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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Mother Nature surprised everyone with an overnight storm last Thursday, forcing schools throughout the province to close on Friday. The Interlake School Division closed schools Jan. 18, 19, 21 and 25 due to the inclement weather. Pictured left to right: Sydney Boughton, Rhea Myers, Jordan Hudon and Kamryn Hunnam were out shovelling on Ernie Webb Bay in Stonewall.

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"I don't know if I tell you often enough how much I appreciate this community. Selling real estate, helping people sell or buy their dream home has been the Joy and the Passion of my life. To add a little hope to this world, but the thing I work the hardest on, and one that is the most challenging, for me personally, is making sure myself, and my support staff are up to date in everything real estate in order that we can continue to give you the best service. I am honoured, once again, to receive the **SILVER** for sales in 2021. I received this prestigious award because of **YOU**, who had a choice on who you wanted to represent you in the sale, or purchase, of your property. To everyone who has chosen me, and LJ Baron Realty - THANK YOU! I appreciate your support more than you know." *Claudette*

Local chef to host Valentine's sushi fundraiser

By Jennifer McFee

A delicious fundraising initiative is underway to support a local childcare centre while also offering families a memorable way to celebrate Valentine's Day.

Starting Blocks, which offers pre-school and school-age programming in Stonewall, has teamed up with local chef Abbey Mcleod to offer a virtual sushi-making class. The family-friendly event will take place via Zoom on Friday, Feb. 11 from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Participants need to order kits in advance before Feb. 6, since no late orders will be accepted. On Thursday, Feb. 10, participants can get their kits either through a contactless doorstep dropoff or through a masked drive-through pickup at Catholic Christ the King Church parking lot from 4 to 6 p.m.

Starting Blocks director Nicole Kibsey said the sushi fundraiser stems from a parent's suggestion.

"She has used Chef Abbey for her own events and highly recommended her. This parent made all the arrangements with Chef Abbey and organized it all with her, making it easy for us to do," she said.

"We thought it would be a fun way for families to celebrate Valentine's together."

And the Stonewall-based chef agreed that it would make for an entertaining event.



Sushi is on the menu for the Feb. 11 Zoom event.

"I was super excited to start planning this and making it a reality. We are hoping to sell 100 to 200 kits for adults and kids," said Mcleod, who graduated from Red River College's culinary arts program in 2019.

"The adult kits come with two sushi rolls, gyoza, assorted tempura, dessert and green tea. The kids' kits come with one sushi roll, assorted tempura, dessert and a juice box. All kits also come with a bamboo sushi-rolling mat for future use."

The adult kits cost \$45 each, while the kids' kits cost \$20 each.

For Starting Blocks, fundraising is important on many levels. The childcare centre hopes to raise at least \$18,000 throughout 2022, and a few



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Chef Abbey Mcleod is teaming up with Starting Blocks to host a virtual sushi-making fundraiser.

more fundraisers are in the works.

"Starting Blocks uses the funds from fundraisers to help purchase supplies, new toys, building repairs and maintenance, as well as repairs and maintenance on our bus," Kibsey said.

"COVID-19 has raised our expenses, so we are doing as much fundraising as possible to recoup these funds."

And for anyone who would like to sample more of Mcleod's creations, she launched her own catering company during the earlier days of the pandemic.

"I started Prairie Fusion at the end of 2020 as a small pop-up series and quickly came to notice how sought-after my cuisine was in my hometown. I turned my small pop-up series into a catering business and have grown more than I ever imagined I would in only one year," she said.

"I have had to hire my first team of staff recently, so that was also super

exciting for me. We will be catering six weddings so far this summer already and cannot wait to get started."

In the meantime, she enjoys cooking up new ideas for future events.

"I do not have any upcoming public events, but I do plan on hosting a pop-up dinner once restrictions allow me to do so," she added.

"If it keeps up the way it is, I may do some more takeout pop-ups, but I am hoping things open up a little bit again soon."

When she's not busy with events of her own, Mcleod also cooks at The Rockwood Motor Inn in Stonewall, where she has full freedom to create daily specials.

For information about the virtual sushi-making fundraiser with Chef Abbey Mcleod, visit the Facebook pages for Starting Blocks or Prairie Fusion Catering Co. To register for the event, email startingblocks@mymts.net.

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Continuous snow putting pressure on rooftops

By Ty Dilello

Our cold and snowy Manitoba winters might make most residents want to stay inside and leave some of the chores that require going outside till spring. However, one chore that is essential this season is rooftop snow removal.

Although most roofs in Manitoba are certainly designed to withstand the heaviest of snowfalls, it's crucial that you routinely remove snow to prevent problems.

"Rooftop snow removal is essential to prevent ice dams, water infiltration and even roof collapse," said Mark Simard, Owner of Roof Express out of Argyle.

"Snow-blocked vents can lead to frost build-up on the underside of the roof and can cause mould to your sheathing, rafters and trusses. In addition, your attic should be the same temperature as outside, or problems like ice dams or condensation might occur. Also, a lot of damage to the shingles can occur if the snow removal is done by somebody inexperienced. In over 30 years, I have seen a lot of damage done to roofs."

It's also important to remove snow and ice from your hydro meter as it can create a safety hazard. Accumulated snow and ice can put stress on the meter piping and cause a gas leak. The build-up on the regulator can block the vent and allow excess gas pressure into your home.

"Making sure snow and ice do not build up on your natural gas meter or block exterior side vents if you have a high-efficiency natural gas furnace is critical," said Bruce Owen, media relations officer for Manitoba Hydro.

"It's important to check your natural gas meter regularly for snow and ice build-up. Even though natural gas meters and pressure regulators are built to withstand extreme winter weather conditions, you need to keep them clear of snow and ice."

A common question asked is when



Stonewall Home Hardware's Andrew Kirk has a wide variety of tools to help with your roof top snow removal this winter.

you should be removing the build-up of snow from your roof. If you have a low-pitch roof, you should regularly remove it. After a heavy snowfall, you should be out there as well. And then, when your home begins to make weird sounds, trust your home. It will start sending out SOS calls such as cracking, creaking, popping or other

unusual noises. This is a tell-tale sign that the snow on your roof is too heavy.

Andrew Kirk of Stonewall Home Hardware keeps a substantial stock of items to help customers not be overwhelmed with rooftop snow removal.

"We have a couple of different roof rakes to choose from," said Kirk.

"We also have ice melt for your roof that won't hurt your shingles to help get rid of ice dams. It's a good idea to take away the first three to four feet on your roof to help when things start to melt in the spring. If you have a large build-up on your roof, then getting up there and removing it is something to consider."



Roofmelt helps prevent damage from ice dams.



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2020-21 Champion Child buys surgical drill for hospital

Submitted by Children's Hospital Foundation

The Children's Hospital Foundation Champion Child is giving back.

Brady Bobrowich has spent the last two years serving as an ambassador for kids like himself, who need HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital, and now he's giving the hospital a special gift.

At five months old, Brady Bobrowich's parents noticed unusual spots on his body. Brady was diagnosed with Type 1 neurofibromatosis — a genetic disorder that causes tumours to form on nerve tissue anywhere in the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord and nerves. Brady has more than 100 tumours in his body and one of them connected to his spine that cannot be removed. This particular tumour, or plexiform neurofibroma, is so large that it caused Brady's spine to bend, much like a tree with branches too heavy on one side. Brady has had three spinal surgeries to implant and lengthen rods in his back to keep his spine straight as he grows and a fourth surgery to fuse his entire thoracic spine.

"I've had surgeons helping me through it all and because of these surgeries, I am able to continue to play hockey and do other activities I love to do," says Brady.

Now 14-year-old Brady has spent the last year two years as 2020-21 Champion Child for Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, speaking on behalf of 130,000 other children who need HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital each year. His role has been especially challenging in the midst of COVID-19; due to the pandemic,

the Champion Children from across Canada and the U.S. were unable to participate in their annual Children's Miracle Network gathering in Orlando, Florida, and many local events were cancelled. Also, amid the pandemic restrictions, Brady had two more surgeries to further support his condition.

Despite these challenges, Brady showed resilience and attended more than 40 events virtually, and some in-person when possible, to share his story and showcase what an amazing hospital and research institute we have in Manitoba. He and his family also co-ordinated several of their own virtual fundraisers to help raise funds for surgical equipment needed by HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital.

"I've had two major surgeries during these years as Champion Child, and I once again learned the importance of the HSC Children's Hospital. I want to make sure surgeons have the best tools available to help other kids like they helped me."

Today Brady gives back, presenting a cheque for \$37,000, the money he has raised over the past two years, to the surgical department at HSC Children's to help purchase a much-needed tool — the Midas Rex MR7 pneumatic surgical drill. This drill is a newer version of a similar drill used in Brady's surgeries and will help the HSC Children's surgical team to have even more precision to protect sensitive structures during surgery, and make clean, thin cuts that can promote faster healing time with less pain, as well as help kids spend less time under anaesthetic.

"We are so impressed with Brady's



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Manitoba's Champion Child Brady Bobrowich, front row left, with his dad Brad, mom Corinne and sister.

work over the past two years as Manitoba's Champion Child and his efforts to raise funds for new surgical tools to help other kids like him. HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital thanks you Brady," said Dr. Richard Keijzer, pediatric surgeon-scientist with HSC Children's Hospital and Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba.

"Brady has exhibited true champion spirit and the resiliency of children after they receive the health care they need when they need it," says Stefano

Grande, president and CEO of Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. "We're so proud of what Brady accomplished over two full years as Champion Child — our longest running Champion Child — and we thank Brady and his whole family for being excellent ambassadors for HSC Children's Hospital."

Stay tuned to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba social media channels @CHFManitoba on Feb. 2 for the announcement of the 2022 Champion Child!

Manitoba Pork welcomes Minister Derek Johnson to agriculture portfolio

By Joey Dearborn

Manitoba Pork wishes to congratulate Minister Derek Johnson on his appointment as the new Minister of Agriculture for the province.

Minister Johnson brings a wealth of experience in business and municipal government to his new role, and Manitoba Pork looks forward to continuing a strong working relationship

with the provincial government.

"Manitoba Pork and pork producers across the province welcome Minister Johnson to his new portfolio," said Rick Préjet, chair of Manitoba Pork.

"Fourteen thousand Manitobans depend on the hog sector for their living each and every day, and we look forward to working collaboratively with the minister on issues that impact

both our sector and agriculture as a whole, particularly as we continue to deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on prominent pieces of our sector like labour and the supply chain."

Manitoba Pork also wishes to recognize the contributions of Minister Ralph Eichler as he leaves his ministerial role. It cannot be overstated

when it is said that Minister Eichler is a champion for agriculture, both here in Manitoba and across the country, and his commitment to the agriculture industry is something that all Manitobans should be proud of.

"Ralph Eichler should be commended for all that he has done for agriculture and for his passion in supporting our industry, and our industry is deeply thankful for his service to our province," Préjet added.

"We wish him nothing but the best in the next phase of his elected life and thank him for his dedicated service to agriculture in our province and to the people he has served."

Manitoba Pork will be reaching out to Minister Johnson in the coming days to set up an introductory meeting.



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Health Canada approves Pfizer's COVID pill; safety alert issued

By Patricia Barrett

Health Canada approved Pfizer's COVID-19 oral pill on Jan. 17 but issued a warning the same day that people with compromised kidneys shouldn't be offered the treatment.

Paxlovid is composed of two antiviral pills, nirmatrelvir and ritonavir, which treat mild to moderate COVID in adults who are at high risk to have the disease progress to severe COVID, which includes hospitalization and death.

Pfizer's previously released research data showed the medication reducing the risk of hospitalization or death by 89 per cent.

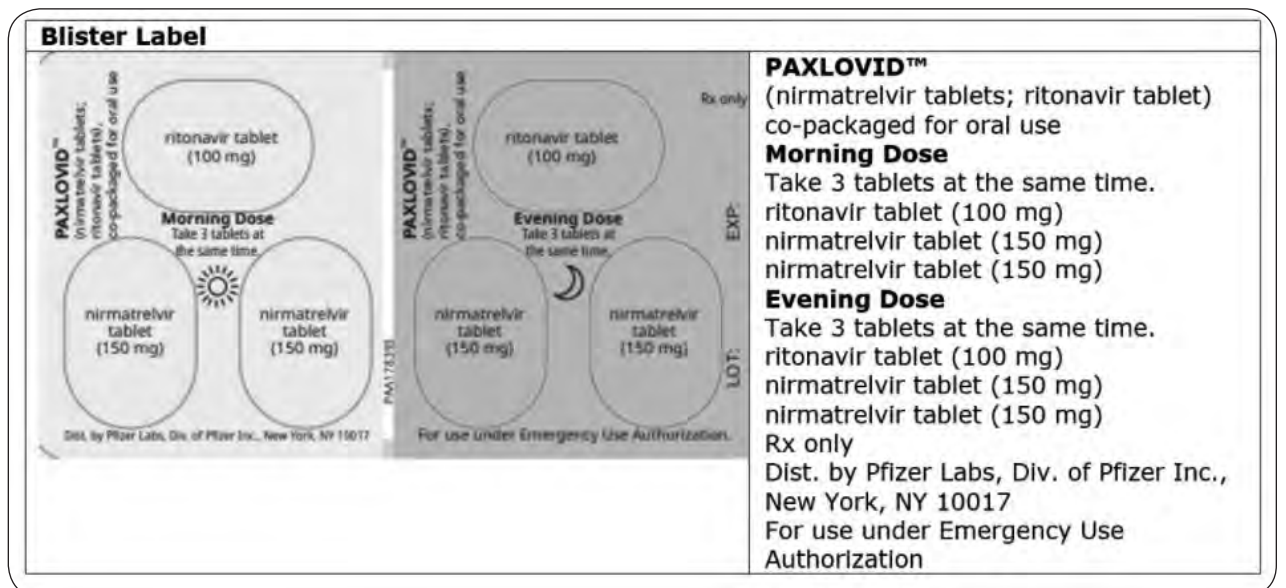
But people with severe kidney impairment shouldn't be offered the treatment.

The oral medication is "not recommended in patients with severe renal impairment and requires a dosage reduction in patients with moderate renal impairment," states a Jan. 17 alert from Canada's health agency. "PAXLOVID may also interact with various medications, which could result in serious or life-threatening adverse reactions, or a loss of therapeutic effect and possible development of viral resistance."

The medication is not authorized for use for longer than five consecutive days.

The drug's carton labels and blister packs will be in English only for now in order to expedite access to the medication, Health Canada said, and Canadian-specific information doesn't appear on the labels.

"To provide earlier access to PAXLOVID in the context of the global pandemic, Pfizer is providing cartons and blisters with the US Emergency



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY HEALTH CANADA

The blister label says Paxlovid has been approved for emergency use and is taken twice a day.

Use label. This label is presented in English-only and is missing some important Canadian-specific information normally found on Health Canada approved labels," said the agency.

The medication is to be prescribed to infected people within five days of the onset of COVID symptoms.

People can take Paxlovid at home, according to Canada's chief public health officer Dr. Theresa Tam. But she said last week the medication might be prioritized for people "most in need" — those who haven't got vaccinated. The unvaccinated are

at higher risk of developing severe outcomes from a COVID infection and needing hospital and/or ICU care.

"Treatment is not a substitute for vaccination," Tam tweeted. "Getting vaccinated, combined with public health measures, remain key to keeping #COVID19 infection rates as low as possible."

Paxlovid is presently in short supply in Canada. The federal minister of public services and procurement Filomena Tassi tweeted on Jan. 17 that the government secured 1 million treatment courses and has so far received an initial shipment of 30,400.

Nurses asked to work when mildly symptomatic, give up vacation

By Patricia Barrett

A nurse who lives in the Interlake and works at a large Winnipeg hospital said she and some of her co-workers have concerns about the province's return-to-work policy and reduced COVID isolation time, which could see them working with potentially infected colleagues or unwittingly spreading the virus themselves.

After Christmas, the provincial government and its Shared Health organization said health-care workers can be on the job if they have COVID symptoms but haven't tested positive for the virus.

The *Express* is not identifying the nurse, who said she is sharing her personal opinions and is not repre-

senting the health authority for whom she works.

"We know [Shared Health] needs us to come back to work. But is it because they feel we are safe [i.e., no longer shedding virus] to be back at work or is it because they're short-staffed?" said the nurse. "As a nurse, you start to wonder if they're looking out for our best interests. And I don't know if this really is in the best interest of the public to have nurses and health-care aides come back when they've obviously had some symptoms. It starts to get very confusing; we don't what's safe and what's not safe."

A memo titled "Return to Work for COVID-19 Negative, Mildly Symptomatic Health Care Staff" was sent

to all health-care workers on Dec. 29 from Shared Health and the province's COVID-19 Incident Command. That day saw almost 950 new infections reported.

The memo says health-care workers who've received a negative COVID test result (either one PCR test or two rapid tests) and whose symptoms are "mild/improving" can return to work. They also must have gone without a fever for 24 hours.

On Dec. 31, when almost 1,500 new COVID infections were reported and eight Manitobans died, the province slashed COVID isolation time from 10 days to five days for vaccinated people not showing symptoms and for vaccinated people whose "symptoms

are improving," according to a news release issued that day.

The health minister said fewer isolation days will "reduce strain on the health-system workforce" and will protect the health-care system.

The nurse said it's not exactly cut and dried about the number of days infected people shed the virus, even if they're on the mend.

"Who knows for sure how long this virus is shedding for. Omicron is a big shedder and a big spreader. So that's where it's kind of confusing to come back to work after three days; that seems a bit much," said the nurse. "We are worried. We don't want to be part of the spread. I don't want to spread

Continued on page 15

Saturday, January 29 Special

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Free mental health services available for farmers

By Jennifer McFee

A new resource has cropped up to help farmers cultivate a sense of mental wellness.

Announced last week, the Farmer Mental Wellness Program will offer mental health support for farmers and their families.

Through this program, farmers and their immediate family members can access six free one-on-one counselling sessions with professional counsellors who also have a background in agriculture. These confidential hour-long sessions are funded by the Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program, a non-profit organization established in October 2021.

To accommodate farmers' schedules, the services are available days, evenings and weekends. Farmers can opt for sessions in person, by phone or by video chat, and appointments will begin in March.

"The program was designed to fill a gap. Our advisory board and people in the counselling and farming community identified that there are lots of terrific resources and supports and online forums, but at the end of the day, people wanted to have an opportunity to speak one-on-one with somebody," said board member Roberta Galbraith, who is a farmer in the Minnedosa area.

Galbraith points to studies by the University of Guelph and Farm Man-

agement Canada that draw direct links between farmers' mental health and the profitability of their business.

"When you pause and think about it, it really makes sense that if you're not well mentally, then decisions are going to be more difficult," she said.

"You might tend to fumble and stall a bit. Your mind whirls and then you become very indecisive. You might not sell at the right time and then the price goes down, or in the case of fertilizer inputs, the price goes up."

Although the board has identified the Farmer Mental Wellness Program as a pilot project, Galbraith hopes it will continue as an ongoing resource.

"We expect that the uptake will be greater than we anticipate. This program was built on the success of similar programs in P.E.I., Quebec and Ontario, where the demand has grown," she said.

"We hope that we will morph from a pilot to an established program within the next year and then move forward with more robust fundraising and maybe some additional programming, depending on the demand and interest of the public."

Galbraith notes that she has family members that farm in the Ashern area, and she's aware of how discouraging last summer was for Interlake cattle farmers and for those who watched their crops disappear to grasshoppers.



Roberta Galbraith

"It was nice to see awareness from other places in the country and other corners of the Manitoba ag community that tried to help support what was going on there," she said.

"Just because you might be another sector within a larger industry doesn't mean that you're not a peer. This program is designed for any farmer."

The program is currently in the final stage of development. Farmers and family members will soon be able to book a session, by visiting www.manitobafarmerwellness.ca and clicking on "Book an Appointment." Through the website, they will also be able to select a counsellor that might be a good fit for them. In addition, the website provides information about how to apply to work as a counsellor for the Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program, as well as how to donate to the cause.

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:
letters@stonewallteulontribune.ca

Thank you

Dear Editor,

I want to thank the kind citizens in the area who stopped to pull my car back onto Road 1E and 84N this past Saturday (Jan. 22). A big thank you goes out to two groups of local snow-

mobile enthusiasts who took the time to offer me assistance. Meanwhile, two gentlemen drove up alongside and, with the use of their powerful truck and metal chain, everyone came together to pull me out of the ditch.

I found out this section of narrow

road has captured many a vehicle with its tight corner, sloping to the outside with a knack for icing up, surprising those not familiar with the area.

Thanks guys and gals,
Sincerely,
Pearl Bainbridge

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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Six-year-old Rosie took her mom, her little brother and Aunt Jess out for recess on Jan. 13 at Jimm's Hill in Stonewall. While school was held remotely for most students the first week back to school after the holidays, Mother Nature kindly kept temperatures mild so students were able to enjoy the outdoors. Pictured from left: Jessica Careme, Theodore McLean, Kirstyn McLean and Rosie McLean. Help the *Tribune* record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or family enjoying the outdoors. Email: weather@stonewallteulontribune.ca.

Manitoba sees 23 more COVID deaths over the weekend

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials reported 23 new deaths in people with COVID-19 on Monday, ranging in age from 50s to 90s and from all across the province.

It brings the death toll to 1,515 since the pandemic began.

The weekend saw another 52 people admitted to hospital with the virus, bringing the total of hospitalized Manitobans to 716, including 49 in intensive care.

Looking back at data for seven days ending Jan. 20, Manitoba saw 367 new COVID-19 hospitalizations, a 0.3 per cent decrease from the previous week.

On the flip side, we also had 40 new ICU cases of COVID-19 in that time, an 8.1 per cent increase over the previous week.

Health officials were also reporting 5,597 new cases for that week. It's a 24.2 per cent decrease, though the case counts are not an accurate representation of how many people actually have COVID-19, as most symptomatic Manitobans are now doing rapid tests at home, if at all, which are not included in the official case totals.

Nonetheless, on Monday the province was reporting 38,691 active cases of COVID-19 and a case positivity rate of 33.3 per cent.

The province continues to encourage Manitobans to consider getting vaccinated against COVID-19, noting that, based on the past six weeks of data, people who are not fully vaccinated are three times more likely to be hospitalized should they contract

the virus, 11 times more likely to wind up in ICU, and 10 times more likely to die than someone who is fully vaccinated.

"Vaccine is still our best defence against omicron [variant] and COVID-19. It still provides tremendous protection against severe outcomes," stressed Dr. Brent Roussin, chief provincial public health officer, in a news conference held last Wednesday. "Whichever dose of vaccine you're eligible for, please get that as soon as you become eligible for it."

At press time, 78.8 per cent of eligible Manitobans age five and up had received two doses of the vaccine (fully vaccinated). The rate for the third dose booster shot was at 38.4 per cent.

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"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God."

(Psalm 42:11)

Hope is funny, because while it is a good thing, we have a tendency to almost always misplace it. Just a couple of weekends ago, I made this mistake myself. My favourite NFL team, the New England Patriots, were set to play a divisional rival with their season on the line. I knew the Patriots were not the better team, but I hoped that they would be able to somehow pull out a win that day. I put my hope in the team, I invested myself in the game for three hours, and when the clock hit 0 and the final score read 47-17 against the Patriots, my hopes were dashed. And I was upset and irritable and likely not very pleasant to be around. I had placed my hopes in a football team to satisfy me that night.

It feels like a silly example, but I think we all do this frequently. Whether it is putting our hope in a promotion at work or in a relationship working out or in being able to afford our next gadget or toy at the end of the month, we all tend to try to be satisfied by things that will ultimately fail us. We put the full weight of our hope on people and possessions that are far too weak to hold that weight.

The writers of this psalm identify that tendency. If you read the whole of Psalm 42, you see that in their pain, there is only one being in the universe who can bear the full weight of their hopes: God. The way the psalmists ground themselves in that hope is by reflecting on the wonderful works that God has done.

And so, reader, I implore you today to not put your hope anywhere except for in the work that God has accomplished and will accomplish. If you need a good place to see that, I'd encourage you to look up Ephesians chapter 2, verses 1 through 10. There is no greater place to put our hope than in the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Daniel Bredin
New Life Church

Stonewall proclaims 2022 as the Year of the Garden

Stonewall council news in brief

By Jennifer McFee

Although we're deep in the throes of winter, it won't be long before spring flowers begin to blossom.

Along with other municipalities across the country, the Town of Stonewall has proclaimed 2022 as The Year of the Garden, which aims to highlight and celebrate the important contributions of gardeners, local gardening organizations, and horticultural professionals and businesses.

This year is also the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association. Communities in Bloom and the Canadian Garden Council are inviting municipalities to make the proclamation.

The town recognizes the contributions of gardens and gardening to the development of the municipality and the country, as well as to enhancing residents' quality of life.

Particularly during the pandemic, gardening has helped many green thumbs to face ongoing challenges, while gardens have cultivated safe and healthy places for people to come together.

Residents can reap the rewards of gardening, which include improved mental and physical health, enhanced cultural vibrancy and opportunities for inclusivity. At the same time, gardening creates a visually beautiful community through a COVID-safe outdoor activity.

"I think it's a great, great thing. There are so many beautiful municipalities around, especially in the Interlake," Stonewall Mayor Clive Hinds said.

"We're right up there with them. So many times, we've won Communities in Bloom awards for the beauty that our humble little town is able to put

forward."

The Town of Stonewall will also recognize June 18, 2022, the day before Father's Day, as Garden Day.

In addition, Stonewall commits to being a garden-friendly community by supporting the development of its garden culture. The town's community garden policy enables a local non-profit organization to operate a community garden for town residents on municipal land. As well, the local Communities in Bloom committee actively promotes community engagement.

In other council news:

- A virtual public hearing at the Jan. 19 council meeting focused on a proposed subdivision by Global Homes.

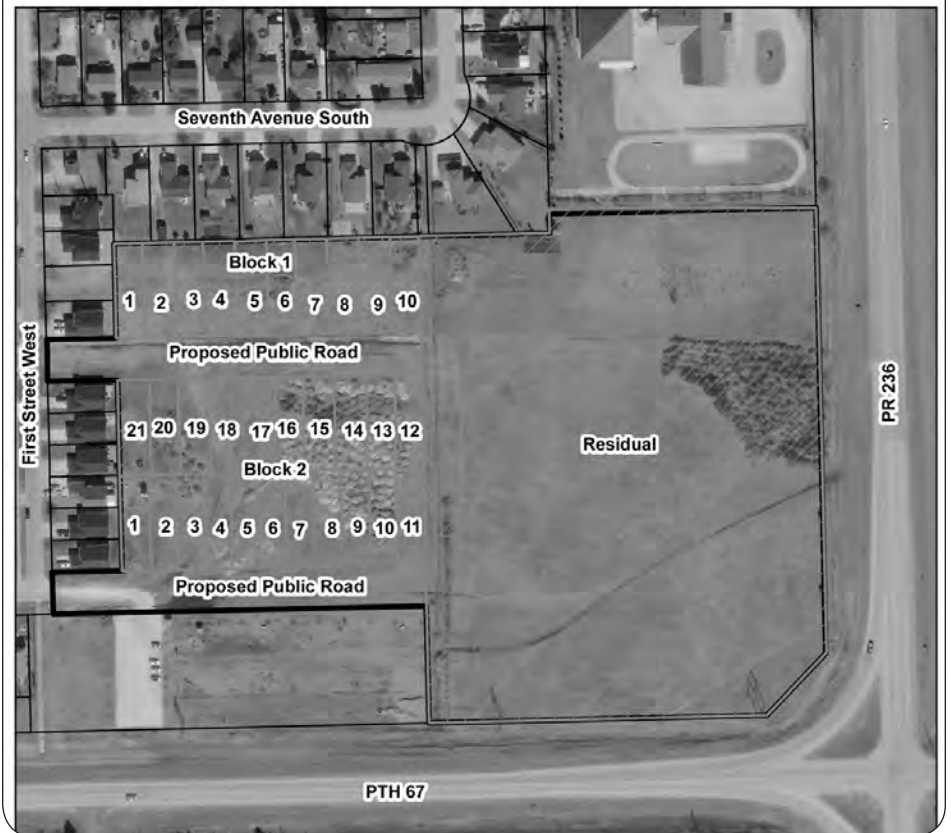
The proposal involves subdividing 31 residential lots from a 17.94-acre property on the south side of Stonewall near Highway 67. The proposed project also includes the extension of 8th Avenue South and 9th Avenue South, which would provide access to the proposed lots.

Several people spoke out about their concerns, including questions about lot sizes that are proposed to be about 42 to 50 feet wide.

The South Interlake Planning District (SIPD) recommends the town ensure that parcels for proposed road extensions of 8th Avenue South and 9th Avenue South are adequately sized and designed to meet the town's municipal road specifications, including permanent or temporary cul-de-sac turnarounds.

In addition, SIPD recommends the town consider the design of housing and garages intended for the lots.

Proposed Subdivision- Town of Stonewall



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

A Jan. 19 public hearing focused on a proposed subdivision by Global Homes.

"Garages can overwhelm the frontage of smaller lots resulting in negative design impacts on a residential street," said Eric Shaw, SIPD's general manager. "There are different ways to address this."

For example, Shaw notes that two lots could share one driveway apron, providing access to detached garages in the rear yards of the two respective lots. These design considerations, and other planning matters, could be addressed in greater detail in a development agreement between the Town of Stonewall and the developer, which

can be included as a council condition of approval for the subdivision.

- The town accepted quotes for workplace health and safety officer consulting services. Council accepted a proposal submitted by Safety Culture Coach for April 1 to Sept. 30, 2022, for a \$25,000 fee plus tax.

- The town accepted quotes for purchasing equipment to groom and maintain the infields at Fines Fields. Council accepted a quote to purchase a Smithco Sand Star Zee Bunker Rake from Prairie Turf Equipment for \$15,700 plus tax.

Government enhancing provincial park reservation service for 2023

By Becca Myskiw

Campers will soon have an easier time booking their sites for summer getaways next year.

The provincial government is currently developing a new provincial park reservation system. While the new system is being worked on, they're also adding short-term changes to the current system to "improve users' experiences when booking campsites this spring."

The conservation and climate department is looking at major changes like a completely new software application. So while they work on find-

ing, acquiring and implementing that, which they're aiming to have in place by 2023, the department is "addressing the major challenges users experienced in booking campsites, cabins and yurts at provincial parks on the opening days for reservations in 2021."

Those changes include server upgrades to improve the system's performance, the addition of two opening days to five from three, a limit to the number of reservations one can book in one session for cabins and yurts to two from three,



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Manitoba government is fixing its current provincial park reservation service and creating a new one for 2023.

Continued on page 10

Dr. Matear joining health incident command

By Patricia Barrett

The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's chief executive officer joined the province's health-care incident command team on Monday as omicron increases hospitalizations and staff vacancies.

Dr. David Matear is joining Manitoba's chief public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin as co-incident commander to assist with the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Marion Ellis, who is the health authority's regional lead for health services-public health, acute care and chief nursing officer, was appointed acting CEO.

"Marion has 30 years' nursing leadership experience, with many of those spent in senior leadership. She is currently actively participating in provincial planning tables for COVID-19 as well as health system transformation," said an IERHA spokesperson last week. "Marion has committed to maintaining the culture of transparent communication that has been established in the regional health authority. She will continue to host elected leader briefings as information warrants."

Manitoba health minister Audrey

Gordon said in a news release that Matear's past experience dealing with health-care emergencies will stand the province in good stead.

"Dr. Matear brings a wealth of incident command structure and operational knowledge to this role as Manitoba works to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 and address the ongoing capacity needs of our health-care system," said Gordon in the Jan. 19 release. "Previously Dr. Matear served as the senior operating director in Fort McMurray, Alta., and as the incident commander for Alberta Health Services during the Fort McMurray fires that swept through that community in 2016. He successfully led hospital and health services care provision during the four-month period of those devastating fires and will no doubt be an incredible asset to Manitoba."

Matear is replacing Lanette Siragusa on incident command.

The IERHA spokesperson said municipal leaders were notified last week that COVID is increasing hospitalizations and causing illness among health-care staff, which is leading to vacancies. That may cause "interruptions in local service delivery as the health-care system works to meet essential care needs and aligns resources

to greatest need."

The health authority has asked municipal officials to advise residents there will be temporary health service disruptions.

Acute care beds have already been suspended in some IERHA hospitals because of nurse shortages, and emergency rooms over the past five years or so continue to temporarily close or offer limited hours of service because of doctor shortages. The IERHA recently announced that a doctor working in Arborg left the clinic attached to the hospital.

The province has restricted access to COVID PCR testing and also restricted the use of rapid antigen tests, resulting in a lack of public health data and uncertainty as to how many people are infected and how this wave is playing out. The province is also no longer conducting contact tracing for the general public and in schools.

Hospitalization and ICU admissions over the past month have continued to climb because of omicron. On Friday, Jan. 21, there were 827 new COVID infections (an undercount), 664 people in hospital and a total of 1,492 deaths.

Premier Heather Stefanson said a few weeks ago it's up to Manitobans



IERHA

Marion Ellis has been appointed acting CEO for the IERHA.

to look after themselves. Last week physicians said provincial Shared Health hasn't released a triage protocol — a guideline on who should get life-saving care and who could be left to potentially die — in the event that staff and hospitals resources run dry.

The surgical and diagnostic procedures backlog is 153,320 (data as of Jan. 13), according to Doctors Manitoba's online dashboard.

Incredible Creatures: new species identified in 2021

By John Gavloski

With new high-resolution telescopes being sent into space and probes being sent to Mars and the sun, it may be tempting to think that the earth and its diversity have been adequately explored and documented.

But that is far from the case. Hundreds of new species are being discovered every year. It is estimated that there are still thousands, if not millions, of species yet to be discovered.

In this month's Incredible Creatures, we will explore some of the new species that have been described in 2021. Although there have been hundreds of new species identified from all corners of the earth over this past year, I will focus on some cool new animals, starting with a large mammal and concluding with the new "leggiest" animal on earth.

North America:

Researchers determined that a group of whales in the Gulf of Mexico that looked like Bryde's whales are actually a new species, which they named the Rice's whale (*Balaenoptera ricei*). Scientists estimate that only 33 individuals remain alive and are threatened by marine ship traffic,

plastic waste, and oil and gas exploration in the Gulf.

Six new species of bark scorpions were discovered from Guatemala and Mexico. While people might generally associate scorpions with arid desert climates, these bark scorpions find respite from predators, namely larger scorpions, high in the treetops of undisturbed primary forests.

Asia:

Researchers have described 12 new gecko species from India's Western Ghats mountains. One of these is described as "nearly impossible to catch" and was named Jackie's day gecko, after the famed actor and martial artist Jackie Chan. Most of the new geckos were found in caves or on the forest floor. They are quite small, most measuring only three to four centimetres.

A brightly coloured Easter egg weevil, *Pachyrhynchus obumanuvu*, was discovered in the forested mountaintops of the Philippines. These weevils live in the canopy of the moist, moss-covered cloud forest. Its colours mimic the traditional garments of the Indigenous Obu Manuvu tribe; hence, the species name of this beetle. Deforestation is a concern in the re-

gion, and it is hoped that the power of a name may instill a sense of pride and stewardship for a species within a community.

Africa:

The newly described *Brookesia nana* chameleon from Madagascar is believed to be the smallest reptile on earth. It is about the size of an aspirin tablet. Madagascar, though quite large, has a surprising number of miniature animals, many of them found nowhere else on the planet.

A new chameleon species, named the Wolfgang Böhme's Ethiopian chameleon, was found living in bushes and small trees in the Bale Mountains of south-central Ethiopia. The chameleon is around 15 centimetres long and has a distinctive crest of large spiny scales along its back and tail.

Australia:

One of the truly amazing new discoveries over the past year was a new species of millipede, named *Eumilipes persephone*, which broke the record for number of legs; one of the specimens collected has 1,306 legs. This eyeless millipede was discovered underground near the south coast of Western Australia. There are more



PHOTO BY ANALYN CABRAS

A new species of Easter egg weevil discovered in a cloud forests in the Philippines.

than 13,000 species of millipedes, and in spite of the name millipede, most species only have a few hundred legs at most. The previous record was a millipede with 750 legs. This new species is the first "true millipede" and the leggiest animal on Earth.

From whales to tiny reptiles, some amazing new species were discovered in 2021. It's exciting to think about what is still out there waiting to be discovered.

> PARK RESERVATION, FROM PG. 8

and a reduction in the maximum stay length for yurts and cabins to seven nights from 14. The last change is to give more people the opportunity to use the facilities.

Conservation and climate minister

Sarah Guillemard announced on Jan. 14, that they're making the adjustments in response to public feedback.

"The improvements will help manage the load on the opening day for reservations, ease the booking pro-

cess for campers and provide more opportunities to book camping facilities in high demand and limited inventory, such as cabins and yurts."

The public feedback came from the Improving the Parks Reservation Service online survey on EngageMB. Of the 97 per cent of users who said

they had used the online reservation service, 49 per cent were dissatisfied with it. Twenty-seven per cent were somewhat dissatisfied, 21 per cent were somewhat satisfied, and three per cent were satisfied with it.

Three per cent of respondents hadn't used the service, and 52 per cent of them said their impression of it was very negative. Twenty-six per cent of them said their impression was somewhat negative, 12 per cent said it was somewhat positive, and 10 per cent of them weren't sure.

In another question, the survey asked how people typically reserve provincial park sites, and 91 per cent said online. The survey found that people don't book with the service on opening day mostly due to a bad experience or the site taking too long. These answers (and more) prompted the government to make these upcoming changes to the provincial parks reservation system.

"Our government is committed to making it easier for Manitobans to reserve campsites with this short-term and long-term approach," said Guillemard.

Online reservations start April 4 this year.



The Board of the **Interlake Community Foundation** wishes to thank all of the donors who made gifts in 2021. In spite of the many challenges that we all faced, our communities supported us to keep the ICF growing! In 2021, we held the annual fundraising golf tournament, a fund stakeholder appreciation event, and we participated in a successful Endow MB 24/7 Donation Challenge! We made our Community Grants and participated in the Fund for Gender Equality Grant Program.

The 2022 Community Grant Applications are being accepted until February 28, 2022.

Thank you to everyone who made donations in 2021 (names below).

Thank you to our volunteers. We look forward to an awesome 2022!

Andrea O'Connor
Adam Peleshaty
Admiraal Auto
Alan Campbell
Alan Goddard
Albert and Joyce Myska
Aleethia Mackay
Alice Smith
Allyson & Andy Stewart
Amanda & Ryan Margetts
Angela Green
Anna Pazdzierski
Annette Unrau
Anthony Schellenberg
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Medal for Excellence



Shannon Bodnarus

Shannon Bodnarus of Arborg was awarded the Conservatory Canada Medal for Excellence for the Level 6 Contemporary Idioms piano exam recently. This award represents the highest mark in that subject and grade in the Province of Manitoba. Bodnarus attends Grade 9 at Stonewall Collegiate and studies private piano with Brenda Gulay of Arborg. All of Bodnarus's lessons and exam were done virtually.

Warren restaurant offers crafts and coffee

By Nicole Brownlee

A crafty pop-up shop in Warren showcases local talent while supporting a popular eatery.

Warren Crafters' Corner not only supports LJ's Grill but is stationed right beside it.

The Warren restaurant offered the space to the Crafters' Corner after Stacey Fairlie gave them an offer they couldn't resist.

"We were so lucky to have LJ's offer us that space," said Fairlie.

In Nov. 2020, Fairlie helped establish a seasonal section that sold crafts at the local hardware store she was temporarily managing, previously owned by her parents.

Public health restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic stalled many crafters' busiest season by limiting holiday craft sales. Fairlie offered a few shelves at Warren Hardware to support the local crafters.

"We kept it through Christmas ... and when my time at the hardware store was coming to an end, we knew we were outgrowing the space we had."

In December 2021, Fairlie reached out to LJ's to create a space for the crafters to once again sell their items for the holidays and the foreseeable future.

With the help of crafter Archeena Hogg, Fairlie filled the space with items like quilts, ceramics and jewelry.

"It is a much different environment now," said Fairlie.

"It was great to have the hardware space, and now we have our own."

Known for her quilts, Hogg was one of the crafters Fairlie included at the hardware store. Hogg lent a hand to

Fairlie to help lay out the store because of her experience designing displays and has since stuck around to help Fairlie run the shop.

The store also helps create a welcoming environment that encourages shoppers to stop and gather for a cup of coffee next door at LJ's.

"There's always somewhere for the guys to go for coffee," said Fairlie.

Fairlie and the owners of LJ's wanted to create a similar space for women to enjoy fancy tea and cakes while chatting. The combination of LJ's hospitality with the Crafters' Corner's wares seemed like a perfect match.

"(Crafters' Corner) brings different people in," said LJ's co-owner Amber Johnson.

"I've definitely noticed that we've had more of a coffee crowd in the afternoon that we didn't really have before."

The two businesses pushed the idea further and offered a ladies' night in December for community members to shop at the Crafters' Corner, have their tarot cards read then enjoy a dinner catered by LJ's.

"That was a big seller and brought in a bunch of people," said Johnson.

Around 40 women attended the event throughout the night. The shop and diner hope to host a similar dinner soon.

"We really appreciate everything (LJ's does) for us and all the people that come in and support us by purchasing something locally," said Fairlie.

All proceeds from the craft sales go directly back to the local crafters.

To learn more about the craft store, visit the Warren Crafters' Corner Facebook page.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY WARREN CRAFTERS' CORNER

From left: Stacey Fairlie and Archeena Hogg teamed with LJ's Grill owners Amber Johnson and Christine Chambers to create a space for local crafters to sell their work.



Warren Crafters' Corner sells a variety of local artisans' work, like paintings, wood carvings and Hogg's quilts.



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**EFFICIENCY
MANITOBA**

Town of Stonewall provides \$1 million to Save the Kilns project

By Jennifer McFee

History is alive and well in Stonewall thanks to a \$1-million contribution from the town to preserve its iconic kilns.

Council voted on Jan. 19 in favour of putting \$1 million towards the \$3.5-million Save the Kilns project over the next seven years. The Save the Kilns committee will aim to raise the remainder of the cost to restore the historic icons, which were built more than a century ago.

In addition to restoring three kilns in Quarry Park, the project will include green-space development around the structures.

The town's contributions will start this year with \$500,000, followed by \$100,000 each year from 2023 to 2027.

"For the 2022 contribution of \$500,000, the council will look to take out a debenture. Current borrowing rates are historically low and make the contribution very affordable," explained CAO Wally Melnyk.

"As for the 2023 to 2027 contributions, there will be a number of options available for the council of the day, including reserves and levies, and so how they decide to contribute will be based on decisions made by that group at the time."

The project will take multiple years to complete, and the first phase is expected to begin later this year.

"The first step is to engage our engineers for the project, Crozier Kilgour, in the design work. Specifications will then need to be compiled and the project will go to tender," Melnyk said.

"If everything works as we hope and expect, work on the site would begin early this summer."

Melnyk said they'll ensure the engineers are aware of nearby quarry activity and its potential impact when they are creating their design. Stonewall council will consider the engineers' proposal at the Feb. 2 council

meeting.

"Given the fact that the current structures have withstood all sorts of impacts for a century," he said. "We are confident that the refurbished structures can be designed to meet the risks of the next 100 years."

Mayor Clive Hinds expects the re-stored kilns will draw tourists from near and far.

"The longer we take, the more the cost will be," Hinds said at the council meeting. "These are good first steps."

Coun. Walter Badger expressed similar sentiments.

"I think it's great that we're doing this," he said at the council meeting.

The investment announcement is also thrilling news for the fundraising team, made up of co-chairs Dale Oughton and Merle Balsillie, fundraising assistant and secretary Aimee Nagy, and members Allan Webb, Scott

Aikman and Kathy Aikman.

With the town's commitment now in place, Balsillie expressed enthusiasm about the upcoming work.

"After the initial revitalization project was out on hold because of the fire at the Interpretive Centre in 2007, and yet another obstacle with the pandemic, it's so exciting to see this

project finally becoming a reality," she said.

The quarries and the construction of the kilns began in Stonewall in the late 1870s, almost 150 years ago, she added.

"The kilns are symbolic of the hard work of the generations before us that settled in the area and made Stonewall what it is today," Balsillie said.

"The revitalization of these kilns will enable us to pay tribute to the quarry workers and their families that laid the foundation for our extraordinary Town of Stonewall and leave their legacy cast in stone. I'm glad to be a part of this exciting



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

From left: Fundraising team co-chairs Merle Balsillie and Dale Oughton with Stonewall Mayor Clive Hinds and Deputy Mayor Jackie Luellman.

endeavour."

As co-chair, Oughton expressed appreciation for the entire fundraising team.

"It's a testament to their dedication and support to ensure these iconic kilns are still standing strong, watching over the town of Stonewall for another 150 years," Oughton said.

"In addition to having the kilns restored to their original glory, our end goal and vision is a park-like setting surrounding the beautiful structures that will bring tourism to our town and provide a backdrop where memories will be made for generations to come. The kilns, while not operational, will be able to provide visitors vantage points for education and explanation — similar to what Quarry Park has been doing for decades."

The town's investment will ideally lead to other investments with fundraising efforts underway.

"It was critical to have the town make the first and largest gift to saving the kilns prior to having official conversations with perspective donors to the project. We needed to make sure the project was moving forward 100 per cent — and now it is, thanks to

the town's monumental contribution," Oughton said.

"Businesses and people, not just from Stonewall, have been reaching out to us to ask how they can help or contact us for more information about making donations. We have set up a savethetilns@stonewall.ca email account and we can help you. Also, if people are interested in pledging a gift so they can have greater impact by making a larger donation, we can make that happen by spreading it out over two or three years, depending on the donor's comfort level and size of the gift."

The Interlake Community Foundation will handle all gifts, and tax receipts will be provided.

South kiln work will begin this summer, Oughton added.

"We couldn't be happier. The longer we wait, the more risks we could encounter — and the more expensive it will be," he said.

"The south kiln will be completed by winter of 2022. Work will begin on northwest and northeast kilns in spring of 2023. Our goal is to have a grand ribbon-cutting and unveiling at Quarry Days 2024."

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Stonewall's Rosewood Lodge responds to outbreak

By Jennifer McFee

Care and compassion form the foundation of the response to a COVID outbreak at a local personal care home.

On Monday, Jan. 17 an outbreak was declared at Rosewood Lodge, a 50-bed personal care home in Stonewall.

As of Friday, six residents had tested positive for COVID-19 and another eight were symptomatic and awaiting test results.

Margarete Moulden, clinical team manager for Rosewood Lodge, noted that it's unclear how the outbreak started.

"We aren't really sure about the point of transmission. We have staff and designated caregivers who are all required to wear personal protective equipment while on site. All designated care providers must be vaccinated, and we all do a self-screening at the start of the shift. Our hand hygiene is stellar," she said.

"All we can confirm is that COVID entered our facility in a manner that made it possible for a resident to become infected."

In the area of the facility known as Shura Lane, all residents are isolating for a 10-day period to reduce the risk of further infections, regardless of whether they are symptomatic or not.

"This might change depending on how the outbreak evolves," Moulden said.

"We just don't want to take the risk of them potentially being in contact with a resident who is experiencing symptoms."

In addition, enhanced infection prevention and control protocols are in place for staff members who are interacting with residents who are



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

IERHA announces COVID outbreak at Stonewall's Rosewood Lodge.

symptomatic and have tested positive. On Shura Lane, staff members are now wearing N95 masks, and they're changing gowns after being in the room of residents who are experiencing COVID-19 or symptoms.

Infection prevention and control experts, the medical officer of health and members of Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's management team meet daily for a call to determine if any additional supports are needed. The medical officer of health will determine when the outbreak is declared over based on the health status of residents and staff in the facility.

For residents in isolation, the dedicated staff continues to provide the best possible care.

"We are serving all their meals in their rooms. We also suspended all group activities, and residents are bathing in their room rather than having anyone come out into a gen-

eral area. We just are keeping our response to residents' needs within a contained area until we can be assured they are safe from transmission of illness," Moulden said.

"We've also increased the refreshment breaks and the amount of fluids that we're providing. One of the symptoms of COVID-19 is very rapid dehydration, so we've increased the amount of fluids that we're providing at breakfast and we've also added an additional refreshment break in the afternoon."

At the same time, staff are monitoring residents' food and fluid intake at every meal.

"COVID-19 really sucks the wind out of you and people often don't feel like eating," Moulden said.

"Sometimes the only symptom that you note is that they're not eating properly or they're more lethargic. When there's even a small symptom like that, we are testing."

In addition, recreation staff have bolstered the co-ordination of virtual visits.

"Like everywhere else in Manitoba, visitations in outdoor pods have stopped, as have general visitors. Considering our weather right now, doing a window visit with anyone would not be pleasant," Moulden said.

"But our designated caregivers are still able to visit, which has actually been wonderful for the residents. If they have a family member that is either symptomatic or has tested positive, they are gloved and gowned too. The resident isn't as isolated as they would have been during our first outbreak that happened a year ago when no one actually tested positive at all."

Based on knowledge gleaned from previous pandemics, the care team now has a greater understanding

Continued on page 14

THANK YOU

The Stonewall & District Christmas Cheer Board would like to thank all those who contributed in any way to the 2021 Christmas season.
Kari, Nancy, Melissa, Jacquie, Linda & Christine

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Teulon attracting more residents with low costs

By Nicole Brownlee

Steve Klotz and Koreen Nadon were looking for a quiet, relaxing small town to escape to after spending several claustrophobic years in larger cities.

Klotz spent 18 years in Winnipeg while Nadon lived in the city for five, but both were looking for a change.

"We pretty much looked at any small town that wasn't Winnipeg," said Klotz.

Despite looking at places in Lorette, Ste. Agathe and other communities, Klotz and Nadon favoured Teulon.

"It has a lot to offer. All of the conveniences are here, and you don't have to leave," said Nadon.

The couple also wanted to stay within a half-hour drive of Winnipeg because Klotz often travels to the city for work as a manufacturer's representative.

Nadon especially wanted to push for a small town after growing up on a 52-acre farm in Hussar, Alta. The Southern Alberta town had a population of 190 people in 2016, which accounts for roughly 15 per cent of Teulon's population.

"I miss country living," said Nadon.

"I had really been pushing Steve to move out of Winnipeg."

The pair's search for the perfect home lasted around eight months before they secured a house in Teulon on June 18, 2021.

Nadon said Teulon already reminds her of Hussar.

"It's quite similar actually — the small-town feel with the post office and whatnot."

Many of Klotz's clients also live

around Teulon, which cuts the amount of time Klotz has to spend in the city.

"I have a whole lot less stress driving from Teulon than I was driving across the city," said Klotz.

"I've got more mileage but better peace of mind."

Klotz and Nadon are similar to many people looking move to a smaller town like Teulon, said Claudette Griffin, a notable Interlake real estate agent.

"Some of the key points that attract buyers ... are that it's still a small, full-service rural community where neighbours help neighbours," said Griffin.

The community offers lots of options for recreation like baseball diamonds, soccer pitches, arenas, rodeo grounds and performance areas. Community members also have access to grocery stores, doctor's offices, specialized health care, schools and retirement resources in town.

Homes in Teulon are considered more affordable compared

to properties in Gunton, Balmoral, Stonewall and Stony Mountain. The Winnipeg Regional Real Estate Board states that for a 1,300-square-foot home in these areas, the house will cost around \$382,000.

"You can find similar properties (in Teulon) for substantially less," said Griffin.

The average building lots in Teulon cost less than half the price of lots in the surrounding communities, which charge up to \$118,000.

Griffin has worked as a realtor for 40 years at L.J. Baron Realty, the agency

"ALL OF THE CONVENIENCES ARE HERE, AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO LEAVE."



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Steve Klotz and Koreen Nadon moved to Teulon in June 2021, looking for an escape from Winnipeg with a small-town feel.

her father started in 1953. Teulon is Griffin's home community, but she specializes in selling homes across the Interlake.

"With the housing affordability and

vast array of services, you can see why Teulon is a wonderful place to call home."

> OUTBREAK, FROM PG. 13

about what works and what doesn't.

"We've implemented all of those measures that have really helped to sustain people. We are also so lucky our three attending physicians are working together with us to monitor our residents closely. One of the physicians will attend the site every day including weekends. They have already created a rotation," she said.

"We have an infection prevention and control team members here on site every day. They've also been incredibly supportive and helpful in getting us organized, and my team has been very responsive to all the suggestions."

More than 90 per cent of residents received their third dose of the vaccine by November, she added.

"That third dose has been effective in reducing the severity of the illness," Moulden said.

"I've noticed that all of the residents, even those that have tested positive, have not been as unwell as when that first wave came through the country."

The outbreak response relies on teamwork, and Moulden expresses gratitude for the dedication of everyone involved.

"I have to say my staff are absolutely incredible. I could not ask for a better team of people that care,

that work hard, that have stepped up. We've increased the amount of staff that we have on every shift so that we can manage better with the outbreak. Most of the staff that are here for those additional shifts are my own staff. I also have a few agency staff, and I'm grateful for them as well," she said.

"Many staff are coming in to do extra shifts because of their own commitment and their desire to care for these residents. Words fail me to say how fortunate and blessed the residents and I are here. It truly is an amazing team."

Her appreciation extends to the residents' families, who she says have been beyond understanding of the

current situation.

"When I had to call all of the families about this outbreak, they have been nothing but supportive. They have sent emails back thanking me and the team. One individual has actually offered to come in to help," she said.

"Without fail, the families have been very supportive and I can't thank them enough. Across the Interlake, we've connected with other team players and everybody has really stepped up to help out in any way possible. This response and genuine concern across the region for our residents is incredibly reassuring as health-care providers at this time."

Self-wellness workshop for children and youth

By Ty Dilello

In February, the Green Acres Art Centre (GAAC) in Teulon will be hosting a "Snakes and Ladders" Whole Self-Wellness workshop for children and youth.

These workshops are free to everyone and have been generously funded by the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority. Whole Self-Wellness incorporates connection, games and education to help children and youth better understand what they need to be and stay well in these uncertain times. Local mental health professionals deliver the workshop.

Through a different take on the traditional Snakes and Ladders game, participants will have the fun op-

portunity to explore the factors that build them and identify the factors that bring them down. In addition, children will have a guided opportunity to share their findings with parents and caregivers. At the same time, youth will be encouraged to communicate with each other and parents/caregivers.

"The Green Acres Art Centre team includes educators, and we know there are many children and youth who have been struggling during these uncertain times," said Lana Knor, president of the GAAC. "We thought this grant opportunity would assist them to feel better about themselves."

For children ages six to 11, the work-

shop will be on Friday, Feb. 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. and a follow-up with children and parents on Friday, Feb. 11, from 6 to 7 p.m. For youth ages 12 to 17, the workshop will be held on Friday, Feb. 18 from 5 to 8 p.m.

"There is limited space available for each group, but if this is successful and more are wanting to register than the workshop allows, we would look for more funding to run again in the future."

The workshops are a part of Phase 1 for a community initiative to bring greater opportunities to keep local families well mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Feedback collected in the workshops will be a guiding post for future wellness pro-

gramming.

In addition to the Snakes and Ladders, the grant application included some art and theatre classes. However, there was limited funding, so the GAAC is only running the portion with Snakes and Ladders with mental health professionals. The GAAC would like to encourage families to consider registering children in its various programs for the arts (theatre, art, music, dance, vocal) as these types of programs will also provide valuable life skills to children and youth.

"For example, theatre generally assists a child who is extremely shy to become more confident and not feel

Continued on page 16

> NURSES, FROM PG. 5

it to my co-workers. I don't want to spread it to my patients. Some of my patients are immunocompromised."

On the plus side, she said nurses are wearing PPE during all patient contact and feels that side of things has been "managed quite safely."

Recent research released online Jan. 12 in the International Journal of Infectious Diseases suggests "potentially active virus can sometimes persist beyond a 10-day period" — a hitherto recommended quarantine period in many countries — and "could pose a potential risk of onward transmission." The researchers say it may be difficult to predict who will experience delay in clearing the virus.

Another concern with the back-to-work memo is that it encourages health workers to snitch on their co-workers should they have concerns about their health.

"We've had some interesting conversations about that because it works two ways," said the nurse. "You might do the report-your-co-worker bit if you're worried. But if you're stressed and busting your butt off on a ward and your co-worker says they have a bit of a sore throat, and you say, 'You should go get tested' ... and they get tested and they're positive, you're without them for the next shift. We have to bear the brunt of the work because they're not coming back to work."

On top of working when potentially infectious, nurses have also been asked to sacrifice their vacation time, which is likely their only chance to recuperate from successive pandemic waves, step away from a relentless bombardment of memos, changing policies and new information, and spend time with loved ones, she said.

With many nurses already exhausted and feeling burnt out, giving up vacation would only push them that much closer to the edge.

"There was an email that came out to us where the government asked us if we'd be willing to get paid out for our vacation and not take that time off. That's happened twice now during the pandemic," said the nurse. "When they sent that out, every nurse here pretty much said, 'I feel slapped in the face that they even asked us to consider this.' It was very upsetting. This was one of their solutions to our nursing shortage."

The government has also asked nurses twice to volunteer to work in another area or region of the province, such as the northern health region which is a "concern" right now, she said. She and her co-workers think that request could turn into a "mandate" should the government absolutely need to transfer staff around.

The nursing shortage in Manitoba doesn't come down to the pandemic, said the nurse. What COVID has done is expose a government that's "always trying to save money" by leaving positions vacant. "This [back-to-work] memo just shows the inadequacy of our government in managing our health-care system."

That inadequacy included "laughable" government restrictions, in the context of omicron, which allowed households to have 10 vaccinated or five unvaccinated guests indoors. Those rules were in place before Christmas and weren't modified even though infections were spiralling upwards in the week before the holiday.

"Everyone here was confused about the rules on indoor gatherings; either you're really trying to contain this vi-

rus or you're not," said the nurse. "If there were enough beds in the system for a whole bunch of us to be sick at the same time, there would have been no restrictions; the government potentially would have let the virus run rampant, let it weed out the sick, kill X amount of people and be done with it."

When asked how much longer she thinks nurses can carry on at this pace, the nurse said if things don't improve by spring, we'll likely see "a lot more" nurses retiring.

"A nurse I know in the Interlake just graduated from nursing school this past year and she wants to quit already. And I know some other nurses who are saying, 'I don't know if I can do this because I'm a new nurse and I'm having to cope with learning new things, learning a unit and now COVID on top of it and we're short-staffed and I'm burnt out.' That's heartbreaking. Nursing is a rewarding career. You can have so many good times with your patients. You want to give everything you can every day, but when you do that through a pandemic, it leads to burnout. It's very real and very scary."

A spokesperson for Shared Health said the organization doesn't have data on the number of nurses in the system agreeing to give up vacation time and take a pay-out.

"I think we can all agree that Manitoba nurses and other health-care workers have demonstrated an incredible commitment to the care of Manitobans throughout the pandemic — picking up extra shifts, coming back from retirement, volunteering for additional training to work in our intensive care units and accepting redeployment and reassignment to areas in need of their specialized skills," said the spokesperson.

"With the onset of Omicron and Manitoba's fourth wave prior to the

New Year, nurses were asked to consider being paid out for some of their booked vacation time over what was anticipated to be — and has proven to be — a very busy period. We do not have province-wide data of the uptake amongst nurses, but we thank all those who have continued to support patient care during this time of increased demand."

The spokesperson didn't say whether nurse transfers to other areas could become mandatory, but Shared Health did have a number of nurses stepping up to volunteer for transfer.

"A call-out for nurses with critical care experience to work in Manitoba's ICUs also occurred before the holiday season. This resulted in a number of expressions of interest and voluntary redeployment of four nurses to ICU," he said. "Again, we express our sincere gratitude to nurses and all health-care workers for their significant efforts during these unprecedented times."

NDP leader Wab Kinew said nurses are the backbone of the health-care system but the governing Conservatives are ignoring their well-being as pandemic burnout continues and they exit the profession.

"Without nurses going above and beyond, our health-care system would have ground to a halt years ago. Yet the PCs have refused to acknowledge their sacrifice or give them any respect. They even refused to renew their contract for several years," said Kinew. "To stop the PCs' cuts and chaos, and start fixing health care, we need to reset the relationship with nurses. We need to do what it takes to keep nurses in the system and prevent them from leaving because of burnout, expand their training opportunities and give them more control over their schedules so they can have a good work to life balance."

Stonewall's Mattson enjoying French pro debut

By Ty Dilello

Stonewall product Leif Mattson has been enjoying his first season of professional for Tours, a team in the second division of France.

The 22-year-old right-winger is currently the leading scorer for Tours with 14 goals and nine assists for 23 points in 15 games.

Mattson credits his years growing up in Stonewall as extremely vital to his hockey development.

"Growing up in Stonewall was great," said Mattson. "I loved the mix of the small-town feel while being so close to Winnipeg. It's where I first fell in love with the game and where I made plenty of friendships that I still have to this day. Stonewall will always be home for me."

Mattson spent a few years with the Interlake Lightning Bantam AAA and City Midget teams before moving to St. Albert and playing midget hockey there for a few seasons. He then joined the WHL's Kelowna Rockets in 2016 and played multiple seasons before the pandemic ended his junior career in 2020 while a member of the Spokane Chiefs.

"The pandemic has definitely had an impact on my hockey over the last couple of years," said Mattson. "My 20-year-old junior season was cut short in Spokane, which was disappointing as we were in a position to make a deep playoff run to finish my junior career."

From there, Mattson elected to get a start on his schooling at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia. Unfortunately, U Sports hockey was cancelled last season, so he was limited to only practices and off-ice training. Luckily, Mattson was still able to have

a positive school experience and complete his first year of education.

Following this, Mattson decided to make the jump to start playing professional hockey and head to Europe, where, thankfully, he's been able to play games after going 18 months without playing due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mattson signed on for the 2021-22 season with Tours, a team in the second division of France.

"Once I made the decision to start playing professionally, my agent was able to field some options for me from Europe and North America. Tours stuck out for me being able to live in a beautiful country and to be able to go into a situation where I'm able to play a lot right away and get back to where I was before the 18-month pause due to the pandemic."

Mattson is among a mix of French, Canadian, American and Czech players on the Tours squad. He's done well so far in getting accustomed to the professional game coming from the junior and university ranks.

"The transition has been pretty seamless so far. My teammates have been great here, and we have a good mix of veterans and younger players like myself on our team. The biggest difference is now having hockey being a full-time job. Guys have families and people to take care of, so it's a lot more serious in that sense. You have to be a professional every day and show up to perform consistently," said Mattson.

"This season has had its ups and downs just like any other. We're lower in the standings than we would like, but there's still time to work our way up. There are not many games in our



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Stonewall's Leif Mattson is having a blast in his first season of professional hockey in Tours, France.

schedule — only 26 in this league, so every game matters that much more. I'm happy with how I've been playing and feel as if I'm back in the rhythm I was in before the pandemic hit."

Mattson is also enjoying just living in Tours, France, which, of course, is a bit of a culture shift from Stonewall. Tours is a historical city in the middle of France that has a greater metropolitan population of roughly 500,000.

"Tours and France, in general, has been awesome. Part of the reason I came to Europe was to see the world while I'm playing too, and it hasn't disappointed. France is an awesome

country and has a very different lifestyle than home. Saying that, I definitely miss Canada and my family and friends back across the pond."

Going forward, Mattson hopes to work his way up pro hockey ranks, whether it's in Europe or back in North America.

"I think I still have plenty to prove and have goals that I plan on reaching. And after this season is over, I always look forward to coming home to Stonewall. Nothing beats heading back to see my family and catch up with friends."

> WORKSHOP, FROM PG. 15

so shy. Art is a great way for expression, especially for those unable to express themselves with words — dance and music souls the soul. Art programs are peaceful and bring joy to most. Group art programs like theatre and dance generally provide children and youth opportunities to make a new friend who has the same interests. We have seen many new friendships develop in these types of programs. Programs like art and music that tend to be independent assist children and youth by providing them with a joyful outlet to express oneself."

In February, GAAC will be offering

a second theatre session, including film, puppet and musical theatre. They also offer a wide variety of summer camps that include many arts and sports activities.

Amy Rasmussen Waluk of Four Directions Centre for Social Health is the mental health therapist and educator running the upcoming Snakes and Ladders workshops at the GAAC.

"While the generous grant received is geared toward preventing young people from taking their own life, this workshop serves as prevention, but also aims to build self-awareness about what young people are need-

ing to be most OK," said Rasmussen Waluk. "As we continue to live collectively in high stress and uncertain times, becoming aware of the things that make us well and keep us well are of growing importance. Through the creation of the Snakes and Ladders boards, children and youth participants will have the opportunity to explore independently and as a group the things that bring a sense of wellness in their bodies, minds, hearts and spirit."

Participants will be encouraged to notice which factors help them somewhat and which factors seem to help them a lot, she added.

"Reversely, risk factors will be explored, so participants can identify

factors that put their whole self well-being at risk. It should be interesting to notice when the actual game board is used, that peers' snakes (the factors that put us at risk) and ladders (factors that promote wellness) can be different from our own. The goal of this is to encourage curiosity, compassion and greater acceptance for one another as we learn about what we need to be most OK."

For those interested, please email gaac@mymts.net by Jan. 29 to sign up for the workshops. The current public health orders require ages 12 to 17 to provide proof of first dose or a negative rapid antigen test. Assistance is available for testing. Email for more details.

Brandon beats U18 Lightning twice last weekend

Staff

The Interlake Lightning battled the Brandon Wheat Kings hard twice last weekend but fell short in both games.

Brandon capped off a home sweep with a 4-2 victory in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action on Sunday afternoon.

Alexander Kaczorowski scored twice in the first period to stake Interlake to a 2-0 lead. He started the game with a shorthanded tally and then added a goal while Interlake had the man advantage.

But Brandon's Clarke Caswell scored in the second period and then Braden Keeble, Callum Halls and Skylar Ramsay tallied in the third. Special teams were the difference as the Wheat Kings scored three power-play goals and a shorthanded marker.

Lightning goaltender Zach Meadows made 42 saves.

On Saturday evening, the Lightning lost 4-3 to the Wheat Kings.

Andrew Thevenot and Nic LeClair scored second-period goals for Interlake and then LeClair tallied in the third.

Brandon's goals came from Calder Crossin, Ethan Guthrie, Halls and Jeremiah Jacques.

Meadows was busy, making 50 saves.

Last Wednesday, the Lightning dou-

bled the Winnipeg Bruins 4-2 in Teulon.

Hayden Wheddon gave Interlake a 1-0 lead nine minutes into the game but Winnipeg's Lucas Gillson replied just over five minutes later.

The Lightning took a 3-1 heading into the first intermission with goals from Kaczorowski and Joel MacMillan.

After a scoreless second period, Interlake went ahead 4-1 with a goal from Liam Cody 4:02 into the third.

The Bruins' Hayden Moore closed out the game's scoring at 14:44.

Meadows was very good, once again, stopping 55 Bruins' shots.

Interlake will host the Eastman Selects on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and then will battle the Bruins on Sunday (12:15 p.m.) at the Southdale Community Centre.

In U18 "AAA" female action, Interlake was shut out 3-0 by the Pembina Valley Hawks on Saturday in Morden.

Hawks' goals were scored by Abbey Bourdeaud'hui, Anika Braun and Mya Pearce.

Rachel Halldorson stopped 52 Pembina Valley shots.

The Lightning will host the Winnipeg Avros this Thursday (7:45 p.m.) in Warren and the Central Plains Capitals on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) in Stone-



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

Lightning captain Emerson McAuley battles Pembina Valley's Erica Fijala for the puck during Interlake's 3-0 loss on Saturday in Morden.

wall.

Game time is 3 p.m.

On Sunday, the Lightning will play the Capitals in Portage la Prairie.

Cvar goal featured on ESPN SportsCentre

By Brian Bowman

It's not every day someone from the Interlake makes it on ESPN SportsCentre's top 10 plays of the night.

But when you score a super slick goal like Olivia Cvar did last Friday, you're going to make that prestigious list.

Cvar, a Huskies' junior forward, carried the puck along the left side, toe dragged through a pair of defenders and was hooked from behind as she moved towards the slot and fell forward.

Incredibly, Cvar was able to flip the puck past Bemidji State Beavers' goaltender Kerigan Dowhy's shoulder as she flew to the ice.

Ironically, both Cvar and Dowhy's families live in Stonewall.

Cvar scored both Huskies goals in the 2-1 road victory over the Beavers.

Tied at 1-1 two minutes into the second period, Cvar had the puck and gained excellent position ahead of the lone defender and shook her as she entered the offensive zone, deked

into the slot and fired a wrister past Dowhy.

Cvar's outstanding performance was definitely noticed by Huskies' head coach Steve Macdonald.

"She's a difference maker," Macdonald said of Cvar. "She's had that ability since her freshman year, she's a player that can make something out of nothing. With her strength, her compete level, her willingness to win battles and stay on the puck — that's what separates her from a lot of players. She showed that on that play. Their 'D' had a good step and a good angle on her, she's all alone and by herself, then she makes that move, has the strength to stay on it."

"Then there's just no quit. She's a player that's extremely competitive and plays with a lot of passion, and you see that. She's a goal scorer — goal scorers score goals. It doesn't matter how it goes in, they're going to make it happen, and she did tonight."

On Saturday, Cvar had a team-leading five shots on goal in St. Cloud's 2-1 road loss to Bemidji State.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY ST. CLOUD STATE

St. Cloud State Huskies' forward Olivia Cvar scored twice to lead her team to a 2-1 victory over the Bemidji State Beavers last Friday. Her first goal was featured on ESPN SportsCentre's top 10 plays of the night.

U17 'AAA' Lightning skate to pair of wins last week

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning U17 "AAA" hockey team has just five wins this season.

But two of them came during a three-day span last week.

Interlake capped off a great week with a convincing 7-3 victory over the Winnipeg Wild last Friday in Warren.

"It was our most successful week with two games and two wins," said Lightning head coach Aaron Kaatz. "It was a good game (Friday). We came off of a hard-fought, emotional win on Wednesday night against Eastman. We were still rolling high, feeling good, so we rolled into our game Friday night with a little bit of a high and everyone was feeling confident, feeling that they could score and we ended up putting up a touchdown against the Wild."

Interlake took a 3-0 first-period lead on goals by Noah Oughton, Talon Hogg, and Hayden Kaczorowski despite being outshot 15-11.

It was a great start to the game for the Lightning.

"Throughout the year, we've played well but we've never had the puck luck on our side," Kaatz said. "We would play some really dominating minutes of hockey but that puck just wouldn't cross the goal line. This past week, we had a little bit more luck on our side. Pucks have been finding the



Interlake's Ian Buors, left, and Hayden Kaczorowski celebrate a Lightning goal against the Winnipeg Wild.

back of the net and when that happens, even if we don't outshoot teams, when those pucks are crossing that line we'll take it because we've been working hard to get that luck."

The Lightning's Blake Farthing added a pair of goals in the second period while Ian Buors also tallied as Interlake took a 6-1 lead after two periods.

Luke Sekundiak scored Interlake's final goal late in the third period. Oughton and Farthing each had three points in the game.

Wild goals were scored by Parker Rolston (two) and Tavon McCorrister.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Lightning forwards Ian Buors (18) and Adam Vigfusson watch the puck career off the crossbar against the Winnipeg Wild during U17 'AAA' action last Friday in Warren. Interlake won the game 7-3.

Lightning goaltender Dylan LeClair was solid, making 37 saves.

Last Wednesday, Interlake edged the Eastman Selects 5-4 in Ste. Anne.

"It was similar to a playoff-style game," Kaatz said. "There was a lot of emotion. We were up 5-2 heading into the last 10 minutes of the third and Eastman battled hard to get it to 5-4. With three minutes left, guys

were diving to block shots — it was a real emotional win. Our players really wanted to get that one against Eastman."

Interlake's Cedrick Puffalt, Adam Vigfusson and Max Gouldon scored second-period goals and then Vigfusson and Sekundiak tallied in the third.

Continued on page 19

Merces lose to Morden in OT

Staff

The Warren Merces let a 2-0 second-period lead slip away in a 3-2 overtime loss to the Morden Bombers on Sunday.

The Bombers' Andrew Clarke scored the game winner in OT.

Warren's Trent Genyk scored late in the first period and then added a shorthanded marker at 6:39 of the second.

Adam Hughesman cut the deficit in half about six minutes later and then he tied the score at 2-2 at 5:41 of the

third. Hughesman finished the game with three points.

Last Thursday, the Merces defeated the Maroons 5-4 in Altona.

Chase Faulkner led the Merces with a goal and two assists while Kyle Lundale added a goal and a helper.

Warren's other goals were scored by Braydon MacDonald, Kyle Luschinski and Travis Bobbee.

Paul Remillard, with a pair, Justin Voth and Justin Augert scored for Altona.

Warren outshot Altona 47-27 as



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Merces' forward Trent Genyk scored twice in Warren's 3-2 overtime loss to Morden on Sunday.

Liam Jardine earned the win in goal.

Warren, now 9-4-2 and tied for second place with the Carman Beavers in the seven-team league, will host

the Notre Dame Hawks on Sunday (5 p.m.) and the Winkler Royals next Tuesday (8 p.m.).

Come out and support your Warren Merces

Sunday, January 30
Warren Merces vs
Notre Dame Hawks
5:00 pm
@ Warren

Tuesday, February 1
Warren Merces vs
Winkler Royals
8:00 pm
@ Warren

Jets snap eight-game losing streak

Staff

The Stonewall Jets split a pair of MMJHL games last weekend.

Stonewall snapped an eight-game losing streak with a solid 6-3 road win over the Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins last Friday.

After the Twins' Ashton Uruski opened the scoring just 4:38 into the game, the Jets took a 3-1 lead after 20 minutes with goals from Cody McMillan, Nick Finnson and Michael Spence. Two of those goals came while Stonewall had the man advantage.

The Jets went up 5-1 with goals from Jordan Gray and Noah Wyllie. Wyllie's goal came on a penalty shot at 12:38 of the middle frame.

Ethan Gibson scored for the Twins late in the second period and then Brayden Neufeld tallied early in the third to close the gap to 5-3.

The Jets' Matthieu Meier closed out the scoring at 7:51 of the third.

Liam Jardine made 28 saves for the

victory.

Stonewall then suffered a 7-4 road loss to the River East Royal Knights on Sunday.

Wyllie, Kyle Van Deynze, Cole Emberly, on the power play, and Nolan Weihs scored for the Jets.

River East goals were tallied by Cole Winkler (two), Chase Sobey (two), Carson Winkler, Ryan Zalatach and Kaelan Oddy.

On Jan. 19, the Jets were blanked 8-0 by the Charleswood Hawks in Stonewall.

Charleswood, which built period leads of 2-0 and 5-0, received goals from Cam McDonald (two), Aiden Corbett, Nolan Male (on the power play), Jonathan Hertzprung, Jake Hruska, Davis Koga and Ethan Lewis.

Stonewall, now 8-21-2, will host the Raiders Jr. Hockey Club this Friday (7:30 p.m.) and then will visit the St. James Jr. Canucks on Sunday (7 p.m.).



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Stonewall Jets' Noah Wyllie moves the puck into the Charleswood Hawks' zone during MMJHL action last Wednesday.

> PAIR OF WINS, FROM PG. 18

Buors had two assists.

Eastman goals were scored by Eric Cote, Steele Jowett, Ashton Cure and Mason Hooper.

Alex Myers was very good in goal, stopping 46 Selects' shots. Myers and LeClair have been outstanding this season.

"It's been one of the best tandems that we've had in the league," Kaatz said. "The boys are consistently ready to play, ready to battle, ready to win for us. It's important that you have a strong duo in this league. When our goalies are making saves and feeling good our team is feeling good."

Interlake, now 5-20-2, will play Eastman in Ste. Anne on Wednesday (7:30 p.m.) and the Wheat Kings in Brandon Friday (7 p.m.).

On Sunday, the Lightning will

host the Winnipeg Thrashers in Warren. Game time is 2:30 p.m.

In U15 "AAA" action, Interlake doubled the Winnipeg Thrashers Blue 6-3 in Warren last Saturday.

Hogg and Oughton each scored twice while Brody Slatcher and Farthing also tallied.

Carter Green, Lian Hanzmann and Carter Cabral replied for Winnipeg.

Braedan Cormack made 25 saves for the win.

The Lightning will host the Winnipeg Bruins Brown on Wednesday (7 p.m.) in Stonewall.

Interlake will then play the Winnipeg Wild Green on Saturday (6:30 p.m.) at the Bell MTS Iceplex before battling the Winnipeg Thrashers White on Sunday (12:45 p.m.) at the Gateway Recreation Centre.

Rams down Lions in hockey action

Staff

The Stonewall Collegiate Rams finally played their first game in 2022.

And it was a victory.

Stonewall skated to a 3-2 win over the Glenlawn Collegiate Lions in Winnipeg High School Hockey League action last Thursday at the St. Vital Arena.

Brody Stovin and Jace Woods scored for Stonewall in the first period and then Tristan Shore tallied on the power play in the third.

Ty Woods finished the game with two assists.

Emerson Veloso and Blake Lee, on the power play, scored for the Lions.

Macrae Gard earned the win in goal. Stonewall's home game last Wednesday against College Jeane-Sauve was postponed due to the Interlake School Division closure.

The Rams, now 10-4-2-0 and in second place in the Winnipeg Free Press West Division standings with 36 points, will play College Gabrielle-Roy on Wednesday (4 p.m.) in Ile Des Chenes. Stonewall will then host St. John's Ravenscourt on Friday (3:30 p.m.).

Stonewall Jets Player Profile

#55 *Come out to support the Jets*

Ryland Gard
Defense, Shoots left,
Born 2002, 5'11, 155 lbs



UPCOMING GAMES

Friday, January 28

Stonewall Jets vs The Raiders
at 7:30 @ VMSC

Sunday, January 30

Stonewall Jets vs St. James Canucks
at 7:00 @ Keith Bodley Arena

Wednesday, February 2

Stonewall Jets vs Pembina Valley Twisters
at 8:00 @ Morris MultiPlex

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take a break
GAMES

SUDOKU

	7				8		1	6
			5				9	8
	1		3		2			5
2	9			5			4	
5					3			
							6	
		7	4					
	5	9						7
			2					

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

8	3	6	2	7	9	1	5	4
4	5	9	6	3	1	8	2	7
1	2	7	4	8	5	6	3	9
7	8	3	1	9	4	5	6	2
5	6	4	7	2	3	9	8	1
2	9	1	8	5	6	7	4	3
9	1	8	3	6	2	4	7	5
6	4	2	5	1	7	3	9	8
3	7	5	9	4	8	2	1	6

Sudoku Answer

[illegible]

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Brew
4. NY ballplayer
7. Rigid external covering in some animals
12. Promotional materials
15. More high-pitched
16. Widely cultivated cereal
18. Dormitory employee
19. Bad act
20. One's mother
21. Scored perfectly
24. Space station
27. Exchange for money
30. Edible seaweed
31. Iranian city
33. Lakers' crosstown rivals
34. Nothing
35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
37. ___ student, learns healing
39. Military official (abbr.)
41. Matchstick games
42. Gasteyer and De Armas are two
44. Distant planet
47. A type of residue
48. Punk art icon Jimmy De___
49. Millihenry
50. Canadian media firm
52. Type of withdrawal
53. Spicy
56. Dish of minced meat or fish
61. Noted previously
63. Happily
64. "Partridge" actress Susan
65. Not present

CLUES DOWN

1. In a way, brought to an end
2. Scandalized actress Loughlin
3. This (Spanish)
4. Essay
5. Continuing indefinitely

		1	2	3			4	5	6			
	7				8	9	10				11	
12	13											14
15							16					17
18							19					20
21		22	23		24	25	26		27		28	29
30					31			32		33		
	34				35			36		37		38
		39		40		41				42		43
44	45				46		47			48		
49				50		51						52
53		54	55					56	57	58	59	60
	61						62					
		63										
			64					65				

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6. Tool for lifting food | system |
| 7. Partner to Adam | 36. Similar |
| 8. Dry white wine drink | 38. Move up and down playfully |
| 9. Spanish be | 40. Alfalfa |
| 10. Smaller quantity | 43. Satisfied |
| 11. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series | 44. Baseball official |
| 12. (Scottish) island | 45. Large, flightless bird of S. America |
| 13. Church officer | 46. Money given in support |
| 14. Large wrestler | 51. Flower cluster |
| 17. Polite address for women | 54. Beginning military rank |
| 22. Famed Susan Lucci character
"___ Kane" | 55. Russian weight measurement |
| 23. Mason ___ Line | 56. Explosive |
| 24. Disfigure | 57. An individual unit |
| 25. Asian nation | 58. Midskirt |
| 26. Rage (Span.) | 59. Weapon featuring balls |
| 28. Khoikhoin peoples | 60. Used of a number or amount not specified |
| 29. Opera solo | 62. Unit of measurement |
| 32. Database management | |

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All claims against the
above estate, duly ver-
ified by Statutory Dec-
laration, must be filed
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Box 1400, Stonewall,
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RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROSSER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Rural Municipality of Rosser is located adjacent to the northwest side of Winnipeg, is part of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, and is dedicated to providing services to the landowners and residents, as well as potential developers. This RM has a vibrant agriculture community and thriving commercial area known as CentrePort. Rosser, Grosse Isle, Meadows, Marquette, Gordon and Lilyfield are some of the communities within the RM.

The Rural Municipality of Rosser is seeking applications for the following position:

OFFICE CLERK – Term (Mat Leave) \$17.44 to \$19.34

In collaboration with Municipal Staff, the Office Clerk is responsible for all reception duties, meeting agendas, event confirmation and planning, data recording, lagoon invoicing, incoming and outgoing mail; also drafting of communications notices for the website and communication system, and inputting into our customer contact program.

The successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal, administrative, organizational, analytical, problem-solving, communication, report-writing, research, and time management skills; excellent computer skills utilizing Microsoft Office; and knowledge and experience with accounting software and document management systems.

Employees enjoy an excellent employment package and opportunities for development in the municipal field.

HOW TO APPLY

For more information and a full job description visit www.rmofrosser.com. Applicants should send a resume and cover letter outlining how they meet the specific requirements of the position, deadline being **February 11, 2022 by 12:00 p.m.**

Forward application marked "Application for Office Clerk – Term Position" to:
RM of Rosser
Box 131
Rosser, Manitoba R0H 1E0
fax: 204-467-5958
e-mail: info@rmofrosser.com
or deliver in person to 0 077E PR 221, Rosser, Manitoba.



THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD

MECHANIC POSITION

The R.M. of Rockwood invites applications for a full-time mechanic position.

The Mechanic will be under the direction of Public Works Manager. The incumbent is responsible for servicing, preventative maintenance and repairs for all small equipment, vehicles and heavy mechanical equipment of the Municipality.

Qualifications:

Minimum Required:

- Grade Twelve (12) Education or the equivalent
- Journeyman Mechanic's Certification (Red Seal Heavy Duty Mechanic or Red Seal Light Duty Mechanic) or years of demonstrated and related experience may be considered
- Must have strong trouble shooting skills for equipment and vehicles
- Must be familiar with fuel injection systems, electronic controls, and hydraulic systems
- Demonstrated ability to use electric and gas welding and cutting equipment
- Valid Class 5 Manitoba Driver's License
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- Ability to operate equipment when required
- Have computer skills for data bases and inventory use

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A full Job description is available on our website at www.rockwood.ca. Please forward a cover letter with resume and qualifications, along with references no later than:

February 11th, 2022 AT 4:00 P.M. to:

Ian Tesarski

Director of Operations

Email: ian.tesarski@rockwood.ca

Only successful applicants will be contacted for an interview.



THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD

UTILITY ADMINISTRATOR/ SAFETY OFFICER

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood is seeking applications from qualified individuals for a permanent full-time position of Utility Administrator / Safety Officer.

Wage will commensurate with qualification and experience. Excellent Employee Benefits package.

The preferred Applicant will have strong administrative skills and the ability to positively interact with the public, staff and Council. Applicants must be familiar with sewer and water operations, and workplace safety and health requirements.

Applicants must also be enrolled in or completed the Manitoba Municipal Administrators' Certificate program.

Summary of desired education, knowledge and experience:

- Grade 12 Diploma
- Knowledge of the Workplace Safety and Health Act and COR Program
- Experience with the Muniware Accounting Software Program, All-Net programming, Munisight and Neptune 360 would be an asset.
- Microsoft Office Programs and Outlook Email

A listing of complete job requirements may be obtained at the R.M. of Rockwood website at www.rockwood.ca or by email at info@rockwood.ca.

Applications should be marked "**Application for Utility Administrator/ Safety Officer**" and should contain a full resume with three references.

Forward applications, no later than 4:00 p.m. on February 4th, 2022, to:

Attention: Chris Luellman, CAO
The Rural Municipality of Rockwood
285 Main Street, Box 902, Stonewall MB R0C 2Z0
Telephone No. 204-467-2272
Fax No. 204-467-5329
E-mail Address: info@rockwood.ca

Thank you to all Applicants for your interest, however, only candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.

Chris Luellman, CAO
The Rural Municipality of Rockwood



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RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROSSER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Rural Municipality of Rosser invites applications for the position of **Transfer Station Attendant**. Under the direction of the Public Works Foreman, the position is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Rosser Transfer Station on Ridge Road (70N).

The duties for this position include greeting residents at the transfer station and assisting them with the disposal of household waste including recycling according to municipal solid waste policy.

This is a part time position requiring 16 hours per week including time on Saturdays.

The ideal applicant will be responsible, dependable, and will enjoy working with the public.

Applications must contain a cover letter and full resume with three references, deadline being **February 4, 2022, at 12:00 noon**.

Forward application marked "Application for Transfer Station Attendant Position" to:

RM of Rosser
Attention Randy Slatcher, Public Works Foreman
Box 131
Rosser, Manitoba R0H 1E0
Fax: 467-5958
e-mail: info@rmofrosser.com

If you have any questions, please call the Municipal Office at 204-467-5711. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

**Classified and Notice booking deadline is
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Gimli Community Development Corporation, (GCDC)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Opportunity: The successful candidate will undertake key responsibilities that will enhance Gimli and the Municipality as a whole and promote the Municipality as a place to work, live, play and grow. They will facilitate and promote community growth and economic development planning and implementation within the Municipality to be measured, in part, by securing opportunities for new economic and business development and supporting the growth and development of existing business within the community.

Job Description: Reporting to the GCDC board the candidate will promote the Gimli industrial park and oversee current and future operations of GCDC properties. They will also identify, develop and implement approved strategies for attracting new business to the area while facilitating growth of existing businesses. Represent the Municipality at regional and provincial meetings and conferences on economic development, which could include public speaking and delivering presentations.

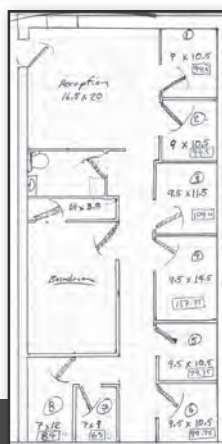
The Ideal Candidate: The successful applicant will possess relevant post-secondary education and/or years of business and administrative experience. The candidate will be self-motivated, effective written and oral communication skills and computer skills including Excel, Word, Powerpoint. Ability to identify and promote community economic development projects and initiatives along with knowledge and understanding of the Municipality would be a definite asset. The candidate must have a valid Class 5 driver's licence and access to a vehicle for travel and be available to work flexible hours. Hours and wages are negotiable with experience and qualifications. Please submit a detailed resume on or before January 31, 2022 by 4:30 p.m. to PO Box 1246 Gimli, MB R0C 1B0 or to gimlicdc@rmgimli.com

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CARD OF THANKS

The family of Clint Scott wishes to express a very special thank you to everyone for the cards, flowers, food, telephone calls, messages of condolences and tributes made to Clint in the Winnipeg Free Press. It's this time of sorrow we learn how much our family and friends mean to us.

-Jim and Terry Scott
and family

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to send out a big thank you to the staff at the Works Department (Plumbing) at the Stony Mountain Penitentiary for helping us at a time of need.

We had sewer back-up in our basements at which time we were unable to use showers, washing machines, dish washers and had limited use of toilets. They came to our rescue, cleaned out the lines leading to our drains, which required a lot of planning and hard work, and kept in close contact with us regarding updates etc.

If it wasn't for these employees, we would have had nowhere to turn. We really appreciate your kindness and hard work.

-Sincerely,
2 Residents of Stony Mountain Penn Reserve

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IN MEMORIAM



Gordon Robert Dewald
April 7, 1931 – January 31, 2005
Husband, Dad, Father-in-law, Grandpa
As time unfolds another year,
Memories keep you ever near.
Silent thoughts of time together,
Hold memories that will last forever.
-Lovingly remembered,
wife Mary, children and grandchildren

IN MEMORIAM



**In Memory of
Jim Persoage**
Passed away January 31, 2020
His memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part;
God has you in His keeping,
We have you in our hearts.
-Love Olga, Karen, Jesse,
Jasmine, Justin

OBITUARY

Shirley Pawluk

Peacefully, on January 6, 2022 at the Arborg Personal Care Home, Shirley passed away at the age of 91.

We would like to thank the staff of the Arborg PCH for the kindness and care Shirley received. Also, thank you to Dr. Donnelly for his care and visits to Shirley.

In accordance with Shirley's wishes, cremation has taken place and no formal service will be held.

Thank you to Rick Kotaska and the staff at Interlake Cremation for their help and assistance. Friends and acquaintances are invited to visit Shirley's memorial page at interlakecremation.ca, where memories and condolences may be shared.

Arrangements entrusted to:

*Interlake Cremation
& Memorial Services*
204.482.1040

OBITUARY

Colleen Marie McCoy July 22, 1964 – January 2, 2022

It is with profound sadness that we announce our Colleen passed peacefully with her favorite music playing following a courageous, hard-fought battle with cancer.

She is survived by her mother Florence; brother Glenn (Denise); sister Maureen Mateush (David); and brother Mark (Monika) Danika, Eric, Blake; Uncle Arvid (Jann)



and family; Uncle Wayne (Chris) and family, cousin Diane (Terry) Malone, as well as numerous relatives in Manitoba, USA, Ireland and Sweden.

She was predeceased by her father Bill in 2003.

Colleen was born in Winnipeg, MB. and received her education in Stonewall, MB. She graduated from the University of Manitoba, Dental Hygiene Program with honors in 1985. After graduation, she practiced dental hygiene at dental offices in Winnipeg and Port Coquitlam, BC. She had a mutual love with her patients and always looked forward to catching up on their lives at the next appointment.

Colleen lived and worked in BC. for nine years during her career where she enjoyed the beauty of BC. and in particular she developed a love of Salt Spring Island. Colleen considered herself a spiritual person seeing the beauty in nature. She loved her hobby farm in Lilyfield with her dressage horses, ducks, bantams, caring for animals in need, walking her dog on her wooded trails and along her field, tending her planters and perennial beds, playing violin, baking and cooking.

She had a passion for all animals and a compassion for ones with disabilities.

No matter her own personal circumstances, Colleen always was very generous and giving. It didn't matter if it was Christmas or someone's birthday, she made sure to give a special gift. Even in her last days, her generosity and giving nature were evident... We thank you from the bottom of our hearts Colleen.

Interment will take place at a later date in Lilyfield Cemetery when it is safe to gather.

If friends so desire, donations may be made to the Black Bear Rescue, Box 585, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0.

Thank you to Dr. Graham and the wonderful, caring staff at Stonewall Hospital and the Southwest Palliative District for the family room.

IN MEMORIAM

Laverne Roy

October 25 1945 - January 26 2019
We Miss You Mom
We thought of you with love today,
But that is nothing new;
We thought about you yesterday,
And days before that too.
We think of you in silence,
We often speak your name;
All we have are memories,
And your picture in a frame.
Your memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part;
God has you in His keeping,
We have you in our hearts.
-Love always,
Forever missed,
Maurice, Darlene, Greg,
Keith, Shannon, and your grandchildren

IN MEMORIAM



Edward Petrachek
July 8, 1948 – January 26, 2021
One year ago today,
A golden heart stopped beating,
Hardworking hands at rest;
God broke our hearts to prove to us,
He only takes the best.
We cherish the memories of the days,
When you were here with us.
Always in our hearts and missed every day.
-With love,
wife Diane and family

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow
I am the diamonds glints on snow,
I am the sunlight ripened grain
I am the gentle Autumn's rain
When you awake in the morning hush
I am the swift, uplifting rush,
Of quiet birds in circled flight
I am the stars that shine at night
Do not stand at my grave and cry
I am not there, I did not die.

kl
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