \$2 million in contingency funding.

There were questions and concerns raised about the government plan including the Opposition NDP Leader Wab Kinew, who suggested removing the mask mandate was incomprehensible with a possible fourth wave of the virus to come.

"Even while they admit that a fourth wave is inevitable, the PCs are sending 200,000 children back to school without basic safety measures like mandatory masks. We didn't expect much, but this is worse than we could have imagined," said Manitoba Liberal Party leader Dougald Lamont.

"There is no plan for immunocompromised or disabled children who cannot attend school and whose parents have to work. There should be mandatory masks, frequent testing, and the government still needs to upgrade HVAC systems, many of which been obsolete for 30 years."

Miami earns grant for pavilion

By Becca Myskiw

The Miami parks board has received a \$10,000 grant that will be put towards a pavilion in the camping park.

The funding came through the Strong Communities Initiative of the Hensall Co-op, which is an independent farmer owned co-operative.

The program was launched this year to support projects that boost the resilience of rural communities, and any registered charity or non-profit in Hensall Co-op areas were allowed to apply.

The Miami parks board was one of just two winners with the co-op saying both projects were chosen for supporting wellness and family activities.

"The Strong Communities Initiative grew out of our commitment to the communities we serve," said CEO Brad Chandler. "We were extremely pleased with the quality of the submissions we received, although it made selecting a winner very difficult for our team."

Heather Imrie of the Miami parks board said they've wanted to do this project for a few years now but didn't have the means to get started until now.

"When I saw the media release, I realized there was only one community in Manitoba and one in Ontario who won

this, so we feel very lucky."

She said the park gets a lot of musicians, recreation programs and outdoor events, and a pavilion would offer a designated space for events along with an outdoor classroom for the Miami school as well as picnics, barbecues and family gatherings.

The pavilion costs roughly \$13,000, and the Miami parks board has the extra \$3,000 needed to complete the project with a local carpenter volunteering to build the structure free of cost.

"Miami really has tremendous community volunteerism," she said.

They're still drawing out the final plan, but she said they hope to start construction on the pavilion by the end of August.

Applications for the next Strong Communities Initiative will be available in April 2022.

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Manitoba 

Research on COVID vaccines shows antibodies falling

By Patricia Barrett

A third shot of COVID-19 vaccine could possibly be on the horizon after British researchers found a consistent pattern of reduced antibody levels over time in people who were fully vaccinated with either the AstraZeneca vaccine or the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.

Titled "Spike-antibody waning after second dose of BNT162b2 or ChAdOx1," the study was published online in The Lancet medical journal July 15.

The researchers detected antibody levels starting to wane at three to 10 weeks after two shots of either vaccine were administered. But they said scientific research has yet to determine at what precise antibody level people will fall ill.

"A significant trend of declining S-antibody levels was seen with time for both ChAdOx1 [AstraZeneca] ... and BNT162b2 [Pfizer-BioNTech], with levels reducing by about five-fold for ChAdOx1, and by about two-fold for BNT162b2, between 21-41 days and 70 days or more after the second dose," the researchers wrote.

To identify the early signs of waning antibody levels, the researchers looked at blood samples submitted to Virus Watch, a U.K. government-funded longitudinal (using the same participants over time) vaccine evaluation study.

Blood samples were received from 605 adults (53 per cent were women) 18 years of age and older. Samples were submitted 14-154 days after the second vaccine dose (average of 42 days). The average age of participants was 63. Thirty-three per cent (197 people) of the samples were from people who were vaccinated with Pfizer-BioNTech and 67 per cent (405 people) were from those vaccinated with AstraZeneca.

To infer a general trend in antibody levels over time, the researchers examined the levels at 14-20 days after the second dose, at 21-41 days, 42-55 days, 56-69 days, and 70 and more days after second doses.

Women were found to have higher initial antibody levels than men at 21-42 days and also had higher levels at 70 days or more. People aged 18-64 had higher antibody levels at 21-42 days and at 70 or more days after vaccination compared to people aged 65 and older.

The researchers said low antibody levels in people considered "vulnerable" and who had received AstraZeneca "might be cause for concern."

Variables such as different dosing intervals (the time between first and second vaccine shots), age and size of the study population are possible confounders to the findings, the researchers wrote. Therefore, blood analyses with greater numbers of participants and a follow-up of "antibody dynamics" over six to 12 months are needed.

That means the need for third or subsequent COVID vaccinations is inconclusive at this time, they wrote. The point at which declining antibodies will give rise to disease is yet to be determined. Other immune defences, such as T-cell immunity, might jump in to "compensate to some extent as antibody responses wane."

But with aggressive variants ramping up across the globe, people choosing not to get vaccinated and many countries enduring tiring, repetitious cycles of lockdowns and restriction ease-ups, further insight into vaccine duration is needed in order to find new strategies to dodge or suppress COVID outbreaks.

The researchers wrote that higher antibody levels are "possibly associated with greater protection against

variants that can partially evade immunity," which has been borne out by Pfizer's relatively higher efficacy – in comparison to AstraZeneca's – against the delta variant (B16172).

"With continued high global incidence, and potential for more transmissible SARS-CoV-2 variants, data on longer-term vaccine efficacy and antibody dynamics in infection-naive individuals are essential for clarifying the need for further booster doses," wrote the researchers.

At the end of July, Israel became the first country to offer third doses of Pfizer, the vaccine it used in its inoculation program. Third shots will be offered to people over 60 years of age. The decision came after an alarming rise in infections and preliminary data showing protection

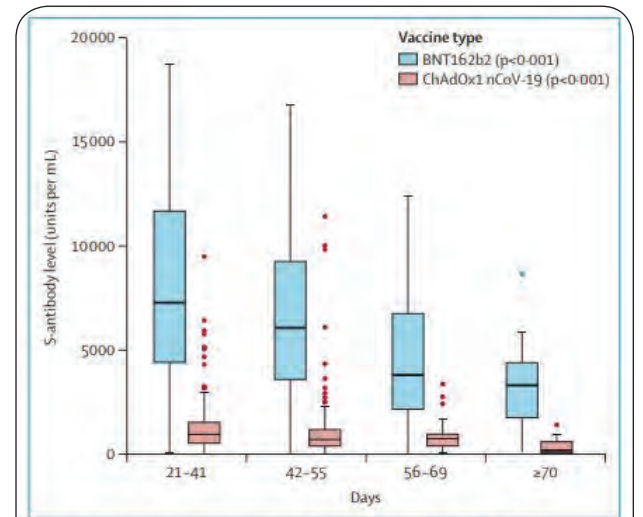


Figure: Levels of antibody against the spike glycoprotein of SARS-CoV-2 (S-antibody) at defined timepoints after second dose of vaccination (with extended dose intervals) in individuals with no previous infection, stratified by vaccine type. p values derived from non-parametric tests for trend for each vaccine subgroup are given in parenthesis in the key.

VOICE STUDY DATA

A graph from the U.K. study shows waning antibody levels in people who received two doses of either AstraZeneca or Pfizer. Researchers found a "significant trend" in waning antibody levels.

against serious illness declining in those who were vaccinated in January.

Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization has thus far not recommended third doses.

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> FAITH, FROM PG. 8

are and what is important to us. As a committed follower of Christ, I look to the Bible to give me insight about my relationship to God, and to the community and world around us.

In Psalm 90 we read this prayer to the Lord: "Teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12.

Quiet times can also help us to re-focus our priorities. Am I spending my time in ways that are feeding my soul or frustrating me? What could I or we do differently to be more at peace and content in our present situation? Jesus taught that worry does not improve the quality of life.

When we focus on God's view of the world and align our choices with Him we will have what we need.

Preparing ourselves, incidentally and intentionally, to approach our next season of relationships at home and at work is not a luxury. It is a necessity. It is like recharging the batteries so that we can live with a new sense of energy and purpose in the season just ahead of us.

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

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Local rodeo rider competes

Rylee Olafson welcomes experience gained from high school finals

By Lorne Stelmach

A local rider competed over the August long weekend at the Manitoba High School Rodeo Association season finals in Whitewood, Sk.

Rylee Olafson competed in a group of 25 very talented riders and horses from across the province as well as Saskatchewan, and she ended up placing fifth, seventh and eighth in pole bending, sixth, ninth and ninth in barrel racing and seventh in goat tying.

She may have liked to have done even better, but she still relishes every opportunity to compete and advance her rodeo career.

"I had one really good timed run. The others were alright but not up to standard," suggested Olafson. "Over-

all though, I was happy with my runs this past weekend. It was great.

"It's great to have the opportunity to compete against some of the best in Manitoba and even in Saskatchewan ... so it's a pretty strong competition," she said.

She welcomes every chance to keep compete as ways to keep gaining experience and training.

"It's always great because you're always trying to push yourself to be so much better."

Rodeo is something she started to become passionate about at a young age, she noted.

"I started in rodeo at nine years old. I started with the Heartland Rodeo Association ... and from there, I started two years ago in the high school rodeo association."

She has gone through the junior division which runs from Grade 5 to Grade 8 and is now going into Grade 10, so she has a few years to go in the high school division.

"There's lots of opportunities in high school rodeo for scholarships," she noting, adding that it could lead to rodeo school opportunities, but in the meantime she just looks forward to more competition.



PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

Rylee Olafson and her horse Tebow head to the finish timer in the pole bending competition.

"I actually have another horse that's becoming a rodeo horse hopefully next season ... hopefully it will advance me even further into my rodeo career."

"The partnership between the rider and the horse just makes everything that much easier," she continued, noting how there is always much to learn and know and that a lot of time has to

go into it.

"It's a lot of work, and a lot of hard work goes into your training ... even before the rodeo season begins," said Olafson, "but I love it."

Olafson closed with a word of thanks for her sponsors Sun Valley RV, Sunvalley Tire and Little Morden Service.

"They've been a great help for me this year."

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\$100,000 Prize: All Manitobans aged 18+ are automatically entered to win the first draw if they've received their first dose by August 2, 2021 and the second draw if they've received their second dose by September 6, 2021. Both draws will award three (3) prizes in Winnipeg and one (1) prize in each regional health authority (Southern Health-Santé Sud, Prairie Mountain Health, Interlake-Eastern and Northern). \$25,000 Scholarship: All Manitoba youth aged 12-17 are automatically entered to win the August draw if they've received their first dose on or before August 2, 2021 and the September draw if they've received their second dose on or before September 6, 2021. Both draws will award ten (10) scholarships to eligible participants regardless of Regional Health Authority.



RURAL ROAD SAFETY DURING HARVEST SEASON

- This time of year, crops such as corn and other vegetation growing near rural intersections can cause visibility issues for drivers.
- Take a second look - before you pull into an intersection or make a move to pass be sure your path is clear in all directions.
- Let the dust clear - never follow behind someone in the dust.
- Do not enter an intersection unless you are certain no vehicles are coming from the side roads, and then proceed with caution.
- Drive defensively - treat every uncontrolled intersection as a yield, as if you should be able to stop just in case.
- Yield to large equipment - give a wide farm vehicle the right of way when it is traveling the opposite direction. Farm vehicles cannot always pull over to the road's shoulder safely.
- Respect work crews working along roads whether municipal or other, these folks are trying to get a job done and get home to their families.

"Road safety is everyone's business - make it yours"

A message from the RM of Stanley



FESTIVAL MEMORIES

50+ years of Corn & Apple Festival fun

The Morden Corn & Apple Festival has come a long way from its roots as a celebration of Canada's Centennial back in 1967.

Held in early September that year, the very first festival had modest expenses of just over \$1,100 and spanned a single block of Stephen St. (see photo at right), offering up a hay rack as a stage, performances from local talent, and a farmers' market.

They served 200 cobs of free corn and 80 gallons of free apple cider that year—a far cry indeed from the 50,000+ cobs that are handed out these days.

Over the years, this hugely popular celebration has grown and changed in a myriad of ways. Here are just a few highlights from the past 50+ years, according to the festival itself:

- Started as a two-day free event and expanded to three days in 1988. The free part of it has never changed.
- Morden Museum members have been a mainstay of the festival throughout its run. They sold apple pie and raffle tickets at the festival to raise money for what is now the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre.
- The first festival parade was held in 1975, with the Shriners coming on as a perennial favourite two years later.
- Fehr Way Tours have provided a bus for free tours since 1977. Originally the price to ride this bus from Winnipeg was just \$5.
- The Wonder Shows midway became an attraction of the Corn & Apple Festival in 1968.
- Rain at the festival in 1970, 1971, 1975, and 1992 forced the queen pageant and main stage entertainment inside. As a result, the first stage canopy was purchased in 1977 to protect performers and equipment. The second was purchased for the 25th anniversary in 1991.
- A permanent electrical panel was installed in 1976 to provide adequate power to the stage.
- The first pie baking and eating contests were held in 1974. The first beer garden sponsored by the Mor-

den Hockey Club was also held this year.

- Children's events became a permanent attraction in 1975. Events that year included a kite-flying contest, model airplane demonstration, fish pond, and a pet show.

- The giant apple pie was first used to open the festival in 1976 and continued to 2007.

- Mascots Cob and Cora were introduced in 1978. Performers wearing costumes were first seen in 1988.

- For fundraising, souvenirs, corn, and apple cider were first sold at the 1984 festival.

- In 1985, Arden Stutzman designed a stage on a truck chassis whose sides folded up for easy transportation. This design continues to be used today.

- Corporate sponsorship from Sun Rype and Coca-Cola in 1990 raised the profile of the festival to a national level.

- In 2004, Morden was honoured when a new variety of apple tree developed at the Morden Research Station was named for the festival. The Morden Festival apple ripens in late summer, a week earlier than the Goodland apple so that it's ready for festival weekend.

- Federal funding through Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage started in 2011. The Art Walk, youth stage, and historical bus tours were all added to the schedule this year.

- The festival took over its own administration in 2010. The offices were first housed in the Anglican Church and then moved to a permanent location at 379 Stephen Street.

- Festival organizers conducted an economic impact assessment in 2011 showing over \$1 million in economic activity is generated by the festival each year.

- In 2015, Prairie Research Associates conducted a survey in Winnipeg to gauge local enthusiasm for "Winnipeg" festivals. Twelve per cent of respondents identified the Morden Corn & Apple Festival.

PHOTO SUPPLIED BY THE MORDEN CORN AND APPLE FESTIVAL

An aerial view of the very first Morden Corn & Apple Festival in 1967—it spanned a single block of Stephen St. Right: By 1983 the festival had grown to take over much more of the downtown.



- Corn & Apple celebrates 50 years in 2016 with homecoming celebrations, a memory book, and other special events and souvenirs.
 - The 2017 Morden Corn & Apple manages to recycle an impressive 87 per cent of all the garbage collected over the three-day celebration.
 - The 2020 festival is cancelled due to the pandemic, but a special concert streamed online from the downtown stage keeps the music going.
- Plans are in the works for livestreamed concerts once again in 2021. Head to cornandapple.com for details.




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From the Stanley Fair to Old Time Value Days to the Harvest Festival

Considering the role Winkler has long played as a retail hub for the region, it's fitting that its festival has its roots in what was a shop-local promotional event.

Rewind the clock back to 1963 and you'd find Winklerites celebrating not the Harvest Festival but rather the very first Old Time Value Days.

This giant party took over downtown Main St. in August for over 20 years before the festival as we know it today was created.

According to *A History of Winkler* by Frank Brown, who wrote the book in the early 1970s:

"Much of the sale promotional takes the form of a bazaar on Main St. with food concessions such as breakfast pancakes, soft drink and ice cream stands, barbecued hamburger and chicken, as well as booths featuring groceries and other general merchandise at reduced prices.

"The clerks in the stores downtown wear old-fashioned costumes and generally dress up in the garb of pioneers.

"An Old Time Value Days queen is elected and evening entertainment is provided. The children are taken on pony, hayrack, and merry-go-round rides."

Businesses would offer prizes and promotions for all three or four days of the event, Brown writes. With the celebrations drawing upwards of 50,000 people by 1972, stores saw a huge boost in sales to close out the summer.

By the mid 1980s, the business landscape of Winkler had begun to change, with more and more retail establishments (including the then-new Southland Mall) opening up shop far from downtown.

In 1986, Old Time Value Days merged with the long-running Stanley Agricultural Society fair (which was started back in 1947) to create the new Winkler Harvest Festival and Exhibition, moving

all the festivities from Main St. to the Parkland fairgrounds.

For years, the ag. society's massive exhibition—one of the largest in Manitoba—was a big part of the festival, as was its various livestock and riding events.

It's only within the last few years that the festival and the society have parted ways, following on the heels of the sale of S.A.S. land so the Meridian Exhibition Centre could be built.

Today, the festival is known simply as the Winkler Harvest Festival. The ag. society, meanwhile, is still on the hunt for land outside the city on which to begin hosting events once again (including, potentially, the exhibition) after a few years' break.

Exhibition aside, the festival has seen a number of events come and go over the years as public interests change.

A festival queen was crowned for decades before the program fizzled out in the late 2000s.

The community also bid farewell to its rodeo about a decade ago after a hugely successful run.

As some festival features fade away, others have been added, including things like fitness challenges, CultureFest performances and displays, a secondary stage, and a car show.

And all the perennial festival favourites aren't going anywhere anytime soon: the midway, the Saturday morning parade, and, of course, the three days of main stage entertainment, very much known for drawing quality acts from near and far.

That last feature was still able to be celebrated this summer, even with pandemic restrictions and the festival itself cancelled—Winkler's popular Concerts in the Park moved from Bethel Heritage Park downtown to the festival stage last month. Weekly concerts are slated to run into fall.



PHOTO FROM WINKLER HERITAGE ARCHIVES Before Winkler's festival moved to the Parkland fairgrounds with a new name in the late '80s, Old Time Value Days took over the downtown.

A plum good time

While perhaps not as old or as big as some of the neighbouring summer festivals, the Plum Coulee Plum Fest certainly doesn't skimp on the heart.

Held the weekend between Winkler and Morden's events, Plum Coulee's community celebration has been running since 2002, following the town's centennial celebrations the year before.

The now three-day festival each year offers up free family fun including children's activities, stage entertainment, an old-time dance, a firemen's rodeo, community meals, and more, all from the heart of Plum Coulee in the shadow of the Prairie View Elevator Museum.

As with all the festivals, the Plum Fest is on hold for a second year this summer, but plans to be back at it in 2022.

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Travel MB announces local tourism plan and incentive program

By Jules Stevenson

Travel Manitoba is encouraging Manitobans to travel within the province to help the tourism industry bounce back faster.

Three key initiatives were announced for the next stage of rebuilding the tourism industry in step with Manitoba's 4-3-2-One Great Summer reopening plan.

As long as vaccination uptake continues to rise and COVID-19 remains under control, the province will continue to ease restrictions at the milestones of each long weekend.

"We all know that COVID-19 brought the tourism industry to a virtual standstill in Manitoba and around the world, and it's recovery is going to take some time," said Chuck Davidson, president and CEO of the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce. "Manitoba is on its way, not just to recover but to rebuild and have a thriving tourism industry once again."

The Manitoba Tourism Strategy is a collaboration between the Manitoba government, Manitoba Chambers of Commerce and Travel Manitoba. It will promote the exploration and discovery of Manitoba through 18 individual road trip itineraries throughout different parts of the province.

The campaign is also launching a travel incentive program called Trip. Manitoba residents 18 and up can submit a receipt from an overnight stay at a Manitoba accommodation between July 31 and August 16 of 2021 for a rebate of up to \$100 on a hotel stay or \$150 for a prearranged stay and play package, said Davidson.

Colin Ferguson, president and CEO of Travel Manitoba, said that long term, they want to increase visitor spending in Manitoba by 50 per cent to reach \$2.5 billion by 2030.

"MANITOBA IS ON ITS WAY, NOT JUST TO RECOVER BUT TO REBUILD AND HAVE A THRIVING TOURISM INDUSTRY ONCE AGAIN."



VOICE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Manitoba residents can claim for a 50 per cent off admission rebate when visiting a number of attractions including Lower Fort Garry, the Canadian Fossil Museum in Morden or the Assiniboine Zoo. Visit TRIPmb.ca to see the list of 30 attractions.

Continued on page 24



- SINCE 2004 -
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August is Children's Eye Health and Safety Month

With a large number of states beginning the school year earlier, August is the new September! Along with school supply shopping and purchasing those back-to-school clothing items, it's time to make comprehensive eye exam appointments for the kids. Conveniently, August is designated as Children's Eye Health and Safety Month!

A good rule of thumb is to have your children's eyes examined during well-child visits, beginning around age three. Your child's eye doctor can help detect refractive errors such as nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism as well as the following diseases:

- Amblyopia (lazy eye)
- Strabismus (crossed eyes)
- Ptosis (drooping of the eyelid)
- Color deficiency (color blindness)

If you or your doctor suspects that your child may have a vision problem, you can make an appointment with your local ophthalmologist for further testing. There are some specific warning signs that may indicate that your child has a vision problem. Some of these include:

- Wandering or crossed eyes
- A family history of childhood vision problems
- Disinterest in reading or viewing distant objects
- Squinting or turning the head in an unusual manner while watching television



Keeping your children's eyes safe is another part of maintaining healthy vision. Eye injuries are the leading cause of vision loss in children. There are about 42,000 sports-related eye injuries every year in America, and children suffer most of these injuries. Help prevent your child from being one of the more than 12 million children who suffer from vision impairment by remembering a few basic rules of safety:

All children should wear protective eyewear while participating in sports or recreational activities

Purchase age-appropriate toys for your children and avoid toys with sharp or protruding parts (Source: HAP).

Help your children have a successful school year by scheduling a comprehensive eye exam and taking safety measures to ensure their eyes are free from injury.

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The Winkler Morden **Voice**
Your Community NEWSPAPER

The history of bowling in Winkler

By Randy Rietze

The history of bowling in Winkler starts around 1950.

Harold Rietze, who was the brother to my father Fred Rietze, owned and operated a billiard hall in Winkler. This was located on Mountain Avenue, between 4th Street and Main on the north side of the street, approximately where the Chicken Chef Restaurant parking lot is today.

In 1950, Dad had a building added to the east side of the billiard hall. That same year he purchased four used bowling lanes. I'm not sure where he got them from. A lot of you might remember that a couple of the lanes were a little warped. A straight throw down the alley ended up curving slightly on its own.



Heritage Highlights

In the beginning it was mostly five-pin, however shortly thereafter 10-pin was introduced to the bowling public.

Some of you may even remember a game called Duck Pin. For obvious reasons the pins were short and kind of fat and resembled a duck. That particular type of bowling was short-lived. There were no automatic pin spotters in those days. You used to sit on the ledge about four feet off the ground behind the pit where the pins and ball landed. You jumped into the pit after each throw, cleared loose pins off the lanes and put the ball on a return rack which ran above the ground between the lanes. I remember doing some pin setting in those

days. I believe we received three cents for five-pin and four cents for 10-pin. So if you do the math, it gave us between 20 and 30 cents a game.

I remember some of the pin spotters in the back actually throwing the ball back down the alley to the bowlers if they thought the bowlers threw before they had a chance to vacate the pit area.

Some of the bowlers in those days were Nick Letkeman, (who probably threw one of the fastest balls in those days). I remember he lobbed the ball, and the ball would hit the alley about a third of the way down and when he hit the pocket, the pins would literally explode. He used to have the pin spotters ducking in the back.

I remember my father was a fairly good bowler, along with people like Klass Friesen, Jim Carlson, Len Pelsler, Jack Keilback and my dad's brother Howard.

Part of the fun of having your father own the alleys was that on Sundays, when the lanes were closed, we would be allowed to go to the bowling alleys and bowl to our heart's content. However, we would have to go into the pit to reset our own pins after each throw.

In 1961 Winkler had the big fire which destroyed most of the east side of Main St. between Mountain and South Railway. The bowling and billiard hall was spared this time.

I remember my dad telling me that we were lucky that our building was spared. The following year in 1962 our luck ran out. The fire started next door at the Hi-Spot Café Restaurant and spread to the bowling alley. As the buildings were only two feet apart and with the oil on the lanes to keep them in shape, the fire burnt quite rapidly giving the fire department lit-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Some artifacts from Winkler bowling past, seen on display at the Winkler Heritage Society's annual banquet some years ago.

tle chance of saving the building.

There were not a lot of records, trophies, etc., left because everything was destroyed in the fire. Of all things, we saved a cigarette machine—35 cents for cigs was on the tags.

A lot of the bowlers continued to bowl by going to Walhalla and Carman to continue their love of the game.

I remember teams like the Winkler Corner Pins, Pembina Hillbillies, Border Kings and the Great Southern. These teams played in a Canadian

league in Walhalla, USA.

In 1974 the Valley Bowl at the corner of Main St. and Roblin Blvd. was constructed. In 1919, after over 40 years on Main St., the lanes moved to their new facility on Hwy. 14.

Heritage Highlights, supplied by the Winkler Heritage Society, introduces readers to the people, places and things that still impact us today. Learn more about the society's work and how you can support it at winklerheritagesociety.ca.

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

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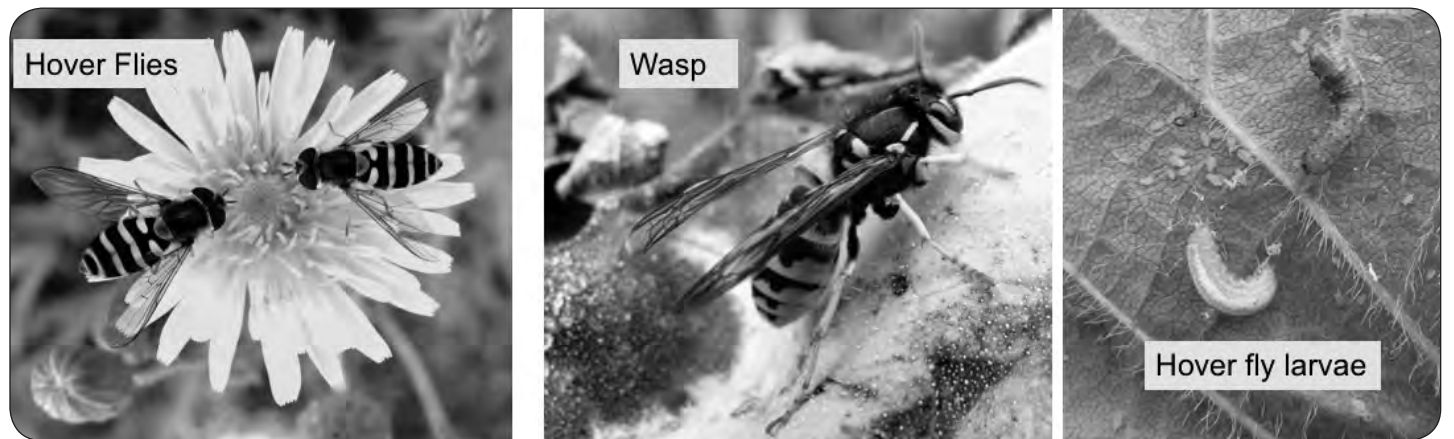
Incredible Creatures: Hover Flies – Masterful Mimics

By John Gavloski

Flies often get a lot of bad press. But there are many groups of flies that are beneficial. Some are good pollinators, others are valuable predators, and there are some that are beneficial as both. One such group of flies is the hover flies. One challenge, though, might be even identifying them as a fly. In this month's Incredible Creatures, we will explore hover flies, masterful mimics that are bountifully beneficial.

Masterful mimics

At first glance, the hover flies in the photo may look like a wasp, but they are not. There are 593 species of hover flies (sometimes also known as flower flies) in Canada and over 6,000 species worldwide. Adults of many species resemble bees or wasps. This mimicry may ward off predators. But hover flies can't sting. Flies do not have stingers and only have a single functional pair of wings (the hind wings are reduced to balancing organs). A wasp's or bee's antennae are more noticeable than hover flies, and wasps have narrower waists than hover flies. Hover flies are also much better at hovering than bees and wasps. Adults of most species of hover flies are about 10 to 20 mm, but some are bigger and can be up to 35 mm. In dry years like this, hover flies may land on us to gather a



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Can you see the similarities and differences between hover flies and wasps?

drink of sweat. If you can identify it as a hover fly, don't worry — you are just supplying them with insect Gatorade.

Pollinators that provide an air-show

Adults often feed on nectar and/or pollen. Look for them around flowers. They can hover in place, like a hummingbird, and move around in all directions. They can be valuable pollinators and are often considered the second-most important group of pollinators after bees.

If you have aphids starting to develop on a plant, that may also attract hover flies. As aphids feed, they excreted honeydew, which creates an aroma that helps hover fly adults find an aphid colony to lay eggs near. The more aphids and honeydew on a plant, the more likely it will be discov-

ered by hover flies.

Legless, blind predators

Larvae of most species of hover flies are slug-like, legless and taper towards the head. Colour is commonly brown, greenish, pink or whitish. Body contents visible through the outer covering of the body can cause larval colour to vary according to the colour of what they eat. Mature larvae of most species are 5 to 20 mm long.

Larvae of most species are predators. Many species are important predators of aphids, and some may also feed on thrips, scale insects or small caterpillars. Larvae of some species are capable of destroying hundreds of aphids during their development. With no true eyes, hover fly larvae discover their victims by swinging their head to

and fro, searching for prey with sensory structures located on the front end of its fleshy head. When it bumps into an aphid, it quickly snares its victim, sucks the fluids from its body and tosses the exoskeleton.

There are also some species of hover flies (in the genus *Microdon*) where the larvae live in ant or termite nests. Others live in shallow water that has decaying organic material. These have a long anal breathing tube and are called "rat-tailed maggots."

Whether you see an adult hover fly manoeuvring like a helicopter, coming for a sip of sweat, or the larvae sucking the juice from an aphid, hover flies can be fun to watch. They also provide a bounty of benefits as pollinators and predators.

After school program starting in Winkler

Winkler Family Resource Centre holding open house

By Lorne Stelmach

The Winkler Family Resource Centre is welcoming the community next week for an open house to introduce a new initiative.

The centre is starting up a new after school program, and people will have the chance over a three day period next week to find out about it.

"We just want to display what the after school program has to offer," said executive director Kathy Savage. "It will be come and meet the staff, find

out about the new program and see what's going to be happening."

The open house will take place next Tuesday to Thursday Aug. 17 to 19 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each evening.

This program will be run at the Winkler Family Resource Centre, which is located in the Emmanuel Mennonite Church.

The after school program will begin Wed., Sept. 8 to coincide with the first day of classes, and the program will follow the school calendar. This year the program will only be covering full school days for care, so it will not be available for early closings, noon dismissals, Christmas break and spring break.

A walking school bus service will be available from the Parkland and Pineridge schools, so staff will meet the

children at a meeting point, check them into the program and then proceed to the centre as a group. For now, if your child is coming from another school, they can be dropped off at the first door on the north side of the building, and they will be greeted upon arrival and checked into the program.

"Hopefully, as our program grows, that's something we will be able to expand on," noted Savage.

Volunteers will connect with children after school and can help with homework or do baking with the older children, play sports with the children and engage in positive ways with all the children who attend the after school program. The volunteer time can be one or two hours a week.

She sees the service as providing an

affordable option for families for child care after school. Fees for the program will be: one child \$12 per day, second child \$11 per day, third child \$10 per day, fourth child \$9 per day.

Priority will be given to families who need care five day a week. It will operate on a first-come first-served basis, and in the future, priority will be given to siblings of children already enrolled in the program.

Savage noted they are looking for volunteers, so for more information and to register your child or children, go online to www.winklerfamilyresourcecentre.com and look for the after school link. You can e-mail winklerfrfc@gmail.com or call (204) 332-9418.

Art forms join forces

Illumination: Word Enfleshed brings together the written and visual arts

By Lorne Stelmach

The visual and literary arts have been brought together for this month's exhibit at the Pembina Hills Gallery.

The show entitled *Illumination: Word Enfleshed* is a collaborative project organized by local writer Peter Cantelon, who is among the contributors who had their written works interpreted by visual artists.

Each writer and artist was unknown to the other until an opening reception last Wednesday brought them together.

"To me, it is just affirmation of the power of art in all forms," said Cantelon, who was pleased to see the results with about 20 pieces of art and writing in total. "It is a unique exhibit, and I'm glad especially that it gives the written word a better public space than it often gets."

Writers were encouraged to submit works no longer than one page in length and to include on another page their inspiration, and the visual artists then choose from the entries and had the freedom of interpretation for the visual art.

Cantelon's aim for the exhibit was to present the inter-play between the

written word and visual art and see how it can be illuminated to take on form and new and expanded meaning.

For the Pembina Hills Arts Council, it was a great opportunity, given their aim to support all art forms and to particularly highlight the literary arts as a vital part of our cultural richness.

"It's wonderful to see the art, and it's extra special to know that it's visual art inspired by written art. It's a cool interaction, this interplay between artists to come up with something unique," said Cantelon. "It's neat to see one person's interpretation of another person's work with their own work."

"IT'S A COOL INTERACTION, THIS INTERPLAY BETWEEN ARTISTS TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING UNIQUE."

"In my instance, I love what the artist created, and it in no way is what was in my head when I was writing it," noted Cantelon, whose written piece was visually portrayed by Margie Hildebrand. "I think that is spectacular because to me it just affirms that people take art and they put themselves into it, so it gives it new meaning, and that means

that art and writing can take on new meaning for every single person."

Conversely, he also noted some art works were more evident in portraying the inspiration with the style even complementing the written word.

"I can see synchronicity between the artists," he said. "I never thought of writing and visual art as having something so similar that you can see

"The campaign includes a partnership with Expedia under a national agreement, leveraged by Canada national tourism bodies to drive awareness and hotel bookings, both here in Winnipeg and in rural destinations."

Ferguson said 200,000 copies of their road trip guide have been sent out to Manitobans through direct mail to help promote the campaign.

"Manitobans are key to supporting the recovery of the tourism sector, and that will start here at home this summer. With the help of all Manitobans, I know that tourism in this province will build back even better than before," said Jon Reyes, minister of economic development and jobs.

> TRAVEL MB, FROM PG. 20

Short term, the goal of their summer tourism campaign is on local audiences, so the campaign encourages Manitobans to take a road trip around the province. It will only be extended to nearby provinces once it is deemed safe.

Ferguson said the objectives of the campaign are to increase awareness with Manitobans about attractions throughout their own province.

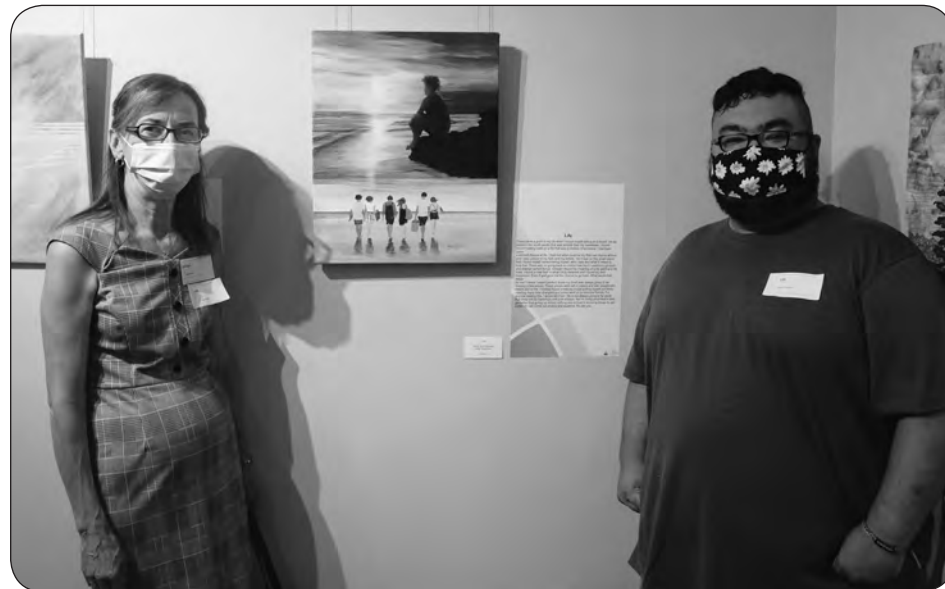
They will measure the success of the campaign through increased business visitation and spending, occupancy rates and the satisfaction of their partners and residents of Manitoba.

The campaign will continue to build on the theme of 'The Home is Where the Heart is', noted Ferguson.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Peter Cantelon with the artwork created by Margie Hildebrand to accompany his written piece.



Olga Krahn created her art work on the inspiration of the written piece submitted by Scott Sitompul.

between the two of them."

Scott Sitompul, who was one of the writers, ended up paired with artist Olga Krahn, and it made him glad to have been chosen to be part of the exhibit

"It sounded like a great opportunity to get a piece of my work showcased," he said. "I kind of forgot about it until they messaged me to say I would be part of this exhibit."

He thought it was great "that it was going to be all local talent, so I thought I had a chance, and it's pretty cool to see my work come to life," he added. "And I think Olga did a very good job of making my words come to life in the painting ... from looking at it, I feel it really did capture what I was trying to go for in my writing. It kind of summed it all up nicely."

"I like the idea of doing an idea of something that somebody else has created, and I liked to create from their thoughts," said Krahn.

"It was good. It was exciting. I liked doing it," she said. "It's learning how to communicate what I'm thinking to hopefully intrigue the viewer of the painting that they will interpret and get some value out of it."

"For anybody who is a fan of visual art, I hope they see what can be done in terms of art inspiring art," suggested Cantelon.

"I hope that seeing poetry in the written word as the original inspiration beside the visual art gives the viewer a little extra layer of meaning and adds to the experience for them," he suggested. "For the artists ... I hope the artists who participated or who come to the gallery see the value of boundaries and constraints ... as we set some ground rules."

"I would love to do it in reverse," he further suggested. "I would love for visual arts to submit something and then have writers inspired from that work."

• BEHIND THE COUNTER

Speaking to your pharmacist about uncomfortable conditions

For many people, the pandemic has brought high stress levels and decreased movement.

In fact, 62 per cent of Canadians say their activity has decreased since the pandemic began and many attribute this change to an increase in stress. This has caused many Canadians to develop unwanted physical consequences



By Zahid Zehri

like weight gain, constipation, or even hemorrhoids.

While many find it easy to discuss other common ailments with their pharmacist, those experiencing uncomfortable conditions or embarrassing side effects may be less open to seeking advice.

As highly trained medical professionals, pharmacists can offer sound health advice, no appointment necessary.

I'm sharing a few of the common "awkward" questions that I get so you can get back to feeling your best:

Dealing with hemorrhoids

Although they can be embarrassing to talk about, anyone can get hemorrhoids. They can be painful and annoying but aren't usually serious. Pharmacists can help you find fast

relief by tailoring a treatment plan to your symptoms. We'll find the best approach for you, which could be a prescription, ointment, or some dietary support.

Maintaining a healthy weight

Seventy-four per cent of Canadians say that the pandemic has affected their eating habits and 58 per cent have gained weight. You may be hesitant to talk to your pharmacist about maintaining a healthy weight, but we're here to offer the advice, tools and resources you need. Shoppers Drug Mart also offers virtual dietitian services; a registered dietitian works with you like a personal coach to build a plan that helps empower you to create life-long changes and healthier eating habits.

Can't seem to go?

We've all been there—constipation is unpleasant. Your pharmacist can help identify the cause and help you remedy the situation quickly. This could include a diet adjustment, medication change, or you may simply need some over-the-counter support to help get things moving again.

Pharmacists are here to help you navigate your health, that includes answering questions that might feel awkward or uncomfortable. Visit your local pharmacist with all your health and lifestyle questions so we can get you back to feeling your best this summer.

Zahid Zehri is a pharmacist and owner of the Winkler Shoppers Drug Mart.

All in a day: Hair salon in Miami under new ownership

By Becca Myskiw

There's a new hand holding the scissors at Miami's Hair Salon.

Sarah Sawatzky is the owner of the salon in town, having officially opened on July 20. Sawatzky graduated from The Salon Professional Academy Winnipeg last year after waiting for her youngest child to head into Grade 4.

"I've always loved doing hair," she said. "I just wanted to wait with a career."

After 12 months of school (that would have been nine without the pandemic), Sawatzky worked in a salon in Altona with two other hairstylists. There were some kinks in that plan, though, and it didn't work out for her. There are three big hair salons close to each other in Altona and countless

at-home studios, so the competition is tremendous.

Soon enough, the opportunity to rent the salon in Miami came up, and Sawatzky didn't waste a minute. On Sunday, July 18, she went to town and looked at the salon as it stood. The layout, the setup, and the look were all perfect for her, so by 6 p.m. that day she had everything at the old salon packed up. By 8 p.m., she was all moved in.

On Monday, July 19, she and some helpers spent the day sanitizing, washing down, and organizing the place. Then, on Tuesday, July 20 she opened her doors for business. Sawatzky had four people booked for appointments before her first day and they have just kept coming.

Miami's Hair Salon offers colours,

cuts, straight razor blades, facial waxing, basic manicuring, perms, and will soon be offering acrylic nails when she ups her license in the winter. Unfortunately, basic manicuring isn't available quite yet as Sawatzky has to buy all the polishes and stock her shelves.

She's the only hairstylist in the salon and takes eight to nine clients a day. Sawatzky said she's shocked and thrilled with the response to her opening, and she's been booking up very quickly. As of July 29, she only had a few appointments available for Aug. 6 and one or two on the Aug. 7. The week after that was already filling up.

To book an appointment with Sawatzky, call the salon at (204) 312-0575.

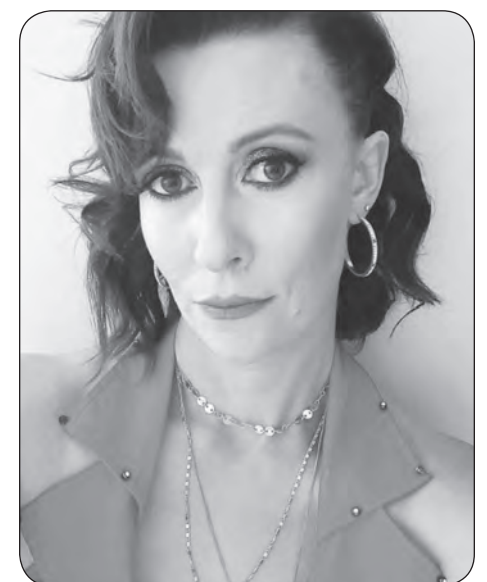


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Sarah Sawatzky has recently taken over the Miami Hair Salon.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Mudhens and Whips earn victories

Morden maintained its slim hold on top spot in the Border Baseball League east division this past week.

The Mudhens doubled up the Carman Cardinals 8-4 last Tuesday to improve their record to 4-2-1, which had

them just a half game up on Altona at 4-3-1.

Just one game back were the Winkler Whips, who kept pace last week by edging Altona 3-2 last Tuesday to get to .500 at 3-3-1. Carman mean-

while slipped to 2-4-1.

Leading the way in the west division were Pilot Mound at 5-1 followed by Cartwright at 5-2, Baldur and Clearwater at 3 & 4 and Killarney at 0 & 6.

The Mudhens hosted the Whips

this past Tuesday before then visiting Clearwater next Tuesday, while Winkler was scheduled to then visit Cartwright Sunday and host Pilot Mound next Tuesday.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Golf tourney raising funds for bomb shelter

By Lorne Stelmach

A local woman is hosting a golf tournament this month to help the people of Israel and raise awareness.

The Covenant Cup Golf Tournament is happening Aug. 28 with a starting tee time of 8 a.m., and the nine hole tournament at the Winkler Centennial Golf Course has a \$125 registration fee including lunch with all funds raised going to provide a bomb shelter in Israel.

Taylor Polstra has had the idea for this tournament since 2010 when she lived in the country while working with the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ), and she witnessed children practicing bomb threat drills in school and just always being in a "constant state of stress and trauma."

It is estimated that over 22,000 have been fired into Israel since 2001, and those living near the border usually only have seconds to find shelter once the rocket sirens go off, so a bomb shelter in areas such as these can be

the difference between life and death.

"People are dying because of these rockets," said Polstra. "Just to have a bomb shelter, to know it's right there ... it's just an amazing thing to have that right there."

ICEJ Canada's long-term goals are to build bridges between Christians and Jews, to expand dialogue, fight anti-Semitism and provide education for the church.

It works in collaboration with Operation Lifeshield (OLS) to provide shelters, hope and peace of mind to Israelis in various locations such as schools, day cares, senior homes and other public areas.

There are a few different sizes of bomb shelters. Most hold between 12 and 50 people, but the biggest one the organization has done protects hundreds of people.

Its size and price depends largely on its location, but the largest is around \$42,000 U.S., so Polstra is hoping to raise \$50,000.

"Anything is better than nothing though," she said. "These bomb shel-



PROVIDED PHOTO

An example of a bomb shelter being put into place with the support of International Christian Embassy Jerusalem and Operation Lifeshield.

ters not only help save lives, but they provide a peace of mind and it's kind of like a big, huge hug to these people."

To find out more about the Covenant Cup Golf Tournament, make a donation or to register, go to covenantcup-golftournament.com.

PV Orioles now set for playoff weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Orioles closed out the MJBL regular season with mixed results last week.

They began the week by picking up their first back to back wins in clobbering the Altona Bisons 17-0 last Wednesday before coming from behind to edge the Interlake Blue Jays

9-8 Friday.

The Orioles had everything clicking against second place Altona, and they trailed Interlake 6-2 after four innings but then drove in seven runs in the fifth.

The streak couldn't be sustained through to the doubleheader finale Sunday however as the Carillon Sultans took game one 10-0 before the

Orioles forfeit game two.

Pembina Valley finishes the shortened regular season with a 7 & 11 record, which will leave them in fifth or sixth place depending on the results of final regular season games that were still taking place this week. Their playoff opponent could potentially be Winnipeg South, Carillon or even the St. James As.

The tentative schedule for the playoff round this weekend had first place Elmwood Giants getting the opening game bye, while second play seventh, third faces sixth and fourth takes on fifth place. The winners then advance for further round robin games Saturday through to Monday with a final game Tuesday if necessary.

Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League releases schedule

Staff

The Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League released the 2021-22 regular-season schedule last week.

The campaign is set to kick off on Sept. 24, with opening weekend consisting of five two-game match-ups:

Kenora Thistles host Brandon Wheat Kings (Sept. 25 & 26);

Central Plains Capitals visit Pembina

Valley (Sept. 25 & 26);

Norman Northstars host Southwest Cougars (Sept. 25 & 26);

Eastman Selects and Interlake Lightning play a home and home set (Sept. 24 & 25); and

Parkland Rangers and Yellowhead Chiefs also play a home and home set (Sept. 24 & 25).

In Winnipeg, the Thrashers host the

Wild in their home opener on the 24th, and the Bruins face-off against the Thrashers on the 25th in their first game at home.

The league has made a significant effort to reduce contact between clubs. Teams play the majority of their games as back-to-backs or home and home with their opponent.

The full schedule can be viewed at:

https://www.mbaaamidget.ca/schedule/day/league_instance/147413?season=762203

Hockey Manitoba is in the process of developing a comprehensive Return to Play Plan. The Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League will implement all procedures required to maintain a safe environment for its players, coaches, and fans.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Storm battle to a draw

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm took to the field for their first regular season game of the summer last weekend, playing before a hometown crowd Sunday evening.

They battled the NKMB Saints to a 1-1 draw, with Winkler's goal coming courtesy of Roberto Kort, who headed in a free kick from Tobias Morash.

For the first time in years, the team is playing in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Premier Division, moving up from 1st Division on the merit of a second-place finish in the pandemic-shortened 2020 season.

The league is not planning on demoting or promoting any teams based on the outcome of the 2021 season, which is not only far shorter than usual but is also missing a number of teams as a result, so it means the team will remain at this level next year.

The Winkler soccer club opted not to field both the Storm and their younger counterpart the SC Riot this summer. Instead, Riot members will join the Storm for the upcoming games.

"We just wanted to keep soccer go-

ing," says coach Reinaldo Oliveira, noting it would have been difficult to get enough players together for both teams to practise and play separately.

"In talking to all the players, we decided to just go with the Storm. It's a great opportunity for all of us to play at this level, experience the Premier Division."

The league got the ball rolling with a series of exhibition games last month, in which Winkler fell to Bonivital 3-2 and Hellas 3-0. Lucania forfeited a scheduled match July 30, and so the Storm played a friendly home exhibition match against the E&E Soccer Academy instead, beating them 2-1.

While their first two forays were losses, Oliveira says they managed to stay competitive in both.

"We can match their level for sure," he says, noting the game against Bonivital was lost due to some timely mistakes on the Storm's part. "We had our chances. We could have won that game or even tied it ... for a first match, I think the team did very well."

Meanwhile, the game against Hellas was a pitched battle for a good 45 minutes before the winners pulled



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Winkler Storm gave up the first goal Sunday but fought back to earn a 1-1 tie with the NKMB Saints.

ahead and stayed ahead.

"We had a pretty good first half," says Oliveira. "It was right at the end they scored their first goal ... and then it's easier when you're ahead [to keep the momentum]."

"These were all exhibitions games,

so it was good to try new things, different positions, formations, try out guys in different spots."

Coming up this weekend, the Storm hit the road to face WSA Winnipeg on Sunday.

Winkler Flyers looking for billets for the season

By Lorne Stelmach

As the Winkler Flyers prepare for the next MJHL season, the team is in search of places for the players to call home in Winkler.

The Flyers have put out the call for Winkler families to serve as billet homes for the team members, and general manager Justin Falk encouraged people to consider it as "an investment into another person's life."

"It's about the relationships that you can build through the experiences in the home," said Falk, who cited the sense of fulfillment that you can get from the experience.

"It's supporting the community, and it's another way that you can help ... most people who do it have great sto-

ries and have had great experiences doing it," he said. "The players become part of the family. They help out with duties around the house ... help out in the community."

"I became very close with a lot of my billet families," he noted. "There were people who even came to my wedding, and we still keep in touch."

Players can be placed with families anywhere within Winkler, Morden and the surrounding communities, and these families can play an integral part in the player's support network both off and on the ice.

For most of the players, this may be their first time away from home, so billet families are encouraged to connect with players' families to make the transition to their new home away

from home a smooth one.

Many families request their players to remain with them for multiple years should they remain with the team, so the bonds created often result in life-long relationships post hockey.

The organization assists with some food cost coverage via a monthly gift card provided by the Winkler/Morden Co-op, although this will not always cover the full months food cost for the player.

Billet family responsibilities include providing a furnished bedroom, nutritious high caloric meals, maintaining open communication with their player, establishing boundaries and house rules and enveloping the player into the family.

Typically, a player is assigned a bil-

let family at the end of training camp each August. The MJHL has set trade deadlines throughout the year; therefore, a player may be with a family for as short a time as a few weeks or in most cases until the end of the hockey season in March with playoffs continuing into April.

The player is expected to help their billet family around the house, always communicate with their billet families and get into a routine that works for your household, as things like meal prep and cooking are valuable life skills for players.

If interested or need more information, you can go online to www.winklerflyers.com.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Game Day Chicken Wings

Preheat oven to 425 F.
Line baking sheet with foil. Arrange butter cubes on foil.
In medium bowl, combine flour, paprika, garlic powder, salt and pepper.
Coat both sides of wings in flour mixture then evenly space among butter cubes on baking sheet.
Bake wings 30 minutes.
Turn wings over and bake 15 minutes, or until crispy and fully cooked.
Serve with dipping sauces and sprinkle with fresh parsley, if desired.

Total time: 50 minutes
Servings: 4
1/2 cup butter, cubed
1/3 cup flour
2 teaspoons paprika
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon black pepper
10 chicken wingettes, thawed
dipping sauces (optional)
fresh parsley (optional)



Mexican Pizza Dip

sliced black olives (optional)
green onions (optional)
tortilla chips
Preheat oven to 350 F.
Spray 8-by-8-inch glass pan or large souffle dish with nonstick cooking spray; set aside.
In large saute pan, heat oil over medium-high heat and add ground beef, breaking up with flat wooden spatula, until fully cooked. Sprinkle taco seasoning throughout beef and combine.
Place warm beef mixture in large bowl and add cream cheese, sour cream, 1 cup salsa and mozzarella. Mix well until combined and pour into prepared pan. Top with blended cheese and sliced jalapeno, black olives and green onions, if desired.
Bake until fully warmed and cheese is melted, 30-35 minutes.
Top with small spoonfuls of salsa. Serve with tortilla chips.

Recipe courtesy of chef George Duran
Servings: 6-8
Nonstick cooking spray
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 pound ground beef
1 package taco seasoning mix
8 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
1/2 cup sour cream
1 cup Fresh Cravings Chunky Salsa, plus additional for topping
1 cup grated mozzarella
1/2 cup blended Mexican cheese
sliced jalapeno (optional)



Marbled Peanut Butter Chocolate Brownies

1/2 cup Domino Golden Sugar
1 egg
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
powdered sugar, for topping (optional)
Heat oven to 350 F.
To make chocolate brownies: In medium saucepot over low heat, melt butter and chocolate. Remove pot from heat; stir in sugar and vanilla until blended.
In small mixing bowl, whisk eggs until frothy then stir into chocolate mixture.
Sift flour into batter and stir just until smooth. Pour batter into prepared pan, smoothing to edges.
To make peanut butter marble: In mixing bowl, cream peanut butter, butter and sugar. Add egg and vanilla; beat just

Prep time: 25 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Yield: 24 brownies
Chocolate Brownies:
1/2 cup (1/4 pound) butter
2 ounces unsweetened chocolate, chopped
1 cup Domino Golden Sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 eggs
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
Peanut Butter Marble:
1/4 cup natural (no added sugar) peanut butter
4 tablespoons butter, softened



Christine Ibbotson

Dear Money Lady,
I don't know how to get my children to save! It seems like they are always spending, and I am worried that they won't be prepared when they get older. I have always saved and made them do without – is that why they are spending so much?

Jen

Dear Jen – I don't think so!
I wouldn't want you to worry too much about your adult children. Unfortunately, life now is quite expensive, but if you have taught them the value of saving for the future they will eventually catch on. We all know it is important to save for retirement, but do we really do it? Can we do it?

I recently read a Canadian survey that stated Canadian taxpayers have accumulated about \$625 billion in "unused" RRSP contribution room – money that obviously has not been saved for retirement. I was actually shocked to further read in this study that 6 out of 10 non-retirees expected to live a lifestyle in retirement that is "less" or "much less" comfortable than their current lifestyle. Is this because we do not want to plan; or could it be, we just don't have the means to save more money to have a plan?

It can be hard to imagine events in the near future, let alone 30 years from now, and many people find it difficult to sacrifice things today for that uncertain future. Typically, there are three variables that strongly influence the ability to save for those people between the ages of 35 and 45 – age, children and income. While many in this age group recognize the value of planning, it is not their priority and when the annual household incomes come in under \$80,000, this group is not like-

until blended. In separate bowl, sift or whisk flour and baking powder then stir into batter just until combined.

Carefully spread peanut butter marble over chocolate batter. Use knife to swirl batters together, first horizontally then diagonally.

Bake 20 minutes, or until toothpick inserted in center comes out almost clean. Cool completely on wire rack before cutting. Top with powdered sugar, if desired, before serving.



AsktheMoneyLady.ca

ly to be able to save. Most people nowadays, (under age 48) are still consumed by other priorities, including debt reduction and managing current expenses. So, what will happen to these Canadians that are still struggling? Well, what has always happened in the past for every generation before us.

Many will look to how their parents have fared over the years and model their views toward budgeting and saving based on their parent's behavior. This is a natural occurrence. Saving and planning habits are usually always influenced by their parents, either by a desire to avoid making the same mistakes or by wanting to create the same saving habits. While many people think that the school system should do a better job in teaching our children about personal finances it is nonetheless still seen to be a parental responsibility.

Whether your children are young or now adults with their own children, we as parents play a role in teaching our kids the basics of money management skills and should encourage them to develop good budgeting and saving habits. Parents must remember that their own financial behaviors have an immense influence on their children. Being a good role model allows our children to develop healthy financial routines. In the end, however, our children will need to take charge of their own retirement on their own terms. We as parents should remind them that the decisions that they make before retirement will affect their lifestyles for a period that could potentially last longer than their entire working careers. Remind them that it is never too late to start planning and saving. They will listen to you.

Good Luck & Best Wishes,
ATML - Christine Ibbotson
Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author of 3 finance books and the Canadian Best-Selling Book "How to Retire Debt Free & Wealthy" www.askthemoneylady.ca or send a question to info@askthemoneylady.ca

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- GRADUATIONS

The Winkler Morden Voice
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take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS**
1. Calls balls and strikes
 4. Turkish officer
 9. Repaired shoe
 14. Grass genus
 15. Small, sealed vial
 16. Primp
 17. Immoral act
 18. A tool to communicate
 20. Crumbles away
 22. Egg-like
 23. Districts (abbr.)
 24. Dressed
 28. Small island (British)
 29. Dialect of Chinese
 30. Force unit
 31. Borderlines
 33. Norse gods
 37. Morning
 38. Fiddler crabs
 39. Tell a story
 41. Consumed
 42. Atomic #58
 43. About old Norse poems
 44. Fencing swords
 46. One-time Tigers third baseman
 49. Southpaw (abbr.)
 50. Neither
 51. Conversations
 55. Distinctive manner or pronunciation
 58. Cyprinids
 59. Appropriate to a festival
 60. Pearl Jam frontman
 64. Wrath
 65. Italian city
 66. A way to get there
 67. A nose or snout
 68. German seaport
 69. A horse for riding
 70. Airline representative (abbr.)

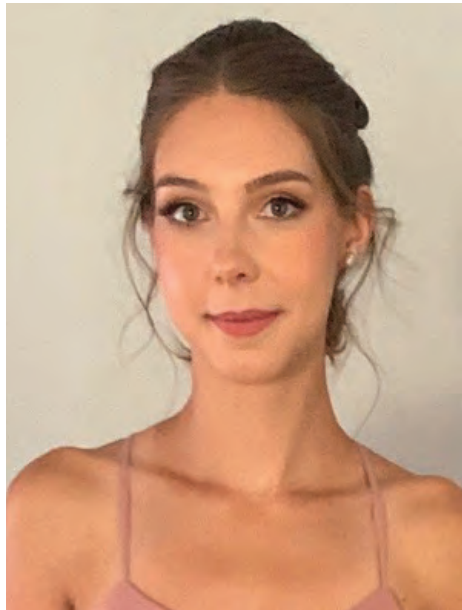
- CLUES DOWN**
1. Unhappy
 2. Silk fabric

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20			21					22						
23						24	25						26	27
		28				29				30				
31	32					33		34	35	36			37	
38				39	40								41	
42				43						44	45			
46		47	48					49		50				
51				52	53	54				55			56	57
		58								59				
60	61							62	63				64	
65								66					67	
68								69					70	

3. Unbroken view of a region
4. Middle Eastern territory
5. ___ and Andy, TV show
6. Central processing unit
7. Department of Housing and Urban Development
8. Midcentury newspaper columnist
9. Weapon
10. Delivered a speech
11. Probably going to happen
12. Midway between northeast and east
13. Danish krone
19. Synthetic resin (abbr.)
21. Fall slowly in drops
24. Bestow an honor upon
25. Childishly silly
26. Related on the mother's side
27. Populations of related plants
31. Coherent
32. Tribe of ancient Britons
34. Financial firm Goldman ___
35. Stephen King thriller
36. Went in again
40. Commercial
41. Poking holes in the ground
45. Prisoners of war
47. Pursued pleasure
48. "Seinfeld" character
52. Body of water
53. Hovering vehicle (abbr.)
54. People who utilize
56. Nostrils
57. Inner mass of some fungi
59. Honor lavishly
60. Midway between east and southeast
61. Turn down
62. Small round mark
63. Expected at a certain time

Classifieds Announcements *The Winkler Morden Voice*

GRADUATION



**Congratulations
Kezra Gerbrandt!**

Kezra completed her Bachelor of Science Degree from U of M this spring! She has been accepted to the School of Pharmacy and will be starting her Doctors Degree at HSC/U of M this fall!
We are so proud of you and your dedication to learning!

-Congratulations from
Robert and Janice, Chelsea and Rylan

ANNIVERSARY



**Ike and Brenda Unger
August 14, 1971 - August 14, 2021
Congratulations
Mom and Dad, Grandpa and Grandma
as you celebrate your 50th Anniversary!**

-All our love,
your family

IN MEMORIAM



**Don Janzen
July 18, 1949 - August 8, 2020**

One year has passed since that sad day,
When one we loved was called away;
God took him home, it was His will;
Within our hearts, he liveth still.
We miss you every day and can't wait until we see you again.

-Love Dianne, Kim,
Jon and Cindy, Camryn, Avery

IN MEMORIAM



**Peter P. Giesbrecht
1927 - 2007**

There is a road they call remembrance,
Where thoughts and wishes meet;
We take that road in thought today,
To one we cannot greet.
So many things have happened,
Since you were called away;
So many things to share with you,
Had you been here today.
No need for words,
Except to say:
You are loved and remembered
In every way.

-Love, your family

PUBLIC NOTICE

**THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF THOMPSON
PUBLIC NOTICE – BOARD OF REVISION**

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2022 assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of Thompson has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 530 Norton Avenue, Miami, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 & 43 of The Municipal Assessment Act:

APPLICATION FOR REVISION:

42 (1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114 (1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to the following matters:

- a) liability to taxation;
- b) amount of an assessed value;
- c) classification of property;
- d) a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13 (2)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

43 (1) An application for revision must:

- a) be made in writing;
- b) set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- c) set out which of the matters referred to in subsection 42 (1) are at issue, and the grounds for each of those matters; and
- d) be filed by
 - (i) delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the public notice given under subsection 41 (2), or
 - (ii) serving it upon the secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the Board.

The Board of Revision will sit on Thursday, October 14th, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber of the Rural Municipality of Thompson to hear applications.

Applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board on or before Tuesday, September 28th, 2021.

Secretary
Board of Revision
The Rural Municipality of Thompson
530 Norton Avenue
P.O. Box 190
Miami, MB R0G 1H0



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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE
of **SARA ELIAS**, late of Winkler,
Manitoba, deceased.
ALL CLAIMS against the above
Estate, duly verified by Statutory
Declaration, must be sent to the
undersigned at 504 Stanley Avenue,
Winkler, Manitoba, R6W 0M3,
within four (4) weeks of the date of
this publication.

**GILMOUR BRAUL HIEBERT
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OBITUARY



**Donald Burton Hamilton
1929 – 2021**

On Saturday July 31, 2021 at the Foyer Notre Dame, Don Hamilton, 92 passed away.

He was predeceased by his wife, Velma (nee Compton) in 2004; his parents, Burt and Clara Hamilton and two foster siblings, Bev and Dick. He is survived by three sons, Larry and Janice, Rick and Wendy, Mark and Tara and their families.

A private funeral service was held at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with interment at the Miami Cemetery.

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



OBITUARY



**Erin Kathleen Schellenberg
1981 - 2021**

It is with shattered hearts that we announce the sudden passing of our beloved Erin Schellenberg on Wednesday, July 28, 2021.

Erin was born to proud parents, Rod and Karen Schellenberg on November 18, 1981 in Winkler, MB. Her brother, Trevor welcomed her with open arms. The week prior to her passing, Erin reflected on her life. She spoke of herself as a baby and the many pictures of herself with a big smile and drooling chin. She had fond memories of spending time with her cousins, Jenny, Amber and Melisa. She laughed recalling the club her and her friend, Evie created and the many fun adventures they had together. She spoke of her love of ballet and was sad that she hadn't been able to continue her studies. She spoke of her love for her brother and her nephews.

She shared openly of her faith in her Lord Jesus. Anything Erin ever did was done well. She excelled in school and earned many awards for her hard work. She loved writing. She wrote many notes and poems to those she loved. She attended Garden Valley Collegiate where she joined the track team, performed a solo dance in a school play and was given the Rising Star award in grade 9. After high school, she attended Brandon University where she earned a bachelor's degree in Psychiatric Nursing with honor and distinction. Erin started her career in Victoria, BC and later worked at Eden Mental Health Centre in Winkler.

She leaves to mourn her parents, Rod and Karen Schellenberg; her loving brother, Trevor Schellenberg; her nephews who she adored, Zaine Schellenberg (fiancé, Morgan Demke) and Cohen Schellenberg. She also leaves to mourn her grandmothers, Betty Schellenberg and Anne Bird. She was blessed with love from many aunts and uncles, cousins, and friends. She was predeceased by her great-grandmother, Katherine Toews; grandfather, Henry Schellenberg; grandmother and grandfather, Abe and Helen Thiessen; Uncle Gary Schellenberg and cousin, Evan and Uncle Lenard Thiessen.

Erin was a kind, caring, and loving soul. She was breathtakingly beautiful inside and out. Erin, we loved you so and will miss you so desperately. Knowing your suffering is over and you are safe in the arms of your heavenly father gives us comfort. This entry is from one of her many journals she kept throughout her life.

God,
Hear my cry from within the twilight shadows. Cast thy rays of light upon my soul. Melt the ice piercing my heart. Release your sweet melody unto my ears. Allow me to dance freely to the rhythm of freedom granted by my savior.

Always and Forever, Erin Schellenberg

A private graveside service was held at Chapel Cemetery in Morden.

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



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CAREERS



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To apply please submit your resume by **August 16, 2021** to: Janae Dueck - HR Coordinator
hr@rcu.ca

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We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

AUCTION



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Successful bidder will make offer to purchase with down payment of \$25,000.00 payable to Smith Jodin Neufeld, closing attorney Edwin Klassen. Balance upon possession or before Oct 1, 2021. Property sells with subject to a reserve bid of 5000 per acre. 2021 Taxes are paid. Owner Bertha Penner, Family Contact Alvin Penner - 204-371-9424. Register to Bid on This valuable property, at www.billklassen.com

See our website www.billklassen.com for list and pictures!

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OBITUARY



**James Adam Frank Thiessen
1979 – 2021**

After a long battle with MS, it is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of James Thiessen on Saturday July 31, 2021 at the age of 41.

James is survived by his wife of 17 years, Loretta; his two boys Lucas and Adrian; his parents, Frank and Lynda; his siblings, Katrina, Chris (Kerry), and Jason (Apryl) and their families. He was predeceased by his twin brother, Jeremy.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to Tabor Home and Boundary Trails Health Centre.

A private service will be held at a later date.

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



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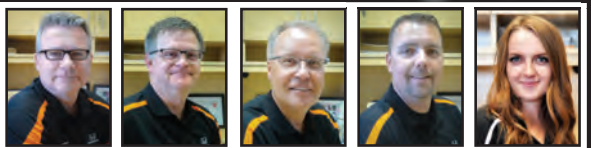


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