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On the Corn & Apple stage

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Del Barber joined the Bros. Landreth and Doc Walker in performing at a livestreamed Corn and Apple Festival concert in downtown Morden Saturday. For more photos, check out Pg. 10.

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

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Winkler Senior Centre charity BBQ on this Thursday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

One of the Winkler Senior Centre's biggest fundraisers of the year may look a little different than usual this week, but the food will taste as amazing as ever.

The centre hosts its annual community fundraiser barbecue Thursday, Sept. 3 from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Buhler Active Living Centre (650 South Railway Ave.)

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the BBQ will be drive thru or walk up service only, says volunteer coordinator Joanne Greer.

"This year with COVID we've had to get a little creative," she says, explaining people are asked to drive

up on South Railway Ave. to order and pay for their meal at 7th St. before driving around to the building's 6th St. (east) entrance to pick up their food. For walk up service, line up outside the 6th St. entrance.

Supper is by donation. They'll be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, coleslaw, ice cream, and canned pop or coffee.

"It's a fantastic meal, all home-cooked," Greer says.

The BBQ routinely draws a few hundred diners, and Greer is hopeful the slightly revised pick-up method won't keep people away.

"Everyone is welcome," she says, stressing how important the money raised is for the ongoing programming at the senior centre. "This is a huge deal for us. We're doing great, our community has definitely supported us, but this fundraiser helps us accomplish what we need for the year to keep our doors open, to keep the programming going."

It has been a challenging year for the senior centre, which had to scale back or cancel programming and fundraisers earlier this spring/summer.

Things are starting to get back to a "new normal," says executive director Nettie Dyck.

"[COVID] definitely has changed things for us," she says. "For example, our coffee crowd that we used to be able to put in one part of the room in the mornings and then have other activities going on on the other side, we

Continued on page 5

"THIS FUNDRAISER HELPS US ... TO KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN, TO KEEP THE PROGRAMMING GOING."



PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE

The Winkler Senior Centre's Nettie Dyck (left) and Joanne Greer invite the community out to their annual fundraising barbecue Thursday.

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Pembina Valley Kidney Walk sets out from Morden Park Sept. 13

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Three days out of every week, Jackie Plett spends four hours at the Boundary Trails Health Centre watching a machine do the work her kidneys cannot.

A dialysis patient for nearly two years now, Plett is fortunate in that her husband is a match to donate one of his kidneys to her as soon as Manitoba's hospitals work through the surgical backlog caused by the pandemic.

Others aren't so lucky.

"If you're waiting for a deceased organ donor it can take several years," Plett says.

A childhood bout with cancer cost Plett one of her kidneys and part of the other.

"I was all right for most of my life, and then in 2013 I got diagnosed with kidney failure," she shares. She struggled along for a few years with low kidney function before starting dialysis in 2018.

It's been a challenging time.

"For a normal person, their kidneys are working 24/7, but for people like me, our blood only gets cleaned three times a week," Plett says. "It's tough. You don't feel good. Dialysis makes you very tired. It's time-consuming."

It makes navigating everyday life—holding down a full-time job, travelling, spending quality time with family and friends—difficult if not impossible.

Getting back to a normal life is what Plett is most looking forward to once her kidney transplant is complete.

"It'll change my life in so many amazing ways," she says. "Even just to have more freedom in general to do whatever I want and to feel healthy again."

This isn't Plett's first experience with organ donation. Her father, who had



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Participants in the 2019 Pembina Valley Kidney Walk raised over \$10,000 in support of the Kidney Foundation. This year's walk takes place in Morden Park Sept. 13. There's also an opportunity to take part as a virtual participant. Right: Walk organizer Jackie Plett has been on dialysis for nearly two years. It's a timely process she looks forward to leaving behind after her kidney transplant surgery.

diabetes, also needed a kidney transplant nearly a decade ago. Her sister was a match. Unfortunately, her dad passed away hours after the surgery.

These experiences have left Plett with a keen desire to raise awareness about the importance of the work of the Kidney Foundation of Canada.

"It's amazing how people have no knowledge of kidney failure or what it is or even what dialysis is," she says, urging people not to take good health for granted. "Take care of your kidneys. Appreciate them."

Plett will be supporting the foundation as an organizer and walker at the 2020 Pembina Valley Kidney Walk taking place in Morden Park on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 2 p.m. (registration begins at 1 p.m.)

"There won't be any speeches this year but we'll be able to start out on the walk together," she says, explaining people will be encouraged to keep their distance from one another and to walk as far as they like around the park.

If you're not comfortable venturing out with the group, you can opt to sign up as a virtual participant and walk your own route.

"You can walk anywhere you want, really," Plett says.



All participants are asked to collect pledges in support of those with kidney disease. The Kidney Foundation uses these funds for educational, prevention, and support programs as well as kidney research.

To register to take part or to make a donation, head online to kidneywalk.ca or call Kidney Foundation Manitoba branch community development manager Ashley Tobin at 204-989-0807.

Morden looking into CodeRED notification failures

Many residents did not receive recent boil water advisory

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is looking into a concern involving the emergency alert system in the wake of a recent city-wide boil water advisory.

There are questions being asked about the CodeRED system as a result of some residents not receiving

the alert when it was issued late in the evening of Aug. 22 after a malfunction at the water treatment plant.

"We have strong anecdotal evidence that suggests that a lot of people who were signed up for CodeRED did not in fact receive the alert," said Mayor Brandon Burley.

"We have to take a hard look at why CodeRED failed, and we will need an explanation as to why so many did not receive the alert, myself included, and several councillors didn't receive it," he said. "If the major tool that you have doesn't work, you've got a prob-

lem."

Mordenites got the green light to drink the water coming out of their taps again last Tuesday.

The first advisory sent out by the city said that routine monitoring of the treated water supply showed a failure in the treatment process and monitoring system allowed poorly treated water to enter the distribution system.

Further information provided by the city last week explained that the lime slaker unit was shut down Aug. 21 due to electrical power surges, which caused the turbidity levels to go up.

Lime is used by many municipalities to improve water quality, especially for water softening, and turbidity refers to the cloudiness or haziness and is a key test of water quality.

Because the turbidity levels were not in compliance, the provincial Office of Drinking Water assessed the risk. On their recommendation, Public Health issued the boil water advisory.

Throughout the duration of the advisory, however, the water was still going through the UV disinfection and chlorine disinfection process,

Continued on page 5

Morden, Winkler resource centres now share a director

By Lorne Stelmach

Two local family organizations are moving to work together more, including now sharing a director.

Cathy Savage has taken on that role at the Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre in addition to doing the same job for the Winkler Family Resource Centre.

Having been on the job in Winkler for five years, Savage sees a good opportunity for the two centres to team up and share resources.

"We do the same things in our communities ... so we thought we can work together and share facilitators," said Savage, who will also have Jen Froese serving as programming co-ordinator in Morden.

"With COVID, our centres are kind of running at half capacity right now ... if we can get in now and start building this up, once we are through with the COVID scare, then we can come back and be much stronger in both centres.

"I'm excited ... Winkler took time to grow, but our board has worked really hard and we've accomplished a few things. We hope to accomplish

"WE DO THE SAME THINGS IN OUR COMMUNITIES ... SO WE THOUGHT WE CAN WORK TOGETHER AND SHARE FACILITATORS."

the same thing in Morden because it's needed for families."

With the two centres walking a fine line financially, Savage sees both benefiting particularly in that respect with this move.

"Our funding is really difficult. All of our programs are funded through Healthy Child Manitoba," she noted. "That doesn't pay for co-ordinators or director's wages, it doesn't pay any rent, so that is strictly for programs and facilitators and the supplies that we need to run our programs.

"That's the bulk of our funding, so it's really difficult ... and that's why fundraisers are really important for both centres because that's how we



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Newly hired director Cathy Savage (left) with Morden Parent and Child Resource Centre board member Cecilia Gil.

pay the co-ordinators and the director," she said. "The centres both run on a shoestring."

Looking a little down the road, Savage suggested they might be

looking for an opportunity to find more space somewhere in Morden so that they could be better able to work with more families in the community.

"The plan or the goal for Morden is

Continued on page 6

> BOIL WATER ADVISORY, FROM PG. 4

noted Santokh Singh Randhawa, deputy city manager of operations.

The department has already ordered surge protectors for the lime slaker unit and is working on few other preventative measures, he noted.

"There was never any significant risk to the public, but certainly if there was, there wouldn't be any water flowing to your house," Burley further suggested.

"It happened at an awkward time, being Friday evening around 11:30," he noted. "By the time we had identified a boil water was necessary it was 1 a.m.

"The boil water wasn't connected to water quality in the lake," Burley added.

The whole situation "certainly identified a number of problems that we have to address and have to rectify going forward ... and there are alternate products to CodeRED available."

> WINKLER SENIOR CENTRE, FROM PG. 3

can't do that anymore. We now have to spread everybody out more."

So mornings are mainly dedicated to coffee time most days, with programming shifted to the afternoons.

Those programs have also had to be adjusted to meet COVID restrictions.

"We've found a way to make it all work, but it is going to be very different," Dyck says, pointing out things floor curling can no longer accommodate spectators, for example. "They're used to that being a very social event where they can come in and watch games, but we can't do it that way anymore.

"Now you come in and you play and you go before the next group comes in," she explains. "It's unfortunate, but hopefully it's a temporary thing."

Likewise, the popular waffle breakfasts one morning a month now offer three seating ses-

sions that must be pre-booked to avoid large gatherings of people.

Thankfully, the congregate meal program is back in action at the senior centre, though also with limited seating.

"All of our meals were pickup or delivery earlier this summer," Dyck says, "and we heard from so many people, 'When can we come and eat together again?' Fortunately we are able to do the meals together again here, though our Cedar [Estates] location is still by delivery."

With programming ramping up again, volunteers are needed to lend a hand.

"We are always looking for a few more people to volunteer serving at our daily lunches," says Greer. "The way we have to have it set up now requires more servers."

Kitchen volunteers are also needed.

"There's lots of different places and ways to serve," Greer says.

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EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Watching time TikTok away

Have you noticed lately that you feel like you need to take a shower after a visit to social media?

You know what I mean. It's almost as if there is a palpable, toxic, oily sludge that sticks to your body after only a few minutes of trolling through the latest outrage.

Be it Twitter, Instagram, Facebook or some other platform, there seems to be no escaping the great and growing mountain of hate, anger, and divisiveness.

Now of course you know as a person who enjoys connecting with others (read NOSEY here) I am a social media addict. In many ways one could say "social media doesn't kill people, people kill people" and it would be apt, but we all know there are aspects of that world that seem designed to enhance people's more negative attributes. It's like the digital version of hollow point bullets in your hunting rifle.

Lately I have allowed my social media involvement to ebb a little, having

backed away to let a little light back into my life, and this has been good. But when the social media itch rises you have to scratch it, right?

So there I was sitting on the porch staring at my phone for about the thousandth time and avoiding it when I get an idea: Hmmm ... maybe I should take a peek into TikTok and see what's up with that. I have had an unused account for quite a while now but never bothered to really dive in and, hey, it will distract me from Hatebook, err, Facebook.

I opened the app and then after what seemed like two minutes closed it for a second and realized more than two hours had passed. Hence the name TikTok—you can almost hear time running away. What in the world was this?

Since then my wife has joined me down the ridiculous rabbit hole that is TikTok, and I do mean ridiculous.

What is this thing called TikTok, you ask? Simply put, it is a platform that allows users to upload 15 second videos. You can string up to four of them together for a maximum video of 60 seconds.

Open TikTok and instantly there is a video playing from a user who may be in your area or from a world away. You can "love" a video, comment, and/or follow the user. It keeps replaying until you swipe up and is replaced with another random video.

Mostly they are comedic videos, vid-

eos of people lip-synching and dancing to music, people cosplaying or revealing makeup efforts, etc. Pure, mindless, fun. Almost zero political commentary. No opportunity to argue. Heck, the fact that you can only "love" a video instead of offering a thumbs down or angry/mocking emoji is wonderfully refreshing.

Still, even TikTok cannot avoid controversy. Most recently a new and skyrocketing star took on a large amount of hateful comments from strangers. Why? She's too cute (she looks like she was drawn by Disney) and silly people don't think she deserves the popularity. However the broader TikTok community rallied around her and now she has five million followers and is growing at about one million a week.

It's a fun and amusing app that has upset the Great and Terrible Wizard of Oz down south (President Trump, for the uninitiated) who has threatened to block it for simply being made in China, to which TikTok'rs have simply replied with laughter and derision and a refreshing move-on-nothing-to-see-here attitude.

Yes, I am unapologetically addicted to this new social media trend for the time being. It has proven to be a wonderful outlet for some very creative people of all ages and I hope it continues to be for a long time to come.



By Peter Cantelon

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.

> RESOURCE CENTRES, FROM PG. 5

to have what we have in Winkler, where we moved into Winkler Emmanuel Mennonite Church last September. We were able to open five mornings a week," she said.

"So we're looking for a community partner here in Morden, possibly a church ... so we can provide more space for families."

In the meantime, the two centres are starting up their programs the week of Sept. 14.

Morden's programs will include Kids in the Kitchen Monday evenings and Stay and Play Tuesday af-

ternoons, while the music program will take place Wednesdays at the Access Event Centre.

Winkler will go mornings Monday to Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m., but the play area will not be opening due to COVID-19 restrictions.

The programs include Art Attack on Mondays, Wiggle Giggle Munch on Tuesdays, All Aboard the Number Train on Wednesdays and Rhythm and Rhymes on Thursdays.

As well, there is a program in Plum Coulee that will run Tuesdays from 10-11:30 a.m. outside at Heritage

Square if the weather allows or indoors at The Centre on Main.

The aim of all these programs is to help build the skills that are needed for literacy, school, and all of life.

"It's nice to have all your programs in one place ... and it brings a connection to the community for the families," suggested Savage.

"Your children will learn so much ... and it's a positive thing for parents. It's so important for moms to have that kind of support," she concluded. "Our centres are really kind of a jewel in the communities."

Cutting the ribbon on GK Bagga

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden business community welcomed GK Bagga Cleaning Service last weekend.

The new enterprise held its ribbon cutting and official opening of its downtown Morden shop last Saturday.

Gurkirpal Bagga comes to the business here with seven years of experience in the area.

"I hope being here in Morden is good," said Bagga, who was optimistic about the potential for the business here as he felt it had already received a good initial response from customers.

The company specializes in commercial cleaning services but also offers residential service as well as floor and carpet cleaning and waxing and



GK Bagga held a ribbon cutting Saturday at its location in downtown Morden.

PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

glass cleaning services.

Bagga noted they have seen some impact of COVID-19 in terms of an in-

creased demand for cleaning services.

"I need more workers already," he said.

For more information, stop in at 139 Seventh Street or call 204-384-7762.

Manitoba COVID-19 cases hit new heights

Province reached 469 active cases on Monday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's COVID-19 caseload hit 1,214 Monday as provincial health officials announced 28 new cases of the virus.

The bulk of the cases—13—were in the Prairie Mountain Health Region. Winnipeg added seven new cases, Southern Health-Santé Sud saw six, and two more were reported in the Interlake-Eastern health region.

Preliminary investigations showed that 14 of the new cases were close contacts of previously announced cases. One was related to travel.

"In the last seven days, public health officials have been unable to determine the source of infection for 32 cases—16 in Prairie Mountain Health, two in Southern Health-Santé Sud, and 14 in Winnipeg," said Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer, noting investigations into all these cases are ongoing.

Locally, the Lorne/Louise/Pembina area had seven active cases at the start

of the week while Winkler had three, Altona and Roland/Thompson were dealing with two each, and Morden and Carman each had one.

As of Monday, Manitoba had 469 active cases and 731 recoveries. Eleven people were in hospital with the virus at press time, one in intensive care. Fourteen Manitobans have died due to COVID-19.

Monday's five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 2.1 per cent. A total of 137,499 tests have been done in the province since the pandemic began.

Due to the increasing number of cases in southern Manitoba, the travel restrictions to northern Manitoba and remote communities go back into effect on Thursday, Sept. 3. The previous travel ban ended on June. 26.

Roussin once again reiterated the importance of the COVID-19 fundamentals.

"Avoid large gatherings, especially indoors. Most definitely stay home if you're feeling ill, even mildly ill. Wash your hands frequently. Do not share items with others," he stressed. "Practise physical distancing when outside and if you can't, then certainly wear a mask. And if you're in indoor public places, strong recommendation to wear that mask."

NEW PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER

A new public health order came into effect Friday that will see Manitobans who have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been exposed to the virus through a close contact facing fines if they fail to self-isolate. In both cases, affected individuals would be contacted by public health officials.

"Once notified, the person must go to their residence or an approved self-isolation location and remain there for 14 days, or as long as directed by public health," said Roussin, noting there are exceptions should a person require medical care.

Self-isolation in these cases was already a requirement, but multiple steps were necessary—including the issuance and subsequent violation of a communicable disease order—before a person could be detained for failing to do so.

"We developed this order in response to some isolated situations where we determined individuals were not self-isolating," Roussin said. "Public health has always had the ability to take action on individuals who were not following public health advice through the Public Health Act. This new order provides a streamlined approach to that.

"Education is preferred, but indi-

viduals who do not self-isolate as directed could face fines up to \$486," he added, "and that could be accessed daily."

Notice of Environment Act Proposal

Manitoba Conservation and Climate has received a proposal pursuant to The Environment Act regarding the following operation and invites public participation in the review process:

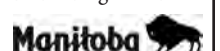
MUNICIPALITY OF PEMBINA - EXPANSION OF DARLINGFORD WASTEWATER TREATMENT LAGOON - FILE: 6063.00

An Environment Act Proposal has been filed by the Municipality of Pembina for construction of a storage cell and upgrades to the existing Darlingford wastewater treatment lagoon located on portions of NE 08-03-07 WPM within the Municipality of Pembina. The treated effluent would continue to be discharged into Shannon Creek via the drainage ditch alongside PR 240 from May 1 to October 31 of any year. The biosolids from the primary cell of the existing wastewater treatment lagoon would be land applied.

Anyone likely to be affected by the above operation and who wishes to comment on the proposal should contact Barsha Sagan, Environmental Engineer, in writing or by email at Barsha.Sagan@gov.mb.ca not later than OCTOBER 2, 2020. Further information is available from the Online Public Registry: www.gov.mb.ca/sd/eal/registries/

Information submitted in response to this proposal is considered public information and will be made available to the proponent and placed on the public registry established in accordance with Section 17 of The Environment Act.

Environmental Approvals Branch
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BTHC Foundation reports on a banner year

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation gathered at the hospital last week for its annual general meeting.

The organization finished the year with a sizeable surplus of \$94,732—up a few thousand dollars from the year before.

Revenue through general and designated donations, fundraisers, and things like investment income hit heights of over \$887,000, while expenses reached nearly \$793,000.

Among the list of expenditures was \$350,000 for BTHC's new helipad, over \$196,000 towards the palliative and spiritual care programs, and another \$135,800 for a variety of equipment purchases, including an \$89,000 point-of-care ultrasound for the emergency room and a \$23,000 bariatric bed for the ICU.

All in all, it was a solid year for the organization, said retiring board chair Grant Thiessen.

Seeing the Ed and Irene Krahn Heliport project through to fruition was certainly a highlight.

"We were honoured to be able to participate in the heliport project here at BTHC," Thiessen said. "Last year at this time we had just held the sod-turning and by December we had a fully functioning heliport, which has become a big asset for BTHC."

Looking back at 2019's fundraising efforts, Thiessen noted that the fall banquet proved to be a huge success for the foundation.

"We were able to exceed our goal of \$89,000 for the purchase of a point-of-care ultrasound," he said, adding that last summer's golf tournament was likewise successful, raising over \$33,000.

"The faithful and continued support of these events by our communities is what makes these events so successful," Thiessen stressed.

The AGM marked Thiessen's final act as a member of the

foundation's board of directors after six years of service.

Looking back, he's proud of what they've been able to accomplish in that time.

"The foundation is in as good or better shape than it was when I came in, so that's satisfying," Thiessen said, adding that they've worked very hard in recent years to raise the organization's profile.

"It's a part of getting out the information of what it is we do," he said, noting people aren't always aware that it's the foundation that funds both the palliative care and spiritual care programs at the hospital. "We're able to provide

resources to people, to families who are going through a very, very tough time."

Amidst all the successes, though, there are still a few loose ends, Thiessen admitted, including the long-awaited hospital expansion project.

"When I came on the board it was at a meeting similar to this one where we were on the cusp of being able to do an expansion, and here we are six years later singing the same song," he said. "That part's frustrating, but I understand how these things work ... the channels that we have to go through."

Continued on page 9

A glimpse inside palliative, spiritual care

At the BTHC Foundation AGM last week, palliative care nurse Eunice Suderman and palliative/spiritual care program manager Stephanie Neufeld shared an update on the status and impact of those programs.

Neufeld noted that while some COVID-19 visitation restrictions have lifted in recent weeks, things are far from normal.

"Hospital staff and volunteers have really stepped up and done their best to fill the gap between patients and their loved ones through phone calls, technical assistance, and the compassionate care that they provide," she said. "They have done their best with the reality of the circumstances that have been created by this virus."

"At this hospital, the palliative care and spiritual care staff have further filled this gap by still providing needed support that would not be possible if their roles did not exist."

For example, having an in-house spiritual care worker allowed dying patients to receive pastoral support in person rather than virtually during the worst of the pandemic shutdowns.

COVID-19 has upended the usual way of doing things, acknowledged Suderman, but the palliative care nursing staff continue to focus on being a source of supportive care for patients and their families when dealing with the realities of quality of life issues and symptom control at the end of one's life.

"With all the visitor restrictions, communication via phone has become a lifeline to re-

assuring families as to what's going on with their loved one," she said. "We've received many calls from people who were anxious, upset, distressed. Our listening ears have been vital in helping people navigate through this very confusing time."

They've worked hard to keep people informed and involved while also trying to keep patients safe and well cared for, Suderman said.

"For our patients we have become a bridge, trying to fill the gaps of communication between their families, the professionals, and themselves," she added. "Decreasing the stress created by the isolation was one of our goals ... our patients long to have the people that they have good relationships with at their bedside."

To that end, outdoor visits were facilitated whenever possible. Many patients were also brought down to the hospital's rehab ward to be able to see and speak with their loved ones through the large win-

dows there.

All of these supports come about thanks to funding from the BTHC Foundation and the donations it receives from the community at large.

"Your support of these programs has allowed for differences to be made in the lives of those experiencing additional hardships during this difficult time," Neufeld said. "Impact has happened and lives have been changed as a result."

—Ashleigh Viveiros

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Stationary bike race back in support of Movement Centre

Cyclists needed for Sept. 19 bike-a-thon

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Wiebe family didn't think they'd be going ahead with their annual Move 'N Groove-A-Thon Stationary Bike Race this year, but the pressing needs of the agency it supports moved them to give it a go.

The Movement Centre of Manitoba has had a rough time of it in recent months thanks to COVID-19, which has not only forced the cancellation of various fundraisers but also its in-person programming.

"They rely on those donations to operate," said bike-a-thon organizer Marie Wiebe. "As a parent, I really want the centre to be there when we can return safely. If there aren't funds raised then that won't happen."

Wiebe's daughter Kathy has been attending weekly physiotherapy sessions at the Winnipeg facility since she was a child. Kathy lives with cerebral palsy and the sessions have helped give her a much wider range of motion and independence than she would otherwise have.

This summer has been a challenge for Kathy and the many other Manitobans like her with physical challenges who rely on the Movement Centre.

"She hasn't been able to be at the centre since all of this started," Wiebe said, noting Kathy has seen an in-

crease in stiffness and pain as a result. "We're really hoping that people will understand how important this is to the people who need it."

Last year's bike-a-thon raised over \$22,000 for the Movement Centre—a new record for the event.

With the pandemic making public gatherings a challenge, Wiebe had initially thought to take a breather this fall.

"We had said we'd hold off until next year but it seems that it's really needed and so we decided to try and make it work," she said.

And so, riders and supporters are invited out to the Wiebe's garage near Chortitz on Saturday, Sept. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

It's where the event got its start all those years ago. Recent years have seen it held in school gymnasiums in Winkler or Schanzenfeld, but those locations aren't available this year due to the pandemic.

Wiebe is optimistic the more rural setting (it's just five miles west of Schanzenfeld) won't keep supporters away.

"We're hoping this won't scale it down," she said, noting they have two large garages in which to set up the bikes and ensure everyone is able to properly physically distance from one another. They'll also be sanitizing the bikes and common spaces regularly throughout the day. "We have plenty of space ... we can have four to six bikers going at any one time."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Stationary Bike-a-thon in support of the Movement Centre of Manitoba is looking for riders to take a shift or two on Sept. 19.

Participants sign up for 25 minutes on a stationary bike. Last year saw 23 cyclists take part, many tackling multiple shifts to ensure the pedals were moving for the entire six hours.

"We're really hoping to get some more riders," Wiebe said. "I'm hoping that there's people who would like to get involved that maybe haven't been able to before."

Riders are asked to try and collect \$100 or more in pledges. In thanks, every rider will be served a free hot dog lunch with brownies for dessert.

There will also be prizes up for grabs. To register, call or text Wiebe at 204-362-4998.

If you can't take a shift on the bike, you can still support the cause by stopping in to enjoy a by-donation hot dog lunch that day.

The Wiebes are located south of Winkler at the corner of Road 9N and 26W. Signs will be up to guide you.

Donations can also be made by contacting Wiebe at the number above or heading online to movementcentre.ca.

Winkler Citizen of the Year Award on hold for 2020

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Community Foundation has decided to push pause on its Citizen of the Year Award program this year.

Thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic, a large fall banquet celebrating the selected recipient simply isn't possible.

"We did have several excellent nominations deserving of the award," noted foundation executive director Myra Peters. "Our struggle was how we could honour someone in a meaningful way at this time with so much uncertainty moving into fall and back to school and adhering to the current restrictions."

Getting the chance to gather the community together to honour the citizen of the year is a big part of this award, Peters said.

"It is important to give the commu-

nity a chance to understand the impact this individual has made in our community," she said. "And in turn, it is also important to give the community a chance to say thank you to the individual for their contributions."

"We weighed several different options and alternative celebrations, but we feel none of them can honour

an individual in that manner at this time."

All of the nominations received for 2020 will be carried over to next year.

"We wish to thank the nominators that put the time into nominating some worthy and excellent individuals that are deserving of this award," Peters said.

"We are so thankful for the community we live in and the energy and commitment that goes into making our community great," she added. "Winkler is full of inspiring people, people who motivate and take action, who get involved, and who make our city one of the best places to live."

> BTHC FDN, FROM PG. 8

The BTHC expansion committee continues to work toward getting government approval for the project. While no firm timeline has been provided, they feel they've made good headway, Thiessen said.

"We are confident it is clearly on their radar," he said.

Coming on as BTHC Foundation board chair is Ben Friesen, who acknowledges 2020-2021 is likely to be

a very different kind of year for the organization, what with all the challenges COVID-19 has created when it comes to hosting large-scale fundraising events. Both the 2020 golf tournament and gala have been cancelled due to the pandemic.

"The foundation has some reserve so we're not being forced into any real problems yet, but we don't want to get to that point," Friesen said.

To stave off that problem, the foundation will be launching a major awareness and fundraising campaign this fall.

"We want to give everybody that was participating in all our events before to get involved again in some way," said Friesen, adding he's confident people will embrace online giving to support the hospital.



The Corn and Apple Festival may have been cancelled this year, but the organization was still able to at least put on a concert Saturday evening in downtown Morden. To meet public gathering restrictions, the show was limited to 250 advance ticket holders separated into three seating sections. The event was also livestreamed online for everyone to enjoy. The evening featured Del Barber, the Bros Landreth (above, right), and headliners Doc Walker (above, left). Right: Refreshments—including mini-donuts—were also available.



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE




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Truckers on the frontline: why every Canadian ought to #ThankATrucker

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Semi-trucks transport 70 per cent of our consumer goods, and during the pandemic, both long-haul and short-haul drivers were deemed essential workers. Truckers were responsible for keeping our grocery stores stocked and delivering life-saving medical supplies throughout the country.

As frontline workers, they put their health at risk to keep supply chains open. In addition, many truckers found themselves working overtime and spending more time away from friends and family than usual. They also faced difficulties finding meals and accessing facilities on the road, due to closures and new service policies among retailers and restaurants.

THANK A TRUCKER AND OFFER THEM SUPPORT

If ever there was a time to thank a trucker, it's now. Many Canadians have already done so by using the hashtags #ThankATrucker and #FeedATrucker online. Moreover, some restaurants and food trucks have been offering free meals to truck drivers.

In addition, several helpful online resources have been created. These include the Facebook group "Restaurants Serving Truckers in Western Canada" and the website mealsfortruckers.ca. The latter site features an interactive map showing truckers where they can access food and facilities.

If you haven't done so already, be sure to #ThankATrucker for their invaluable contribution during the COVID-19 pandemic.



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September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is a time when we celebrate advances in childhood cancer treatment and care, remember the children we've lost, and engage new advocates to join in our mission of achieving a day when every child with cancer can live a long and healthy life.

FACTS ABOUT CHILDHOOD CANCER

46 children per day or 16,850 children per year are expected to be diagnosed with cancer.

Childhood cancer is not one disease – there are more than 12 major types of pediatric cancers and over 100 subtypes.

Cancer is the number one cause of death by disease among children. Worldwide, 100,000 children lose their lives every year to cancer.

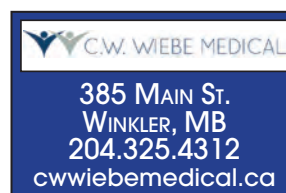
Since 1980, only four drugs have been approved in the first instance for use in children. This is compared with hundreds of drugs that have been developed specifically for adults only.

A diagnosis of diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) is normally terminal with less than 25% of children surviving even two years.

More than 95% of childhood cancer survivors will have a significant health related issue by the time they are 45 years of age; these health related issues are side-effects of either the cancer or more commonly, the result of its treatment.



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Manitou Opera House raffling off Pravez painting

By Lorne Stelmach

Like all arts organizations, the Manitou Opera House Foundation has been grappling with how to carry on while being closed as a result of the pandemic.

While wrestling with how to move forward, the organization is hoping a raffle of an acclaimed painting will not only raise valuable funds but also keep it in the public eye as well.

"We're just really rethinking how we do things in terms of how much do we go online or not. That's new for people like ourselves," said foundation member Lynda Matchullis. "How do you virtually bring people into the opera house? Those are some of the questions we're starting to ask ourselves ...

how do we keep that presence alive?"

Part of the answer to that question is the raffle of the *Zen Master*, an oil painting of a horse by Cristiane Pravez. Pravez is a Quebec artist whose work was the first exhibited last year at the opera house when it became a satellite gallery space of the Pembina Hills Arts Council.

"Our raffle is one way of keeping our brand in the public eye and helping to fund our work," said Matchullis, noting the *Zen Master* proved to be a very popular piece. "It was the one that probably got the best reviews through all of the showings.

"When you get the painting up, you also get to have a conversation about the background," she added, explaining how, as a teenager in France,

Pravez had an accident that left her with amnesia, and it was through work with horses that her abilities were restored. As a result, you will only see horses in her paintings with no other landscape backgrounds.

The proceeds from the raffle will help the foundation not only fund their arts activities but also the building's ongoing restoration.

"It can help with some of the maintenance that is ongoing while we're not bringing in dollars and also a bit of the repairs," said Matchullis, citing for example that they hope to refurbish the flooring.

It is fitting for them to be drawing on visual art for support as it is becoming a more important component of their programs and activities alongside the musical and dramatic arts.

"We had a number of concerts and visual arts displays planned [before having to shut down]," said Matchullis, noting those events have all been postponed to 2021.

"About a year and a bit ago, we had decided we would really like to expand our visual arts component," she said. "So we did develop three gallery spaces at the opera house because it is such a unique building."

One is the backstage gallery, which provides a larger open area that really suits larger pieces, while the other two are the hall gallery and the under the balcony gallery.

While aiming to continue expanding on the visual arts, they also look forward to being able to get back to performances as well next year.

"It's always been our idea that we make it accessible to all, and we really expose people to all sorts of ideas," said Matchullis. "I think that's why I've always been excited about being in the opera house ... I get exposed to the best in every area, and it really opens up my eyes ... I want to do the same with the visual."

Tickets for the raffle are \$20. The draw date has been extended to September 11, 2021. Anyone wishing to purchase tickets can contact Lindy Sharpe at 204-242-4287. You can also purchase tickets at the Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden, where the painting is on display.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Lindy Sharpe was at the Morden farmers market recently to sell raffle tickets for the *Zen Master* painting by Quebec artist Cristiane Pravez. It is a fundraiser in support of the Manitou Opera House Foundation.

PTM hosting one-day fall threshing event Sat.

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Threshermen's Museum is hosting a special one-day fall threshing event this weekend.

It's a scaled-down version of its usual two-day Reunion Days festivities, explains summer staffer Leonore Schwarzkopf.

"It is a smaller version," she says, noting they didn't want to head into the final month of their already shortened season without hosting some kind of special event.

"It is a fundraiser to raise money for the museum," Schwarzkopf says. "And we really wanted to do the threshing as well."

The action happens this Saturday, Sept. 5, at the Hwy. 3 museum between Morden and Winkler. PTM will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. that day. Regular admission rates apply.

The special activities will begin at 11 a.m. with a \$10 perogie lunch made by the Valley Harvest Maids.

The steamer threshing demonstration will begin at 1 p.m. and run until about 2:30 p.m. That will be followed by a parade of vintage vehicles.

"There will be all the old tractors and we've also got a new 1938 Buick that will be in the parade," Schwarzkopf says.

The Pembina Threshermen's Museum is hosting a one-day fall threshing event Saturday in place of Reunion Days.



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Continued on page 17

Morden Airport wraps up Fly Day Fridays for the summer

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden airport was welcoming pilots and passengers alike again throughout the summer for an initiative that has been going on for over two decades.

Last week marked the final Fly Day Friday of the season, and although the pandemic this summer put a bit of a damper on the event started in 1999, members of the Morden Flying Club remained keen to keep up both the flying and the fellowship.

"Unfortunately, COVID kind of derailed it this year, so we did nothing through the first half of the summer," said club member Chris Unrau.

"We tried to figure out how we could creatively get it going again and safely, so we started out with a couple where we just had a food truck come in ... we purposely didn't really advertise it too much so we wouldn't have throngs of people.

"We're trying to make the best of it and we're hoping that next year we'll be able to come back bigger and better and stronger and really make it exciting."

Weather permitting, the club gathers every Friday from June to September at the local airport. The evening usually attracts 20-30 people, about a dozen of whom fly in.

Many are local pilots, though some weeks see planes come in from Winnipeg, Portage, and further afield.

Unrau said they have seen the number of visitors increase in recent years.

"It's kind of been a fairly small event throughout the years, but the last couple of years it has really been growing. There's lots of interest," he said. "Last year we consecutively had 75, 80 to a hundred plus people on Friday night, so it seems really popular, and people are really enjoying it.

"We try when we can to give rides and share the gift with others, and it



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Morden Flying Club members Alvin Wiebe, Chris Unrau, Bob Gerbrandt, and Ed Hoepfner in front of Unrau's Nanchang CJ-6 at the final Fly Day Friday of the season. The Chinese basic trainer aircraft was developed following the Second World War when China made a deal to purchase Russian MIG fighter jets. Fully aerobatic, it was eventually mothballed, but North American companies imported them.

goes over really, really well," Unrau added. "I've had numerous opportunities to take people flying for the first time, and just to see the glow on their face when they see the world from a different perspective ... it's completely different, and it's magical, and it's really, really cool to see that expression on their face."

A big part of the regular gatherings for them is about building camaraderie and supporting and encouraging each other.

"It's kind of that saying birds of a feather flock together," Unrau said. "For us, as pilots, we could every day, on end, we could get together and talk about flying. There's no hesitation there.

"Another is just encouraging people

to fly because if you don't fly, your skills don't stay sharp," he said. "I think one of the big goals in aviation, when we do get together, is to try to help each other sharpen our skills and become better, safer pilots. We know there is inherent risk in aviation—any time your feet leave the ground, there is a risk—so we want to help each other become better, safer and more proficient."

Unrau also noted that there is a strong and active flying community locally.

"Morden is unique in that there's lots of recreational pilots based out of Morden," he said. "Morden is where the fun flying culture exists. Other airports in the province are a little more business oriented.

"It's definitely more of a recreational pilot crowd and also quite a few home builds and experimentals here, which is also a little unique culture as well."

In the end, it is ultimately about sharing their passion with others and perhaps even inspiring people to join in on the fun.

"I think the public has just had a love affair with aviation since its first days. It's enthralling, it's interesting, it's magical, and people just love to see it. So we love sharing it with the community," said Unrau.

"Throughout the aviation community, those kinds of stories are repeatedly told where someone got a ride in an airplane, and they were hooked ... they fell in love with it and off they went."

> PTM, FROM PG. 16

The day wraps up with \$3 pie and coffee after the parade (dine in or take out).

"Everyone is welcome," Schwarzkopf says, noting all of the heritage buildings in the pioneer village will be open to explore and some of them—including the blacksmith shop—will be manned with volunteers.

The museum plans to close for the season later this month.

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Morden council okays Access Event Centre upgrades

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is setting out the financing plan for \$2.2 million of upgrades to the Access Event Centre.

Council last week approved the local improvement bylaw to authorize the expenditure and borrowing of money to make a number of significant re-

pairs and upgrades to the facility.

The project includes a new building and equipment for a new ice plant, new flooring and boards for the Huron Arena, and electrical work.

The ice plant particularly had been identified as a priority this year, noted Mayor Brandon Burley, but there was

an opportunity to do some of the other work at the same time.

"Our new city manager identified that there would be substantial cost savings if we were to do it with the floors at the same time," he said. "So, rather than doing it this year, we're doing it all in 2021 when the current debenture comes off ... so there won't be new taxes added as a consequence of this."

The more immediate short term need for it is moving this project ahead, but Burley noted their longer term plan is to finance projects such as this in a different way.

"In our budget planning process this year we had identified the need for long term sustainability in that facility, in particular with respect to the funding of it," he said, noting they want to take a similar approach with Lake Minnewasta.

"What we've aimed to do is set up a reserve fund for both, and we still intend to do that ... however the immediacy of the need at the Access Event Centre means we don't have time to allow monies to accrue in the reserve

fund in order to complete this work," Burley explained.

"What we plan to do as well is to place profits from the Access Event Centre into a reserve that is used entirely for capital projects like this in the future. So it will be funded internally with foresight rather than through financial instruments."

Meanwhile, council at its August meeting also awarded the contract for the processing of curbside organic waste to local company Enviroclean Landfill Solutions from Jan. 1, 2021 to Dec. 31, 2025.

The annual cost of the contract is estimated at around \$45,000 to \$50,000 depending on the volume of curbside organic waste generated.

It coincides with the overall waste contract also coming due for renewal, but there were still issues to be settled with that contract at the moment.

"There were a couple pieces with the garbage contract that have to be sorted through before we can put out a request for proposal, so we chose to do this ahead of the other just to ensure that we had capacity," said Burley.



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Bergen eager to get back to work in Ottawa

By Lorne Stelmach

Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen is anxious to get back to work in Ottawa with a new leader of the Conservative Party of Canada.

The new energy and optimism that comes with Erin O'Toole now at the helm of the official Opposition followed a welcome chance for Bergen to meet with her six fellow Conservative MPs from Manitoba last week in Gimli.

"Generally, over the summer break, we like to try to get together and reconnect, and it's also a nice time to visit different parts of the province," said Bergen. "It was very productive and just a good time to reconnect with my fellow Conservative MPs from the province."

The Manitoba Conservative caucus met Aug. 24-25 and discussed a range of ongoing issues including reconciliation, infrastructure, watershed management, Manitoba fisheries, and the COVID-19 economic recovery.

There were also opportunities to meet with regional mayors, local MLAs, and Indigenous leaders such as Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Grand Chief Arlen Dumas.

"We also met with some of the different industries in that area that are important; fishing, for example," Bergen noted, adding it is also "a good opportunity to really understand some of the challenges happening in different parts of the province and then also we just get to see other parts of the province."

The new leadership and how it will help the federal party move forward was also a primary topic of conversation. Bergen said she saw a lot of promising signs in the election that gave the leadership to O'Toole, who was first elected in 2012 and served as minister of veterans affairs in 2015.

"Not only did we sell record numbers of memberships and had the highest number of members come out to vote in a leadership race, but the candidates raised a lot of money, and it really shows that Conservative and conservative minded people across the country were very engaged," suggested Bergen.

While noting that her role in Parliament required her to remain neutral and not endorse any candidate, she welcomes what O'Toole will bring to the table in leading the party.

"I feel very, very happy. I feel very much at ease, and I feel very hopeful with Erin O'Toole at the helm," said Bergen.

"I've been working with Erin for a number of years ... we've been working together in Opposition for the last five years ... I'm feeling very, very confident in his ability to bring people together, his ability to articulate our vision."

"He has real character ... I think we need a prime minister who won't be visiting the ethics commissioner on a regular basis," she continued.

The first step for the federal Conservative caucus came with their first meeting via Zoom last Wednesday.

"Then we're going to have to look at the speech from the throne that's going to be coming down on Sept. 23," said Bergen.

In addition to focusing on party policy, election preparedness will also be a priority with the Conservative party ready to continue taking aim at the minority Liberal government and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

"We've got a lot of cover-up still going on with the WE scandal. We want to find out what happened ... we're still looking for transparency and getting to the bottom of some of these scandals," Bergen said.

"With Erin O'Toole, we'll have a prime minister who has a moral compass. He respects people; he listens to different opinions. He truly respects diversity of thought, and I think that's something that is lacking right now in this prime minister."

What's *Your* story?

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The Winkler Morden Voice connects people through stories to build stronger communities.

Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service?

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

The Winkler Morden
Voice

Former Mordenite releases children's book

By Lorne Stelmach

Morden's presence may not be evident in *Seasons for Stones* by Nikki Bergstresser, but the community very much played a prominent role in the creation of the new children's book.

The B.C. resident not only grew up in Morden but still has family here, and she developed the story years ago when her father, Mordenite Wayne Kroetsch, was diagnosed with cancer.

There are personal connections then not only to the premise of the story, but the book is also a tribute and a thank you to her parents in many ways, says Bergstresser.

"I grew up as a child surrounded with books, and my parents read to me all the time," she recalled in a recent phone interview. "For me to be able to share this with my parents now because of their love of books as well is special ... and for me to get a book published for them to see ... that was a highlight."

"I also do a lot of my writing actually when I come out to Morden during the summer because I'll come out for almost a full month, and Mom and Dad will hang out with my kids," she said. As a result, much of the book first took shape here in Morden.

Seasons for Stones revolves around Tilly, a young girl who loves nature. When she sees her elderly neighbour not doing well, Tilly sets out to use her love of words and nature to bring kindness that ripples through the

neighborhood.

Through the story, Tilly develops a friendship with her neighbour and leaves painted rocks around the community, reaching out with a helping hand to neighbours and using positive words to impact people's lives.

The root of the idea for the story goes back to Bergstresser's father being diagnosed with cancer. Because she was living in B.C. and raising two young girls at the time, it was difficult for her to be here for her father.

"Because my Dad and I had such a great connection with nature and love of writing, I had the idea to paint stones for him with positive words and put a flower on each one because of his love of gardening," she explained.

"I made one for each day of his treatments ... so I packaged it all up, took it down to the post office, and the lady at the post office lifted the box and said, 'What are you mailing? Rocks?'" Bergstresser recalled.

"Every day he would pull one rock out of this burlap bag and that was his rock for the day ... just so he could keep positive through a really hard time."

Bergstresser also found inspiration in the kindness that neighbours have shown her parents.

While her father was in Winnipeg getting treatment in the midst of winter, her mother was home in Morden alone. Their neighbours constantly helped out with things like shovelling the driveway.

"I AM A PRAIRIE GIRL AT HEART ..."



SUPPLIED PHOTOS
Nikki Bergstresser's new book, *Seasons for Stones*, was inspired in part by her father's battle with cancer.



"That really touched my heart as well, so that was all where the inspiration for the story came from," Bergstresser said. "I am a prairie girl at heart, so I get my inspiration from that kind of thing."

For Bergstresser, who acts and has taught in elementary schools, her writing is inspired by spending time in nature and travelling, and it would appear there is a burgeoning writing career ahead for her now.

In addition to *Seasons for Stones*, she also has a romance novel *Saving Heart and Home* that she co-wrote with an author friend coming out in early 2021. A second picture book, *Lila Lou's Library*, will be released in the fall of 2021.

In the meantime, she hopes *Seasons for Stones* might provide a means for families to make a connection.

"I would really love them to be able to sit down and first of all just enjoy snuggling up and reading a book together," said Bergstresser.

"I would also love this to be a springboard for family discussions on how can we help others who are going through hard seasons," she said. "You don't have to do grandiose things for people, just even the smallest acts of kindness can live in people's hearts for a lifetime. It's those little things that can mean the most."

"More than ever, especially right now, people need to hear about the power of kindness."

Seasons for Stones is available through various retail outlets including Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other book-sellers. You can also find more information about the author at www.nikkibergstresser.com.

Terry Fox Fdn. hosting virtual run later this month

By Ashleigh Viveiros

It's not the way they had planned to mark the 40th anniversary of the Marathon of Hope, but the Terry Fox Foundation isn't letting COVID-19 stop them from celebrating the spirit of a Canadian hero.

The 2020 Terry Fox Run is going online this September.

"It was obviously a very difficult decision and something we as a foundation did not take lightly," says provincial director Allison Doan. "But inevitably we decided that, in light of the COVID-19 situation, we felt it was in the best interest of everyone across the country to go virtual for their safety."

And so, instead of walking alongside

others at community runs from coast to coast, Canadians are encouraged this year to tackle the Terry Fox Run on their own or with small groups of family and friends on Sunday, Sept. 20.

"It's a one day, your way Terry Fox event," says Doan, noting people can register in advance online at terryfox.org. The website includes links to a brand new app offering physical challenges and also helps participants set up online fundraising accounts so they can collect pledges without having to go door-to-door.

Once you're registered, you can lace up your shoes and head out to take part however you choose.

"Maybe that's run five kilometres or take your kids for a walk around

the neighbourhood or do an at-home dance party," says Doan. "It's whatever people feel like they want to do and are comfortable doing in the safety of their home or their community."

It's definitely a new way of doing the Terry Fox Run, but Doan is optimistic it may actually draw some new supporters who haven't been able to participate in year's past.

"I think it's a really great opportunity to hopefully entice some people for whom maybe coming out on the day wasn't feasible," she says. "Now things have slowed down and maybe they're looking for something fun to do together as a family or a physical challenge to challenge themselves."

"We're absolutely hoping we'll get some more 'Terry Foxers' on board

through this process."

It costs nothing to take part, though participants are encouraged to collect pledges for the foundation. All funds go to support cancer research.

"These funds are instrumental in finding new treatments, new cures, new diagnostic processes," Doan says. "COVID is a terrible thing that's happening, but cancer has not stopped either, so we have to keep pushing for that research."

Since Terry Fox's cross-Canada Marathon of Hope in 1980, over \$800 million has been raised for the fight against cancer in his name.

If you'd like to sign up for the virtual Terry Fox Run or make a donation, head to terryfox.org or call 1-888-836-9786 for more information.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Team Hamm gets an early start on the season

By Lorne Stelmach

A Winklerite came out on top recently at what was billed as the first bonspiel since the pandemic shutdown.

The team skipped by Reece Hamm, who curls out of the Assiniboine Memorial club in Winnipeg, won the men's side of the Manitoba Junior Curling Tour event dubbed the Cargill Curling Training Centre Spring Classic in Morris.

In the men's final, the Hamm foursome that includes third Zachary McKeigan, second Tim Johnson, and lead Graham Normand upended Virden's Jace Freeman 7-2, while Altona skip Dayna Wahl guided her team of lead Gillian Hildebrand, second Anna Ginter, and third Piper Stoes to a 6-5 extra-end victory over Assiniboine Memorial's Cassandra Stobbe in the women's final.

"I definitely wasn't expecting a big win like this for a first event, but now that we've got it, we're hoping for some good things this year," Hamm said last week.

"For those extra points, we were just making the shots that we needed," he said. "The competition was great. We were up against a lot of good teams. We were just making a little more shots, those key shots, and that just made the difference for us."

The event overall presented a range

of challenges for the curlers, noted Hamm, including even just the fact that it was held in August.

"It was definitely weird. I think this would have been the earliest that we've ever started," he said. "The first slide was a little sore, but after that it got better over the weekend, and we were all shooting pretty good."

The biggest challenges came with a number of rule changes made with COVID-19 in mind.

The return-to-play guidelines included major modifications to sweeping and player positioning on the sheet in the interests of physical distancing.

The most notable changes involving game play include the use of one sweeper, no brushing of the opposition's stone behind the tee-line, and new markings on ice for non-throwing

team members to be positioned.

"It was definitely hard to get used to," said Hamm.

"Being a skip, I'm not able to sweep behind the tee-line, and I was chomping at the bit to go up there and do that," he added.

"We were trying hard to respect the rules. Everything went well, and we adjusted to the one sweeper technique, and everybody has to do that now," Hamm said. "Everybody is in the same boat with things like one sweeper."

"I THINK THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN THE EARLIEST THAT WE'VE EVER STARTED."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Team Hamm, from left, lead Graham Norman, second Tim Johnson, third Zach McKeigan, and skip Reece Hamm.

As for the victory, Hamm said it encourages them for the season ahead. "We're hoping first that there are no

active COVID cases from this weekend ... then we'll keep going on with the season."

Winkler Storm beat 1st Division's top team 2-1

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm toppled the 1st Division's top team last weekend.

Forza-WSP came to town Sunday afternoon and left with their second

loss of the season.

Nico Nickel scored twice for the home team in the 2-1 victory.

With that, Winkler's record is 4-1-4 for the summer giving them 16 points and, at press time, second place in the

Manitoba Major Soccer League standings behind Forza (5-2-2, 17 points) and ahead of the Hanover Kickers (4-1-2, 14 points).

The Storm kick off a September in Winnipeg against Bandits FC next

Tuesday. They then play at Scotia United Sept. 14, Jedinstvo FC Sept. 21, and Granite United Sept. 28.

Winkler's next home game isn't until Oct. 4 against Brandon Inspire.

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

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MISCELLANEOUS

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WANTED

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice Regarding Auditor's Report

Pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, notice is given that the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report for the City of Winkler for the year 2019 are available for inspection by any person at the City of Winkler office during regular office hours.

David Martens
Director of Finance



CITY OF WINKLER
185 Main Street,
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Melinda at hr@pennerwaste.com



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- Diploma in Business Administration or related discipline
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CAREERS



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Municipality of Pembina
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Manitou, MB
R0G 1G0

Email: wes.unrau@pembina.ca
Phone: (204)242-2838
Fax: (204) 242-2798

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AUCTION

**Ray Doerksen Farm
Hardware and tool auction
in Sommerfeld, MB.**

Timed online only auction Sept 4, 6 pm. Sept. 5 sat 9-5 will be payment and pickup, all items need to be paid this day. Inspection of property tools hardware etc will be Saturday, Aug 29, 9 till 2 pm. Friday Sept 4, 9 to 5 bidding. Closes at 6 pm. To register for this online bidding www.billklassen.com. Click on register to bid online and follow instructions.

See www.billklassen.com for more info.

Bill Klassen Auctions Ltd. Ph: (204) 325-4433
Cell: (204) 325-6230
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AUCTION

Unreserved, Selling at auction Sept.12, 2020, 10 am, at this location 5.78 acres legal NE of 1-3-4 W, RM Stanley roll #185600.00 Title #2966612



Civic address 18084 Hwy 14 with smaller 1, shop building plus older dwelling. This is approx. 2.25 miles east of Winkler 14 and 32 Jct. re:Klippenstein James and Sylvia {south auto sales}

See www.billklassen.com for more info.

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Classifieds Announcements *The Winkler Morden Voice*

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AUCTION

Yard, shop and misc auction for James and Sylvia Klippenstein. 2.5 miles east of Winkler, Jct 32 and 14 hwy, 18084 Hwy 14. Timed online auction, bid now, closing on Saturday Sept 12, 11 am.



Snap on car hoist 10,000lb, HD Air compressor, Tire Changer, Balancer, Vehicles on display on hwy 14, take a look at the online listing, etc www.billklassen.com - click on register here to bid, enter your name etc and you are ready to bid, payment and pickup will be same day till 7 pm and balance on Monday for pick up please bring your invoice, please note we will sell the 5 acres with buildings at 10 am on site live that same day. Question's - Bill Klassen auctioneers 204-325- 6230 or 204-325-4433

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AUCTION

Online cattle equipment auction for Cornie Thiessen, Stephenfield, MB Closing Friday, Sept 11th at 6:30 pm.



This is approx. 11 miles west of Carman on PR 245 2 north on 338 and 1/2 east on mile 36 N. Viewing at the farm by appointment, call Cornie at 204-745-0176. John Deere 3970 Forage Harvester w/3 row header and pickup Head Jiffy Dump wagon, NDE tube grinder, etc. fence post, Corral panels, Feeding bunks.

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CAREERS

HOEPPNER TDS LAW

Legal Assistant

We are accepting applications for a Legal Assistant with real estate experience for our Morden and Winkler office. Applicants must be a graduate of a recognized Legal Administrative Assistant program. Experience is preferred. To be successful in this role, you must be extremely flexible, highly motivated with a high degree of accuracy and attention to detail, as well as possess strong grammatical, spelling and keyboard skills. The ability to work effectively, both independently and as part of a team, with a mature, positive attitude and strong work ethic in a fast paced, professional environment, are a must. To succeed as a legal assistant in this role, you must also possess the ability to prioritize, have superior organizational skills, and the ability to meet deadlines. To join our team of legal assistants, qualified candidates are asked to forward a current resume, together with a covering letter by September 18, 2020 stating salary expectations to:

**Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP
Unit 3-175 Roblin Blvd E
Winkler MB, R6W 0H2
Attention: Scott Hoeppner
Email: sjh@tdslaw.com**

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

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Announcements Classifieds The Winkler Morden Voice

OBITUARY



Paul Vilmar Olafson 1941 - 2020

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Paul Vilmar Olafson, of Morden, MB, on Wednesday 26th of August 2020 at the age of 79.

He will be lovingly remembered by wife and best friend, Ruth; children, Louisa (James), Erik (Ruby) and Sally Rae (Scott); and grandchildren, Kaili, Maple and Raylan; brother, John (Sharon) Olafson and sisters, Anna Fitzpatrick and Oddney (Howard) Sager all of Morden and brothers-in-law, Mack Drewry of Cartwright, Lloyd (Beryl) Tovell and Bill (Carol) Tovell sisters-in-law, Marie (Bill) Walker and Dorothy Tovell all of Alberta, as well as countless nieces, nephews, cousins and friends around the world. He was preceded in death by his brother, Jack and sister, Sally as well as

parents, Bill and Ranka Olafson.

Paul was born on 13th of August 1941 in the 1-6 district south of Morden to Bill and Ranka Olafson. He grew up on the farm surrounded by family and friends. He left the farm and moved around Manitoba working until he moved to Yorkton, SK, where he met Ruth and they married in 1970. Their three children were born in Yorkton, before the family settled in Morden in 1978, where he and Ruth opened a lumber yard with brother, John and his wife, Sharon. He continued working with John after the store closed and eventually started farming with Jack as well as John. In 2005 he became the Manager of the Legion House in Morden before retiring in 2012. He was also a beloved school bus driver for many years. Paul was a loving husband and father. He had a passion for building and woodworking. He was an active member of the community and volunteered as a handy-van driver and with Meals on Wheels. He was also an avid curler. Paul was very proud of his Icelandic heritage and passed that on to his children and grandchildren. Paul will be remembered for his kindness, dry sense of humour and quiet nature.

Memorial service will take place at a later date with ash interment at the Icelandic Cemetery. Donations may be made in Paul's memory to the 1-6 Icelandic Cemetery.

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



SHOWER ANNOUNCEMENT



Erin Ingram and Dylan Rach

Wedding Shower for Erin Ingram and Dylan Rach - due to COVID regulations, we are unable to host a group shower but donations for a community gift may be left at Party-On Rentals by September 11th, 2020. We will be presenting her with her gifts at a small gathering on September 12th, 2020.

IN MEMORIAM



In Loving Memory Kathy Harms

Two years have passed and
every day I miss you dear sister

-Love Ruth

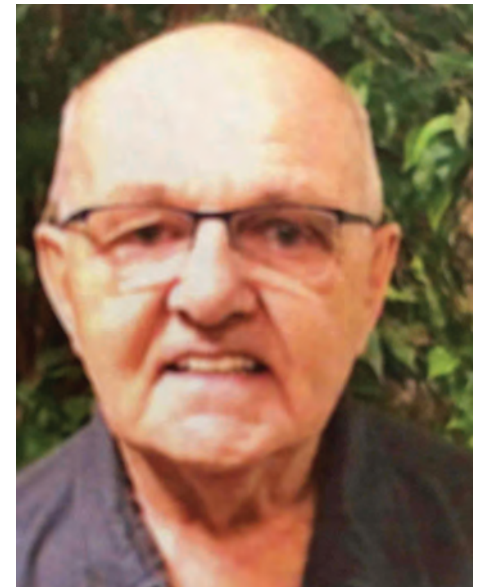
BIRTHDAY



Edna Lumgair

September 13th is Edna Lumgair's 98th birthday. Unfortunately, she will not have the big party this momentous occasion deserves. Phone calls are a safe way to bring greetings, and Edna would love to chat with friends and relatives any time during her birthday month.

IN MEMORIAM



In loving memory of our dear brother Albert Braun

May 8, 1940 - September 7, 2019

-Loved and missed by
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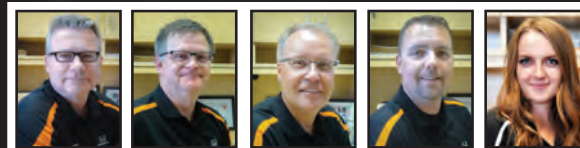
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