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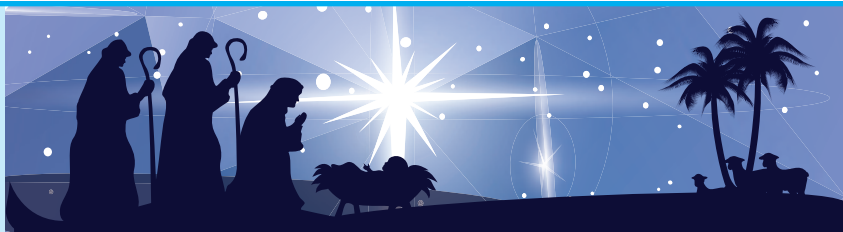
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Border Valley School Gr. 2 teacher Linnea Rietze and students Jude Rempel and Eliana Klassen with the socks the school filled with cash donations for the Winkler Christmas Cheer Board. See Pg. 3 for the full story.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



## Stocking stuffers

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# Border Valley kids raise over \$1K for Cheer Board

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The students at Border Valley School in Reinland couldn't hold their usual food drive for the Winkler Christmas Cheer Board this year, but that didn't mean they weren't able to contribute.

The K-8 school instead collected \$1,309.75 through its Stuff the Sock for Christmas Cheer campaign, which wrapped up last Friday.

Each classroom hung a sock on the wall for the kids to fill with cash donations throughout the month of November.

Some classes saw their socks stretch all the way down to the floor, says Gr. 2 teacher Linnea Rietze.

"We knew this year looked different for the students and so we wanted to do something that connected the whole school, even though we can't all be together," she says. "We wanted to give the kids a sense of community not just in our school but also a connection to the community around us as well."

The students got a real kick out of seeing the overflowing socks pinned up throughout the school, Rietze says.

"They thought it was hilarious seeing them stretched out," she says. "It

was neat to see a lot of the kids gave from their own money.

"They were excited because it was a way they could contribute," Rietze adds. "And they were excited because Winkler Cheer is a tangible thing and so they know they're helping people."

## CHEER BOARD BLOWS PAST GOAL

Due to the pandemic, the Winkler and District Christmas Cheer Board is only accepting monetary donations this year. They'll be distributing gift cards in lieu of hampers on Dec. 9.

Donations have poured in online ([winklercheerboard.com](http://winklercheerboard.com)) and in person at the Winkler Co-op grocery store over the past few weeks. Last Friday, the fundraising campaign surpassed the \$120,000 mark—\$25,000 above their initial goal.

"We were all taken aback by the amount of money that has come in," says Cheer Board president Kris Derksen. "The businesses have been awesome. Some of them have really rallied to get money in for us."

With only about \$95,000 needed to fill the 400 or so applications they expect to receive, the Cheer Board is



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Border Valley School Gr. 2 teacher Linnea Rietze says the kids got a big kick out of filling up stockings with change in support of the Winkler Christmas Cheer Board.

going to find a way to put the extra money to good use.

"What we are going to be doing is, after we have completed our Cheer Board days, we're going to sit down and decide how we can help out dif-

ferent organizations in the community that are like-minded," says Derksen. "We're not going to just hang onto it. We want to see what we can do with it."

# Fines likely to be issued for Winkler sing-along participants

By Ashleigh Viveiros

People who attended an outdoor sing-along at Bethel Heritage Park last weekend will likely be facing fines.

Winkler Police Chief Ryan Hunt says around 80 people gathered at the downtown park Sunday morning and sang hymns together for the better part of an hour.

"At this point we have not issued any tickets, but we likely will issue a couple, for sure, after the fact," he said on Monday, explaining they are in the process of consulting with Manitoba

Public Health about the matter.

With all of Manitoba at code red/critical under the pandemic response

Continued on page 5



In our ongoing battle with the global pandemic, rest assured that the Manitoba hog sector continues to enhance economic strength province-wide, creating jobs and growth opportunities in rural communities and producing high-quality and affordable protein.

Thanks to the hog sector, rural areas like Neepawa, Roblin, Killarney, and Notre Dame de Lourdes are being revitalized with new jobs in construction and other local trades. Schools, daycares, churches, and recreational centres are welcoming new members and communities are thriving.

"Building strong communities is essential to building a strong business," said Sheldon Stott, Senior Director of Corporate Sustainability at HyLife. "We are excited to be able to provide opportunities and grow our relationships with rural Manitoba."

Since 2017, there have been over 20 new barn sites or barn expansions developed in Manitoba, with several others currently in the planning or approval stage. This represents over \$100 million in private investment in rural Manitoba. As well, more than \$200 million has been invested by Manitoba processing facilities.

New barns are designed, built and managed to the highest standards, with consideration given to shelterbelts and ventilation to help mitigate odour concerns. The provincial government's technical review process ensures that approved sites do not pose any risk to the environment.

In the coming years, with the support of fellow rural Manitobans, provincial pork producers are prepared to invest upwards of \$2 billion in the hog sector, creating jobs and raising the economic wealth of rural communities and of all Manitobans. Ongoing investments like these reinforce the provincial government's sustainable protein strategy, which seeks to ensure that Manitoba remains a leader in animal protein production as global demand increases.

"Our employees are our most important asset," noted Stott. "We need the best people in order to meet the demand for our world-class pork products. We are excited about the future and will continue to look to grow alongside our communities."

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Image: A new HyLife barn





# Shining a light in dark times

The Korne and Hildebrand families in Morden are doing their part to light up the holiday season with their colourful Christmas yard displays.

PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

By Lorne Stelmach

Lighting up their homes and yards for the holiday season is perhaps taking on some extra special meaning this year for some families. People like Norma and Brian Hildebrand and Debbie and Dennis Korne feel spreading some extra Christ-

mas spirit is exactly what is needed during this pandemic Christmas. "It brings joy to the families, and that is absolutely all the reward you need," said Norma Hildebrand, whose home at 2 Parkhill Place is among the highlights of any tour of Morden light displays. "This is something that people can do at a distance ... we know that

we can do our part; this is our part as well that we know we can bring a little joy."

"I know there's some contests, and my husband entered, but to us that's secondary," said Debbie Korne. Their home at the corner of 12th and Gilmour has been getting a steady flow of viewers. "This year has taken a toll on everybody, us included. So if there's any joy or any Christmas spirit that we can bring to the community, I think this is a year that it is really needed."

For Hildebrand, she traces their zest for holiday decorating back to when they lived in the country. When their kids were little, they would always drive around at Christmas to see the lights.

"That was always something that brought joy to our household and to our kids, so we decided when we moved to town 15 years ago we would start doing something that would bring joy, not only to our grandkids, but to other people on the block," she said.

"We started off very small with maybe just a deer and then we had a fence around it with lights ... and it's grown now. There's 7,500 plus lights

in the backyard," she estimated. "Brian built the nativity scene. That's the centrepiece, so he hand built that, put 400 lights in that ... and together, we did the 'Merry Christmas' sign."

"This year we added the Santa Claus and the penguins and those other wooden structures that my brother-in-law built. He lived in Winnipeg, and my sister painted them, and they both died in 2019 six months apart ... so this year is a tribute to them," noted Hildebrand.

"We like to try to change it every year because we get people coming by here all the time, and they always say they wonder what's going to be new this year," she added.

Hildebrand said it is very much a labour of love, and they enjoy all the time they put into it.

"Our hyrdo bill doubles in December," she joked. "It takes us probably up to about three weeks to do it. We do a little bit at a time ... I do the planning and he does the executing."

"We absolutely do have fun with it," Hildebrand added. "We have a house in Selkirk that our daughter is rent-

Continued on page 5

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## > HOLIDAY LIGHTS, FROM PG. 4

ing, so I think we've maxed out with what we can do in this yard. We'll rearrange it and maybe add a little bit, but we may start adding things to that yard in Selkirk.

"It feels great. We get people stopping us in the store, and they saw they love our lights. We get kids that are just fascinated ... so we love it."

For Korne, the motivation to go all out with the Christmas lighting and decor comes from a bit of a different perspective.

"I think we came from the opposite spectrum. Christmas is not something that was affordable or something that was enjoyed [when she was growing up]," she said. "So, as our kids were growing up, Christmas has always been very special, and I've always tried to make it very magical for them."

"My kids know what Christmas means to me and what it represents to me, so every year for my birthday, which is in November, they've been buying me additional [decorations], and it keeps growing, and I love it."

"We've been at this for a couple weeks now be-

cause we both work full-time," said Korne, adding that they get a lot of help from her daughter and son-in-law, who helped them get back to work on it the evening of her birthday celebration. "We were out here at 10 at night putting out my new additions."

Korne agreed that the motivation is the joy that comes from their efforts.

"We get lots of drive-bys every evening," she said. "It's a great way to give back to the community. The kids walk by here, they love it, and we get a lot of good feedback from parents saying every night we have to drive by your place. It just warms my heart to hear that."

"Moving out here was a great decision for us, and to be part of such a great community and to

give back is meaningful to us," Korne concluded. "I happened to just pass by the window and there was a little girl with her mom here and she just very gently reached over and kissed the snowman. I wish I could take pictures to capture those moments because it warms my heart."

**"TO BE PART OF SUCH A GREAT COMMUNITY AND TO GIVE BACK IS MEANINGFUL TO US."**



PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Dennis and Debbie Korne (front) with daughter Danny and son-in-law Shayne Hildebrand. The family enjoys decking out the yard with all manner of holiday lights and decorations each year.

# Council supporting Morden Bombers with \$10K

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is giving the local senior men's hockey team a financial boost in support of its rebranding efforts.

Council voted recently to present a \$10,000 grant to the SEMHL team to assist with costs related to the team changing its name from the Redskins to the Bombers.

Council members acknowledged the pressure that had come down on the team to change the name, not just from community members but Hockey Manitoba as well.

"I think we need to show them our support,"

## > FINES, FROM PG. 3

system, gatherings of more than five people at any indoor or outdoor public space are prohibited. Scofflaws face fines of \$1,296 for violating public health orders.

Police had hoped to head this event off at the pass rather than having to ticket people.

"On Friday there was some talk about this gathering that was going to take place," Hunt said, noting it was originally scheduled to happen in Winkler's Parkland.

When police caught wind of it they put up barricades to the main Grandeur Ave. parking lot in the hopes of discouraging people from attending.

Organizers then moved the gathering to Bethel park.

"So we went over there and it was partially underway already; there were a number of people there already and still more people coming," Hunt said. "We told people that if you attend

said Councillor Hank Hildebrand, who suggested it would be good for the city to show leadership and support the team for changing the name in response to renewed pressure around racist names and logos.

"In all the years ... they have never come to the city for help," added Coun. Doug Frost, who also spoke in favour of the grant.

While agreeing with the need to support the team, Coun. Jim Hunt wondered if the amount was perhaps a little too high, given the challenges being faced by the city right now during the pandemic.

"We have to be careful as to what amount ... I

this event you might be issued a \$1,300 ticket. Most people, 99.9 per cent of the people, still went in."

Hunt noted the gathering was a peaceful one and some participants did attempt to stand only with other members of their family, but everyone who attended was still in violation of the health orders designed to keep people from gathering and spreading COVID-19.

"There is a misconception these restrictions imposed on us go against the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, but in fact they do not," he said. "The right to gather in large groups does not supersede everyone else's right to be protected from the virus, or the need to keep our health care system from being overloaded."

"We will get through this, and the restrictions will be removed," Hunt continued. "We just encourage everyone to follow the guidelines that are in place, and not find ways around them."

just feel the amount is excessive," he suggested before the grant was approved.

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# getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

## Grace, forgiveness, and trust

**A**s the holidays approach I have been dwelling on the greatest gifts I have been given in my life.

What I have come to need most, these gifts, have paved the way to how I try (and often fail) to approach life with others: with grace, forgiveness, and trust.

I pursue these things as well as I can, even at the risk of being made to look foolish as a result. I have never liked the maxim “you have to earn my trust” because of how it forces you into a particularly negative view of humanity.

It is true I may protect myself from abuse on occasion by adopting said maxim, but how much do I lose?

I prefer to trust people and leave them the opportunity to erode such trust, should they choose to. Maybe that is naïve but it is my choice and the consequences are mine to bear. I

wonder where I would be if certain people had not chosen to trust me and I shudder at the thought.

I am thankful for the grace, forgiveness, and trust people have placed in me at times when perhaps I did not deserve it.

In my life I have required so much grace to be bestowed upon me that I fear I will never be capable of returning the favours. I am an opinionated loudmouth who often rushes in where angels fear to tread and on many occasions it is not simply me that feels the repercussions but those closest to me.

As I move forward in life how can I not take into consideration these gifts that have been given to me? How can I not extend the benefit of the doubt to others? How can I not trust that others are worth knowing despite what some may say or gossip?

I have lashed out at others in times of great stress and pain in my life. I have wounded people who have nothing to do with the pain that caused me to wound and they have forgiven me time and again. Am I not bound then to do the same?

As I read in the areas of leadership, management, or just run of the mill social media posts, it seems the general trend is toward protecting oneself and offering excuses as to why things

like trust, grace, and forgiveness should be doled out sparingly, if at all.

The interesting thing about this trinity of gifts is that they require us to be people in motion ... to be constantly in a state of thinking and rethinking, assessing and reassessing. This is tiring work.

It is far easier to excise these things from our lives, make a decision or judgement about people, and never have to revisit it. I like and respect these people, forever, and I dislike and distrust these people, forever.

So simple.

Sadly, this is the reality for many. Liked or not you are relegated to a place without much thought or attendance to who you are and how you change. I have done this many times despite working very hard to avoid it—it is the very gravity of our decision-making world.

Grace, forgiveness, and trust require us to become astronauts in a way. We must break free of the gravity of judgement and, through sheer force of will, ascend beyond it to something higher.

I realize this all makes me sound holier than thou but in reality it is simply me speaking to myself what I need to hear most and inviting you in to listen alongside me, perhaps even coaxing me along in the process.



**By Peter Cantelon**

## letters

### Fear is worse than the virus

Fear is worse than the virus itself. We've been told to wear masks, wash our hands, stay out of stores, can't see our families. Not sure if we can have Christmas, might be too many people in the house. We have three choices

1. Going along with the new normal.
2. Waiting for a vaccine. They haven't made a vaccine that is reliable.
3. Start opening up and allow people

to live a fairly normal life.

Not saying nurses aren't at the breaking point, and people are dying. Don't ask me to talk to the people who are dying. What about the other side of it? People are committing suicide, people who have lost job or businesses, people who are dying at home because they're afraid of going to hospitals.

It's not good enough to believe this is the new normal. If you do your research, they tell you it's another form

of the virus, which has been around for a long time\*. They've been doing more testing, people are wearing masks and washing hands. How accurate are the test results?

Snitching on people! We need to get back to living.

**Edna Klassen,  
Winkler**

*\*Ed note: While coronaviruses are not new (there are many kinds), the specific one that causes COVID-19 is. Which is why it's called a novel coronavirus.*

All columns and letters published on our Get Heard pages are the personal opinions of the submitting writers.



# Make a card for a local senior this Christmas

By Lorne Stelmach

Two Mordenites are spearheading an effort to help brighten the day for local seniors this holiday season.

Shannon Vaughn and Tara Routhier are behind the Cards for Morden Seniors initiative which is aiming to deliver greeting cards with messages of kindness.

While under extended restrictions as a result of the pandemic, seniors are likely especially feeling isolated, said Vaughn.

"I'm sure there's many who are feeling very lonely right now," she said. "I know it must be really hard for a lot of the seniors right now. They're not allowed visitors, and I don't even think they are allowed to visit their friends in the next room or apartment either."

Vaughn was moved to start this campaign locally after having read about a similar effort that is being done for care homes in Winnipeg.

She posted about her idea on a community Facebook group and was soon both surprised and encouraged by the response.

"A lot of people posted and showed a lot of interest and enthusiasm for

doing it, and it just kind of snowballed from there," said Vaughn, noting Routhier, who teaches at Maple Leaf School, then offered to help promote it in the school community. "We have a lot of students now in Morden who are creating cards, and Tara is helping me collect them."

The plan is to collect the cards by Dec. 19 and then head out to deliver them to as many seniors as possible.

"I'm hoping that we get at least a couple hundred," Vaughn said, noting part of her thought was that this could be a great reason to do a crafting session at home with your kids, as she is doing with her child.

"It's not something that takes a whole ton of coordination," she said. "I do work full-time, and I have a two-year-old, but I think this is something I can do. It's making everybody feel good and it's giving me something to look forward to as well because Christmas is up in the air right now."

She is heartened by the response to date.

"It's been amazing. I didn't think it would turn into this. I thought I would maybe set up a bin and maybe some people in the neighbourhood would



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tara Routhier and Shannon Vaughn are inviting people to send a card to them for distribution to local seniors.

drop off a few cards," said Vaughn.

"I think it's just something kind that we can do right now, and it's safe ... at a time when everybody perhaps feels they're not sure how to help, this is a little something we can do to maybe bring a smile to someone's face or at

least let them know that we're thinking about them."

Vaughn or Routhier ask people interested in taking part to message them through Facebook or comment on their post on the In The Know Morden group.

## Winkler sees its second COVID-19 death

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler recorded its second COVID-19 death last week with the passing of a man in his 80s connected to the outbreak at the Buhler Active Living Centre.

The death was one of nine announced on Nov. 25. At Monday's daily briefing, public health officials announced another 11 deaths, bringing the tally over the previous seven days to 76 and the total number of Manitobans killed by COVID-19 since spring to 312.

"So this is 11 more Manitobans that

we've lost," reflected Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer, on Monday. "I can still recall advising Manitobans of our first death related to COVID-19 back in March and I remember that being a very somber day in Manitoba."

"And now we continue to announce many deaths every day. Today, again, into the double digits," he said. "I think we all know we can't continue along these lines. We have to bring these numbers down. We can't keep losing this many Manitobans."

Manitoba was reporting 9,260 active cases of COVID-19 and 7,253 recov-

eries at press time (though there is a backlog in clearing cases, the province has noted).

There were 342 people in hospital with the illness on Monday, 43 in intensive care.

"We know we have a burden on our health care system right now with all of these numbers," Roussin said. "We really need to stay home and prevent the transmission of this virus."

Locally, Winkler added 25 new cases over the past week to hit 110 on Monday, Morden is at 53 cases, and Stanley has 18. Elsewhere in the region, Carman remains at 14 active cases, Altona dropped slightly to 59, Morris is at 20, and Lorne/Louise/Pembina has 17.

Manitoba remains at red/critical on the pandemic response system, which has forced non-essential businesses to close their doors to the public.

"We know these restrictions are hard," Roussin said. "We've heard from a number of Manitobans that they want these restrictions lifted."

"The consequence of lifting these restrictions right now is a much longer page of Manitobans that we lose

to this virus, an overwhelming of our health care system, more strain our health care workers," he said. "So although these restrictions are very difficult, and it's been a long haul, we need these in place right now."

"We ask all Manitobans to follow them, not look for ways to get around them, and, for the most part, to stay home," Roussin said, stressing these are short-term measures. "We will get around this. But right now we need all Manitobans to step up."

### LOCAL EXPOSURES

A number of area businesses announced cases of COVID-19 amongst their staff over the past week, including McDonald's and Rona in Winkler and the Co-op grocery store in Morden.

The McDonald's staff member's last shift was Nov. 20, Rona's worker last worked Nov. 17, and Co-op reports its affected workers had shifts on Nov. 13 and Nov. 21 before falling ill.

All three businesses report that thorough cleaning measures were taken and contact tracing is underway.

## Letter policy

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

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are unlikely 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](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca).



# Local woman sets out to lend a helping hand

By Ashleigh Viveiros

When Manitoba's increased pandemic restrictions came into effect last month, Katelynn Falk knew they were going to make life especially difficult for a lot of people.

Single parents, people without vehicles, and those who aren't particular

tech-savvy all might struggle with the alternative shopping options stores have rolled out in the wake of non-essential items being temporarily banned from in-store sales.

Even purchasing essential items can be a challenge for some families, with stores restricting capacity levels and, in some cases, even operating hours.

And so Falk set out to do something to help by offering free grocery ordering, pick up, and delivery services to anyone who needs it.

"I wanted to recognize the privileges I have that others may not have, how I can use this privilege to help others," she said in advance of making a delivery to a Morden couple last week.

Falk is familiar and comfortable with the Superstore app for ordering, so she's limiting her offer to that store, but her posts on the Facebook pages What's Up Winkler and In the Know Morden generated comments from a number of other people willing to do the same for those wanting to shop at other stores.

Using an app and curbside pickup instead of shopping in person allows Falk to still help as many people as she's able to without putting herself at increased risk of exposure.

"I love shopping and it takes no time to just go pick it up and drop it off for someone," she says. "There's probably a ton of people that could use that kind of help."

Falk's first delivery was to Andrea

Letskeman's home. Health issues and work schedules make getting to the stores difficult for her family, so having someone be willing to help them out was a godsend.

"I was so impressed ... to have somebody being so willing to help in such a trying time," Letskeman says, adding

they were very pleased with how quickly Falk responded to their request and with how smooth the process proved to be overall. "Everything was just bing-bang-boom. It went so well and I would definitely recommend it to anyone who's nervous being out in public right now or has issues wearing a mask."

If you'd like Falk to help you out with grocery deliveries, you can

reach her on Facebook or by phone at 204-332-1990. She can also put you in touch with the people willing to shop at other local grocery stores.

Falk intends to do this as long as the various levels of shopping restrictions are in place.

"We don't know how long this whole situation we're in is going to go until, so I'm prepared to help people out with this as long as they need it," she says.



Katelynn Falk with some of the groceries she delivered last week. She's offering grocery ordering, pick up, and delivery services to anyone who needs it.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

"I LOVE SHOPPING AND IT TAKES NO TIME TO JUST GO PICK IT UP AND DROP IT OFF FOR SOMEONE."

## Province approves Winkler land annexation

### City annexes 293 acres from RM of Stanley for future wastewater treatment plant

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Nearly two years after the application was submitted, the City of Winkler and the RM of Stanley have finally received approval for the annexation of land that will one day become the region's new wastewater treatment facility.

The provincial government notified the Winkler and Stanley councils last month that the proposed annexation of approximately 293 acres is a go.

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder explained the spot, located a few miles northeast of city limits, is currently home to Winkler's lagoon.

"The lagoon has always been in the RM of Stanley," he said. "With the po-

tential of the wastewater plant being built, the decision was made jointly that that was where we want to build it and that it was critical it be in the City of Winkler jurisdiction."

The \$47 million project will see Winkler chip in just over \$12.2 million, Stanley \$3.4 million, and the federal and provincial governments \$15.6 million each.

Receiving approval for the annexation brings the project one big step closer to fruition.

"It's like you're working up this ladder in order to finally get to where you want to go," Harder said. "This was something that was necessary before we could build it."

The mayor noted both Winkler and Stanley councils are very much on the same page about this project, which will benefit the entire region by providing greater capacity for future growth.

"We're all in this together," he said,

further explaining the project has evolved somewhat from early plans but today includes the Winkler-Stanley part of it and then a second element involving a \$27 million treatment plant for the City of Morden.

The project now is simply awaiting final funding confirmation from the upper levels of government.

Various elections and other bureaucratic hurdles have tripped things up in recent years, Harder said, but the provincial government has signed off on the proposal and sent it to the federal government for its approval.

"It's been an ongoing process with the feds, but I think it's moving along well right now," he said.

"THIS WAS SOMETHING THAT WAS NECESSARY BEFORE WE COULD BUILD."

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



# get informed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

## SCRL launches the '12 Crafts of Christmas'

By Lorne Stelmach

The South Central Regional Library is offering some creative ideas for families to fill their time this holiday season.

The *12 Crafts of Christmas* video series aims to show how kids and their parents can "spend some time together creating something interesting and really simple," said Tetiana Miminoshvili, an assistant programming manager with SCRL.

"Some families are struggling with what to do ... and sometimes they need ideas of what they can do together," she said. "They can spend some time together, and I think it's very interesting and fun."

The short videos filmed by Miminoshvili are being posted every Tuesday and Thursday on the library's YouTube channel.

The first two posted last week included making cookie mix in a jar with the ingredients arranged deco-



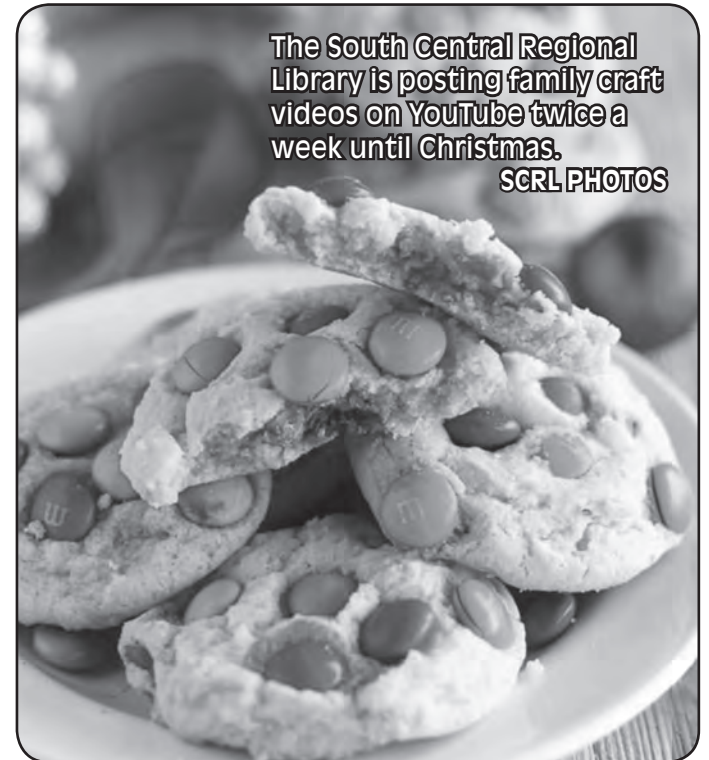
ratively and making a Santa Claus craft out of paper.

Miminoshvili's approach is to come up with ideas that can be done simply at home without requiring a lot of materials.

"We're trying to combine some crafts which kids can do alone ... some crafts that don't require the parents too much," she noted.

With so many restrictions and activities limited or not able to happen at all this holiday season, including celebrations that the library might normally host, Miminoshvili thought it would be nice to create something to help fill the void.

"This year, Christmas is going to be a little extraordinary



The South Central Regional Library is posting family craft videos on YouTube twice a week until Christmas.

SCRL PHOTOS

and different ... I just thought it might be something useful."

## Morden Christmas Cheer still looking for donations

By Lorne Stelmach

The Morden Christmas Cheer Board continues its appeal for donations with less than two weeks to go until its delivery days.

Directors remain optimistic despite facing a range of challenges this year with all of the pandemic restrictions that remain in place.

Public health concerns have led the Cheer Board to rethink a number of aspects of their plans this year, including deciding to only accept monetary donations instead launching their usual food drive.

"People are donating to our website, which has helped a lot," said spokesperson Jessica Enns. "Being able to have people donate through the website is a huge asset for us and to the community."

"People have been requesting donation boxes ... we didn't hand out the boxes because of all the restrictions, but some people have been requesting that we drop them off at their businesses."

Another change to their plans was to

no longer collect toys at the Morden Dairy Queen. Instead, families will receive gift cards to local businesses so they can shop for gifts for their kids.

"We are following the guidelines and how other communities are dealing with their hampers," said Enns. "We have decided to go forward in the safest way possible."

"Other cheer boards have decided not to do toys just for the safety, so those who had donated and dropped

off at Dairy Queen, we are very thankful for it, and we will keep those toys for next year."

Gift cards to local grocery stores will also replace the usual food-laden hampers this year.

Enns anticipates they may see more need than last year when they delivered around 240 hampers.

"It's hard to tell ... but we definitely had more numbers applying for hampers earlier than we ever have, so we

are anticipating more people," she said. "We're taking it as it comes ... the good thing is that the money is still coming in."

The deadline for hamper applications is Dec. 8. Deliveries will be done Dec. 15-16 by the board members.

For more information, including how to apply and to donate, you can go online to [mordenchristmascheer.com](http://mordenchristmascheer.com).

## Café 545 puts meal deliveries on hold

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Central Station Community Centre is putting its free weekly community meal on hold for now.

Winkler's Café 545 announced last week it was suspending its Monday meal delivery service. Deliveries and pick-ups had replaced the sit-down meal earlier this fall when public health officials urged Manitobans to

avoid large gatherings.

Central Station executive director Bev Wiebe says that, in light of the increasing code red restrictions, pushing pause on the service was the safest course of action for everyone involved.

"Many people would still love to have it, [but] we are trying to do our part to limit contact (with kitchen/prep staff, delivery drivers, and the

community)," she said in an email last week. "Hopefully these restrictions will be lifted soon and we can resume."

The community centre is currently closed to the public but staff are still available by phone (204-325-0257) to assist with food cupboard orders and other urgent services.



# Auctioneer finds silver lining in challenging year

By Lorne Stelmach

The impact of the pandemic has varied from one sector to the next, but the auction business is one that largely has not only been able to survive but maybe even somewhat thrive this year.

Business has been far better in 2020 for Bill Klassen Auctions than what the veteran auctioneer had expected.

"It hasn't been record-setting, but my year has actually been very good," Klassen said recently while promoting the Dec. 11 online Auctions for Kids event in support of Children's Camps International.

"It did surprise me at first, it really did," he said of the necessity of moving all his auctions to online-only this summer due to the pandemic. "The first two auctions in spring, we did them viral ... we were on site and we drove past the machinery like we do if there's three or four hundred people, but there was nobody there. It worked every bit as good, though, so from that time on we just went online."

He noted it was a bit of a learning process but not entirely new to him.

"I had done some online auctions prior to this year, but I never did the farm or local auctions that way ... so it wasn't entirely new to me, but selling



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Auctioneer Bill Klassen says moving his business into online auctions proved to be more successful than he had thought it would be.

farm equipment that way was."

Bidders have been pretty quick to adjust to the changes, Klassen said.

"They can take more time to bid than

they do at a live auction," he said, noting one recent auction saw him move about 400 lots of toys in three and a half hours. "To do that at a live auc-

tion, you would have to really work hard and fast ... now people have been bidding for two weeks ... you know where the price should be, and in the last minute you top it off and that's it."

He also noted that you have to allow extra time for final bids.

"The beauty of it is that if you bid in the last minute ... it extends it by five minutes, giving your opponent a chance to come back, so they call it extended," he explained. "It's amazing ... there was a tractor that sold at 7 p.m. By the time ... they bid on it for over an hour on extended time."

Part of the consideration there is you need to allow the time given the limitations some bidders may have with slow internet.

"In Manitoba, the guys in town have decent internet, but somebody living north of Dauphin for example has poor internet," Klassen said. "So it takes too long for them to notice they got outbid."

Online auctions can be a challenge particularly for older people because they may not be comfortable with computers, Klassen noted, and many would rather just be at a traditional auction.

"They want to come to a live auction and visit with their neighbour ... they miss that part of it."

## Municipalities putting Restart funding to good use

By Lorne Stelmach

Local municipalities have all benefited from government assistance aimed at boosting the economic recovery from the impacts of the pandemic.

Funding of almost \$758,000 had flowed to Winkler through the federal Safe Restart program, as previously reported, and both the City of Morden and RM of Stanley have received their shares as well.

"The governments have been working together on getting some restart money into the local levels, and we're thankful for that," said Ike Friesen, deputy reeve of the RM of Stanley,

which has received nearly \$537,000. "This was a very welcome surprise to us. We were expecting funding in some shape or form but we are very pleased with this coming to us."

Morden Mayor Brandon Burley suggested the funding of almost \$519,000 could be a welcome boost for the 2021 budget and could perhaps help ease the tax burden.

"We'll have some operating losses this year, so it can go to help defray those losses," he said. "We've got to make sure that we're responsible with it and that we do everything we can to make sure the public feels the benefit of the money as well."

Burley added that it comes at an ide-

al time with the city now having initiated the budget planning process.

"We have all of our capital and operating projections in from all of the departments," he said. "We plan to have [a draft budget] done the first possible week after we get our assessment values back from the province."

Meanwhile, the RM of Stanley has already put some of its funding to good use in its communities.

"This is money that can get to work right away," said Friesen, who noted that "\$90,000 of that has already been dispersed to the community centres and ice rink committees."

"The community centres have been hit pretty hard over the last year with not being able to raise funds through their regular events and gathering size limits limiting their ability to rent out the facilities," he noted. "So council wanted to make sure that some of that money rolled out to the commu-

nity centres right away to give them a boost.

"At this point the remaining funds have not been allocated yet, and council is not in a hurry to spend it," Friesen added. "We want to play this out carefully, considering what future impacts are on the horizon and ensuring we can keep our operations functioning with some of the uncertainties that lie ahead."

"We aren't certain yet what all the budget implications may be, and we need to be ready for a variety of scenarios."

Manitoba municipalities overall are receiving a \$72.6 million share of the \$19 billion federal program, which includes another \$33 million specifically for municipalities with public transit systems.

The funding is distributed on a per capita basis, with municipalities outside of Winnipeg receiving \$32.7 million overall.

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The turf is in at the Meridian Exhibition Centre and workers are wrapping up the finishing touches in the rest of the building. The project is expected to be completed later this month.  
**SUPPLIED PHOTO BY MARTIN HARDER**

# Meridian Ex. Centre completion date nears

## Turf is in, finishing touches underway

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Meridian Exhibition Centre will be the biggest Christmas gift Winkler has ever received, though the community may have to wait a little while to officially unwrap it.

Pandemic restrictions means the city's newest recreation facility is off-limits to the public indefinitely, but it's still very much on track to be completed within the next few weeks.

"We are so, so close to opening day," Mayor Martin Harder said last week, noting the turf has been laid in the exhibition hall and that ice was expected to go in on the rink side of the facility any day now.

Workers are now just putting on the finishing touches throughout the building, Harder said, adding the fact the province is at code red on the pandemic response system hasn't really affected the project one way or another—neither delaying things by all that much nor buying workers extra time.

"We said, no, we are not going to take our foot off the gas," he said. "The dates are what they are. There's no dilly-dallying. Let's get this thing done."

With the excitement of finally reaching the finish line of this multi-year

project comes, of course, disappointment that the grand opening celebrations are on hold until Manitoba gets COVID-19 under control.

"We were planning to have this big grand opening in 2020 to celebrate Manitoba 150 and all of that stuff has gone down the crapper," Harder lamented, taking heart, however, that when Winklerites finally do get the chance to check out the MEC, it will be worth it.

The \$22 million facility—which the City of Winkler is paying for with no funding help from the provincial or federal governments—includes an exhibition hall that does double duty as an indoor soccer field and a convention centre/banquet hall, a professional caterer's kitchen, indoor walking track, and a rink that not only finally gives the community a long-needed second ice surface but is also the first rink in Manitoba built with adjustable boards for sledge hockey.



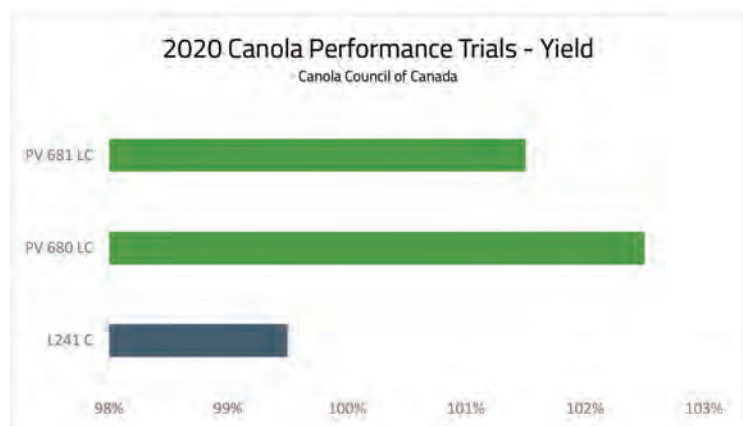
CITY OF WINKLER PHOTO



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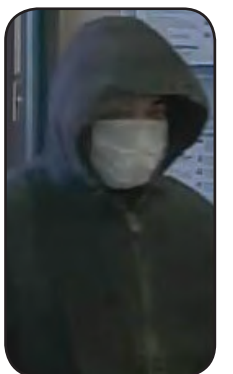



# Police ask for help in identifying bank robber



## WINKLER POLICE PHOTOS

Winkler Police have released these surveillance photos in connection with the Nov. 17 robbery of the Royal Bank on Main St. Police say the suspect walked into the bank just before 3:30 p.m. that day, handed the teller a note, and made away with an undisclosed amount of money before officers arrived on the scene. No one was injured in the incident. If you recognize this suspect or have other information that could help police with their investigation, you're asked to call 204-325-9990.





# PHOTO CALENDAR

Merry Christmas



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
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# Colourful skies

Winkler Mayor Martin Harder snapped this colourful sunset photo on a walk last week.

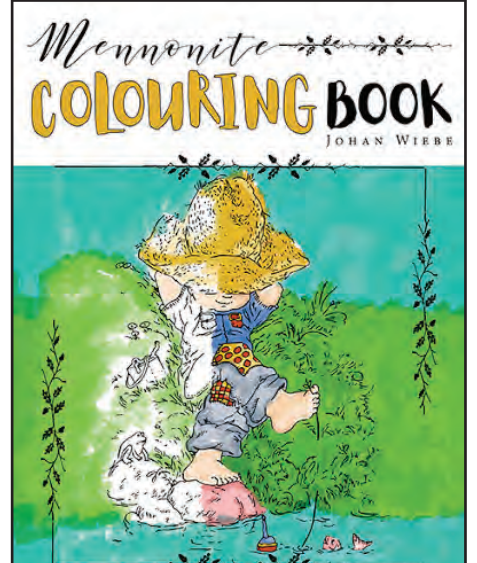
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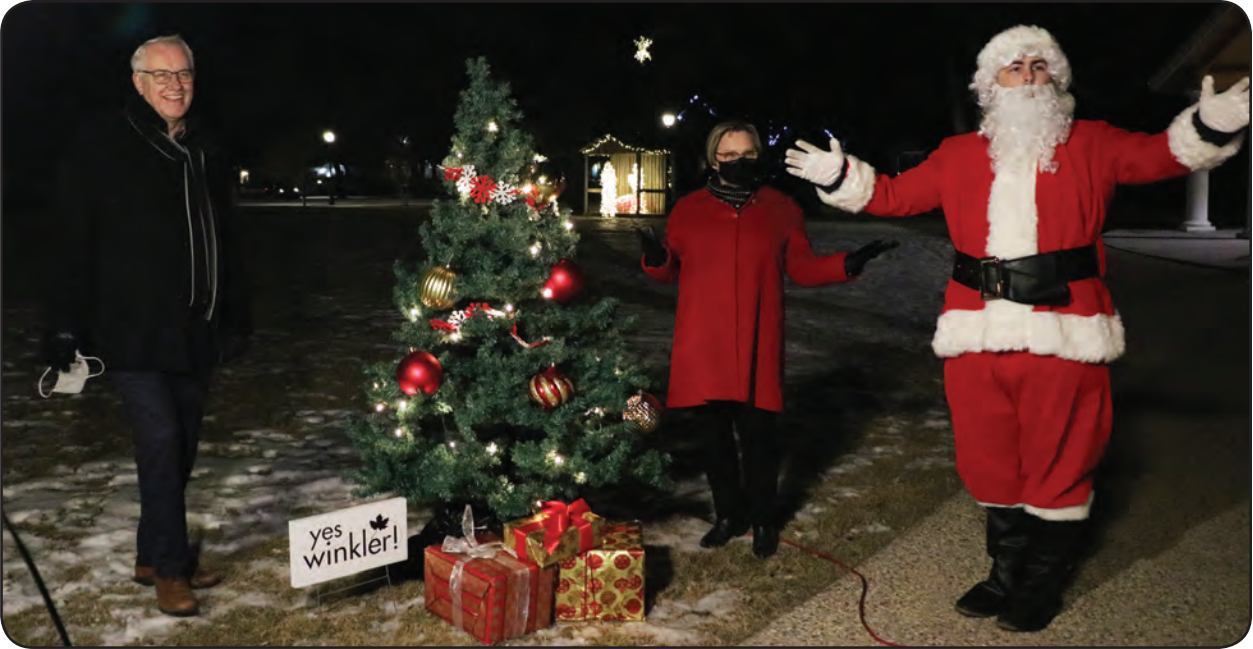
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# Winkler kicks off the holidays



Santa Claus himself joined Winkler Mayor Martin Harder and wife Valerie at Bethel Heritage Park last Thursday to kick off the city-wide Light Up the Season holiday decorating contest. The contest had 33 entries sprinkled throughout town and representing a wide range of themes. You can vote on your favourite Christmas display online at [lightuptheseason.ca/contest](http://lightuptheseason.ca/contest) until Thursday, Dec. 3. The winners will be announced on the City of Winkler Facebook page on Friday. Three houses will win a party prize pack complete with supper, snacks, board games, and movies. There's also a prize for the top business entry. Below: St. Nick's sled was in the shop, so he made the rounds to check out all the entries in a public works vehicle decorated with colourful lights.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS/VOICE





# Zodiacs spreading joy with Christmas cards

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Garden Valley Collegiate students are putting their creativity to good use this holiday season.

Darren Crane's graphics and photography pupils are hard at work designing Christmas cards for what has been dubbed "Operation Hollymark."

"With the pandemic we thought as a class maybe we could put a smile on the faces of people who may not even get to see their family this Christmas," Crane says.

GVC students have designed Christmas cards in the past, but this year the Winkler Staples has been generous enough to sponsor the printing, allowing them to send out more cards than ever before.

"We used to just send these out to residents at Salem but now we're going to be sending cards to Salem, Central Station, Buhler Active Living Centre, Genesis House, Lions Manor," Crane says. "We're also going to be sending some over to Boundary Trails

for the frontline workers just to say merry Christmas and thank you for what they're doing over there at the hospital.

"We want to open it up to whoever wants a Christmas card," he adds, encouraging people to contact him at the high school if they'd like to be added to the list. "Times are tough right now ... if there's a family out there that just can't get out to get Christmas cards and we can help out somehow, that's what we'll do."

Gr. 10 graphics student Griffon Hart has been enjoying the project, which gives him a chance to showcase what he's learned so far this semester.

"It's interesting, it's different than most of the things we've done so far," he says.

"It's just fun to do something that's not just going to sit on the computer, that people are going to see."

Hart is still fine-tuning his design and so was mum on the details, but he says he's taken inspiration from other holiday cards he's seen to try and cre-

**"WE WANT TO OPEN IT UP TO WHOEVER WANTS A CHRISTMAS CARD."**



**SUPPLIED PHOTOS**  
GVC students at work on the Christmas cards they're creating for the community.



ate something "that looks good and brings joy."

As Crane mentioned, Salem Home has been the recipient of cards from GVC students for years now. CEO Sherry Janzen notes this year more than any other that community connection is most welcome and needed.

"In a time when everything is differ-

ent for the residents at Salem Home, it is heartwarming for the children to think of them, wanting to bring smiles to the residents' faces," she says, thanking the kids in advance for their thoughtfulness in remembering the residents in this way. "Know that you bring joy to their day."

# Winkler man launches letter-writing campaign

Tomm Penner calling on province to allow all businesses to safely reopen

By Lorne Stelmach

The Winkler resident behind an online petition calling on the province to allow the reopening of businesses stresses the aim is for it to be done in a safe but fair manner.

Tomm Penner initiated MB Unite (Manitoba Business Owners United For Responsible Reopening) as a grassroots campaign to rally business owners and employees to speak out for the reopening of all businesses in the province.

He acknowledged many people were likely misconstruing the thought behind the petition, which encouraged supporters to send letters to elected officials by Dec. 1.

The response had been encouraging from many business owners, he suggested, but the reaction was different from people "who misinterpret what we're doing."

"Our request is that we simply have fair restrictions," Penner stressed.

"Some people are under the impression that we want to just recklessly open business and run it a hundred per cent. That is not what we're saying. We're saying we understand the government is going to impose some rules and restrictions.

All we're asking as business owners is that they impose these fairly."

The petition suggested that the province doesn't have to choose between the economy and public safety and that businesses can operate safely and responsibly by implementing the same protocols used by the businesses which currently remain open.

Penner suggested there are many questions such as why is it deemed safe for larger stores to be open, al-

beit under restrictions, while many smaller businesses are more limited by comparison, and why is it unsafe to sell such things as flowers or a guitar, as examples.

What drove him to spearhead this and ask these questions is that he sees local small business-people who are suffering.

"There are people going without incomes, losing their businesses, losing their life's work, and during the holiday season," Penner said. "It's tragic. It's tragic to see small business owners suffering and their families suffer-

ing, and they have nowhere to turn.

"I have many friends and acquaintances who are business owners," he continued. "I think business owners

**"THERE ARE PEOPLE GOING WITHOUT INCOMES, LOSING THEIR BUSINESSES, LOSING THEIR LIFE'S WORK ..."**

are frustrated ... with a government that is imposing unequal guidelines across Manitoba."

"We want our voice to be respectful to the government, understanding that their job isn't easy and they have some difficult tasks; they have to make some hard choices," he said while suggesting that many businesses "can open safely and responsibly by using the same measures that are being applied at businesses that remain open."

"In mandating that small retail businesses lock their doors, the government of Manitoba is effectively choosing to take revenue from local community shops and give it to big box stores and online retail giants," stated one supporter of the campaign, named only as a retail owner in Winkler. "As part of the backbone of the Manitoba economy, it's vital that small businesses be allowed to reopen and continue to operate in a safe manner."

You can learn more at mbunite.ca.

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



# getinformed

NEWS > VIEWS > WINKLER > MORDEN > SURROUNDING AREAS

## Services for Seniors puts a call out for drivers

By Lorne Stelmach

With the need for its services even more vital now while under pandemic restrictions, the Morden Services for Seniors program is appealing for volunteers.

Its range of services are more extensive than many in the community may be aware, but it is likely the meal program which is most important to those who have come to rely on it.

Meals are usually served in a group setting, but that is not possible now, so volunteer drivers are needed to help deliver food to seniors throughout the community.

"They don't get to spend time with their peers, so that's kind of the sad part," said community resource coordinator Kimberly Klassen, saying their clients do miss the fellowship aspect. "A lot of people would come even just for the social part of it, coming in and eating and getting to know other people."

"Because of COVID, the seniors are even more isolated and unable to come ... and we haven't been able to have dining in now since code orange," she continued. "So we're doing



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Morden Services for Seniors volunteers Doreen Penner and Philippa Gerbrandt prepare meals for delivery to local seniors. More volunteer drivers are needed to keep the program going.

a lot more deliveries, and we've recently gotten two more volunteers to drive, which has helped out ... but we have needed more drivers."

The meal service is available Monday to Friday and sends out about 40

meals each day. Many people use the service every day it is available.

Since she started in the coordinator role in the past month, Klassen noted they have picked up at least four new users, but she feels more needs to be

done to get the word out.

"They're amazing meals," she said, noting that they cost \$8.50 per meal. "If anyone has a family member or a neighbour or someone who could benefit from this service ... if someone knows someone down the street who might be able to benefit, reach out to them and find out or have us reach out to them."

Services for Seniors also offers rides to appointments and equipment rentals, among other services.

"We have people who will come in and do house cleaning; we will connect them with those people," said Klassen, urging people to give her a call to learn more.

"We're also starting to put something together to do some wellness checks and make sure that these individuals are getting the support that they need and if they need anything more from us," she said. "We have to make sure that as a community that we're looking to our left and to our right and we're seeing if someone is in need."

For more information, call 204-822-5663, e-mail [mordensfs@gmail.com](mailto:mordensfs@gmail.com), or go online to [mordenseniors.ca](http://mordenseniors.ca).

## Province to top-off caregivers' wages with new program

By Lorne Stelmach

Caregivers in care homes and other critical settings are getting bonus pay from the province over the holiday season.

The payments coming through the new \$35 million caregiver wage support program will benefit thousands of front-line workers who provide direct care and help protect vulnerable

Manitobans in personal care homes, shelters, child welfare and other sectors.

Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister and Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen said the payments are recognition of the vital roles of these workers and the additional stress and burdens they are facing as a result of the pandemic.

"The pandemic creates challenges for all Manitobans, and those are very real challenges that everyone is grappling with," he said last week. "It's an impact that is very real for front line workers who are providing care."

Friesen said this program is aimed "to address those support workers who are making more modest amounts and would provide an additional support for them."

"We're depending on them to provide care for Manitobans ... we're relying heavily on our front line workers."

Eligible employees will receive an hourly \$5 top-up to their wages based on the number of hours worked between Nov. 1, 2020 and Jan. 10, 2021. To qualify, workers must earn a regular wage of \$25 per hour or less.

Two intake periods will close Dec. 14, 2020 and Jan. 18, 2021, and the program benefit will be paid directly to workers by the province in the week after each intake period closes.

It was estimated the program will be available to more than 20,000 Manitobans currently working full-time or part-time. Recipients will include health-care aides, housekeeping staff, direct service workers and recreation workers who provide direct care at personal care homes or in

disability services, child welfare services, homeless and family violence prevention shelters or long-term care.

"It is designed in order to support those workers in a way that does not interfere with other targeted programs," Friesen said, noting they need to be actively working. If, for example, someone needs to be off work to isolate, there are other support programs in place for such an instance. "Those individuals are being compensated if they are home due to CO-

VID-19."

The province has partnered with the federal government in cost-sharing the program, with the Government of Canada providing \$17 million while Manitoba is contributing \$18 million.

**"WE'RE RELYING HEAVILY ON OUR FRONT LINE WORKERS."**

The **Winkler Morden Voice**

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# Mordenite helping small businesses get online

By Lorne Stelmach

A Mordenite whose livelihood has been shut down as a result of the pandemic is using his time to give back to other small businesses in the community.

Madison Wentz has been offering his services to help build online shops and portals for local companies so that they can continue catering to their customers.

"I like to see local businesses succeed, and I like being in the community and I like helping out," said Wentz, who has experience building websites for himself and others.

He saw offering his web skills as a way to contribute while his Mad Tunes Entertainment that provides DJ services for weddings and special events has not been able to operate.

"Part of it is I was sitting around getting bored ... I was trying to figure out how I could help others out. I was seeing a number of businesses pop up, kind of concerned how they were going to stay open," Wentz said. "I thought businesses that haven't offered things like online and pickup wouldn't be able to sell their non-essentials, so I thought I could help out a bit there so that local businesses could keep selling."

As of last week, Wentz had helped

get two websites up and running and was working on three more, all in the Morden area.

"I would like to get into Winkler yet, but I haven't done too much advertising," he said.

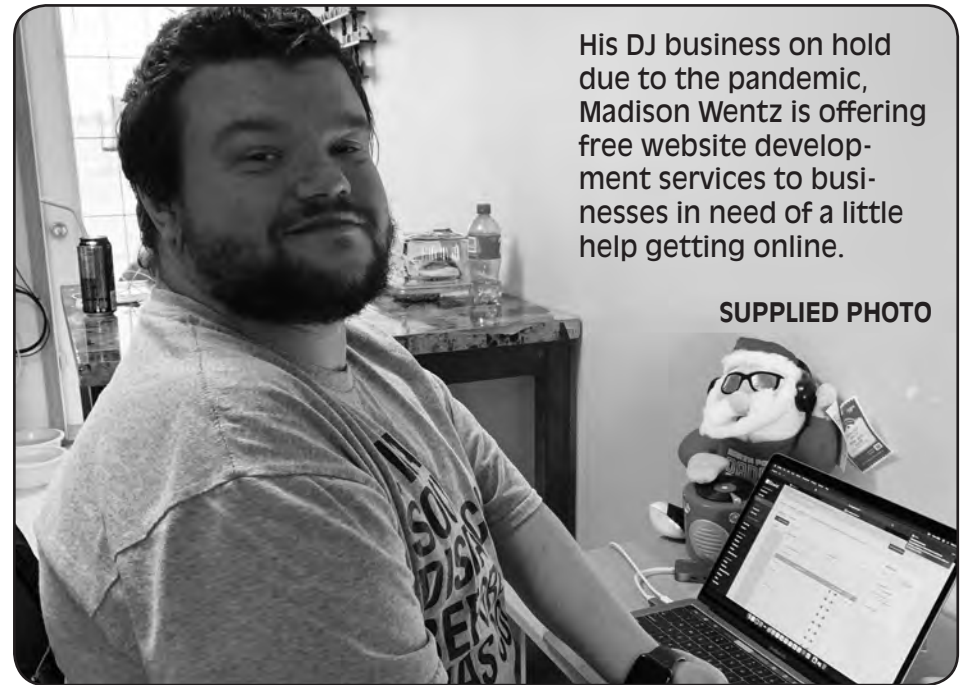
While he's offering his services for free right now, Wentz sees this as a possible business idea for himself in the future.

"With the business restrictions, DJ events just aren't happening right now ... I've been considering doing this as a business at least in the meantime ... I'll see where it goes," he said. "It's kind of building up a bit of a portfolio showing what I can do."

Theresa Petkau of OG Pet Treats just outside Morden said Wentz's offer to help her cope with new methods of sales had been a godsend.

"I have a passion for what I do with the pet treats, but I don't really have a passion for things like building an online store," she said. "It was something that I knew I needed to do, but I just felt with all the things that were going on, I couldn't do it."

"I think it's pretty amazing because it's exactly the kind of support small businesses will sure appreciate," Petkau continued. "He saw what was going to be the most helpful to small businesses, and I think it's pretty amazing he figured that out and was



His DJ business on hold due to the pandemic, Madison Wentz is offering free website development services to businesses in need of a little help getting online.

SUPPLIED PHOTO

generous enough to offer it."

"I am so much further ahead now because he had the kindness to offer it."

Marilyn Ducharme of Clara Clark echoed those sentiments.

"He's just a blessing. I'm so glad he started something up to help someone locally like me," she said, explaining she's not much of a computer person and found figuring out how to create a web store for her business a bit daunting. "I'm so happy he's able

to do something like this because he's struggling as well not being able to do his business."

Wentz noted he is also eyeing other ways to get involved with the business community, including perhaps starting up a podcast where he could interview local entrepreneurs to help get them more exposure.

In the meantime, anyone wanting more information can contact him via email at [madisonwentzsites@gmail.com](mailto:madisonwentzsites@gmail.com).

# Finding ways to grieve, heal during the holidays

By Lorne Stelmach

For someone who is grieving, the holiday season can be difficult enough during normal times, so living with it this year under pandemic restrictions will be even more challenging for people.

It has those who are involved with local support programs encouraging people to reach out to whoever and however they can when they are in need.

"It would be nice to see the light at the end of the tunnel right now," said Linda Fehr, who has been a palliative care volunteer and is involved with the area's grief and bereavement group.

They had originally planned to host an evening for people grieving to come together and support one another, but the increased restrictions now in place prevented that from happening.

They however still want to reach out to people in the community because the reality right now is "that the sup-

port group that is always there, as far as family and friends are concerned, just isn't able to swoop in this year because of the protocols we have to follow," Fehr said. "Grief is a lonely journey, and it's lonely not having family around."

"So there's extra thought that has to go into it this year from all directions," she said. "I think we're discovering more and more by all the media that is covering mental health that there has been so many losses ... and it's just compounding as time goes on. It's a lifestyle adjustment, which is what 2020 has been for everyone right from the start."

Fehr said people need to find ways to fill the voids from those things they are missing out on, like Christmas gatherings, and especially find ways to maintain that vital contact with other people in your lives.

"The holiday season is all about

traditions, and those are things that we are learning probably won't take place this year," she said. "Even the entertaining and concerts and shopping are not even things we can fall back on ... going out and meeting and greeting people that we don't see very often."

"The one saving grace is our ability to connect and to reach out to people through technology and the social media ... to connect with those people who would swoop in there and be a comfort."

Even an old-fashioned handwritten letter or note sent by 'snail mail' can be a surprising com-

fort.

"There can be nothing better than getting a handwritten note from someone who knows what you're going through and can connect with you and give you that little boost of support," Fehr said. "It can be very special

for people at this time."

Finding simple pleasure in holiday decor and enjoying Christmas lights around the community can be uplifting as well.

"It's interesting how the twinkle of the lights can sometimes be just a little boost," Fehr said. "We have shorter days, and all of our colour is gone from Mother Nature, so it can be depressing."

"There's just so many changes that we have had this year ... since March, we have just had such huge changes to our lifestyle, not to mention then if you have suffered a loss," she said. "Once that person has suffered a loss, holidays bring a lot of firsts that we encounter ... they will be making that journey alone ... all the things they maybe would have done together."

"It's hard to keep the merry and the joy. But the holiday season is quite often the time that we do reconnect with people we haven't seen for some time ... so make that connection still and reach out."

"IT'S HARD TO KEEP THE MERRY AND THE JOY."



# Movie filmed in Morden now available for rental

By Lorne Stelmach

A Manitoba film director is enjoying the early success of his newest movie

that was partially set and filmed in Morden.

With the Nov. 24 release of *I Propose We Never See Each Other Again After To-*

*night* through video on demand, Sean Garrity appreciates the strong reception the film has received both close to home and across the country.

The movie spent its first three weeks as one of Canada's top five Canadian box office successes, noted Garrity, who is behind the production company Bedbug Films.

"Canadian films usually get chased out of cinemas by a deluge of Hollywood product, but due to the unusual circumstances of 2020 we were able to hold on to screens long enough to really find our audience," he said.

"Our theatrical release ended up being a real come-from-behind success story," Garrity suggested. "Despite being a tiny Winnipeg intercultural romantic comedy and with a marketing budget of zero dollars, during a pandemic, we had an awesome run."

The movie was held over for 10 consecutive weeks at the Cineplex Northgate, eight weeks at the Cineplex McGillivray, seven weeks in Edmonton, and five at Canada Square in Toronto.

In total, *I Propose We Never See Each Other Again After Tonight* ran in 17 cities at 19 cinemas, but Garrity particularly enjoyed showing it at the Stardust Drive-In in Morden.

"The drive-in in Morden was the absolute highlight," he said. "In 20 years of filmmaking, I've never played a drive-in. It was a clear, prairie night too."

*I Propose We Never See Each Other Again After Tonight* is the eighth feature film from Garrity, whose vision was to craft a story that many people might find a connection to especially in the sense of this province having such a multicultural makeup.

The romantic comedy features a main character who hails from Morden, and so there are a number of scenes that were filmed here.

With its release through VOD, the movie is now available through Rogers, Shaw, Telus, Bell, Vubiquity, Cogeco, iTunes, Sony, Cineplex, and Google.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

*I Propose We Never See Each Other Again After Tomorrow*, which filmed some scenes in Morden, is now available on video on demand.

## Think twice before driving impaired: MPI, MADD

By Voice staff

Manitoba Public Insurance is urging Manitobans to think twice before getting behind the wheel impaired this holiday season.

Impaired driving was a leading contributing factor in at least 18 road deaths in Manitoba from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, the agency announced last week.

While that number is below the five-year average of 25 and pandemic restrictions continue to keep Manitobans off the roads more

than ever before, MPI remains committed to raising awareness about the devastating consequences of impaired driving.

To that end, they've launched their annual Friends for Life Speaker Series. The series features real-life stories delivered by individuals who have been personally impacted by a decision made behind the wheel of a car.

"MPI has long been committed to providing education and programming about the risks and dangers associated with dangerous driving decisions," said spokesman Sat-

vir Jatan. "The importance of reaching thousands of youth to create awareness about the consequences of impaired and other risky driving decisions hasn't changed in the face of the pandemic. That's why for 2020 we've moved to a virtual format so that we don't miss out on the opportunity to reach Manitoba students."

MPI is also continuing its annual support of the MADD Canada School Program for middle and high school students, much of which is also being offered online this year.

"Our mission is to stop impaired driving and to support victims of this violent crime" said Dawn Regan, MADD Canada's chief operating officer.

MPI has also donated a salvage vehicle to the Winnipeg Chapter of MADD Canada. The vehicle, which has highly visible anti-drinking and driving messaging, will be on display in high traffic areas.

"OUR MISSION IS TO STOP IMPAIRED DRIVING AND TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF THIS VIOLENT CRIME."



MPI PHOTOS

MPI had teamed up with MADD to get this vehicle out into high-traffic areas for awareness.

### 2020 FATALITY COUNTS ARE HIGH

As of the end of October, 73 people have been killed on Manitoba public roadways, MPI reports.

If this trend continues, 2020 will be second worst year for road deaths in Manitoba over the last five years, beating out 2016's 107 deaths.

In addition to the 18 impaired driving deaths, the province has also seen 16 deaths attributed to distracted driving and at least 13 deaths owing to drivers and passengers not wearing their seatbelts.

Speed, weather conditions and other factors contributed to the remaining deaths on Manitoba public roadways.



# Curl for Cancer raises \$58K

Online auction replaced bonspiel this year

By Lorne Stelmach

An annual cancer fundraiser still came through in a major way this year despite having to approach it differently during the pandemic.

Curl for Cancer went ahead with just an online auction rather than the usual bonspiel and banquet in Carman, but it still managed to raise around \$58,000.

"We weren't sure exactly what to expect, given the year," said organizing committee member Diane Hayward, noting their tally was not too far off from the \$63,000 brought in last year.

"We had many businesses step up who wanted to participate again and donate items," she said. "We were happy and quite overwhelmed with the response ... it turned out to be really good."

The auction was held Nov. 7 and drew support from upwards of 80 businesses in Carman and the surrounding area.

Although this is an uncertain time due to COVID-19, many family, friends, and community members continue to battle cancer, so it was for that reason that the organizers wanted to continue fundraising in some way.

"I think we all agreed as a committee we still

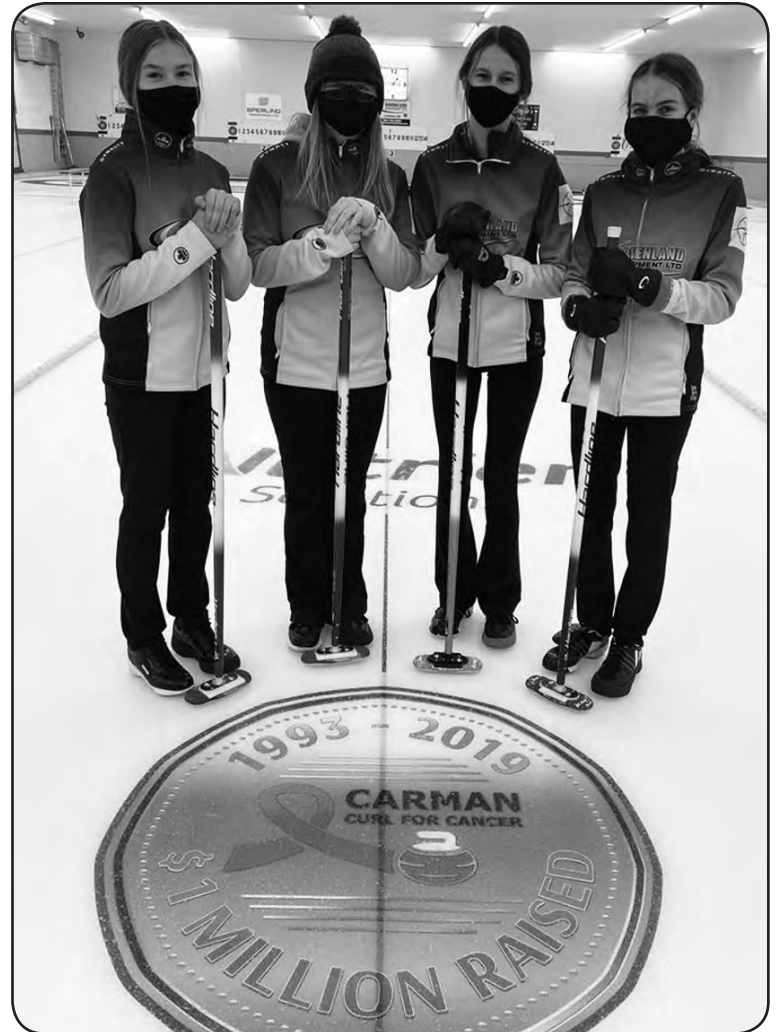
wanted to do something this year," Hayward said. "Many people are still suffering with cancer, so anything that we could do ... we wanted to move forward with whatever we could and put together."

Over the past 26 years, Curl for Cancer has been able to donate over a million dollars towards cancer research and patient care. It is a milestone that has been marked with a special celebratory logo featuring a coin put on the ice at the Carman curling club.

The money raised this year has been divided between South Central Cancer Resource (\$32,000), Carman palliative care (\$16,000), and Cancer Care Manitoba (\$10,000).

"Carman Curl for Cancer has done a great job of fundraising for their community during a pandemic. Their creative and outside-the-box approach to an online auction was well received by the community and resulted in an amazing and generous donation," said SCCR's Coral Doherty.

"The funds will be used to help their community members get through a stressful time," she added. "When the journey through life gets tough, South Central Cancer Resource is there to help make the load a little lighter."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Lending their support for Curl for Cancer were the four—some of India Young, Rylie Cox, Keira Krahn, and Shaela Hayward.

# ACU named one of Manitoba's top employers

By Voice staff

A local employer has been named one of Manitoba's top employers for the seventh year in a row.

Access Credit Union was one of 30 employers to make the list created by *Canada's Top Employers* last week.

"For seven years, this recognition has highlighted the excellence of our staff and their engagement in creating a truly outstanding organization," ACU president and CEO Larry Davey said in a statement. "As our organization grows through our merger with Crosstown Civic Credit Union, we look forward to continuing that tradition to deliver exceptional service internally and to our members every day."

The award is given to employers that "lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work."

Employers were evaluated on the physical workplace they offer, work atmosphere, health and financial benefits, vacation and time off, training and skills development, communication, and community involvement.

"The employers chosen as this year's winners have also distinguished

themselves during the pandemic," said Richard Yerema, managing editor of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project at Mediacorp. "They continue to demonstrate leadership, going the extra distance to take care of their employees and the community in what

is proving to be one of the most challenging years in living memory."

ACU says it strives to create a "culture of innovation where employees can test and implement new ideas to overcome challenges and deliver solutions."

ACU staff have access to paid training and continuing education, flexible hours and work locations, matched pension plans, competitive salaries, and the opportunity to contribute to their community.

## • POLICE BLOTTER

A few items of note in the Winkler and Morden weekly police reports:

- Nov. 24: Morden Police received a call from a business in the 200 block of North Railway St. reporting a break and enter to an outbuilding on their property. Approximately \$1,000 in items was stolen. Police continue to investigate this matter.

- Nov. 25: Winkler Police received a report of a stolen vehicle. The complainant had parked his car outside of a business on Main St. with the keys inside. He returned a few minutes later to find his car gone. The vehicle was located later the same day abandoned near Winnipeg. Surveillance video from the business assisted police in identifying the person

responsible. A warrant has been issued for a 24-year-old male from the Rossburn area.

- Nov. 25: A complaint was received regarding a residence where there were several people inside that did not normally reside there. Winkler officers attended and spoke to the homeowner, who stated that there was six people visiting. A \$1,296 ticket was issued to the homeowner for failing to comply with the Public Health Order.

- Nov. 26: Morden Police received a complaint of an individual who was throwing axes at a backyard target. The caller was worried that it may miss the target and hit children while they are playing outside. Of-

ficers attended and spoke with the individual, who agreed to move the target.

- Nov. 26; At 3:16 p.m., Morden Police were dispatched to a business on Thornhill Street in regards to a fraud. The business manager stated that an individual has been purchasing gift cards and charging them to an organization without authorization. This matter is under investigation.

- Nov. 27: At 12:14 p.m., Morden Police received a complaint of a suspicious male going through backyards. Officers located the individual behind a church and he stated that he was just using the free Wi-Fi. He was issued a verbal warning about trespassing.



# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Staying active

Pandemic restrictions might mean just about everything fun is closed, but that doesn't mean you can't enjoy the fresh air and take a walk around the block with people you live with, as sisters Ky and Carys did recently with their pooch Charlie.

PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT/VOICE



## Scotties, Viterra to be held in Selkirk in Feb.

By Voice staff

The Selkirk Recreation Complex has been very quiet in recent weeks.

But Curl Manitoba intends to make it extremely busy in early February.

It was announced Monday that the provincial men's and women's curling championships will be played in Selkirk from Feb. 2-7.

The field for the Viterra Men's Championship has been cut in half to 16 teams while the Scotties is down to eight teams.

Regional qualifiers for the two events will take place in mid-January. The plans hinge on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic in the province and the approval of Manitoba Health.

The Viterra Championship will remain a double-knockout event while the Scotties will be a round robin.

Curl Manitoba is also adopting the new pandemic curling rules for provincials that were introduced at the start of the season. Teams can only use one sweeper and skips can't sweep opposing rocks in the house.

Six of the men's berths and four of the women's berths have already been secured.

Teams that have qualified for the Viterra Championship include Jason Gunnlaugson, Mike McEwen, Braden Calvert, Ryan Wiebe, Jordan McDonald, and Tanner Horgan.

Manitoba Scotties teams that have already qualified feature Jennifer Jones, Tracy Fleury, Darcy Robertson, and Mackenzie Zacharias.

Kerri Einarson, the reigning women's national champion, has already earned an automatic berth into next year's Canadian championship.

## SEMHL postpones season to 2021

By Voice staff

Fans of the Winkler Royals and the Morden Bombers will have to wait a little longer to see their teams hit the ice this season.

In light of Manitoba being at code red on the pandemic response system, the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League announced last week that it will delay the start of the season until at least 2021.

League officials and team management will meet in late December to determine a possible start date and discuss

the number of regular season games that will be played and a playoff format.

The SEMHL includes teams from Winkler, Morden, Altona, Carman, Notre Dame, Portage, and Warren.

## Manitoba Open bonspiel postponed

By Voice staff

Curl Manitoba announced the postponement of the 2021 Manitoba Open—the world's largest and longest running bonspiel—last week due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"This decision was not done lightly but was necessary in the interest of safety and health of all volunteers, athletes, spectators and clubs," read a statement.

Curl Manitoba said it is working with the Winnipeg Curling Clubs Association to ensure that the Manitoba Open will continue to be a mainstay program and event for the curling community in Manitoba.

There is, however, still a small glimmer of hope that the 2021 Manitoba Open could go on at a later date, as the event has not yet been cancelled.

The 133rd edition of the event, formerly called the MCA Bonspiel, was scheduled to run from Jan. 14-18 at various curling clubs in Winnipeg.

### 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? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at [news@winklermordenvoice.ca](mailto:news@winklermordenvoice.ca) Phone 204-332-3456

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## 2021-2022 BUDGET



## Prairie Rose School Division 2021-2022 BUDGET SURVEY

The Prairie Rose School Division Board of Trustees welcomes the public to complete the Divisional 2021-2022 Budget Consultation Survey.

The survey consists of three general budget questions and a comments/suggestions section. The survey closes 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 18, 2020. All comments will be reviewed and discussed as part of our 2021-2022 Budget Development process.

Please complete the survey online at  
<http://www.prsdmb.ca/2021-2022-budget-survey/>

Paper copies are available by request by contacting the Division Office at (204) 745-2003.

The Board is hopeful this budget survey will provide an opportunity for all participants to identify items for consideration in developing next year's budget.

## AUCTION SALE

## ADVERTISEMENT - MORTGAGE SALE

The building and land known as 14112 Road 28 W, in the RM of Stanley, in the Province of Manitoba as described in Certificate of Title No. 2325767/4 will be sold at auction on Thursday, the 7th day of January, 2021, by way of videoconference or teleconference.

The Vendor is informed that there is situated on the property a 2 story single family residence of approximately 2,486 square feet on 1.48 acres with 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen and double attached garage. There is a full finished basement with a rec room, bedroom, bathroom and storage room.

TERMS: Deposit of \$75,000.00 which deposit shall not exceed twenty (20%) percent of the Reserve Bid by certified cheque, bank/credit union draft or solicitor's trust cheque on the date, place and time of auction and the balance in accordance with the conditions to be announced at sale.

The Property is sold subject to a RESERVE BID of \$382,969.70 plus such other additional and incidental costs which may be incurred by the Lender from the 20th day of November, 2020 to the date of auction and which costs will be announced prior to the commencement of the Sale.

Property Taxes are paid to December 31, 2020.

Purchaser to be responsible for payment of any outstanding water accounts owing by the Mortgagor.

Property is subject to Nil.

**In order to participate in the auction sale, you must pre-register by contacting Sonia at 204-957-6437 or by email at [ruppel@ltglc.ca](mailto:ruppel@ltglc.ca) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled auction.**

**Further information and copies of Conditions of Sale may be obtained from:**

## LEVENE TADMAN GOLUB LAW CORPORATION

Barristers & Solicitors  
700 - 330 St. Mary Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB. R3C 3Z5

Attention: Mara Koven-Lapointe/Sonia  
File No. 113872  
Phone No. 957-6437

## TENDER

## FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property in the Rural Municipality of Roland for the lands described below will be received by:

PKF Lawyers  
326 Stephen Street  
Morden, Manitoba R6M 1T5  
Attention: Matthew Bolt

## PROPERTY:

## PARCEL 1:

THE NE ¼ OF SECTION 6-4-4 WPM  
EXC THE WLY 487.68 METRES PERP OF THE SLY 281.94 METRES PERP  
(Approximately 126 Acres of Crop Land)  
The property is approximately six miles north of Winkler, just east of Highway #3 and would make an excellent addition to any farming operation. Crop rotation and current soil test are available on request.

## CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. The land will be sold "as is". The bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and condition of the land, land quality, land use, environmental conditions and all other information pertaining to the land that may be of interest to the bidder.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 12:00 noon on Friday, December 11, 2020.
3. To be considered, tenders shall be accompanied by a certified cheque in the amount of ten-thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars and shall be payable to "PKF Lawyers in Trust" as a deposit. Cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
4. Highest or any tender may not be necessarily accepted in the Vendor's sole discretion.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted shall be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing, which shall be December 18, 2020, or in the alternative, clear evidence shall be provided that the balance of the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor in its sole discretion. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit paid shall be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment of the tender price are made following acceptance of tender.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing accruing from and after December 18, 2020.

For further information contact PKF Lawyers at 204-822-4463.

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## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the ESTATE of  
**DOREEN VIVIEN DUDGEON**, late of  
the City of Morden, in Manitoba, deceased.

ALL claims against the above Estate, duly  
verified by Statutory Declaration, must be  
filed with the undersigned at their offices,  
326 Stephen Street, Morden, Manitoba,  
R6M 1T5, on or before the 8th day of Janu-  
ary 2021.

DATED at Morden, Manitoba this 3rd day  
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**450 Loren Drive**  
**Morden, MB R6M 0E2**

## OBITUARY



### **Lorna Mary Boschmann** **(nee Neufeld)** **1954 - 2020**

On Wednesday, November 25, 2020, Lorna Boschmann, 66 of Winkler, MB passed away.

Lorna was born on August 11th, 1954 in Winnipeg, Manitoba to Bill and Elsie Neufeld, the fifth of eight children in the family. At an early age the family moved to Morden, MB where she spent her early school years. At the age of 12 the family moved to Winkler, MB where Lorna finished her high school. It was in high school that she met and dated her future husband Hank. After graduation Lorna moved to Winnipeg to earn her degree as a licensed practical nurse and worked at St. George's Hospital with polio patients, and at Misericordia Hospital with prenatal babies. Her entire life she enjoyed working with children. In 1975 she moved to St. Catharines, ON where she worked in a senior care home. It was in Ontario that she reconnected with Hank who was living in Toronto. On June 11th of 1977 they were married in Mississauga, ON. On December 13th, 1981 they were blessed with their first child Gabe. In the fall of 1982, the new family moved to Tracy, New Brunswick to work with The Sisters of Mary, a Lutheran Nun organization. During this time, their second child Jeff was born in Fredericton, NB on April 25th, 1985. As their time of ministry came to an end, they decided to move back to Manitoba to be near family members. Their third child Zac was born on December 27th, 1988 in Winkler, MB. It was shortly after this that Lorna started working at Winkler Elementary School as an Educational Assistant. These were some of the happiest years of her life. She loved working one on one with kids. Seeing them progress in any small measure brought her tremendous joy. Since her retirement Lorna has enjoyed her winters in Tucson, Arizona and always looked forward to seeing the kids and grandkids at Christmas time. Her greatest joy in the last few years has been her boys and their extended families, especially her grandkids.

Lorna was predeceased by her parents, two older sisters, Nancy and Connie, and a younger brother, Tim. She is survived by her husband, Hank; three sons, Gabe, Jeff with Lauren, and Zac, two grandchildren, Jude and Addison; two brothers, two sisters and numerous nephews, nieces, in-laws and friends.

A private memorial service was held at Wiebe Funeral Home in Winkler.

In lieu of flowers, if friends so desire, donations may be made in Lorna's memory to Garden Valley School Division - W.E.S. playground improvement project.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
[wiebefuneralhomes.com](http://wiebefuneralhomes.com)



## OBITUARY



### **Anne Thiessen (nee Dyck)** **1948 - 2020**

On Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at her home, Anne Thiessen age 72, of Winkler MB, peacefully went to her eternal rest.

She is survived by her husband, John and her children, Angela (Jim) Apperley of Altona, Sherry (Chris) Thomas of Winkler and Richard (Alana) Thiessen of Winkler; eight grandchildren, Rylan, Cohen and Kam Thomas, Guerin, Ava and Lane Apperley, Madison and Riley Thiessen. She was also predeceased by her parents, Isaac G and Mary Dyck and siblings, Liz Reimer, Tina Fehr, George Dyck and Dave Dyck.

A private memorial service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 29, 2020 at Wiebe Funeral Home Winkler with interment at Westridge Memorial Gardens.

Special thanks to the many that cared for Anne, Dr. Silvagio, Dr. Pitz, Dr. Woelk and the staff at BTHC. Her exceptional home care staff that provided us support beyond measure: Alecia, Carolyn, Breanne, Brittney, Darlene, Stacy, Vanessa, Leala and Lottie. Donations may be made in Anne's memory to the BTHC Foundation, designated to Cancer Care.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
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## OBITUARY



### Margaretha Doell (nee Hiebert) 1925 – 2020

It is with heavy hearts and also thanksgiving that we say farewell to our mom, grandma and great-grandma Margaretha Doell, age 95 years, for we know that she is in eternal rest with the Lord.

She is survived by her children, Dorothy (Unrau) Friesen and her husband, Bernie, Percy Doell (Marge, deceased), Arthur and Tina Doell, Evelyn Doell and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, David on May 14, 1999 at 76 years old as well as one grandchild and two great-grandchildren.

Until COVID, she had many opportunities to visit with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and she loved each and every one of them. As a farm wife living north of Winkler and

Myrtle, she worked hard and never complained. She made the most of what she had like canning hundreds of jars for the winter. We remember her quiet ways, courage, determination, resilience and dedication to the family. As kids, we never thought of mom as young or old; mom was mom. She was a good cook and tried to grow a new and different vegetable most every year. One winter, she made a fish soup. That did not go over. As long as we kids were home, she also sewed all our clothes, layettes for the hospital, she knitted and crocheted a lot of tea towels and pillowcases to embroider. She also made cloth dolls, sewing many doll clothes in the winter. And she loved to read. Slow to anger and then with good reason, she would say, "Wait til dad gets home!" She did all the baking and loved to make a big pot of soup for church functions. She was baptized in 1944 in the Winkler Bergthaler Mennonite Church. Dementia took more and more of her mind, but she will forever live in our hearts.

Private funeral service took place with interment at the Winkler Cemetery beside her beloved David.

If flowers grow in Heaven Lord, please pick an armful for her. She loved flowers and gardening. If family and friends so desire, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Margaretha's memory to the Salem Foundation Inc.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
wiebefuneralhomes.com



## OBITUARY



### Elizabeth Nickel (nee Derksen) 1929 - 2020

On Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at her residence in Winkler, MB, Elizabeth Nickel aged 91 years formerly of Horndean went to her eternal rest.

She leaves to mourn her passing, three daughters, Betty Nickel, Helen and Alan Warkentin, Kathy and Jake Rempel; two sons, John Nickel, David and Barb Nickel; nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Rev. John B Nickel in 2013, two sisters and five brothers.

A private funeral service was held with interment at the Reinland Mennonite Church Cemetery in Schanzenfeld.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
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## OBITUARY



### Donald Frederick Hodgson 1929 - 2020

Peacefully on Wednesday, November 25, 2020 Don went to join his loving wife of 64 years, Fran, (April 2019) to the other side of the rainbow. He will be missed by his girls - Debbie (Ted), Lynn (Bryan) and Donna. His Grandchildren will always remember his quick, funny remarks and his love of math: Michelle (Brian), Nicole (Ryan), Jaclyn (Justin) Adria (Derek), Brock; great-grandchildren: Luca and Myles enjoyed visiting him in Stonewall Lions Manor.

Donald was born in Lashburn, SK 1929. He was the youngest, Robert and Margaret were his older siblings.

He started his successful banking career (41 years) at the bank - Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) and Lynn Lake, MB was his first posting after completing his studies. He then worked

in several towns and cities within Saskatchewan, Manitoba and NW Ontario. Don made some very dear, lifelong friends that he kept in touch with. Dad was very easy to talk to and with his dry wit there was always a laugh. Work was business and his off time was Family time! Music was always part of his life- singing in a Barbershop Quartet, Jazzfests in Arizona and Victoria and concerts in Winkler. He could play the piano by ear. Big Band music was his favourite. A very active man he enjoyed sports- playing and watching. Don took up downhill skiing in Thunder Bay and took his first retirement trip out west with Lorne to ski in the Rockies. Outdoor picnics, winter and summer, with us kids and with all the various families we met in all the wonderful towns we lived in. Kakabeka Falls was a favourite! Fran and Don bowled, curled, walked, skied Nordic and Alpine. Don would cycle all around Winkler and check on "things" and then he and Fran would do a round of golf with Terp and Alma - at the Winkler Golf Course, where he was a senior member, then go watch the local baseball team.

Coffee and cards also kept them very busy. He was very lucky to have good friends that enjoyed doing fun activities. Dancing, singing and playing games was a good part of retired life. Don had a very Full life! Cottage life on Falcon Lake for 6 months out of the year was great family time. Grandkids got some crazy rides on the tube from Grampa but not until he went over the 12 times table with them. There was always a barbeque supper and fire in the pit at night. In the last few years Dad took great care of Mom and enjoyed making different soups as well as homemade bread and buns- a good baker like his Father. Don and Fran moved closer to family so he sold the retirement house in Winkler and moved into Lions Manor, Stonewall, MB. He had a good visiting and check in buddy George. Thank you also to Michelle and the Stonewall Home Care team.

After fighting off three different cancers, he suffered a small stroke and moved into Extencicare Tuxedo Villa in Winnipeg (March 2020). Thankfully family was allowed to be by his side after suffering another stroke that he could not recover from.

Dad lived a great life, taught his girls well and took excellent care of his family. Thank you to all staff on Unit 2 for their professional and kind care. Special thanks to Herbert, Bea, Shelley, Marina, Chester, Lucy, Cindy and Mageene. A private celebration will take place in 2021

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
wiebefuneralhomes.com



## OBITUARY



### Martin Wiebe 1938 - 2020

On Thursday, November 19, 2020 Martin Wiebe passed away unexpectedly at his home in Winkler, MB.

He is survived by two sisters, Tina Wieler and Anna Friesen, his sister-in-law, Annie Wiebe and his brother, Peter and sister-in-law, Mary Wiebe and all their families. He was predeceased by his parents, David and Anna Wiebe, brother, David Wiebe and two brothers-in-law, Diedrich Wieler and Ben Friesen.

Martin was born on February 2, 1938 in Neuhoffnung in the RM of Rhineland, MB. As a young boy, he moved to a farmstead near Kane where he helped on the family farm and attended the McNab School in the RM of Roland. He was baptised on June 9, 1957.

Martin was an experienced carpenter who loved building and working with his hands. He and his brother, Peter farmed together near Sperling from 1970 - 1998. After retiring, he moved to Winkler. Martin was a contented bachelor who enjoyed coffee with friends, travelling, and taking many fishing and snowmobile trips. He loved cars and was most at home behind the wheel.

Martin was a very kind and generous man, skilful, always youthful, full of joy and laughter, and dedicated to his family. He was a favourite uncle who always took time to be with his many nieces and nephews. Martin Wiebe was a man whom we all loved, appreciated, and looked up to.

A private funeral service was held at Wiebe Funeral Home in Winkler with interment at the Rudnerweide Cemetery.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler  
In care of arrangements  
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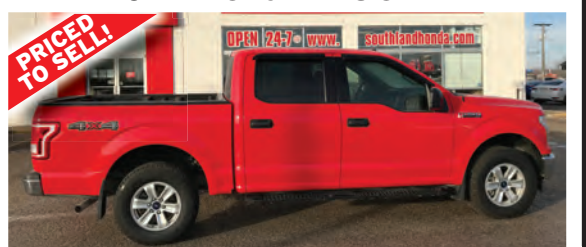
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