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Voice

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AMM rep Nancy Penner presented Central Station's volunteer team, represented by Abe Froese, with the Community Leadership Award last week. For the full story see Pg. 2.

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Spotlight on volunteers

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

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Central Station volunteers honoured with award

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Central Station volunteers gathered at the Winkler community centre for a lunch in their honour last week.

The celebration wrapped up with the presentation of a Volunteer Manitoba Volunteer Award to the team as a whole for their commitment to the community.

Nancy Penner, central district director with the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), presented them with the AMM Community Leadership Award.

"I'm pleased to be here today to celebrate the invaluable contributions and dedication of the Central Station volunteer group in Winkler," she said, noting the team donated over 3,000 hours over the past year.

"Volunteers fill roles of drivers, maintenance, food processors, hosts, programmers, fundraising, child-minding, and as board members," Penner continued. "Each volunteer's role is vital for Central Station to function properly and to fulfil its mission."

"They have volunteered countless hours and energy for deserving causes and initiatives, all while building community opportunities in the face of adversity and division during the pandemic. And that's something we truly recognize here today."



Some of Central Station's volunteers gathered at the Winkler community centre last week to celebrate receiving a Volunteer Manitoba award for their efforts.

Without volunteers, there would be no Central Station, stressed executive director Bev Wiebe.

"We don't have a very large staff and so we rely heavily on volunteers for every program," she said. "We've been very blessed with amazing volunteers and not having to do a ton of recruiting—we have a lot of community buy-in—and so it's great to celebrate all the work they do and all the time they put in."

Abe Froese accepted the award on behalf of his fellow volunteers.

His duties include helping out with the Monday night meal program and doing facility and grounds maintenance.

"I've been doing it for a good five, six years now and it's a good part of my life," he said, recalling he first heard about the centre's need for volunteers through a notice in his church bulletin. "I said here's something I could do

with my retirement time, and so I just simply came over, asked if I could do it, and here we are."

It's given him the chance to give back and meet new people.

"We believe in community building and that is very much a part of who I am and what I like to do," said Froese.

Giving back has become a way of life as well for fellow volunteer Gail Deere, who has worked at the centre in a variety of roles for the past couple of years.

"I work as a hostess and I serve meals. I have lots of conversations with people where I can really draw near to them and we have so much fun. I've gotten to know so many people," she said. "My main role, I guess, is to talk, and that's what I do best."

Froese and Deere are both pleased the entire volunteer team was honoured with the award, rather than singling out any one person.

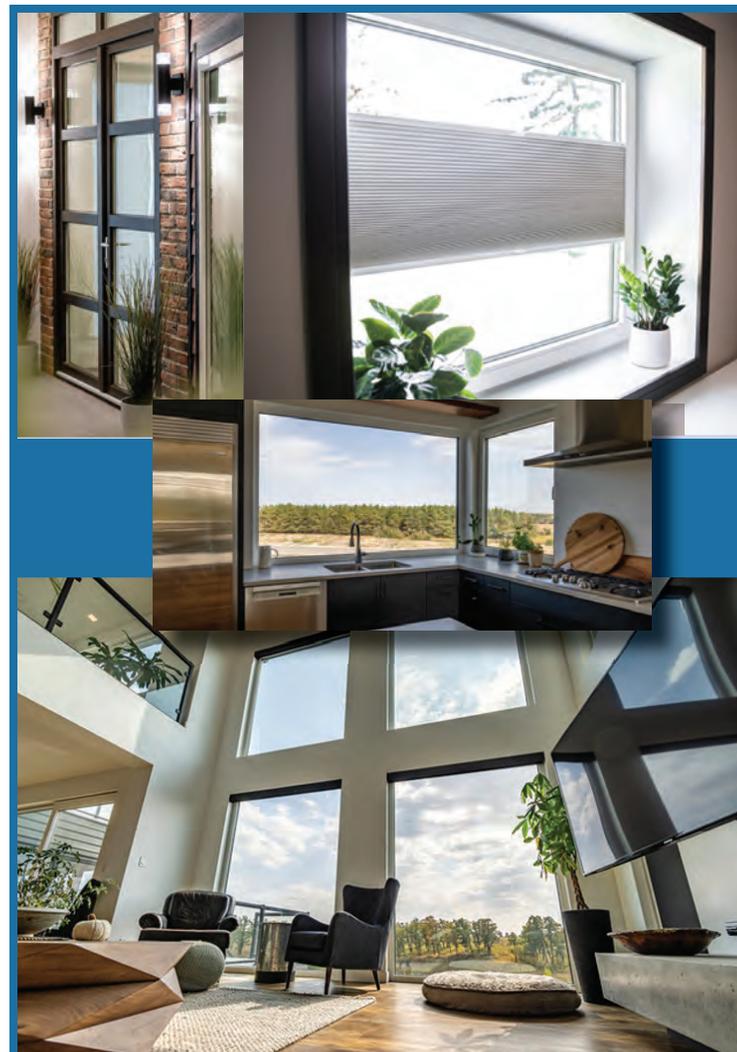
"I think it's wonderful to see that," said Froese. "It's indeed an honour and a privilege to work and volunteer and it's great to see that more than one person gets the award—it's something that's community based, community minded, and it should be received as a group then."

They encourage people to reach out to Central Station to find out how they can get involved.

"I'm here two days a week, sometimes three, and if I could I'd be here more," said Deere. "It's just such a good way to connect with the community."

"We do almost have a role for every passion," noted Wiebe. "If you like driving, we have driving opportunities. If you like working in the kitchen, we have that. There's a variety of options."

PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



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Local farmers 'SHARE' their bounty with those in need

By Lorne Stelmach

Harvest day arrived recently at a local field that each year benefits an organization helping to fight hunger around the world.

The SHARE growing project near Thornhill west of Morden saw a group of farmers leave their own fields to come out and harvest 370 acres of wheat.

The project is one of several in the region that benefits the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, with the federal government then also matching it on a four to one basis.

This group has been farming around 500 acres for this project every year for over a dozen years, said representative Ben Friesen, who as well noted the generosity of the landowners who donate some land to the group every season.

In addition to the farmers supplying their expertise, time, and equipment at no charge, local agricultural businesses also donate time and product such as herbicides and seed for planting.

"It's really special. It's a really dedicated bunch of farmers. They all have their own work to do, yet every spring



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A group of farmers put their own work aside recently to help the SHARE growing project bring in the harvest in support of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, which helps feed the hungry the world over.

we get roughly 500 acres seeded by this group," said Friesen.

"Then of course the harvest day is really special because they all had harvest of their own to do," he said. "It was a good harvest day ... but they all

pulled a combine off of their farm and brought it out there.

This year's drought conditions definitely reduced the yield, but BP Grains trucks were still busy hauling it all to the local Viterra elevator.

SHARE has another 85 acres of oats and 110 acres of soybeans to harvest, but the wheat field was the biggest day where they had nine different

Continued on page 5

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Building understanding towards reconciliation

By Lorne Stelmach

It may not be easy to fully grasp the

idea of reconciliation, but speakers at an event in Winkler recently stressed greater understanding can simply

come through making connections.

Featuring speakers on the Circles For Reconciliation project, a volunteer appreciation evening Aug. 17 for the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership (see story on Pg. 5) heard the aim is to establish trusting, mean-

ingful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples.

It is tied to the 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and while taking action on those 94 calls is not something people can do on their own, they can do their part starting with learning the history of things like the residential schools, for example.

"In the beginning, that's what the Circles were all about," said Cornell Pashe, Indigenous community co-ordinator with the Portage Community Indigenous People's Coalition. "It was a way in which to introduce our Indigenous history to the public ... there has been a lot of meaningful education.

"With the Circles for Reconciliation, what it meant to the non-Indigenous and what it meant for the Indigenous has been a better understanding and appreciation. For us, it has been about finding ways to know more about each other.

"The next generation wants to know more about the past, about the history, but they also want to know in a good way about how to resolve it, and that is reconciliation," he said. "This has brought that circle together and brought that discussion together ... in the end, it is about being neighbours and being friends and being allies."

Pashe along with community elder Darryl Taylor and non-Indigenous facilitator Megan Romphf took listeners through the Circles for Reconciliation process, which involves the creation of small gatherings of an equal number of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in discussion circles.

Each group of ten participants, led by two trained facilitators, meets weekly or biweekly for 10 gatherings of 75 minutes in length. The participants all sit in a circle, providing greater opportunities for consensus and being respectful of traditional Indigenous values and customs.

Themes for each Circle continue to be developed and, where necessary, are being adapted to different Indigenous customs and practises across Canada.

There is no cost for individuals to participate, only a common interest in working toward truth and reconciliation and equality of opportunity for Indigenous people.

It is very much a two-way process, said Pashe, acknowledging how people will come with different ideas and interpretations.

"Reconciliation will mean some-

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\$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.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Cornell Pashe, coordinator of the Portage Community Indigenous People's Coalition, was in Winkler last week to speak about the Circles for Reconciliation project.

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PVLIP thanks its many dedicated volunteers

By Lorne Stelmach

A regional immigration initiative took time last week to salute its many volunteers.

There are over 40 volunteers involved with the Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership (PVLIP), and it is only through their time and input that the effort is paying off for the region, said co-ordinator Elaine Burton-Saindon.

"We have a great cross section of support from many different people," Burton-Saindon said at the Aug. 17 volunteer appreciation gathering where they also heard from speakers on the topic of reconciliation (see story on Pg. 4).

PVLIP launched in 2017 to bring together service providers and other stakeholders to assist in a successful integration process for newcomers and provide more welcoming and inclusive communities.

Since that time, it has developed a strategic plan and an action plan, and the volunteers play a pivotal role with working groups throughout the Pembina Valley to enact them. There are seven different committees or councils that bring together people from a wide cross section of sectors.

"It is all about community engagement and community-based initiatives," said Burton-Saindon.

"All of our committees are voluntary participants ... and that's just a fantastic show of support from the various communities, not just the main communities in the region but also



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Pembina Valley Local Immigration Partnership last week brought together some of the many volunteers who work tirelessly to make our communities more welcoming places for newcomers.

including places like Notre Dame de Lourdes, Carman and Dufferin and some of the smaller communities in the RMs.

"It has been such a delight and such a benefit to have that collaboration and the partnerships develop," she said, noting that drawing people from varied backgrounds is key. "It's everything from the major stakeholders like municipal leaders, health care, policing, and justice to education, settlement services ... even law firms are involved.

"We depend on the decision makers, the people who are in those positions, to engage with our conversations," she added. "So if policies or different community levels need to be adjusted or looked at, those are the people who have the knowledge for what we're trying to accomplish."

Burton-Saindon feels the initiative overall is making progress especially in getting the larger region working together to better the lives of newcomers here.

"It's about being trying to be wel-

coming and inclusive in many ways but also just to be collaborative in nature and not just be working individually on projects but to work together as a region," she said.

"I'm excited to see it having actually tripled in the level of engagement since we started about three years ago, so that's a huge success," she suggested. "It's also a testament of the people's and the communities' hearts in our region ... they do want to make a difference and they do want to be involved and they love participating."

"A big part of it every year is the camaraderie"

From Pg. 3

combines, one tractor, and grain cart as well as five or six super bee grain trucks at work.

"It's a good feeling ... and a big part of it every year is the camaraderie around it," said Friesen.

"It gives you a really special feeling to have that group together every year," he continued. "Some of them have had opportunity to go to different projects that they have in Africa and different places, and we see the work being done and that the money that we raise is dedicated to different areas."

Other projects in the region include Gardenland near Morden, CHUM near Plum Coulee, Hands Harvest Hope near Darlingford, Pembina

Growing Project near Manitou, and GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) near Miami.

Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of 15 Canadian churches and church-based agencies working together to end global hunger. It works with locally-based organizations in

developing countries to meet emergency food needs, achieve long-term solutions to hunger, and work to foster informed action by Canadians and governments to support this international cause.

The goes back to the mid-1970s when Canadian farmers were looking

for a way to share their abundance with people facing hunger. From these rural roots, the network now provides emergency food assistance and long term development support in over 30 countries annually through over 100 international partners.



SHARE project growers were out harvesting 370 acres of wheat recently. There are also 85 acres of oats and 110 acres of soybeans still awaiting harvest in support of CFGB's work.

The *Winkler Morden*
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get heard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Confused? Look it up

[Author's note: Last week I had a column published in which I did not follow the advice I have written in this column. I made an error in fact checking about a subject that is highly critical at this point in time (see correction below). This column, written before that mistake, is here as a reminder to me more than anyone to fact check properly let we spread bad information and destroy trust.]

I don't know if it's ever been easier to learn things in the entire history of planet Earth than right now.

I mean that. This is not hyperbole. This is me saying something I actually (maybe) believe.

"What the heck is hyper-bowl?" someone asks.

"Look it up!" I say, annoyed.

That's what this column is really about, by the way: my passionate desire to see people look stuff up that they don't know or understand.

I've been criticized in the past for using big words when I could be simply explaining better and speaking to people in the current vernacular. This bothers me. I mean, you can literally

take out your phone right now and say "Siri, define the word ver-nac-u-lar" and in seconds you will know what it means.

Gone are the days when a young university student from Guelph (who shall remain nameless to protect his identity) would find himself running to the library late in the evening the night before an essay was due to scour the card catalogues and shelves for the dregs of source material left after 732 other responsible students got there first.

Gone are the days when said student, who happened to forget a backpack or bag, could be seen comically balancing 26 volumes of varying sizes as he stumbled back to his dorm room to begin the tedious task of using his eyes (gasp) to search for keywords and phrases as he stitched together a C+ paper.

I am not in the least bit sentimental about such archaic tools and methods either—good riddance, I say, and may the days of digital research last forever.

Honestly, between Wikipedia and YouTube there is nothing you cannot know and so when I am accused of talking or writing over people's heads I really don't care. Look it up.

At the risk of revealing a certain arrogance, you should know I actually do it on purpose. A reference to Sisyphus here, a use of hyperbole there, a sprinkling of five syllable words over there ... it's all done intentionally be-

cause I really want people to look this stuff up.

Learning is good. Learning how to learn is even better. We have so many tools at our disposal we should be learning more than ever before. We should even be learning about things we are suspicious of.

Heck, road signs managed to convince me to look up words and phrases like "Ivermectin" and "Nuremberg

Continued on page 7

Our mistake

Peter Cantelon's column last week incorrectly stated that measles vaccination is required in Manitoba.

Cantelon based his statements off an older published overview looking at vaccination requirements across the country for students entering school.

Measles vaccination is in fact not a requirement for Manitoba students, though schools may ask unvaccinated children to stay home for a stretch of time after they are exposed to a potential carrier.

We sincerely regret the error and any confusion it may have caused.



By Peter Cantelon

Letters

SHOW SOME LEADERSHIP

To the councillors of the RM of Stanley:

I recently read about the block party initiative undertaken by your RM, such a misbegotten idea in the midst of a pandemic and at the epicentre of an area with abysmal vaccine uptake.

Your residents could benefit much more from a concerted effort by community leaders (which should include councillors) to encourage vaccination. The participation of the Winkler and Morden Co-op in this misadventure is equally baffling.

We live within an hour's drive of Morden and Winkler and we are de-

liberately limiting our interactions in your communities—no visiting the movies or restaurants—and avoiding other businesses where we've seen little to no respect for mask mandates when they were in place.

As the delta variant surges else-

Continued on page 7

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

“We’ve tried hard to educate people on the past”

From Pg. 4

thing different to you than what it would mean to me, but together we can come to a common understanding of what it is and we can work towards resolving it,” he said.

They also emphasized there are personal acts of reconciliation people can take such as exploring authentic Indigenous experiences, watching films and documentaries, reading books on topics like the residential schools, or connecting with an elder.

It is also important to be aware of and better understand the 94 Calls to Action, Pasche said, noting there has been a 94 in 94 days social media campaign that concludes Sept. 30 in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

“We’ve made progress in the last three years,” he suggested in terms of

awareness and progress around those calls to action.

“There’s bureaucracy everywhere, and it’s been hard to move forward on a lot of those issues because there was not a whole lot of discussion like there is now,” he said. “In the last three years, we’ve seen that discussion taking place. We’ve tried hard to educate people on the past and the history. We’ve tried to find the ways and means,” he said.

“We’re slowly getting there, but we are getting there. It’s been half steps, but they are steps that have been meaningful to us but also meaningful to the communities.”

Pasche welcomes opportunities to address the subject because it is vital to engage people.

“Not only because it brings people together, but those discussions we have both as Indigenous and non-Indigenous



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

The Circles for Reconciliation project aims to establish trusting, meaningful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, explains Cornell Pasche.

Indigenous are very important because the more we educate, the easier it is for the next generation,” he said. “The more we have presentations like this,

the better it is for everyone ... and reconciliation becomes worthwhile for everyone.”

Letters

From Pg. 6

where, the largely unprotected areas of south central Manitoba are primed for greater infection this fall. Other Manitobans resent that your region is being given the same privileges of looser restrictions. You’ve done little to contribute to the overall high percentage of provincewide vaccination, yet you reap the rewards of greater freedoms. For an area dubbed the Bible Belt, I see little of the ‘love thy neighbour’ ethic playing out.

We rely on Boundary Trails for our more urgent medical issues. If and when beds are taken by Covid patients (mostly unvaccinated) in the coming months, we will once again see postponement of non-covid surgeries/tests and other than emergencies. We need only look to the examples of ar-

eas with low vaccine uptake in places like Texas and Florida to get a sense of where we are headed: packed hospitals and ICUs, and needless deaths.

Rather than encouraging events that give the virus opportunity to spread, your council could instead show some leadership and protect its residents by promoting the proven strategies of vaccination and wearing masks when distancing isn’t possible, especially indoors. Otherwise, you are part of the problem, not the solution.

Frustrated, fed up and telling it like I see it,

Bill Tiessen,
Crystal City

TAKING MY CHANCES

In response to Curtis Weeks [“Confused by hesitancy,” Letters, Aug. 26].

Dear Sir: I thought I would write and

maybe try to clear some things up for you, as far as vaccine hesitancy goes.

You ask why some are reluctant to get the vaccine, and to that I have to ask: What is the point of this vaccine? The doctors and researchers have said all along that the vaccine only works to reduce serious symptoms, and not to negate transmissibility.

I am young, and fit, and if the only point of the vaccine is to help me not get deadly sick, I would rather take my chances with the illness which I have a 99.9 per cent chance of surviving, or take ivermectin, a tried and true drug which has been proven to help reduce symptoms*, than to take an ex-

perimental drug that we have no idea what the long term affects will be.

As far as your shooting analogy goes, I would hope that means you never go into crowded rooms, because you are just as likely to transmit COVID as I am.

Ezra Reimer,
Winkler

[Ed. note: Ivermectin, an antiparasitic medication most often used in livestock, has not been approved by Health Canada nor the FDA in the United States for use in treating or preventing COVID-19.]

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

Code.” Of course, what I found only confirmed my suspicions that these signs were symptoms of paranoia, fear, and conspiracy theorists run amok.

Still, I cannot simply exist with suspicions or I’m no better than those that spout ignorance. I need to know. I need to look things up.

There is a certain danger in knowledge and knowing how to get it. There is a danger that you might change your mind about something. There is a danger that you might start thinking critically and there are some who would prefer that you didn’t.

Beware of people and organizations who warn you not to look things up. Beware of anyone who is worried about you learning something new.

Now, before I start sounding like the paranoid I mocked earlier I should say that one of the first things you should

learn is what is a trusted source of info versus an untrustworthy one.

One can legitimately be suspicious of sources like www.vaccinesareevilandyouarestupidifyougetone.com because they subtly hint at a bias in their very name. One can and should look at several sources. Wikipedia (which, by the way, is measurably more accurate than any printed encyclopedia) is a great source where every article has multiple references. Read multiple news sources and consider an aggregator like News.Google.Ca so you can see multiple perspectives.

The point is when you finally look it up try to avoid looking it up solely to prove your personal biases. Be open to being wrong.

Now I need to end this and perambulate for a bit or I risk succumbing to torpor. You know what to do.

Letter policy

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

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

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

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

Send your letters to us by e-mail at news@winklermordenvoice.ca.

Friesen throws support behind Heather Stefanson

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen is joining a majority of his fellow Progressive Conservative MLAs in putting his support behind Heather Stefanson to be the next party leader and premier.

Stefanson announced her leadership bid last week and received the endorsement of 24 Progressive Conservative MLAs.

Having served in numerous cabinet roles including most recently as health minister and deputy premier, Stefanson will bring a proven record of leadership and experience to move the province forward, suggested Friesen.

"I've always been impressed with her as a MLA, as a leader, as a decision maker and as someone who can form teams," he said.

"I've often said that in politics you can have the interest, and you can have some capabilities, and you can have a desire to implement policy and to work on behalf of constituents, but really so much comes down to timing, and quite simply I believe the timing is now for Heather Stefanson to lead."

Friesen noted that there are clearly challenges facing the government, so it is vital for them to move forward with a new and collaborative approach.



Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen with Conservative party leader hopeful Heather Stefanson.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

"We acknowledge that we are in a challenging place right now. Manitobans are in a challenging place," he said. "We led during the pandemic, and that means that we will have made decisions that didn't suit everyone. In some respects, it was an impossible place to be, and yet leadership was required."

"So, I would acknowledge the strong emotions that people feel. I would say that we've got a lot of work ahead of us as a political party to organize, choose a new leader, stabilize and rebuild trust with Manitobans."

In announcing her candidacy, Stefanson touched on a few of the challenges facing Manitoba today.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the lives and livelihoods of every Manitoban, and I believe that this is a time to listen, to heal and to bring Manitobans together," she said.

"We will work with Manitobans to move forward, to strengthen our health care system, create jobs, improve education, and advance reconciliation and economic opportunity for Indigenous people."

Stefanson added that she has heard from Manitobans across the province over the last 18 months, especially on the controversial Bill 64.

"Bill 64 is done," she said. "Instead, a Progressive Conservative government under my leadership will listen to parents and make sure we have an education system that prepares our children to succeed in everything they do."

In the coming weeks, Stefanson said she will be listening to Conservative party members and Manitobans across the province to earn their support.

"I look forward to listening to Manitobans across our province over the coming weeks about how we can move forward stronger and more united than ever."

As of press time, no other candidates for the party leader role had officially thrown their hats in the ring.

Province not ruling out regional restrictions to battle COVID-19

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Regional restrictions are certainly still "on the table" when it comes to the province's attempts to curb the expected fourth wave of COVID-19, Manitoba's top doc said in a media briefing Monday.

While discussing areas where vaccine uptake is lagging behind the rest of the province (including the RM of Stanley, which has a provincial low of 22 per cent of residents vaccinated against COVID-19), Chief Provincial Public Health Officer Dr. Brent Roussin was asked whether consideration is being given to tailoring public health orders to specific regions.

"We don't exclude any possibilities if we need to protect the health of Manitobans," he said. "We certainly don't exclude the possibility of regional approaches. We've seen that in other jurisdictions in Canada already when they're seeing a resurgence in

certain areas."

Roussin acknowledged they are seeing "some concerning trends" in the Southern Health-Santé Sud health region specifically.

"We're seeing some increasing numbers, increase in test positivity, increasing numbers of contacts per case," he said. "And in some of those circumstances where we have a large amount of contacts per case, we're seeing that ... none of the contacts are vaccinated."

Roussin stressed the province continues to emphasize the need to protect oneself and others by staying home when ill, washing one's hands regularly, wearing masks when physical distancing isn't possible, and keeping contacts with those outside one's household down.

Public Health will continue to review mandated restrictions and adapt them accordingly, he said, noting however that such restrictions are just

one tool to battle the spread of the virus.

"We know from other jurisdictions that that fourth wave, it is coming, and so the best way to protect ourselves and the people around us and all Manitobans is to get vaccinated as soon as you are eligible."

Roussin noted they've done a great deal of outreach across the province to try to get people vaccinated, and they'll continue to do so.

"We have a significant amount of Manitobans protected, albeit not nearly enough," he said. At press time, 81.4 per cent of eligible Manitobans had received a first dose of the vaccine and 75.5 per cent their second.

"We're going to see a fourth wave and we're going to see a fourth wave dominated by cases in the unvaccinated," Roussin said, pointing to what's happening in other parts of Canada already. "We want to do whatever we can to decrease the pool of unvac-

inated Manitobans. We're going to continue to work on that, try to get to those who have delayed getting the vaccine."

153 NEW CASES OVER THE WEEKEND

Health officials announced 153 new cases of COVID-19 over the weekend, including 44 on Friday, 46 on Saturday, and 36 Sunday.

Manitoba at press time had 345 active cases, 56,750 total recoveries, and 1,188 deaths due to COVID-19. There were 63 people in hospital with the virus, including 16 in intensive care.

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 2.3 per cent provincially and 1.4 per cent in Winnipeg.

There were 14 active cases being reported in the Pembina Valley on Monday: seven in the Altona area, three in Winkler, two in Morden, and one each in Stanley and MacDonald.

Check out the Winkler Morden Voice online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca

Valley Fiber celebrates major investment in Manitoba network

By Lorne Stelmach

Valley Fiber celebrated last week as a major investment was finalized that will bring its high speed internet service to more communities across the province.

Its partnership with the Canada Infrastructure Bank (CIB) and DIF Capital Partners (DIF) will invest \$328 million, and Valley Fiber CEO Hank Wall called it a major milestone and a significant achievement at a ceremony at the company's Winkler headquarters Aug. 18.

"Many years ago ... people chuckled at the vision of how do we create a Silicon Valley of the north ... you have to build the infrastructure first and then they will come," said Wall. "They all say without the critical infrastructure ... it's like having gravel roads or having no water, no sewer. It is not a luxury, it is a necessity."

The Manitoba Fibre Project will see over 2,600 km of dedicated high speed fiber brought to over 49,000 homes and 53 municipalities that are currently underserved, and customers will have access to Valley Fiber's full product offerings which include internet, television, and phone services.

The work will reach into many regions of the province including the west Interlake, east Interlake, central Manitoba, eastern Manitoba, and the Winnipeg River region. Construction has already begun and will continue to expand to reach the full coverage area in 2024.

Valley Fiber says it will connect dedicated fiber lines to every home and business and combine that with an active ethernet structure which guarantees speeds for every customer, providing hundreds or even thousands of Mbps round the clock.

Wall emphasized that commitment at the ceremony, which also offered demonstrations of the company's digging equipment and fiber-splicing tools, a look at the raw materials that go into a Valley Fiber build, and tours of its data centre.

"Who would have thought that a small company born out of Winkler, Manitoba, starting off its first build in Altona, Manitoba, would be here where we are at today?" said Wall, who saluted all the partners that made this possible and who all came in with a common vision centred around open and equal access for everyone.

"This was not a political problem; this was a technology problem," he stressed.

"Rural Canada is growing ... we're laying down the base foundation for that economic opportunity for remote learning, remote health, allowing rural businesses to stay where we are," Wall continued. "The same services and prices are available to everybody ... so no longer do we have to segregate where we live, what kind of services do I get ... equal and open opportunity."

"This is us coming through with a commitment to serve rural Canada. This is us looking at how do we have partnerships with municipalities, federal government, private capital ... how do we take the technology that's already changing lives today and how do we spread that out."

"Everywhere that we're going to expand, it's a free install. Nobody has to pay any money to get connected," Wall said. "We're not only different in how we service our customers but also the technology that we use as well. So we want to show off what we can do ... so customers understand you will literally get what you pay for 24/7 and 365."

"Since we began offering our services, the goal has been to provide reliable, fast and affordable internet access across Manitoba,"

"WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT A SMALL COMPANY BORN OUT OF WINKLER ... WOULD BE HERE WHERE WE ARE AT TODAY?"



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Valley Fiber CEO Hank Wall leading a tour of their data centre. Last week's celebration at the company's Winkler headquarters included a few demonstrations of Valley Fiber's equipment, including the fibre splicing process (below).

said Conley Kehler, senior vice president at Valley Fiber. "We are excited to partner with CIB to deliver this essential service to rural Manitobans and economic development opportunities associated with it. We live here, our friends and family live here, and Valley Fiber lives here."

"It's an honour to be working with amazing partners who have a passion to serve Canadians. It's exciting to be able to bring dedicated fibre to a vast area in rural Manitoba. This has the potential to level the economic playing field, create exciting opportunities, and transform the future of our province," concluded Wall.





Local seniors benefit from a little extra green in their lives

By Lorne Stelmach

A small but very meaningful gesture recently brightened the day for some Morden seniors.

A 2021 Victoria Lifeline health promotion grant for rural partners and communities provided Morden Services for Seniors with \$500.

The money could be used for a project to enhance seniors lives either physically, emotionally or mentally, so resource co-ordinator Kimberly Barr-Klassen thought to bring the outdoors in for some local seniors.

"The restrictions had not been completely lifted yet, and the summer heat made it impossible for most seniors to get out and enjoy their flower beds or the fresh air," observed Barr-Klassen.

The money was used to purchase some pots and plants, with Morden Nurseries helping pick out some herbs, palms, and succulents.

There were two days then where seniors came into the Morden Activity Centre and planted their own arrangement and then planted a second to give to another senior.

Barr-Klassen was able to deliver no less than 25 potted arrangements to some unsuspecting seniors. There were 49 people overall who received plants to enjoy.

"The other day, I had gone to do a quick wellness check on someone, and they had their plant on the window ledge ... they had a big smile and said it was wonderful," said Barr-Klassen. "I wish we could have done it for every single senior house or complex but unfortunately that would take a few thousand dollars?"

It was worthwhile as well to give some of the recipients the opportunity to do the planting themselves.

"It was great because they didn't

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Thanks to a grant from Victoria Lifeline, Morden Services for Seniors was able to purchase and prepare pots of plants for dozens of local older adults. Left: Some recipients got to come in and arrange their pot themselves. Above: Others were surprised with plants at their home, including this group at Legion House. Right: Morden Nurseries staff helped out with plant selection. The garden centre also provided the project with a generous discount.



even knew that I wanted them to plant another planter once they had done their own," she said. "That they could bring it to someone special who couldn't get out and do it themselves or that they could do one for me to bring to another senior was special. I had some who did three or four and they were so happy that it was going to someone else ... they were so giving about it."

Barr-Klassen was also grateful that they received a discount from Morden Nurseries "so that was pretty awesome for them to do."

"This is something that would be great to do again in a larger capacity perhaps," said Barr-Klassen. "The project was a great success, and the hope is that these plants have brought a little sunshine into their world."

Many Hands takes over Morden's food bank

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden's food bank is carrying on under new management.

Many Hands Resource Centre is picking up where The Hub left off without a week being missed—The Hub's last day running the service was Aug. 17 while Many Hands took it on this past Tuesday.

"We felt it was really important, even if we are still learning at this point because the need is there," said Tracey Krause, program co-ordinator

for Many Hands.

"It would be a shame if the good work that The Hub was doing were to just stop. It was very important to keep it going," agreed board president Daniel Klauke.

The weekly food bank had been a labour of love for The Hub and particularly organizers Brian and Denise Thiessen, but they had recently announced they would be stepping away from the program, citing personal reasons.

Many Hands had been approached

by The Hub about the initiative, so there had already been discussions for some time with the thought that it would tie in well with other Many Hands efforts such as its community meal program.

"We thought it might be a good fit for us, so we started talking pretty quickly ... and there's been tremendous co-operation between us," said Krause. "Denise has just been remarkably generous with her knowledge of who to get in contact with in the community who can help us."

"We've been doing a lot of work in the area of food security, and it felt like a very natural fit to just take this on as well," agreed Klauke. "Now that they are stepping aside, it was natural for us to step into the role."

The Hub had estimated that they had up to 100 users of the food bank program on a bi-weekly basis, and Many Hands has seen similar strong use of its farmers market food voucher program, noted Klauke, so there's



Community connections

Rain didn't put too much of a damper on Plum Coulee's Community Connections event last Saturday. While the expo for businesses and organizations to get the word out about what they all offer had to be moved inside to the town's arena, the evening concert featuring a performance from The Pylons went ahead outdoors in the town square as planned (right). The day also included a lunch at the arena to raise funds for the Plum Coulee Pedestrian Bridge Project. Above, from left: Donalee Wiebe at her booth with some of the floral arrangements she makes; Nettie Kehler, Jessie Hamm and Erica Rempel were on hand to represent the community gardens; Rhonda Bergen of Rhonda's Hair Studio.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

> MANY HANDS, FROM PG. 10

likely lots of crossover.

"We see the people who are coming to use our program ... we could see where the needs are, and I think being part of the farmers' market program shows there is obviously that need in the community."

"The community has really stepped up and helped with donations towards it," said Krause. "We have 73 people coming each week to get vouchers to use at the farmers' market. And we have the vendors dropping by to say they love the program as well because the money stays local."

"It's also to help with isolation and people becoming more part of the community," she added. "So it's been really great to see a lot of these newcomers that we have in our program, a lot of young moms ... they are getting out of the house, enjoying the summer, enjoying a bit of shopping, and I see them talking to each other, getting to know each other."

"It is a significant number, and it's kind of sad to see in our community ... it's thriving, but some people have been missed by that for a number of reasons."

Many Hands will continue to run

the program Tuesdays from 12-4 p.m. to provide food for families on a bi-weekly basis. The food bank will operate at least for the time being out of Westside Community Church.

Klauke asked for some patience as the organization works out the details and puts together the infrastructure and volunteers needed to run the program on an ongoing basis.

"Right now, what we're focussing on is trying to make the transition ... and we're working on establishing a more permanent residency," he said. "We want to make sure we're doing it properly. You don't want to jump in and just start handing out food."

Donations are gratefully accepted. You can give financially with an e-transfer including contact information to manyhandsrc@gmail.com or mail a cheque to Many Hands at 181 15th Street, Morden, MB, R6M 1G3.

Food donations are accepted at the red bin at Westside Community Church as well as the bins inside the Coop grocery store and Giant Tiger.

For more information, contact Many Hands at 204-823-1678.

GET OFF THE TRACK!!

Travelling through Indiana one summer we discovered the Indianapolis Race-track Museum to be a reasonably priced family attraction. The museum is located in the centre of the large circular track which includes spacious grounds and a golf course. To access the museum, you drive into a tunnel which dips under the racetrack. As we came up out of the tunnel, I was blinded by the sun directly in my eyes. As I glanced to the right, I noticed a single lane road but did not notice the "Absolutely No Admittance" sign. I made the quick exit and as I travelled this short, curved roadway it soon opened onto the most magnificent wide highway I had even driven on. It was flawlessly smooth and perfectly sloped for the high-speed corners and so by instinct I pressed down on the gas peddle of my 2007 Pontiac Montana. Within a few seconds my children all came to the same conclusion. "Dad, we are on the racetrack" they shouted, as we accelerated past the bleachers and heavy wire safety netting. This pleasure soon came to an end, with a large black security vehicle behind me and the public loudspeaker blaring "**Turn around and get off the track immediately!**" This story reminds me of the broad road in the Bible where its travellers get the exact same warning, but this road leads to eternal death and separation from God. The Bible tells us this road has many travellers; in fact, we are all born on this road, and we all must get off. **WHERE ARE YOU HEADED?** You might be pretty sure where you will be later today or tomorrow, but can you say for sure where you will be next week or next year? The uncertainties of life make it hard to know where we are headed; the farther away something is, the more unpredictable it becomes. Maybe this is why so many people are unsure of where they will spend eternity—it can seem so far away. But is eternity really a mysterious unknown? **CAN WE KNOW?** Can we know that we are on the right road, the one that will bring us safe and secure to Heaven? Yes, this precious information is given to us in God's "road map," the Bible. It says that we can know, positively, where we are going to be throughout all eternity. According to the Bible, there are people who, right now, are saved from the wrath of God: "*The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God*" (1 Corinthians 1:18). These people **know** that they have eternal life: "*These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life*" (1 John 5:13). In John 10:9 Jesus said, "I am the Door; by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved." We come through HIM because he is the only access to God. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. (1 Timothy 2:5)

Ron and Nancy Burley www.sermon4u.com

get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

“I DO” exhibit grows, gets extended run through Sept.

By Lorne Stelmach

A popular exhibit at the Nellie McClung Heritage Site in Manitou is not only striking a chord with many people but has also made some interesting connections.

Dubbed the I DO exhibit, which grew from a replica of the famous female pioneer’s wedding dress, the collection of gowns from across the decades recently attracted the attention of Mordenite Lois Dudgeon.

While organizing a Bollenbach family tour of the exhibit, Dudgeon knew she had found the perfect place for her maternal grandmother’s nearly century-old wedding gown.

The donation to an organization dedicated to trailblazing Manitoba women seemed fitting given Dudgeon herself was one of the first 100 female officers in the RCMP.

“She is a trailblazer herself,” suggested Barbara Biggar, co-chairperson

of the Nellie McClung Heritage Site.

“I guess you can be a trailblazer in a different sense,” said Dudgeon. “I’ve never been called a trailblazer before ... it’s quite an honour to even be listed in the same sentence as Nellie McClung ... she fought for the right for women to vote, so how can I even compare to that?”

The contribution started simply with Dudgeon organizing a tour of the Manitou historical site given a number of cousins were coming to the region for a visit.

Dudgeon had suddenly thought about her maternal grandmother’s wedding dress, worn in 1922 when Mathilde “Tilly” Tempel married Gustav Bollenbach in Morden.

Given the exhibit only had one other gown from that decade, they didn’t hesitate in accepting the donation, and Dudgeon kept it a surprise for her mother Marion and other family members.

“There was only myself and one other cousin who knew I had done this, so it was to be a surprise for everybody ... it was a nice moment ... it was also nice to do it while my mom is still living,” she said.

“We’re proud of our family heritage that is rooted in the Darlingford-Thornhill-Morden areas,” continued Dudgeon, “so we’re delighted to be able to have my maternal grandmother’s vintage gown stand alongside the gowns of Nellie McClung and so many other strong women.”



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Lois Dudgeon (far right) surprised her family by donating her grandmother’s wedding gown to the I DO exhibit on display now at the Nellie McClung Heritage Site in Manitou. Below: The dress was worn by Tilly Tempel when she married Gustav Bollenbach in Morden in 1922.



“We were honoured to accept Lois’s gift,” said Biggar. “Grandma Tilly, as she was well known, was proud of Lois and the entire Dudgeon-Bollenbach-Andrew families. We were pleased to add this important vintage gown to our ever-growing collection.”

“It’s interesting how it really kind of evolved from them saying let’s do a tour,” she said. “There’s that sense of being able to be connected into a broader community of women who have made a difference in the growth of southern Manitoba through their lifetimes, through all the generations.”

The mid-calf gown is made of delicate silk with exquisite bugle beading accenting the sheer overlay, and it serves as a good example of why the exhibit seems to be really connecting with so many people, said Biggar.

“It’s been really endearing to see how people have reacted. Visitors to the exhibit are connecting on a very personal and emotional level with the show,” she suggested.

“Weddings are all about families and celebrations, and I think that has really resonated with people especially as we begin to move out of the pandemic,” said Biggar. “It has been a joyous way to remember an important

time in their life, wearing sometimes the most beautiful gown they would have ever owned ... and it’s even just reconnecting with those memories.”

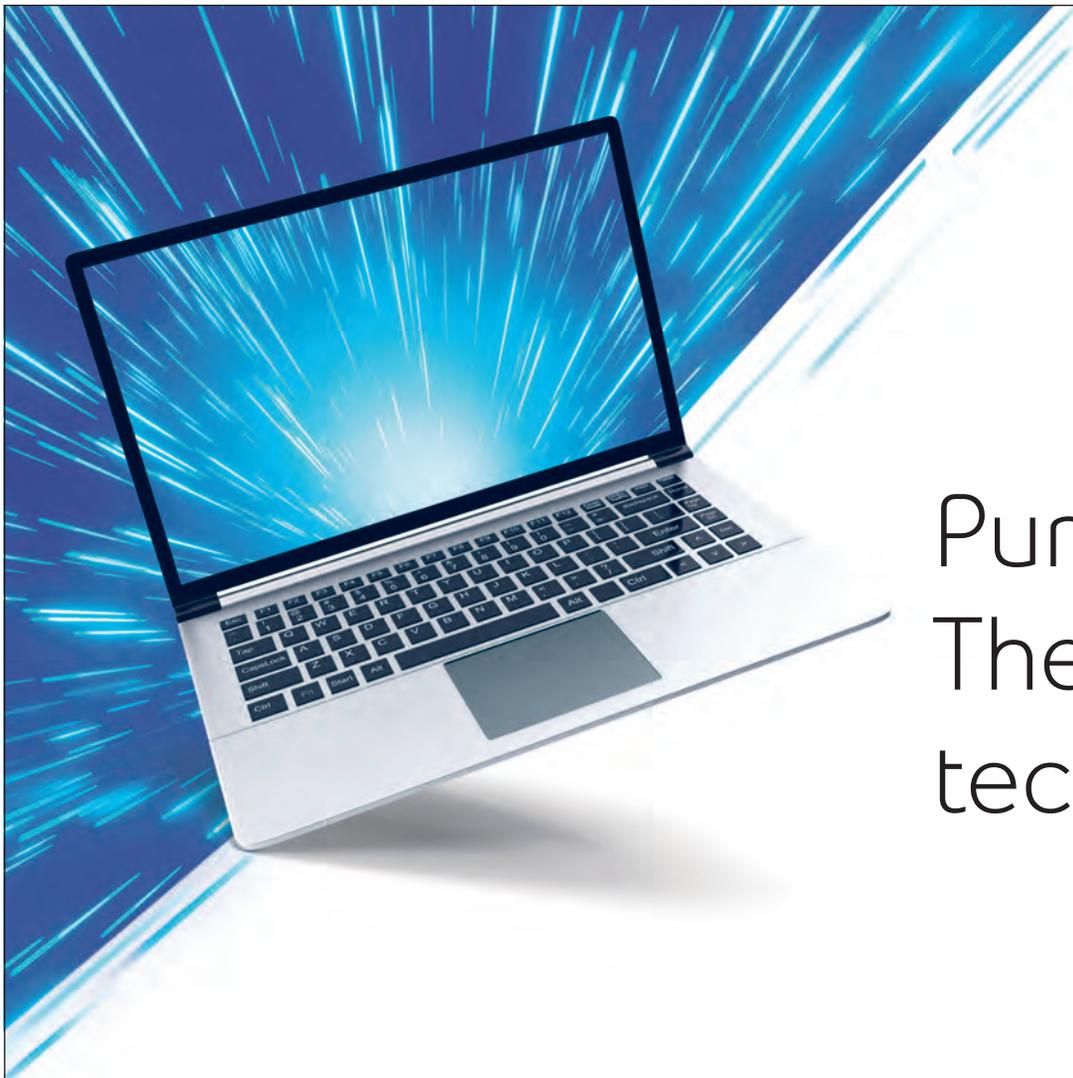
“So the I DO exhibit has been a smash hit,” she continued. “We have a good sense that we are already at twice the visitations that we had in 2019 pre-COVID ... we’re very thrilled with how the exhibit has been received.”

“We’re talking about whether we should take the show into Winnipeg; we’re also looking at the idea of it becoming a travelling exhibit,” added Biggar. “And our collection continues to grow. Through the course of just our first month, we have likely received at least a dozen gowns from different periods.”

Due to the popular demand, the I DO exhibit will remain open through September. Both walk-ins and larger groups are welcome. Admission is \$10 for adults and free for children under 18. To arrange a tour, contact visitnellieshomes@gmail.com.

Dudgeon encouraged people to take in the exhibit if they have an opportunity.

“You could spend hours in there if you read every story about every dress.”



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Corn & Apple online



Field Guide took the virtual stage Saturday night in the first of two Morden Corn and Apple Festival online concerts happening this month. If you missed out, the concert is available to watch on the festival's Facebook page. That's the same place to head if you want to catch the next concert: The Dirty Catfish Brass Band will perform this Friday, Aug. 27, at 7 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Xplornet Communications Inc. would like to notify area residents of a proposal of a new telecommunications installation situated on a portion of the LOT 16BLOCK 2 SS PLAN 856 MLTO. The proposed installation will be a 45m self-support tower. All of the equipment required to operate the facility will be located inside an equipment shelter at the base of the tower.



This new telecommunications facility will improve coverage to the City of Morden area.

Your comments are welcome at (403) 473-6661
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All comments will be accepted until **September 25, 2021.**

Gordon named health minister

By Voice staff

Audrey Gordon has been appointed as Manitoba's minister of health and seniors care.

"I am confident in Minister Gordon's ability to lead this department as we continue to protect our health-care system and communities from the impacts of COVID-19 and work toward recovery," Premier Brian Pallister said last week.

Gordon is currently the minister of mental health, wellness, and recovery.

She will continue to hold those responsibilities in addition to health and seniors care, the premier said.

"Providers and staff across the health-care system have worked extremely hard to continue to provide quality care throughout the pandemic, and I want to thank them for their efforts," said Gordon.

"It is an honour to accept this appointment and I look forward to continuing to support their work through all the challenges we face during this difficult time."



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Manitoba | Road Trip Ideas



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Hot Dogs & Channel Cats

This summer, Travel Manitoba is featuring an amazing collection of road trips to help you explore every corner of Manitoba. As the Red River flows north from Winnipeg, there are plenty of reasons to take the scenic route.



↑ St. Andrews Lock and Dam



↑ South Beach Casino & Resort

TRAVEL SAFE IN MANITOBA

Keep yourself and others safe as you explore Manitoba. Remember to:

- ➔ Wash or sanitize your hands frequently
- ➔ Wear a mask
- ➔ Practice physical distancing
- ➔ Stay home when you're sick
- ➔ Follow all local travel restrictions

Travel Manitoba cannot guarantee that the attractions and businesses featured will be open and operating as described. While we strongly recommend that all tourism businesses adhere to the public health and safety measures set by the Government of Manitoba, we cannot guarantee the compliance of any business featured in this content. Please contact businesses directly for operating hours and policies.

↓ Marine Museum of Manitoba



↓ River Road



↓ Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail



↑ Half Moon Drive In



↑ Chuck the Channel Cat

1 SCENIC DRIVE THROUGH HISTORY

Just north of Winnipeg is the scenic **River Road** (Provincial Road 238), a historic ox-cart route that is still speckled with hints of the past. Enjoy the views of the Red River as you drive past historic homes and read the interpretive signs that tell the story of a Métis family from the area. Stop at the **St. Andrews on the Red Anglican Church**, dating back to 1845. Across the way at the St. Andrew's Rectory, get a closer look at the history of the region with a number of exhibits.

Continue down River Road until you reach

Lockport. Take a breather in Lockport Provincial Heritage Park, 5.5 acres of lawn that overlooks a more modern engineering feat, the St. Andrews Lock and Dam, the only one of its kind on the Canadian Prairies. Keep an eye out for flocks of pelicans and anglers that love to hang out at the dam waiting for a bite.

Don't leave Lockport before trying one of the competing retro diners or drive-ins. Options for burgers, hot dogs and milkshakes include Skinners, Half Moon Drive In and Sonia's Stand.

2 CATFISHING CAPITAL

Continue to the city of **Selkirk.** There are a number of accommodations here, making it a great rest stop for the night. Have a sweet start to the morning with a stop into a local bakery or coffee shop.

Rise bright and early for your booked **catfishing excursion.** Don't forget to snap a shot with the city's mascot, Chuck the Channel Cat, on the way. Did you know that the Red River is one of North America's top catfishing destinations? Have a blast reeling in these giant fish and aim to nab a Master Angler qualifying fish. The **Manitoba Master**

Angler Awards program recognizes the achievements of anglers in the province. It is North America's longest-running angling recognition program. Submit your qualifying catches through the app to earn badges and get your name in the record books. There are even special awards for kids who enter the program.

Next, set your anchor down at the **Marine Museum of Manitoba.** Six restored boats are attached together with outdoor walkways to help tell the story of marine life in Manitoba dating back to 1850.

3 BET ON THE BEACH

It's time to leave Selkirk and keep heading north to the next destination, **South Beach Casino & Resort.** Admire the hotel's art deco inspired design and check in for the night. Spend some time gambling or take a dip in the indoor pool after a tasty dinner from Mango's Restaurant.

Located just seven minutes away, the **Brokenhead Wetland Interpretive Trail** offers an opportunity

to learn Anishinaabe teachings on interpretive panels. This messaging on respect, purpose and balance continues throughout the trail, along with information on the traditional medicines found in the area.

Next, savour the heat of the day by heading to the picturesque **Patricia Beach.** This little oasis is lined by trees, with a vast strip of sand that stretches along Lake Winnipeg.

Get ideas for other Manitoba road trips at [Manitoba at travelmanitoba.com/road-trips](http://Manitoba.com/travelmanitoba.com/road-trips).



Art on wheels

The Manitoba Host Committee's Tour 150 mobile art show made a stop at Winkler's Access Credit Union last week. The show, organized by the Winnipeg Art Gallery and housed inside a retrofitted touring vehicle, featured pieces from the Qaumajug Inuit art centre. It's been making the rounds to credit unions all over the province this summer as part of Manitoba's 150th anniversary celebrations (postponed from 2020).

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE



First round of vaccination lottery winners announced

By Voice staff

The first round of Vax to Win lottery winners were announced last week.

The seven big winners gathered in Winnipeg Aug. 17 to receive their \$100,000 cheques.

"I'd like to extend a thank you to everyone who has received their vac-

ination so far," said Crown Services Minister Jeff Wharton. "We all need to protect one another right now and getting your vaccine is the best way to do that.

"As more and more Manitobans roll up their sleeves we are continuously moving closer to our Sept. 6 reopening target," he noted. "We have hit our

first milestone of 80 per cent of all eligible Manitobans age 12 and up vaccinated with one dose."

A further 74.3 per cent of Manitobans last week had also received their second dose—just shy of the province's goal of 75 per cent.

"If you haven't yet, I encourage everyone to make their first and second

dose appointments as soon as possible so we can hit our Labour Day reopening goal," Wharton said.

The first round of Vax to Win winners include:

- Kerry Maskiew, Garth Deleske, and Trent Fingler, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

Continued on page 25

BellMTS presents

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The power of a simple idea

A vacation photo inspired what became Winkler's Parkside Pioneer Patch

The Winkler Horticulture Society has been beautifying our city for over two decades. This summer we've been chatting with some of its longtime volunteers about a few of the major projects they've managed to complete in that time, forever changing the landscape of Winkler. In this week's edition: the Parkside Pioneer Patch.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Horticulture Society wasn't looking for its next big project.

In fact, five years ago they were mulling over giving up some of their flower beds around town, including the perennial patch north of Hwy. 14, recalls member Betty Klassen.

"One year we decided this is so much work, maybe we should just give it back to the City and tell them we're done with it," she says, explaining the group's aging members were looking to focus on a few larger floral displays each year instead of a myriad of smaller plantings.

"And then one of our members came

back from a vacation and she had this photo of an old truck and the back was overflowing with petunias. And we said, 'Oh my goodness, we can do that!'"

With that, the idea for what would become the Parkside Pioneer Patch was born.

"Then we started dreaming and doing some fundraising with local businesses and also individuals, and they were all very generous," says Klassen. "It was amazing how people came on board with this."

The City of Winkler gave the project the thumbs up as well, with one caveat: the society had to create the space in such a way that it could be relatively easily removed should the valuable land ever need to be sold or used for another municipal project.

"So every single thing is moveable here—we can pick it up and put it somewhere else if we had to," Klassen says.

The most rooted part of the site is the overflowing flower patch that greets visitors at the entrance (though



PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

Betty Klassen (left) and Ainsley Kroeker (with son Jack) at the Parkside Pioneer Patch, which they've helped oversee this summer on behalf of the Winkler Horticulture Society.

those flowers could be transplanted if needed, Klassen notes). The rest of the space is filled with a host of large planters, antique farm machinery, not one but two old cars packed full of flowers, a small picnic shelter, and a smattering of natural features such as large rocks.

The rusty old farm equipment and the vintage pair of cars have become standout features of the space.

It took just a bit of hunting to find the right pieces of equipment, Klassen shares.

"I remember it was March, it was cold and miserable weather, and we went out scrounging for old stuff," she says. "We went south of town and we found a very generous farmer there who had a back forty full of equipment. A lot of this came from there."

On display is a tractor, tillers, seeders, and other miscellaneous pieces of equipment scattered amongst the flowers and, in most cases, serving as modified flower pots themselves.

It's a nod to our area's deep farming roots.

"It's an agricultural area and we really wanted to have that represented

here," Klassen says. "And we thought this is a nice location for people that drive by to make a stop and see something different.

"We've had such amazing comments in our guest book and I know there's been lots of wedding photos and family photos taken here over the years," she says. "It's very rewarding to hear the comments and see people enjoying the space. Then you say, 'Oh, it's all worth it, working out in the heat and the weeds.'"

"EVERYBODY HAD A VISION"

Work on the Parkside Pioneer Patch began in the fall of 2016. It officially opened the following summer and has undergone a few changes in the years since.

The first iteration of the site had everything much more spread out. Volunteers opted to downsize it a bit a few years ago, bringing all the equipment in closer.

"It got to be cumbersome, it was too big, so we pulled everything in here," Klassen says.

Continued on page 20



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.
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- 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.

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Two vintage cars have been transformed into flower pots at the site.

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> PARKSIDE PIONEER PATCH, FROM PG. 18

Looking out at the space today, Klassen is amazed at just how much they managed to accomplish working from that one inspirational photo.

"Really, all we knew was we wanted a truck overflowing with petunias. That was our one thing," she laughs. "And then we saw all this other stuff in the back forty and it was 'This would make a nice gate' and 'This would look great here.' That's how it happened—everybody had a vision when they saw a piece."

Klassen has been involved with the

project from the get-go, but the society has welcomed a few new members in recent years who are eagerly getting their hands dirty as well.

Among them is Ainsley Kroeker, who took on this year's flower pot designs for the site.

"I arranged and picked the pots and put most of them in, too," she says, noting she's been at the garden so often this summer that her kids have started to think of it as "Mommy's garden."

Kroeker has enjoyed being involved

with the society and is eager to see what the future will bring for its work in the community.

"I happen to be a young mom and it is a wonderful thing for me to do in my spare time during the summer, to plan the gardens," she says. "I'm planning now for next year. It's really fun and it's a really great group of women to work with."

"We're just very, very thankful to get

a few new, younger people on board," says Klassen. "Because we see that we're not going to be able to be doing this forever."

This concludes our look at some of the Winkler Horticulture Society's most beloved projects. If you'd like to get involved with this dedicated group, you can reach out to them through their Facebook page or call 204-362-2552.



The Parkside Pioneer Patch is filled with old pieces of farming equipment—a nod to our area's agricultural roots.



A colourful sea of perennials greet visitors to the site, located off Hwy. 14 near the New Leaf Garden Center.



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NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

La Riviere fish fry coming up Sunday, Sept. 19

By Lorne Stelmach

An upcoming fundraiser will support a facility that is a key hub of activity in La Riviere.

The fifth annual fish fry planned for Sept. 19 benefits the La Riviere and Community Recreation Centre, and the support has always been vital but especially so during the pandemic, noted organizers.

"It's absolutely been our mainstay for many years," said Evelyn Janzen, chairperson of the La Riviere and Community Recreation Association. "The last two years have been difficult with COVID, but last year we had a really good successful drive-thru, so we're going to do that again this year. We feel like things just aren't quite stable enough yet [for a sit-down meal]."

The fish fry usually raises between

\$5,000 and \$6,000 each year, although it was down a bit last year under the circumstances, said Janzen.

"Our profits will likely be down, so if we make \$2,000 or \$2,500, we will be quite happy."

Janzen noted that the centre is not supported by taxes like many other community centres, and of course other revenue has not been coming in during the pandemic.

"Our building is used by the community and surrounding area, and so we need this to keep the doors open," she said.

"Normally, we have eight or nine functions a year that are strictly run by the rec. centre ... so we're not keeping up quite as well as we would like ... but we've been very lucky to have the bridge grants in the past year, so those have certainly helped us, but it's not enough to keep our programs go-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Volunteers will be frying up fish in La Riviere Sept. 19 to raise funds for the local recreation centre.

ing. We can pay our bills."

The drive-thru fish fry takes place Sunday, Sept. 19 from 4-6:30 p.m. It features pickerel fillets from Gimli along with baked potatoes, baked beans, and coleslaw served up with a bun with butter, bottled water, and

ice cream for dessert.

The cost is \$20 for two pieces of fish or \$10 for anyone under the age of 12.

The La Riviere & Community Recreation Centre is located at 504 Broadway Street in La Riviere.

• BEHIND THE COUNTER

Having a naloxone kit on hand could save a life

On International Overdose Awareness Day (Aug. 31), and as the opioid crisis remains dire in Canada, it's important for every Canadian to understand that an opioid overdose can happen to anyone—to you or someone you love.

A staggering 94 per cent of opioid overdose deaths happen accidentally, but there are concrete actions and steps that you can take to help—in particular, learning how to identify an overdose and help to save a life with a naloxone kit.

Opioids are often prescribed for cer-

tain procedures or ailments, such as surgery or sports injuries, and while there are recommended uses for an opioid to be prescribed, there are risks. People taking opioids and those around them should not only understand the signs and symptoms of an opioid overdose but should also have an easily accessible naloxone kit on-hand in case of an emergency. Naloxone kits come in a slim, small carrying case, which can be kept nearby in a discreet location.

Some common signs and symptoms of an opioid overdose may include loss of consciousness, unresponsiveness (can't wake them up), and/or slow and shallow breathing. The person may also begin vomiting or choking, and their

skin may turn pale, blue, or ashy.

During an opioid overdose, naloxone can be administered to help temporarily reverse it. Naloxone is a rescue medication that works by blocking the opioid's effect, and in most cases can help people breathe normally again. Like other emergency devices such as automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) or EpiPens, naloxone is used to save lives during a medical emergency and is also considered an essential medicine by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Naloxone is available as a nasal spray (intranasal) or injectable (intramuscular). Ask your local pharmacy about getting a naloxone kit to protect yourself or a loved one. Pharmacists are also qualified to offer training on how to use a kit so you can be prepared. On top of training provided by pharmacists, naloxone kits include simple instructions on how administer naloxone.

Sometimes an individual may be scared to intervene or help when witnessing an overdose, but there are legal protections in place to help encourage Canadians to save a life during an overdose situation. The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act applies to anyone seeking emergency support during an overdose, including the person experiencing an overdose.

The Act protects the person who seeks help, whether they stay or leave from the overdose scene before help arrives, as well as anyone else who is at the scene when help arrives.

Learn more about the signs and symptoms or how to help prevent an opioid overdose by talking to your local Pharmacist about receiving a naloxone kit today to ensure you are prepared.

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



By Zahid Zehri

Harvest Moon Festival returns Sept. 17-19

By Lorne Stelmach

A festival in the small Pembina Valley community of Clearwater has helped serve as a bridge between urban and rural communities for two decades now.

The Harvest Moon Festival supports the work of the Harvest Moon Society, a volunteer-led organization founded around a shared interest in building a sustainable food system.

It has grown over the past 20 years to become a registered educational charity operating under the motto "Healthy Land, Healthy Communities" with a focus on connecting urban residents to rural living and building a stronger community across southern Manitoba.

"I think the message just resonates with a lot of people ... the music is a draw for people as well," suggested Cory Bellhouse, who is part of the event's organizing committee.

Set to return this year for an in-person gathering Sept. 17-19, the festival has become a well established draw, and Bellhouse suggested their message and what they promote has only become even more important.

The festival also works to support the community of Clearwater and the surrounding area, including partners like the Clearwater Curling Rink, Clearwater Memorial Hall and Clearwater Junction Restaurant and Clearwater Development Corporation, among others.

"I think one of the keys is that Clear-



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Clearwater's Harvest Moon Festival next month features performances from such acts as Royal Canoe (top, left), Ridley Bent (above), and the Lytics (left), to name just a few.

water is a really small but a really strong community, and the town has always supported it quite strongly," said Bellhouse. "Without that willingness to host, we wouldn't be able to have 1,500 guests every year in a town of maybe 70 people."

"I think also the other thing is the message the festival is geared to promote is pretty strong and resonates with people," he added. "Lots of people from the city are really interested in the ideas of local food, organic food ... and there's the fair trade fair which is all homemade skills and crafts and workshops.

"Some people from the city don't necessarily have access to these kinds of things very often ... so I think the interest is pretty widespread."

The musical lineup for the festival includes Ridley Bent, Royal Canoe, The Stanley County CutUps, Leith Ross, The Sturgeons, Là, Leonard Sumner, Andrina Turenne, The Hank Williams Lites, Fontine, Scott Nolan, Guilty Pleasures, Mouraine, Slow Leaves, Boogey The Beat, Ila Barker, Mason Weselowski and The Lytics

It will be a scaled-back celebration with pandemic precautions in place. Attendees must be fully vaccinated

(two weeks past their second shot) and be prepared to provide proof of vaccination to access the festival grounds.

Initial ticket sales opened Aug. 18. Ticket sales were limited to 500 full weekend passes that cost \$100 (\$115 with camping), but organizers were considering releasing a second round of tickets at press time.

For those unable to make it in person, the Harvest Moon Festival will also be live streamed.

For more information, visit www.harvestmoonsociety.org or find them on social media.

Morden gets on call, after hours animal control

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden is now providing on call after hours animal control in response to a petition organized by a concerned resident.

The after hours emergency animal control will be available Monday to Friday from 5 to 9 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Residents will be able to call bylaw enforcement officer Rick Paracholski at 204-823-1210, but citizens are reminded the service is only for emergency animal control services such as dogs threatening public safety, injured or abused animals, or stray and roaming animals.

"There obviously was some appetite for some after hour animal control," said Mayor Brandon Burley, noting

that they will watch the response to gauge how much of a need there is for the service.

"This will help alleviate some pressure and some concerns of citizens," he said. "It's a bit of a compromise between none and 24-hour. It seems a stretch to say we would have 24-hour animal control."

The issue was brought to council by Tanya Rempel, who organized a petition that got upwards of 125 signatures.

"It was worth it. I'm sure they want to listen to people, but it just has to be put out there formally," she said. "I was really pleased with the choice they made, and I think they have really good hours too for after hours service."

"The petition certainly put it in front

of council that there was a concern and that there was a way of alleviating that concern," noted Burley. "We think with the hours that we're making our bylaw officer available for animal control over weekends and evenings, that those are the primary hours of concern."

Meanwhile, council at its meeting Monday heard concerns from a few residents about a proposed bylaw to close a public reserve on Rose Street.

The one empty lot is located at the end of a dead end stretch of road that approaches near Minnewasta School, and concerns were raised primarily around the loss of the open space.

"I think we've got to look at it in particular in relation to what the development in the area is going to look like down the road," said Burley, who

suggested council not act on the bylaw for the time being.

The city has a number of random open undeveloped lots around Morden, but this one is different in that it is adjacent to other undeveloped land, the mayor noted.

"This is the only one we hold right now where it could potentially work into a larger schematic. The others are already developed around and isolated," said Burley.

"Council is very committed to the idea of recreation where people are," he said, citing particularly the need for park space in the area of Conner Hill Drive. "We're going to have to look at it as part of a larger discussion around what happens there."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Rookies show off their skills



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE

The Winkler Flyers have been kept hopping as the summer winds down, hosting not only their High Performance Hockey School and Bantam Prep Camp all last week, but also Rookie Camp Saturday through Monday at the Meridian Exhibition Centre. The junior team hits the ice for a series of exhibition games against Steinbach, Selkirk, and Virden starting next week. The MJHL regular season kicks off with a home game against Portage Sept. 18. Above left: Among the Flyers rookie prospects is Winkler product Malachi Klassen.

Morden Minor Soccer cancels season, plans to rebuild

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden Minor Soccer is aiming to rebuild for the future in the wake of its decision to cancel its season this fall.

The move to not play simply resulted from the organization not having enough of a volunteer base in place to make it possible this year.

There's an increasing number of player registrations—reaching close to 400 kids the last two seasons—but a dwindling number of parent volunteers to be able to run things effectively, and a call for board members to help resulted in only a couple of parents stepping up.

"We need to volunteer on the board at least ... and we usually have a small group of parents who are always there helping with the coaching and things like that," said president Daniel Rocha Lopez.

"As the years go by, we're getting a higher number of registrations of kids but a lower number of parents wanting to get involved ... so that makes it hard to run for a volunteer based group when you don't have the man-

power," he said. "We need people to help in so many different areas. There's many things that need to be done before we can start."

As a result, Rocha Lopez said their focus in the months ahead will be to build a stronger organization and put together a proper board to help with decision making and execution.

They want to be affiliated and work closely with Manitoba Soccer and develop a group of leaders that can help promote the sport in the region, but that means having certified coaches and referees, a strong sponsorship group to sustain the association's infrastructure and equipment, and the

pursuit of better venues.

Board members are asked to help with guidance and leadership to develop the sport in the region, attend about five meetings per year, and sit on at least one sub-committee with a commitment of at least two years.

If being a board member is not the right fit for someone, they can also help out by signing up for another volunteer position during the season.

In the meantime, even though there will not be a regular season, families can still gather and play at the 3M fields the rest of this summer and fall. There are painted lines and goals, and there are also Timbit soccer balls

available if needed.

"We're trying to see if we could have a little bit of a tournament go on in September," said Rocha Lopez.

"The main aim right now is to try to get a solid group of people together who are willing to put the time in and help take this sport to the next level in the region," he continued. "We want to have a solid group of people who can work in the background and then the parents can enjoy the game."

"Hopefully this will be like a wake-up call for people. We're hoping that next year things will be able to ramp up again."

Storm earn comeback tie against CCS

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm earned their third straight tie in their first season of MMSL Premier Division soccer.

The Storm were in Winnipeg Sunday for a match against CCS.

Coach Reinaldo Oliviera reports they were down 2-0 in the first half

before a change in strategy put them back in the game.

"We changed [to a] 3-2-3-2 formation and scored three goals," he said, noting, however, that CCS managed to tie things up with a penalty kick with just two minutes left to go in the game.

Scoring twice for Winkler was Ama-

jad Kissaniye. Emil Rode contributed one goal to the tally.

The Storm get home field advantage this weekend when they host Bonivital United on Sunday at 5 p.m.

They'll then hit the road next week Wednesday, Sept. 1, to face Hellas SC.

Female Hawks hopefuls take to the ice this weekend

By Lorne Stelmach

The arrival of tryout weekend for the U18 AAA female Pembina Valley Hawks is especially exciting for everyone this year.

Coming off a season that was halted last fall by the pandemic, the players and coaches alike are even more ready to get back on the ice, coach Dana Bell suggested last week.

"I've talked to quite a few of the girls, and everybody is anxious to get on the ice. We're just excited that we actually get to start, so we're looking forward to it."

The tryouts begin Friday with evening practice sessions that will have players split into two teams. Saturday will then have games in the morning and afternoon followed by one on one meetings with the players. Sunday will have a morning practice session followed by more player meetings in the afternoon.

The tentative season schedule so far has the team's first exhibition games set for Sept. 4 against Eastman and Sept. 12 against Pilot Mound Prep followed by a pair with the Rink Hockey Academy Sept. 18 and Sept. 19.

Bell is particularly excited not only



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Tryouts for the female Pembina Valley Hawks take place in Morden this weekend.

to be getting back in action but to have possibly 14 players returning from last season.

"We have a really good core returning, and I'm excited about that," said Bell. "We have a really good turnover from last year. We only graduated four girls, so things look really good

for us.

He will be looking for the team to get off to a better start this time. The Hawks last fall had dropped three of their first four games and were then at a 2-4 record in fifth place out of eight teams before the Manitoba Female Hockey League made the decision to

suspend all league play as a result of COVID-19.

"I think we had a really great team last year. We started off a little slow, but things were starting to come together then we got shutdown," said Bell.

"We want to come out of the gate quick this year. We want to put the push on quickly. We want to be a top contending team this year," he continued. "We never know when it might get taken away from us again, so it's important to get down to business right away."

As for the tryouts, they offer a brief window of opportunity for players to make an impression. Bell noted there is an expectation that they will be coming into it in shape and ready to go.

"You just hope that they have all been working hard through the summer. I've been running conditioning skates, so I've had 25 girls out for that ... it gives them four weeks to get on the ice and get their nervousness out.

"I think we're just anxious now to get going because we've had so much time off. We're ready to get going with it."

Central Energy bring home gold



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A softball team filled with local players brought home the hardware last week. The U12 AAA Central Energy clinched gold at the provincial championships, besting Westman Magic 3-1 in the final after an up and down weekend of wins and losses. This is only the second gold medal for the Central Energy organization, which draws players from across the central region. The team includes Winklerites Addison Nikkel, Taylor Wall, Taryn Toews, Taylor Friesen, and Shyanne Goertzen, Morden players Kennedy Funk and Rory Perrin, Zoey Shantz from Oak Bluff, Ava Bonik from Starbuck, Ella Conrad from Swan Lake, Manitou's Bree Pearce, and Camryn Lavallee from Portage la Prairie

Male Hawks to focus on working on the process

By Lorne Stelmach

The emphasis will be less on the results and more on how they get there as the U18 AAA male Pembina Valley Hawks prepare for the coming season.

The level of effort will be the key thing that the coaching staff led by Matt Victor will be watching starting with the tryout weekend Sept. 3-5.

"They want to win obviously ... the winning feels nice, but how do we get there," said Victor, who moves up to the head coach role this season after serving an assistant coach.

"I think the message when we talk to everybody as a group on the Friday is going to be definitely the effort and compete are going to be a pillars for our team," he said. "Winning is a formula, not just skill. I really want to see a lot of character, a lot of effort, a lot of compete."

"I really want to build that culture ... and everything's got to be positive ... and our successes have to be earned."

The Hawks had a rough start to the last season that was cut short by the pandemic, as they dropped all three games of their opening set with Eastman before rebounding with a win over Interlake. The Hawks had two of their three games with Interlake postponed amidst uncertainty around increasing COVID-19 cases province-wide, and play never resumed.

"It was a struggle ... it was tough on us as coaches, but it was even tougher on the kids," said Victor. "It was tough just trying to stay engaged. We did a lot of Zoom meetings ... trying

Winkler, Morden advance to semi-finals

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Border Baseball League's winner-take-all, one-game elimination playoffs began this past week, and Morden and Winkler remain standing in the East Division.

Monday night saw the Winkler Whips knock out the Altona Bisons 3-1 and the Morden Mud Hens cream the Carman Cardinals 9-1 to advance to the semi-finals. Morden and Winkler will square off Wednesday night in Morden to see who moves on to play the West Division winner in a three-game championship series Aug. 27, 29 and 31.

In the West Division, the Cartwright Twins put an end to Clearwater's season 9-2 Monday. They moved on to face Pilot Mound, who got a bye to the semi-finals, Tuesday night. Results were not available at press time.

The Mud Hens finished the regular season in first place in the East Division with a 6-3-1 record. On their heels were Altona (5-4-1) in second and Winkler (5-4-1) in third. The Carman Cardinals came in last (4-5-1).

Morden and Winkler both wrapped up the regular season last week with wins. On Aug. 17, the Whips downed Pilot Mound 6-2 while the Mud Hens trounced Clearwater 6-2.



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Whips ended the regular season with a 6-2 win over the Pilots last week and then knocked out Altona in the first round of playoffs Monday night. Winkler now faces Morden in the semi-finals.

Be cautious on the road this harvest season: MPI

By Voice staff

With the harvest season in full swing, Manitoba Public Insurance is reminding drivers to keep an eye out for farming equipment on Manitoba roadways.

"Observance of road safety is key to keep-

ing our roadways safe during harvest season," said Satvir Jatana, MPI's chief customer officer. "While some areas of the province are experiencing severe drought, many other producers are on the roadways moving their machinery. Crops are coming off the fields and large agriculture machinery will be travelling

on roadways. It's important motorists be aware and drive responsibly.

On average, five people are killed or injured every year in crashes between agricultural machinery and passenger vehicles, Jatana noted.

Drivers all need to share the roads responsibly, he stressed. Farm equipment is large, may take up more than one lane, and is slow moving so motorists need to use extra caution when approaching and overtaking.

Producers need to do their part to ensure equipment is properly signed with lights and reflectors in use. Extra caution is also required when entering roadways and making turns with this equipment.

Farm equipment is required to have a slow-moving vehicle emblem clearly visible to traffic approaching from behind, with red reflectors on the back as close as possible to the left and right sides. At night, farm equipment must have headlights, red tail lamps and flashing amber warning lamps.

Farm machinery has a maximum speed of 40 km/h so it's easy for motorists to misjudge their speed of approach, said Jatana, adding that motorists can do their part by keeping a safe distance.

"Motorists should be patient when they come upon farm equipment and only pass when safe to do so," he stressed. "Be particularly diligent during dusk and dawn hours when it can be difficult to see."

> LOTTERY WINNERS, FROM PG. 16

- Jacqueline Martel, Southern Health-Santé Sud health region;
 - John Lyons, Prairie Mountain Health region;
 - Dustin McDuffe, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority; and
 - Bernell Lavallee, Northern Health Region.
- Meanwhile, the 10 winners of \$25,000 scholarships for vaccinated youth under the age of 18 were announced on Monday. They include Kaylee Keefe, Chelsea Thiessen, Bea Catalla, Kaden Rozdeba, Kayla Harper, Crosby Wright, Ella Curtaz, Jordyn Recksiedler, Emma Benoit, and Shaira Garcia.

The scholarships were given out regardless of health region and will be held in trust until

winner choose their post-secondary education plans.

The next lottery deadline is Monday, Sept. 6. To be eligible, individuals must have received their second dose of vaccine on or before that date.

Up for grabs are three more \$100,000 prizes for those living in the Winnipeg health region and four \$100,000 prizes for each of the other four regional health authority areas. There will also be 10 more \$25,000 scholarships drawn for.

To find an immunization location or to book an appointment, visit protectmb.ca.

If you're vaccinated but want to opt out of the lottery, head to vaxtowin.ca.

> HAWKS, FROM PG. 24

to keep our heads in that space just in case we got that green light to play. It was tough on them to stay engaged ... we barely just got off the starting line."

A plus for the team now as they prepare for what they hope will be a full 2021-22 season is the potential to have as many as 13 returning players. One significant question mark will be in goal, as both goaltenders from last season have moved on.

"We've reached out to all the returning players ... it's actually looking really good. We're excited about that," said Victor.

He suggested there is a recognition particularly among the potential returning players that there could be a good team this season,

so that could be a lure to get them back.

Otherwise, Victor said they look forward to seeing what the players bring on the tryout weekend, which offers a limited opportunity to make an impression.

"It's a clean slate for a lot of them," he suggested. "I expect there to be a lot of effort and compete. I'm looking for a lot of character. I think that speaks volumes. There's a lot of ways to show character in a tryout."

"There are spots available. No one is guaranteed a spot, so I expect them to compete," he concluded.

The Hawks are tentatively scheduled to kick off play with a doubleheader weekend against Central Plains Sept. 25 and 26.

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A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at news@winklermordenvoice.ca Phone 204-332-3456

The Winkler Morden **Voice**

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Baked Stuffed Pasta Shells

structions. Drain then set aside.

Heat pot or cast-iron casserole dish over medium heat. Once hot, add oil, garlic, onion and mushrooms. Add pinch of sea salt and pepper as it cooks. Cook until onions turn brown and mushrooms shrink in size, about 3-5 minutes. Empty contents and set aside.

Place pot back over heat. Add shredded kale and water to create steam. Toss kale in pot until it turns vibrant green; set aside to cool.

In large bowl, mix ricotta cheese with mushroom mixture, kale, pesto and spice blend.

In casserole dish, spread about 1/2 cup marinara on bottom. Then one-by-one, stuff each pasta shell with approximately 2 tablespoons ricotta mixture and add to casserole dish. Repeat with remaining shells.

Cover shells with remaining marinara and mozzarella cheese. Cover casserole dish with foil and bake 20 minutes. During final 5 minutes, remove foil so mozzarella can brown.

Garnish with fresh herbs and salt and pepper, to taste.

Recipe courtesy of chef Kevin Curry
 Servings: 6-8
 6 ounces jumbo pasta shells
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1 tablespoon fresh garlic
 1 medium onion, diced
 5 portobello mushroom caps, gills removed then diced
 1 pinch sea salt, plus additional, to taste
 1 pinch pepper, plus additional, to taste
 2 cups shredded kale
 3 tablespoons water
 15 ounces skim milk ricotta cheese
 4 tablespoons pesto
 1 tablespoon The Fit Cook Land spice blend
 1 1/2 cups reduced-fat marinara, divided
 1 1/2 cups reduced-fat mozzarella
 fresh herbs, for garnish
 Preheat oven to 420 F.
 Bring pot of salted water to boil. Cook pasta shells according to package in-



Daddy's Birthday Flan

brown, remove from heat and use silicone spatula or whisk to stir. While stirring, quickly pour into prepared Bundt pan.

To make cake: In large bowl, sift flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Set aside.

In another bowl, use hand mixer on medium speed to beat butter and sugar, about 3 minutes, until fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat well.

On low speed, gradually beat in flour mixture and buttermilk until combined.

Fold in rainbow sprinkles, if desired.

Pour batter into pans over caramel sauce.

To make flan: In blender on high speed, blend eggs, sweetened condensed milk, evaporated milk and vanilla until well combined.

Gently pour through strainer and onto prepared cake batter.

Sprinkle cinnamon on top.

Place pan in water bath by putting it in larger baking dish, roasting pan, hotel pan or similar. Pour hot water halfway up sides to create water bath.

Bake approximately 1 hour. Cake should be golden brown and jiggle when shaken when done.

Remove cake from water bath and cool on rack 10 minutes.

Run knife or spatula carefully around edges to separate. Place plate on top of cake and, while holding it, flip over carefully and quickly.

Refrigerate at least 1 hour or overnight before serving.

Recipe courtesy of chef Ninamarie Bojekian Mendoza
 Servings: 10-12
 Caramel Sauce:
 1 cup granulated sugar
 1/4 cup water
 Cake:
 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1 teaspoon baking powder
 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
 1/4 teaspoon salt
 3/4 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
 3/4 cup granulated sugar
 2 large eggs
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
 3/4 cup buttermilk
 3 tablespoons rainbow sprinkles (optional)
 Flan:
 4 large eggs
 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
 1 can (12 ounces) evaporated milk
 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
 ground cinnamon, to taste
 In saucepan, heat granulated sugar and water over medium-low heat until melted. Preheat oven to 350 F.
 Grease and flour 9-inch Bundt pan. Set aside.
 When sugar liquifies and turns golden

When Life Hurts



By Gwen Randall-Young

Sometimes life hurts. Sometimes it's a dull ache, and sometimes it cuts like a knife. No matter how much positive thinking we do, no matter how many affirmations we say, no matter how "together" we are, sometimes things come along and the pain feels bigger than we are.

There is such an emphasis now on the learning that comes in difficult times, that we often feel we should be able to "handle" whatever comes our way. This means we should 'be strong', 'keep a stiff upper lip', 'go with the flow' 'keep it in perspective', and all the other cliches that urge us to deny our feelings. But feelings serve a purpose.

When the body suffers a cut, a little bleeding is good because it cleanses the wound. When the emotional body is wounded, feelings also serve a cleansing function. Emotion that is stuffed down or suppressed creates tension in the body, so it is healthier to release it.

This does not mean venting it on others, but simply allowing yourself to feel the emotion. If you feel like crying, then have a good cry. If you are angry, go for a run, bang some balls around the racquet court, or even write a nasty letter that you

won't send. Let the emotion move through you, and then think about your course of action, if action is required. Often discussing your feelings with a trusted friend helps to release some of the power behind the strong emotion. And if the emotion seems overwhelming, reach out for support.

Some of the deepest healing occurs when we realize that we are not alone in this world. We are only alone if we isolate ourselves. Often too, it is only in our deep pain that we truly experience our humanness and allow others to touch our soul. Souls want to be touched, and sometimes deep pain is the only way to penetrate the shell of superficiality that surrounds the deepest parts of our being.

We must honor our pain, the same as we honor our joy, for both are expressions of who we are. Of course, we want to get past it, and we do have to move on, or we'd emotionally bleed to death. But the way past pain is through it. If it becomes overwhelming however, you don't have to go through it alone. The pain just might be a signal that it is time to connect more deeply with another human soul, whose arm may already be outstretched in anticipation of your reaching out. We need each other. That's why we're all here.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for daily inspiration.



Green Curry

1/2 cup bamboo shoots, sliced
 1/4 medium red bell pepper, sliced thin

8-10 Thai basil leaves, plus additional, for garnish, divided

2 cups cooked jasmine rice

In blender, blend spinach and water until mixture turns green and no leaves are visible.

In medium saucepan over medium-high heat, heat oil. Add green curry paste and stir to release fragrance, about 10 seconds.

Add protein and cook 3-5 minutes.

Add blended spinach water, purple eggplant, coconut milk, sugar and salt. Bring to boil. Add bamboo shoots and red bell pepper. Simmer 10 minutes.

Stir in basil leaves and turn off heat.

Serve with jasmine rice and garnish with additional basil leaves.

Photo courtesy of Ink Phinyawatana (Green Curry)

Recipe courtesy of chef Nikky Phinyawatana

Servings: 2

2 cups fresh spinach
 1 cup water
 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
 2 tablespoons green curry paste
 8 ounces skinless, boneless chicken, beef or pork, sliced thin
 1 small Japanese purple eggplant
 2 cups coconut milk
 4 teaspoons granulated sugar
 1/2 teaspoon salt

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PUBLIC NOTICE

**CITY OF MORDEN
PUBLIC NOTICE - BOARD OF REVISION
2022 REAL, PERSONAL AND BUSINESS
ASSESSMENT ROLLS**

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that the 2022 assessment roll for the City of Morden has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 195 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba and is open to public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of the Assessment Act:

APPLICATION FOR REVISION
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 a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

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

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
43(1) An application for revision must

- be made in writing;
- set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- state the grounds on which the application is based; and
- be filed by:
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated in the Public Notice given under subsection 41(2), or
 - serving it upon the Secretary,

at least fifteen (15) days before the scheduled sitting date of the Board of indicated in the Public Notice. The Board of Revision will sit on **Monday, September 20, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Council Chambers of the City of Morden to hear applications.
The **final date** on which the Secretary of the Board may receive applications is **Tuesday, September 7, 2021 by 4:30 p.m. local time.**

Dated at Morden, in Manitoba, this 19th day of August, A.D. 2021.

**Michelle Braun, Secretary
Board of Revision
City of Morden
100 - 195 Stephen Street
Morden, Manitoba
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UPCOMING EVENTS

DUNREA FLEA MARKET - Rain or Shine! Antiques, collectibles and more! Over 75 vendors. Admission \$4, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sunday, September 5, 2021. Fairgrounds in Boissevain, Mb.

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For more information: CommUNITY Support Team on localjobshop.ca

CAREERS

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Walinga Inc. in Carman, Manitoba is looking for flexible, enthusiastic, reliable, team players to fill the following positions:

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- Red Seal Certification is required
- Minimum 1 year experience preferred

CNC Machine Operators

- Some experience operating CNC or Manual machines is considered an asset.
- Ability to read and understand drawings.
- Willing to train the right candidate.

Service - Trailer Technician

- Experience with semi trailer repairs is considered an asset.
- Steel and/or aluminum welding experience preferred but not mandatory.
- Ability to read and understand drawings.
- Willing to train the right candidate.

General Labourer

- Assist in day to day activities.
- Welding experience is an asset but not mandatory.
- Must be able to lift 50lbs and work outdoors when required.
- Be able to do repetitive tasks as required.

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

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AUCTION

BAKER FARM SMALL FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION, SEPT. 13 TIMED ONLINE.

Baker Farm is 8 miles west of Morden on Hwy 3 yard # 38062
Tandem cattle trailer, rock picker, 21 ft pto swather, grain vac, 14 ft IHC Vibra shank cultivator, Herman harrow, grain auger, some scrap iron. Watch our auction site at the end of the Mark and Margaret Elias, Sept 13 closing auction, more details on our website

www.billklassen.com

Owners Darlene Baker & Maxine Lapple

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

Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd.
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Cell: (204) 325-6230
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WEDDING SHOWER



Wedding Shower in Honour of
Andrea Wasserberg and Jordan Gillis
At the 1-6 Community Hall on
Friday, September 3rd at 7 p.m.
Donation card at
Morden Dollar Store + more
until Friday, August 27th

ANNIVERSARY



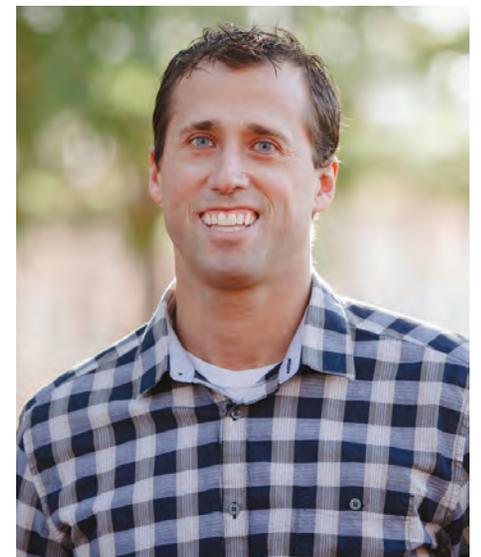
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IN MEMORIAM



Chad S. Falk
It broke our hearts to lose you,
But you did not go alone;
A part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.
-Missing you always,
Gerry and Elaine,
Kate, Ezra, Sienna, Amari
Twila and Kris, Kevin and Ashley,
Doug and Sara,
and families

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AUCTION



**Yard Equipment & Fabricating
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closing Sept 13, beginning at 6 pm.**
For Mark and Margret Elias, 10 miles north
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east on mile 23, yard # 23059 on
north side past THE TRAILER Factory.

John DEERE 3038E, Compact yard tractor, less than
900 hrs, lots of attachments, Ferris Zero Turn Mower
310 hrs, Terex, belted Skid steer with attachments,
plenty of misc welding shop items and tools and misc
iron etc. Check the website www.billklassen.com
Viewing date will be Monday Aug 30,
4 pm to 8 pm. Payment and pickup Tuesday, Sept 14,
9 am to 5 pm or arrangements at buyers Risk.

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

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AUCTION

**Tool and household Auctions in Winkler, closing
Friday Aug 27 at 6 pm.**

Payment and pick-up on Saturday, Aug 28 from 9
am to 12 noon. For June Klassen 1565 Pembina
Ave West and Susie Friesen- her items are at
the Storage on Cargill Road. Viewing for both
auctions will be Thursday, Aug 26 from 7 pm to
9pm at both locations. Payment will be online
E-transfer, or cheque or cash or credit card,
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residence 1565
Pembina, then come
pickup on Cargill
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**Mary Elias (nee Wiebe)
1930 - 2021**



Mary Elias, 91, of Winkler, MB formerly of Blumenfeld passed
away peacefully on Friday, August 13, 2021 at Salem Home in
Winkler.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her sons, Abe (Mary), Peter
(Debra); her daughters, Mary (Martin Driediger), Ann (George Elias),
Tina (Henry Penner) and Lisa (Pete Bergen); 21 grandchildren and
37 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by one sister, one
brother, three sisters-in-law, one brother-in-law and many nieces
and nephews.

Mary was born to Martin and Anna Wiebe on June 12, 1930 in the
Winkler Area. Mom went to school in Osterwick and Blumenfeld.
Mom and Dad met in Blumenfeld in 1950 and started courting.

They were baptized in the spring of 1951 in the Blumenfeld Old Colony Church. On October 21,
1951, they were wed. Mom and Dad were married for 66 years and 1 week when Dad passed
away. Mom and Dad moved to many different places through the years of raising their children
and after. It didn't matter where they lived, Mom always had a beautiful garden and lots of flowers.
She loved her plants and it showed in how everything grew for her.

Another very well-loved hobby of hers was knitting and she knit well over 1000 baby hats for the
hospital. She also loved knitting dish cloths and even in Salem Home continued knitting till her
memory didn't allow her to anymore. She continued carrying a dishcloth around everywhere she
went, hoping to find someone to give it to. Her baked goods and potato salad were always a big
hit at gatherings. Even though we use Mom's recipes for a lot of things, they never quite measure
up to hers. Her buttermilk cookies with pink icing are now called Grandma Cookies.

Mom suffered for many years with Dementia. It was in the last two years that she rarely
recognized us as her kids. Stressful events such as when Dad passed away and her moving to
Salem, made her memory even worse; to the point of forgetting how to knit for a while. Mom's
health was quite good till the last few months of her life except for her dementia. In the last month
especially, her health rapidly declined and on Wednesday morning she was unresponsive. She
was placed in palliative care and remained unresponsive until her peaceful passing at 2:53 on
Friday morning. She will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Memorial service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, August 16, 2021 at the Winkler Sommerfeld
Mennonite Church with interment prior at the Blumenfeld Cemetery.

Special thanks to staff at Salem Home for their excellent care of Mom. Also thanks to Wiebe
Funeral Home, friends and family for visits, calls, thoughts and prayers. Also special thanks to
Reverend Art Wiebe and all who are involved in this service.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler
In care of arrangements
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OBITUARY



Isaac H Klassen 1925 - 2021

Isaac Klassen was born at the family's home in the village of Hochfeld, MB July 22, 1925. He was the 9th of 14 children (three died in infancy). Dad was baptized in 1948 by Bishop Froese in the Chortitz Old Colony Church. Dad worked for different farmers in the area. On June 13, 1948 Dad and Mom were married. Dad worked where he could until they were able to rent land in the Blumstein area. In 1956, they moved to the Miami area where they had a grain and dairy farm until they retired in 2005.

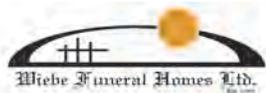
Dad passed away peacefully at Salem Home on Thursday, August 19, 2021. He was predeceased by his wife, Katharina (Tina) Klassen (nee Unrau) in 2013; one daughter, Patricia Ann on February 10, 1962; one son-in-law, Henry Wiebe in January 2021 and by his parents, Peter P and Helena (Wolfe) Klassen; 12 brothers and sisters and two stepmothers. He is survived by his sister, Agatha and one sister-in-law; many nieces and nephews; his daughters, Yvonne (Reg), Marilyn and Doreen and sons, Norman and Lorne; two granddaughters, two grandsons, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral service was held on Monday, August 23, 2021 at Wiebe Funeral Chapel in Morden with interment at the Waldheim Cemetery.

The family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Salem Home for the great care of Dad for the last six years.

Donations may be made in Isaac's memory to the Salem Foundation Inc.

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



OBITUARY



Anne Zacharias (nee Giesbrecht) 1929 - 2021

Anne Zacharias was born to Peter and Anna Giesbrecht on September 8, 1929 in the village of Rosengart, MB. She went to her heavenly home on Thursday, August 19, 2021, reaching the age of 91 years. Anne was the first-born and Tina, Mary and Francis followed. Anne attended school in the village school of Rosengart and as a young girl enjoyed her time spent with her village friends. As a young adult, one winter Anne had the adventure of riding the train to Morden to take a sewing course. Anne was baptized upon her confession of faith in Sommerfeld Mennonite Church in the village of Reinland in 1947. On November 19th, 1950 Anne married Bill Zacharias. They were married for 70 years. After their marriage, Bill and Anne bought a small farm near Stephenfield, MB and sometime later moved to a mixed farm near Schoenwiese. A son, who passed away in infancy and five girls were born and raised on the family farm. Anne was actively involved in the farm; driving combine, milking cows, raising chickens, meals to the field and whatever came her way. In 1998 Anne and Bill retired to the town of Morden where she continued to be busy gardening, canning, volunteering and floor curling. Anne enjoyed spending time with family, travelling, volunteering, growing beautiful flowers, baking, canning, and cooking.

On Tuesday, August 17, 2021, Anne was ready to join her Aspen family for breakfast, when it was apparent that she had suffered another stroke. She remained mostly unresponsive until her peaceful passing on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 5:15 a.m. When she was deemed palliative, many of her family members, grandchildren and great-grandchildren had an opportunity to say goodbye to her. We are confident she felt the love that surrounded her. It was special that all five of her daughters were able to spend a little time in Anne's presence, including Valerie, who was able to cross the border for the very first time in a year and a half.

Anne is survived by her husband Bill, five daughters and their families: daughter, Sharon (John Friesen) of Altona, Heidi (Lyndon Toews), Celina, Liam and Natalie, Brent Friesen (Tara), Ellie and Raegan, daughter, Shirley (Jack Fehr) of Morden, Lavonne (Sheldon Penner) Kolby, Taliya and Luke, Travis Fehr and Crystal (Brent Froese) Morgan and Ella, daughter, daughter, Jean (Rick Ginter) of Winnipeg, Matthew Friesen (Ashley) Chase, Makena, and Madden, Chad Friesen (Teri-Lynn), daughter, Valerie (Mark Cheatley) of Langdon, North Dakota, Justin Cheatley, Rachel Cheatley, daughter, Hayley (Geoff Loewen) of Gretna, Tyler, Cody (Jozanna) and Dylan, her siblings: Tina (Ben Hiebert) of Winnipeg, Mary (Dan Mehner) of Arizona and Frank (Dorothy) Giesbrecht of Winkler and many nieces and nephews. Mom is also survived by her Zacharias in-laws: Eva Paetkau (Albert) and Marge Zacharias (John), Mary Zacharias and Shirley Zacharias. She was predeceased by her infant son, Willy Lawrence on April 19th, 1952 and her parents, Peter and Anna Giesbrecht, her in-laws, Cornie Martens and the Zacharias family - Jacob and Elizabeth Zacharias, Barbara, Susie, Anne, Marie, Betty, Jake, Nettie, Tina and Dave.

Bill truly was an example of 'love beyond measure' as he supported his wife through daily visits at Altona Hospital, Salem Home for a few years and Tabor Home for four years. The family will forever be grateful to know that their Mom always knew how much her husband loved her with his daily visits and his reassurance. Thank you to all the caregivers in the last 8 1/2 years. We couldn't have done it without you. Rest in peace, Mama.

Funeral service was held on Tuesday August 24, 2021 at the Morden Sommerfeld Mennonite Church with interment at the Schoenwiese Cemetery.

Donations may be made in Anne's memory to Tabor Home Inc.

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



OBITUARY



Abram Thiessen 1931 - 2021

On Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at Salem Home in Winkler, MB, Abe C Thiessen, 89 passed away.

Dad was born, September 12, 1931, on a farm in Hofensfeld close to Winkler. He met the love of his life, Katharine, hoeing beets and they were married October 4, 1953. They were blessed with four girls and two boys. Dad was raised on a farm and was a hard worker. He worked at a lot of different jobs and was self-employed. He learned the stuccoing and plastering trade working with Mom's brother Abe in Winnipeg.

Dad worked at Dutch Maid in Winnipeg on Osborne Street. We loved it when he would come home with a huge container of ice cream. Dad sure loved his ice cream. After he stopped stuccoing

and plastering, Dad sold cars at Community Chev Olds. Farming was still in his blood, and it didn't take long and he purchased the Labun farm in the Roland municipality. Dad just never stopped going, he also set up a business on the highway between Winkler and Morden, A & T Sales where he sold farm equipment and also sold and moved bins. As a contractor, dad built a few homes in Winkler and Morden and also had rental properties. In 2015 Dad and mom moved to Cedar Estates in Winkler May 8. Dad lived there for about two years after mom passed. From there he moved to a condo on Pembina Avenue and was there for a short time. Dad had a few falls, and this put him into Boundary Trails until he was able to get a room with Salem. Dad's faith began about 61 and a half years ago at a revival meeting in Winkler. The Pastor spoke about three days on salvation, being born again. (John 3:16) and about going to hell, which he didn't like. He didn't go for the altar call. When Dad got home the Holy Spirit spoke to him a few times. He went to 80-acre field with the Ford tractor doing fieldwork. He stopped the tractor and got on his knees and gave his life to Jesus. After mom passed away, her example to him, through their marriage, became something that he decided to make a part of his life without her. He became the father that we had all prayed for, for so many years. God is good, He answers prayers. We, as a family, are so thankful that God used Mom's passing to bring about this change in Dad.

We are so thankful and grateful for the staff at Salem Home. They are so amazing in their care giving of the residents there. Dad was unique and they were gracious and understanding of him and we so appreciate them.

He leaves to mourn his passing, four daughters, Mary Hadfield, Shirley Simpson, Judy Zacharias (Dave), Pat Janzen and two sons, Tim Thiessen (Myrna) and Ken Thiessen (Annette) as well as 12 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Katharina (nee Hiebert) in May 2015.

Memorial service was held on Wednesday August 18, 2021 at the Winkler EMM Church with private interment prior at Hillside Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made in Abe's memory to the Salem Foundation Inc.

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In care of arrangements
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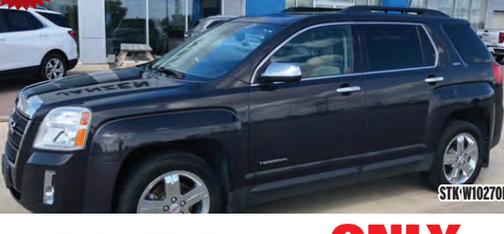
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