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Stonewall Teulon Tribune

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Perfect balance

Stonewall Skating Club members work on balance and core strength. Pictured left to right: Orren O'Neil, Katrin Epp and Cameron Nesbitt.

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ESCAPE THE URBAN LIFE - CHECK OUT RURAL LIVING Share your dreams, with me, and I can help make them COME TRUE!

Valentine's Day celebrates tasty specials

By Nicole Brownlee

Restaurants around the Interlake are preparing for a cozy Valentine's Day, with several tasty options for couples and families.

Something Beautiful café in Stonewall has several promotions for the romantic season, with proceeds going towards Association for Community Living Interlake, a supportive resource for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Shoppers can pick up a Valentine's Day cookie decorating kit in-store or pre-order online for contactless, curbside pick up.

Something Beautiful is also offering a gift basket giveaway online and in-store. The gift basket includes sparkling wine, wine glasses, chocolates and a fluffy teddy bear. Contestants can find more information about the contest @stonewallsomethingbeautiful on Instagram.

The non-profit launched the "Fill the Heart" campaign on Feb. 4. All proceeds will go towards providing individuals



Fry-Days in Teulon is tossing a new pizza in the oven for Valentine's Day. This heart-shaped pie is cheesy in the best way.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS FROM FROM FARMHOUSE TO YOURS CAFE From Farmhouse to Yours Cafe is selling Valentine's Day treats like hand-decorated sugar cookies and vanilla cupcakes with pink velvet frosting just in time for the romantic holiday.



supported by ACL a Valentine and a treat. For every dollar donated, donors will receive five Beautiful Rewards points they can redeem in-store at the café or gift shop. Something Beautiful hopes to raise \$1,000. To learn more, visit something-beautiful-café-and-gift-shop.myshopify.com.

Stonewall's McLeod House, named for heroic 18-year-old Alan Arnett McLeod, who fought in the First World War, is participating in Peak of the Market's Potato Week from Feb. 4 to 14.

The restaurant will serve Atlantic lobster with homemade potato gnocchi in a white wine butter sauce. These dishes are available for dine-in and takeout. Though McLeod House is usually not open on Mondays, the restaurant will be open on Valentine's Day.

Fry-Days Restaurant & Lounge in Teulon is also usually closed on Mondays but will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Feb. 14.

The local business has been open for over 20 years and is cooking something special for Valentine's Day. The restaurant is offering 16-inch heart-shaped pizzas and chicken or

shrimp alfredo for dine-in and take-out.

This is the first year Fry-Days has made heart-shaped pizzas.

The Rockwood Motor Inn's Le Petit Café has planned a platter for two for Valentine's Day. Couples have the choice of beef or pork tenderloin medallions and grilled shrimp for dine-in or takeout.

This is Monica Rodrigue and Jason Manning's first year offering a Valentine's Day special after taking over the Stonewall restaurant/hotel/lounge in August 2020.

From Farmhouse to Yours in Teulon is offering themed coffees and steamers leading up to Valentine's Day. From Feb. 11 to 13, the café plans to brew cinnamon dolce and pink velvet lattes and steamers. With every purchase of these specialty drinks, customers will get a free, hand-decorated sugar cookie resembling a conversation heart.

On Feb. 14, the café and bakery will also offer a buy one, get one half off sale on hot beverages. Valentine's Day themed mini cheesecakes, cakes, cupcakes and sugar cookies are also available for purchase. Pre-orders for treats are encouraged. From Farmhouse to Yours will be at the Red Barn Market in Stonewall on Feb. 12 with owner Jennifer Irving-Chandler and Valentine's treats in tow.

LOOKING FOR CUPID

We have hidden 3 Cupids in this week's edition. If you find all three you can enter to win our Valentine's Contest

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Capital campaign underway for child-care centre expansion

By Jennifer McFee

Excitement is building for plans to expand a local child-care centre, and efforts are now underway to generate support for the project.

Woodlands Childcare launched in August 2015, and it is currently full to capacity with a long waitlist for its four infant, 24 preschool and 30 school-age spaces.

Plans are underway to expand with a new 5,000-square-foot facility that would provide eight infant and 32 preschool spaces, with room to grow if needed. These combined 40 new spaces would also create 12 to 14 new jobs within the community.

Executive director Rachelle McKay and assistant director Teri Kotelko have both been with the centre for six years.

"When the centre first opened, we started with 10 children. Over the years, we have continued to fill spaces to capacity with a lengthy waitlist," McKay said.

"We get calls on a weekly basis from families desperately needing care. We wish we could take them all and it is heartbreaking to continuously tell parents within the community that we just don't have the space."

During that time, they've seen the program flourish and the demand for spaces grow.

Kotelko echoed the need for more spaces since the centre continues to thrive.

"Expanding has always been the dream and we knew that we would have to eventually open more spaces," Kotelko said.

"We have an amazing team and we just feel like the time is right."

The duo approached the Interlake School Division to see if there was a portion of land that they could purchase from them to expand on near Warren Elementary School.

"Thankfully, we discovered a portion of the land was already subdivid-

ed and, without hesitation and fully in support, the Interlake School Division started the process of transferring the land," McKay explained.

"The process of the land transfer is similar to the process the school division just went through with Stony Mountain Childcare Centre and their expansion."

A 10-member expansion committee has been working hard to manage the capital campaign and building process, with full support from Woodlands Childcare's board of directors.

The project will cost approximately \$1.5 million and, if all goes according to plan, construction is expected to begin as early as this fall.

"In order to make this dream become reality, we need to raise 60 per cent of project costs," Kotelko said.

"With this in mind, we are applying for grants and launching our capital campaign this week by mailing out flyers to reach out to as many people and businesses in the community as possible for donations and investments into the project."

Child care is important for growth and development of the RM of Woodlands, McKay added.

"As more and more young families with young children move to the community, the demand for more child-care spaces increases. This is a wonderful community to lay down roots and watch your family grow," she said.

"As for the children in our care, it gives them an early start to lifelong learning. Our staff work to prepare children for the education system by helping them further develop their social, emotional, cognitive and physical skills. We want children to succeed and thrive in their learning and development so they can solidify lifelong skills that will help them flourish in life and into their roles in society."

Cassie Tully, chair of the Woodlands Childcare board of directors, also stresses the importance of child care.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Staff and children from Woodlands Childcare stand in front of the new property.



The expansion project will take place on this newly acquired property.

"There is an urgent need for child care right now. I not only see this as board member but as a parent and resident in the community," she said.

"Early childhood education sets the foundation for lifelong learning. The families of the Woodlands Childcare Centre are grateful for the quality of care our children receive. I'm excited to be a part of this project and to reach the goal of expanding our program in Warren."

Anyone interested in becoming a

member of the building committee can call Rachelle McKay and Teri Kotelko at 204-383-7503 or email woodlandschildcare@gmail.com.

For anyone who would like to contribute financially to the cause, donations can be made to warrenexpansion@gmail.com or cheques can be written to Woodlands Childcare Inc. Official charitable donation receipts will be issued for donations exceeding \$20.

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Rosser council approves vaccination disclosure policy

More news in brief

By Jennifer McFee

As the pandemic drags on, Rosser council approved a vaccination status disclosure policy at its Jan. 11 meeting. Coun. Angela Emms voted against the resolution.

"While generally Rosser has no desire to make any inquiries into personal medical circumstance, given the current state of the pandemic in Manitoba, Rosser believes that it is reasonably necessary to be aware of the vaccination status of its members, in order to both discharge safety and health obligations, manage its workforce and ensure it is able to deliver its services," the policy states.

The policy also acknowledges that many recipients of municipal services represent a vulnerable population.

"As a result, Rosser is always seeking ways to ensure that it not only remains able to provide services but that it minimizes the risk of COVID-19 spreading amongst its employees, visitors, contractors, council members and their respective families," the policy states.

"Accordingly, this vaccination disclosure policy is an important and

necessary part of Rosser's operations, assisting in determining whether further steps are required to protect the health and safety of employees, visitors, contractors, council members and their families; which employees are fit to perform certain tasks; and even who is required to self-isolate in the event that an employee is a close contact of someone who is infected with COVID-19."

By Jan. 26, the RM of Rosser required every member to advise its chief administrative officer whether or not they have been fully vaccinated and to provide confirmation of through the Province of Manitoba's immunization record, immunization card or QR code.

The RM of Rosser does not currently require vaccination, but members who are unable to get the vaccine due to a reason protected by the Human Rights Code can voluntarily provide that information to the CAO in advance in case Rosser does implement a vaccination policy.

"Failure to follow this Policy, including a refusal to disclose vaccination status, jeopardizes Rosser's ability to manage its workforce and operations; and discharge its safety and health

obligations," the policy states.

"Accordingly, for Rosser's employees and volunteer firefighters, violation of any aspect of this Policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination for cause, subject to any obligations Rosser may have under the Code."

In addition, effective Jan. 25, anyone who wants to attend a council meeting or public hearing in person, either as a delegation or as part of the gallery, must be fully vaccinated. Any person who is not fully vaccinated or refuses to disclose their vaccination status will have to attend the council meeting or public hearing virtually or by phone. To make arrangements to attend a scheduled meeting, contact the RM of Rosser at 204-467-5711 or email clerk@rmofrosser.com at least 24 hours in advance to make arrangements.

In other council news:

- At the Jan. 11 council meeting, Rosser council approved a \$29,401.96 levy for the South Interlake Regional Library. The expense will be included in the 2022 financial plan.

- Council also approved a funding request from Community

Re-Source Network for \$4,500, with \$2,500 going towards core funding and \$2,000 for a one-time additional special programming grant. The expense will be included in the 2022 financial plan.

- Council issued an aggregate mining and temporary licence to Dorsey Road Gravel until Dec. 31.

- The RM of Rosser will apply to Manitoba Children and Youth Opportunities 2022 Green Team Program for three youth employees, with employment to start on May 1.

- Council approved culvert applications made by Roadstar Trucking and Sandbox Design and Consulting. The applicants will need to cover the cost of supplies and installation.

- Council approved a conditional use request to reclassify a 1,550-square-foot single-family home to a detached secondary suite, which would allow for the construction of a new 1,753-square-foot bungalow as the principal dwelling on the same property on Road 64N.

They also approved a variance request to increase the maximum square footage of the proposed detached secondary suite to 1,550 square feet from 1,000 square feet.

Eligibility expands for child-care subsidies

By Jennifer McFee

Child care is about to get a little more affordable for some families, thanks to an increase in subsidized spaces and reduced parent fees.

Manitoba expanded eligibility for its Child Care Subsidy Program on Feb. 6, which means nearly half of regulated spaces are now subsidized.

As a result, families with kids in regulated child care will pay about 30 per cent less on average for out-of-pocket parent fees. This change is in keeping with the joint Canada-Manitoba Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care agreement to reduce out-of-pocket parent fees by 50 per cent by Dec. 31.

The Child Care Subsidy Program is

geared to help eligible families by reducing child-care fees for kids aged 12 weeks old to 12 years old.

In addition, Manitoba will increase the net household income thresholds and allowable deductions for the Child Care Subsidy program by 45 per cent. This change will boost the range from \$23,883 to \$37,116 average household income for a full subsidy and \$37,542 to \$82,877 for a partial subsidy.

Manitoba is moving towards its commitment of reaching an average \$10 out-of-pocket fee per day by March 2023, which would allow more Manitoba families to work while their children receiving safe care.

Rachelle McKay, executive direc-

tor of Woodlands Childcare, says the announcement from the federal and provincial governments is great news for families — but there is room for more improvement.

"Expanding the criteria for child-care subsidies will be a financial benefit for families who now qualify," McKay said.

"Although this is wonderful news for families, there is still a lot of work to be done within the early learning and child-care field. Throughout the past two years, it has become extremely evident that the foundation of the child-care system is its workforce. In order to maintain high quality programming and sustainability within the field, recruitment and retention of

early childhood educators needs to be at the forefront of the Canadian-wide child-care plan."

Assistant director Teri Kotelko notes that there's been a funding freeze in child-care operating grants since 2015.

"Without an increase in funding, we are unable to pay staff what they truly deserve and keep up with the rising cost of living. Our centre is extremely lucky to have 12 dedicated and passionate staff that work hard to create a loving and safe environment for children to thrive and develop, but without them we wouldn't have the high quality programming we have to offer to families within our community," Kotelko said.

"We look forward to the government announcements that will take place in the up and coming weeks that will focus on the Canadian-wide staffing crisis in the early learning and child-care field."

The federal and provincial governments are working together on a Canada-Manitoba early learning and care agreement, which would extend existing funding beyond March 31. The agreement would also include

Continued on page 12

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Snowmobile sales increase as socializing decreases

By Nicole Brownlee

Snowmobilers are cruising through the prairies with another successful year of recruits.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in May 2020, Canadians purchased over 50,000 snowmobiles from 2020 to 2021, which was the highest rate of sled sales since 2000.

Snoman, an organization of snowmobilers in Manitoba, noticed an increase in fellow hobbyists over the past two years.

"People can't go anywhere travel-wise," said Yvonne Rideout, executive director of Snoman, theorizing why the sport became more popular.

Snowmobile registrations increased by almost 2,000 in Manitoba this year, said Rideout.

"Last year, it was very difficult finding a snowmobile anywhere. I would expect the same thing this season too."

Randy Gudmundson, owner of Randy's Tire & Sport in Lundar, said shipments can't keep up with the demand for snowmobiles.

"If you could get product then (sales) would be great," said Gudmundson.

Snowmobile inventory is low across the country because of supply chain issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

After three years of minimal snowfall, Snoman is ecstatic to see the fresh powder on trails throughout the province.

The majority of Snoman's 12,000 kilometres of trails are open this winter, except for a trail winding around Athapapuskow Lake leading to Flin Flon and most of a trail following Highway 6 from Reed Lake to Gillam.

The Snoman trails are groomed by 53 clubs throughout the province.

Clubs operate on membership fees to help pay for the cost of maintenance.

"The clubs weren't able to do any fundraising activity due to the pandemic," said Rideout.

"Things like derbies were all cancelled."

The Interlake Snow Trackers groom 600 kilometres of trails around Arborg, Hecla, Grindstone, Riverton, Gimli, Winnipeg Beach, Narcisse and Petersfield.

"Last year, because of COVID, there was a tremendous amount of Snopasses sold," said Les Thordarson, president of the Interlake Snow Trackers.

Snopasses are \$150 snowmobile passes are needed to travel on Snoman trails.

"There are lots of snowmobilers out there, that's for sure."

The Snow Trackers have around 90 members this year, with several volunteers who help maintain the trails and warming shelters.

Warming shelters are also open this year at 25 per cent capacity. Last year, the shacks were closed because of public health restrictions.

While he's happy the shelters have reopened for the 2022 season, Thordarson said the COVID-19 pandemic has changed how snowmobilers interact.

"We have warmup shelters that can only have two or three people in them," said Thordarson.

"You don't really get to talk to too many people that are out there."



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Interlake Snow Trackers is one of 53 snowmobile clubs that groom 12,000 kilometres of trails throughout the province.

Thordarson has been a member of the Snow Trackers for over 30 years and annually marks trails in Arborg, Riverton and Hecla to be cleared with his son.

"The trail has to be marked before we can both enjoy it."

Two operators are paid by the Snow Trackers to maintain the trails throughout the Interlake.

To check the maintenance status of trails, visit snoman.mb.ca.



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Manitoba second-highest nationally in per-student school spending

Funding increased for school operations and cost pressures by more than \$120 million

Submitted by Manitoba government

Funding for the Manitoba school system will increase by \$120 million in the upcoming school year, including \$43 million increase in annual funding and additional one-time funding of \$77 million to address incremental wage costs and other pressures, Education Minister Wayne Ewasko announced Friday.

"Manitoba has the second-highest spending per student in Canada after New Brunswick at \$15,412 and we are maintaining this position at the national level with a further investment of \$120 million this year," said Ewasko.

"School divisions have told us that COVID-19, inflation and other costs have increased financial pressures, and this has been taken into consideration in this year's public school funding. These increases will ensure that school divisions have the resources they need to help students succeed."

The annual funding includes an increase of \$18 million for public schools, \$2.2 million for independent schools and a \$23.2-million increase to the Property Tax Offset Grant. To reduce the burden from ratepayers, education property taxes will remain frozen and the increase to the Property Tax Offset Grant is equivalent to two per cent.

"School divisions continue to receive the full value of the education property taxes collected as the rebates to Manitobans are funded from gen-

eral provincial revenues," said Ewasko. "The increase in the Property Tax Offset Grant ensures that school divisions do not lose out on revenue that they would have raised by increasing property taxes."

The \$77 million in one-time funding next year is based on feedback from school divisions on their anticipated incremental costs over and above the regular annual increases in funding.

While these financial pressures faced by school divisions are ongoing, only one-time funding has been announced this year as a new education funding model is being developed in consultation with school divisions for the 2023-24 school year. The new funding model, a recommendation of the Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education and supported by key sector stakeholders, will ensure the creation of a fair and sustainable model that provides equitable funding so all students succeed regardless of their location, their background or their individual circumstances.

Earlier this year, the Manitoba government provided an additional \$63 million to schools across the province to address COVID-19 needs. The minister noted the government will continue to assess needs related to the pandemic response and will provide additional safe schools funding as required.

"Manitoba is committed to investing in education with the funding ad-

justed based on enrollment increases and accounting for COVID-19 related impacts," said Ewasko. "We will continue to consult with school divisions, school staff, parents and students to hear what is working and what we need to do to support them as we move forward to continuously improve and strengthen the education system."

The minister noted today's announcement builds on other recent investments to strengthen Manitoba's education system with a focus on continuous improvement including:

- additional one-time funding of \$80 million for incremental operating costs in public school divisions in 2021-22;
- investments in a new pilot program that will support engagement with elders and knowledge keepers in schools to promote the inclusion of First Nations, Métis and Inuit histories, culture, traditional values, contemporary lifestyles and traditional knowledge in the provincial curricula;
- a total investment of \$260 million in capital funding to build new schools and renovate others; and
- more than \$1 million in additional funding for mental health supports including:
 - mental health supports for the education workforce,
 - the French translation of materials,
 - peer-programming training for educators, and
 - further professional development for educators and leaders that is trauma-informed and culturally relevant to address the effects of long-term trauma caused by the pandemic.

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"What happens if someone does bad every day of their life?" Good question. What does God do with that? What do you think? Are they screwed? Does God sit back while they slide into Hell?

Imagine you're a parent. Your child is doing something that will destroy their life. Could you sit back? Let it happen? Heck no. You'd send everything and everyone you have to try to save your child's life.

God calls Himself our Heavenly Father. That implies the qualities of a good Father — LOVE, PROTECTION, COMPASSION, SACRIFICE, RESCUE, ETC.

So with that in mind, what does God do if we do evil every day of our life?

"As long as they have breath, assume God is doing something or sending someone to get their attention before it's too late. That's how love works."

Did God send me to Mexico to get this guy's attention? It looks like it. He wants to put his faith in Jesus — that's epic. Welcome to the family of God!!!

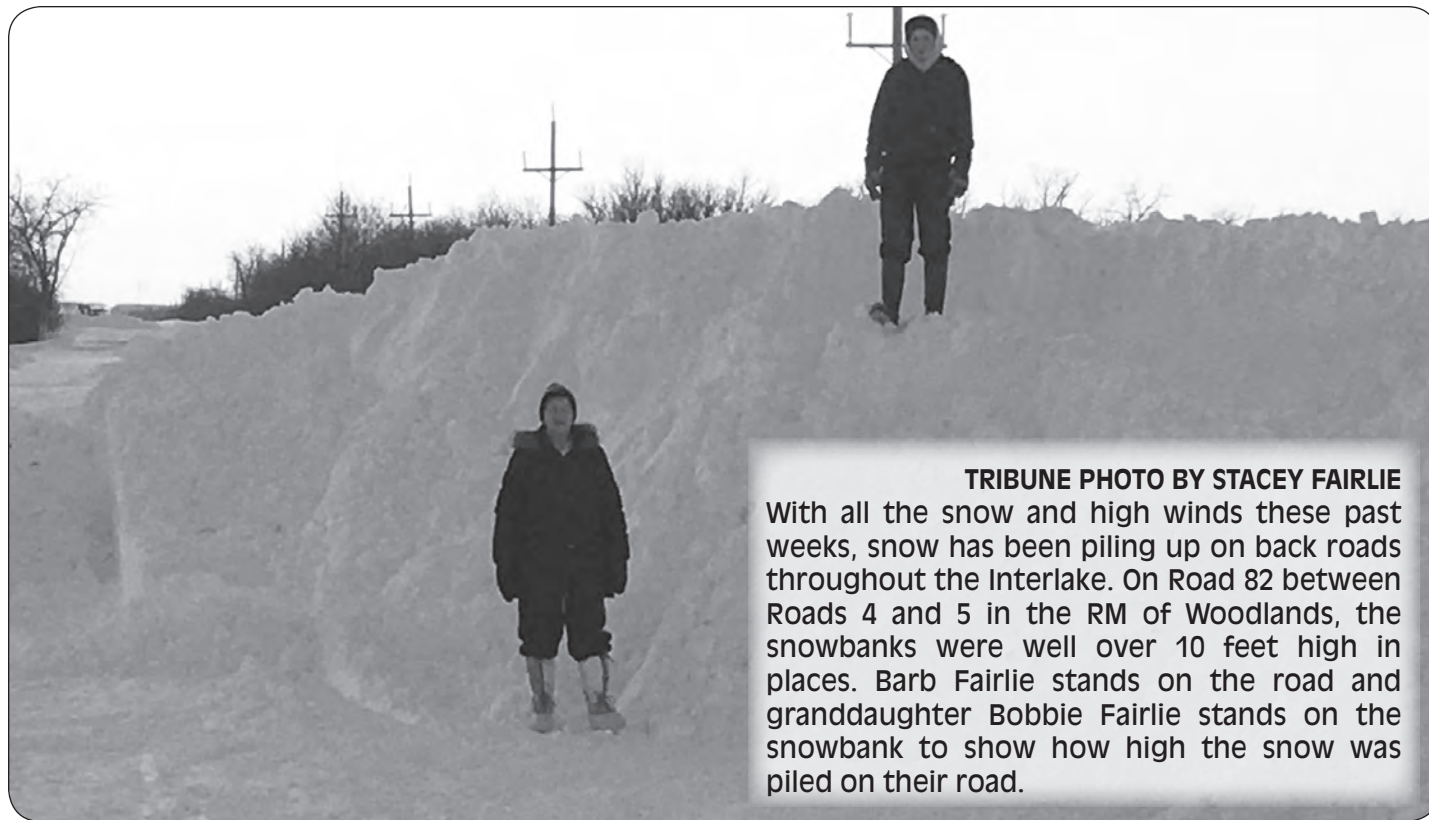
I don't mind Stage 4 cancer if I see Jesus saving people throughout my healing journey. My temporary pain is nothing compared to someone's eternal gain.

I'm on a fantastic mission with my family. To KNOW JESUS and MAKE HIM KNOWN — with our kids, in my community and around our world.

I have one question for you. Do you know Jesus? If not, what's God doing to get your attention before it's too late? Maybe this article is His latest attempt to save your life.

God the Father is inviting YOU into His Family. All you have to do is put your faith in Jesus. What's stopping you from doing that right now?

Paul Emmer
YFC Stonewall



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY STACEY FAIRLIE

With all the snow and high winds these past weeks, snow has been piling up on back roads throughout the Interlake. On Road 82 between Roads 4 and 5 in the RM of Woodlands, the snowbanks were well over 10 feet high in places. Barb Fairlie stands on the road and granddaughter Bobbie Fairlie stands on the snowbank to show how high the snow was piled on their road.

letters to the editor

Letters to the Editor:
letters@stonewallteulontribune.ca

Anti-mandate rally at the Manitoba Legislature

Manitoba Liberals condemn the lawless activities and disorder that have been taking place around the rally at the legislature, and the misery that the so-called protestors are inflicting on the innocent residents of the area.

It is terrible that people were injured in a car accident and we expect that the individual responsible will be held to account and face justice. We should not pretend that either side is right when both are wrong. Wrongdoing does not justify wrongdoing, and law-breaking does not justify further law-breaking.

We cannot let debate in Manitoba be defined by extremists who have shown contempt for the law and their fellow citizens.

On Reddit, a resident posted, "I had both an Instacart and a Skip the Dishes order refunded to me because the drivers can't get to my apartment because the streets are blocked by this stupid protest. I am physically unable to get groceries because of my cancer treatment, which is why I order Instacart to bring it up to my apartment unit."

MLAs received an unprecedented warning from legislative security to

stay away from the building because of the risks associated with protests. While MLAs and ministers and their staff may be able to work from home, thousands of people living downtown do not have that luxury.

Peaceful protests do not block roads and obstruct traffic, which could include fire, ambulances, paramedics and access to food.

Blaring truck horns and setting off fireworks is not an exercise in free speech; they are a disruptive act of harassment.

Parking and leaving a vehicle in the middle of the street for hours is not a peaceful protest when it blocks the delivery of emergency services and food.

We know that politicians do not direct police action. It is legitimate to ask Premier Stefanson, Mayor Bowman and Police Chief Smyth why basic bylaws and the Highway Traffic Act are not being enforced when it appears that they are being blatantly violated.

The occupiers need to go home, today.

- Dougald Lamont, Manitoba Liberal Leader and MLA for St. Boniface

Thoughtful prayer

RE: "Worship with Us...Faith" Jan. 20, 2022, edition of the *Stonewall Teu-*

lon Tribune, "How Christians decide on whether or not to take the COVID-19 vaccine"

Thoughtful prayer is always a good idea. Perhaps, one might also add prayers ...

For the health-care workers. They continue to do such admirable work looking after their patients during the pandemic. A pandemic that has overwhelmed the medical system for two years. For those who are burned out and still go to work, knowing that they could catch COVID, and possibly pass it on to others. For those who have been so overwhelmed that they have had breakdowns.

Pray for the people that have had friends or loved ones die in hospital, and have been unable to visit or be of assistance to them at their time of most need.

Pray for the people who get critical health tests and procedures delayed due to the pandemic.

Pray for the political and medical leadership, who have had to make heart-wrenching, but necessary, public health decisions, knowing that some people will be adversely affected.

Pray for COVID to be over.

Pray to be part of the solution.

- Respectfully,
Tom Dykstra

Federal Conservatives, Bezan, calls for lethal weapons for Ukraine

By Patricia Barrett

With Russia continuing to mass troops and military equipment along its borders with Ukraine, the federal Conservatives called on the government last Monday to provide Ukraine with weapons.

Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan was among several MPs who asked the Liberal government to step up with “lethal weapons” to address the threat to Ukraine, and said Canada has been asked since 2018 to provide those weapons.

“This is about respecting international rules and not allowing one country to start invading another,” said Bezan by phone last Friday. “It’s unbelievable that here we are in 2022 and there’s still this empire-building taking place ... under the auspices of the Kremlin.”

In 2014 Russia annexed Crimea, a peninsula on the Black Sea that was part of Ukraine, and made it a federal subject of the Russian Federation. The majority of the international community regard Crimea as occupied Ukrainian territory. After the annexation, Russia was suspended indefinitely from the Group of 8 (G8) countries.

Russian began massing troops, artillery and other military equipment on its eastern and northern border with Ukraine last spring. By December it had 100,000 troops, according to U.S. intelligence. Satellite imagery last week showed an estimated 130,000 troops, weapons and troop shelters in western Russia, Belarus (on Ukraine’s northern border) and Crimea. The Russian and Belarus defence ministries are calling the deployments training exercises. The U.S. and the U.K., which are among a number of countries that have supplied weapons to Ukraine, are adamant that Russia is going to invade.

Russia has demanded that Ukraine not be given membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), a defensive alliance of countries including Canada and the U.S. that was formed after the Second World War

to provide collective security against the then-Soviet Union. Russia claims NATO expansion will threaten its security.

The federal Liberal government has charted a cautious approach to the tensions in eastern Europe, seeking diplomatic solutions rather than provocation, while at the same time sending a message to Russia that there will be consequences should it invade Ukraine.

“With the possibility of a further invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, Ukraine is still needing defensive weapons,” said Bezan. “Our allies — the U.S., the U.K., Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and some others — have provided lethal defensive weapons including anti-tank rockets and surface-to-air missiles to protect from possible aerial attacks; the Russians have moved attack helicopters into the region. Ukraine still needs sniper rifles, machine guns and handguns. This is going to be a big war and Ukraine is going to have to arm up their national forces ... and militias.”

In 2018, when the Conservatives asked the government to arm Ukraine, there was a cache of weapons in storage including sniper rifles, machine guns, handguns, rocket-propelled grenade launchers. They had been destined for the Kurds to fight ISIS, but were not sent after the Kurds declared independence from Iraq, said Bezan.

“Those weapons were sitting in storage, collecting dust for a number of years, and we asked that those weapons be provided to the Ukrainian military,” he said.

NATO members can “make their own decisions” as to whether to supply weapons to Ukraine, said Bezan, and Canada has yet to act. Germany was criticized a few weeks ago by Kyiv’s mayor, Vitali Klitschko, for sending 5,000 helmets.

Bezan said he took part a briefing on Feb. 4 with the former deputy prime minister of Ukraine and current



ONE WORLD - NATIONS ONLINE PROJECT
Map of Ukraine showing Russia-occupied Crimea on the Black Sea.

member of Parliament, who said the country is setting up regional militias (citizen soldiers) and that they need to be armed.

“The best deterrence to stopping a military invasion is to have fire power on the other side. That’s the only thing president Putin understands,” said Bezan. “He’s provoked by weakness and, unfortunately, the soft measures taken by the Liberals are only [emboldening] Putin when countries like Canada and Germany aren’t stepping up to provide the help Ukraine needs.”

Canada has roughly 1.4 million people of Ukrainian origin, and Bezan said the Ukrainian community — including those in his Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman riding — has been “very supportive” of Ukraine. Canadians generally see the country as an ally “standing on Europe’s eastern flank of the great bear that wants to expand.”

When pressed in the house by several MPs on weapons for Ukraine, Canada’s foreign affairs minister Melanie Joly said Ukraine specifically asked for a loan and for more military training.

“When I was in Ukraine a week ago, President Zelensky had one ask. It was to make sure that we would help by offering a sovereign loan to the Ukraine government to deal with economic instability. Three days later, we provided \$120 million in sovereign loans,” said Joly on Jan. 31. “What I heard from the national guard on site in Ukraine was that they needed more support in terms of military training. A week later, we extended and expanded Operation Unifier.”

But Bezan says she was being “disingenuous” and cited a *Globe and Mail* story that said the federal cabinet has

been debating for some time about whether to provide lethal weapons.

“They haven’t reached a consensus yet. They’re debating it because they were asked to provide military weapons,” said Bezan. “For the last number of years there has been [dialogue] between the governments of Canada and Ukraine. There’s actually a shopping list of exactly what [weapons] Ukraine is looking for.”

“Despite what Joly said, when she was in Ukraine maybe there were diplomatic memos going back and forth saying, ‘We’re not giving you weapons so don’t ask for weapons when we’re here,’ but they’ve been asking for weapons for years. That shopping list is available to both National Defence and Global Affairs Canada and it’s updated on a monthly basis if not weekly.”

A spokesperson for foreign affairs told the *Express* that Ukraine requested “economic support” from Canada and its other allies in order to counteract Russian destabilization efforts.

“This is why Canada has offered a sovereign loan of up to \$120 million to Ukraine, which will support the country’s economic resilience and governance reforms, as well as \$6 million in technical assistance to support the loan,” said the spokesperson by email. “Canada has also increased our aid by \$50 million to help Ukraine deliver increased security, prosperity and freedom for all of its citizens. This assistance will also help meet the immediate and urgent needs of vulnerable populations impacted by the ongoing conflict.”

Canada has been “resolute” in its condemnation of Russia’s violations of Ukraine’s sovereignty, territorial



The Interlake Community Foundation is accepting community grant applications

Does your **local charity** need funds for **capital projects**? The ICF provides grants for charitable projects within the areas of: Stonewall, Teulon, R.M. of Rockwood, R.M. of Rosser and R.M. of Woodlands. Grants are made only to organizations registered as charities with Canada Revenue Agency or who are sponsored by a registered charity. Deadline is February 28, 2022. For applications and criteria, or if you have questions:

www.interlakefoundation.ca 204-467-5634
info@interlakefoundation.ca

Stonewall passes first reading on zoning bylaw for PCH project

Stonewall council news in brief

By Jennifer McFee

Hopes remain high about the possibility of rescheduling a much-anticipated sporting event that was derailed due to the pandemic.

During the Feb. 2 council meeting, Coun. Peter Bullivant spoke as the chair of the Rockwood-Stonewall recreation committee the recent cancellation of the Sport + Climate Initiative event.

The event had been scheduled for Feb. 18 to 20 with a three-on-three hockey tournament, sustainability marketplace, an all-stars hockey game featuring Hailey Wickenheiser and more.

"We've also reached out to federal and provincial to try to help us with

our quest to try to get it back next year or in the future. As you're all aware, they've decided to permanently cancel that and take the funds away from us," Bullivant said.

"We feel like that's a little bit hard on this community, especially when we were doing the right things and following federal and provincial guidelines in regards to COVID-19. We'll continue to try our best to get these events, which the community was so excited about, for the future as well."

He also shared gratitude for all the organizers who dedicated countless hours towards creating a memorable event.

Mayor Clive Hinds commended Bullivant for his efforts.

"COVID-19 has taken away so many planned events that we had. A postponement would have been great but a complete cancellation is hard to swallow, especially when so many hours of work went into making this event happen. Then, all of a sudden, in a matter of no time at all, it was snuffed away," he said.

"I want them to take a serious look at the letters that you sent out and basically find a way to reinstate this thing. To lose it totally, after all that work and all those people involved, was sad to see."

In other council news:

At the Feb. 2 council meeting, Stonewall council passed first reading of a bylaw to amend the zoning bylaw. CAO Wally Melnyk explained that this is the start of the process to create the appropriate zoning and consolidate the property for the continuing care retirement community project.

The total site area spans slightly more than 20 acres and includes the old elevator site as well as the former Shell Oil and Imperial Oil sites. The town has also been able to secure a portion of private land south of the old elevator site to create the entire continuing care retirement community site that is being considered for rezoning.

The Town of Stonewall will pay for a business card advertisement for \$295 plus tax in the *Courageous K9* magazine by Courageous Companions, an organization that provides certified service dogs at no charge to military veterans and first responders who have experienced physical or psychological injuries as a result of their service.

Stonewall council approved a resolution to initiate the process to obtain borrowing approval for a \$500,000 contribution to the Save the Kilns initiative to preserve and restore the historic limestone kilns in Quarry Park.

In addition, Stonewall council accepted a proposal for \$70,400 plus tax from Crosier Kilgour & Partners for engineering services to restore the kilns.

Council also approved a resolution to apply for a grant through the Heritage Resources Grant Program of Manitoba Sport, Culture and Heritage. The grant would cover up to \$25,000 toward engineering service to restore the kilns. Council acknowledged that the provincial government would not be responsible for any further financial assistance than this grant. Council guaranteed there would be adequate funds to complete the project and operate the facility.

New manager at RBC



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

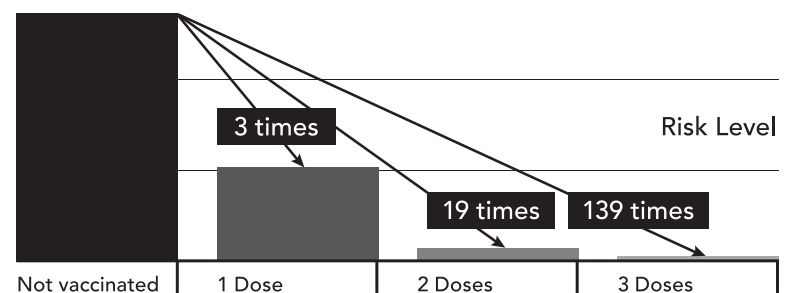
The Royal Bank of Canada Stonewall branch welcomes new manager Carolyn Peters who is taking over from Shaun Dalgliesh. Peters has over 30 years of extensive knowledge and experience in banking with RBC. Most of her time has been evenly divided between the Interlake South community and the Winnipeg Market. Peters is thrilled to be joining the Stonewall branch and looks forward to contributing in the community. Peters lives in Lac du Bonnet with her partner Jeff, four-legged furry son Rudy and shares four wonderful daughters. She loves the outdoors and enjoys snowmobiling, gardening and boating. Dalgliesh is transitioning into the commercial account manager role with RBC. After 21 and a half years, he is leaving personal banking and going to get exposure in another entity of the bank educating himself for future positions. Dalgliesh's primary desk will be from home for the foreseeable future; however, his client base will be primarily in Portage la Prairie and surrounding areas.



RECHARGE YOUR IMMUNITY

A 3rd dose is the best way to protect yourself against COVID-19. You're **139 times** less likely to need intensive care than someone who is unvaccinated.

ICU Admissions



Fight omicron and recharge your immunity with a 3rd dose. Schedule your appointment at [ProtectMB.ca](https://www.protectmb.ca) or call 1-844-626-8222.

#PROTECT MB



Snowstorm temporarily closes ERs in Interlake-Eastern hospitals

By Patricia Barrett

A heavy snowfall last Tuesday caused the temporary suspension of emergency departments in some Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority facilities.

A spokesperson for the IERHA said the snow and highway closures affected emergency department schedules.

"On Tuesday, Feb. 1, some emergency departments experienced temporary suspensions due to the weather and road closures," said the spokesperson.

An updated (Feb. 4) ER schedule posted on the IERHA's website showed no doctors available at the Eriksdale, Arborg and Pinawa hospitals, and no 24-hour doctor coverage in Beausejour and Pine Falls. ERs in Gimli, Selkirk and Stonewall weren't affected during the storm, according to the schedule.

The weather also caused clinic closures. The Selkirk QuickCare clinic, the St. Laurent Clinic and clinics in the eastern half of the IERHA had to close Tuesday.

Other IERHA news:

- The IERHA has beefed up physician hours in the Selkirk hospital's emergency department. It added 162.25 additional physician hours to the hospital's emergency department since Jan. 2 to "help with increased patient needs," said the spokesperson. "This additional physician staffing for Selkirk Regional Health Centre con-

tinues until Feb. 5."

Over the past few weeks, Manitoba has seen an unprecedented number of patients needing hospital care because of COVID-19. Last Wednesday saw a record-setting 744 people with COVID in hospital. That number dropped slightly two days later to 707 people, according to provincial health data. A total of 1,585 Manitobans have died (as of Feb. 4).

- Doctors employed by the IERHA have not been temporarily transferred by the province to Winnipeg hospitals to care for COVID patient. However, physician shortages do lead to temporary ER closures across the Interlake-Eastern region as do staff shortages in diagnostic departments.

"No IERHA physicians have been pulled to work outside the region outside of what they may normally work. We have full emergency department coverage on the west side [the health region west of Lake Winnipeg] and the usual gaps in coverage we have been experiencing recently on the east," said the spokesperson.

"Some of the unexpected gaps in coverage are due to staffing of the diagnostics department. If diagnostics has experienced a temporary service disruption due to staffing, then the emergency department cannot remain open. Arborg was closed on the 1st and on the 5th and Eriksdale was closed on the 1st due to temporary disruptions in staffing in diagnostics."



FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Selkirk Regional Health Centre's emergency department entrance is shown. The ER provided service during the snowstorm on Feb. 1 that caused the suspension of other IERHA hospital ERs.

- The health authority reinstated acute care beds that had been temporarily suspended in some hospitals late last year because of staff shortages. The Stonewall hospital, which had five of its 15 acute care beds suspended, has now had all of those beds reinstated.

Beds continue to be temporarily suspended in Beausejour (six beds out of 30), Gimli (11 beds out of 26) and Pine Falls (six beds out of 23).

- Despite over 700 patients in hospital because of COVID, there have been no provincially mandated patient transfers — to free up acute care bed space — from the IERHA since the end of December.

"Interlake-Eastern RHA has not transferred patients out of region since Dec. 31," said the spokesperson. "As part of the provincewide response

to the pandemic, our RHA has since received a small number of acute care patients from Winnipeg to help maximize the health system's capacity during this current omicron surge. Some of these stable patients are COVID-positive while others are not."

- In the space of about 10 weeks since the omicron variant was first identified, the World Health Organization said there have been 90 million new cases — more cases than were reported in the whole of 2020. Deaths are currently increasing, it says, despite the oft-repeated notion that omicron is a mild virus, and it warns countries about prematurely lifting public health safety measures.

Worldwide, more than 386.5 million cases of the virus have been reported and over 5.7 million people have died, according to WHO data as of Feb. 4.

Manitoba could be restriction-free by spring

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Premier Heather Stefanson and Chief Provincial Public Health Officer Dr. Brent Roussin announced last week that Manitoba will be taking a cautious but steadily increasing approach to reducing public health restrictions in the weeks ahead.

The province's COVID-19 numbers have been improving of late, Roussin said, resulting in a lessening strain on the health care system.

"As this week has passed we see that many of those indicators continue to be stable or trending in the right direction and so we are getting a better understanding of where we are in this wave," he said.

As a result, new public health orders in effect until Feb. 22 ease capacity limits slightly in several settings.

Private gatherings where everyone 12 and older is fully vaccinated are now allowed the household members plus 25 others in indoor spaces and 50 people outside (up from the previous

10 and 20-person limits)

Such gatherings with individuals who are not vaccinated are capped at the household plus 10 people inside (up from five) and 20 people outside (up from 10).

Also lifted is the 250-person capacity limit for settings like fitness centres, casinos, movie theatres, and performing arts centres, though facilities are still limited to 50 per cent capacity with proof of vaccination required.

When it comes to indoor religious services, capacity is limited to 25 per cent or up to 250 people, whichever is lower, when proof of vaccination is not required. Services restricted to fully immunized people and those under 12 not eligible for the vaccine are limited to 50 per cent capacity.

Sports tournaments are also now allowed, retail capacity limits in stores throughout Manitoba have been lifted entirely, and restaurants and lounges can sell liquor until midnight—two hours later than under the previous

orders.

Restrictions will most likely be relaxed further later this month, Stefanson said.

"Situation permitting and based off of what the data is telling us at the time, we will be looking to remove a significant amount of capacity limits and restrictions," she said. "Later this spring we hope to be in a position of relaxing nearly all restrictions and moving to recommendations."

"Given where we are right now, if we don't see anything unexpected, we're looking at a restriction-free Manitoba by spring," agreed Roussin.

Rise in incidental cases

On Monday, the province's online COVID-19 dashboard reported there were 702 people in hospital with COVID-19, including 47 in intensive care. The death toll had hit 1,600.

The day's health bulletin noted the trends for the week ending Thursday, Feb. 3 show Manitoba had 286 new

hospitalizations in the previous seven days, a 19.2 per cent decrease from the week before. ICU admissions also dropped 19 per cent to 34 new patients with COVID-19.

Dr. Roussin noted that an increasing number of hospitalizations have COVID-19 incidentally, meaning they were admitted to hospital for another reason but tested positive for the virus while there.

"It's really important for us to understand who is in hospital because of COVID, not in hospital incidentally related to COVID," he stressed. "Because omicron is so widespread, we know that every person admitted to hospital is tested for omicron, we're going to find people that were there for other reasons but happen to test positive for COVID."

Last week, about 40 per cent of the listed COVID-19 hospitalizations were there because of the virus alone. In the ICU, that number jumped to 70 per cent of patients.

Tergesen putting a lot of heart into Manitoba Heart & Stroke fundraiser

By Patricia Barrett

A Gimli business owner who suffered a heart attack a few years ago is lending his time and support to the Manitoba Heart & Stroke Foundation's "ice hearts" February fundraiser.

Stefan Tergesen of H.P. Tergesen & Sons general store is encouraging the public to increase their physical activity by using the trail system around Gimli, Winnipeg Beach and other parts of the province, as well as to make a donation to the Manitoba Heart & Stroke organization. With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, door-to-door canvassing isn't being undertaken.

People can upload to social media a photo of themselves taking part in the campaign. Heart & Stroke volunteers will be putting up signs at trailheads across the province and decorating the trails with ice hearts where people can stop and pose. The signs will have a QR code providing a link to the Manitoba Heart & Stroke donor site.

Tergesen is stepping up for the second year in a row to help decorate trails around Gimli and promote the campaign.

"I will again be personally going out to decorate a number of locations with signage encouraging people to donate and to share [photos] on their social media," said Tergesen. "We'll be decorating with ice hearts and asking people to take selfies to post on their pages. I will be setting up selfie stations and signage at both of the Camp Morton trails staging areas, at the Gimli Harbour and Boardwalk and in

a to-be-determined location in Winnipeg Beach."

People living near Gimli can use one of the Gimli Cross-country Ski Club's groomed trails in Camp Morton Provincial Park, on both sides of PR 222. Some are multi-use and others are designated for skiing, snowshoeing or hiking. Winnipeg Beach has a number of trails as well.

With the blessing of Trails Manitoba, an organization that helps develop recreational trails and receives funding from the federal and provincial governments, Tergesen said volunteers are looking at promoting the campaign along trails in Brandon, Thompson, Neepawa, Lac du Bonnet and Winnipeg.

Tergesen "dropped dead" from cardiac arrest at Toronto's Pearson Airport in January 2020. He had been running across the airport to make a connecting flight and collapsed at the departure gate. Luckily, passersby knew how to perform CPR and use an AED machine (defibrillator) and were able to restart his heart.

"With the aid of an AED machine and CPR training, I was brought back. Shortly thereafter I received three angioplasties and a stent to repair the damage — all of which can trace their development and promotion to Canada's Heart & Stroke Foundation," said Tergesen. "I have had the great fortune of benefitting from years of research and advancement in science, a lot of which was supported by the foundation."

Since his heart attack, Tergesen said he has met many people who told him their own story. It made him realize how many lives have been touched by the behind-the-scenes work of the foundation.

Having had a brush with death and feeling it was "the right thing to do," Tergesen said he joined the board of Heart & Stroke's Manitoba organization and is working alongside an old classmate and friend, Olive McDonald, who accepted the role of chairperson.

Last year's "ice heart" fundraiser raised \$15,000, a good chunk of research money that got bumped up by CP Rail, which donated \$2 for every \$1 raised for a total of \$45,000, said Tergesen. All the money goes to research carried out in Manitoba. They're aiming to raise even more this year.

The pandemic's effect on Manitoba's health-care system has underscored the importance of taking part in regular activity to prevent illness. Last year Heart & Stroke carried out a national survey to gauge the impact of the pandemic on heart and brain health after delays in diagnostic tests and surgeries ballooned in Manitoba as patients with COVID filled hospitals and critical care units.

"Nine in 10 of the health professionals and researchers who responded to



FILE PHOTO BY STEFAN TERGESEN
Stefan Tergesen helped decorate trails in Camp Morton and in Gimli last February with ice hearts in support of the Manitoba Heart & Stroke Foundation's February fundraiser.

the survey are worried that the health of people living with heart disease or stroke has gotten worse because they were not always able to access the care they needed during the pandemic," states an Oct. 19 news release.

The money the foundation raises for research goes towards finding solutions for heart failure, which include new treatments, preventing damage and improving diagnostics. For more information on the Heart & Stroke Foundation, visit www.heartand-stroke.ca

NACI releases COVID vaccine guidelines

By Patricia Barrett

Canada's National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) released new recommendations last week on vaccination intervals for people infected with COVID-19.

The recommendations come as the surge of omicron infections continues to put people in hospital and/or critical care units across the country. The variant is able to dodge the body's first line of defence – antibodies – and spreads like wildfire. Despite its so-called milder effects than other COVID strains, it has led to record-setting hospitalizations and continues to kill.

People who contract COVID-19 before they're vaccinated or are in between doses should be eligible to get a vaccine eight weeks after their COVID symptoms started or after testing positive for the virus, according to NACI's rapid response recommendation released Feb. 4.

"Individuals who experienced SARS-CoV-2 infection before starting

or completing their primary COVID-19 vaccine series may receive their next dose 8 weeks after symptoms started or after testing positive (if no symptoms were experienced)," states the guideline.

NACI also recommends that people who get COVID after their primary series of vaccination receive a booster dose "3 months after symptoms started or after testing positive (if no symptoms were experienced) and provided it is at least 6 months after completing a primary series."

Canada's chief public health officer Dr. Theresa Tam said people previously infected with COVID can benefit from getting vaccinated, and that a booster dose for the already vaccinated significantly increases the chances of avoiding hospitalization or death.

"What the latest data show is that while two doses of COVID-19 vaccine offer reasonably good protection against severe disease, receiving an

Continued on page 12



New Opportunity for Farmers

Growing Outcomes in Watersheds (GROW) is a new initiative that recognizes the valuable role farmers play in improving the environmental health of the agricultural landscape.

Through GROW, local Watershed Districts provide financial incentives and technical support to help farmers implement projects that restore, conserve and enhance ecological goods and services originating from their lands.

Farm the Best, Conserve the Rest

Local watershed districts will work with you to develop a plan that is suited to the particular needs and goals of your farming operation as they align with local program priorities.

Examples of GROW projects include:

- ✓ water retention
- ✓ wetland conservation, restoration or enhancement
- ✓ multi-species buffer strips
- ✓ riparian area enhancement
- ✓ natural area maintenance and enhancement
- ✓ buffer and grassed waterway establishment
- ✓ perennial cover for sensitive land
- ✓ soil health improvements
- ✓ shelterbelt establishment

For more information on GROW or to connect with your local watershed district, visit www.manitobawatersheds.ca, or call 204.945.0002.



Communications is key for Balmoral 4-H

Staff

Members of Balmoral's 4-H Club showcased their communications skills at a speaking competition last month.

On Jan. 29, the competitions highlighted members' skills in nine visual presentations and 18 speeches.

Members recorded their presentations in advance on topics that included pets, books, baking, fishing, music, sewing, pickles, social media, procrastination, Spiderman and space.

Then six judges reviewed the submission, providing scores and written comments. The Balmoral 4-H Club extends gratitude to judges Tricia Tyerman, Nicole Gorman, Teresa Fox, Maegan White, Dawn Carey and Dawn James.

The winners were announced during a Zoom viewing event.

For the speeches in the Cloverbuds category, first place went to Kenna Reimer and second place to Emerson Korchinski.

In the Junior category, first place went to Allie Mauthe and second place to Kardyn Reimer.

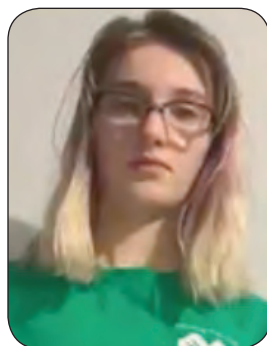
In the Intermediate category, first place went to Kristen Greigson and second place to Colton Kachur.

In the Senior category, first place went to Evalyna Shipley.

For the visual presentations in the Cloverbuds category, first place went to Doyle Nugent and second place to Eva Mushaluk.



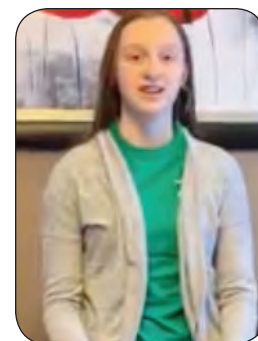
Kenna Reimer



Evalyna Shipley



Doyle Nugent



Elle Dodd



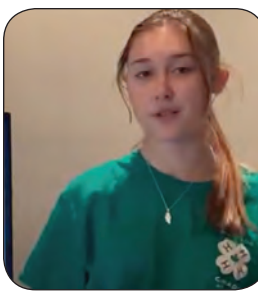
Allie Mauthe



Kristen Greigson



Ava Dodd



Kaitlyn Greigson

In the Junior category, first place went to Ava Dodd and second place to Allison Mushaluk.

In the Intermediate category, first place went to Elle Dodd.

In the Senior category, first place went to Kaitlyn Greigson.

The first and second place winners are eligible to move on to the Area Communications competition in March, which will also be done in a virtual format.

> VACCINE, FROM PG. 11

mRNA booster dose offers superior protection, keeping more people out of hospital or preventing more deaths. In general, data show that protection against hospitalization is over 90 per cent with an mRNA booster dose," said Tam during a news conference Feb. 4.

No vaccine is 100 per cent effective, she added, and she encourages the public to continue adhering to mea-

sures that can protect them from acquiring COVID such as wearing face-masks, practising good hand hygiene, physically distancing and avoiding large gatherings.

There have been 34,381 deaths reported across Canada, and the latest data show the "severe illness" trend continuing to rise, according to the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC).

The agency said in a statement posted on its website that there are "on-

going widespread" [infections] across the country based on data between Jan. 26 and Feb. 1. Those infections continue to place a heavy strain on the health-care system. Severe illness trends, as well, are "elevated or still rising" in many areas of the country.

"As very high infection rates continue to challenge or exceed testing capacity, reported case numbers underestimate the true number of infections. Hence, a range of other indicators, from laboratory test positivity to

daily numbers of people in hospitals and critical care continue to be important for monitoring trends," said Tam.

As of Jan. 30, 88 per cent of Canadians aged 12 and older have had one dose of a COVID vaccine and about 83 per cent have been fully vaccinated. Growing evidence shows a booster dose offers better protection against severe illness from omicron, and can "decrease your risk of infection," states PHAC.

> WEAPONS, FROM PG. 8

integrity and independence, including the military build-up on the borders, he said. And from the beginning Canada has stressed that the crisis "must be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy."

After Russia annexed Crimea, the Canadian government began providing military training to Ukrainian forces.

In 2015 Canada responded to Ukraine's request for military training by launching a training mission called Operation UNIFIER, said the spokesperson

"Currently in its 12th rotation, the mission has trained nearly 33,000 Ukrainian security forces, helping Ukraine increase the capacity of its fighting force. We remain committed to enhancing the capabilities of Ukraine's armed forces," he said.

And on Jan. 26 Canada announced it would extend and expand Operation UNIFIER until March 2025. The program will provide enhanced military training and mentorship to Ukraine's security forces.

Last Thursday the government sent Ukraine non-lethal military equipment such as spotting scopes, field glasses, body armour and metal detectors as part of Operation UNIFIER.

In addition to Canadian military personnel in Ukraine training the country's forces, Canada also has boots on the ground in Europe.

"Canadian Armed Forces are also present with up to 915 troops in central and eastern Europe in support of NATO's assurance and deterrence measures under Operation REASSURANCE, Canada's largest international military operation," said the spokesperson.

"This includes our leadership of

NATO's enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group in Latvia, as well as our persistent rotational deployment of a

frigate with the Standing NATO Maritime Groups."

> SUBSIDIES, FROM PG. 4

one-time 2021-22 early childhood workforce funding to help recruit and retain early learning and child-care workers.

Manitoba will increase its annual funding to \$87.2 million to implement the new subsidy eligibility threshold, with \$64.5 million in federal funding through the Canada-Manitoba agreement for children ages six and under. The coming weeks will bring enhancements to the current Child Care Online system and subsidy application process.

Currently, there are 38,000 spaces available in the regulated child-care system. A total of 6,000 children, or 16

per cent, receive a full or partial child-care subsidy.

This increased eligibility means that about 12,000 additional children will be eligible to receive support for regulated child care, particularly in low- and middle-income families. Child-care subsidies are based on net household income and family composition, which includes the ages and number of children.

For more information on the Child Care Subsidy Program and to submit an application, visit www.gov.mb.ca/fs/childcare/families/childcare_subsidies.html.

Manitoba

Winter Explorer Ideas

Explore snowy landscapes on skates, skis or snowshoes

From lakeside trails to downhill slopes, Manitoba has many places to cross-country ski or snowboard. Or venture out to top hiking and skating trails for snowshoe and skating adventures. There are activities for every skill level to get out and explore in winter.



↑ **Mystery Mountain Winter Park**

SWAN VALLEY AREA

☞ MANITOBA WEST

When asked about their favourite trail systems in Manitoba, snowmobilers bring up **Swan Valley** again and again. The Swan Valley Snowmobile Association takes exceptional care of 370 kilometres of trails that wind through wooded terrain, meadows, and rolling hills.

FLIN FLON TO THE PAS

☞ MANITOBA NORTH

If you're adventurous, challenge yourself with the 144 kilometre trail from **Flin Flon** to The Pas. The Border Explorers Snowmobile Club has all the information you need to take on this epic snowmobile adventure.

INTERLAKE AREA

☞ MANITOBA CENTRAL

Known for its ice fishing, Manitoba's **Interlake** region is also a hotspot for snowmobiling. The Interlake Snow Trackers maintain 430 kilometres of trails that will take you through Arborg, Hecla, Riverton, Gimli, Winnipeg Beach and even across frozen Lake Winnipeg to Grand Marais.

WEKUSKO FALLS LODGE

☞ MANITOBA NORTH

When it comes to ice fishing in **northern Manitoba**, Wekusko Falls Lodge is a staple. With several legendary lakes nearby and once-in-a-lifetime big fish opportunities, Wekusko Falls Lodge is the ultimate ice fishing experience.

ICEBOUND EXCURSIONS

☞ MANITOBA CENTRAL

One option for ice fishing on **Lake Winnipeg** is Icebound Excursions. Icebound offers anglers the unique experience of heading onto the lake in the luxury of a SnoBear—a fully equipped mobile fishing shack.

BRUIN OUTFITTING

☞ MANITOBA EAST

On a Bruin Outfitting excursion, they take care of all the ice fishing necessities including shacks, rods, bait, and drilling the holes in the ice. Anglers heading out with Bruin will get the chance to catch a variety of species from perch to pike, all in **eastern Manitoba**.



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to open the Winter Explorer Guide on your phone.

TRAVEL SAFE IN MANITOBA

Keep yourself and others safe as you explore Manitoba. Remember to:

- ➔ **Wash or sanitize your hands frequently**
- ➔ **Wear a mask**
- ➔ **Practice physical distancing**
- ➔ **Stay home when you're sick**
- ➔ **Be prepared to provide proof of vaccinations at restaurants, events and museums**
- ➔ **Follow all local travel restrictions**

Travel Manitoba cannot guarantee that the attractions and businesses featured will be open and operating as described. While we strongly recommend that all tourism businesses adhere to the public health and safety measures set by the Government of Manitoba, we cannot guarantee the compliance of any business featured in this content. Please contact businesses directly for operating hours and policies.

↓ Nestaweya River Trail at The Forks



↓ Spring Hill



↓ Kinosao Bridge



Find more skiing and skating ideas at manito.ba/winter-explorer.

Manitoba encompasses Treaty 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Territory and communities who are signatories to Treaties 6 and 10. It is the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Anish-Ininiwak, Dakota, Dene, Ininiwak and Nehethowuk and the homeland of the Métis. Acknowledging these original caretakers is a reminder of our unique heritage, our important relationships and our obligations to and shared responsibilities with Indigenous peoples.



Developing hockey players on and off the ice

By Ty Dilello

The U11 Stonewall Blues hockey team has entered this year's Good Deeds Cup.

The Chevrolet Good Deeds Cup seeks to inspire young Canadians to do good by transforming the positive values learned through hockey into Good Deeds within their communities.

Over the past 10 years, Chevrolet Canada and Hockey Canada have challenged over 15,000 hockey players across the country to go out and do Good Deeds in their communities. As a result, these teams have made an extraordinary impact with over 1,500 Good Deeds done and \$750,000 donated to well-deserving charities.

For this year's good deed, the Stone-

wall Blues have put together care packages that will be delivered to the Children's Hospital Dream Factory next week.

"Laine Wilson came to me with the idea of entering the Good Deeds Cup, and I thought it was a great idea to get behind," said Scott McFadyen, coach of the Stonewall Blues. "We got all the boys together after a practice last Wednesday and made the bags as a team."

One of the young players on the Blues is Ryder Robinson, who is a cancer survivor himself.

"Ryder has used the Dream Factory a few years ago while he was going through his battle with leukemia, so that's why we chose our good deed to go through the Children's Hospital."



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY LAINE WILSON

Coach Scott McFadyen, left, helps Blues' player Scott Dove put together a "Boredom Buster Bag" that will be delivered to the Children's Hospital.

The Stonewall Blues results have been going pretty well this year on the ice, sporting a record of six wins and six losses. But to the players, this good deed is the highlight of their season.

"Doing this good deed was fun and

makes me and my teammates feel good," said Beck McFadyen, one of the players on the Stonewall Blues. "We should do good deeds like this more often as it would be nice to do something else in the future as well."



The Stonewall Blues U11 hockey team is delivering care packages to the Children's Hospital Dream Factory as its entry into the Good Deeds Cup.

Six more weeks of winter



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Feb. 2 is Groundhog Day and this is the day when Manitobans find out when spring will finally arrive. Manitoba Merv, the weather forecasting puppet groundhog at Oak Hammock Marsh, came out at sunrise last Wednesday and predicted six more weeks of winter until spring in Manitoba. Groundhog Day derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerges from its burrow on Feb. 2 and sees its shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den and winter will go on for six more weeks; if it does not see its shadow because of cloudiness, spring will arrive early.

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Taryn Bednarek
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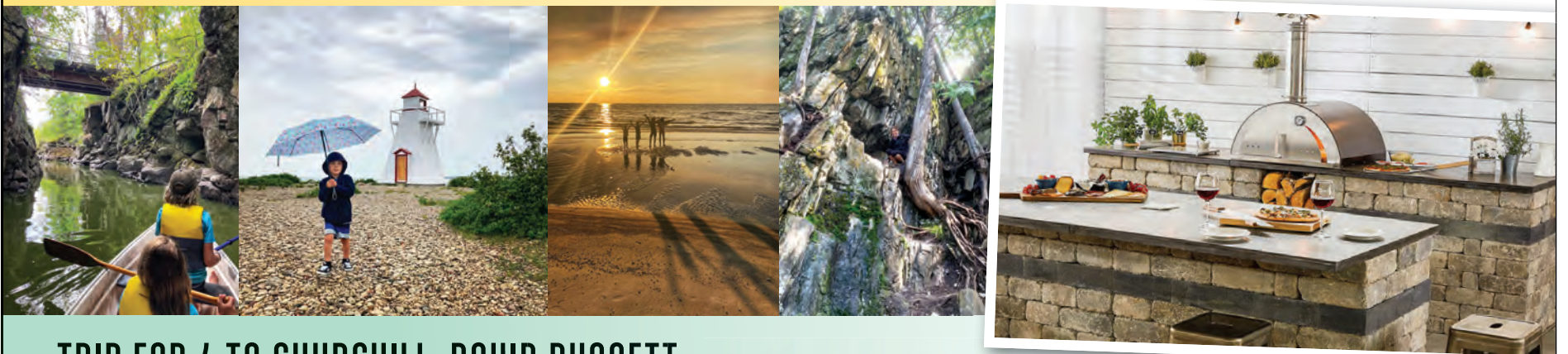
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Dry Feb raises funds for cancer research and support

By Jennifer McFee

Dry Feb is now underway to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society while also helping participants to embrace a healthier lifestyle.

Participants can sign up to go alcohol-free for the month of February — or for a shorter duration — in an effort to raise funds for cancer research as well as a national support system for those impacted by cancer.

Beyond the fundraising, Dry Feb participants might notice health benefits such as having more energy, sleeping better, losing weight, having a clearer head and attaining a sense of achievement.

In addition, the Canadian Cancer Society reports that alcohol consumption increases the risk of head and neck, breast, stomach, pancreatic, colorectal and liver cancers. So the less you drink, the more you can reduce your risk.

Locally, you won't need to look far to find folks to support in their fundraising efforts. A duo of teachers at Ecole RW Bobby Bend School has signed up individually for the initiative for the first time.

Jacqui Holod decided to participate since it's another way for her to support the Canadian Cancer Society and its efforts in cancer research.

"After losing dear friends and my mother to cancer, as well as having many other loved ones in my life affected by this disease in its many forms, I want to raise funds and build awareness for cancer research and treatments," she said.

"This is a fun and possibly challenging way to do this. Reducing alcohol intake also offers many health benefits, including reducing the risk of de-

veloping several types of cancer. It's a win-win."

Holod has set an initial fundraising goal of \$500, and she plans to increase that goal when she participates again next year. Anyone who'd like to donate towards Holod's goal can visit <https://www.dryfeb.ca/users/jacqui-holod>.

"Many forms of cancer are now highly treatable, which they weren't in the not-so-distant past," she said.

"Fundraising for research allows me to feel like I can do something to help, even if it's just a little bit."

Susan Young has also set a fundraising goal of \$500 and she's already well on her way to achieving it. People can support her at <https://www.dryfeb.ca/users/susan-young-2> or make a donation in her name on the Dry Feb website.

"I want to take better care of my health by eating better, exercising and trying to cut down on alcohol, so I thought this would keep me honest," she said.

"I know so many people who have had cancer, including my brother and some who have lost their battle. Dry Feb is just a win-win for me and the Canadian Cancer Society."

The Dry Feb initiative also includes a Golden Ticket opportunity, which gives participants a night off from their challenge. For a minimum \$25 donation, the donor can tap on the Golden Ticket tab and select a date, such as Valentine's Day, a family birthday or a get-together.

For more information about Dry Feb, or to make a donation, visit www.dryfeb.ca.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Ecole RW Bobby Bend School teachers Jacqui Holod and Susan Young



Statement from the premier on the anniversary of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Submitted by Manitoba government

On behalf of all Manitobans, I congratulate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, who today becomes the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth.

On this day in 1952, 70 years ago, Their Highnesses the Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh were staying in Kenya when they heard of the death of King George VI. Without delay, Princess Elizabeth returned home and at the age of 25, she was proclaimed "Queen Elizabeth II." The succession to the throne was proclaimed at an Accession Council, which took place in St. James's Palace and was attended by members of the Privy Council, the Lord Mayor and aldermen of the City of London.

To mark this momentous occasion, the Province of Manitoba is providing grant funding with a focus on reconciliation to Manitoba's six royally designated organizations (to a maximum of \$25,000 per organization) to facilitate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee ini-



The 70th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's reign is known as her Platinum Jubilee. She became Queen when she was 25 years old.

tiatives throughout 2022.

These organizations (and the date they received the Royal prefix from the Queen) are:

- Royal Winnipeg Ballet (1953),
- Royal Manitoba Winter Fair (1970),



PHOTO BY STUART C. WILSON/GETTY IMAGES)
Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, will spend the year celebrating this unprecedented anniversary.

- Royal Manitoba Yacht Club (1981),
- Royal Military Institute of Manitoba (1982),
- Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre (2010), and
- Royal Aviation Museum of Western

Canada (2014).

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee flag flew at the Manitoba legislative building from sunrise to sunset last Sunday to mark this occasion.

Running paramedics into the ground: Manitobans 'need to be worried'

By Patricia Barrett

Paramedics working in the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority say ambulance response times and transport to hospitals across the region are taking "significantly longer" than they should because of paramedic understaffing and more than half of the region's hospitals regularly unable to accept ambulances because of physician and/or nurse shortages.

IERHA paramedics can easily drive up to 500 kilometres during a 12-hour shift, and sometimes 1,000 kilometres on overtime, as they struggle to find hospital emergency rooms with enough staff to accept patients, according to a paramedic whom the *Tribune* is not naming because she doesn't have authority to speak to the media.

Delays are not only ratcheting up paramedics' stress levels, but they're also sometimes resulting in bad outcomes for patients who need timely hospital care.

"Out of the 10 hospital ERs in the [Interlake-Eastern] region, more than half are closed (on redirect) to ambulances on a regular basis. Closed means not accepting ambulances due to no beds or no doctors/staff," said the paramedic last week. "Just the other day, the only open hospital in the region was Selkirk. So if we're doing a call in Little Saskatchewan First Nation, our closest hospital is now three hours away — that's with good road conditions. This is a huge strain on our mental health because those patients don't always make the three-hour drive and it hurts."

Paramedics are working overtime on "at least half our shifts," she said, and on the highway regardless of weather conditions. That included driving during the Feb. 1 snowstorm.

"There are many times we are responding to calls an hour or two away, especially as you get north of Ashern. There are just no available ambulances any closer," she said. "And then finding an open ER is a challenge. Patient transport is significantly longer than it should be."

The already dysfunctional health-care system, as well as the effects of COVID on that system, is resulting in paramedics going on stress leave or some having suicidal thoughts, she said. And management isn't sympathetic.

"Many medics are on stress leave and most are experiencing burnout," said the paramedic. "Mental health has been completely ignored by our management, and with the staffing shortage and increased call volume, we could be finishing a call with a tragic pediatric death and then be im-

mediately put on another call without time to process and debrief. And that second call could potentially be just as traumatic. There is currently nothing being done to address mental health in the region."

Mandatory patient transfers, which the provincial government introduced last October, are ongoing she said. The IERHA has to make room for patients with COVID and that means sending IERHA patients out of their communities to other health regions.

"We're taking patients out of the region almost daily to places like Brandon, Grandview, Notre Dame, etc., and many times in the middle of the night. Most of these patients are quite old and cannot understand why they're being transported two to four hours away from their home to get care," said the paramedic. "I have sat and cried with a patient as we transported her three hours away from her home and family shortly before Christmas. She was certain she was going to die alone during the holidays. She held my hand and asked me not to leave her there."

In addition to stressing both the patients and the paramedics helping save their lives, the transfer protocol is taking ambulances away from the IERHA for most of a shift, she said. It has also resulted in IERHA patients not being taken to Winnipeg for tests.

"Another interesting point is that we now have Winnipeg residents in rural hospitals, and they're being transported back and forth by ambulance to the city for consults, tests or procedures," said the paramedic.

When asked how short-staffed they are, the paramedic said "severely," and the shortage existed before COVID arrived in 2020. They're down a minimum of four ambulances per shift. Sometimes that increases to 10 out of the 25 available ambulances.

She said there has been no "real" hiring over the past three years. And [management] has just started awarding internal positions to staff wanting to switch paramedic stations or go from casual to full time.

"I believe the amalgamation with Shared Health has created this pause in hiring and COVID just continued the pause," she said. "We're told that there's no money for new hires or more trucks [ambulances]."

There are three levels of paramedic in Manitoba: Level 1 primary care paramedics (PCPs), Level 2 intermediate care paramedics (ICPs) who have advanced cardiac life support skills, and advanced care paramedics (ACPs), whose skills are on par with STARS helicopter medics, she said. Shared Health "won't recognize" or



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

A paramedic crew responds to a Winnipeg call.



MAHCP

A MAHCP Twitter post laments the Manitoba government's response to the paramedic staffing crisis.

pay ACPs accordingly in the IERHA. Because of that, many paramedics aren't attracted to jobs in the region.

"Currently, [IERHA] paramedics make significantly less than those in Winnipeg while having a much larger scope of practice — meaning the skills and interventions we are trained to do and drugs we're able to give. We have significantly less helping hands (fire, police) in rural areas ... so we need to maintain care for potentially hours."

She said IERHA hospital closures could be mitigated by staffing ERs with advanced care paramedics.

"I'm not sure what that would look like, but other provinces use ACPs in ERs," said the paramedic.

Although the province announced the expansion of beds in three new rural hospitals (Selkirk, Portage and Neepawa), the paramedic said she doesn't know who's going to staff them because "we need to funnel some money into staffing retention and hiring."

Bob Moroz, president of the Manitoba Association of Health Care Professionals (MAHCP), which represents rural paramedics, said last week a combination of Manitoba not having "anywhere near enough paramedics," an omicron surge that's increasing call volumes as well as making para-

medics ill, and interfacility transfers (IFTs) is continuing to put "enormous" pressure on paramedics' ability to respond to calls for help.

IFTs are having a "domino effect" on Interlake communities and on communities across the province because moving a paramedic crew and an ambulance to other areas leaves the original area without coverage, he said.

"The IFTs that are continuing are putting an enormous strain on paramedics' ability to respond ... because we're moving them all around the province," said Moroz last week. "Paramedics are struggling with an inability to respond to calls that they can all hear on their radios. If someone is doing a transfer from, say, Ericksdale to Winnipeg, and they hear a call on the radio that there's someone desperately requiring an ambulance in Selkirk, they know there are no ambulances available."

Moroz said he's not only worried about the stress paramedics are being subjected to, but he also worries about residents living in some of the more remote areas of the Interlake should an ambulance be required.

"What happens when I need an ambulance? How long will it take if

Local skating clubs forge forward in spite of pandemic

By Jennifer McFee

Local skating clubs continue to glide forward during tough times with a great option for fun and fitness.

The Stonewall Skating Club offers the CanSkate program, which helps participants learn to skate while also focusing on skill improvement. In addition, the club offers a more advanced figure skating program.

"We have three great coaches — Keesha McCutcheon, Erin Bay and Leigh Nesbitt, with Katie Roy filling in for a few weeks," said club president Nancy Hoff.

"We also depend on our volunteer board and on our teen skaters who volunteer their time each week to help with CanSkate. Without these volunteers, we couldn't run our club."

Currently, the club has about 25 skaters involved in the CanSkate program and another 10 figure skaters. Figure skating runs from 4:15 to 6 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, followed by CanSkate from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

"Like most clubs, we are finding it challenging to stay up and running with COVID. We are short many board members and are only running with a small but dedicated board," Hoff said.

"Our CanSkater numbers have been quite good, but the numbers of skaters in the figure skating program has decreased a lot. We had a number of skaters not return after the forced break from COVID. We have made changes to the programs to help try to maintain a distance between the skaters as much as possible. It is a great

pandemic sport as it is minimal contact."

Coming up, the club is preparing for the Eastern Regionals in Winnipeg on Feb. 12.

They'll also be raising funds through an online auction on Facebook.

"The auction will run on our Facebook site 'Stonewall Skating Club Chase The Winter Blues Away Online Auction,'" Hoff said.

"We will be auctioning off many wonderful prizes donated by local businesses and our skating families."

In Teulon, the skating club currently has 21 CanSkaters who range in age from three to 11, plus six StarSkaters from age nine to 16.

Programs run Tuesdays at the Teulon arena, with StarSkate from 4:30 to 6 p.m. followed by CanSkate from 6:15 to 7 p.m.

"We have one main coach, Erin Bay, and five program assistants that help out during CanSkate," said club president Jennifer Greigson.

"One of our skaters, Kaitlyn Greigson, took her coaching course in January as well."

The Teulon Skating Club has been managing fairly well during the pandemic, she added.

"Most skaters come dressed and ready to go, so they just have to put skates on and go onto the ice. With cases being worse since December, skaters have also been wearing masks on the ice, and coaches and program assistants do their best to help without spending too much time in close



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Lucy Hoff, left, and Cameron Nesbitt show off their final move.

proximity. For example, they're using hula hoops as assists to help kids stand up," Greigson said.

"Parents are sitting more distanced from each other while watching. Masks and vaccine verification hasn't been an issue for our group."

The Teulon group also has some competitions coming up, and one of their skaters competed in the fall.

"We had a skater, Ember Neiser, attend the Super Skate competition in Winnipeg in November. She did great for her first ever competition," Greigson said.

"The Manitoba Open Competition that was supposed to take place in

Hazelridge in January has been postponed until March. Eastern Regionals is set to go Feb. 12 at Terry Sawchuk Arena in Winnipeg."

To help keep up with costs, the Teulon skate club runs Mom's Pantry and wreath fundraisers. They're currently selling tickets for a 50/50 draw that will take place at their Ice Show in March.

For more information about the Teulon Skating Club, email teulonskatingclub@hotmail.com. For more information about the Stonewall Skating Club, email stonewallskatingclub@gmail.com.

> PARAMEDICS, FROM PG. 17

I have a health attack, break my leg, or whatever the case may be, and I need help from a paramedic crew? Some of our places in the Interlake are quite remote," he said. "Manitobans need to be worried about this. They really need to be asking questions of the people making these decisions. What's going to happen when I call 911 and I need an ambulance and I'm 10 miles outside Ashern or on one of the First Nations territories? That's what people have to be asking."

MAHCP has been "asking" those questions and "pushing" those concerns for ages, but they've fallen on deaf ears, he said.

"The province and Shared Health continue to ignore our paramedic staffing crisis. There's still no plan to deal with any of this. The government and Shared Health appear satisfied with running our paramedics into the ground and short-changing citizens in rural communities with no ambu-

lances," said Moroz. "They seem to be just fine with that. They're not even acknowledging there's a crisis right now with our paramedic staffing levels."

That lack of acknowledgement and response is frustrating and demoralizing for paramedics who "give it their all every day," he said. Paramedics have told the union they feel as though they're "disposable." And paramedics don't grow on trees — it takes a number of years to train and recruit them.

Moroz said the government's geo-posting system, where ambulances are placed in area expected to get calls, is "ridiculous," and it's being used only because there aren't enough paramedics to staff ambulance stations. Even large stations sometimes have no ambulances available.

"Never mind our small stations. There are days when Selkirk, which is a major station in the Interlake, has

no ambulances at all. None," said Moroz. "Selkirk is what they call a castle station, a relatively major centre with more than one crew, but they were spread out so thinly overnight [this week] there was just no coverage."

Moroz said Manitoba needs an estimated 300-400 paramedics in order to provide the service we need.

"Above all, paramedics continue to worry about their ability to be there in time for Manitobans when they're needed," he said.

Alberta and B.C. have acknowledged they need more paramedics, he added, and are stepping up with plans to address it.

A spokesperson for Shared Health said paramedic staffing has been a challenge in "some rural parts of the province for many years," and that COVID has exacerbated existing staff vacancies.

"Shared Health is working to address the long-standing challenges in rural communities and has made recruitment a significant area of focus," he said. "During the pandemic,

these efforts have included redeployment, engagement of relief staff and callouts for recently retired or former paramedics to rejoin the workforce as part of our COVID response."

The organization is working on a number of initiatives to improve emergency response services, he said. They include the addition of 149.2 full-time equivalent paramedic positions since 2016, working with the College of Paramedics to obtain provisional licenses for new graduates, using a flexible dispatch model [geo-posting] that allows ambulances to be strategically positioned and increasing the use of low acuity transportation options with licensed and contracted partners.

"Shared Health recognizes and appreciates the continuing efforts of all health-care staff, including the important contributions made by paramedics and first responders, who work to ensure Manitobans can receive quality care when they need it, particularly as this pandemic continues to affect all of our lives," said the spokesperson.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Christensen to compete at 2022 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships

By Brian Bowman

The third time was the charm for Lundar's Kenady Christensen.

After failing twice to make Team Manitoba to compete at the National Aboriginal Hockey Championships, Christensen finally heard the great news that she made the team.

"It feels good, I've tried out for them a few years now so it feels good to finally make it," said Christensen, 17, on Monday afternoon.

Christensen feels she gained a lot of experience from previous tryouts and is a much better player now.

Tryouts for the team took place in the summer and then the fall. Christensen found out that she made the team last month.

This year's national championships will take place in Membertou, N.S., from May 7 to 14. Christensen, who is in Grade 12, has travelled quite a bit but has never been to Nova Scotia before. The trip will be a cool one, she said. In past years, Manitoba has done very well at the national Aboriginal hockey championships.

Christensen expects Manitoba to do

well once again.

"I've played with a few of (the girls) before and a lot of the players I've heard of," she said. "I know most of the girls playing and I think the team is going to be pretty good this year. There's a lot of great players on it."

Christensen is currently a centre with the Interlake Lightning U18 "AAA" hockey team. She led the team in points with nine (three goals, six assists) heading into last weekend's final three regular-season games.

Christensen is a good play-maker who is smart with the puck.

She scored the game-winning goal for Interlake as the Lightning defeated the Eastman Selects' 3-2 in overtime on Feb. 5.

"It was pretty good because we don't win a lot of games," Christensen said. "To win one that close was pretty exciting."

It was just Interlake's second win this season against 22 losses. But the Lightning are still having fun, she said, and improving each week.

"We've been doing better now," Christensen noted. "It's going good. I



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Interlake Lightning forward Kenady Christensen was selected to play for Team Manitoba at the 2022 National Aboriginal Hockey Championship.

think we've been getting more offensive zone time and getting more quality chances on net and finally capitalizing on them."

Close game



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Rams' Austin Unger drives to the basket against the Shaftesbury Titans during junior varsity boys' basketball action last Thursday in Stonewall. The Titans won the game 35-32.



Tight defence

TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Warren Collegiate Wildcats' Lauren Voth is closely guarded by the Stonewall Collegiate Rams' Hayley Emberly during junior varsity girls' basketball action last Friday in Warren. The Wildcats won the exhibition game 36-33.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Viterra Championships begins Wednesday in Selkirk

By Ty Dillelo

CurlManitoba announced last week that after extensive consultation, and with support from Sport Manitoba, the men's provincial Viterra Championship aligns with the current public health orders and will be proceeding as scheduled from Feb. 9 to 13 in Selkirk.

Additional safety protocols will be implemented to help ensure the safety and health of all involved. Therefore the competition will look a little different. The event is being held at the Selkirk Curling Club instead of the Selkirk Recreation Complex, where it was initially supposed to be held.

Only 20 tickets will be available per draw for purchase. If you're interested in a ticket for any of the draws, they are available for \$10 on the CurlManitoba website.

Unfortunately, Sportsnet will not be able to broadcast the semi-finals and finals as in past years. However, Curl-

Manitoba will be streaming one sheet from every draw for the whole event, including the semi-finals and finals. You can find the stream available on the CurlManitoba YouTube page.

West St. Paul's Mike McEwen enters the Viterra Championship as the top seed and overwhelming favourite at the event. McEwen, who has played at the last six Briers, is looking to get back to the national stage one more time with a squad that includes Reid Carruthers, Derek Samagalski and Colin Hodgson.

Jason Gunnlaugson of Morris Curling Club is the second seed. However, Gunnlaugson indicated on his Twitter account last week that he isn't comfortable competing at the event because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The rest of his team plans on playing and competing in his absence.

Gunnlaugson captured the 2020 Manitoba Viterra title, the last time the championship was staged. A year

later, he was selected by CurlManitoba and wore the buffalo at last year's Brier inside the Calgary bubble.

Gunnlaugson's team might be at this year's Brier. But if they are there, they will be without their skip.

"I take my role as a teammate and a leader very seriously, and it breaks my heart to potentially let my teammates down in some of the biggest tournaments of the year," Gunnlaugson wrote. "To preserve the integrity of the Wild Card process, I will also not participate in the Brier as a Wild Card this year if I do not participate in the Viterra tournament."

Winnipeg Beach's Colton Lott (Kyle Doering, Tanner Lott, Emerson Klimpke) enter the event as the third seed and are looking to do some damage. Team Lott team started the year with Pat Simmons at skip, but after the Olympic pre-trials, Simmons left the team, leaving Colton Lott to skip and bringing up Stonewall's Emerson

Klimpke to go from alternate to lead.

"We've played against the big dogs many times over the years, so we're feeling pretty good about our chances this year," said Kyle Doering. "We've had a good year, and things will hopefully come together for us at the right time in Selkirk this week."

Rounding out the top teams in the event are fourth seed Braden Calvert, fifth seed Corey Chambers, sixth seed William Lyburn, seventh seed Ryan Wiebe (which includes this journalist throwing third stones) and eighth seed Jacques Gauthier.

The 28-team modified double knockout bracket begins Wednesday morning at the Selkirk Curling Club and goes until Sunday afternoon's final. The winner of the event will represent Manitoba at the upcoming Tim Hortons Brier in Lethbridge, Alta., from March 4 to 13.



Mercs defeat Beavers in Carman

Staff

The Warren Mercs defeated the Beavers 5-4 in Carman in South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League regular-season action last Saturday.

Warren's goals were scored by Kyle Lundale, Wes Pawluk, Braydon MacDonald, Chase Faulkner and Johnny Lazo. MacDonald also had two assists.

Taylor Fisher, Braeden Beernaerts, Jake Dudar and Jack Lotscher scored for Carman. Dudar finished the game with three points.

Hayden Dola stopped 39 Carman shots.

On Feb. 1, the Mercs' game with the Winkler Royals was postponed due to inclement weather and poor road

conditions.

Warren hosted Winkler this past Monday in the final SEMHL regular-season game but no score was available at press time.

The playoffs will start with a one-game Survivor Series between Winkler and Altona on Friday at 7:30 p.m.

The Beavers will host Notre Dame on Saturday at 7 p.m. in the other one-game SEMHL Survivor Series.

The winner of each of these games will then face each other in a best-of-three series to move on to play the regular season champion, the Portage Islanders.

Warren and Morden will battle in the other semifinal series.





TRIBUNE PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG
Mercs' goaltender Hayden Dola stopped 39 Beavers' shots as Warren defeated Carman 5-4 in SEMJHL action last Saturday.

Come out and support your Warren Mercs

Stay tuned for official playoff schedule in next week's Tribune.

The Islanders, Bombers, and Mercs will get a rest as the remaining teams compete in a Survivor Series.



sports&recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Rams shut out Olympiens

Staff

The Stonewall Collegiate Rams played some outstanding defensive hockey once again.

Stonewall skated to a solid 3-0 home victory over the College Jeane-Sauve Olympiens in Winnipeg High School Hockey League action last Friday.

Adam Newcombe and Justis Hellegrands scored for the Rams in the first period and then Ty Woods tallied in the second.

Dray Sobkow posted his third shut-out of the season. He is now 9-1 during the regular season with an impressive 1.98 goals-against average.

Last Thursday, the Rams soundly defeated the Scorpions 6-2 in Lorette.

Stonewall's Tristan Shore and Newcombe scored first-period goals and then Woods and the Scorpions' Easton Kapelus traded goals in the

middle frame.

Logan MacDuff, Jace Woods and Reid Byle scored for Stonewall in the third while Trey Dixon replied for Lorette.

The Rams' Max VanHeyst had three assists in the game.

Sobkow earned the win in goal.

With the two victories, the Rams are now 12-4 to go along with two shoot-out wins and an overtime victory.

Stonewall has 42 points which puts them tied for second place with St. Paul's, five points back of the West Kildonan Wolverines.

Heading into this week's action, Stonewall had played one fewer game than West Kildonan and had three games in hand on St. Paul's.

Stonewall hosted College Beliveau in Warren this past Monday to start



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Rams' goaltender Dray Sobkow posted his third league shutout of the season as Stonewall defeated the College Jeane-Sauve Olympiens 3-0 last Friday.

a very busy week but no score was available.

St. John's Ravenscourt Thursday (7:45 p.m.) at Dutton Arena.

The Rams will play the Wolverines on Wednesday (4:15 p.m.) at the Seven Oaks Sportsplex before taking on

On Friday, Stonewall will battle College Gabrielle-Roy in Ile des Chenes. Puck drop is 3:15 p.m.

Stonewall hammers St. Boniface in MMJHL action

Staff

The Stonewall Jets came up with a huge road victory on Friday evening in Winnipeg.

Stonewall hammered the St. Boniface Riels 7-3 in Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League action.

Trailing 3-2 late in the second period, the Jets exploded for five unanswered goals. The final two goals of the game were with the Riels' goaltender pulled for an extra attacker. Stonewall finished the game with three shorthanded goals and a power-play marker.

Jets' goals were scored by Nolan Weihs (two), Dasek Sobkow, Nick Finsson (on the power play), Cole Emberly, Matthieu Meier and Kyle Van Deynze.

Chris Hince, with a pair, and Ben Howika replied for the Riels.

Josh Bond made 43 saves for the victory.

Last Wednesday, the Jets lost 8-3 to the Pembina Valley Twisters in Morris.

The Twisters led 3-2 in the third period before scoring five goals in a 10:51 span.

Jordan Gray led the Jets with a pair of goals and an assist against his former team while Emberly also tallied.

Pembina Valley goals were scored by TJ Matuszewski (two), Riley Goertzen (two), Travis Penner, Mike Heppner, Jacob Carels and Nathan Ayotte.

Matuszewski finished the game with five points.

The Twisters scored two power-play goals and a shorthanded one.

Stonewall will host the Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouges Twins on Wednesday (7:30 p.m.) and then visit the Transcona Railers on Friday (8 p.m.).

The Jets, now 9-23-3, will wrap up a busy week with a Sunday afternoon road game with the Raiders Jr. Hockey Club. Game time is 2 p.m.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Jets' Cole Emberly scored the game-winning goal in Stonewall's 7-3 win against St. Boniface Friday night.



Stonewall Jets Player Profile

#17 *Come out to support the Jets*

Dasek Sobkow
Forward, Shoots left,
6'2", 180 lbs



UPCOMING GAMES

- Wednesday, February 9**
Stonewall Jets vs Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins
at 7:30 @ VMSC
- Friday, February 11**
Stonewall Jets vs Tanscona Railer Express
at 8:00pm @ East End Arena
- Sunday, February 13**
Stonewall Jets vs The Raiders
at 2:00pm @ Seven Oaks Sportsplex

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Winnipeg makes wild comeback against U17 Lightning

Staff

Everything was going the right way for the Interlake Lightning U17 AAA team on Sunday as they built a 3-0 lead.

But then they gave up a shorthanded goal to the Winnipeg Wild's Wylie Garchinski late in the second period.

After that, everything unraveled.

The Wild scored five unanswered goals in the third period for a 6-3 comeback victory in Stonewall.

Ian Buors gave Interlake a 1-0 first-period lead and then the Lightning's Luke Sekundiak and Noah Oughton scored power-play goals in the second.

The Wild's third-period goals were netted by Parker Rolston (power play), Kai Smith, Rhylan Baxter, Garchinski and Evan Gradt.

Dylan LeClair stopped 35 Winnipeg shots.

On Friday, Interlake lost 4-2 to the Winnipeg Bruins in Warren.

Aven Cockerill gave Winnipeg a 1-0 lead and then the Bruins made it 3-0 with second-period goals from Nick Giasson and Cockerill.

The Bruins' Eric Voth then made it 4-0 with a power-play goal early in the third.

Sekundiak made things interesting

with a pair of goals, including a shorthanded one at 15:36.

LeClair was peppered with 51 Bruins' shots.

Interlake will host the Eastman Selects this Friday (7:30 p.m.) in Warren and then will take on the Winnipeg Thrashers Sunday (3:15 p.m.) at the Seven Oaks Sportsplex.

Interlake's U15 AAA team, meanwhile, was scheduled to battle the Brandon Wheat Kings in Warren on Sunday but no score was posted on the league website at press time.

Last Saturday, the Lightning were edged 6-5 by the Eastman Selects in Warren.

Interlake forward Blake Farthing had a great game with three goals and an assist. Oughton had a goal and three assists while Gavin Holod chipped in with four assists.

Skylar Farrington scored Interlake's other goal.

Brek Liske (two), Calyb Moore, Zachary Lansard, Owen Martin and Reece Gault replied for Eastman.

Nathan Meisner stopped 32 Selects' shots.

On Friday, Interlake was doubled 8-4 by the Winnipeg Thrashers White in Stonewall.

Cole Swanson, Talon Hogg, Oughton



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Interlake Lightning's Ty Sadowski carries the puck up ice against the Winnipeg Wild in U17 AAA action Sunday in Stonewall.

and Holod scored for the Lightning. Farthing had three assists in the game while Dainen Jacobson chipped in with a pair of assists.

Winnipeg goals were scored by Ariel Shuhtin-Poushkariov (two), Draycen Ralph, Charlie Cockriell, Carter An-

dersson, Nolan Fielding, Ethan Elias and Ryden Duchon.

The Lightning will host the Winnipeg Bruins Gold on Sunday in Warren and then the Winnipeg Hawks next Wednesday (7 p.m.) in Stonewall.

U18 male Lightning close out weekend with a win

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning scored three first-period goals in a dominating 6-1 victory over the Yellowhead Chiefs in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action Sunday afternoon in Shoal Lake.

Joel Purdom, Joel MacMillan (power play), and Hayden Wheddon (shorthanded) scored for the Lightning in the first period and then Purdom and Wheddon tallied in the second.

Evan Calder added a power-play goal in the third.

Rowin Richmond scored for Yellowhead in the middle frame.

Zach Meadows made 27 saves for the win.

On Saturday, Interlake was beaten 5-3 by Yellowhead.

The Chiefs took a 4-0 first-period lead on goals from Max Collyer, Nathan Maynes, Kurt Rookes and Cooper Kasprick.

After a scoreless second period, the Lightning pulled to within a goal as Calder, with a pair, and Alexander Kaczorowski tallied. Two of those goals came on the power play.

Calder finished the game with three points.

But the Chiefs iced the win when Ty Kirk scored an empty-net goal at 18:51 of the third.

Last Friday, Interlake lost 9-1 to the Eastman Selects in Beausejour.

Wheddon scored a second-period power-play goal for Interlake, assisted by Liam Foley and Purdom.

Eastman goals came from Isaac

Gordon (two), Kaycee Coyle, Ryder McLure, Carter Johannesson, Bryce Warkentine, Braden Berube, Merik Boles and Luke Mistelbacher.

Interlake, now 8-26-1, will host the Pembina Valley Hawks on Friday (7:30 p.m.) and then the Brandon Wheat Kings Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday (1:30 p.m.) in Teulon.

In U18 AAA female action, Interlake was doubled 4-2 by the Yellowhead Chiefs on Sunday in Shoal Lake.

Sarah Shewchuk and Tessa Stewart scored for the Lightning.

Yellowhead goals were tallied by Darbi Poole (two), Hannah Reagh and Trynity Turner.

Katelyn Dorsch stopped 47 Chiefs' shots.

Last Saturday, the Lightning over-

came a 2-0 deficit to defeat the Eastman Selects 3-2 in overtime in Lundar.

Emerson McAuley and Brooke Wadge led Interlake with a goal and an assist apiece. Kenady Christensen scored Interlake's other goal in overtime, assisted by Wadge and Vern Smarz.

Rachel Halldorson made 36 saves for the Lightning.

Interlake, now 2-22, will be busy this weekend with three games, beginning with a matchup with the Winnipeg Ice on Friday (8 p.m.). The Lightning will host the Central Plains Capitals on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and the Westman Wildcats Sunday (2:30 p.m.).

All three games will be played in Stonewall.

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Stonewall Teulon
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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

PROPOSED GENERAL BORROWING BY-LAW 02-22 FOR RESTORATION OF HISTORIC KILNS



In accordance with Section 169(5) and 174.1 of The Municipal Act the Town of Stonewall has scheduled a Public Hearing to present the following proposal to borrow \$500,000.00 (General Borrowing By-Law 02-22) at their Regular Meeting of Council on:

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 7:00 PM

A VIRTUAL MEETING LINK WILL BE AVAILABLE WITH THE MEETING AGENDA ON THE TOWN WEBSITE: www.stonewall.ca

Limited in-person seating is available at the Sunova Room in the Heritage Arts Center, however in-person attendees* must pre-register by contacting the Town Office by phone or email prior to March 1st at 12:00 PM.

*Pursuant to Town of Stonewall Policy 5.11 all members of the public attending council meetings in person are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and must provide proof of vaccination prior to entering the meeting.

General Borrowing By-Law 02-22 is proposed to pay for:

- A contribution towards the overall cost to restore and preserve the historic Kilns located in Stonewall Quarry Park
- The total estimated cost of the historical restoration project is \$3,500,000 to be funded as follows:
 - a. Save the Kilns Committee fundraising \$2,500,000
 - b. Town of Stonewall debenture \$500,000
 - c. Town of Stonewall Annual Contribution of \$100,000 annually for 2023 to 2027 (total \$500,000) from general funds
- The borrowing will be repaid over 20 years at a maximum interest rate of 5.0% per year
- The annual repayment amount will be no more than \$55,439.78 in the first year, and \$40,121.29 thereafter to be levied annually as part of the general municipal levy
- Based on the latest assessment roll, a mill rate of 0.15 mills will be required

At the hearing, Council will hear any potential taxpayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions or register an objection to the proposal.

Copies of the proposal to borrow and information about this capital project will be available for review and may be examined by any person on the Town of Stonewall website at www.stonewall.ca on **February 10, 2022**. Alternatively, a paper copy may be requested from the Town Office located at 293 Main Street by calling 204-467-7979.

Dated at the Town of Stonewall this 7th day of February, 2022 and issued pursuant to Section 169(6) of The Municipal Act.

Wally R. Melnyk, CMMA, CPA, CGA
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Stonewall



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Rockwood – Woodlands By-Law Enforcement & Animal Control Board

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The Rockwood – Woodlands By-Law Enforcement & Animal Control Board invites applications for the position of Casual By-Law Enforcement/ Animal Control Officer to assist with enforcement duties in the RM of Rockwood, RM of Woodlands, and other designated jurisdictions.

Qualifications will include:

- Valid Class 5 Manitoba Drivers License (with abstract)
- Current criminal record check
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to deal with the public in a courteous and effective manner
- Computer experience an asset or willing to learn

Applicants must be able to work weekends. Duties to commence immediately. Deadline for applications is 4:30 p.m. Wednesday February 23, 2022.

Applications to be submitted with references to:

Attention Justin Sowa
By-Law Enforcement
Box 4240
Stonewall, MB
R0C 2Z0

Please contact 204-461-0549 for further information. Detailed job descriptions available upon request. Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.



STONEWALL QUARRY DAYS 2022 IS SEEKING COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

Ready to help bring Quarry Days 2022 to life?

We are looking for volunteers who are able to help with our parade, car show, street vendors, set up or clean up committees!

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TOWN OF STONEWALL UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

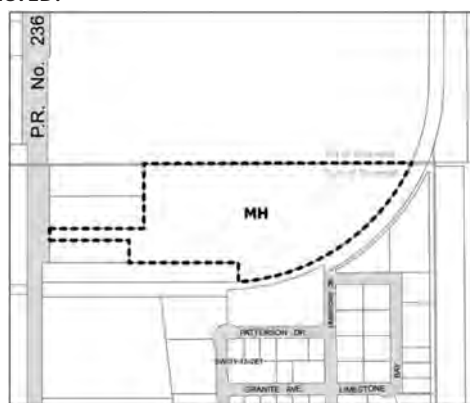
TOWN OF STONEWALL BY-LAW NO. 10/21
Being an AMENDMENT to the TOWN OF STONEWALL ZONING BY-LAW NO. 6/16, as amended.

HEARING LOCATION: THIS HEARING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND (PLEASE SEE ENCLOSURE FOR DETAILS).

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 6:35 PM

GENERAL INTENT: To rezone Pt. SW ¼ 36-13-02 EPM from "ML" Light Industrial Zone to "MH" Heavy Industrial Zone to accommodate the expansion of a wrecking and salvage business operation.

AREA AFFECTED:



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Eric Shaw, General Manager
South Interlake Planning District, 285 Main Street,
Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0
Phone: 204-467-5587

A copy of the above proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.

Note: Property Owners are responsible for notifying lessee



INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTENDING THE VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the following Public Hearing will be conducted VIRTUALLY on Wednesday, March 2, 2022:

- **6:35PM: Zoning By-Law Amendment By-Law No. 10/21 (applicant: Interlake Salvage & Recycling Inc.)**

For anyone who wishes to attend this Public Hearing by virtual means, you must pre-register by completing the following steps:

1. Pre-register by emailing the Town of Stonewall at info@stonewall.ca, and include the following information in your email message:
 - o Your name, civic address, mailing addresses (if different than the civic address), and your preferred email address;
 - o Your interest in the Public Hearing: to support, to oppose, or to attend for information; and
 - o Whether or not you plan to make a presentation before Council during the Hearing.
2. The virtual Public Hearing will be conducted via GoToMeeting. This application may be downloaded for free on your personal device. For more information, please visit the following webpage: <https://www.gotomeeting.com/en-ca/features/mac-windows-linux>.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Marilisa Voth, Town of Stonewall, at 204-467-7979.

Thank you for your cooperation!

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF:
The Estate of Louis Leo Frontaine, late of the R.M. of Rockwood, in Manitoba, deceased.
All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, P.O. Box 1400, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0 on or before the 16th day of March, 2022.
DATED at Stonewall, Manitoba this 3rd day of February, 2022.
GRANTHAM LAW OFFICES
Solicitor for the Executor

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

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THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD



INVITATION TO QUOTE 2022 HOURLY EQUIPMENT RATES

The Rural Municipality of Rockwood is inviting quotes for hourly rental rates of various equipment, for the purpose of establishing pay rates for the 2022 construction and maintenance season.

Quotation packages including submission documents are available at the Municipal Office, or from the RM's website, www.rockwood.ca

Quotations may be submitted to the Rural Municipality of Rockwood, Box 902, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0.

**Deadline for Quotation Packages is 4:00 p.m. (CST)
Wednesday, February 23, 2022**

Ian Tesarski, Director of Operations
Rural Municipality of Rockwood
Box 902, Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0
Phone: 204-467-2272 Fax: 204-467-5329
Email: ian.tesarski@rockwood.ca

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

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BIRTHDAY



You are not getting older...
You are increasing in value!
Happy 55th Lana

CARD OF THANKS



Thank you to family, friends and neighbours who attended Mom's 80th birthday celebration at Komarno Hall last fall. It was so good to visit in person. Also thank you to those who could not attend, but sent birthday wishes instead. We are grateful for all of you.
-The family of Teresa Capuska

BIRTHDAY



February 14, 2022
Happy 10th Birthday
to our special Granddaughter Maisie.
You are such a joy in our lives.
Big hugs and kisses!
-Love Boo Boo Nana, Grandad,
Bella and Cupar

IN MEMORIAM



Marian Burchuk (Balness)
May 27th, 1939 - February 10, 2021
Those we love can never be,
More than a thought away;
For as long as there's a memory,
They live in our hearts to stay.
-Peter, Shannon, Elanna, Rob and Lisa
Dale, Skyler, Coco

IN MEMORIAM



Rob Broadfoot
September 4, 1969 - February 9, 2021
Wish I could go back to the day
When Angels came and took you away.
I wanted to hold your hand so tight
Kiss you gently and say goodnight.
And then just before you had to go,
I would tell you how much I love you so.
-Love Mom and family

IN MEMORIAM

Kunzelman
Rhoda
February 9, 2015
Russell
October 12, 2011
Lyll
August 9, 2008
We cannot bring the old days back,
When we were all together;
But loving thoughts and memories
Will live with us forever.
-Lovingly remembered by
your family and forever in our hearts

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OBITUARY



Thaddeus (Ted) L. Mialkowski
September 3, 1943 - February 2, 2022

It is with deep sadness that the family announces the sudden passing of Ted Mialkowski, on February 2, 2022, at the age of 78 in Rockwood, MB.

Ted will be lovingly remembered by his wife Christine and children Teddy (Katia), Jacqui, Jeff (Michelle), and Phillip as well as grandchildren, Ewyn, Alfred, Lucy, Rodri, Mateo. He will also be missed by his brother Wally, sister-in-law Lorraine, and family members including nieces, nephews, and so many wonderful, cherished friends and neighbours.

Ted was predeceased by parents, Joseph and Leonia, sister Florence, brother-in-law Carl, sister-in-law Jean, brother Conrad, and other dear friends and relatives.

Born on September 3, 1943 in Winnipeg, Ted lived his entire life in Rockwood, Manitoba.

Ted became an electrician in the 1960s and started his career at Kummen-Shipman Ltd. where he excelled in his trade as a well-respected leader. He continued with his own successful electrical company, known for his generosity, quality workmanship, and integrity.

In 1971, Ted married Christine in London, England, his wife of over 50 years. Together they raised four children in the Rockwood area.

In retirement, he loved to keep busy in the shop that he built with his sons. When visitors arrived, Ted always had time to stop for a coffee, and will always be remembered as a people person with his funny, good-natured attitude.

His qualities will continue to inspire his children and grandchildren. He will be dearly missed, and his memory will forever be carried in our hearts.

A funeral service will be held at a later date in Spring 2022.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Stony Mountain, or the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Condolences may be left at mackenziefh.com

MACKENZIE FUNERAL HOME STONEWALL
(204) 467-2525 • info@mackenziefh.com



OBITUARY



Eric Waldemar Ammeter

Peacefully on January 30th, 2022 at the age of 92 our amazing Uncle Eric was called home to rest.

He was predeceased by his parents Gottfried and Rosa; brothers Gerry, Holdy, Roland, Hank and nephew Eugene.

He leaves to cherish his memory his sister Trudy (John) Magas; sisters-in-law Silvia, Lydia, Alwyn and special friend Dorothy; nephews Geordie Ammeter (Jon), Bill (Diane) Ammeter; nieces Pam (Howie) Campbell, Kathy (Wayne) Harrison, Susan Magas (Paul), Robyn Magas, Erin Magas (Mark), Heather (Martin) Lepine and Linda (Dan) Park; great-nephews Elisha, James, Jessie, Ryan, Elliot, Alex, Quin and Bryce; great-nieces Katie, Rosa, Deanna, Samantha, Hannah, Erica, Tori, KC and Danielle; great-great-nieces Ella, Lena, and Berlyn.

Uncle Eric was the first member of his family to be born on Canadian soil on September 4th, 1929 in Winnipeg. He grew up in Starbuck and in 1949 his family moved to Stony Mountain. Uncle Eric had a profound faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and he always felt grateful and blessed for family, friends and his health allowing him to farm into his 80's. Farming was always in Uncle Eric's blood and he never thought of doing anything else, he also had a great love of gardening and a great game of crib. Through his adventures of curling, bowling and hunting he developed many great friendships at home as well as many from the States. He made the best wine and had a lifelong love of woodworking. Uncle Eric's travels took him from Alaska to Arizona as well as Florida. He was also a proud member of the Stonewall Legion. Uncle Eric was at his happiest when surrounded by his family. He loved each and every one of us and made sure we knew it.

Thank you to the staff at Quarry Ridge Pharmacy, Stonewall Hospital, Dr. Graham, Christine Skakum (Palliative Care) and all the home care workers. A special thank you to Diane Ammeter for her care, strength, expertise and unconditional love.

Funeral service was held on Saturday, February 5th at the Stonewall United Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Siloam Mission or the Salvation Army as Uncle Eric had the biggest heart and believed in helping others.

"As long as there is love and memory, there is no true loss"



Announcements

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OBITUARY



Nancy Fleury
February 19, 1946 - January 31, 2022

With the heaviest of hearts, we sadly write to inform of the sudden passing of Nancy Fleury (Friederici), of Teulon, Manitoba ("Nanny") at the age of 75.

This incredible lady will be forever missed by the great love of her life, her best friend, devoted and adoring husband of 57 years, Eugene, and her beloved daughters Laurie (Angus) and Cathy (Keith). Also left to mourn and celebrate her life are granddaughters Brandy (Tony), Nikki (Marty) and step-grandchildren Megan (Moe), Alexandra, and Tyler (Kristy), along with great-grand-daughters Toni, Marley (Brandy), expectant grand-baby (Nikki), and Elizabeth (Alex), Darius and Rae-Anne (Megan). She is also dearly missed by her life-long best friend, Ellie Hodges of BC, and her extended family, which she adored.

Mom was born in a one bedroom farmhouse on February 19, 1946 to Otto and Martha Friederici of Arborg, Manitoba and was one of eight children, the youngest of four daughters. She was pre-deceased by her parents, brother Herman, and by her grandson Christopher (Cathy) but is survived by loving sisters Helen Puhach, Tillie Twohig, and Shirley Carbert (Don), and brothers Eric, Albert (Judy), and Arthur (Betty).

Those who knew her will not soon forget the great love she had for family, her strong compassion for all, her desire to do things right, her strong determination, and that wicked, sometimes inappropriate sense of humour that endeared her to all. Her go-to quote was "couldn't give a rat's arse", which would always bring a smile to our faces because most times she really couldn't. She was that liberated, and told it like it was, even if it wasn't what you wanted to hear. She taught us that when life got tough, get tougher, and yet to always find the way to be kind. She was hard working, compassionate, so humble yet strong, always loving and honest, caring and forgiving and she always, always put the needs of others before her own. Her favourite of the four seasons was spring, as she had a deep love of plants and gardening - her favourite flowers being lilies and roses. She loved camping, fishing, fireside hotdogs, and sometimes just to go for a car ride in the countryside to enjoy Dad's company. She was also an amazing cook, making something extraordinary out of seemingly nothing, passing her passions through generations to come.

She was also the strongest believer in helping others, and quickly saw the need to help locally when Mom and Dad moved to Teulon in 1977. She started many local charitable organizations including the Teulon Christmas Cheer Board, the local Food Bank, and she was an avid catalyst for donating to those in need, ultimately receiving the Governor-General's award for Community Service in recognition of her hard work.

It's impossible to sum up in a few paragraphs the essence of who she was, but the best of her will be carried in us all for our lifetimes and beyond. She is forever loved and missed by those fortunate enough to have known her.

As hard as it is for us to say goodbye, it's time for you to rest in peace, beautiful lady. You will always be remembered with the greatest of affection. Your legacy lives on in us all.

A heartfelt thank you to the nurses and doctors at Stonewall Memorial Hospital for their kindness and compassion to ensure mom was comfortable.

Her loving family will be hosting a celebration of her life in the coming months.

In lieu of flowers, we respectfully request donations in her name to your local food bank.

kl
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OBITUARY



John Newransky
December 20, 1942 to February 5, 2022

John Newransky was born at Gronlid, Saskatchewan, and moved to Reston, MB, in 1945.

At age nine John found faith in Jesus, and from age 14 his life goal was to invest his time in children's ministry. He taught children in camps, VBS, Sunday School, Junior Church, Good News Clubs, Brigades, Awana, and Child Evangelism classes.

When John was a child, his father became very ill. John began milking cows when he was 5-6 years old, and did much of the farming from when he was nine. He had to drop out of grade 10 to farm full time.

At 18 John went to work at a mine in Thompson, MB where he earned a steam engineering ticket.

In 1963 the family moved to a farm at Brooksby, SK. John began studies at Nipawin Bible Institute, and graduated in 1966. He joined the Canadian Sunday School Mission (CSSM) to do children's ministries, and after marrying Doris Sydor in 1968, they began working as full-time missionaries with the CSSM at Beaver Lake Bible Camp, near Flin Flon. Two years later their first child, Steven, was born. During that time, John completed his grade 12 studies at the local high school.

In 1973, when their second child, Debra Jean, was two weeks old, the family left Denare Beach, SK, to move to 100 Mile House, B.C. For the next seven years John was Director and Developer of the Lake of the Trees Bible Camp.

In 1982 the family moved to Dauphin, MB, where John built a career as a contractor. He built and installed kitchen cabinets and windows, and built nine houses, four in and near Dauphin. He also developed a rental business in Dauphin. He worked at many jobs, the last one being the renovation of the Kal Tire building in Dauphin. John was suddenly forced to retire in 2005 when he developed a severe heart condition and received a pacemaker. Later that year he was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

Outside of ministry and work, John loved many hobbies. He organized a hockey team, fished and hunted. He loved birds and had many feeders in the yard. The last few years he gave up hunting and enjoyed the deer taking refuge in the yard. He was devoted to family, travelling many miles to be with his parents and siblings, and loved being a parent and grandpa. John enjoyed games and pranks, always getting a good chuckle when he could catch someone out. He loved music, playing the guitar and singing. In his early years he had enjoyed square dancing and playing fiddle. John explored his artistic side crafting wood and glass, as well as story-telling and documenting with photography and film. John loved people, and dearly loved his coffee time, considering anyone in talking distance a friend with whom he could pass the time. His caregivers at Rosewood Lodge Personal Care home experienced his smile and joy in their presence even when he could no longer communicate as he once did.

John leaves behind his wife Doris, son Steve and daughter Debra Jean, son-in-law Bruce, and grandchildren Emelia, Corrin, Jacob, and Jessica.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be given to Rosewood Lodge, Stonewall, where he was lovingly cared for by Dr. Graham and the staff, or to CSSM, now called "One Hope Canada".

Condolences can be left <http://klfuneralservices.ca>.

The memorial service will be live-streamed on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. CST. Click here for the link to the service and for other information: <http://funeral.gracenote.ca>.

kl
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