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VOLUME 6 EDITION 2

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015

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Boarding in the New Year



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

With above seasonal weather on Dec. 31, skiers and snowboarders, including Stonewall resident Garrett Turbett, flocked to the Stony Mountain ski hill to fit in their last runs of 2014.

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

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The Christmas tree caper

By Natasha Tersigni

Bruce Hogg has a simple message for the person who has been cutting down his Christmas trees for the past 10 years — please stop.

The Warren resident has a row of evergreen trees on the edge of his property that is one mile north of town, and someone has made it their tradition to cut one down every December.

“Over the past five to 10 years, it has happened fairly often, not necessarily every year. I have never been there to catch them. I have just been there after to see the evidence,” said Hogg.

This year right on schedule, a few weeks before Christmas, Hogg noticed that another tree in his row was missing.

“The trees have been there for 20 years and they are fairly high now and they are pretty good Christmas trees, so people just come and cut what they want. They are all in a row, so they must know they are not wild trees,” said Hogg.

While he is not looking to press any criminal charges for trespassing or to take any further action, he just simply hopes that whoever is taking the trees will realize they are on private property and are not meant to cut down to be decorated with lights.

“I would like whoever is doing this just to stop cutting them down.”



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Bruce Hogg stands by one of his evergreen trees that has been cut in half. Someone has been cutting down Hogg's trees for the past 10 years and he wants them to stop.

Neighbours' quick reaction rescues Stony Mountain family from house fire

By Natasha Tersigni

If it wasn't for the quick thinking and fast action of one Stony Mountain couple, the Knapp family may not be ringing in 2015.

On Dec. 27 at 7 a.m., Bev Robinson was going about her normal morning routine when she saw smoke billowing out of her neighbour's house. She quickly called 9-1-1 while her husband, John, ran over to awaken the sleeping family of four and get them out of the burning house.

All four family members emerged from the house unscathed; however, the fire destroyed the attic, roof and

bedroom, all located over the garage, causing an estimated \$250,000 in damages.

Ken Knapp is grateful for the Robinsons and the 15 firefighters who responded to the fire.

“We are very thankful to John and Bev, as well as the fire department responded quickly and did a super good job minimizing any further damage,” said Knapp, who also noted three other neighbours called 9-1-1.

The office of the Fire Commissioner has ruled the fire started due to electrical wiring and there will be no further investigation.

TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Without neighbours' quick action, the damage from a fire at the Knapp family home, which is located at 14 Richard St. in Stony Mountain, could have been much worse.





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Council briefs from the final meeting of 2014

By Marney Blunt

At the Town of Stonewall's final council meeting on Dec. 17, council had a public hearing for a variation application of Global Homes. The application was to allow the minimum front yard of 25 feet to be reduced to 22.1 feet for a property on 9th Avenue South. Chris Fulmyk, a lawyer from Broadway Law Group, attended the meeting to represent Global Homes and spoke on behalf of the applicant and property owner, Shayne Murphy. Fulmyk explained how with the front yard came about.

"I discussed the matter with the manager of Global Homes, and he explained to me that on this particular project, Global Homes had the surveyors put stakes at the corners of the lot in the usual fashion and then the 25-foot setback was marked and then the concrete crew and the basement foundation crew were sent out to do the work. I was told that when the crew arrived, pegs were missing," explained Fulmyk.

"So the project was temporarily stalled while phone calls were made to the (company) to find out what they should do. At that time, they were told that it was Global Homes that built homes on either side and that the crew should set that foundation back the same as the others were, and what happened is that a measurement error resulted in the foundation being where it is now."

Fulmyk added that the manager of Global Homes

assures that the company took actions to ensure that these types of problems will be minimized.

"First off, they got a crew that can measure better, and secondly, the site foreman now double checks the siting of basements before the excavations begin," said Fulmyk, who also pointed out to council to consider the fact that there was no opposition at the hearing. Fulmyk also added that the house does not "stick out like a sore thumb" in the neighbourhood.

Mayor Lockie McLean said that council has previously permitted minor variances to this nature.

"I know several years ago, we passed an amendment that the planning board looks after now, and it was when a developer comes in and makes multiple mistakes... The first time, we gave a mulligan, if it's something simple," said McLean. "The next time, there's progressive penalties for each one, and my understanding is we haven't had any mulligans at Global Homes."

Council unanimously passed a motion to approve the application for variation.

Care and Maintenance for William Kurelek Tribute Project

Also at the Dec. 17 meeting, council passed a motion to accept care and maintenance of the William Kurelek Tribute monument. William Kurelek was a well-known Canadian artist who originally hailed



A preliminary drawing of the William Kurelek Tribute monument.

from the Interlake area. The William Kurelek committee is putting up a commemorative monument at the Wayside Park and Ride at the corner of Highway 67 and Highway 7.

The council passed a motion for the Town of Stonewall to be responsible for the care and maintenance of the monument, subject to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood agreeing to be jointly responsible for care and maintenance.

Man threatens Stonewall council members

By Marney Blunt

RCMP were called to the Stonewall Town Hall after things got a little tense at the regular council meeting on Dec. 17 when a man directed an angry and violent threat to council over the outcome of an appeal hearing for an unsafe and unsightly property.

Council had received complaints over the subject property, located at 340 Third St. East in the Town of Stonewall, from neighbours who found the property unsightly.

The appellant and property owner, Shannon Gentes, was at the meeting with a man who she identified as her partner. The man says his general source of income is a scrap metal business, which he runs out of the Gentes' residential property. He also said he fixes snowmobiles and quads in the yard as a hobby.

"We don't see the problem of us keeping these vehicles on our property," said Gentes. "We've seen a number of people around town who have the same thing, if not more, than we do and we're being forced to get rid of our items."

"The only problem is I don't have a garage," added Gentes' partner. "And, yes, I know I have a disgruntled neighbour, and that's where all this problem is coming from."

Justin Sowa, the bylaw enforcement

officer for the Town of Stonewall, was also present at the meeting. Sowa said he began receiving complaints in early June and had performed site inspections on July 4, July 29 and Aug. 13. Each time, the property was cleaned up slightly, but Sowa said it still remained in contravention. On Nov. 30, 2014, Grantham Law, representing the Town of Stonewall, sent correspondence requesting the property to be cleaned up and a written order was issued.

Gentes and her partner said they had been looking for alternative storage options for the vehicles and that cleanup has been challenging.

"As you've seen, it's taken time but things are getting better," said Gentes' partner. "It's just I can't do everything in one shot. I injured myself several years ago and I can only do a bit of work at a time. So when I work, I have to give it all I got and then I'm out for three days. I can barely move."

Mayor Lockie McLean addressed the couple's challenges but advised that they need to respect the concerns of their neighbours.

"It's a proud neighbourhood; it's a very proud neighbourhood," said McLean. "To them, it is unsightly, and you have to respect the people in the neighbourhood as well when you move into it. It doesn't mean you're

bad people."

McLean also said that the vehicles belong in an industrial zone, not a residential zone.

"Although I feel for you because I can see that you are making an effort, it's just that the neighbourhood surrounding — to them, it's a depreciation of their property," said Coun. Clive Hinds. "And I'm sure you understand that situation."

Coun. Walter Badger had suggested giving them until Jan. 31, 2015, to clean up the yard, taking into consideration the man's health issues and it being the Christmas season.

However, things got heated once council was discussing the motion. Without waiting to hear the final decision, Gentes' partner got up and stormed out of the room, while uttering verbal and violent threats toward council.

"I got to get the f*** out of here before I punch somebody the f*** out, because I know I've done that before," said the man, who added on his way out the door, "I'll

f***ing hunt them all down, one at a time."

Following the threat, council called RCMP to the town hall to report the threat.

Despite the man's outburst and verbal threats, council still passed a motion to give the couple a deadline of Jan. 31, 2015, to have the property cleaned up. After that, the Town bylaw officer will be able to enter the property to remove unsightly materials.

The motion passed three to one. Hinds withdrew his support of the motion after the outburst. Coun. Jeff Levesque arrived at the meeting during the motion and therefore was not included in the vote.

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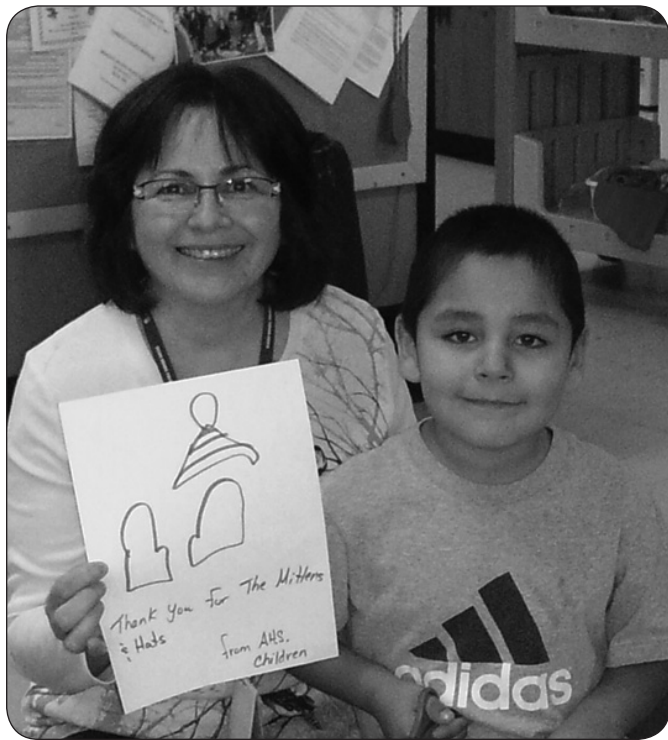
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Mittens for Christmas



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The children of Berens River are a little warmer thanks to the generosity of Stonewall nurse Susan McKay (left), the Stonewall Kinsmen club and those who donated to the mitten tree at Family Foods. McKay is happy to report that with Stonewall's support, she made a difference this year for the children of Berens River. She was able to deliver approximately 800 articles of clothing including mittens, boots, tuques, scarves, blankets, snowsuits, socks and slippers to the Aboriginal Headstart program, the Berens River Day Care, the Well Baby program and the Brighter Futures Initiatives. McKay has been a nurse for the past two years helping in the kidney dialysis unit of the Berens River reserve. She continues to see members of the 3,000-person community, half of whom are below the age of 20 and unable to afford warm clothing for winter.

RCMP investigating trailer theft in town of Woodlands

By Natasha Tersigni

The Stonewall RCMP is seeking the public's help with their investigation into the theft of a trailer full of tools from a construction site on Argyle Street in the town of Woodlands.

At 9 a.m. on Dec. 30, Stonewall RCMP received a call reporting a theft had occurred at the construction site.

Further investigation revealed that a dark pick-up truck pulled into the site and towed away the trailer, heading towards Highway 6 in the earlier morning of Dec. 30.

Stonewall RCMP detachment Sgt. Kelly Glaspey told the *Tribune* that when officers arrived on the scene, they observed that locks to the fence

where the trailer was being stored were cut and there were tire marks leaving the site. The estimated cost of trailer and its contents is \$10,000.

Anyone with information about this incident are encouraged to call Stonewall RCMP at 204-467-5015 or the Manitoba Crimestoppers toll-free tip line at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

Oak Hammock snowshoe workshop

Submitted

It is believed that snowshoes were likely invented 6,000 to 8,000 years ago by mimicking some wildlife adaptations. Many animals, such as the snowshoe hare, jackrabbit and lynx have over-size feet enabling them to move quickly through deep snow.

Snowshoes were essential for aboriginal peoples, fur traders, trappers and anyone whose life or living depended on the ability to get around in areas of deep and frequent snowfall.

Join experienced snowshoer Dusty Molinski and learn about the different styles of snowshoes and their history. A snowshoe walk in the marsh and hot chocolate will follow.

The workshop will take place Jan. 24 at 1 p.m. in the Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre. The cost to participate is \$5 plus admission. To register call 204-467-3300.

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RM of Armstrong looks to support volunteers

Recent town-hall meetings drew large crowds with constructive comments

By Jennifer McFee

Armstrong residents are the heart of the community.

That's why Reeve Jack Cruise hopes to find ways to focus on the hard-working volunteers who contribute to its success.

"I don't know how much we can afford, but I'd like to see council give a little more support to the volunteer groups that run the various organizations in our towns," Cruise said.

"We have six or seven smaller towns in the RM of Armstrong, and every one of them has one or two community groups trying to do halls or sports facilities or parks or whatever. I would like to see council give a little more support to them."

Cruise is also taking steps to ensure that the voices of residents are heard throughout the rural municipality.

"When I was out campaigning, I promised people that I would have a couple of public town-hall meetings to let people express their views. We've had two of them already. They were very well attended. We got about 50 people out to each meeting and a lot of good comments and constructive criticism," he said.

"We probably won't have any more this fall, but maybe we'll do a round of them next fall for people to let us know how we've done in our first year of office. I just thought it would be a good idea to hear from some people and have them tell us what they think."



Jack Cruise

In addition to the supporting the residents of Armstrong, Cruise also foresees ongoing maintenance work during this four-year term.

"I'd like to see us spend some more money on maintaining our exist-

ing infrastructure. We've got a lot of drainage ditches and road allowances that have an awful lot of brush and willows growing on them. I'm hoping that over the next four years, we can get some of that cleaned up," he said.

"I'd maybe spend a little bit more emphasis on maintaining what we already have as opposed to building new stuff, at least to start off with."

With these goals in mind, Cruise would like to keep costs down as much as possible.

"I'm hoping to accomplish this without raising taxes very much, with maybe modest inflation-type increases. But other than that, I hope to keep the taxes within reason," he said.

"That's the plan. Everybody seems to want more services and improve this and improve that, but it all costs money. So I guess we'll have to do a bit of a balancing act, the same as any other municipality does."

Community rebuilding, reeve hopeful for 2015 and beyond

By Jeff Ward

Like most communities in the Interlake, the flood of 2011 damaged St. Laurent and caused many to leave altogether. But now St. Laurent is on the rise, and community involvement and optimism are at an all time high.

Newly elected Reeve Cheryl Smith has the priorities that got her elected in mind for 2015. She will be focusing first on the training of first responders and getting the ambulance system back.

"With our aging population, that is our first priority," said Smith, who's already been working since the election to do just that.

"We already have the certified academy providing us with quotes on training up to 10 people in the community. We're working with the IERHA to finalize our ambulance plan and to get that into action."

In Smith's eyes, the biggest challenge moving forward is getting the situation with the Recreation Centre squared away. Smith fears that the turmoil in the community could



Cheryl Smith

derail volunteer efforts, which she doesn't want. Smith is hoping for an amicable settlement.

"We want to see a healthy board in there, no matter who makes up those seats. Our RM is challenged to mediate the situation, and hopefully have things running smoothly sooner rather

er than later."

Smith is excited for the new year and all of the new opportunities to help bring her community up to the next level. Over the coming months, Smith will be building a better working relationship with her neighbours in the RM of Woodlands, encouraging economic growth with new employment opportunities, and she's also

very excited about the renewed sense of community that St. Laurent has.

"We've had a tough few years since the flood, but people are now starting to come back," she said.

"Not only that, they want to help us, the way to volunteer. We're rebuilding, things are looking brighter and the community is getting stronger every day."

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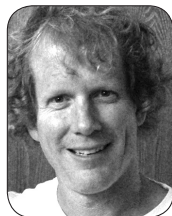
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Health authority searching for new CEO

Stinson leaves for province's fun and games commission

By Austin Grabish

The hunt for a new boss at the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority is on.

John Stinson, the Interlake-Eastern RHA's current chief executive officer, is leaving the health authority to become the new man in charge at Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries.

Stinson has been with the health authority for almost three years and will have his last day of employment on Feb. 13.

Stinson's departure was sudden and came shortly after being contacted by a recruitment firm looking to fill the shoes of Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries current CEO, Winston Hodgins.

"This really happened very quickly," said Stinson.

The Interlake-Eastern RHA's chair Diane Kelly said she is sad to see Stinson leave the RHA.

"A few weeks ago John spoke with me about his opportunity with Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries and how things were moving much faster than he anticipated. I must admit that I was surprised by his news but I recognized the significant opportunity that had been placed before John," said Kelly in a press release.

The Interlake-Eastern RHA has started the recruitment process for a new CEO, and in January an acting CEO will be appointed, a press release said.

Stinson said although he's spent much of his career in health care, he is qualified for his new job.

"It's a big change but one (with) lots of the same skill stuff," Stinson said.

Stinson was tasked with uniting staff in the Interlake-Eastern RHA after the province merged the Interlake and North Eastman RHAs in 2012.

Stinson said he's able to connect people and that's likely what scored him his new job.

"I knew that it was my skill set around bringing people together, working with stakeholders, motivating a senior team, (and) identifying the needs of frontline staff that would help me get the job," Stinson said.

During Stinson's tenure at the health authority, he dealt with several difficult issues, including a survey that found a large number of paramedics were unhappy with the RHA's management and felt they didn't have the tools they needed to do their jobs properly.

Michelle Gawronsky, president of the Manitoba Gov-



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

John Stinson will be the new boss at Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries starting Feb. 16.

ernment and General Employees' Union, called the results "a wake-up call" after the results were released in September 2013.

"The results of the survey provide some pretty substantial evidence that there are major issues with how health care is being managed, and how paramedics are being treated in these communities," said Gawronsky in a statement.

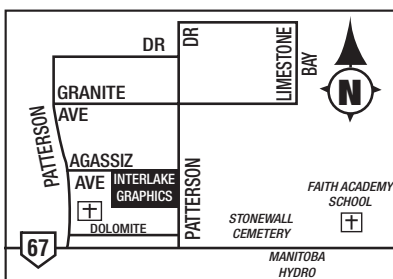
Stinson said he created a task force to address some of the issues put forward by paramedics but noted there are still challenges today.

"We're addressing those more assertively now," he said.

The region also has a chronic shortage of doctors, and the construction of the new Selkirk Hospital has faced several setbacks.

"Without a doubt, we have significant challenges in the Interlake-Eastern Region," Stinson said.

— with files from Dave Baxter



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Highly publicized movie *The Interview* not coming to Stonewall

By Natasha Tersigni

In the face of terrorist threats and worldwide headlines, North American movie theatre chains refused to show the movie *The Interview*, forcing production company Sony Pictures to cancel the initial release of the controversial film in theatres across the United States and Canada. Although the movie was finally released into independent movie theatres, if you have plans to catch it on the big screen in Stonewall, then you will have to re-think them.

The movie, which stars well-known actor James Franco and Hollywood funnyman Seth Rogen, is centred on a plot that involves the pair assassinating North Korea's leader Kim Jong-un. Given the already hostile political and economic relationship between the U.S. and North Korea, the movie's theme did not sit well with North Korean supporters. Ahead of the movie's mid-December release to theatres, a terrorist group, Guardians of Peace, which is believed to have ties to North Korea, threatened attacks on any cinema that played the movie.

After a number of major North American cinema chains cancelled screenings for fear of attacks, Sony then pulled theatrical release of *The Interview*, igniting debates of free speech and bowing to threats.

In the end, the movie was released

into theatres on Dec. 25 without incident, leaving some to believe it was a PR ploy. While the movie is not generating any Oscar buzz or receiving any rave reviews, it is sparking conversation on a variety of topics including freedom of speech and the future of the movie industry.

Don Smith owner of The Flicks Cinema decided not to screen the movie in his theatre because it is reviewing poorly with audiences and is not bringing in the money to box offices.

"I get information on the Internet, and as of Dec. 29 the per-screen average was really low. It was only a few hundred dollars, so it is finished already," said Smith, who added that it is already released on the Internet and on four pay-per-view channels.

"Since I only have one screen, I have to look more at if it is going to make enough in a week to pay the bills."

Smith is no stranger to controversial movies. Last March, Smith showed the biblically inspired epic *Noah*, which was receiving flak from Christian religious groups for the film's interpretation of the biblical story of Noah's Ark. Prior to the film's release, Paramount Pictures added a disclaimer to marketing materials stating the film was inspired by the story of Noah but artistic license has been taken.

Smith still played the movie in his theatre, although he said the movie



was taking criticism for "the way it was done as it was not done in the true biblical sense."

The difference between *Noah* and *The Interview* is that *Noah* brought in a gross \$362 million worldwide and *The Interview* has yet to break the \$5 million mark.

One issue that has surrounded *The Interview* story was that Sony Pictures released the movie onto iTunes, Google Play and other online sites, which have some in the movie in-

dustry questioning if this will be the way of the future. *The Interview* made \$15 million in web sales and is Sony's highest grossing online release ever.

Smith said that is unlikely that online releases will be the way of the future, and he is confident that if he keeps playing films the public enjoys, his theatre will continue to be a destination for movie night.

"I don't think this will set precedence. It was just the way this whole thing played out this time," said Smith.

Maple Leaf slices plant as part of 'network transition'

By Austin Grabish

A Winnipeg meat processing plant is the latest factory to be sliced by Maple Leaf Foods.

The Schneiders Hot Rod factory on Panet Road in Winnipeg closed its doors on Dec. 31.

The factory's closure was planned three years ago and is part of a company restructuring plan by Maple Leaf Foods.

The plant on Panet Road had operated for over 40 years.

In a press release on the company's "network transition," Maple Leaf Foods CEO Michael H. McCain said the latest closures by Maple Leaf are

part of a "complex strategy to step-change profitability in our business."

A Maple Leaf spokesman told the *Winnipeg Free Press* the plant's 25 employees will either be moved to Maple Leaf's recently expanded plant on Lagimodière Boulevard or will be relocated within the company.

Two more Maple Leaf plants are expected to close by the end of the first quarter this year. Those plants are in Kitchener, Ont., and Toronto, Ont. The press release from Maple Leaf said production at the plants has already significantly ramped down.

The Manitoba Progressive Conservative Party said the Winnipeg plant

closure could have been avoided.

The PCs said the NDP government's high taxation and over-regulation have caused Manitoba to lose its competitive edge in the hog industry.

Agriculture, Food and Rural Development critic Blaine Pedersen said the Manitoba government's hog moratorium has caused a severe supply shortage to companies like Maple Leaf.

"We're at risk of losing many more of these jobs if Maple Leaf Foods are not able to increase the supply into their plant. They're going to face some decisions down the road," said Pedersen.

The province has said the hog moratorium is necessary to protect Lake Winnipeg.

Mike Teillet, sustainable development manager for Manitoba Pork, said the moratorium has been detrimental to the hog industry.



"The moratorium is hurting us. There's no question it is hurting the industry because we cannot build new barns," said Teillet.

But Teillet wasn't convinced the plant on Panet Road closed because of it.

He said because the Hot Rod plant was scheduled to close after Maple Leaf began restructuring itself three years ago, he wouldn't connect the moratorium to its closure.

"This was known sometime ago that this plant was going to close," he said. Several calls and emails were made to Maple Leaf Foods but none were returned.

Maple Leaf Foods employs approximately 12,000 people across Canada.

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5F: Fitness, food, faith, focus and friends

By Marney Blunt

For Sarah Todd, being well and being fit and healthy isn't just something she decides to do as a New Year's resolution; it's been a longtime passion of hers, and now she wants to share that passion with others.

Todd is co-ordinating a women's wellness group called the 5F Club, standing for food, fitness, focus, friends and faith. The program, which will be run by Todd and Kerry Gross, will kick off on Jan. 8 and running every Thursday from 6:30 to 8 p.m. until June at the New Life Church.

"What we're basically doing is trying to encourage women to be well, and we're doing it from mine and Kerry's faith," said Todd, who added that you don't have to be a Christian to join the program.

"We're hosting it at the church because they are graciously giving us this space to have this program there. It's just basically going to be a time where you dedicate that hour and a half a week just to yourself and have a little bit of really fun fitness time together and have a talk about foods and super-foods, cleaning out your pantry, goal setting and all that kind of stuff. (And also) get to know the women in your community and be encouraged by one another and share your battles with one another."

The first six weeks of the program will entail a DVD series, Todd says. Each of the DVDs the group will be watching deal with food, fitness, focus and friends.

"It's going to be very specific," said Todd.

After the initial six-week period, the program becomes a little more hands-on.

"After that six week period comes the 5F Club part, and that's where the fitness and the food part comes in," said Todd. "I'm going to school to be a fitness instructor, so I will be leading the fitness. So it will be everything from little mini boot camps to dancing to dancing aerobics to HIIT (high-intensity interval training) classes. They're only going to be 25-minute workouts, and the little seminar part is the part where you're going to learn and focus."

The 5F Club is free and no registration is required. It will be a drop-in program, so participants won't have to worry about missing classes.

"There's going to be myself and Kerry (presenting), and we're basically sharing from personal experience, from research we've done, from books we've read. Health and fitness and food has been a passion of mine from probably the last 15 years, so I don't know everything, but the stuff I do know, I love to share with people," said Todd.

"Kerry and myself, we're not doctors. We're not dieticians. We're not professionals in this field. We're just women that want to encourage other women that you can do this. You can find balance in your life. You can shop for your family. You can learn what's healthy and what's not. You can do the research yourself and that's why we're doing it. We're not doing it because we're experts; we're doing it because we want to share."



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Sarah Todd, left, and Kerry Gross will be kicking off a women's wellness group called 5F Club, standing for food, fitness, focus, friends and faith on Jan. 8.

The first meeting on Thursday, Jan. 8 will include information about the 20-week program and the schedule. Todd says she has had a fairly good reception so far but hopes to see even more from the community.

"It's great for our church to get in-

involved in it, but I really feel passionate about getting other women (from the community involved)."

The 5F Club will run every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. till 8 p.m. at the New Life Church, located on Highway 67 just east of Stonewall.

Rockwood CAO heading to newly amalgamated RM of Bifrost-Riverton

By Natasha Tersigni

It isn't necessarily the circumstances that Grant Thorsteinson wanted to leave on, but after just four and a half years working for the RM of Rockwood as CAO, he is returning to the RM of Bifrost for his old job as CAO, a position he had held for 31 years.

"They are in the middle of an amalgamation with Riverton. They unfortunately lost their CAO recently to a tragic death and they wanted some-

one with some experience there to help them through the rough patch and help them to get things going," said Thorsteinson.

"I really enjoyed my time here. I wasn't looking to go anywhere else, I was planning on staying here for a few more years and retire here, but this opportunity came up."

Thorsteinson noted a few projects that he had the pleasure of working on while he was CAO in Rockwood,

including the completion of the sewer and water project in Gunton, the lagoon expansion in Balmoral and the continued quarry operations near Stonewall.

"The RM of Rockwood has been working very well with the quarry operators over the last while, and everything seems to be running smoothly and working together in making sure everything is done right," said Thorsteinson.

Although his official last day with Rockwood is Jan. 16, he plans on helping out the RM in the interim while they are looking for his replacement as he will be on a part-time basis with the RM of Bifrost-Riverton.

The RM of Rockwood is currently accepting applications for a new CAO until Jan. 23. More information can be found on their website at www.rockwood.ca.

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Hunter runs with scissors to create fabric art

By Natasha Tersigni

Sandy Hook artist Heidi Hunter's life has been as colourful as her award-winning quilts that are made from an array of hand-dyed fabrics.

In her early years as an artist, Hunter worked as a mime, taking her work to stages across the world. After 20 years working in theatres, Hunter decided it was time to find another stage for her artwork.

"I moved out to the Winnipeg Beach area and wanted to be more reflective and more introverted than I was on the stage. I started journaling, quilting, and it just took off from there. I found that that was a new passion and I just went with it," she said.

She decided to make her art studio her new stage where she creates colourful hand-dyed fabrics that she then turns into quilts and wearable garments such as silk scarves, wraps, shirts, dresses and even yoga pants.

There are two main parts to Hunter's works with art quilts. The first step is taking the fabric and cutting it into different pieces that she then dyes, screens and stamps into different colours. She then sews the fabric together, creating unique pieces of art that are to be hung as a painting would.

"I say that they are quilts to warm your walls, not your bed," said Hunter.

The public will have a chance to view her works at the South Interlake Library Regional Library Teulon branch as Hunter is January's artist of the month.

If you miss out on viewing her works in person, you can always log onto Hunter's website, www.runswithscissors.ca to check out her vast collection of works.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Heidi Hunter's fast-paced, art-centred lifestyle is perfectly captured in her business name, *Runs With Scissors*, where she sells her art quilts and other collections of hand-dyed fabrics.

Flu patients crowd emergency rooms

By Austin Grabish

Got a case of the sniffles and feeling green around the gills? You're not alone.

Emergency rooms across the country have seen a spike in patients with flu-like symptoms over the past month.

On a recent day at the Selkirk emergency room, over half of the patients in the ER had flu-like symptoms.

Four of the 10 hospitals in the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA) have seen a spike in the number of patients with flu-like symptoms over the past few weeks.

Emergency rooms in Selkirk, Stonewall, Beausejour and Pinawa have all seen an increase in the number of patients with the symptoms.

ERs in Winnipeg also reported seeing an increase in the number of patients with flu-like symptoms.

Although a lab hasn't confirmed them, most of the symptoms patients have been exhibiting at Interlake hospitals resemble those of the influenza virus, said Tracey Dowse, regional director of patient experience for the IERHA.

Dowse noted the other six hospitals in the IERHA haven't seen a spike in

patients with the flu.

But the Public Health Agency of Canada released its Flu Watch report for Dec. 7 to 13 and said cases of influenza are on the rise.

A(H3N2) is the most common type of influenza affecting Canadians, the Health Agency said.

The report said the majority of influenza cases have not been matched to the flu vaccine, "which may result in reduced vaccine effectiveness against the H3N2 influenza virus," the report said.

The Public Health Agency said the flu shot can still provide some protection against H3N2 influenza illness and can offer protection against other influenza strains.

The majority of cases have been among seniors who are 65 years of age or older.

The flock of patients with the flu coming to emergency rooms has kept doctors and nurses busy at ERs across the country.

Dowse said the majority of patients with the flu do not require a visit to an emergency room.

She said patients with non-urgent issues are advised to make an ap-

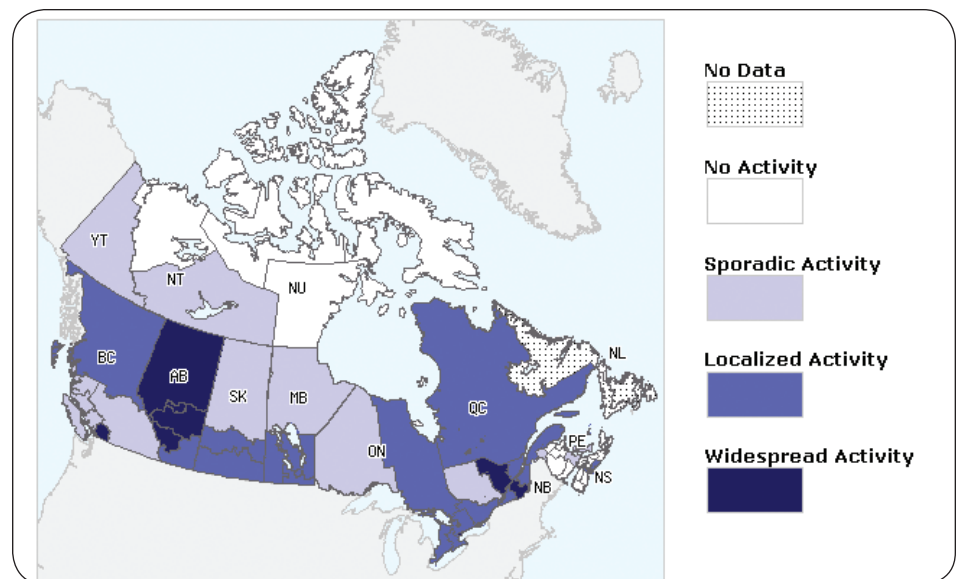


DIAGRAM BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY OF CANADA

There's been a spike in patients with influenza across the country. The above map shows influenza activity in Canada from Dec. 14 to Dec. 20.

pointment with their doctor or visit a QuickCare Clinic.

She said the IERHA has the usual advice for folks wanting to avoid catching the flu.

"What we recommend for people always is frequent hand washing; people to keep their hands away from their face; coughing, sneezing

into their arm or elbow, not into their hands; and staying home if they're sick."

She said if patients are unsure if they should visit an ER and their matter isn't an emergency, they can call Health Links at 1-888-315-9257 to speak with a nurse.

Video contest seeks entrepreneurs with disabilities

Just Watch Me! video contest deadline Jan. 21

By Austin Grabish

Entrepreneurs who are living with a disability are being encouraged to share their stories of entrepreneurship in a prairie-wide video contest that hopes to help business owners grow.

Both rookie and seasoned entrepreneurs are invited to enter the Just Watch Me! video contest.

The contest is being put on by Community Features and is targeting all individuals who have a self-identified disability or health condition.

This could mean arthritis, a visual impairment, a mental health issue or a physical disability.

"It's any barrier that folks face in terms of their health," said contest spokeswoman Susan Bater.

Bater says the contest, which asks entrepreneurs to create a video between two and three minutes long, is all about celebrating individual success and promoting business.

Bater said many individuals who are born with disabilities choose to be self-employed over entering the workforce, and some are very successful.

Bater said it's the stories of success Community Features wants to hear.

"We're just trying to really gather those stories," Bater said.

Participants who want to enter the contest don't need to worry if they don't possess multimedia skills. Videos can be shot and uploaded directly from a smartphone.

Entrants are asked to create a short video that focuses on their entrepreneurial adventure and answer a list of seven questions.

The questions ask things like "Why did you choose the entrepreneurial path?" and "What advice would you give to other people with disabilities interested in starting their own businesses?"

The contest is very simple, Bater said.

The deadline for all entries is 3 p.m. on Jan. 21.

Bater said judges will base their decisions on how well each contestant answers the seven questions. She said judges will not score videos on how well they were produced.

"So we're not necessarily worried about video production and how fancy it is. It's more that they show the passion and the drive of an entrepreneur," Bater said.

Buzz about the contest has already

Community Features

Wanted:
Inspiring success stories
of entrepreneurs with
disabilities or health conditions.

The contest opens on December 3, 2014

Grab a video camera or smartphone and
tell us your story for a chance to win \$1000

Find more info at www.justwatchmecontest.ca

Julie Mintenko
Saskatchewan Contest Ambassador

Codie Prevost
Celebrity Judge

Tamara Forlanski
Manitoba Contest Ambassador

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Pictured above: Last year's winner Taylor Layton from Outlook, SK

started.

Brett Devloo, a 19-year-old blind entrepreneur from Stonewall, was the second-place winner of the contest last year. Devloo said he will re-enter the contest this year.

"I'm just hoping to kind of get more publicity with it this year," Devloo said.

Last year, Devloo received a camera and a nice stack of cash to help promote his business, The Blind Kid clothing line.

Bater said there are some fantastic prizes up for grabs this year, including a \$1,000 first-place cash prize that

will be complimented with an additional \$4,000 worth of other prizes.

All of the prizes are meant to help entrepreneurs grow their business further. They include everything from website design to free Google Analytics so businesses can increase their online presence.

"We have some really interesting ones," Bater said.

More information about the contest is available online at justwatchmecontest.ca.

Contest winners will be announced on Feb. 20.

Flood fears looming for Lake Manitoba stakeholders

By Austin Grabish

It may be winter, but fears of flooding are lingering.

A group of Lake Manitoba stakeholders say high waters combined with a water control structure working at reduced capacity should be putting the province on edge.

But instead, the Association of Lake Manitoba Stakeholders, along with the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent, say they're being ignored.

The association passed an emergency resolution last November that asked the provincial government to increase the flow of the Fairford Dam to full capacity starting Dec. 10.

The province has been operating the Fairford Dam at a reduced capacity since November to help reduce the threat of frazil ice for northern Interlake communities like Dauphin River.

A Nov. 5 press release said flows at the Fairford Dam would be reduced for approximately six weeks before being opened again to full discharge.

But as of Sunday night, the dam has remained operating at reduced capacity.

The association has asked the province to re-open the dam to full capacity multiple times but hasn't heard anything back, said Scott Greenlay, a spokesman for the group.

"We haven't heard boo back from the government of Manitoba to our resolution or our concerns, not any communication," said Greenlay.

Greenlay said the association has tried contacting both Premier Greg Selinger and Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation several times but has yet to receive a reply.

The RM of St. Laurent also wants the Fairford Dam returned to full capacity and has tried contacting the province but hasn't received a response, said St. Laurent Reeve Cheryl Smith.

"It's been fairly quiet that way," Smith said.

A spokesperson with the province said the Fairford Dam can't return

to full capacity because the Dauphin River cannot take any more water due to ice and high flows, which could cause the river to go overbank.

"At this time, higher flows on the Fairford will also create unstable ice situations on Lake St. Martin (into which the Fairford flows) and the Dauphin River which creates a safety concern for ice fishers and others who use the lake," the spokesperson wrote in an email Sunday night.

"Stakeholders on (Lake St. Martin and the (Dauphin River) have requested that flows not be increased due to these concerns."

The province said the Fairford channel is running at approximately 10,000 cfs, which is "double the usual for this time of year."

Greenlay said current waters levels on Lake Manitoba are the highest they've ever been.

"If you live around the lake right now, it is sitting at literally below flood level," Greenlay said.

Smith agreed. "The lake is too high."

The province said this year's Fairford River discharge is the second highest since the 1960 commencement of regulation of Lake Manitoba.

Greenlay said the least the province can do is reply to the multiple correspondences the association has sent.

"We'd like a response," Greenlay said.

"You've got an association and three rural municipalities who've all petitioned government to do something.

"They're just ignoring us."

Greenlay said people who live around the lake are scared.

"We're talking people that have lived around this lake their entire lives. They know what the lake's going to do," Greenlay said.

The *Tribune* asked the province to respond to Greenlay and Smith's claims on Sunday but didn't get a response by Monday's 2 p.m. press deadline.

Community Living workers get more

By Austin Grabish

They hit the picket lines last summer demanding higher pay, and now Community Living Selkirk workers, who work with individuals living with intellectual disabilities, will see a pay hike.

The province said in a press release on Dec. 19 that it would make good on a promise it made last summer.

But the president of Abilities Manitoba says the new wage guidelines are disappointing because not all workers who assist people living with intellectual disabilities are covered by it.

Employees working for agencies that provide services to people living with intellectual disabilities are now required to be paid a minimum of \$12.50 an hour, the province said.

The new wage came into effect Jan. 1 and will increase to \$13 in July of this year, followed by a third increase in 2016 that's currently being negotiated, said Family Services Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross.

CUPE Local 3085, the union representing Community Living Selkirk workers, said the announcement fulfills the province's commitment to ensure workers who care for Manitobans with intellectual disabilities aren't living below the poverty line.

"We are pleased that the province has recognized that workers who care for Manitobans with intellectual disabilities are crucial to the success of so many people," said Kelly Moist, president of CUPE Manitoba.

"Ensuring fair wages for these work-

ers is essential to both the lives of the workers, as well as the Manitobans in their care."

But Abilities Manitoba, the group that represents most agencies in Manitoba that provide services to people living with intellectual disabilities, said the announcement is disappointing and still leaves most workers with low pay.

"Collectively, we are very disappointed in this Band-Aid solution. We have made it clear to the minister of Family Services that we need a comprehensive plan to provide a professional wage for this industry," said Abilities Manitoba president Malinda Roberts in a press release.

Roberts said the pay hike doesn't cover employees who provide day services, employees who work for independent living services or those who do respite work.

She said the services those workers provide are significant.

"They all provide similar work, and it doesn't make sense to us why certain segments would be excluded," Roberts said.

The pay hike is an important step forward but isn't enough, said Arlene Bodnar, president of Community Living Manitoba.

Bodnar said workers go through a revolving door due to the low pay they receive.

"It seems the minute that they're trained then suddenly they're off somewhere else," Bodnar said.

Bodnar, a mother of a son who uses the services of disability workers, said

"THEY ALL PROVIDE SIMILAR WORK, AND IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO US WHY CERTAIN SEGMENTS WOULD BE EXCLUDED."



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Community Living Selkirk employees held "information pickets" in Selkirk and Winnipeg last summer demanding higher wages for the work they do. It was announced on Dec. 19 they will see a pay increase.

there's a direct impact on the people who need the care.

"It's detrimental to the individuals." She said people like her son deserve better.

"Our sons and daughters are vulnerable people, and getting quality care is what they deserve."

She said disability workers provide specialized services and deserve to be fairly compensated.

"It takes a certain skill set. It takes consistency. It takes gifts and talents to be able to work within the system," Bodnar said.

The province promised to increase wages for employees last August after Community Living workers hit the picket lines demanding higher pay.

An official strike was averted after the province said it would increase the wages of the lowest paid Community Living workers in Manitoba.

The higher wages will be funded by an investment of \$6 million over three years.

CUPE Local 3085 represents approximately over 600 Community Living workers province wide.

Stonewall & District Health Centre AMBULANCE and EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT SERVICES RESUME

An anticipated flooring upgrade in Stonewall & District Health Centre's emergency department has been rescheduled. Emergency department and ambulance services at the health centre have resumed. Any planned service disruptions to accommodate the necessary flooring upgrade will be advertised in advance.

We apologize for any inconvenience this project rescheduling may have caused.

Stonewall & District Health Centre
ambulance and emergency department
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Youth Parliament of Manitoba takes over the legislature

By Natasha Tersigni

With one year as the Town of Teulon student councillor under his belt and experience working as a provincial page at the legislature, Eric Shinnie decided it was time to gain some experience at the next political level. Shinnie, currently in his first year at the University of Manitoba, joined more than 60 Manitoba youth aged 16 to 25 for the 93rd Winter Session of Youth Parliament of Manitoba (YP).

YP is an annual event from Dec. 26 to Jan. 2, which takes place while the Manitoba Legislative Assembly is on recess for winter break. Students from across Manitoba spend their days at the legislature debating bills on issues such as international military intervention, cyber-security and marriage laws. In the process, they also learn how Robert's Rules of Order and other legislature proceedings are run. Each student represents a riding in a federal Canadian constituency and must represent that riding, just as members of Parliament do in the House of Commons.

Along with their individual riding responsibilities, students sit on different committees, which gives them an understanding on various issues going on in the Canadian political realm including health care, agriculture industry and economic matters. In the evening, participants headed over to Kelvin High School, where they spent the night and prepared for the next day.

Shinnie enjoyed his time at YP and found it was a great opportunity to be able to share ideas and debate with youth who are also interested in politics.

"It was really an eye-opening experience to see youth from across the province participating in debates. We talked about a lot of different subjects that are current from euthanasia to advertising to health care. It was really interesting hearing everyone's views. At night, it was great to be able to talk to people about history and politics and as well play

some strategy board games," said Shinnie, whose favourite part of YP was participating in debates with his peers.

"A lot of people there had very different and contrasting view points, and a lot of times, we would not be agreeing with each other. Instead, we would be arguing tooth and nail. I think what the very best part of it was that after you make a big agreement and say your speech with all your reasons, someone would come up and talk to you and tell you that even though we have different viewpoints, thanks for speaking against me because that is what makes it a debate. If everybody just agrees, then it would be no fun."

Veteran YP participant Brent Hardy and fellow TCI graduate joined Shinnie for this year's session. Hardy, who is currently pursuing his master's in international relations at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland, returned to Manitoba to spend the holidays with his family in Teulon and to attend his eighth YP experience.

While Shinnie was a backbencher representing the riding of West Nova of Nova Scotia, Hardy had the job of being premier, which also means he is chairperson of the YP board of directors for the year.

"Throughout the entire year, it is my job to make sure everything is being done properly, and I am also the figurehead of the organization. During session, my role is to check in with everybody and making sure things are running smoothly. It is nice being premier as you don't have any direct tasks in session. I got to sit back and enjoy this one," said Hardy.

While Hardy will return to school in Switzerland in February, he will return to YP next year as he was elected at the end of the session to be the Speaker of the House, a position he takes great pride in. In the Canadian parliamentary system, it is the Speaker's



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Teulon Collegiate graduates Eric Shinnie and Brent Hardy spent part of their holiday break from university at the Manitoba legislature participating in the 93rd session of Youth Parliament of Manitoba.

responsibility to manage the House of Commons, supervise its staff, act as a liaison with the Senate and the Crown, rule over the House during question period and keep decorum among MPs.

"Next year in session, I will be sitting in the Speaker's chair and running the House, and I am really looking forward to that and it should be pretty fun. It is a different role that not many people get to experience, so I am looking forward to it," said Hardy.

For more information on the Youth Parliament of Manitoba program, go to www.ypmanitoba.ca.

worship *with us*

> FAITH

It's 2015 and, only a week or so in to the new year, I'm already sick and tired of being sick and tired!

As I write this, I have a headache, I feel a little light-headed and woozy, my sinuses are plugged, I'm tired, and both my eyes have suddenly flared with an allergic reaction to... goodness knows what! It's a new year, freshly minted, and so far, al-

most everyone I've talked to is either ill, knows someone who's ill, or has just recovered themselves from being ill. Where's the promise of a "Happy and Prosperous New Year" in that?!? And reading the news doesn't promise much in the way of needed distraction, either. In fact, so far, judging from headlines, "Disarray" seems to be this infant year's state of residence!

Are these shadows of the things to come (to paraphrase a line from Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*) or things that "might" come? Is this an indication of what's ahead in

2015? Yikes!

The Bible is very clear: God is calling the shots. It might not always appear the he is, but rest assured, he is. None of this is catching him off guard. It's not like he's in heaven saying, "Dear Me, I did NOT see that coming! What am I going to do now?!?" as he plants his palms against his cheeks in surprise and shock. No, my friend, God is firmly in control of 2015. And that means (yup, you guessed it!) if he is in control, then it follows that you and I are not.

Psalms 135:6 (NIV) says, "The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths." And while that's far from being a statement of proof of an aloof and capricious God, it is in reality a statement of affirmation and security: God IS in control.



He is not put off by such things as you and I are; he is, in fact, so much more than all that. God is a loving, kind and generous God, so when he's in control of things, we can trust him, even when it doesn't look good! (Romans 8:28)

Have a happy and blessed 2015!
Pastor Jeff
www.alivefamilychurch.ca

Warren Curling Club 2015 BONSPIELS

Ladies Bonspiel - \$120 - January 16 - 18, 2015
For info contact Nadine 204-322-5260

Mens Bonspiel - \$140 - February 12 - 15, 2015
For info contact Lawrence 204-383-5005

Mixed Bonspiel - \$100 - March 13 - 15, 2015
For info contact Gord 204-322-5123

Supper is included with entry on Saturday of each bonspiel.



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> MEAL IDEAS



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Coconut Fish Fillets in Banana Leaves

Preparation:
Preheat grill or BBQ to medium heat. Mix all ingredients (except fish, banana leaves and cilantro), in small bowl. Pour marinade into shallow dish, add fish and marinate for 20 minutes.

Place a fish fillet in the centre of each banana leaf (or piece of foil), add a spoonful for the marinade and top with 3-4 sprigs of cilantro. Bring in corners of banana leaf to form a beggar's purse and tie with butcher string. (If using foil, fold over the fish to completely enclose and form a packet.)

Grill until the beggar's purses have pronounced grill marks on the bottom and the fish is cooked through, about 4-6 minutes. Remove from heat, snip butcher string to open banana leaf and serve immediately. (If using foil packets, grill for same amount of time and use kitchen shears to slice open foil before serving.)

Serves 6

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup (125 mL) coconut milk
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) chopped fresh ginger
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) Chinese Five Spice (or cinnamon)
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) ground coriander
- Zest of 1 lime
- Juice of 1/2 lime
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) honey
- 1/4 tsp (1.25 mL) red pepper flakes
- 1/4 tsp (1.25 mL) salt
- 6 M&M fish fillets, thawed
- 6 banana leaves (or heavy duty foil) cut into 10" x 10" squares
- sprigs of fresh cilantro



Cheeseburger Soup

Preparation
COOK ground beef in large saucepan over medium heat until brown; drain. Melt 1 tablespoon butter in same saucepan over medium heat. Add onion, carrots, celery and basil; cook, stirring occasionally, about 10 minutes or until tender. Add broth, potatoes and cooked beef; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low; cover. Cook, stirring occasionally, 10 to 12 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

MELT remaining butter in small saucepan over medium heat. Add flour; cook, stirring constantly, 3 to 5 minutes or until bubbly. Add to soup; bring to a boil. Cook, stirring occasionally, 2 minutes. Reduce heat to low; add cheese, milk, salt and pepper. Stir until cheese is melted.

Makes 8 servings

Ingredients

- 1/2 pound ground beef
- 4 tablespoons butter or margarine, divided
- 3/4 cup chopped onion
- 3/4 cup shredded carrots
- 3/4 cup chopped celery
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 2 cans (14.5 fluid ounces each) chicken broth
- 4 cups (3 medium) peeled and diced potatoes
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups (8 ounces) cubed pasteurized prepared cheese product
- 1 can (12 fluid ounces) evaporated milk
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper



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Make a Positive New Year's Resolution

by Gwen Randall-Young

I was reflecting on the practice of making New Year's resolutions, and wondered if there was one that was powerful enough to send ripples of change throughout our world, yet simple enough that everyone could manage it.

It didn't take long for an answer to come. What if we all resolved to only speak positively about other people? What if we ceased all judgement and criticism, and viewed the negative behavior of others with some compassion, recognizing that those who behave negatively are essentially unhappy with themselves? What if we accepted that all of us are doing the best that we can given our current level of awareness, and that those who are the least pleasant to be around are the ones who require the most love and encouragement?

What if, when we had a problem with another person, we gently confronted them and asked how we could work out the problem so that we could have a good relationship, instead of getting on the telephone to report the sordid details to a co-conspirator in the gossip mill?

This would mean teaching our children that it creates negative energy when we say mean things about others, and being a positive model for them. It would mean dealing with issues openly in families, rather than taking sides and ganging up against the "bad guy", it would also

mean refusing to gossip about others, and letting others know that you are not interested in listening to gossip.

It might also mean not creating or participating in alignments in the workplace, but rather remaining sincerely cordial and professional in all of your work relationships. It would involve developing an awareness of our own processes, and what it is we are needing when we participate in negative processes. Having a common enemy can make two people feel closer to one another, but is this any basis for cementing a friendship? If much of your interaction with someone is based on discussing a third party, perhaps there is not enough good stuff to sustain the relationship.

I cannot think of anything else that is this simple, yet so profound in its potential impact. The amazing thing is that if only one person makes this resolution and sticks to it, a process of positive change will be set in motion.

This is a little like cleaning up our social and emotional environments. Let's stop littering our lives with negativity, and polluting our social environments with unnecessary garbage. We'll all breathe easier, and it will be much better for our children.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning Psychotherapist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books or cds, visit www.gwen.ca

Mexican Supper Salad

Ingredients

- 6 cups (1.5 L) romaine lettuce, shredded
- 2 cups (500 mL) diced, cooked chicken breast
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) cherry tomatoes cut in half
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) diced red pepper
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) diced green onion
- 1 cup (250 mL) no-added salt canned kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) fresh cilantro, finely chopped (optional)
- 2 tsp (10 mL) chili powder
- 1 tsp (5 mL) cumin
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) salsa verde
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) shredded light cheddar cheese
- 4 tbsp (60 mL) fat free sour cream



Directions
Divide shredded lettuce among four plates.
In a large bowl, combine the rest of the ingredients except the sour cream. Divide the mixture evenly among the four plates. Top each salad with 1 tbsp (15 mL) of sour cream and serve.

Makes 4 servings

Developed by Nadine Day.
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INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Birchard iced in junior women's curling final

By Brian Bowman

Curling can sometimes be a very cruel sport.

Just ask Stonewall's Jenna Boisvert.

Boisvert plays third for Shannon Birchard's St. Vital rink, which was leading Fort Rouge's Beth Peterson 4-0 after five ends in the championship game of the Canola Junior Women's Provincial Championship at the Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club in Winnipeg on Dec. 31.

But a victory simply wasn't in the cards for the talented St. Vital rink. Peterson tied the score at 4-4 after seven ends (scoring one in the sixth and then adding a steal of three in the seventh).

Peterson then claimed the provincial title by scoring one with the hammer in the 10th end.

"It feels awful (to lose that way in the final)," said Boisvert, 18, Tuesday afternoon. "It was quiet around the house (on New Year's Eve)."

The key in the game, obviously, was Peterson's steal of three in the seventh.

"We just didn't put our shots in the right places," Boisvert noted. "We didn't make them when we needed to and they definitely capitalized. Our last shots were really hard and we didn't make them."

With the win, Peterson now heads to Corner Brook, Nfld. on Jan. 24 to battle for the Canadian junior women's championship. It was the first provincial championship in five tries for Peterson's

foursome

Birchard, meanwhile, reached the final by blasting Peterson 9-3 in the 1 vs. 1 page playoff early in the morning on Dec. 31. Birchard scored three in the third, added a huge four spot in the fifth, and then put the game away with two more in the seventh end.

In pool play, Birchard was a perfect 7-0. She swept her way to victories over Brandon's Kaitlyn Payette (10-2), Dauphin's Hanne Jensen (9-1), Dauphin's Stacey Sime (12-3), Elmwood's Ashley Groff (9-2), Fort Rouge's Jennifer Klapp (7-5), Assiniboine Memorial's Rachel Burtnyk (7-0), and Fort Rouge's Christine Mackay (9-8).

"We definitely capitalized when we could and we dominated," Boisvert recalled.

"A few games were a little iffy but we pulled the win out, which was good."

As for next season, Birchard has played her last junior game as she has aged out. But Boisvert still has three years of junior eligibility remaining.

"The goal is to win provincials (next year)," Boisvert said boldly.

Other local players competing at the junior women's provincials featured Sara Oliver, who skipped her West Kildonan rink to a 4-3 record in pool play. Kendra Derbowka and Rebecca Lamb were part of Kristy Watling's East St. Paul rink that finished 4-3 while Cameo Argan was on Christine Mackay's Fort Rouge foursome that was also 4-3.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LESLIE BOISVERT

Stonewall's Jenna Boisvert and her St. Vital rink finished second at the Canola Junior Women's Provincial Championship at the Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club in Winnipeg on Dec. 31.

Saints marching to tournament victories

By Brian Bowman

With nine players returning from last year's varsity girls' basketball roster, the Teulon Collegiate Saints definitely have plenty of experience to put out on the floor.

The Saints also have plenty of talent.

And that talent has resulted in a bevy of victories so far this season. Teulon has won tournaments in Regina and Boissevain, finishing 3-0 at both tournaments.

"It's been a good start to the season," said Saints' coach Jason Darragh, who is helped on the bench this season by Heather Tataryn. "The girls have played very well."

The Saints, a "AA" school, also placed sixth out of 16 teams at a "AAAA" tournament at Winnipeg's Vincent Massey in mid-December. Teulon posted victories over Fort Richmond and Glenlawn Col-

legiate.

The Saints lost to the Sisler Spartans, the No. 1-ranked "AAAA" school in Manitoba, and the Miles Macdonell Buckeyes.

"We played the big guns," Darragh said. "It was good to play that kind of calibre of teams — the very good teams. It was good for the girls to be challenged and pushed. It was a good experience."

On Dec. 18-19, the Saints won the tournament in Boissevain. Teulon toppled Souris 73-31 in the final.

Darragh said it's been a great team effort by the girls that has resulted in their success.

"All 10 players have been contributing," said the Saints' coach. "It's been a total team effort."

Teulon has had success this season despite not having a lot of height. Mikhaela Murray is the Saints' tallest player at 5-foot-11 while Jessica Holod and Nicole Wiebe are each 5-foot-10.

But what the Saints lack in size, they have plenty of skill. The Saints like to play an up-tempo game and can run the floor extremely well.

"We like to move the ball well and play very good defence," Darragh explained.

The Saints will have another tough test in their schedule tonight (5:15 p.m.) when they play Glenlawn at a Sisler tournament.

That tourney will feature several very talented teams that are currently in the top 10 of the varsity girls' provincial rankings.

Teulon, the defending "AA" varsity girls' provincial champions, will then host an eight-team tournament Jan. 16-17. All of the teams competing will be rural ones.

Teams in the tournament will feature Teulon, Steinbach Christian, Elton, Morris, Boissevain, Carman, Neepawa, and Springs Christian.

Lightning celebrate 2015 with pair of wins

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning had a good reason to celebrate 2015 after winning two of three games last weekend.

Interlake gave Lightning head coach Dwayne Swanson a reason to smile after an impressive 5-1 road victory over the Central Plains Capitals on Sunday afternoon.

"We got off to a real slow start, they scored in the first minute-and-a-half of the game," Swanson recalled. "We were playing three games in three days and we just didn't come out quite ready enough...but we controlled the game the rest of the way."

After Central Plains' Nick Henry scored a first-period power-play goal, it was all Lightning after that. Braden Groot and Jordan Kristjanson scored second-period goals and then Dawson Anderson, Noah Basarab and Zach Odwak tallied in the third.

Four of the Interlake's goals came on the power play.

Nathan Cvar made 18 saves for the win.

On Saturday, the Lightning surrendered seven goals in the final two periods of an 8-5 home loss to the Parkland Rangers. Interlake's roster was depleted with several injuries.

"With our group, we seem to have a tough time keeping that intensity over a period of time," Swanson lamented. "And we just played Southwest the



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's Zach Odwak scored during their 8-5 home loss to the Parkland Rangers Saturday.

night before in a big game."

Interlake was led offensively by Jeremy Idzikowski's two goals while Aiken Chop, Odwak and John McCammon also tallied.

Joshua Tripp, Tyler Derkach and Matthew Greening scored twice for Parkland. Tyler Jubenvill and Daniel Chartrand added singles.

The Lightning began play in the new

year last Friday with a solid 6-3 home victory over the Southwest Cougars.

Interlake was led by Chop and McCammon, who each had two goals and an assist. Chop, a Stonewall product, was named the Chicken Chef Player of the Week in late December.

Basarab and Dane Derewianchuk also scored for the Lightning. Those goals came in the first period.

Zach Wytinck, John Patmore and Jared Janke scored for Southwest. Cvar made 31 saves for the win.

The Lightning, now 15-12-0-3, will play a pair of games in Dauphin this weekend against the Rangers before hosting the Brandon Wheat Kings (Jan. 16) and the last-place Norman Northstars (Jan. 18).

In off-ice news, Lightning defenceman Wayde Johanneson was named the Manitoba Midget AAA Hockey League's Defensive Player of the Month for December.

Johanneson, a 5-foot-11, 202-pound Arnes native, beat out Drew Draward (Eastman Selects) and Mitch Dyck (Pembina Valley Hawks) for the award.

"Wayde's been a steady influence back there for us all year and he doesn't get enough credit because his name isn't on the scoreboard enough," Swanson said. "But he does a good job making that first pass out of our zone and getting us out of trouble."

Lightning goaltender Riley Bannerman, meanwhile, was named the DEKALB Rookie of the Week last month.

"Riley's been a rock back there for us regarding being consistently decent for us all of the time," Swanson said. "He always seems to come up with the big save and he has really done a good job for us this year."

Jets up, down in MMJHL play



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Jets' defenceman Garrett Bruce had a goal and five assists during his team's 10-3 win over the Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins last Friday.

By Brian Bowman

It's not every day that a hockey team has back-to-back games decided by a converted touchdown.

But the Stonewall Jets were on both ends of 10-3 scores last weekend in Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League play.

On Sunday, the Jets were blasted in a seven-goal loss to the St. Boniface Riels in Winnipeg.

St. Boniface, which held period leads of 3-0 and 7-2, were led by Mark Sharman's three goals while Brett Charette scored twice and had two assists.

Charette's second goal was his 23rd of the season and he was tied with St. Vital's Danick Levesque in league scoring with 45 points heading into this week's games.

Brock Bram, Skyler Eastman, Tango Yestrau, Sean Christensen and Michael Gorrie also scored for the Riels.

Mackenzie Johnson scored his ninth and 10th goals of the season while Clay Tait had Stonewall's other goal.

The Jets began play in the new year with a 10-3 victory over the last-place Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins last Friday in Stonewall.

Brett Meilleur led the Jets with two goals and an

assist while Garrett Bruce had a goal and five assists. Tanner Faulkner, Codi Lashewicz, Brandon Meier, Johnson, Tait, Ryan Miskiewicz and Stephen MacKenzie also scored for Stonewall.

Colton Plante, a former Jet, Matt Miles and Tosh Plouffe scored on Jets' goalie Hunter Ploszay. Ploszay made 32 saves in the game.

On Dec. 21, the Jets closed out their schedule in 2014 with a 6-1 home victory over the Transcona Railer Express.

After Transcona's Trevor Slama opened the game's scoring with a power-play goal early in the second period, it was all Stonewall after that.

Adam Blight, MacKenzie, and Lashewicz scored for the Jets in the second period while Meilleur, with a pair, and Tait tallied in the third. Meilleur currently leads the Jets in goals scored (11) and points (21).

Stonewall, now 13-15, hosted the River East Royal Knights on Wednesday (no score was available) and then the Jets will play at the Charleswood Hawks on Friday.

On Saturday, Stonewall will host the St. James Canucks. According to the league website, both weekend games have 6:30 p.m. start times.

Foursome wins MCT Championship and Safeway Berth

By Manitoba Curling Tour

David Bohn's Assiniboine Memorial team (Bryan Galbraith, Dennis Bohn, Larry Solomon) posted an 8-2 victory over Daley Peters-West Kildonan (Brendan Taylor, Taren Gesell, Greg Melnichuk) in the Men's final game at the Manitoba Curling Tour Championships presented by Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries.

With the victory, Team Bohn claimed not only the annual MCT Championship but also eligibility for the Safeway provincial men's championship in Brandon in early February.

Stolen deuces on the first two ends gave Team Bohn an early four-point cushion. Peters blanked the next two ends in an attempt to regain the kind of control the team had exhibited in going undefeated through the qualifying round and first two playoff rounds.

The Bohn foursome, playing in only their third bonspiel of the season, was not to be denied and went on to win their second championship of the year.

Having played a limited schedule, the Bohn team came into the event needing to win the title to earn a

Safeway Championship berth. Peters played the final game of the championship secure in the knowledge that his team had already secured one the Safeway berths available to the top four teams on the MCT's season-long rankings.

With Peters, MCT rankings invitations to the Safeway Championship were also earned by Sean Grassie-Deer Lodge, Scott Ramsay-Granite and Jared Kolomaya-Stonewall.

To reach the final, Team Bohn won a semifinal victory over Matt Dunstone-Granite (6-1) and a quarterfinal victory over Steen Sigurdson-Granite (4-3EE).

Peters beat Grassie (4-3) in the semifinal and Kolomaya (7-3) in the quarterfinal. Ramsay and William Lyburn-Granite also qualified for the playoff round in the 16-team Men's Championship but lost in the opening round.

In addition to the available Safeway berth invitations, the championship earned the Bohn team \$1,600; Peters earned \$1,200; semifinalists Dunstone and Grassie both had \$1,000 paydays; and qualifying was worth \$800 to Ramsay, Kolomaya, Lyburn and Sigurdson.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The rink of David Bohn, Bryan Galbraith, Dennis Bohn and Larry Solomon won the men's final game at the Manitoba Curling Tour Championships after posting an 8-2 victory over Daley Peters' West Kildonan rink. Bohn's rink also earned a berth to the Safeway provincial men's championship in Brandon next month.

Stewart on the mark at Interlake Regional

By Brian Bowman

Andy Stewart is no stranger to competing at the Safeway Championships.

In fact, the veteran curler from Stonewall has been a part of the provincial men's championship as a player 14 times now. His 15th trip will be next month in Brandon.

"I'm the wily old veteran now," joked the 53-year-old Stewart last Friday.

Stewart last competed at the men's provincial championship back in 2012 in Steinbach. But the rest of his crew — third Andrew Hunt, second Myles MacMillan and lead Trevor Blue — have yet to play in a provincial.

This will be a totally new experience for them.

"Curling on arena ice is different than curling on curling club ice," Stewart noted. "So, it's going to be a little different for them but those guys are excited."

Stewart and his crew punched their ticket to the

provincials with a convincing 7-2 victory over Riverton's Justin Richter at the Safeway Men's Interlake Regional in Selkirk on Dec. 21.

Stewart jumped all over Richter early, scoring three in the first end and then adding two more in the third for a quick 5-1 lead.

"We got up early on them," Stewart recalled. "The ice was a little tricky in Selkirk. The ice was a couple of seconds heavier coming home than it was going away. We picked up the ice well compared to them."

The win over Richter was Stewart's fifth game at the regional. That, said Stewart, helped their rink get acclimated to the ice in Selkirk.

Stewart finished with a 4-1 record in Selkirk. His victories came over Stonewall's Derek Dowsett (7-6 and 7-5), Gimli's Derrick Anderson (10-2) and Richter (7-2). Stewart's lone loss was an 8-3 decision to East St. Paul's Evan Martin.

Martin earned the other berth into the provin-

cial.

Dowsett, meanwhile, recorded wins over Riverton's Kevin Vigfusson (8-4) and Petersfield's Dale Lott 10-9.

Stewart admitted he hasn't curled too much this season but he'll have quite the test next month at the provincials against the likes of Jeff Stoughton, Reid Carruthers, Mike McEwen and Stonewall's Jared Kolomaya.

Stewart feels curling out of the Stonewall Curling Club will help their rink in Brandon. Still, their rink will have to be at their best in every game to be successful.

"At the Stonewall Curling Club, the ice is as close as you can get to curling on arena ice in a curling club," Stewart said. "Our first goal is to get to the playoff round and see what happens there."

"The last time I was there in 2012 we made the playoff round, so hopefully we can do it again."

Friday, January 9 vs Charleswood Hawks
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Saturday, January 10 vs St. James Canucks
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Mercs, Flyers winless in new year

By Brian Bowman

Both local teams in the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League have yet to celebrate a win in the new year.

The Stonewall Flyers lost 3-2 at home to the Notre Dame Hawks last Saturday while the Warren Mercs dropped a 5-2 decision on home ice to the Winkler Royals.

In the Mercs' loss, Winkler's Marlin Froese scored a pair of even-strength goals in the third period while teammate Riley Dudar added a late shorthanded marker.

Reid MacLeod scored Warren's lone goal in the third on the power play.

In the first period, Warren's Bryn Lindsay and Winkler's Brett Harder traded goals and then the Royals' Blake Forsyth tallied in the third.

In the Flyers' loss, Notre Dame erased a 2-0 second-period deficit with three unanswered goals.

Steve Clark and Eric Wallace scored for the Hawks midway in the second period and then Jason Yuel netted the game winner at 13:40 of the third.

Patrick Dawson and Ryan Elliot scored for Stonewall early in the second period.

On Dec. 30, the Mercs outscored the Flyers 9-6 in Warren.

Reid MacLeod led Warren with four goals and two assists while Eric DeLong had two goals and two assists.

Clay Tait, Wade Duncan and Scott DeLong had Warren's other goals. Brenden Luschinski chipped in with four assists.

Craig Scott led Stonewall with two goals and an assist while Matthew Varnes had a goal and two helpers. Dawson, Aaron Hemminger and Elliot also scored for the Flyers.

Warren (5-7) will play at Carman tonight while Stonewall (1-11) will host Altona on Friday. The Mercs will then see action Saturday when they host Winkler. All three games have 8 p.m. starts.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Mercs' Scott DeLong races for the puck in SEMHL action last Saturday in Warren. The Mercs were defeated 5-2 by the first place Winkler Royals. Warren will have a re-match with the Royals this Saturday at home at 8 p.m.

Blues Atom, PeeWee win Winnipeg Jets Challenge Cup



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JACQUELINE PIPER

The Stonewall Atom Team White won gold at the Winnipeg Jets Challenge Cup 10A3 Division over the holidays. Pictured, left to right, back row, coaches: Jason McIvor, Brian Baryliuk, Jason Rogowsky; middle row: Kaden Love, Connor Melo, Dylan Holod, Easton Henry, Liam Pauls, Reid Baryliuk, Owen Piper; front row: Alex Evans, Mathew Meyers, Max McIvor, Jaxen Park, Ethan Rogowsky, Landon Godin and Matthew Morton. Missing from photo Bryce Meyers and Joseph Ladyka.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY IAN PROVEN

The Stonewall PeeWee team was undefeated in the Winnipeg Jets Challenge Cup 12A3 division during the Christmas break. The Blues beat the Lord Selkirk Steelers 1-0 in the final on Dec. 30. Pictured, left to right, back row: coaches Grant Kummen, Mike Forbes, Darren Thiessen; middle Row: Evan Ozirney, Blake Meyers, Josh Smith, Kyle LaFleche, Dylan Labossiere, Myles Fotty, Colby Thiessen, Liam Proven; front row: Tyson Delaurier, Logan Resch, Jackson Kummen, Graeme Bytheway, Tyler Bakos and Owen Forbes.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Notice of Nomination Meeting - The Nomination Meeting for the Constituency of Lakeside will be held on: February 3, 2015. Registration: 6:30 p.m. Nomination Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Ag Society Red Barn, 6018E 75N Road, Stonewall, MB. In accordance with the criteria and guidelines established by the Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba Candidate Selection Committee as approved by the provincial Board of Directors, the meeting will be held to nominate Ralph Eichler as the candidate for the next provincial election in the Lakeside Constituency. For more information, please contact: Bruce Matthews, Lakeside Constituency 204-383-5421.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of Christian Jensen, late of the Postal District of Stonewall, 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 February, 2015. DATED at Stonewall, Manitoba this 19th day of December, 2014.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARD OF THANKS

STEWART - The passing of Alex Stewart has touched many hearts and our family is so grateful for all the compassion extended to us. It is so heartwarming to be surrounded by caring family and friends. Hospital visits and phone calls were always timely and appreciated. Thank you all for the many cards, visits and food items sent, each one brings comfort and fond memories. Thank you so much to all those who facilitated in Alex's memorial service, he would have been very proud. Thanks again, at times like this it seems that words are not enough to express our gratitude to you all for your support.

-With sincerity,
Joyce Stewart and family

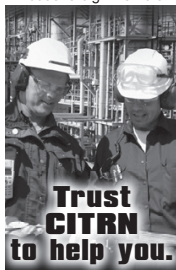
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to everyone who responded so generously to the Mitten Tree Clothing Drive for families living in Berens River. Due to the amazing response, over 800 articles of clothing were collected and distributed to the people most in need. In addition, monies collected was used to buy socks, ski pants and winter boots. As my co-worker in Berens said, "That's awesome, I'm speechless... Thank you so much!"

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENGAGEMENT



We are pleased to announce the engagement of our children, Amanda Snell and Doug Campbell. Social in honour of the two will be held at the Stonewall Legion on March 14, 2015. With a wedding to follow on September 12, 2015.

-Love Mom, Dad and all your families



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM



Edward John Kowalchuk
August 13, 1945 - January 8, 2013

In a beautiful place in heaven where we know you are at rest,
There is no pain or sorrow, just peace and happiness.

-Lovingly remembered by your wife Patty, children Corey, Kelsey, Nancy and their families
Mom Mary, Tom, Rosalie, Lucy and their families

OBITUARY



Edith Maud Smith
1924 - 2014

Edith Maud Smith (nee Baer) was born on her parent's farm in the Grassmere District, S.W. of Stonewall on April 28th, 1924.

Edith attended school at Grosse Isle, following which she worked primarily at Monarch Lumber office in Winnipeg.

In 1944 on June 3rd, she married Edward Smith. They farmed and raised their children together on the family farm in the Rockwood District until her husband's passing in 1981, at which time she moved to her new home nearby. In 2001, she moved to Lions Manor in Stonewall, which she enjoyed for 10 years.

In December of 2011 she moved to Betel Personal Care Home in Selkirk, on December 27th, she passed away with her family by her side after a long struggle with Alzheimers.

Edith was a devoted wife and mother to her family. In her earlier years, she enjoyed being a part of the Rockwood Ladies Aid Society and helping in community activities.

In later years, she enjoyed her trips to Hawaii and bus tours with friends. She also took part in a variety of senior activities and attended New life Church for many years.

She was predeceased by her infant son Brian in 1946; her husband Edward in 1981; her parents Stanley and Nannie Baer; brothers Stan, Walter (Gerri), Robert Baer; in-laws Walter (Clara) Smith, Eleanor (Joe) Peterson and Bill Moore.

She is survived by her sons Ray (Marilyn) Smith, Brent (Pat) Smith; grandchildren Wesley (Karen) Franklin, Ivól (Joyce) Franklin, Alfred Smith, Gillian (Darrell) Giesbrecht, Angela (Paul) Kuchma and Julie Smith-Sigvaldason; great-grandchildren Mason and Austin; step great-grandchildren Samantha, Jocelyn, Larissa, Nicholas and Zachary, sisters-in-law Clara Moore and Margaret Baer and several nieces and nephews.

We the family of Edith would like to thank all the Homecare workers who assisted in her excellent care at Lions Manor and to thank all the staff at Betel for their excellent care, concern and comfort as she dealt with her Alzheimers.

Funeral Service was held on Wednesday December 31, at 2:00 p.m. at New Life Church on Hwy. 67 east of Stonewall.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to donate may do so to Betel Home Residents Recreation Fund or the Alzheimers Society.

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OBITUARY

Johnny Thiessen
September 2, 1945 - December 25, 2014



John passed away suddenly on Christmas Day 2014 surrounded by his family. He was predeceased by his wife Janice on April 29, 2014. He is survived by his daughters Tracy (Jim) Walde and Brenda (Kevin) Ronald; his grandchildren Meghan, Trevor, Kameron, Katrick, Alison, Tyson, Braden and Benjamin whom he loved dearly.

John was born September 2, 1945 in Saskatoon, SK. He moved to Winnipeg in his late teens and married Jancie Katrick on August 31, 1968. They moved to Gunton in 1974. In 2000 they sold their acreage and moved into Teulon. John spent many years doing brick work in the Interlake and beyond with his company Jay Dee Masonry. In later years he also put on many miles as a long distance truck driver.

A celebration of his life was held on Friday, Jan 2, 2015 at New Life Church, Stonewall. Interment at Windsor Cemetery.

We the family, would like to thank all the EMT's and RCMP's who responded to our 911 call. Their compassionate and professional service was greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank all our extended family and friends for their prayers, love and support during this difficult time.

OBITUARY

Blanche Riddell Tully
March 27th, 1917 - December 25th, 2014



With heavy hearts, the Tully family would like to announce the passing of Blanche Riddell Tully on December 25th, 2014. She passed away peacefully with family by her side.

Blanche is predeceased by her husband Reg Tully; parents Dave and May Craig; brother Ross and sister Allison Mclean.

She leaves her two sons Glen (Judy), Bruce (Rachelle); five grandchildren, Lisa, Sheila, Andrea (Jayson), Blair (Cara), Brad and great-grandson Owen. She will be remembered by her sister Willma (Roy) Essex; brother-in-law Ken Tully, Conrad Prefontaine, sister-in-law Edith Tully, nieces, nephews and friends.

Blanche was born on her grandfather's farm in Cardova Manitoba, where her mother May and father Dave Craig farmed. She attended Lorndale Rural School and Neepawa School for her

early years but finished high school in Teulon after her family decided to move to Argyle. She then attended Normal School in Winnipeg to become a teacher.

Her first teaching position was with Union Prairie School at Inwood, afterwards transferring to Poplar Heights School in Marquette, where she met the love of her life Reg Tully. They were married in 1944 and began farming together.

Throughout the years, Blanche became very active within the community, supporting many events and celebrations at Meadow-Lea Hall and the United Church. She served as a treasurer of the Meadow-Lea United Church, a director of Marquette Co-op and was an Interlake School Division trustee.

In later years, she was a major contributor to the creation of the book "Footsteps through the Years" and actively reported the Marquette area news to the paper.

Blanche loved to knit, cook, garden and entertain family and friends. She will be greatly missed and never forgotten.

The Tully family would like to thank the care workers and nurses at Rosewood Lodge for the special care they gave to Blanche.

No formal service will be held.

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