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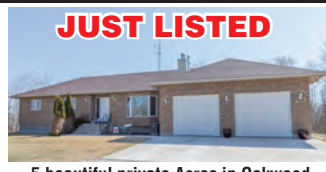
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Community clean-up

TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Woodlands School students spent their Earth Day on April 22 collecting trash in their community. Kindergarten student Lennie Ukena, left, teamed up with Grade 1 student Jerszey Dobson to do their part to help out Mother Earth.

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Vandals wreak havoc in Teulon's Green Acres Park

By Jennifer McFee

Teulon councillor, Todd Campbell, is expressing his frustration about recent destruction in Green Acres Park.

On Wednesday, April 21, Campbell discovered a tree had been chopped in half and a donated concrete bench had also been damaged.

"The green space is still open for families to get out and walk around and take the dogs for a walk. It is being used daily, and we're seeing damage," said Campbell, chair of the rec commission.

"It's more of a frustration because one minute you're getting things cleaned up and then someone's gone and chopped down a live tree in our park. It probably took 30 years to grow that tree, and within 10 minutes, it's laying on the ground.

I can't believe stuff like that would even happen."

He was also dismayed to discover damage to a park bench that vandals had tipped over.

"We have community people such as the Metis Federation who have graciously donated a concrete park bench to this green space, and then we find out it's been kicked over. Now

the back is broken and the leg is broken off it," Campbell said.

"So we have community groups who are putting their time and energy and money into our green space for the betterment of the community — and then this happens. It's very discouraging."

Previously, other instances of vandalism have also been a problem at the park.

"We've had graffiti sprayed on our outdoor stage. We've also had some light fixtures and fans broken. A lot of facilities, such as the stage and playground equipment, are fundraised by community groups. But when someone brings it down or destroys it, over time people are going to stop trying to improve it," he said.

"It's come a long way, and I don't want to see it just turn into a big grass field. There are a lot of community members who have great ideas and they're talking about doing other neat projects out there. I don't want them to think it's not worth their time and energy because nobody cares."

Talks are underway about the possibility of installing security cameras in an effort to prevent some of these problems.

"I'm doing nightly drive-bys now to look at the facilities and green space to make sure that there's nobody hanging around in there. We're also seeing RCMP patrolling the areas now, so there is presence but we can't be there 24/7," Campbell said.

"THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME. ... I DON'T WANT TO SEE THESE FACILITIES GET DAMAGED."



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY TODD CAMPBELL

Vandals are causing senseless damage to things that are important to Teulon's community.

"I'm reaching out to make sure that people who are using the area are on the lookout for suspicious behaviour. I've been voted in as a councillor of Teulon, so I'm representing the residents to ensure that our green space is cared for."

Teulon is his hometown, so Campbell wants to make sure he's doing everything he can to look after the com-

munity. "This is very important to me. I grew up in Teulon, born and raised here. I have kids and grandkids now, and I don't want to see these facilities get damaged," he said.


"There are all walks of life using the green space, all through the day and into the evening. It's good because they're the eyes and the ears. I want to get people involved and keep an eye out because these spaces are for everybody."

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May brings new art to Gwen Fox Gallery

By Katelyn Boulanger

The artists of the region have come together once again to create a space where people can find inspiration and take a break to look at some art created by our talented residents. This month the gallery has gotten more variety with fibre, woodcarving, acrylic, watercolour and many mixed media pieces created by the exhibiting artists.

Brenda Hedberg has been painting since she picked up her brushes in 2012 and began to take art classes in Teulon's Green Acres Art Centre. Living just outside the community, she takes a great deal of her inspiration from the region specializing in bringing beauty to impressionistic renderings of the area's ditches and finding the fun in many painting of clotheslines, which she is well known for.

"You start putting paint on paper and it gives you a really good feeling. Colour does that for me. So, from then on, I've been painting it was like a totally brand new experience for me," said Hedberg.

She feels that she hasn't been impacted as badly as other people by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic as she is used to living and working in isolation in the country, and so has used her time to continue to create and has focused on experimenting with art.

One of her most recent experiments has been allowing herself to be influenced by some of the old master particularly Monet and Vincent van Gogh.

One of her paintings that will be up this month is a portrait painted in a similar style to van Gogh and another is an image that she took at the Imagine Van Gogh exhibition, which she chose to paint on fabric to stretch her creativity.

"At first, I did it on fabric thinking, 'OK, I'm going to make masks out of it.' Once I spent all that time on it, there was no way I'm going to cut it up," said Hedberg.

Hedberg, who is also the volunteer co-ordinator, is glad to be exhibiting this month as she has missed not being able to take art classes or participate in the gallery like she has been



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY KATELYN BOULANGER
Brenda Hedberg with her latest lily pad piece.

able to in previous years.

Pat Findlay is a mixed media fibre artists and has been playing with textiles since she was about four years old but has really started to give it her full attention in the past 20 years.

"I retired from my regular job in 2001 and, as of that, I started doing this full time. In the beginning, there were not very many fibre artists around now that the genre has exploded, and they're all over the place," said Findlay.

Her art is a mixture of mediums on fabric incorporating skills from watercolour, dyeing, calligraphy and much more to create unique pieces that draw you in with colour then keep you looking with their delicate complexities.

"Often, I will have a title before I have the piece and then allow that phrase or [thought] to percolate in my brain for a while until I'm ready to do something [with it]. Then I'm driven by colour. I have I love colour and everything I do is [impacted by] colour in some way. That is my happy place. So then, I select everything I can find in my colour frame — from beads to tape, to paint, to actual fabric itself. Most of my pieces start with white fabric," said Findlay.

Findlay's best advice for new fibre artists is to make friends with other artists.

"That is what this gallery gives me. Most of them are painters, but they've accepted me as a fibre artist. I like to think my work follows the same elements of art. You can't just jump in. You've got to study your art. You've got to practise your art, and the best way you're going to find out these things is by associating with other artists."

Though she lives in Winnipeg, Findlay feels the community at Gwen Fox Gallery is worth the drive to Selkirk so much so that she has been a member for 15 years.

Pat Johnson, in addition to being the gallery co-ordinator is a prolific multi-disciplinary artist who says she's been making art from Day 1 and doesn't like to have idle fingers.

"I was always making something out of noth-

ing, you know, like anything I could lay my hands on. And I'm still that way. I still have to keep my hands busy when

Continued on page 4

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Local youth clean up communities on Earth Day

By Jo-Anne Procter

Earth Day, which is recognized April 22 each year, is an international event celebrated around the world to pledge support for environmental protection. The year 2021 marks the 51st anniversary of the annual celebrations with this year's theme for Earth Day being "Restore Our Earth."

Interlake School Division students and staff put on their gloves, grabbed garbage bags and spent time picking up trash in and around their communities.



Warren Elementary Grade 7 students Drew Cassidy, left, and Ashton Chartrand pick up garbage in Warren's Lions Park.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Woodlands Grade 2 student Kailyn Baldwin-Ducharme and Grade 1 student Averie Smith work together to clean up their community.



Woodlands Grade 1 student Caleb Koss, left, and Grade 2 student Adrian Sinclair counted items of garbage they collected.



Warren Grade 7 students collected garbage around the Warren Elevator.



Ecole RW Bobby Bend School Grade 4 students collected garbage at Quarry Park.



Left photo, Teulon Elementary's Wyatt Pham and Easton Florence from Mrs. Reeb's Grade 1-2 class enjoyed picking up garbage in their community. Right photo, Charlee Tronrud and Jade Cook joined classmates picking up garbage.



> GWEN FOX GALLERY, FROM PG. 3

I'm sitting," she said.

In this month's exhibit, that adaptability really shows with watercolours, acrylic collage and woodburning pieces being sprinkled throughout the gallery in addition to the lovingly carved angel and mermaid pieces that are some of the artwork that she's most well known for. New mediums that she's tried re-

cently are woodburning, which she used to make a walking stick that celebrates elements of her Ukrainian heritage, and textiles, which don't feature in this exhibit but may make an appearance in a future all members show.

She's also active in volunteering not just at the gallery but also at the Gordon Howard Centre where she

teaches art classes.

"My students, I'm so proud of them because each one of them has produced lovely pieces. You know, with lots of perseverance," said Johnson.

Mia Fournier's art rounds out this month's exhibit with acrylic on slate and cedar and watercolour pieces that brings softness and tranquillity to the show.

Her pieces clearly reflect her travels abroad and in Canada featuring

lakes and forest environments as well as the creatures who live there.

Residents visiting the gallery should remember to follow all COVID-19 protocols when in the building including mask-wearing and physical distancing. They are also asked to use the hand sanitizer at the door and need to sign in the guest book for contact tracing purposes.

The Gwen Fox Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Manitoba partners with N.D. to get truckers vaccinated

By Lorne Stelmach

Government and industry officials last week heralded a partnership that will allow Canadian truckers to get COVID-19 vaccinations across the border in North Dakota.

North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum and Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister welcomed the Essential Worker Cross-Border Vaccination Initiative as an opportunity to support the integrated economies by co-operating on the vaccination of individuals who work in both jurisdictions.

The Manitoba Trucking Association (MTA) and its members identify and co-ordinate with eligible individuals and work with North Dakota to schedule vaccination appointments for truck drivers during their routine trips to the U.S. over the next six to eight weeks.

The North Dakota Department of Transportation's rest area near Drayton will initially serve as the vaccination site, which will also be open to North Dakotans ages 16 and older to get vaccinated. Vaccinations will take place from noon to 8 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

The state and province are establishing a joint-operations group to manage the initiative. The North Dakota Department of Health will provide nurses and other staff to administer the first and second doses of the vaccine to provide full immunization of truckers. There is no cost to the state or province as the U.S. government supplies the vaccine and reimburses the costs to administer.

It remains to be seen how many truckers may take advantage of the opportunity, although officials are estimating roughly 2,000 to 4,000 Manitoba drivers could participate.

"When it comes to the COVID vaccine, the most important question is not where can one get it but when can one get it?" noted Bernie Driedger, president of Portage Transport in welcoming the initiative.

"To see Manitoba and North Dakota coming together to creatively collaborate on a vaccination strategy that will expedite the vaccination of Manitoba truck drivers working to or through North Dakota is excellent news. This move protects these important essential workers and their families, while

also freeing up vaccination spots back in Manitoba. A genuine win-win."

The shared goal of this initiative is to create a model of continental co-operation as the governments aim to safely reopen the shared border. Officials noted Manitoba and North Dakota will consider further joint initiatives to vaccinate other essential workers and Manitobans.

"As Manitoba faces the third wave of the pandemic and the significant challenges associated with variants of concern, our number one limiting factor in protecting Manitobans is the availability of COVID-19 vaccines," Pallister said.

"Manitoba is proud to partner with North Dakota on this innovative strategy to provide life-saving vaccines to Manitoba's essential workers delivering the goods and services Manitobans, Canadians and Americans rely on," he added. "Manitoba and North Dakota have enjoyed a strong relationship of mutual respect and friendship, and I want to thank them for their willingness to support Manitoba through this joint vaccination effort."

But not everyone is so excited at the

prospect of heading south for vaccination.

"I'm not sure of the logistics, but it would require an extra trip for myself," said Jon Martens, a Winkler trucker.

It seems like a good idea in theory, but there are issues with it, he suggested, noting that his driving takes him across the border regularly but usually not to the rest area on Interstate 29.

As well, Martens noted it is his understanding that an extra trip such as this without transporting product is not allowed under existing restrictions.

"So right now, I would have to take a day off work along with taking a trip that's not allowed, and that's on top of the fact that I'm in the percentage of people that doesn't quite trust the vaccine yet, although I could be convinced by my family," he said.

"If I should decide to get vaccinated, I think it would be much simpler if they would open it up to my age or my employment to get vaccinated locally here."

Alzheimer Society challenges you to Walk Your Way in May

By Daniela Wenger

The Alzheimer Society challenges you to Walk Your Way in May by participating in the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's online. Go for a walk, run, bike ride or create a fun challenge! The sky's the limit because together we CAN make a difference for Manitobans living with dementia and their families.

The Walk is the Alzheimer Society's largest annual, nationwide fundraiser. Last year, Manitobans showed their support by joining the Walk online and raising crucial funds that allowed the Society to shift many of their services online, continuing to meet the needs of people living with dementia and their caregivers.

"We're calling on all Manitobans to show their support by walking online," says Wendy Schettler, CEO, Alzheimer Society of Manitoba. "It's

critical that we all get behind this cause and raise as much as possible so the Alzheimer Society can continue to help those affected overcome the challenges of dementia and live to their fullest."

By 2031, the number of Canadians with dementia will increase by nearly 70 per cent and we have yet to find a cure. More funds are required to meet the growing demand for life-changing programs and services, including education, support groups and community programs for people with dementia and their caregivers.

One family plans to head out on a beautiful, winding trail near Beausejour for this year's walk. "We're planning the greatest time ever, and we'll make some amazing memories while we do it. That's what my dad would do," says Cristy Law, whose entire clan

will gather in honour of their patriarch, Terry Law, who has Alzheimer's disease.

The Society is excited to see the unique ways that people are participating online. While we can't all participate in the same place for this year's fundraiser, we can still come together virtually to support families living with dementia.

"IG is proud to support the Alzheimer Society and their efforts to raise awareness and funds to find a cure," says Damon Murchison, president and CEO, IG Wealth Management. "We all know someone who has been touched by dementia and are aware of the significant impact it can have on those coping with the disease, their families and caregivers. Our employees and consultants look forward to the walk every year and are com-

mitted to supporting the communities in which we live and work."

No one should have to face this disease alone. By joining the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's, you make a positive difference in the lives of people living with dementia and their families. Get involved:

- Sign up individually, with your family, or create a team at WalkForAlzheimers.ca
- Take a photo or video, upload it to social media and include the hashtag #IGWalkForAlz.
- Join the live broadcast on the Alzheimer Society of Canada's Facebook page on Sunday, May 30 where we'll share stories from walk participants across the country and celebrate together.
- Most of all, have fun raising money for a fantastic cause!

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• GUEST COMMENTARY

Improving education requires avoiding curriculum traps



By John R. Wiens

It is hard to imagine a better description of our current situation in Manitoba public education than that provided by Tom Green (1984 – a coincidence?) in *The Formation of Conscience in an Age of Technology*. "... our institutions must also be sufficiently resistant to change so that those whose conscience is merely technical and limited to skills of managing the political apparatus, but who are rootless in their souls, may not do irreparable harm." In short, people focussed on carrying out the how to miss the why and the what.

Simply put, Bill 64 leaves public schools in the hands of people who have no knowledge about, or investment in, why we created them in the first place. People who are more adept at sponsoring the mechanisms of this government than at upholding an educational agenda. They do not seem to understand or care about the havoc they are creating and enabling.

Politicians, both rural and urban, are abandoning their constituencies. Their civil servants, selected on the basis of their management skills (technical conscience) and not their knowledge of education, keep check on their partisan politician bosses to ensure that they do not deviate from the prevailing script predetermined by the premier and the minister. And they are only willing to work with those who endorse their strategies. Together, they are on the verge of doing irreparable damage to the very roots that provide them with their current legitimacy and which they took an oath to defend and

uphold.

It is an undisputed fact that extreme provincial controls undermine local institutions and local rights. In schools, this means closing "inefficient" schools — schools with enriched staffing to meet local needs which provide some semblance of equal educational opportunity. It means longer bus rides even for very young children, itself an equality issue. Bill 64 eliminates the moratorium on school closures and the mandate to keep one-way bus rides under an hour.

Bill 64 inevitably ends up with fewer teachers in rural communities, where they are often so much more than teachers, providing a host of other leadership functions. It means fewer people such as those in schools and board offices having gainful local employment.

Control from urban centres means that rural values, solutions and resource allocations lose their sway in public policies — removing locally elected trustees means that the rural roots just dry up faster.

By sheer numbers and efficiencies of scale, urban frameworks and prescriptions hold out no promise for local responses and initiatives. But singular, simple answers to multi-layered, complex problems also do not work in urban areas.

Winnipeg is a cosmopolitan city with very diverse neighbourhoods, a fact that most of us are very proud of. Our city council, to their credit, have not given up on making our city an inviting, affirming community for its original inhabitants and newcomers. However, making it all one jurisdiction for educational purposes is bound to make its efforts more challenging.

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As Maggie MacIntosh, *Winnipeg Free Press* education reporter, has repeatedly revealed, each school division has tailored very unique services to the needs of their diverse populations. It is hard to imagine that level of sophistication and responsiveness in a solitary system under the management of one director whose first responsibility is to the provincial government.

Decisions that have a great impact on the everyday lives of citizens ought to be made as close to these citizens as possible. Furthermore, these citizens ought to have relatively easy access to the decision makers and the processes of decision making that affect them so directly. I fear the alienation and senses of apathy, resentment and resignation that so often accompany shifts of power to higher and higher levels of a system of governance.

As power and authority shift to the upper levels of a system, those who occupy the lower levels often feel much less of a stake in the enterprise. This loss of ownership breeds a disinterest in the affairs of governing and, quite often, an unwillingness to take responsibility for the consequences of decision making.

Green concludes with "... Rootedness and vision ultimately [are] what [provide] both the only salvation there is of those institutions and the only fixed point for the guidance of persons engaged in public policy."

Bill 64 tears away at the moral, social, economic and political rootedness that defines Manitoba, and our present government, in its soulless and rootless agenda, is threatening the souls of all of us!

John R. Wiens is dean emeritus at the faculty of education, University of Manitoba. A lifelong educator, he has served as a teacher, counsellor, work education co-ordinator, principal, school superintendent and university professor.

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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

A sure sign of spring is when the tulips start to sprout. They are hardy enough to endure the weather we have been dealing with lately from above-average temperatures to snow and to drought. Help the *Tribune* record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or families enjoying the outdoors. Email: weather@stonewallteulontribune.ca.

What a beautiful day

I grocery shop, I pick up pills from the pharmacy, I go to doctor's appointments.

However, I thought we might be brave and go through the Tim Hortons pick-up for a treat. Something we have never done even when things were normal.

We gave our order — drinks first — one doughnut ordered — couldn't remember the name of our other special doughnut. Complete blank! STRESS!

Moved on to pick up and pay and was told some kind person had already paid for ours!

Oh what a beautiful day!

Thank you.

- The Chapmans, Stonewall

U.S. government lifts pause on Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine

By Patricia Barrett

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) lifted an order that had put a hold on the use of the one-shot Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) COVID-19 vaccine after determining the vaccine's benefits outweighed the risk of developing serious blood clots and potentially dying.

The two agencies had paused the use of the vaccine on April 13 after over 6.8 million doses had been administered in the U.S. Blood clots had occurred in 15 women between the ages of 18 and 59. Three women died. The onset of symptoms occurred between six and 15 days after being inoculated.

Despite evidence linking the vaccine to the blood clots, the agencies lifted the pause on April 23, saying people should be warned of the possibility of developing blood clots and low platelet levels.

"Safety is our top priority. This pause was an example of our extensive safety monitoring working as they were designed to work — identifying even these small number of cases," said acting FDA commissioner Dr. Janet Woodcock in a joint statement issued April 23. "We've lifted the pause based on the FDA and CDC's review of all available data and in consultation with medical experts and based on recommendations from the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices."

The agencies said they conducted a risk-benefit analysis and concluded that the potential benefits of the vaccine outweighed the risks.

"We are confident that this vaccine continues to meet our standards for safety, effectiveness and quality. We recommend people with questions about which vaccine is right for them have those discussions with their health care provider," said Dr. Woodcock.

Two days before the pause was lifted, the FDA reported it found unsanitary conditions and possible contamination at the Baltimore-based Emergent BioSolutions manufacturing plant, which makes both the Johnson & Johnson and the AstraZeneca COVID vaccines.

Emergent had earlier been forced to dump 15 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

The FDA's inspection report cited "multiple failures" at Emergent BioSolutions, including possible cross-contamination of vaccine drug sub-

stances, loose debris, peeling paint and some sort of dark residue coating the walls. It also found flaws in the size and maintenance of the manufacturing facility and determined that workers did not follow proper procedures to prevent contamination.

Doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine that Emergent had in reserve will be tested by the FDA for quality.

"In the case of Emergent BioSolutions, we are working with the company to address the conditions identified. At the agency's request, Emergent BioSolutions has agreed to pause new production while it works with the FDA to resolve potential quality issues," said acting FDA commissioner Dr. Janet Woodcock and director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research Dr. Peter Marks in an April 21 bulletin.

"For the vaccines already manufactured, the products will undergo additional testing and will be thoroughly evaluated to ensure their quality before any potential distribution. We will not allow

the release of any product until we feel confident that it meets our expectations for quality."

Health Canada had already given interim approval in March to the Johnson & Johnson vaccine before the blood clot events and deaths occurred. It made an agreement with Johnson & Johnson to receive up to 38 million doses of its vaccine. A shipment to Canada is expected this week.

Canada's chief public health officer Dr. Theresa Tam said she didn't know the specifics of the report on Emergent BioSolutions, but Canadians shouldn't worry if they received an AstraZeneca vaccine that was made there as Health Canada has measures in place to ensure safety.

"As far as I understand, what is happening in the U.S. right now does not impact us in the vaccines we have already received and that's being deemed of high quality and met the regulatory standards as we receive them," said Tam during a virtual meeting with media last week.

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CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

Tighter gathering restrictions in effect Wednesday

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Stricter public health orders go into effect this Wednesday, April 28, as Manitoba tries to stem the third wave of COVID-19.

Officials on Monday announced plans to further restrict gathering sizes after seeing the province's COVID-19 case counts rise by the hundreds daily over the previous week.

"Despite our best collective efforts ... Manitoba's case numbers, our test positivity rates have been rising and our hospitalizations have been going up somewhat as well," said Premier Brian Pallister, noting the more contagious variants of concern are spreading rapidly.

An overburdened health-care system puts not just COVID patients at risk, the premier noted, but anybody who may need care for other serious ailments and injuries.

And so, new public health measures have been added to the existing code red restrictions.

Until May 26, no visitors are allowed in private households, either indoors or outside, with certain exceptions allowing one visitor for people who live alone.

No indoor gatherings are allowed and outdoor gatherings in public spaces are limited to 10 people.

Faith-based gatherings are limited to 25 per cent capacity or a maximum of 10 people, with indoor mask use now required at all times.

Patio dining is restricted to groups of four people, with no household restrictions. Indoor dining remains capped at 50 per cent and people may only dine with others from their household.

Food courts in malls and shopping centres must close.

Gyms and fitness centres continue to be limited to 25 per cent capacity, but everyone inside is required to maintain physical distancing of nine feet from one another.

Spectators at outdoor sports and recreation facilities are limited to one parent/caregiver spectator per youth participant, so long as physical distancing of six feet is maintained.

Dance, theatre and music schools continue to be limited to 25 per cent capacity, but the new orders limit the maximum number of people on site

to 10 with one parent/caregiver spectator per youth participant, all physically distancing.

Personal service businesses can continue to operate at 50 per cent capacity, but appointments are required.

Day camps are permitted to have up to 10 children indoors and outdoors.

Retail stores are limited to 25 per cent of the capacity of the store or up to 250 patrons, whichever is lower, while malls are limited to 25 per cent of the facility's capacity.

"To all Manitobans I say this today: stay at home if you can, significantly limit your close contacts, and get your vaccine as soon as you are eligible to get it," Pallister urged.

The vaccine eligibility requirements continue to change rapidly. As of Monday, anyone age 50 years or older and First Nations people age 30 and

up can book an appointment at the vaccination super sites.

The province has also expanded eligibility to allow all front-line police officers and firefighters age 18 or older to be vaccinated at the super sites.

Manitobans 18+ who live and work in what the province has deemed high-risk communities are also able to be vaccinated. Right now that list includes several neighbourhoods in Winnipeg and the entire Northern Regional Health Authority.

Meanwhile, any Manitoban age 40 or older can book an appointment at a pharmacy or medical clinic offering the AstraZeneca/Covishield vaccine.

For up-to-date vaccination eligibility and booking information, head to protectmb.ca or call 1-844-626-8222.

210 new cases announced Monday

Health officials on Monday announced 210 new cases of COVID-19 and a test positivity rate of 7.6 per cent provincially and 8.2 per cent in Winnipeg.

There were 2,093 active cases of the virus at the start of the work week. A total of 34,747 Manitobans have recovered from the virus since last spring. The number of people who have died is 968.

COVID-19 hospitalizations were at 148 Monday, including 37 people in intensive care.

Breaking it down by health authority, Interlake Eastern was reporting 106 active cases, eight hospitalizations and two ICU patients. The region has lost 38 residents to the virus.

In the Interlake, Gimli's active case numbers are up to 28, Win-

nipeg Beach/St. Andrews 20, Arborg/Riverton 1, Eriksdale/Ashern 6, Fisher River/Peguis 7, Selkirk 7, St. Clements 13, Stonewall/Teulon 10, Unknown 6. Meanwhile in the east, and Beausejour 2, Springfield 2, Pinawa/Lac du Bonnet 2 and Powerview/Pine Falls 2. Meanwhile, Whiteshell and Northern Remote recorded none.

New era for mall at south end of Stonewall's Main St.

By Jennifer McFee

Changes are in the works for Stonewall's south mall, where new businesses will bring a boost to the area.

Optometrist Andrew Aiken of Clarity Vision has bought the south mall and is moving forward with a new focus.

"We're going to do a medical clinic and optometry clinic. My brother Christopher Aiken just graduated from medical school, and we have a couple other doctors that are most likely joining us to help with that practice there," he said.

"We haven't recruited a pharmacy yet but we're hoping that as the walk-in clinic becomes successful, it will also drive the opening. We're partway through construction of the optometry clinic as well, so I'd say by fall we could be ready to open it."

As for the other units, Aiken is hoping they will be occupied later this year.

"If everything goes well, we hope by

fall or winter that the whole strip mall will be full," he said.

"We're mainly gearing it towards medical and professional services, for the most part. We keep trying to recruit those kinds of people."

In addition to his business venture in Stonewall, Aiken operates four Clarity Vision clinics located in Selkirk, Portage la Prairie, Winnipeg and Winkler.

"We're committed to the Interlake and we felt that Stonewall is a strategic point. In a growing town the size of Stonewall, we figured there could be a second option for eyecare," said Aiken, who splits his time between Winnipeg and Winkler.

"It was an opportunity to try to turn the mall around. It definitely needs some work, though. We need to put a new roof on it. It will take some investment to get back up and going, but I think it will be good in the long term."



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Stonewall's south end mall is under construction. The mall is scheduled to open this fall with a medical clinic and optometry clinic.

Council authorizes mayor and CAO to buy land for economic development

By Jennifer McFee

At the April 21 regular council meeting, Stonewall council gave the go-ahead for the mayor and CAO to execute the annexation agreement between the Town of Stonewall and the RM of Rockwood. After that, the matter will be sent to the Municipal Board for consideration.

“It’s another big move forward,” said Deputy Mayor Peter Bullivant.

“Thanks to Rockwood for being so accommodating in all the meetings that we’ve had. It’s been a very easy conversation that we’d had with them and thanks to both CAO.”

Mayor Clive Hinds expressed similar sentiments about the working relationship between the Town of Stonewall and RM of Rockwood.

“It has been very amicable. I reach out to the RM of Rockwood for their very cordial and direct approach,” Hinds said.

“It was truly a pleasure working with them. I also want to thank both CAOs for their diligence in making this come to this point in time.”

The RM of Rockwood will consider

the same agreement at their next meeting. After that, the final submission will be sent to the Municipal Board by the end of the month.

In other council news:

- Stonewall council approved the adoption of the 2021 financial plan, including the operating budget, capital plan, five-year capital expenditure program, and estimated 2022 operating revenue and expenditures.

The 2021 financial plan incorporates a 0.5 per cent decrease in property taxes for 2021. For a residential property with a \$3,000 tax bill, the savings will be about \$15.

- In a tie vote, council defeated a variance application from Foresight Real Estate Ltd. The request was to vary maximum site coverage from the required 40 per cent to 47 per cent and to vary the rear yard setback from the required 25 feet to 20 feet in order to allow construction of a single-storey four-unit townhome development on 2nd Street East. The property is currently vacant.

- Council accepted a quote from Golf View Electric Inc. for two dual

electric vehicle charging stations.

- Deputy Mayor Peter Bullivant, chair of the Rockwood-Stonewall Recreation Committee, penned a letter of appreciation to volunteers since April 18 to 24 is National Volunteer Week celebrated by Volunteer Canada. In the letter, he noted that 2020 was a year that challenged all of us to pivot, react and make unusual decisions.

“On behalf of the respective councils for each Rockwood and Stonewall and the recreation committee, we collectively thank all our volunteers from organizations within our region,” he wrote. “Thank you for your work and dedication, which continue to make our communities great places to call home.”

- Council accepted a quote from Mazergroup Construction for a loader with a mounted snow blower.

- Council authorized the mayor and CAO to execute and agreement to buy land for economic development projects that will facilitate the long-term growth and health of the town. The land — which is a portion of a property on the east side of 4th Street East

— will be used towards the continuing care retirement complex that the town is working on.

The land, which spans seven-plus acres, is made up of two parcels. The first parcel is immediately south of the abandoned railway that town currently owns. The second portion is a small piece along Winfield Road that will be needed for utility infrastructure. The total purchase cost was slightly more than \$600,000.

- A majority of council voted in favour of upholding its existing policy to keep a town-owned chain link fence in place in the Stoneridge Meadows Development. The town had received a request from a Stoneridge Meadows resident to remove a portion of its existing fence.

- Council authorized four representatives from the Town of Stonewall to participate in the 16th annual Ralph Eichler Charity Golf Tournament in support of the Interlake Community Foundation and South West District Palliative Care. The fundraiser is scheduled for June 11 at the Teulon Golf and Country Club.

Manitoba joins eTick platform for expert identification

Staff

To help Manitobans stay safe while out exploring the great outdoors, the provincial government has joined the eTick platform to help people better determine their risk of Lyme disease.

“More and more Manitobans are exploring nature and the outdoors during the pandemic. While this is a safe, healthy way to connect during the pandemic, we also want people to pay attention to reduce their risk of Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses,” said Health Minister Heather Stefanson in making the announcement last week. “The eTick program will ensure people can access rapid tick identification and distribution maps, while enhancing the surveillance of

tick species in Manitoba.”

Manitobans can submit pictures of ticks they might find on themselves, a loved one or a pet to the eTick program for experts to identify.

Developed by Bishop’s University and funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the program is useful in figuring out if a given tick belongs to a species capable of transmitting the bacteria responsible for Lyme disease. In addition to learning what species of tick users have found, identified specimens are mapped to better outline the distribution and seasonality of the various tick species. A new mobile application has been developed to facilitate and streamline the submission of tick observations in

Manitoba. It is now available for free download under the name eTick on the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Don’t want to download the app? You can also submit your tick observations directly on the eTick website at www.etick.ca.

Blacklegged ticks, which can carry anaplasmosis, babesiosis and Lyme disease, are most commonly found within and along the edge of forests

and in areas with thick, woody shrubs and other vegetation. These ticks are typically found between April and November (from snowmelt through snowfall), with adults most active in the spring and fall months.

To learn more about blacklegged ticks, tick disease, and prevention, visit www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/cdc/tickborne.

RM of Armstrong to hold public hearing on budget; may offer virtual meeting

By Patricia Barrett

The Municipality of Armstrong council will be holding a public hearing next week to present its proposed budget for the 2021 fiscal year.

Copies of the financial plan are available on the RM’s website or by calling the municipal office.

Depending on COVID-19 cases and provincial public health recommendations, council may offer the meeting virtually whereby the public can call in from the comfort of home and

listen to the proceedings.

After the budget presentation, council will take questions or comments or hear anyone who wishes to make a presentation or register an objection to the budget. The RM will also accept written submissions.

The budget presentation takes place on Thursday, May 6 at 7 p.m. at the Fraserwood Hall. Pre-registration is required by May 4 at 4:30 p.m. Please call the municipal office at 204-278-3377.

Making a difference



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY SYDNEY LOCKHART

Left to right: Gaia Turner, Eva Learmond, Jagger Tesluck, Reese Moore, Avin Wedel walked around Stonewall with their wagons for their annual tradition on April 22 picking up litter for Earth Day.

Local writer publishes new book at 93 years young

By Jennifer McFee

A local nonagenarian recently published her fifth book, which would make a great addition to your stack of summer reading.

Anne Yanchyshyn, 93, is now selling copies of her latest book *The Lance et al MUSINGS & Word Weavers, Part 2* by appointment from her residence at Dakota House in Winnipeg. She'll also be selling her book at an outdoor farmer's market at Dakota Community Centre all day on May 8.

Yanchyshyn's ties to the Interlake run deep since she grew up in Meleb and was part of the "Train Gang" who rode the rails to attend high school in Teulon. After that, she attended Normal School and enjoyed a 28-year teaching career.

In 1983, just before she turned 56, she retired from teaching — and she delved into her passion for writing, signing up for multiple classes to hone her skills.

Several years later, her hometown was gearing up to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Meleb's settlement. Yanchyshyn was asked to compile a write-up showcasing the area's history for the 1990 festivities. Thanks to her in-depth research, it turned into a book called *MPC Flashbacks: A Commemorative Local History Celebrating the 90th Anniversary of the Arrival of Settlers in Meleb-Park-Cumming School District Area*.

In 1999, Yanchyshyn experienced what she calls her "Y2K year" since she underwent an operation for spinal cord cancer and also needed open heart surgery.

"I was sure I was going to die for one reason or another because my body was misbehaving. But when I got a little better I said, 'Hey I've got all those stories that I wrote in my writing classes. I must put them into a

book,'" she said.

"While I was recuperating, I organized them into a book and that became a big autobiography called *Come Walk With Me: I'll Tell You a Story. I was very proud of that book.*"

A few years later, she published a sequel called *Let's Keep Walking*.

Then in 2009, she put together a book featuring recipes and poetry that she penned in her classes.

Starting in 2013, Yanchyshyn began writing a monthly column as a St. Vital correspondent for a community newspaper called *The Lance*. She continues to write monthly columns today and doesn't think she's missed one in all these years.

Her latest book, *Musings*, features more than 100 articles she wrote for *The Lance* between 2013 and 2020, along with outside inserts and plenty of colour pictures. She began working on the project in early 2020, soon before the pandemic changed the world.

The book also includes comments that *Lance* readers wrote to her, as well as a forward by the newspaper's editor. Another heart-warming inclusion is a letter from one of her former students, who is now a school principal, reflecting on what it was like to be in her Grade 5 class.

The second part of the book features a series of stories by members of a writers' group that she helped to organize in the 1990s.

"We called ourselves Word Weavers and I have about 60 pages of their stories," she said.

"Most of the Word Weavers are gone now, but I was able to get in touch with their sons and daughters. I'm hoping that they will get word that the book is ready."

With gratitude, Yanchyshyn notes that a fellow teacher and friend named Lorri Romanetz was indispen-



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Anne Yanchyshyn, 93, is now selling of her fifth book, entitled *The Lance et al MUSINGS & Word Weavers, Part 2*.

sible in her efforts to the book.

"When my printer stopped working in the middle of my book project, Lorri came to the rescue and did all my printing for me," she said.

"As well, she used her car to help me with errands like sending photos for printing and delivering printed pages for my perusal."

Looking ahead to her 94th birthday in August, Yanchyshyn has no plans to stop writing — and she hopes readers will enjoy her latest publication.

"Why do I want to publish? Well, for myself, for my family, for my friends and maybe others will like it too," she said. "I would like to share what I've written."

Since Yanchyshyn can't host a book

launch due to pandemic restrictions, she offers a few other ways for readers to purchase *The Lance et al MUSINGS & Word Weavers, Part 2*, which has more than 275 pages and costs \$20 per copy. To arrange to pick up a copy from Yanchyshyn, call her at 204-237-9056 or email her at acy@mymts.net.

To pick up a copy in Meleb, contact Valerie Nosaty at 204-643-5072. At a later date, the books will also be available at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre and possibly at McNally Robinson Booksellers in Grant Park.

In addition, all are welcome to drop by the farmers' market at Dakota Community Centre on May 8 to pick up a copy directly from Yanchyshyn.

Stonewall RCMP respond to collision caused by ice on vehicle

Submitted by RCMP

On April 19 at approximately 1:20 p.m., Stonewall RCMP received a report of a chunk of ice flying off a truck on Highway 6 and going through the windshield of a nearby minivan, injuring the driver.

When officers arrived on scene, EMS was providing care to a male with serious non-life threatening injuries.

Investigation determined a van was southbound on Highway 6, approximately four kilometres north of the Perimeter Highway, when a dump truck passed it. When the truck was approximately two car lengths in front of the van, a chunk of ice flew off the back of the truck and then came through the windshield of the van striking the 68-year-old male driver in the face, rendering him unconscious. The

passenger, a 61-year-old female, was able to handle the steering wheel until the vehicle came to a stop, thereby avoiding a collision.

The male was transported to hospital in Winnipeg, where he remains in serious but stable condition. Both occupants of the van are from East St. Paul.

The female passenger is very thankful for the help provided to her by other motorists who stopped to assist as well as the first responders who attended to herself and the driver.

The RCMP would like to remind everyone to ensure their vehicle is clear of snow, ice and any other debris before heading out on the road. At highway speeds, debris on a vehicle can become a deadly force.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

A couple escaped serious injuries when an ice chunk came through the windshield of their van.

Woodlands students take a stand against climate change



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Woodlands Grade 7 and 8 students held a demonstration along Highway 6 to bring awareness to climate change on Earth Day last week.

By Jo-Anne Procter

Woodlands Grade 7 and 8 students stood along Highway 6 on Earth Day, April 22 holding up posters they designed to draw attention of the climate change crisis locally and to advocate for sustainability.

Human travel is the main cause of climate change and burning fossil fuels such as gas, oil and coal is causing the Earth to heat up. Climate change is the cause of odd weather patterns and warmer weather.

With climate change being caused

by emissions from vehicles, students recorded 600 vehicles drove by in the two-and-a-half-hour time span they stood along the highway.

Tim Lee, principal and Grade 7 and 8 science teacher, told the *Tribune* that climate change is not a political issue.

"It's a global issue," he said. "We are thinking about the environment and planet Earth. People across the world agree that climate change and global warming is the No. 1 issue. It might not be something I am going to have to deal with, but the youth of today

are going to have to."

Lee's Grade 7 and 8 science students learn about ecosystems and how climate change is affecting Manitoba.

"We want to bring awareness to people and let them know what it (climate change) is doing to our Earth because it is important and it is our future that it is going to affect and we need to change it," explained Grade 8 student Lauren Voth.

The main goal of the Woodlands School Climate Action group is to get people to think about driving less,

thus reducing emissions.

Voth said that driving electric cars, car pooling, taking public transit, riding your bike and walking when going short distances would be a great start.

"It would also be helpful to spread the word through social media and through the media," fellow student Cameron Huff said. "And if you can . . . do your part."

Prairie Region Commander appointed



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

On Monday, April 19 at Stony Mountain Institution, Simon Thomas was appointed to the position of Commander of the Prairie Region Guard of Honour by Warden Robert Bonnefoy. Thomas is responsible for all Correctional Service of Canada Guard of Honour units within the Prairie Region, which includes northwest Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Northwest Territories. Pictured: Simon Thomas, left, Stony Mountain Institution Warden Robert Bonnefoy, middle, and Stony Mountain Institution Squad Commander T. Odidison.

#PROTECT MB



Let's Get Manitoba Vaccinated!

Plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it's your turn, and encourage your friends and family to do it, too.

Find out how at ProtectMB.ca

Manitoba

Educational colouring book to support the Argyle Museum

Staff

The Argyle Museum is offering Interlake residents a way to support a local organization while keeping their kids busy at the same time.

Shayne Campbell, executive director for the Argyle Settlers, Rails and Trails Museum, started creating artwork about two years ago in an attempt to create an educational colouring book for kids.

"We tried to create a history book telling the story of a small town in rural Manitoba, without simply just copying photographs in the museum archive," said Campbell, noting the book was made possible through the Safe at Home Manitoba program.

The Safe at Home program is designed to aid Manitoba's effort to slow down COVID-19 and is a resource on health, education and entertainment programming.

"The idea was that when the time and funds came, we'd have the artwork printed in a colouring book," he said.

Many of the images are compositions of multiple photographs in combination with imagination, Campbell said, as he grew up rurally as well. The idea is to engage a younger audience, he said, to ensure culture and heri-



All proceeds from the colouring book will support the museum.

tage is important to them as well.

The book talks about what Campbell called the "typical" small town, which he said means farming, schools, transportation and major events. Those major events aren't limited to world issues like the First World War but include the natural world, too, he said.

"It details historical events from about 1870 through to the 1950s, but it's hands-on a bit more exciting for kids," said Campbell, noting the book is designed for kids aged seven and up.

He is hoping to have the colouring book included in schools across the Interlake School Division and beyond.

"It's churches from the area; it's early farmers building homes out of logs,



Children will colour the pages while learning about the local history. Leo Grandmont bought the Argyle blacksmith shop in 1940.

which was the most readily available material at the time. It's the area's schools. It's families travelling from one town to the next to get groceries; it's the arrival of the railway, and so much more," he said, emphasizing the depiction of early Manitoba settlers.

As the artist, Campbell said it's evident that people and places from Argyle have made it into the book, as the area and its history is well-known to him.

Campbell thanked Ryan Carevic, a Winnipeg-based digital artist, and Kristin McCurdy for having helped turn Campbell's artwork into the co-



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Shayne Campbell stands with the children's colouring book he designed, having done the artwork himself. All proceeds go to the Argyle Settlers, Rails and Trails Museum.

louring book it is now.

All proceeds raised by the book will go directly back into the Argyle Settlers, Rails and Trails Museum, according to Campbell.

Anyone interested in acquiring the book for \$10 via mail-out or pick-up should email argylemuseum@gmail.com or message the museum on Facebook.



The West Interlake watershed District, in partnership with local stakeholders, developed the Southwest Interlake Integrated Watershed Management Plan. A Project Management Team established three watershed goals, based on review of technical information and public input received.

WATERSHED GOALS

- 1. SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT** - Enhance surface water management while ensuring that practices and activities respect current land use, the environment, and potential for downstream impacts
- 2. WATER QUALITY PROTECTION** - Protect and improve ground water and surface water quality
- 3. FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT CONSERVATION** - Protect, restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat

You can access full IWMP on our website.

West Interlake Watershed District

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Through the Following Programs



Well Water Protection Program: to assist landowners with the protection of ground water supply. Includes Abandoned Well Sealing, Flowing Well, and Well Head Protection up to **\$1,000.00**

Well Chlorination Program: to assist residents with disinfecting well and plumbing systems. Up to **\$250.00** (partial chlorination) and up to **\$500.00** (full chlorination)

Water Testing Days: to assist landowners in the payment and transportation of their water samples, cost and transportation of sample covered by WIWD (sample taken by owner) Days for water samples **May 10 and May 25, 2021.**

Community Tree Nursery Program: to assist residents with the purchase of seedlings. Part of the cost will be covered by the WIWD. Applications can be submitted from **September 1 to October 31.**

Fuel Storage Tank Rebate Program: to reduce the risk of soil contamination from damaged tanks. **\$500.00** rebate provided by WIWD with the purchase of a new Double Wall Stationary Fuel Tank

Growing Outcomes in Watersheds (GROW): to encourage incorporation of beneficial management practices on private land.

Public Education: to educate youth about the environment and conservation. Schools within the WIWD can receive up to **\$500.00** per year

Composters and Rain Barrel: turntable composter and rain barrel sold at **\$50.00** and standing composter sold at **\$30.00** (no tax)

Properties must be in the WIWD boundary to be eligible

For more information on these programs please visit our website wiwd.ca or contact us

Contact: **T.204.762.5850** admin.wiwd@mts.net



The GROW program developed by the West Interlake Watershed District (WIWD) is delivered in the context of the Southwest Interlake Watershed Management Plan.

Growing Outcomes in Watersheds (GROW)

GROW is designed to assist landowners in developing projects that maintain or improve local watershed health. GROW encourages the delivery of ecological goods & services (EG&S), promoting conservation of natural areas and changes to land uses that provide EG&S.

Eligible Project Activities

| GROW Activity | Projects | Goals | Contract Length |
|--|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Wetland Conservation, Restoration or Enhancement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserving class 1 & 2 wetlands on annual crop land (not draining or filling). Re-establishment of perennial upland buffers (inter-pothole seeding) around wetlands to minimize mechanical disturbance. Fencing & off-site watering systems for grazing management. | To improve water quality and aquifers, enhance recharge and water storage areas moderating the timing and volume of runoff, reduce negative impacts down stream, and increase wild life habitat. | 10 Year Contract With WIWD |
| Riparian Area Conservation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation of existing healthy riparian areas. Exclusion fencing that optimizes grazing impacts. Alternative watering system to keep cattle out of riparian area. Establishment or improvement of stream crossing. Constructed works to stabilize banks & prevent erosion. Re-establishment of riparian vegetation. | Projects to improve water quality, improve storage capacity to reduce downstream flooding during high water events, stabilize shorelines and prevent erosion and, increase wild life habitat. | 5-10 Year Contract With WIWD |
| Buffer Establishment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a new buffer or shelterbelt. Expansion of existing buffer or shelterbelt (adding new rows, inter-planting differing species to add diversity). Re-establishment of buffer vegetation. Pruning or removal of deceased trees. | To improve water quality and water conservation efforts, increase crop yield and carbon sequestration, add thermal protection for livestock, reduce surface runoff and soil erosion, and to improve wild life and pollinator habitats. | 10 Year Contracts With WIWD |
| Upland Area Conservation, Restoration or Enhancement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserving native prairie or highly erodible upland areas. Enhancing natural and managed upland areas. Re-establishment of perennial native/tame cover on sensitive lands. Re-forestation of previous wooded areas. Permanent or alternative fencing and watering system to improve grazing strategies that support pasture health. Establishment of Soil Health crops (cover-crops, polycrops, green-manure). | To improve the ecological function of natural and maintained upland areas, increase soil health and carbon sequestration, reduce soil erosion, and to promote healthy wildlife and pollinator habitat and biodiversity. | 3-10 Year Contracts With WIWD |

MMF increases financial supports for housing repair program

Staff

When a friend told Brett Harvie the Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF) had a program to help with housing repair, he was taken by surprised.

Harvie, a Stonewall resident, had been looking to get his shingles, electrical panel and heat recovery ventilator (HRV) system done, but Harvie said when the contractor came to do the HRV system, they noticed a crack in his furnace's heat exchange.

"Instead of doing the electrical panel, we switched it up and did the furnace, HRV and shingles. I wouldn't have even known my furnace was on its way out had it not been for the program," said Harvie, noting it was this time last year when he utilized Manitoba's only housing repair program, called the Home Enhancement Loan Program (HELP).

"It wasn't so much about cosmetic or aesthetic stuff, but if something was a bit dire, the offer was there. I thought, 'What a good little program.' I was one of the first people to actually use it," he said.

Even a year ago, Harvie said the program was easy to navigate. He gave a list of the projects he had in mind, the MMF encouraged him to get quotes on pricing and eventually approved his list.

On April 7, the MMF upped the limit from the program, which was \$15,000 at the time Harvie used it, to its current limit of \$18,000 per household.

"If there are some programs people can use to their advantage, especially now with so many people out of work and not making money, they should.

"I WOULDN'T HAVE EVEN KNOWN MY FURNACE WAS ON ITS WAY OUT HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR THE PROGRAM."

If the program exists, use it," said Harvie.

"It's fortunate they have this. I felt fortunate. It should go without saying," he said.

MMF president David Chartrand and Manitoba's Minister of Housing Will Goodon made the announcement.

"The costs of lumber and other construction materials have risen substantially in the last while," said Goodon.

"The HELP program has received a lot of interest since we announced it almost a year ago, but we are finding that some houses need that little bit more," he said.

Since the Government of Manitoba cancelled all its repair programs a couple of years back, Chartrand said there has been nothing available to assist with housing repairs for Métis families.

The MMF is expanding the program based on the overwhelming

demand uncovered since the launch of HELP. To date, over 190 homes have been repaired or are being repaired, with forgivable loan amounts totalling over \$2.4 million.

"We are very proud to expand on successful programs like HELP," said Chartrand.

"They allow us to continue improving our support and make life even better for Métis families across Manitoba," he said.

The increases are not retroactive to existing loans, MMF stated, but they do apply to applications still



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED
Brett Harvie replaced the furnace at his home with the financial help of MMF's Home Enhancement Loan Program.

being processed in the system.

Métis families interested in the program should call MMF's housing department for more information by calling 204-586-8474 or visiting the website at www.mmf.mb.ca.

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Home & yard

The benefits of rainwater for gardens

Submitted

For those of us with green thumbs, finding the best materials and tools to tend to our gardens can be a high priority. While the top fertilizers, seeds and weeding strategies can be debated at length, it is also critical to recognize the importance of quality water when considering how to care for your garden.

It may be simplest to set a timer and let your sprinkler system do the rest, but there are a number of benefits to maximizing your use of rainwater in growing your garden. When captured before it hits the ground, rainwater is free of pesticides, pollutants and chemicals it often gathers when running across streets, sidewalks and lawns. Rainwater, which is naturally acidic, can balance out the alkaline nature of soils near chemically basic concrete. Rainwater also has the benefit of being a similar temperature as the air and does not shock plants' roots like tap water does. Overall, rainwater is a healthier option for plants.

Making sure your plants are predominantly watered by rain can require some advance planning, especially in places with dry seasons. Plant lovers can ensure that their gardens have the best, most natural water source by using a rain barrel. Rain barrels provide a free source of water that is ideal



for vegetables, trees and plants because it does not contain fluoride and chlorine, which are added to many municipal water systems. They enable residents to collect water through the rainy season for use during dry summer months. When outdoor water restrictions are in place, water from a rain barrel can be used to wash vehicles or water lawns. Resi-

dents can also use the water to clean floors and do laundry, and having a source of stored water can be beneficial if an emergency ever arises.

Canadian Parents for French Stonewall has recently launched their fourth rain barrel sale to raise funds for French Language Learners in the Inter-lake School Division.

Local residents can keep their gardens healthy and well-nourished by ordering a rain barrel in advance of the May 20 distribution date. New barrels are \$80 and recycled barrels are \$60, which is a fraction of the big box store prices. These barrels come with accessories and are practical and stylish.

Orders can be placed at <https://rainbarrel.ca/cpf-stonewall/>

Rainwater can help reduce the pollution and balance the pH in your plants' soil and prevent damage caused by cold water. If you are committed to ensuring your lawn or garden is as healthy as it can be, use more rainwater in your gardening.

For more information, contact Corinne Lothian at 204-467-5546.

On behalf of Canadian Parents for French Stonewall, we would like to say "Merci" to our previous customers who have supported us and those who are willing to buy from us again.



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Stay safe when working in the yard this spring and summer

Staff

A day spent working in the yard is an ideal way to pass the time on spring and summer afternoons. A pristine landscape can add value to a property and instill pride in homeowners who put a lot of thought and effort into their lawns and gardens.

A sun-soaked day can make it easy to overlook potential threats when working in a lawn or garden. But safety precautions are of the utmost necessity when working in the yard, where the risk for serious injury is considerable. Lawn- and garden-related injuries can be prevented without going to great lengths.

Knowing the terrain in your own yard can reduce the risk for accident or injury. This can be especially important when mowing the lawn with a riding mower. Adhere to manufacturers' recommendations regarding inclines to reduce tip-over accidents that can pin riders beneath the mower. Study hilly areas of the yard prior to mowing so you know which areas are safe to mow with a riding mower and which areas are best mowed with a walk-behind mower. For greater control when using a walk-behind mower on an incline, mow parallel to the slope.

Sunburns may not require trips to the emergency room, but they can still be serious. In fact, the Skin Cancer Foundation notes that sunburn is a leading cause in the majority of cases of basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma and melanoma, which is the deadliest form of skin cancer. The SCF recommends applying sunscreen 30 minutes before going outside to allow the sunscreen to bond to your skin. Reapply sunscreen at least every two hours, and more often if you're sweating excessively. The SCF recommends broad spectrum sunscreens, which protect the skin from

both UVA and UVB rays. Though a product with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 is acceptable when walking the dog or driving to work, the SCF advises using a product with an SPF of 30 or higher when engaging in extended outdoor activities like gardening or mowing.

Use the buddy system when pruning tall trees or performing any tasks that require a ladder. The Orthopedic Institute of Pennsylvania reports that more than 164,000 people are injured each year falling off a ladder. Ask a significant other or neighbor to hold the ladder in place while you climb up to reduce your risk of falling. If cutting large branches, cut them piecemeal to reduce the risk of being injured by heavy falling branches.

Inspect the property for insect hives. The most common insect stings in spring come from bees, wasps and hornets. Homeowners who are not careful can inadvertently come across hives when doing spring cleanup, making them vulnerable to bites and stings. Inspect areas where you'll be working to make sure insects haven't put down roots in your property.

Lawn and garden accidents and injuries can be serious.

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WCI students caring for our watersheds

By Jennifer McFee

A group of teens from Warren Collegiate Institute is taking strides to make a positive environmental impact.

The school's environmental science class, led by teachers Amanda Dion and Jennifer Krahn, competed in the Caring for Our Watersheds competition.

In total, the competition drew 280 project submissions from across the province. The local students fared well with Kylee Pedersen and Logan Monforton placing in the Top 10. Another three students — Ella Masszi, Michael Genio and Dawson Cowan — ranked in the Top 20.

The winners were announced on Saturday, April 24. Kylee earned 7th place and received \$450 and Logan placed eighth overall and received \$400.

For the competition, Grade 7 to 12 students were asked to submit proposals that answered the question "What can you do to improve your watershed?"

They were tasked with researching their watershed to identify an environmental concern. Then they had to come up with one realistic solution

and explain their idea in a 1,000-word proposal that includes visuals.

Entries were judged on innovation, environmental impact, comprehensive scope, communication, budget, realistic solution and visuals.

The judges selected 10 finalists, who then had to deliver a five-minute verbal presentation, which was done virtually this year. All finalists in the Top 10 receive some funding to implement their project, plus a matching amount for their school or club, ranging from \$300 for 10th place up to \$1,000 for first place. Schools also receive \$100 for every 10 entries in the competition.

For Kylee Pedersen, her project focused on replacing all hand soaps at the school with an eco-friendly version.

When she found out she made it to the Top 10, she was excited but also filled with nerves about the verbal competition.

"I was super nervous," said the Grade 11 student. "I actually did really good and I'm really proud of myself."

Grade 10 student Logan Monforton focused on leading a division-wide marker recycling initiative based on the Crayola ColorCycle program.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Warren Collegiate students competed in the Caring for Our Watersheds competition, pictured left to right: Dawson Cowan, Ella Masszi, Logan Monforton and Kylee Pedersen. Missing from the photo is Michael Genio.

"You basically collect up all the markers and highlighters in your school and you ship them off to Crayola where they're reused," he said.

"I was thinking about pens at first, but I didn't really see anything coming out of that. Then I noticed that we were throwing away a lot of markers so I thought maybe I could do something with that."

Like Pedersen, he also felt a mixture of excitement and nervousness when he found out he was in the Top 10.

"I was relieved to get in the top 10 but kind of stressed for what came after," he said.

As for the other three students who made it into the Top 20, Ella Masszi's project focused on recycling ink cartridges, Michael Genio focused on making your own rain barrels, and Dawson Cowan focused on purchasing environmentally friendly confetti cannons for grad.

For teacher Amanda Dion, she has been encouraging her students to enter the competition even before she started working at Warren Collegiate Institute.

"Before teaching here, I was at the high school in Selkirk. I did it out there and when I came here, I kept doing it. It's a really good way for a school to get great projects brought into the building or into the community," Dion said.

"And whatever they win, Caring for Our Watersheds also supplies the school with the same amount of money, so it's how I've purchased a lot of the microscopes and science equipment in the school."

The school has been taking strides to improve the environment, with other Top 10 entries in recent years.

Last year, Warren Collegiate Institute students Abby Procter, Emily Fehr and Sarah Crockatt ranked in the Top 10 for their clothing swap proposal.

In 2019, Jenn Fossay of WCI earned third place for her project called "Brushing Away the (Plaque)stics." The same year, Hannah Friesen ranked fifth and Katelyn LaCombe ranked ninth. In 2017, Rebecca Myskiw came in first for her project called "Painting - It Comes Naturally!"



SOUTH INTERLAKE PLANNING

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- Is intended to support a structure such as a hot tub or pergola.



You do **NOT** need a permit for an unenclosed or detached deck less than two feet in height, or for an unenclosed attached deck of 50 ft² or less in floor area.

Permits help ensure that buildings and structures meet the *Manitoba Building Code*, which in turn increases the level of safety for everyone.

If you are unsure whether your project requires a permit or not, or if you have any questions, please contact the SIPD office at 204-467-5587 and we'd be happy to assist you! More information is also available on our website: www.sipd.ca



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STONEWALL

Communities unite to fight substantial fire in the Interlake

Unseasonably dry conditions are contributing to grass fires across the Interlake

By Tyler Searle

Fortunately, the quick action of local firefighters on Thursday saved the Overby Bison Farm from suffering severe damage.

The Woodlands Fire Department received a call for help for a grass fire north of Road 415 around noon last Thursday.

The fire was started by a single spark, while a contractor was clearing brush, resulting in hundreds of acres of scorched land.

"The brush mower hit a stone, sparked, and started the fire. That's how dry it is," said Teulon-Rockwood Fire Department chief Ryan Trombo.

Owner Ken Overby was not on site when the fire began but arrived shortly thereafter. Cell phone reception in the area is sparse, and Overby had difficulty contacting emergency services.

"Luckily, I was able to stand on the roof of the truck and communicate to the 911 operator," Overby said.

The Woodlands Fire Department responded within a half-hour and was later reinforced by firefighters and equipment from Teulon-Rockwood, Overby said.

Both local fire departments are members of the South Interlake Mutual Aid District, so when a department in one community needs extra resources, they collaborate with neighbouring departments, said Trombo.

"They did a phenomenal job. The wind really picked up in the afternoon, and they were able to control it along gravel road," Overby said.

Overby and his wife Iris operate a bison operation of more than 400 animals on 19 quarter sections of fenced land in the rough terrain of the Interlake.

Fortunately, the nearest herd was a half-mile away and the wind was



The charred remains of a fencing post hangs from a wire on the Overby Bison Farm on April 26. Ken Overby doesn't know what it will cost to repair his fences but said it won't be cheap.

headed in the opposite direction said Overby.

The Inwood Wildlife Management Area is across Road 415, which is a parcel of untouched land protected under the Wildlife Act. If the fire had spread, it would have been difficult to contain due to the abundance of fuel and wildlife in the reserve, Overby said.

The fire departments were not the only ones collaborating to fight the fire; community members also pitched in.

Justin and Frank Thorkelson, local contractors, used bulldozers to turn up the earth and create a firewall encompassing the fire. Interlake Excavating had a dozer on-site as well.

Jack Ogilvie guided firefighters through the wooded trails surrounding the fire.

"We all help out (when there is a fire) here in the local community and do our best to save everybody's property," Ogilvie said.

Overby estimates more than 250 acres of grazing land burned in total. At least 170 acres belonging to him, and another 80 acres of his neighbour Paige Clark.

Though the size of the fire was substantial, Clark said she was not afraid that her house would be caught in the fire, in spite of it being within a quarter-mile of her home.

"I used a hose to dampen the ground, and my second-storey window was a



TRIBUNE PHOTO COURTESY OF WOODLANDS FIRE DEPARTMENT
Fire fighters from the Teulon-Rockwood and Woodlands fire department collaborate to fight a grass fire at the Overby Bison Farm on April 22.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY TYLER SEARLE
Ken Overby stands outside his truck, surrounded by 250 acres of burned farmland. He had planned to move his bison here to graze by the May long weekend.

good vantage point to see the fire approaching," she said.

"One thing I realized was I need more hoses," Clark said.

Since then, Clark and other neighbours have been patrolling the perimeter of the burn zone, searching for any hot spots or burning embers.

It is not uncommon for fires to reignite in dry conditions like this, Overby said. We are all desperate for rain.

"Yes, the fire was bad, but I have real concerns going forward with finding water for livestock if we don't get substantial rain."

Before his bison herds return to graze, Overby will need to replace the charred posts and restoring his electric fence. If the spring drought continues, the land will remain unusable for months to come, he said.

In the past four years, the area has seen increasingly dry spring seasons, and Overby said this is the worst it has ever been.

"This entire area is normally covered in three feet of water."

Overall, he is grateful the damage was not worse, and he commends the fire departments and his community members for their diligent response to the blaze.

The firefighters were on the scene for seven hours, Trombo said. Fortunately, there were no animals or structures lost in the fire.

The Teulon-Rockwood Fire Department responded to four fires in three days.

Most fires during dry conditions are entirely accidental, Trombo said, and he reminds people to be cautious when working outdoors and always keep a source of water on hand. Trombo anticipates the fire bans will remain in effect until there is a significant amount of rain.

Fire bans are currently in place for Teulon-Rockwood and Woodlands. The Town of Stonewall and RM of Rosser do not have fire bans in place. But the RM of Rosser was considering a bylaw as of press time Monday.



Paige Clark stares out the second story window of her farmhouse. From this vantage point she could see the firefighters battling the blaze.



How to inspect and maintain vehicle belts:

Responsible vehicle ownership involves taking inventory of the automobile and ensuring it is working at peak capacity. Hundreds of parts work together to keep vehicles on the road, but quite often drivers do not look under the hood until something is amiss.

Routine maintenance is widely acknowledged as a critical component of responsible vehicle ownership, but many motorists may not know how to care for their cars. Belts are one example of components that are integral to efficient, well-running vehicles. The automotive resource iDriveSafely.com indicates that belts are some of the most crucial moving parts in the engine. Belts transmit power between shafts, and all belts, from serpentine belts to V-belts to timing belts, all serve important functions.

· **Serpentine belt:** Firestone® Complete Auto Care says a serpentine belt is a long, snaking, winding belt that keeps parts such as the water pump, alternator, power steering pump, and air conditioning running smoothly. Serpentine belts transport power to automotive accessories. A failing serpentine belt can cause enormous and expensive headaches, including overheating and loss of steering power.

· **V-belts:** Also known as drive belts, these are usually found in older vehicles. Unlike serpentine belts, which run through various parts, V-belts run through one or two accessories. Older cars with many bells and whistles will have multiple V-belts, and should one break, it may not cause as much of an issue as if a serpentine belt were to falter.

· **Timing belt:** Advance Auto Parts

says that most cars have interference engines in which the clearance between moving parts is so small that they can end up bumping into each other if they're not running on the same timing as one another. That is where the timing belt comes into play. It connects the crankshaft to the camshaft, helping them stay in sync. Failing to pay attention to a timing belt can result in an expensive engine repair.

Belts have finite service lives, and heat and wear and tear are usually their nemeses. It is important to look for fraying or cracking of belts. Even belts that look new may have worn out grooves that lose their grips on matching pulley grooves. Mechanics often use special gauges to check belts.

Belts also may need to be replaced due to oil or grease contamination



that can damage the rubber or synthetic rubber. It is important to check the owner's manual and seek advice from a qualified mechanic from Stonewall Tire & Auto Repair about when belts should be serviced.

Utility vehicles: What's the difference?

The terms "sport utility vehicle (SUV)" and "crossover" (also dubbed a compact sport utility vehicle, or CUV) are heard quite frequently and sometimes used interchangeably. It can be easy to blur the terms because of the subtle differences between these types of vehicles. But upon careful interpretation of these ultra-popular vehicles, the variations between them become more apparent. The frames of these vehicles can help people distinguish between them. Many car experts refer to SUVs as those vehicles that are equipped with the chassis of a truck, while crossovers are based on a car's platform. SUVs rely on a "body on frame," which means the body is built separately from the frame of the vehicle and then assembled later on. Crossovers use "unibody" architecture, which means the body and frame are one piece. SUVs are classified as a light truck and have the towing and performance capabilities of a pickup truck. As a result, the wheelbase, floorplan, suspension, powertrain, and other SUV arrangements are similar to those of a pickup. Conversely, crossovers use the platform of a sedan and handle much more like traditional passenger cars, offering smooth rides and responsive han-

dling. Crossovers are often smaller than SUVs and may not have the off-roading or towing capacities of SUVs. Another difference is the driveline. Most SUVs employ four-wheel drive systems, while crossovers have two-wheel drive systems.

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Northern lights and satellites

By Ted Bronson

Once the sun sets, the stars of the early springtime night sky are observed as they descend in the west during the month of May. Leo the Lion is seen with its mighty head facing downwards toward the western horizon shortly after darkness commences. This signals that we are well into the spring season. This year, with the large temperature swings, it was a challenge to figure out if the nights were going to be pleasantly warm or a heavier coat would have to be worn in order to be outside to observe the stars.

Occasionally I would go out after dark to check out the skies to see if there was anything interesting going on. I would take note of the constellations and asterisms in the sky for this time of year. The Big Dipper asterism (part of the Ursa Major constellation) is high overhead. It is most useful when locating the North Star (Polaris). Use the "pointer stars" of the bowl of the Big Dipper and extend a line to the handle of the Little Dipper. Face this star and you are looking north. If we follow the curve of the handle of the Big Dipper downward it leads us to the yellow star Arcturus in the constellation of Boötes (the Herdsman) then extend it to Spica, a blue-white star in the constellation of Virgo (the Virgin). I remember this exercise as "arc to Arcturus and spike to Spica."

Other things I have seen is the occasional sighting of the ISS (International Space Station) as it passes rapidly across the sky in front of the stars. Refer to the website www.heavens-above.com and enter your location for current visible ISS passes. The same website will inform you of the SpaceX's Starlink satellite launch schedules. Periodically several satellites are placed in a parking orbit after a rocket launch. These satellites are

seen moving in a line against a dark sky. They are then assigned to their individual orbits over time.

Another sight observers have noticed in the northern night sky over the past few months that is becoming a common sight is the aurora borealis (northern lights).

The bright dancing lights of the aurora are actually collisions between electrically charged particles from the sun that enter the earth's atmosphere. The lights are seen above the magnetic poles of the northern and southern hemispheres. They are known as aurora borealis in the north and aurora australis in the south. The lights appear in many forms from patches or scattered clouds of light to streamers, arcs, rippling curtains or shooting rays that light up the sky with an eerie glow. Variations in colour are due to the type of gas particles that are colliding. The most common auroral color, a pale yellowish-green, is produced by oxygen molecules located about 100 kilometers above the earth. Rare, all-red auroras are produced by high-altitude oxygen, at heights of up to 320 kilometers. Nitrogen produces blue or purplish-red aurora.

The last quarter moon can be seen just below Jupiter and Saturn on May 4 before sunrise. By May 15 the waxing crescent moon will reside to the right of Mars in the constellation of Gemini after sundown. The full moon (Flower Moon) on May 26 will pass through the earth's shadow producing a descending total lunar eclipse. We will not be able to see the moon turn to its characteristic rusty colour as it will have set before reaching totality as seen from our location.

Clear Skies

Ted Bronson is an avid local astronomer who has been observing the sky since 1964. This column "Guide to the Galaxy" appears monthly in the Tribune.

Starlink Satellite Train



The SpaceX's Starlink satellite launch can be seen periodically after a rock launch. PHOTO SUBMITTED

Activities for Seniors in Your Area

April 2021 Calendar of Events!



Activity Centre
374 - 1st Street West
(204) 467-2582
For newsletters,
visit www.si55plus.org

We are looking forward to seeing everyone when Manitoba Health restrictions start to lift, and it is safe to return to in-person activities. In the meantime, we have transitioned many programs to Zoom and are working hard to keep the important connections we have built in the community. If you'd like to take part in any of our virtual programming and need help using Zoom, give us a call at (204) 467-2582 to get free over the phone support as you learn this new program.

For updated information on how programs are being delivered, visit our website, or email us at si55plus@mymts.net.

Clip & Save

April 2021:

April 28: Painting with Gail - Impressionist Sunrise @ 1:00pm (Zoom)

April 29: Cabin Fever Reliever: The Game Show @ 3:00pm (Zoom)

May 2021:

May 5: Book Club @ 1:00pm (Zoom)

May 26: Painting with Gail - Rose Bouquet @ 1:00pm (Zoom)

May 27: AGM @ 7:00pm

STEPPIN' UP

Monday-Saturday @ 9:00 am

Join us for a peer-led hour of exercise focusing on cardio, strength, stretching, and stability. This free course is run by volunteers to keep you connected and active even while at home!



Call (204) 467-2582
for more information



VIRTUAL COFFEE AND A CHAT

Join us on Zoom to connect with members of the community as we check in on each other for an hour-long chat.

Offered every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 3:00 pm
Next Chats: April 29th
May 13th



55 Plus will be offering the COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PROGRAM

Until April 30th

Tuesday - Friday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

This is a DROP-OFF Service Only

VOLUNTEERS are TRAINED by CANADA REVENUE AGENCY

For Eligibility Criteria, Required Documents & More Information
CALL: 204-467-2582



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Operated by Stonewall and Area Mobility Service



May 4, 2021-10 % Tuesday at Red River Coop (Stonewall)

Price is \$5.00 round trip. (Interac Tap is available)

Pickups from: Lions Manor, Crocus Manor and Stonewood Place. Buses will operate on 2 schedules: 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM
Stops include Family Foods, Red River Coop, Center & Main (for banking) and Westside Plaza.

Call (204) 467-9446 to reserve your seat!



ACTIVE WELLNESS CLUB

Want to kick start your fitness journey? We have 10 classes a week (including 5 evening classes!) to help you reach your goals and stay active.

For more information, or to sign up, call (204) 467-2582 or email si55plus@mymts.net



Get out and enjoy the weather!

Through our Stepping Out program, the 55 Plus has Nordic walking poles available for use. Enjoy some extra exercise benefits and stability as you enjoy the spring weather.

Call the centre at (204) 467-2582 for more details



Please join us for our AGM: Thursday, May 27th @ 7:00 pm

In-person attendance is subject to current public health orders.

Attend & Participate Virtually using Zoom.

Register on-line at our website www.si55plus.org, call 204-467-2582 or email us at si55plus@mymts.net

Pre-Registration Required by May 25th

AGM
Annual General Meeting

For more information call 204-467-2582

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Pawluk enjoys great first season with Minot State

By Brian Bowman

Brayden Pawluk's first season with the Minot State Beavers men's hockey team was a tremendous one.

Pawluk saw plenty of ice time, was used on the power play, and led Minot State to the ACHA Division I national final where they lost 6-1 to Adrian College in St. Louis, MO on April 20. The game was a lot closer than the score would indicate.

"In the middle of the second period they got two goals that were not the best goals back-to-back and you could tell that we hit the panic button a little bit," said Pawluk last Friday from Minot. "We tried to battle back but they just played a steady shutdown game, keeping things simple, dumping pucks. It was tough to battle back and we hit a few posts and had some good opportunities."

The No. 6-ranked Beavers reached the final after posting hard-fought victories over Calvin University (2-1), Lindenwood University (2-1) and Liberty University (3-1).

"We had a really tough path to get (to the final) as the sixth-seed team," Pawluk said. "You could tell that our guys were worn out, physically and mentally drained, and that played in the end with the outcome."

Playing for a national title was a great experience.

"I was definitely fortunate to be playing considering lots of my friends back home that I played junior with weren't able to have much of a season," Pawluk said. "I was definitely fortunate to be able to play and play at a high level at a national tournament



Brayden Pawluk

representing Minot State. It was the highest stakes that I've ever played in so it was pretty cool to have that opportunity."

Eleven players on the Minot State roster previously played in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League. For them to reach a national final is pretty impressive.

"It definitely says a lot for the Manitoba junior league," Pawluk said. "The ACHA doesn't get as much praise just because it's not NCAA. Guys tend to look down to it or kind of look over it when they're finding places to play. They tend to go to Division III instead of going to a top program in the ACHA and I think that's absolutely the wrong route. The ACHA has lots to offer, for sure."

Pawluk is really enjoying his time



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Minot State Beavers' defenceman Brayden Pawluk had the opportunity play in the ACHA Division I national final in St. Louis last week.

with the Beavers. His teachers and teammates have been great and he was used in key roles in his first ACHA season.

"It's a great program here, they preach success and they do well with all of their sports and academics," Pawluk said.

As for the hockey team, Minot State loses just three forwards from this year's team. The Beavers should be very strong next season.

"We're going to have a lot of the same guys that we had this past year so I think that's going to be really key," Pawluk noted.

Hockey Manitoba announces refund to associations

By Brian Bowman

Parents of kids registered with the Stonewall Minor Hockey Association (SMHA) this past year have received refunds.

But not all have been pleased with the amount, especially those with multiple kids registered.

SMHA president Jeff Morden admitted it's been a challenging process.

"We, the board four months ago, before everything shut down, the town had asked us to fit the bill for the ice

plants because they had done it for four months, or whatever, with nothing," he said, noting the town was trying to work with the SMHA, last week. "We were basically asked to come up with eight to 10 grand to keep the ice plants going. We polled the group and it was a unanimous 'No.'"

"We did not have a guarantee for games at that point due to the ever-changing restrictions. We were forced to make the decision to shut it down as it was membership money."

The SMHA started talking refunds right after that, said Morden, because other associations had already refunded money. They formed a four-person committee consisting of Morden, Chris Godin, Todd Chetyrbok and Pete Mandryk.

Refunds for each age group were prorated based on who had the most ice time through to who had the least.

The U13 males and U11 females received the least refunds at 54 per cent while the U15 females were the high-

est at 66 per cent.

"This is all based on Hockey Manitoba, at this point, not giving us any indication that they were going to be refunding us any money," Morden explained. "We presented to the membership that we were going to go ahead and process refunds because it was already later into March and if Hockey Manitoba comes back with any refunds then we're just going to

Continued on page 21

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Stony Mountain hosts successful disc golf tournament

By Brian Bowman

There were plenty of discs flying around Stony Mountain's Old Quarry Park last Saturday.

Disc Golf Manitoba hosted its first sanctioned tournament of the season there and it was a huge success.

The tournament had to limit the number of competitors to 54.

"The registration for the event filled up in about 20 minutes," said West St. Paul's Daniel Edinborough. "Lots of people weren't able to play that wanted to."

There were just as many spectators from the disc golf community and the local area that came out to watch the event.

The sport is similar to traditional golf except it's played with a disc.

Instead of hitting the ball into a hole, players throw a disc into a supported metal basket with the goal of complet-

ing the course in the fewest number of shots.

Leagues in Winnipeg started this week and the popularity of the sport is going through the roof world-wide.

"In the last few years, it has really exploded," Edinborough noted. "Most courses are free so it's really family friendly and you're not breaking the bank."

For Winkler's Eric Giesbrecht, disc golf is a great sport to play.

"Back in 2014, my parents heard there was, at that time, frisbee golf and they took me and my siblings out to play and eventually I found myself into disc golf and I kind of got into it from there on the fly and I was hooked," he said.

Giesbrecht said more courses are definitely needed in Manitoba, especially in Winnipeg. He really enjoyed the many challenges that the Stony



Daniel Edinborough said the disc golf tournament in Stony Mountain was a great success.



Winkler's Eric Giesbrecht throws a disc during last Saturday's disc golf tournament in Stony Mountain.

TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Mountain course offered.

"It was definitely unique," he said. "I've never played on a terrain like that. Everything is stone, everything is rock, gravel, so it was just different. But the course is really fun with a lot of unique holes. It's definitely something that a lot of Manitobans have not played before. It was cool to have the unique setting."

Giesbrecht wanted to invite disc golf players to the courses in the Winkler

and Morden area.

"People should come play down here in Winkler/Morden," he said. "We have two nine-basket courses here in Winkler and then Stanley Park, south of Morden, is a beautiful 18-basket course that has gone through a lot of change over the last year. We made it a full 18-hole course so you can come play. It's a great time and a beautiful park. People should come check it out down here."

> HOCKEY MB, FROM PG. 20

knock it off the price for next year."

Last week, Hockey Manitoba sent out an email to the SMHA with specifics as to what they are going to refund.

"That essentially will go straight to knocking down the price of hockey for people next year," Morden said. "The (bad) part of that is if you moved out

of the area or were a graduating player then you're out of luck."

Morden admitted that he has received a couple of emails questioning the amount of the refunds and he quickly called them to explain the situation.

"I have three kids that I enrolled in hockey and I got \$1,400 back. It basi-

cally cost me \$700 and that money went up in smoke," Morden explained. "It's not us at the board sitting around and we all get full refunds. We had a couple of people that didn't quite understand it. But I honestly had more people emailing me and saying, 'Thank you very much, thanks for the hard work, and it was a (bad) year.'

"More of those than the complainers, to be honest. For as far as the

community goes, they have been really good and we're appreciative of the patience that they have shown and the faith they have given us as we get through this crappy year."

SMHA's annual general meeting is slated for May 13. Members can look at the breakdown of expenses then, said Morden.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Hofer blanks Binghamton for first pro shutout

Staff

Utica Comets' netminder Joel Hofer turned in a spectacular performance to earn his first professional shutout and lead his team to a 3-0 win over the Binghamton Devils in American Hockey League action last Wednesday.

The Winnipeg-born Hofer made 40 saves for the well-earned victory.

Hofer turned away all 12 shots he faced in the first period and helped the Comets kill six minutes' worth of penalties.

The Comets outscored the Rochester Americans 7-5 last Friday.

Hofer then made a return to the Comets' goal on Sunday afternoon, losing 7-1 to the Crunch in Syracuse.

He started in goal but gave up five goals on 14 shots before he was pulled at the 14:30 mark of the second period.

Hofer is now 2-4 with Utica, posting a 3.98 goals-against average and .882 save percentage.

He was selected in the fourth round, 107th overall in the 2018 NHL Draft by the St. Louis Blues.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY UTICA COMETS

Joel Hofer made 40 saves for his first professional shutout as his Utica Comets blanked the Binghamton Devils 3-0 in AHL action on April 21.

WHL announces no playoffs this season

From the WHL

The Western Hockey League announced last week that the 2020-21 WHL season will conclude following the completion of the 24-game regular-season schedule.

Due to current public health conditions and the ongoing challenges with COVID-19, including restrictions on travel across both provincial and international borders, the WHL is not in a position to conduct the 2021 WHL playoffs, including the WHL championship series.

"When we returned to play in February, we set out with the intention of completing a 24-game regular-season schedule, knowing adjustments would be needed along the way," said WHL commissioner Ron Robison. "We remained hopeful that public health conditions would improve, but unfortunately that is not the reality we see in front of us today. The ongoing challenges with non-essential interprovincial and international cross-border travel leave us no alternative but to cancel the 2021 WHL playoffs.

"We commend our players, team staff, and officials for their commitment to following the protocols that have made this unprecedented season a success. The WHL looks forward to recognizing individual award winners and all four WHL Division champions at the conclusion of the 2020-21 WHL regular season, including the presentation of the RE/MAX Cup for the B.C. Division champions and the Subway Cup for the East Division champions."

The 2021 WHL Awards will recognize individual award winners from

each WHL Division, as opposed to the traditional celebration of conference-based award winners. The 2021 WHL Awards will culminate with honourees in each major awards category on a league-wide basis. The 2021 WHL Awards will be celebrated digitally following the conclusion of the 2020-21 WHL regular season.

The WHL will continue to work with Government and Health Authorities regarding schedule options for the 2021-22 regular season.

Manitoba Soccer Association kicks out fans due to COVID

Staff

The good news is that there will be a soccer season this summer.

The bad news is that no fans will get to see it.

The Manitoba Soccer Association made a curious decision last week, banning all spectators from the sidelines at any youth or senior practice, exhibition or league game.

For mini soccer players (ages three

to eight) a parent will be allowed to attend but must participate on the field with the player.

Leagues can start exhibition games immediately, with the outdoor competitive season beginning this Saturday.

Current public health orders have a 10-person outdoor gathering maximum but the province says if people are playing a game, more than

10 people may be involved, including players, coaches, and others who may be helping with the game from the sidelines.

The Manitoba Soccer Association said it reviews their Return to Play protocols as new Public Health Orders are released from the provincial health authorities. The current restrictions are in effect until May 12, 2021, at which time the new restric-

tions will once again be reviewed with their Return to Play.

"It is our hope that the pandemic situation improves and that the health orders increase the number of persons allowed at gatherings so that we may consider the return of spectators to games," read a statement.

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Age 55+ Apartments -INWOOD SENIORS LODGE bachelor & 1bdrm suites. RGI & capped rent. Meal program & activities on site. Call Tina for more info 204-278-3534 email: inwoodm@highspeedcrow.ca

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Laser Jungle in Stonewall for sale. \$60,000 obo (possible option to purchase property/building with business). Ph Bernice at 204-298-8013.

HELP WANTED

Overland Truck Outfitters, the leader in truck caps and truck accessories, is looking for a reliable motivated person to install truck accessories. Bring resume to Overland Truck Outfitters, 102 Aviation Blvd. St. Andrews 204-338-4292.

SHOP LOCAL

HELP WANTED

Part time or full time seasonal help req'd for Warren Tire. Good drivers abstract & ability to operate mobile service truck or to do general tire tech tasks. For information phone 204-322-5347 or email wtire@mymts.net

The Window Factory located at 605 Mercy St, Selkirk is now hiring installer assistant and manufacturer assembly personal. Please apply in person to the office Monday - Friday. Valid driver's licence required for installer assistant.

Biff's Septic Service is looking for a full time Septic Truck Driver. Class 3 and a clean Drivers Abstract is required. Please send resumes to admin@biffsseptic.com

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THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD

2021 DUST CONTROL PROGRAM

When requesting application of dust control, the Applicant acknowledges and accepts the following:

1. The product to be used for dust control purposes is Magnesium Chloride. The Municipality does not guarantee any dust control product.
2. For safety purposes, the maintenance of roads by the Municipality takes priority over anyone's application of dust control.
3. The Municipality shall not be responsible to replace anyone's application of dust control.

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood will accept requests for the application of dust control, on a **PRE-PAYMENT BASIS ONLY**, on municipal roads in front of residences in the Rural Municipality of Rockwood. **This includes residences in the Rural Residential Zones.**

Ratepayers may obtain dust control on the basis of **\$400.00** per application. Orders and pre-payments for same to be made to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood Administration Office by **Friday, May 14, 2021**. The application will consist of actual width of road x 100 metre strip. The area to be serviced must be staked out prior to application. Dust Control will be applied during the early part of June, **weather permitting**.

In the event of there not being sufficient requests for a truckload, payments will be refunded.

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood

Rural Municipality of Woodlands 2021 DUST CONTROL PROGRAM



The Rural Municipality of Woodlands will accept requests for the application of dust control, on a **PRE-PAYMENT BASIS**, on municipal roads in front of residences within the Municipality. Application forms are available at the Municipal Office or our website www.rmwoodlands.info. The application will consist of a 16' x 300' strip at a cost \$300.00 plus GST (\$315.00).

Deadline to submit application forms is **Friday, May 14, 2021**.

In the event of insufficient requests, payments will be refunded.

NOTE: Any property owners undertaking Dust Control privately **must** provide Public Works with 5 days notice prior to commencement of any works and road prepping will only be undertaken during the same time frame when the Municipality is undertaking its dust control.

COUNCIL
Rural Municipality of Woodlands

Rural Municipality of Woodlands PUBLIC HEARING



REGARDING THE 2021 FINANCIAL PLAN

In accordance with Subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act the Council of the Rural Municipality of Woodlands shall hold a PUBLIC HEARING to present the 2021 Financial Plan for the Municipality at

May 6, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.
Warren Hall

145 MacDonald Avenue, Warren, MB

The Rural Municipality of Woodlands 2021 Financial Plan consists of:

- 1) 2021 Operating Budget
- 2) 2021 Capital Budget
- 3) an estimate of the operating revenue and expenditures for the following fiscal year (2022), and
- 4) a five-year Capital Expenditure Program (2022-2026)

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested person to make representation, ask questions, or register an objection in respect of the Rural Municipality of Woodlands 2021 Financial Plan. If you are planning to attend we are requesting that you pre-register with the RM of Woodlands Office at 204-383-5679 or by email at finance@rmwoodlands.ca.

Due to COVID-19 information and documents concerning the 2021 Financial Plan are available for review by email, mail or fax. Please call 204-383-5679 to arrange for delivery.

Adam Turner, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Woodlands

Dated April 14, 2021

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Responsibilities:

- Ensure the maintenance and repair of all equipment and machinery on site. They will implement daily, weekly, monthly, and annual maintenance and repair schedule in order to limit down time for production. Maintain written records of all maintenance and repairs completed on all equipment.
- Provide emergency or unscheduled repairs of production equipment during production to limit any time delays for production. As part of these duties they will be required to diagnose, repair or replace parts and test to ensure the equipment is in proper working condition.
- Be involved in all aspects of building maintenance to ensure compliance to any construction, renovation or equipment updates to ensure proper preventative maintenance schedules. Set daily priorities for preventative maintenance work orders, maintenance requisitions and scheduled work as per direction from Production Supervisor and/or Maintenance Specialist 2.
- Maintain stock and supply tools and equipment for production workers.
- Comply with all safety regulations and maintain clean and orderly work areas.
- Ensure seasonal maintenance of yard site including keep sidewalks and hydro meter areas clear and accessible.
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Qualifications:

- Grade 12 or GED a Trades Certificate would be considered an asset.
- 1-3 years' experience in maintenance
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- Knowledge of local, provincial and federal workplace compliance regulations, ordinances and legislation.
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- Basic literacy and numeracy skills

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of Lillian Eva Torske, late of the Postal District of Inwood, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, P.O. Box 1400, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0 on or before the 2nd day of May, 2021.

DATED at Stonewall, Manitoba this 20th day of April, 2020.

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INTERLAKE SCHOOL DIVISION REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CUSTODIAL SERVICES



The Interlake School Division requires custodial services at the following Stonewall locations:

- School Division Office
192 - 2nd Ave N. (3800 sq. ft.) Monday - Friday.
- Transportation/Maintenance/Technology Facility
6-145 East Rd 76N (3000 sq. ft.) Monday - Friday.
- Alternative Education/Student Services Administration
308 Main St. (2340 sq. ft.) Monday - Friday (10 months).

Proposals will be accepted for a combined monthly bid for all locations for a three-year period commencing in June 2021.

The successful applicant will be required to have some flexibility in their work schedule in order to accommodate evening meetings.

Proposals will close at 12:00 noon, May 13th, 2021.

Please contact Colleen Cowie at 204-467-3023 or ccowie@isd21.mb.ca to obtain specifications.

Please submit proposals to: Al Leiman, Secretary-Treasurer Interlake School Division, 192-2nd Ave. N., Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0 "Custodial Services"

Lowest or any proposal not necessarily accepted.



Rural Municipality of Armstrong

PUBLIC HEARING 2021 FINANCIAL PLAN

In accordance with Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act the Rural Municipality of Armstrong shall hold a PUBLIC HEARING to present the 2021 Financial Plan for the Municipality on:

Thursday, May 6, 2021 @ 7:00 P.M.
FRASERWOOD HALL
10140 PR 231 Fraserwood, MB

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

At this time Council will present the proposed 2021 Financial Plan for the municipality. The presentation will provide an overview of the proposed financial plan followed by questions or comments from the public.

Council will hear any person who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions, or register an objection to the proposed financial plan. If you wish to appear at the Public Hearing in person, you must pre-register with the Armstrong Municipal Office to attend by calling 204-278-3377 before May 4, 2021 by 4:30 PM. The Municipality will also be accepting written representations by sending an email to cao@rmofarmstrong.com or postal mail to RM of Armstrong, Box 69 Inwood, MB R0C 1P0. Pre-registration is required so we can book space to adhere to social distancing protocols. Council may at their discretion decide to hold the public hearing virtually instead of meeting in person.

Copies of the Financial Plan will be available for review and may be examined by any person on the RM of Armstrong website at www.rmofarmstrong.com on April 21, 2021 or by contacting the Municipal Office at 204-278-3377.

Dated this 15th day of April, 2021.

Corlie Larsen, CMMA

Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Armstrong

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BIRTHDAY



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Happy 90th Birthday on May 2, 2021
-Love from your family

ANNIVERSARY



Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary Archie and Mona Buchkowski on April 24th
-With lots of love, Mark, Jennifer, Matthew and Anna Kristy, Trevor, Ava and Isabella

IN MEMORIAM



Lynn Craig
On May 4th, you will have been gone for one year. It has been one year without your funny little giggle, your beautiful smile, your unique sense of humor, your infinite wisdom and your kind heart. Not a day goes by that we don't miss the sound of your voice and the sing-song way you left voicemails. As you directed, we have carried on, remembered you in our own way and continued the fight to end ALS. The disease that took you will end because of you.
We will love you always and miss you every minute.

-Ken, Stephanie and Todd, Louise and Madison

IN MEMORIAM



Kenneth Kiel
August 1, 1936-April 29, 2016
In loving memory of our wonderful husband, father and grandfather we lost five years ago.
-Always remembered and forever missed by Marlene, Kevin and Bev, Brad and Debbie Tyler, Carter, Riley and Cameron



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OBITUARY



Maureen Ann Maskow

After a courageous battle with cancer, at the age of 73, Maureen Ann Maskow passed away on April 15, 2021 at the Teulon Hunter Memorial Hospital.

Left to mourn Maureen's passing are her sons Kurt (May), Trent (Roxanne); grandchildren Dylan, Mary, Harley, Donavin; great-grandchildren Lucy and Roman; numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, neighbors, and friends.

Maureen was predeceased by her husband Wilfred; son Todd; daughter-in-law Rosemary; parents Leo and Kathleen Magnusson; sister Gail and her husband Lorne Van Achte; brother John and his wife Beryl.

Maureen worked for homecare for 30+ years and made many great friendships along the way.

Cremation will take place and a private interment will be held at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made to CancerCare Manitoba. Maureen's family would like to thank all of the staff at the Teulon Hospital for their exceptional care during her stay there.



204-886-0404

OBITUARY

**Arthur Roger Joseph Dupont
November 20, 1939 – April 23, 2021**

It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that the family wishes to announce Art's passing.

Art will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 51 years Carol; his daughter Valerie (Rick); his son Eric (Lucinda); his brothers Henry (Jo-ann) and Gilbert (Diane); his sister Rose (Bert); his grandchildren Kayla (Ivan), Randy, Tristan, Dominique, Shae-lyn, Racheal, Abigail, and Kenadi along with his great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Art pursued his passion for nursing and became the first male nurse at Gimli Hospital and later resource coordinator for St. Laurent.

He grew up on a farm in Inwood, MB which he later purchased from his mother and started a dairy business. After several years he converted it to beef.

Art was very passionate about farming, enjoyed gardening, loved his many horses, and could always be found on the dance floor at local events.

The family would like to say "Thank you" to the staff at HSC COVID Ward, Eriksdale Hospital staff, Teulon Home Care, The Paramedics and Ken Loehmer Funeral Services for their compassion and care.

We would also like to thank our neighbors and friends for the phone calls and visits.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Manitoba Lung Association or CancerCare Manitoba.



204-886-0404

OBITUARY



Freda Mae Hoey (Chudley)

With great sadness after a lengthy and courageous battle, Mae passed away peacefully at her home in Gateway Manor in Teulon, Manitoba on April 21, 2021 with her family at her side.

Mae is survived by her children, Robert Hoey, Lorna Hoey, Neil Hoey and Cathy Lifeso; grandchildren Jay, Maegan, Jordan, Lindsay, Regeena, Caitlin; great-grandchildren Sadie and Lincoln. She is survived by her sister Phyllis Harvey of Pipestone, Manitoba as well numerous nieces and nephews.

Mae was predeceased by her husband Roger in 2012; her sisters Ruth McDonald, Betty Redlin and brothers Gerald and William Chudley; her parents Freda and Cleavland Chudley of Brookdale, Manitoba.

Mae was born in Neepawa, Manitoba on April 23, 1933. She grew up on the family farm in the area of Brookdale, Manitoba.

As a young woman Mae's plan was to be a teacher, she attended Normal School in Winnipeg in the early 1950's. Mae and Roger were married in Brookdale on July 25, 1953. In the years that followed Mae and Roger's family grew. Mae supported Roger in the hardware business and the small family moved from Brookdale to Semans and Bengough in Saskatchewan. The hardware business brought the family to Teulon in 1962. Teulon became home for Mae and her family. Mae was a loving mother to the four kids, was very active in the community and was a strong supporter and tireless worker for her other love, the United Church in Teulon. She was able to pursue her teaching career in Teulon. Mae and Roger were adventurous types and enjoyed travel, early on it was with the family on many wonderful and memorable summer vacation trips to many parts of Canada. Later on, Roger and Mae made use of their growing free time to travel to many parts of the world, including the United States, Europe, Japan and Australia.

Mae (Mom) was a happy, kind and loving soul and was an inspiration to those she touched. She will always be dearly loved by her family and fondly remembered in the community.

A private family service will be held at a later date. Interment will be at the Brookdale cemetery.

In lieu flowers, if friends so desire, donations can be made to Cancer Care Manitoba, flowers are gratefully declined.

The Hoey family wish to acknowledge and thank the doctors and staff at the Teulon Hospital, Gateway Manor, staff at the Stonewall Hospital and Cancer Care Manitoba for their considerate and compassionate efforts, especially in these trying times.



204-886-0404



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