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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER
 Fluffy's Pet Grocery owner Jill Gillespie and team member Joe Thievin had the honour of cutting the cake for the official grand opening on Saturday. The store is located on the corner of highways 7 and 17 (east side of Teulon).

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HAPPY Valentine's DAY

New pet grocery store opens amid pandemic

By Jennifer McFee

It's all paws on deck at a brand new pet store in Teulon, which is sure to be the cat's meow.

On Saturday, Feb. 6, Fluffy's Pet Grocery opened its doors at the intersection of highways 7 and 17 to offer a local hub for pet owners.

For owner Jill Gillespie, this pet project has been years in the making.

"I started the business plan about two years ago, and it wasn't part of the plan to open in the middle of COVID, but that's just how it worked out and I'll have to deal with it," said Gillespie, who lives just outside Argyle.

"It's an essential service since our pets need food to survive. From the feedback that I've had already, people are very happy to have something close and accessible. That's the goal in being where I am."

As for the location, renovations have been underway since July.

"The building has been vacant for more than 10 years. It was an old gas station so there was a lot that needed to be done, everything from taking out the flooring to building walls," she said.

"I had some amazing help with that. I have good friends and family who have helped me get to where I am. I will never be able to thank them enough for all that they've done."

An animal lover at heart, Gillespie owns eight Pomeranians, a St. Bernard mix and multiple cats — although none of them is named Fluffy. She began her career as a veterinary technician after studying at Red River College from 2002 to 2004.

"I have studied pet nutrition since the beginning of my tech life. I have good quality food, nothing that you'll find at the grocery store or Walmart," she said.

"It's very important to me that your pets have the best nutrition because I feel that good nutrition makes pets as healthy much as possible."

At the same time, Gillespie has been gaining knowledge about essential oils and herbs for pets over the past few years.

"I've been taking more of a herbal approach to any sort of health con-



The memory tree was painted by Kim Masiak, left, and Patricia Tschanen, right, for owner Jill Gillespie.



Fos-si-bi-li-ties has a display of rock art prints for sale.

cerns. There are quite a few herbal tinctures that can be helpful in the treatment or prevention of different issues for pets," she said.

"I research a lot so that I can get what's best for the pets. My dogs have had all kinds of health issues — liver disease, kidney disease, heart disease cancer. It's a matter of trying to manage them with unconventional ways so that they're comfortable."

In addition to essential oils and herbal treatments, Gillespie plans to stock probiotics and supplements for pets.

At the same time, Gillespie is a Canadian distributor for a sled dog company called Howling Dog Alaska. She can provide all the equipment needed to sled with dogs — and even just regular walking harnesses so owners can get outside with their pets.

While launching her own business,



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Fluffy's Pet Grocery team celebrated their grand opening on Saturday. Pictured left to right: Kim Masiak, Joe and Nadine Thievin, Patricia Tschanen, Murray Gillespie, Jill Gillespie, Evan Brook and Val Gillespie.



The Cupcakes Creations Corner has a little bit of everything from male and female wraps, cozy, fleece pillow beds, onesies, jackets, snuffle mats, snuggle sacks, couch/seat covers, tug toys and even catnip toys for our kitty friends.

Gillespie is also dedicated to supporting other small businesses and causes that are close to her heart. She will be selling products and collecting donations for Cupcakes Pommy and Friends Rescue, and she'll also have a donation bin set up for Before the Bridge Senior K-9 Rescue.

"I also have handmade products from small businesses in the Interlake," she said.

"It's amazing to see people come together in a small town to support everybody and that's essentially what we're all here for. We'll support other local small businesses as much as we

can since we all need to survive."

Gillespie is available to do nail trims for pets, and she'll also offer a tub for self-serve dog washes by appointment. As well, a delivery service will be set up in the future, depending on the demand. Customers will even be able to find some gift ideas for the humans in their lives.

Fluffy's Pet Grocery is now open Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 204-886-0428, email fluffys@mymts.net or visit the Facebook page called Fluffy's Pet Grocery.

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Backyard ice climbing wall keeps Stony Mountain resident active

By Sydney Lockhart

Stony Mountain resident brings ice climbing to his own backyard to avoid travelling and public spaces during the pandemic.

Ryan Munro, 40, built a 28-foot-tall ice wall in his yard to be able to continue ice climbing this winter.

Munro has been rock climbing for decades and ice climbs in the winter because the Manitoba weather doesn't permit rock climbing year-round.

"It's my first attempt at making an ice wall," he said. "It worked out well this year so next I'll attempt to try and go bigger."

He attached orange snow fence to one of the tallest trees in his yard with some wood he secured parallel to the ground about 30 feet in the air.

"You run water through a sprinkler system, and you have to have something for it to build off of otherwise you have a skating rink," he said.

Munro spent approximately a week running the water on the fence all day, every day, for the ice to form into the wall shape.

"Unfortunately, most of the season has been quite warm. I'm surprised I got it that big," he said.

Munro added that if the temperature is above -10 Celsius, the water tends to run down instead of freezing in place.

"We've noticed pretty much every car passing by slowing down and people rolling their window down yelling 'What is that?'" he said.

Ontario is where Munro usually likes to go ice climbing in the winter, but with the current pandemic situation he didn't want to be travelling anywhere.

"It's better to stay home," he said.

Munro added that he has only had a couple of his



The Ice wall is 28 feet tall.

friends who ice climb over on rare occasions when restrictions would allow it.

"I had climbed the local ice tower in Winnipeg before, but with COVID not everything is open," he said.

Munro solo climbs multiple times throughout the week, doing laps on the wall. He uses his ice axes, harness and ice cleats to make sure he is safe and doesn't fall to the ground.

As he chips away at some parts of the wall, he can go back and add more water to stabilize it again.

Munro said he plans on making another wall next year because he enjoyed getting use out of his first attempt this year.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY SYDNEY LOCKHART
Stony Mountain resident Ryan Munro made his own ice climbing wall in his backyard.

Stonewall council to get concept design for VMSC expansion

By Jennifer McFee

On Feb. 3, council hosted a public hearing related to a conditional use application from Andrew Aiken of Foresight Real Estate Ltd. for a two-storey multi-family dwelling. The 10-unit dwelling

would be located on a 15,000-square-foot lot that is currently vacant at the corner of 3rd Street N and 4th Avenue E., owned by Sevlar Management Ltd. The South Interlake Planning Dis-

Continued on page 5

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Province to take a cautious approach to reopening: Roussin

By Lorne Stelmach

The province was poised to further ease restrictions this week, but the chief public health officer continued to stress a cautious approach while COVID-19 case numbers continue to improve in Manitoba.

Dr. Brent Roussin acknowledged the increasing pressure to more widely reopen the economy at the Monday update, but he reminded Manitobans about our recent history when the second wave of the virus hit in the fall.

"We can't undo all of this hard work by simply opening everything up again," said Roussin. "We know there's hope on the horizon with the vaccine. We know there's hope because our numbers have been coming down as well, but we have to continue to be cautious."

"We can see that the restrictions that we have in place are quite tough. They affect Manitobans to different

degrees, but they are working," he continued. "In a lot of circumstances, people have stepped up and done a great job, but we've been here before."

"We continually hear about how safe everything is to open up and operate, but our numbers don't describe that; our numbers in October show it's not safe to open everything up all at once, and our restrictions show that they work."

"Our numbers today are again trending in the right direction. These numbers are the lowest we've seen since early in the fall. ... This is all a result of the work of Manitobans."

On Monday, public health officials reported a third consecutive day of the lowest case counts since the fall.

The Interlake-Eastern total case breakdown by district as of Monday, was as follows: A total of 232 cases, up 89 cases from Feb. 1 with 240 active cases, 2,057 recovered, 18 currently in

the hospital with one of those in ICU and 35 deaths.

Arborg/Riverton 69 recovered cases; Beausejour 136 recovered; Eriksdale/Ashern 17 active cases, 140 recovered and 7 deaths; Fisher/Peguis 26 active cases and 325 recovered, 3 deaths; Gimli 29 recovered; Northern Remate 177 active cases, 289 recovered and 4 deaths; Pinawa/Lac du Bonnet 53 recovered; Powerview/Pine Falls 10 active case and 142 recovered and one death; Selkirk 93 recovered and 2 deaths; Springfield 161 recovered and 11 deaths; St. Clements 90 recovered and 1 death; St. Laurent 17 recovered; Stonewall/Teulon 145 recovered and 4 deaths; Unknown District 199 recovered and 1 death; Whiteshell 25 recovered and Winnipeg Beach/St. Andrews 4 active cases and 14 recovered and 1 death.

State of emergency extended another month

The Manitoba government has extended the state of emergency once again in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The extension began last Tuesday and runs for another 30 days.

Manitoba first declared a state of emergency last March. It has been extended every month since.

"This extension marks the one-year implementation of Manitoba's state of emergency and has been the longest period in a state of emergency in the province's history," said Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler, minister responsible for the Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization.

"Our government recognizes that there is still a lot of work to be done against the fight of COVID-19 and will continue to take the necessary precautions for the health and safety of all Manitobans."

New public health orders effective Feb. 12

Submitted by Manitoba government

Following feedback from Manitobans and advice from public health leaders, the province is loosening a variety of restrictions while ensuring protocols are in place to protect Manitobans from the risks of COVID-19, Premier Brian Pallister and Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief provincial health officer, announced Tuesday.

"Today is another big day for Manitobans, especially for our local business owners who are eager to safely reopen their doors, and provide the goods and services that Manitobans have missed the past few months," said Pallister.

The orders will formalize the following changes for all of Manitoba, replacing the General COVID-19 Prevention Orders made on Jan. 28 and the Northern Manitoba COVID-19 Prevention Orders made on Feb. 1, 2021. The orders will take effect at 12:01 a.m. on Feb. 12 and will last for three weeks.

The orders include the following changes, with further pandemic safety measures in place:

- allowing restaurants and licensed premises to reopen at 25 per cent capacity with patron groups limited to members of the same household only;
- allowing outdoor rinks to reopen for casual sports as well as organized practices and games, with multi-team tournaments not permitted;
- allowing gyms, fitness centres and yoga studios to reopen at 25 per cent capacity;
- allowing indoor sporting facilities such as rinks, gym-

nastic clubs and martial arts studios to reopen at 25 per cent capacity for individual instruction only;

- allowing places of worship to hold regular religious services if a service does not exceed 10 per cent of usual capacity or 50 people, whichever is lower;
- allowing self-help groups for persons dealing with addictions or other behaviours to hold meetings at 25 per cent capacity of the premise where meetings take place;
- allowing museums, art galleries and libraries to operate at 25 per cent capacity;
- allowing personal service businesses, such as those providing pedicures, electrolysis, cosmetic application, tanning, tattooing or massage services to reopen at 25 per cent capacity;
- allowing photographers and videographers to offer services to individual clients or those residing in the same household in addition to providing services at weddings, with the exception of visiting client homes; and
- allowing the film industry to operate fully with physical distancing and other safety measures in place.

"These new orders allow us to resume more activities and services we enjoy, but we cannot let our guard down yet," said Roussin. "We will continue to carefully monitor COVID-19 developments and case numbers to ensure we protect each other and our health-care system. Manitobans need to continue to follow the fundamentals at all times including staying home when sick, frequent hand-washing and wearing masks. We all have a part to play in

keeping our COVID-19 curve down so we can continue making measured progress towards getting back to the things we love."

The new orders also bring the entire province under the same restrictions, where the northern region had previously been under separate orders to curb the spread of COVID-19 in the region.

Under the new orders, northern Manitoba will see the changes listed above in addition to the restrictions in place over the last three weeks for the rest of the province including:

- household visitor restrictions of up to two designated people,
- visits of five people plus members of a household on an outdoor private property,
- retail stores open at 25 per cent capacity or 250 people maximum with adequate physical distancing, and
- non-regulated health services, hair salons and barbershops open with 25 per cent capacity and adequate physical distancing.

Since Feb. 4, over 33,000 responses were provided on the proposed changes to the orders.



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Commodity groups upset with provincial ag minister

By Evan Matthews

With proposed changes to the AgriStability Program on the table, Manitoba commodity groups say if the province does not embrace those changes, the future of the local agricultural industry is in peril.

Twenty commodity groups — including Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP), Manitoba Beef Producers, Dairy Farmers of Manitoba, Keystone Potato Producers, among 16 others — are displeased with the provincial Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development Minister Blaine Pedersen.

The 20 commodity groups sent a letter to the Manitoba Government asking to ratify changes to the AgriStability program. The federal government proposed the changes at its agriculture ministers' meeting on Nov. 27.

"Producers and farm groups have sent a unanimous message of support for the proposal and need to know what Manitoba has decided. The reference margin limit (RML) has a large impact on (producers') eligibility for AgriStability," said KAP president Campbell, suggesting AgriStability would be improved by eliminating the RML.

"With time running out, it remains unclear if Manitoba will support these enhancements or walk away, and leave millions of dollars on the table."

He further emphasized that to ignore the suggested changes would be an abject failure to protect Manitoba producers and would jeopardize the provincial agricultural industry into the future.

What is the RML?

The most significant change the federal government suggested was to remove the RML from the AgriStability program.

According to Campbell, the RML is an equation factoring in revenues and expenditures, and whether or not a producer has experienced revenue losses significant enough to "hit the trigger," on the AgriStability — insurance — program.

By removing the RML, commodity groups suggest the program will be simplified and have a more accessible trigger for lower-cost operations.

Although commodity groups have stated publicly that the proposed changes are still less than ideal, the proposed changes are a step in the right direction and an acceptable compromise.

The groups also stated a proposed increase in coverage from 70 per cent to 80 per cent would make the program more effective for those who suffer a significant loss.

Minister's response

But the minister disagreed with commodity groups in his response on Jan. 26. He said the proposed changes do not address many of the outstanding

issues associated with the program.

Referencing the elimination of the RML, Pedersen said while payments to some sectors would increase, it would not address concerns related to "predictability, competitiveness and timeliness."

"The increase of compensation rate will largely benefit program participants who already trigger payments most frequently, but does not address equity, complexity, timeliness or predictability," said Pedersen.

"Although development of these long-term options is ongoing, industry supported the continued development of these potential alternatives, including more insurance options to cover risk."

"It is vital that government and industry partners focus their concerted efforts and resources to create real and long-lasting improvements to the Business Risk Management (BRM) that work for our producers."

But the minister's response is vague and insufficient in the eyes of many, including KAP.

Campbell said KAP has continually called on both the provincial and federal governments to strengthen BRM programming for producers. Through the existing Canadian Agricultural Partnership framework, BRM

programs can, with some adjustment, provide effective industry support, according to Campbell.

But the time to adjust is now.

"As we look at business models and risk producers take these days, if the government is not willing to ensure they do their job with regards to protecting our export markets and insuring we have sound and reasonable means to get our product to export; if they are not willing to stand up for trade deals that have been developed; why as a producer should I bear the brunt of their inability to look after what I have built my business model around?" asked Campbell, speaking to evolution of the canola market in Manitoba is one of the most exported crops in the province. China put sanctions on two Manitoba-based companies in 2020 as a result of federal trade negotiations, which resulted in a significant market drop.

"Now I, as a producer, without changes to the program, am bearing the brunt of that. We need more stability," he said, describing another circumstance last summer in which the rail companies could not get enough product to the point of export.

In that situation, Campbell said the producers lived up to their end of the bargain in producing crops, but the transportation sector of the industry couldn't live up to its end. Campbell said, again, it was producers who bore the brunt.

"To disregard this issue, and ignore suggested changes, suggests the minister will not stand up for Manitoba's agriculture industry."

"TO DISREGARD THIS ... SUGGESTS THE MINISTER WILL NOT STAND UP FOR MANITOBA'S AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY."

> VMSC, FROM PG. 3

district recommended that council defer their decision until the applicant attempts to address several design issues.

The planning district suggested that the applicant be granted more time to provide a landscape concept plan, a revised site plan and a revised building design that includes revised exterior elevation

drawings, 3D renderings and floor plans.

Council adjourned the hearing on the application to be reconvened on March 3 at 7:40 p.m.

Council passed the final two readings to repeal Stonewall's Sunday shopping bylaw. The provincial government changed provincial leg-

islation in late 2020 that makes the local bylaw unenforceable.

- The town appointed Mike Dola as the municipal weed inspector. Legislation requires the town to identify a weed inspector each year.

- Council appointed Scatliff + Miller + Murray Inc. to complete some work related to a concept design for a potential expansion to the Veterans Memorial Sports Complex.



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Reading offers an unrivalled escape

By Evan Matthews

Do you remember *The Pagemaster*? It's a 1994 animated film with a star-studded cast featuring Macaulay Culkin, Christopher Lloyd, Sir Patrick Stewart and Whoopi Goldberg.

The premise, as listed on Rotten Tomatoes, is a young boy seeks shelter from a terrible storm inside a nearby — and very creepy — library.

In the library, he is transformed into an animated illustration and has to overcome an array of challenges taken from classic books — *Moby-Dick* and *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, as a couple examples — to return to the real world.

For adults it's not the most engaging watch necessarily. But for a young child, what a ride.

It perfectly encapsulates what reading can provide a person, aside from the often-discussed benefits such as mental stimulation and brain strengthening, improved vocabulary and sleep aid.

The film is topical given that February is I Love to Read Month in our

province.

Reading offers an escape from the real world; actually, it offers many.

How many of us enjoy television, video games, sports, over consumption of food and drink, drugs and/or alcohol?

Not to say any of these things are negative (in moderation and with balance), but why is reading looked at so differently, like a chore? For so many of us, re-discovering our love for reading is re-defining our relationship with books.

From the fictional fantasy realm of medieval dungeons and dragons or the sci-fi realm of aliens and time travel to the non-fictional realm of historical biographies and/or event-based reading — these are just a few examples.

But the examples illustrate the point: there truly is something for everyone, if a person is willing to work to find a book that appeals to them.

Reading offers any person an opportunity sometimes unavailable even in the real world: instantaneous change

of scenery to a different place, time or perspective.

Maybe the most beautiful aspect to reading is the vastness of what's available to you.

In the reading community, a common saying is, "never read a book you don't like." There are just too many out there. If you don't like one, don't waste your time. Put it down and pick up another.

An Interlake educator said this week, "If a person says they don't like to read, it's more likely they just haven't found the right book."

To build on that statement, we now live in a time that you can also take in a book in different ways: e-books or audio books, or social networking websites like goodreads.com.

But to say "I don't like to read," is a lazy perspective. What you're saying is "I don't (know what I) like to read," and it's worth exploring.

You won't regret it, and you might just find yourself saying, "I Love to Read."

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:
letters@stonewallteulontribune.ca

Funding falls short for fifth year

The provincial government's failure to adequately fund public education, for five years in a row, will have dire and long-lasting effects on the delivery of education and student outcomes for Manitoba students.

"The government boasts that this is the most funding public education has ever received, but that's only

half the story," said Manitoba Teachers Society (MTS) president James Bedford. "What is missing from this narrative is the fact that this funding is not enough to meet the increasing needs of Manitoba's K-12 student population."

Bedford also said that increased resources will be required to meet stu-

dents' recovery learning needs following the pandemic.

Today's investment of 1.56 per cent continues the government's trend of funding public education below the rate of inflation. When capital funding is deducted from the total, the amount of funding going into Manitoba classrooms is barely 1 per cent.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has re-

Continued on page 7

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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY EDWARD PENNER

Sundogs on either side of the Stony Mountain Penitentiary were picture perfect for the drive last Friday. Sundogs are coloured spots of light that develop due to the refraction of light through ice crystals. They are located approximately 22 degrees either left, right, or both, from the sun, depending on where the ice crystals are present. The colours usually go from red closest to the sun, out to blue on the outside of the sundog. Sundogs are also known as mock suns or parhelia, which means "with the sun." Blizzards, rainbows, lightning storms, beach photos, snow and more — email to weather@stonewallteulontribune.ca.

Province increases funding to public school divisions

Submitted by Manitoba government

Manitoba's public schools system will see another increase in the Funding of Schools Program for the 2021-22 school year of \$20.8 million, or 1.56 per cent, for a total \$1.35 billion, the highest total investment in Manitoba's history, Education Minister Cliff Cullen announced Friday.

The increase includes \$6.7 million, or a 0.5 per cent increase to base funding for public schools, and this year's commitment includes an additional \$5.5 million for special needs funding for school divisions, along with other grants. This special needs funding supports students with disabilities and with exceptional needs, providing student specific supports determined by school teams such as educational assistants or assistive technology.

"This announcement continues our commitment to the success of

students by making record levels of annual investment in our student's education while also keeping our students, teachers and staff safe," said Cullen. "Our education system is one of the best funded in Canada, and parents need to know that our government will continue to support their children's futures."

Manitoba has the third-highest spending per student in Canada at \$14,815, after Saskatchewan and New Brunswick.

The province committed that school divisions would not see their funding reduced due to enrolment variations because of COVID-19. The province will also continue to ensure all school divisions receive no less than 98 per cent of the operating funding they received a year earlier.

School divisions also raise revenue through local education property

taxes. The Manitoba government will continue to support Manitobans by reducing the local property tax burden for ratepayers. School divisions will freeze their education property taxes and the province will provide a Property Tax Offset Grant equivalent to a two per cent property tax increase or \$22.8 million. This is over and above the \$20.8-million commitment for the Funding of Schools Program.

"The province remains committed to modernizing Manitoba's education system to ensure our students are well prepared for whatever path they choose, whether it is post-secondary education, joining the workforce or starting their own business," said Cullen. "Our students, parents and education staff need to know that regardless of the challenges we are facing, we will be there to support their educational needs and to ensure their

worship

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Being outside in nature always makes me feel closer to God. There is something about the tranquility of the living earth that speaks to my spirit. Though it may appear to be still to look at, I know it is anything but. The forces of the heavens flow as the trees grow, flowers bloom the clouds move and the snow falls. A glimpse of our Creator we see in all that He has created, and His presence can be felt all around. In the shining of a midnight star to the cooing of a morning dove. As the world gently spins, I am quieted by its stillness. Every moment of the day, we take in a new view as the Master artist quietly changes his illustration and no matter where you look around the globe, His painting can be seen. Though it speaks no words, it tells a mighty story. As Psalm 19:3 explains, *there is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard.*

In this time of uncertainty, stop and enjoy your surroundings. Breathe in a fresh breath of air as you take in the sights around you. Enjoy the presence of our Maker. *Draw near to Him and He will draw near to you,* says James 4:8 Let Him search your heart and make you clean. Recognize the need for a Savior then receive the gift of new life that only God can bring.

Laura Lawrence
llawrence@cefmanitoba.org

children have the best opportunity for success."

This annual funding commitment builds upon the previous announcement to support schools with the \$185-million Safe Schools Funding for COVID-related expenses.

> LETTER, FROM PG. 6

inforced the important role of public education in our society. It has also highlighted the significant inequities in the system," Bedford said. "With everything that has happened in the past year, the government's continued refusal to invest in public education is incomprehensible."

The government has continued to tighten the purse strings on educa-

tion funding, and with the impending release of the recommendations from the K-12 education review, there is concern that schools will have to make tough choices about staffing and programming, Bedford said.

"We have said from day one, that any additional costs to implementing the K-12 recommendations must come with adequate funding. There is simply no room for extras," he said. "At the end of the day, when the gov-

ernment does not fulfill its funding responsibility, it's the students that suffer and quite frankly that is unacceptable."

The government also announced a \$5.5 million increase to special needs funding.

"We are pleased to see that government is responding to concerns we have been raising around special needs funding," Bedford said. "We look forward to hearing the details on

how these funds will be used in the classrooms to meet these diverse student needs."

In a recent poll conducted by Viewpoints Research, on behalf of The Manitoba Teachers' Society, the majority of Manitobans (64 per cent) said that the province should spend more on education.

- Raman Job
MTS Public Relations Facilitator

Bringing the Chautauqua Tour into the classroom

In-person program goes digital for 2021

By Nicole Buffie

While Theatre Projects Manitoba cannot offer their usual in-person programming due to the novel coronavirus, they have adapted operations to continue to provide free programming to the Interlake community.

The company brought arts, culture and workshops to the Interlake area in 2018 in the form of a Chautauqua tour.

"We have a big focus on Manitoba stories and homegrown stories," Emily Solstice Tate, associate producer of Theatre Projects Manitoba. "So it was about leaving the city and going out into the land and finding a connection with all Manitobans, and including rural stories and perspectives into the work of theatre projects."

The idea for the project came from an early 20th century group of entertainers who travelled through Canada and the U.S. performing shows and offering lectures, including the Interlake area of Manitoba. The theatre company revived the concept in 2018.

During the last Interlake Chautauqua tour, the artists visited communities including Arborg, Eriksdale, Teulon and Steep Rock. This year, the digital programming will premiere their projects in Arborg, Eriksdale, Riverton and Selkirk in June if public health orders allow it.

As the COVID-19 pandemic halted many in-person events, Theatre Projects Manitoba pivoted the Chautauqua tour to offer it in a digital medium, rebranding it as the Micro Digital

Arts Exchange.

"We were totally caught in the planning stage of like, trying to understand what's going on in the world," Solstice Tate said. "How do we keep moving forward with plans? How do we keep people safe? How do we keep people feeling safe, not just doing it, but actually ensuring that people felt comfortable?"

She said the company had two goals after that: offer some sort of programming free of charge, and continue to stay in contact with the communities they planned to visit.

"Since 2018 this has been about creating genuine connections and dialogue with the communities and seeing what they're interested in art-wise," said Solstice Tate. "And the other thing is, the continued desire to engage artists during the pandemic and engaging with communities and trying to create a hub of resources for both artists and community members."

Instead of taking their talents on the road for week-long stints at community centres and backyards, the team of artists will instead pair with teachers and classrooms in the region to provide workshops for students based on their needs and skills. Artists work with students virtually over one week to create art projects and premiere in the summer months.

The dedicated team of artists include painters, actors, playwrights, among others to create a diverse roster of options for those looking to sign up.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Associate Producer for Theatre Projects Manitoba and performer Emily Solstice Tate will be offering her artistic expertise to classes in the Interlake region for the 2021 Chautauqua Tour, now dubbed the Micro Digital Arts Exchange.

Tanner Manson, administrative and outreach associate for Theatre Projects Manitoba, said after the theatre company pivoted to the online platform, the outreach from artists wanting to participate was overwhelming.

"Everyone's been very happy and excited to have something ongoing and to know that people are reaching out and thinking of us," he said.

In addition to the arts exchange program, the theatre company is providing online workshops featuring the same artists called Winter Warm-up Workshops at no cost. They include sign painting, creative writing and music production.

Solstice Tate said with the digital offerings it gives those who wouldn't usually have access to these programs the chance to explore their creative sides, while also giving space to artists that wouldn't normally get recognition.

"I think that's a strength for us just to learn in general, can you give access to everyone to the arts? And that's really important to us," she said.

Teachers or individuals interested in the programs or looking for more information can email tanner@theatreprojectsmanitoba.ca or call 204-989-2400.

Manitoba rivers and lakes basin conditions update

Continued preparedness for quick response in high water events

Submitted by Manitoba government

Future snow and spring rain will determine Manitoba's 2021 spring runoff and potential for high water situations across many of the province's watersheds, Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler announced Friday.

The Manitoba Hydrologic Forecast Centre's mid-January basin conditions assessment indicates drier than normal conditions for much of the southern and central Manitoba basins. The Red, Souris, and Assiniboine river basins continue to receive below average precipitation since August 2020. However, northern Manitoba basins, including the Churchill and

Saskatchewan river basins, continue to receive average to above-average precipitation since July 2020.

"Our government continues to strengthen its' efforts to protect Manitobans in response to high water events; to achieve that, we must always be prepared," said Schuler. "We will monitor watershed conditions closely despite low levels of precipitation last fall and this winter. We continue to maintain our inventory of flood-fighting equipment and we have several procurement measures in place for equipment and supplies so we are able to respond quickly and effectively in the event of high water

activities."

The province maintains an inventory of flood-fighting equipment, which includes over two million sandbags, six sandbag-making machines, 18,000 super sandbags and 43 kilometres of cage barriers into which sand or other heavy material is placed. In addition, 65 kilometres of water-filled barriers, and 59 mobile pumps and heavy-duty steamers to open clogged drains are in reserve.

Through an open tendering process, the province has five standing agreements for the purchase of materials such as sand, gravel, riprap, sandbags and pumps. It also has eight standing agreements for rental of various types of equipment to supplement existing resources such as water pumps, generators, mobile lighting plants, heavy equipment and other support ma-

chinery.

Last spring the province introduced new safe work procedures for sandbagging and water-filled barrier operations that municipalities can implement to ensure the safety of high water response workers during the COVID 19 pandemic. A high water response activity document was created, which provides a clear and concise process on sandbag production, the construction of two types of sandbag dikes, as well as the installation of water-filled barriers.

"We will continue to monitor conditions and will release the first Spring Thaw Outlook in late February," noted Schuler.

To view the province's safe sandbagging procedures, visit www.gov.mb.ca/emo/.

Interlake-Eastern RHA COVID vaccination super site details not available

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government announced the implementation of a COVID-19 vaccination super site in the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA) last week, but hasn't yet released any details about it.

The *Tribune* reached out to the province about the inoculation facility; questions were acknowledged, but no information was provided.

Geographically, the Interlake-Eastern region is vast with 61,000 square kilometres and 10 per cent of Manitoba's population. The province was asked whether there will be two sites established for each half of the region and whether physician offices and pharmacies will be helping inoculate residents.

In its COVID-19 Vaccination Task Force Update document released Jan. 27 – and viewed Monday for updates – the province said it would be launching “immunization hubs” and “pop-up sites” to reach smaller population centres in rural and northern areas. The document states a “limited launch” is to start this week.

The IERHA has 10 hospitals, 17 community health offices, one QuickCare clinic and a mobile clinic. (2019 data). Whether these facilities will be utilized in the inoculation effort is yet to be seen.

Lauralou Cicierski, communications lead for the IERHA, said last Thursday that the health authority is “in the process of working with the province to finalize the location” of the vaccination super site.

The province currently has three super sites, one in Winnipeg at the RBC Convention Centre, a second in Brandon at the Keystone Centre and the third in Thompson at the Thompson Regional Community Centre. Pop-up sites are scheduled to begin this week in The Pas and Flin Flon.

Both super sites and pop-up sites are inoculating people who meet the current eligibility criteria, which includes healthcare workers, long-term care workers and home care workers.

As of Monday, over 106 million people worldwide have been infected with COVID-19 and 2.3 million have died. Canada has had 809,000 infections and 20,760 deaths. Manitoba has had over 30,000 infections and 846 people have died (data: Johns Hopkins University, Feb 8).

The province had been experiencing a delay in the roll-out of vaccines, but the situation changed Monday when it was informed that it can expect to receive 3,510 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine this week and 15,210 doses next week.

According to the task force update, the government plans to execute



TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Selkirk Regional Health Centre Emergency Entrance.

“large-scale deliveries once vaccine scarcity is addressed.”

The task force also noted that there are three vaccines (unnamed) “in development” that could be suitable “if approved for use” for doctors and pharmacies to administer to the public.

Questions from the *Tribune* about the names of those vaccines weren't answered. The province has already inoculated Manitobans with COVID vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and from Moderna.

Recent research on vaccines already on the market has found some lacking

protective effects against mutations of the COVID-19 virus.

The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, for instance, was found to have 10 per cent efficacy against the South African variant. Pfizer-BioNTech said its vaccine is “likely to be effective” against the United Kingdom strain of COVID, which is currently the most common strain circulating in Canada. Cases of the South African and Brazilian COVID strains have also been identified in Canada.

ICF announces gender equality grants

By Jennifer McFee

The Interlake Community Foundation is blazing trails as the only Manitoba community foundation asked to participate in the Fund for Gender Equality grant program.

Across Canada, 21 community foundations will be granted \$3.5 million through the Fund for Gender Equality, which is a collaboration between Community Foundations of Canada and the Equality Fund supported by the federal government.

In total, five grants with a combined value of \$60,000 are being awarded to five local organizations or programs that show a commitment to advancing gender equality through their activities, leadership, mission and vision.

“We are so pleased to be able to help our community organizations provide special services,” said Cheryle McClure, chair of the grant committee.

“It was surprising to see the different applications and how well they offer services around the areas. This funding opportunity enabled us to reach

so many more areas that normally we wouldn't have been able to help.”

The Southwest Teens at Risk (STAR) program will receive \$15,000, which will help with its efforts to expand programming. As part of this expansion, the organization would like to work with new partners including a diverse and inclusive justice committee. The organization also aims to partner with organizations and employers that aim to bridge the gender equality gap in the workplace. In partnership with agencies, the group strives to advocate for gender equality in communities and provide advocacy and assistance to help others overcome barriers due to gender inequality.

Madeline's Closet, based out of Teulon United Church in partnership with Madeline Armstrong Local, will receive \$5,000. This volunteer-run organization gives away clothing items that have been returned or deemed not for sale by several Winnipeg-based outlets. After operating in Win-

nipeg for 11 years, the program is now located in the Teulon CE Building.

A Space of Our Own, operated through the Interlake Women's Resource Council, will receive \$20,000. This organization provides frontline services and programs for women and children impacted by domestic violence. Services include crisis intervention, advocacy, individual and group counselling, outreach programs and referrals. The group hopes to expand its community programs to four central hubs in Stonewall, Teulon, Arborg and Riverton. They aim to offer peer-support groups, telephone peer support and virtual programs, while adapting to pandemic restrictions.

Another \$5,000 will go towards gender equality training and awareness for all council members and staff of the RM of Rockwood and Town of Teulon. The training will include non-violent physical crisis intervention. The initiative aims to increase awareness of gender equality, the 2SLGBTQ+ community and human resource is-

sues.

The Joy Smith Foundation will receive \$15,000 for its project that focuses on human trafficking and gender equality in the Interlake. The non-profit registered charity aims to develop educational materials and programs to prevent human trafficking in the community. The program will be delivered in partnership with the Interlake School Division.

“By participating in the Fund for Gender Equality, we are joining other participating foundations who are committed to changing philanthropy from the inside out,” said Tracy Holod, executive director of the Interlake Community Foundation.

“We, along with our cohort of 21 community foundations working through the fund, will be prioritizing feminist practices and policies in our organizations. Collectively, we are contributing an additional \$3.4 million of our capital funds to gender-lens investments.”

Teulon Elementary planting the seeds to read

By Evan Matthews

Teulon Elementary School is planting the seed to read in the minds of its students, as staff hope to cultivate and grow a community of readers.

The school's librarian, Christine Voth, has started an initiative called "Plant the Seed to Read." Whenever a student finishes reading a book, Voth plants a seed to grow a small plant.

"It's exciting and has the kids excited about reading," said principal Sarah Hadfield, making note of February being I Love to Read Month across the province.

"Spring is right around the corner, too, so we wanted to do something tangible to symbolize to the kids that reading can lead to growth. You grow as a reader, so the metaphor is actually perfect."

Every class received a packet of seeds, according to Hadfield. When a student completes a book, they note the book title, author and student room number. At the end of the week, Voth gathers each classroom's seeds and plants them in the library.

The hope is come spring, the students will transplant their seeds —



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY CHRISTINE VOTH
Bookie, who likes to read himself, has been hidden amongst a different cohort for each week in February.

hopefully small plants by that point — in the garden boxes located around the schoolyard, Hadfield said.

"Though this started as an I Love to Read initiative, this is going to go on past February," said Hadfield. "Plus, Bookie is keeping an eye out."

Bookie is a little worm-like figurine who always comes out in February. Hadfield said that in 2021, Bookie is wearing a mask, just to be safe.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

For every book read, students will plant a seed to grow a small plant. Principal Sarah Hadfield said because people grow as readers, it's the perfect metaphor.

With the students broken up into five separate cohorts due to COVID-19, Hadfield said Voth has hidden Bookie within a different cohort each week.

"Whoever finds Bookie gets entered into a draw at the end of the month," said Hadfield. "He can be evasive, but he's so cute."

[M]²

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Stonewall Teulon Tribune

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CONTEST RULES: Go to the Stonewall Teulon Tribune Facebook page and post a picture of you and your partner on our page before midnight on Sunday, Feb. 14, 2021. Following the deadline, all the pictures received will be placed in our "Love Selfie" album in order to give the general public the chance to "like" the selfie of their choice. On Sunday, Feb. 21, 2021, the couple whose picture got the most likes will win a 1 night stay at one of the Victoria Inn & Hotel & Convention Centre locations in Brandon, Thunder Bay, Winnipeg or Flin Flon. The name of the winner will be announced on our Facebook page and in the Stonewall Teulon Tribune on Thursday, Feb. 25.

Interlake School Division students invited to design a logo

By Jennifer McFee

Local high school students can showcase their design skills — and have a chance to win a \$200 award — by designing a logo for Interlake school bus drivers.

Pat Dauk, president of the Interlake School Division Bus Drivers' Association, has issued a challenge to students at Warren Collegiate Institute, Stonewall Collegiate Institute and Teulon Collegiate Institute.

He sent letters to the three schools inviting them to participate in the contest, which might be of particular interest to students enrolled in art, computer or design classes.

"When we get the kids to design

this, maybe they'll do it as a class or maybe they'll do it as individuals. We left that totally up to the teachers and the students," Dauk said.

"We're looking forward to the logo and also to the feedback that we're going to get with what they put together. I think this is going to tell us a lot about what the students think of us and maybe even where we can improve and where we can shine."

The logo might be used on correspondence, cheques, pins, jackets and more.

"The logo could give the bus drivers a bit of publicity and a boost to their pride," Dauk said, "especially if they know the community is backing

them."

After his retirement from the RCMP and other endeavours, Dauk became a school bus driver. He spent his first few years as a spare before getting a regular route.

"When I started driving a school bus, the thing that struck me was the love and affection that the drivers have for the kids and how they take care of them like they're their own grandchildren. It was not something that I really expected," he said.

"When I was a spare, I'd go through every catchment area on different routes all over the whole division. The feeling of solidarity with the kids is unbelievable. Even as a parent, you

don't realize that the bond between the students and the driver is so strong and so good. It was amazing to me."

The Interlake School Division Bus Drivers' Association formed in the 1970s and currently represents about 35 regular school bus drivers as well as 20 spare drivers. Each year, the association gives a \$250 scholarship to a student at each of the division's three high schools.

Dauk hopes the students can come up with some creative designs to depict the important role of the bus drivers, who are truly driving the future of the community.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Interlake School Division Bus Drivers' Association president Patrick Dauk.



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Inland Port Special Planning Area 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:

**To SUBDIVIDE three +/- 5.6 to 5.9 acre parcels
totalling +/- 17 acres
from the SE ¼ 28-11-2E in the
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROSSER**

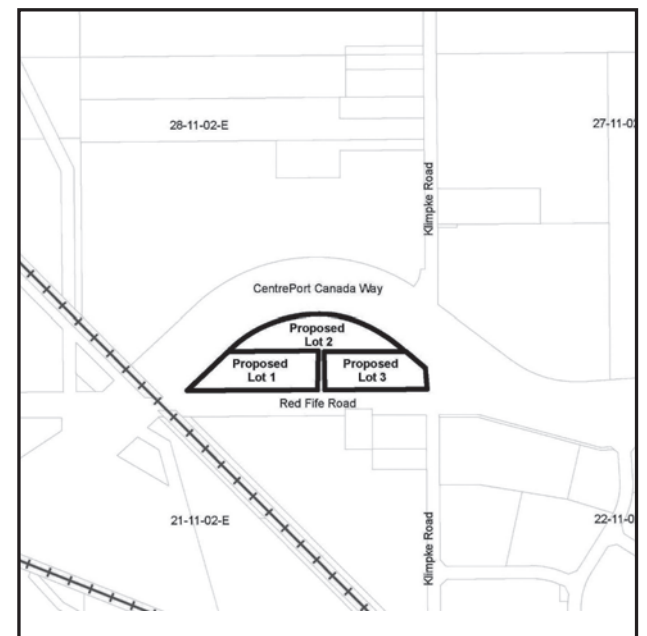
HEARING LOCATION: Virtual Public Hearing
Microsoft Teams

DATE and TIME: Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

GENERAL INTENT and PURPOSE: To subdivide a portion of the SE ¼ 28-11-2E in the RM of Rosser CentrePort lands to create three industrial lots.

AREA AFFECTED: This subdivision and by-law shall apply to the area identified on the map appearing on the Hearing Notice.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Kari Schulz, Planner
Manitoba Municipal Relations
Inland Port Special Planning Area
604-800 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0N4
Phone: 204-945-2146 Fax: 204-948-4042
Email: inlandportspa@gov.mb.ca



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. A description of the procedure to be followed at the hearing is also available at the location noted above.



Loaf and Honey expands cheese production

By Jennifer McFee

Cheese, please!

If you're looking to quench your craving, the duo behind Loaf and Honey has persevered in their cheese-making quest.

Owners Dustin Peltier and Rachel Isaak have just finished an expansion that will allow them to age more wheels of cheese than their previous smaller set-up.

"A big problem that we had before was meeting demand and being able to produce enough to make it a viable business. Our old aging room could only fit 60 wheels, which meant we could only make once a week to have 12 wheels ready every week," Peltier explained.

"Now, in the new aging room we can squeeze 450 or 500 wheels in there, so it means we could be producing five days per week. There's definitely some weight off our shoulders. It's a little bit of breathing room. We're feeling a lot more optimistic and a lot more hopeful with how things are going."

The new aging room is located in a 53-foot trailer at Peltier's parents' property in Woodlands. His mom, Silver, helps with the day-to-day washing of the cheese wheels. His dad, Gary, helps with transportation of milk and keeping the building in good shape.

Due to COVID, the couple's catering efforts have taken a backseat to the cheese production side of the business.

"Now we have to rebuild the business and get it out to people more. At least now, we can make enough cheese to get going. We're going to start working on getting into more distribution now," Peltier said.

"Before we couldn't really focus on a lot of retail because we couldn't meet demand of getting on store shelves. Now we can meet demand a little bit more, as long as every-



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Loaf and Honey now has more room to age cheese in its new 53-foot trailer.

thing is going good and people are getting back to spending like before COVID.

"Our next goal is looking for retail stores to carry our cheese and go from there."

Currently, Loaf and Honey's cheese is available in Manitoba at Black Market Provisions, Crampton's Market, Preserve Store, Cheesemongers, Miller Meats and the Bothwell store in St. Boniface. Anyone interested in purchasing cheese can also contact Loaf and Honey directly. Currently, Golden Prairie cheese is available as well as four flavours

of fresh ricotta.

Looking ahead, the future plan is to personalize the production process even further.

"We're going to try to do a little bit more on the farm and hopefully try to get some of our own animals for milk. That's always been the plan," Peltier said.

"We want to get our own goat to be making our own cheese. We're always going to have our cow's milk cheese, but we want to do some other fun things as well. That's the plan going forward. It may not be this year, but we're getting things ready."

And if you're still looking for a last-minute Valentine's Day gift, Loaf and Honey has got you covered. A limited quantity of gift packages are available that include delectable items such as Golden Prairie monastic-style cheese, ricotta, chutney, mustard, quinoa and nut brittle, desserts, jerky, massage oils and a heart-shaped beeswax candle for \$75. For more information or to place an order, email loafandhoney-catering@gmail.com.



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**office will be closed
on Monday,
February 15th
in honour of
Louis Riel Day.**

Stonewall Library launches literacy programs

By Jennifer McFee

Community engagement is key at Stonewall's public library branch, which is launching literacy initiatives to coincide with February's I Love to Read Month.

Branch librarian Joan Ransom explained that they usually host in-person events and contests for I Love to Read Month, but they've had to take a different approach due to the pandemic.

"All of our programming has gone virtual. We have story time every Friday uploaded on our YouTube channel," she said.

"We'll have some I Love to Read and Valentine themes throughout the month of February."

In addition, a new six-session of Library Club begins in February for registered participants in grades 1 to 4.

"This time, it's going to be called Around the World. Every week, the students that are signed up for it will get a little kit with a craft and a link to a video. They're going to virtually read and explore other countries," Ransom said.

"We ran our first session in the fall, and everybody had lots of fun with that. We encourage families to send us pictures and let us know they've enjoyed it."

For registered participants in grades

7 and 8, a twice-monthly virtual program called Bridge the Gap begins in February.

"That is a youth program that is run by the youth staff members at the library. We have two youth staff members who plan and execute that program themselves. They have been planning some fun activities," Ransom said.

"This registered program aims to foster some community involvement in the library. We tend to lose kids that age for pleasure reading, so it's just a way to bring that age group back into the library fold."

The library's newest venture is a kindergarten readiness program. Families with youngsters entering kindergarten can register for this five-month program, which starts in February during I Love to Read Month.

"We're trying to help families foster the skills that a child needs to go to kindergarten. We've divided it up into five monthly kits, focusing on one skill per month. We're going to focus on scissor work, pencil work, the ABCs, printing, shapes, numbers and storytelling," Ransom said.

"There is no fee, and every time you pick up a kit, you get a stack of 10 books to sign out to promote reading in your house for the month. There is also a link to a YouTube video pre-

pared by staff to give families tips on how to fine-tune those skills."

And for those strolling past the library, they might notice the some of the front windows decorated with silhouettes of characters mainly from children's books. The other half of the windows will showcase the character to create a type of I-Spy game for kids to enjoy.

"We continue to offer contactless pickup during this time of code red. Patrons can call us, email us or place their own holds on our online cata-

logue," Ransom added.

"We are happy to choose items for patrons or fill their requests. Even though these are challenging times, our patrons are so appreciative of the service we are providing and that gives all staff such satisfaction."

For more information about programs at the Stonewall branch of the South Interlake Regional Library, visit www.sirlibrary.com, follow the branch on Facebook or Instagram or call 204-467-8415.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

A teacher in Cameroon has been sharing Stonewall library's virtual storytimes with his class.



February is the perfect time to celebrate literacy for I Love to Read Month.

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CREDIT UNION

Greatest love stories



Eva and Wayne Bell

Hi, my name is Eva Bell, and I would like to tell you the story on how Wayne and I met over 48 years ago.

We were invited to a social with the family in August of 1972. There I was introduced to my future husband by one of my girlfriends. His name is Wayne. The next day he picked me up from work and we went out to dinner. Then he had to go up north as he worked for Manitoba Hydro at

the time. I did not see him again until the following month at the wedding, where my mother grabbed him and told him I was over in the other side of the room.

Well, that was it. We started dating, and at just before Christmas our family had our Christmas as they were going to Hawaii the following week. I went at New Years for two weeks.

Then after dinner my mother asked him to invite his parents for coffee and told them to bring the big box he had for me. They came and he handed me the box, which had a ring inside, and got down on one knee and proposed. After that when I came back from my trip, we began to plan our wedding for June of 1973, which we planned for the 16th. Then my mother told me she had booked for the second instead. That also happened to be the date of my friend who introduced us. So we got married that year and after 47 years, we are still happily married with two beautiful girls and eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. That is my story. Thank you.



Stephan and Michelle

I believe our love story is great!

We first met at a very young age — we went to the same school together throughout the years.

Once I graduated high school (Stephan was also my date), I decided I was leaving the country. I flew out to Australia and lived there for a while! We talked every single day via text/FaceTime/phone calls, even with the large time difference we had.

Stephan let me know the day I left that he would be here (at home) waiting for me. Sure enough — he really was! He came to the airport with my parents and my best friend to greet me moving back home. He is the kindest and most caring person (next to my mom and dad!!). I couldn't dream of a better relationship! I am very thankful!

We enjoy racing quads and trail riding!

Check us out @noshotracing on Instagram.

We've been together for eight years now.

Valentine's Day is a time to tell the people that mean the most in your life just how special they are to you.

This year, with the community having lost the ability to connect in person as we would before the pandemic, we asked our readers to submit their love stories to bring a little extra Valentine's Day joy in what we're calling the "Greatest Love Story of All Time Contest"

First Place



Courtney and Mitchell Kernot

I met my lover back in 2005. I was a server at a restaurant and he would always come in to see me. He always asked me out and I always declined. He claims it was love at first sight. I just wasn't interested. Through the years, he never stopped trying. Then some time had passed since I saw him. Five years ago, he came in to my work and then it was love at second sight for me! Most gorgeous, ruggedly handsome man I've ever seen. I fell fast and hard in love. He says he never stopped loving me from the moment he first saw me. He is my best friend, my lover, my everything.



TOWN OF STONEWALL COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO AN ONLINE OPEN HOUSE & PRESENTATION

ON A TOWN HALL RENOVATION PROPOSAL

The Town of Stonewall proposes to undertake the renovation and upgrade of the Town Hall. The Renovation Project is required to make the building meet accessibility standards and preserve a heritage building for the community.

DATE:
FEBRUARY 25, 2021

TIME:
6:30 – 7:00 PM

LOCATION:
ONLINE THROUGH
GoToMeeting

TO REGISTER:
<http://stonewall.ca/p/local-notice>

A MEETING LINK WILL BE SENT
VIA EMAIL TO EACH REGISTRANT

FOR MORE INFORMATION

TOWN OF STONEWALL
INFO@STONEWALL.CA
PH: (204) 467-7979
www.stonewall.ca

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 - Pizza Dinner for your family.

They are tiny cupids hidden deep within the paper... so search with all your heart!

Email us with the page numbers you found
the cupids on and be entered to win.

Find the cupids
that look like this

Prizes for kids too!

*P.S it's not the cupid on this page,
and they won't be in any ad!*

Contest deadline
Feb 15, 2021 at 12:00 noon

ads@stonewallteulontribune.ca
204-771-8707

Staff

As an added incentive, two clues for a Bingo card are announced

Parents have also received a calendar of activities to do at home

TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED
Kira Burns (left) and Katelynn O'Dell enjoy a good book.



By Jennifer McFee

- Council accepted and approved the Rosser Woodlands Recreation Commission 2021

- CentrePort planner Kari Schultz attended the meeting via Mi-

- The RM of Rosser will enter into an agreement with Hugh Munro Construction Ltd., Lilyfield Quarry

- The RM of Rosser will review its rural zoning bylaw pertaining to lands outside CentrePort. The RM hosted two zoning information sessions in February 2020 to provide discussion opportunities. The draft zoning bylaw is now written and highlights are presented on the RM of Rosser website (www.rmofrosser.com) until Feb. 15.

**For more info:
G.A.S. Office
204.434.6519
Michelle or Kim**



Manitoba Arts Network launching wealth of online programming

By Lorne Stelmach

A provincial arts organization is aiming to help fill the void left for artists and performers in Manitoba left without venues and galleries thanks to the pandemic shutdown.

From now until at least the end of March, the Manitoba Arts Network is rolling out online programming that will feature Manitoban artists and performers.

Funding from the Safe at Home MB program and working in partnership with 50 rural arts organizations throughout Manitoba is helping them offer a new free online event every week.

The plan includes 12 livestream performances and 10 visual arts classes that are still being finalized, but there are also five interactive online art exhibitions that have already been unveiled.

"Without the lockdown, we likely wouldn't have considered putting our exhibitions online, so it's pushing us all to embrace new business models," said director Rose-Anne Harder.

Harder said they recognized that there was an important role for the arts network under the circumstances in the province.

"With the lockdown, galleries throughout the province had to close. We usually tour exhibitions throughout the province, so that had to come to a halt," she said.

"We felt if no one can go in person, let's put our exhibitions online for free to give people something to do and enjoy during the lockdown," Harder said, noting the provincial funding is covering the artist fees. "With the lockdown, they can't even teach classes, so they have had to pivot to doing everything online."

She recognized that there are unfortunately some challenges that come with online content.

"For rural Manitoba, the internet is spotty, so it unfortunately doesn't al-

ways work well for everybody," she said, adding however that more and more people have become more accustomed to doing things online, and artists as well have had to embrace the technology. "People are getting more tech savvy, getting into doing Zoom calls and classes."

She also sees this online content as providing valuable exposure for the artists and performers, particularly in terms of being able to reach some more remote and northern communities in Manitoba.

"They have very limited access ... so more online activities create more exchange with different communities in the province," said Harder.

Four of the exhibitions feature rural artists with galleries by Jan Jenkins, Mary Lowe, Heather Martens Rempel, and a group exhibition titled *Manitoba Moments* by the Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba. A fifth exhibition features Winnipeg artist Sarah Fuller.

Visitors to the virtual gallery are encouraged to take part in the exhibitions—not only are they able to view the artwork, but there is also a guestbook to leave your name and comments and a gift shop where many of the artworks displayed are available to purchase.

Harder noted they anticipate continuing to do online programming even once things return more to normal.

"This online gallery will be with us beyond COVID. We're now developing policies to use it throughout the year," she said. "It's very exciting. To be able to sell the artwork online creates another marketplace for artists."

Creativity amidst a pandemic

The exhibition *Art in the Time of COVID-19* by Martens Rempel was borne from her trying to rationalize "what is the point of making art when people are struggling for their lives and sanity? Why indulge in this solitary activ-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Fish ladder to Hades by Mary Lowe is among the art on display online as part of the Manitoba Arts Network's online exhibition. The network is hosting a series of free online exhibitions, classes, and concerts over the next couple of months.

ity? To what end?"

She creates not only because she is driven to but because the world looks different when she does, and that is what she feels is asked of her in return for receiving the inspiration.

"It has been a real gift to be involved with the Manitoba Arts Network. They have really lived up to their mandate during this COVID-19 time in finding ways to promote artists," said Martens Rempel.

"While it most definitely does not replace a real gallery experience, having my work online provides an opportunity for more people to see my work than if it were in one geographical space," she continued. "Viewing art online does not give one a sense of scale or even texture, but it does give someone a sense of the subject matter and make one curious to want to see the art in real life."

"I am also excited to have my work on view with other great artists in many different mediums," added Martens Rempel, who has also been invited to be part of the creative digital swap where she will be paired with Calgary musician Jenn Beaupre. "This was a

very exciting and new idea. I learned so much from this process and met a new artist through the process."

Cathie Ugrin of the Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba observed being an artist during a global pandemic has certainly been a unique experience.

Despite the isolation, being an active member of the group has kept her feeling engaged, supported, and inspired, and she said they were thrilled and honoured their exhibit *Manitoba Moments* was included in the online show.

"Their hard work and dedication to the artistic community of Manitoba is very much appreciated," she said. "Sit back and enjoy the unique art in this fabulous gallery, safe and comfortable in your own home until we can all gather together again."

The Manitoba Arts Network's plans include a livestream discussion featuring the artists and interactive art classes on a variety of mediums. Details on these events are still being finalized.

For more information, follow the organization on Facebook or Youtube.

Tax reduction and COVID relief promised in budget

By Nicole Buffie

Education taxes on property, health-care and senior care were at the top of the list for the 2021 budget for Manitobans living in rural areas as they made their voices heard during a Feb. 3 telephone town hall.

A series of virtual forums were held throughout January and the beginning of February to get input from residents on what they would like to see prioritized from the provincial government on their spending.

For the last virtual meeting residents took to the phone lines to ask Finance Minister Scott Fielding questions regarding the upcoming budget for the fiscal year.

During his opening remarks, Fielding highlighted areas in which the provincial government spent extra money, including mental health and addictions initiatives such as RAAM clinics and programming for adults and children. He also noted that while the government entered the fiscal

year in a \$5 million surplus, they will end it in a \$2 billion deficit due to COVID-19.

"What is important though, and distinguishes ourselves as the government, is we have a plan to get ourselves back into balance once the pandemic is over," Fielding said.

The health minister said the cash went towards responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fielding also noted the province issued \$1.2 million in fines related to residents flouting

public health orders. The province hopes the money collected will help offset the projected deficit, which is projected to be balanced once-again in eight years.

While the projected numbers weren't a point of focus for callers, many inquired about the plan to eliminate education taxes on property. One caller asked how the province plans to continue funding education

Continued on page 17

CN Police raising awareness about rail safety

By Lorne Stelmach

CN Police are aiming to raise awareness around rail safety, particularly now in the winter months when people are out on snowmobiles.

Last year in North America there were over 3,400 collisions with trains resulting in over 2,200 serious injuries or fatalities.

"We really look at like one incident is too many," said Paul Leaden, a sergeant with the prairie division of the CN Police.

"This time of year, it's really important to get the message out," said Leaden, noting particularly that trespassing "is a significant and probably the biggest concern."

"It's important people understand that there's legal consequences in addition to the safety issue," he said. "We remind people of the legal ramifications but it's primarily for safety."

"Trespassing on railway property is not only illegal, it is extremely dangerous, so we would encourage snowmobile users and ATV users to participate in their hobby but off the property and in areas that are legal and safe."

Leaden noted that railway property extends 50 feet on either side of the tracks. He added that travelling alongside tracks can present a range of hidden dangers.

"There's many dangers the train presents if you're in close proximity. There's a lot of dangers there that people don't realize," he said. "There's things in the snow that you can hit. It could be something simple like some rail ties that were set aside in the fall and then it snows over top."

He reiterated that railway yards, tracks, tunnels and bridges are private property, and driving along or

on railway tracks or taking a shortcut across tracks is not only illegal but can be fatal.

"You can sometimes have areas where people on snow machines are crossing the tracks at locations that aren't level crossings, which is the only legal place to cross."

Tips on how to stay safe near a rail line while operating an off-road vehicle include:

- Use designated railway crossings.
- Slow down, look both ways and listen for approaching trains; proceed only if it is safe to do so.
- Stay off the tracks.
- Use approved trails, not railway tracks.
- Keep in mind that trains can overhang the tracks by as much as one metre on each side.
- Stalls or stuck vehicles must be left

RCMP investigate possession of narcotics and failure to comply with conditions



Warren David Wright

Submitted by RCMP

On Dec. 3, 2020, at about 1 a.m., Gimli RCMP located an abandoned vehicle on North colonization road in the RM of Gimli. A lone male was walking away from the vehicle. Police briefly spoke with the male as he was getting into another vehicle to leave. Police also noticed the male dropped a bag just before he left. Investigation into the contents of the bag indicated illegal narcotics in such a capacity to be considered possession for the purpose of trafficking. Further investigation of the abandoned vehicle indicate the owner lived in the Village of Balmoral. Gimli RCMP then reached out to Stonewall and Area RCMP. It was determined the male walking away from the abandoned vehicle was the owner and he had curfew conditions from another investigation. Stonewall and Area RCMP attended the owners residence and determined he was not there which is violation of his conditions. At this time Police are still looking to locate the male and is asking the public's assistance to come forward with any information on his whereabouts. As such two Arrest Warrants for the male have been sworn.

Police are looking for 23-year-old Warren David Wright from the Village of Balmoral. He is described as a Caucasian male with brown hair and green eyes. He is about 183 cm tall and weighs about 91kg.

Police continue to investigate.

If you have information on the whereabouts of this individual please call Gimli RCMP at 204-642-5106, Stonewall and Area RCMP at 204-467-5015 or if you wish to remain anonymous please contact Manitoba Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Trails in Petersfield longer than ever before

By Katelyn Boulanger

This year the walking, skiing, and skating trails on Netley Creek in Petersfield are better than ever before with residents coming together to clear over six kms of pathways to enjoy.

"We've been plowing some trails on the creek there for a few years but it was always, you know, a piece here and a piece there. But this year, I guess with everybody being home and around, people kind of picked up a chunk of it [to keep up] and it actually stretches for about two miles on the north side and then there's some on the south side as well," said Stan Grocholski, one of the members of the Petersfield community who plow portions of the trails.

He says that though the surface of

the trail this year is very smooth, he hasn't flooded the trail for skaters.

"It's just the ice itself and it just seemed like everything fell in line this year with the warm weather and then the ice, the creek actually froze very smoothly. Some years when it freezes it's pretty rough but this year it's pretty smooth and then we had the beautiful warm weather and not that much snow. So yeah, it's nice to see everybody out there walking and enjoying it and a lot of the people on the creek. They built skating rink for the kids as well," said Grocholski.

He wanted to ensure residents knew that many people in the community contribute to the creation and maintenance of the trails, however, he personally does his part because he enjoys seeing people use

them.

"You know, you don't have to worry about traffic or anything like that. So it's a nice walk," said Grocholski.

One resident who appreciates the work that members of the community do to keep the trails in tip-top shape is Muriel Pow who wanted to thank everyone who is involved in the maintenance of the trail.

"We would just like to thank them very much. We appreciate the fact that they're doing it," said Pow.

She appreciates having a place to be able to get out and be healthy and active but also wants residents to be mindful of the weather when they head out and make sure to dress up according to outside conditions.

> TAX REDUCTION, FROM PG. 16

without the revenue from the taxes, which will be phased out in the coming years.

"We think we can do it through growth," Fielding answered. "When you have a situation where you're leading the country in things like private sector capital investments, businesses are coming to Manitoba and it's growing, so there's going to be growth that will happen, so obviously we're going to allocate some of that growth dollars to making life a little bit more affordable for you as a Manitoban."

Manitobans also inquired about how seniors programs and health-care will be funded and how much

of the budget will be allocated to it.

The province said they have increased spending on seniors by \$594 million every year since 2016 when the conservative party took office. Fielding said they will continue to do so to provide more cataract, hip and knee surgeries.

The province will also continue to reference the VIRGO report, a study commissioned by the province to look at programming and facilities to address mental health and addictions issues, a point of concern for one caller.

"I will say it'll be a priority in this budget coming up," Fielding said. "During this pandemic, it's been

very stressful for a lot of people in every walk of life, because it's had such an impact on us. And you can tell that people are struggling with mental health issues and stress. And I think that's going to be a big part of our recovery, not just on an economic basis once we're through the pandemic, like making sure that people are supported from a mental health standpoint and so that's why we really tried to make it a priority, and we're going to continue to do more of that in this budget."

The 2021 budget is expected to be released by the end of February, although no date has been set as the province is still awaiting further information on money allocation from the federal government.

sports & recreation

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Stewart signs with Winkler Flyers

By Brian Bowman

The Winkler Flyers have had a lot of very good hockey players sign with them over the years.

The latest one lives right here in the Interlake.

Interlake Lightning defenceman Kaden Stewart recently signed with the MJHL's Flyers.

"I'm real excited, it's pretty cool," said Stewart, who lives in Warren. "They asked me to sign Jan. 11 and I thought about it with mom and dad. I knew I would but we just had to talk it over and figure out what I would be doing with university next year. I went down there, signed the papers, and took a picture."

Stewart is pleased that Winkler selected him in the MJHL's Bantam draft. The Flyers have always been known as a solid organization that treats its players well.

"They have such a great organization over there and it's a great city," Stewart said. "There's lots of opportunity there and they have been in the MJ for over 40 years."

Winkler will be losing just one defenceman, Kaeden Tenkoppel, next season due to graduation, meaning

they have seven guys on the back end eligible to return.

It's going to be a tough lineup for Stewart to crack, for what he hopes, is his rookie season in the MJHL.

"As it stands now, I was talking to the head coach Kelvin (Cech) and he said they'll have two returning left-hand defencemen and three returning right-hand defencemen," Stewart noted. "I'm a left-hand defenceman so work ethic will come down to whether I make that team."

With all hockey seasons on pause, Stewart has been working out in his home gym and hitting the outdoor rinks with his cousin, Dawson Cowan, a goalie with the U18 Lightning.

"It's awesome to have a goalie to shoot on," Stewart said.

Stewart is in his final season of U18 "AAA" hockey with the Lightning. He scored a goal in four games before the league was shut down due to COVID-19.

More importantly, Interlake was off to a great 3-1 start.

"We got off to a good start playing Central Plains and it was good to get those three wins," Stewart said. "Then we played Pembina Valley and they're

a better team than Central Plains so they kind of gave us a reality check and humbled us a little bit."

Last season, Stewart scored four goals and had 27 points to go along with 91 penalty minutes in 45 regular-season games.

"Last year was a step in the right direction," Stewart said. "I got some more confidence from the first year, (put in some good work in the off-season), and I felt going into the season that I was well prepared. It was exciting to see all of the hard work pay off."

Stewart already has some junior hockey experience, playing three games with the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League's Stonewall Jets last season.

"It was so much fun," Stewart said. "It was such a great time and Brock (Couch) is a great coach and Dale McClintock is a great GM. They're great guys to play for."

Stewart's current coach, Scott Wong, believes Stewart has all of the tools to be a very good junior hockey player.

"I have three really good (defence-men) but Kaden is one of my top ones," said Wong on Sunday afternoon. "He's big and strong and he



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED
Interlake Lightning defenceman Kaden Stewart recently signed with the Manitoba Junior Hockey League's Winkler Flyers.

wins a lot of battles. That's why we were successful so far this season."

Besides his physical presence, Wong loves Stewart's ability to produce offence from the back end and his leadership.

"He can shoot the puck," Wong said of his alternate captain. "He has a very heavy shot and moves the puck well. He's a tremendous asset to the team."

Junior development golf teams announced for 2021 season

Submitted by Golf Manitoba

Golf Manitoba recently announced the rosters for the 2021 Junior Development Teams, which feature many of the best young golfers in the province.

Thirty-one U18 boys' and 14 U18 girls have been selected based on their performance during the 2020 golf season and will receive athlete and coaching support to help develop their talents on and off the golf course.

These are the 2021 Junior Boys' Development teams:

Gold Team: Ryan Blair – Pine Ridge Golf Club, Winnipeg, Grady Chuback – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Noah Fiks – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Adam Ingram – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Braxton Kuntz – Breezy Bend CC, Winnipeg, Jordan McDonald – Breezy Bend CC, Winnipeg, Scott Miner – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Jack Moro – Whitewater CC, Thunder Bay, Trey Ross – Rossmere Country Club, Winnipeg, Jack Taylor – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, and Nolan Watson – St.

Charles CC, Winnipeg.

Black Team: Haydon Chaloner – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Hayden Delaloye – Neepawa CC, Neepawa, Kaleb Lambert – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Ryan Orchard – Carman G & CC, Carman, Eric Reid – Golf Manitoba Public Player, Virden, Declan Robertson – Niakwa CC, Winnipeg, Jack Rudick – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Thomas Scott – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Jacob Taweel – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, and Payne Wood – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg.

Blue Team: Austin Boge – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Brayden Boge – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Jackson Delaurier – Dauphin Lake GC, Dauphin, Zostrianos Giordani-Gross – Shilo CC, Shilo, Carson Inman – Portage GC, Portage, Nathan Lepore – Golf Manitoba Public Player, Thunder Bay, Cameron McDonald – Breezy Bend CC, Winnipeg, Cashe McNabb – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Ryan Tuck – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg, and Terrence

Rafferty – Southwood G & CC, Winnipeg.

The 2021 Junior Girls' Development team features: Armaan Dhillon – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Cala Korman – Killarney GC, Killarney, Jeri Lafleche – Clear Lake GC, Clear Lake, Sarah Farmer – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Mackenzie Forsythe – Elmhurst G & CC, Winnipeg, Addison Kartusch – St. Charles CC, Winnipeg, Jenna King – Niakwa CC, Winnipeg, Jewel Lafleche – Clear Lake GC, Winnipeg, Gracie McMillan – Pine Ridge GC, Winnipeg, Payten Oakden – Glendale G & CC, Brandon, Clara Peake – Binscarth, Annika Russell – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg, Elle Wood – St. Boniface GC, Winnipeg, and Crystal Zamzow – Swan River GC, Swan River.

The Junior Girls' Development Team will be led by PGA of Canada professional Bri-ann Tokariwski and the Junior Boys' Team by PGA of Canada professional Derrik Goodwin. With a focus on the team's vision, mission,

and values aimed at inspiring excellence, both Tokariwski and Goodwin will work to help team members grow as golfers while also instilling habits that will lead to success throughout life.

With a strong focus on training and athlete development, the Junior Development Team program has been built to help foster the success of these athletes. The nine-month program includes winter team training at the Golf Dome, club competition in the Nassau and Mundie Putter leagues, spring and summer training camps, weekly practices, strength and fitness coaching, nutrition, and sports psychology and coaching observation at championships. Both Tokariwski and Goodwin will also be accompanying both inter-provincial junior teams to Golf Canada national championships. Funding for this program has been generously provided by the Alex & Peggy Colonello Foundation.

sports & recreation

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Canada Basketball cancels 2021 U15 championships

From Basketball Manitoba's website

Canada Basketball announced last Thursday the cancellation of the 2021 15U Men's and Women's National Championships due to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Canada Basketball, in consultation with the National Championships Committee, which is made up of PTSO members, local hosts and partners, reached the decision to cancel this summer's championships.

Despite the cancellation, Canada Basketball will continue to work with the National Championships Committee on alternative options for 15U and 17U identified provincial team athletes. Canada Basketball will share additional details on these options, as well as announce the hosts for the 2022 Canada Basketball 15U Men's & Women's National Championships at

a later date.

"As we continue to work together in the fight against COVID-19, in consultation with basketball and medical leaders from across Canada, we've arrived at the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 Canada Basketball National Championships," said Glen Grunwald, president and CEO of Canada Basketball.

"We will be exploring options to bring the basketball community together safely this summer and are already looking forward to resuming nationals in its traditional format in 2022."

Basketball PEI was to host the 2021 Canada Basketball 15U Men's & Women's National Championships from Aug. 1 to 8, 2021, in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, while the 17U age group was originally sched-

uled to compete at the Canada Summer Games.

However, last fall, the Canada Games Council and Niagara Host Society announced that the Canada Summer Games in Niagara had been rescheduled for Aug. 6 to 21, 2022.

"While we're disappointed to not be able to host a marquee event like the 2021 Canada Basketball National Championships, we understand that the pandemic has significantly altered the sport landscape and event schedules across the world," said Joshua Whitty, Executive/Technical Director, Basketball PEI.

"We look forward to being back in a position to safely host nationals in the future and welcome players from across the country to Prince Edwards Island."

Basketball Manitoba executive di-

rector Adam Wedlake added, "It's been a tough year for basketball and the community as a whole and we are empathetic to the athletes and coaches that will be impacted by this. We will work closely with the Manitoba public health authorities to provide as many basketball opportunities in the coming year while still respecting and following the guidance in place to ensure a safe return to the court."

The health and safety of all athletes, coaches, officials, support staff, volunteers and spectators is of primary importance and was a driving factor behind making this difficult decision. Additionally, significant disruptions to athlete training and preparation over the last year, along with uncertainty surrounding travel and event hosting logistics were also considered.

Hockey Canada cancels 2021 national championships

Submitted by Hockey Canada

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the decision has been made to cancel all spring 2021 national championships, including the Esso Cup, TELUS Cup, Centennial Cup, presented by Tim Hortons and Allan Cup.

The announcement was made last Friday.

The following is a statement on behalf of Hockey Canada from Tom Renney, chief executive officer, and Scott Smith, president and chief operating officer:

"Despite a strong desire to work with four great communities to host the top players at various levels across the country this season, the health and safety of all participants and the communities at large continues to be of the utmost importance to Hockey Canada. The ongoing pandemic, coupled with the fact that many regions in the country are not currently playing organized hockey, left us with no other option. We believe the decision to cancel our spring 2021 national championships is the safest decision

given the ongoing uncertainty of the pandemic at a local level, as well as the uncertainty around each region being able to compete for a national championship.

"Hockey Canada is grateful for the continued support of local host committees and event partners, including B.C. Hockey, Hockey Alberta, the Saskatchewan Hockey Association, the Ontario Hockey Federation and the Canadian Junior Hockey League, as well as the communities of Penticton, B.C.; Prince Albert, Sask.; Calgary,

Alta.; and Dundas, Ont.; and all local and provincial funding partners. Our organization is appreciative of the commitment and support of all stakeholders and we look forward to showcasing our national championships and all participants to fans next year."

Hockey Canada will continue to work with event stakeholders to host the spring 2022 national championships with a confirmation of all 2022 host communities to be announced in the coming months.

World women's curling championship cancelled

Staff

The LGT World Women's Curling Championship, scheduled to take place March 19-28 in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, has been cancelled following a decision by the Swiss Local Health Authority not to support the event.

The announcement was made this

past Monday.

"Our staff and the local organizers had worked tirelessly to ensure the safety of all our athletes, officials, staff and volunteers working at the event," said World Curling Federation president Kate Caithness.

"We are extremely disappointed that the athletes who have worked so

hard to compete for a World Championship title will not have that opportunity for the second year in a row due to the cancellation of the event.

"We will be evaluating all the options available to us in order to complete the Beijing 2022 Olympic Winter Games women's team quali-

fication process and do everything we can to ensure that it's carried out on the ice in competition."

Canada's national Scotties tournament is set to take place later this month in a bubble format in Calgary.

Camp Morton's Kerri Einarson is the defending Canadian women's champion.

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SHOP LOCAL and help your local economy

Manitoba Government Job Opportunities

Construction Worker

Departmental Full-Time
Manitoba Infrastructure, Water Operations, Dauphin (1), Morris (1), MB
Advertisement Number: 36743
Closing Date: February 26, 2021
Salary Range: \$39,360 to \$43,409 per year

The Manitoba government recognizes the importance of building an exemplary public service reflective of the citizens it serves, where diverse abilities, backgrounds, cultures, identities, languages and perspectives drives a high standard of service and innovation. The Manitoba government supports equitable employment practices and promotes representation of designated groups (women, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, visible minorities).

Employment Equity is a factor in selection for this competition. Consideration will be given to women, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, and visible minorities.

Manitoba Infrastructure is seeking highly motivated individuals to work within our Water Operations Branch as Construction Workers. We are currently filling 2 full-time departmental positions in Dauphin and Morris, Manitoba. Additionally, we are establishing an eligibility list that will remain in effect for 12 months that will be utilized to fill vacancies in the following locations: The Pas, Ashern, Hodgson, Teulon, Grosse Isle, Deacon's Corner, Morris, Carman, Portage La Prairie, Neepawa, Dauphin and Minitonas. All those interested in these locations are encouraged to apply.

For a complete list of conditions of employment and qualifications please visit our website at: www.manitoba.ca Applications must describe how the applicant meets the requirements of the position and location preference(s).

Duties:

As part of a crew, the Construction Worker (CWR) carries out maintenance and operation of water conveyance structures, bridges, dams, buildings, and assists in bridge repairs, installation of culvert and low level crossings, assists survey crews with line cutting or drilling ice, operation and maintenance of pumping facilities, brushing, seeding and flood fighting operations as required.

Apply to:

Advertisement No. 36743
Service Centre 3
Human Resource Services
600-155 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, MB, R3C 3H8
Phone: 204-945-8819
Fax: 204-948-3382
Email: govjobs@gov.mb.ca

Applicants may request reasonable accommodation related to the materials or activities used throughout the selection process.

When applying to this position, please indicate the advertisement number and position title in the subject line and/or body of your email. Your cover letter, resumé and/or application must clearly indicate how you meet the qualifications.

Please be advised that job competitions may be grieved and appealed. Should a selection grievance be filed, information from the competition file will be provided to the grievor's representative or the grievor, if unrepresented. Personal information irrelevant to the grievance and other information protected under legislation will be redacted.

We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for further consideration will be contacted.

Find out about other current job opportunities — click on the Jobs button at manitoba.ca.

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Any personal information provided including employment equity declarations will be used for employment and/or statistical purposes and is protected by The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Alternate formats available upon request

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SCRAP METAL

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The Interlake Community Foundation is accepting community grant applications

Does your **local charity** need funds for **capital projects**? The Foundation 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, 2021. For applications and criteria, or if you have questions:

www.interlakefoundation.ca

204-467-5634

info@interlakefoundation.ca

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Like working with wood and working close to home? 204 Pallet & Packaging in Stony Mountain is looking for full time production workers. Please call 204-344-5404 for details.

SPORTS CARDS

Sports cards for sale - mint condition. Hockey, baseball, some football/basketball. Sold in any size lot desirable; 10, 100, 200, 500, 1000. Teulon, Stonewall, Unity West Winnipeg pickup or delivery. 204-918-0765.

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Young farmer looking for farmland to rent in the RM's of Rosser, Rockwood or Woodlands area. Call or text Nolan at 204-461-1784.

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**HELP WANTED
CALL
204-467-8797**

HELP WANTED - SUMMER STUDENT

Employment opportunity: Stonewall law firm requires a university student, commencing May 1 to August 31, 2021. The applicant must be comfortable dealing with the public. Typing and computer knowledge of "Word" is required.

Kindly forward resume in confidence to:
**Grantham Law Offices, Box 1400, Stonewall,
Manitoba R0C 2Z0, Attention: Doug Grantham.**

Rural Municipality of Woodlands EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



The Rural Municipality of Woodlands invites applications for the position of Office Clerk. As a member of our team, you will perform a variety of tasks, including processing payments, greeting customers, typing council meeting minutes, filing, updating website, assisting with municipal elections.

As the successful candidate, you will possess the following:

- Excellent oral and written communication skills, computer skills, organization skills, customer service.
- Attention to accuracy and detail.
- Ability to deal with people in a tactful and diplomatic manner.
- Valid Class 5 Drivers License.

This is a full-time position, non-unionized position, consisting of 37.5 hours per week, and offers a comprehensive benefits package.

A full job description is available by contacting the RM Office at (204)383-5679 or on our website at www.rmwoodlands.info

Please send resume with references by 2:00 P.M. on February 17, 2021 to the following:

R.M. of Woodlands
Box 10, Woodlands, MB, R0C 3H0
Attention: CAO
or to finance@rmwoodlands.ca

Display and Classified booking deadline for our
February 18th Edition is Friday, Feb 12th at 4 p.m.
due to Feb 15th holiday.



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Rural Municipality of Woodlands INVITATION TO QUOTE



Hourly Equipment Rates

The Rural Municipality of Woodlands is inviting quotes for hourly rental rates of various equipment, for the purpose of establishing pay rates for the period April 1, 2021 to March 31 2022.

Quotation packages including submission documents are available by calling the Municipal Office at 204-383-5679, or on the RM's website, www.rmwoodlands.info

Sealed Quotations may be submitted to the Rural Municipality of Woodlands, Box 10, 57 Railway Avenue, Woodlands, Manitoba R0C 3H0.

Quotations must be submitted by 12:00 P.M. on February 16, 2021

LABORER

Summary of the Role

Austin Powder Company is seeking a Laborer for our Stonewall, MB location. Austin Powder Company is a world leader in explosives manufacturing and in the commercial explosives blasting industry servicing the; quarry, coal mine, construction and seismic exploration industries.

Duties/Responsibilities

- Responsible for loading/unloading product for delivery, which results in frequent lifting of 40-50 pound product bags or boxes.
- Assist with site preparation and equipment set up.
- Operate company vehicles to transport products to and from specified job sites.
- Assist the Blaster in charge with safety preparation.
- Performs labor support at job sites and locations (e.g., inspect product bins, inventory or product, completion of required paperwork) under the direction of the Blaster in charge or Location Manager.
- Maintains safe working conditions.

Qualifications/Requirements

- Class 5 licence
- Requires a fit person who can handle lifting as necessary
- Involves daily physical labor as well as periodic shop days and duties that are expected from all employees.
- Must provide clean driver abstract
- Able to pass security screening (Criminal record check)
- Able to pass post offer pre-employment functional abilities evaluation
- Able to pass post offer pre-employment and random drug screenings

Benefits

- Extended Health
- RPP
- Weekly Income (STD)
- Group Life Insurance
- Dental
- Accidental Death & Dismemberment
- Long Term Disability
- Dependent Life Insurance

Email Resumes to: stonewallmb@austinpowder.com
Contact Terry @ 204-791-2885 for more information

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Recipe courtesy of Know Diabetes by Heart
 Prep time: 15 minutes
 Cook time: 18 minutes
 Servings: 4 (3 ounces chicken per serving)
 Cooking spray

Baked Parmesan Chicken

1 large egg
 1 tablespoon water
 2 teaspoons olive oil
 1/3 cup finely crushed, low-sodium, whole-grain crispbread
 1/3 cup shredded or grated Parmesan cheese
 2 tablespoons minced fresh parsley
 1/2 teaspoon ground oregano
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (about 4 ounces each), all visible fat discarded, flattened to 1/4-inch thickness
 Preheat the oven to 400 F. Lightly

spray a 13-by-9-by-2-inch baking dish with cooking spray.

In a shallow dish, whisk the egg, water and oil. In a separate shallow dish or pie pan, stir together the crispbread, Parmesan cheese, parsley, oregano and pepper. Dip the chicken in the egg mixture then in crumb mixture, turning to coat at each step and gently shaking off any excess. Using fingertips, gently press the coating mixture so it adheres to the chicken. Arrange the chicken in a single layer in the baking dish. Lightly spray the chicken with cooking spray.

Bake for 15-18 minutes, or until chicken is no longer pink in the center and the top coating is golden brown.



Recipe courtesy of Know Diabetes by Heart
 Prep time: 10 minutes
 Cook time: 25 minutes
 Servings: 4 (1/4 frittata per serving)
 Cooking spray

Ham and Broccoli Frittata

2 cups frozen fat-free potatoes O'Brien, thawed
 6 ounces small broccoli florets, rinsed in cold water, drained but not dried
 8 large egg whites
 1 large egg
 4 ounces lower-sodium, low-fat ham (uncured, nitrate/nitrite-free), cut into 1/4-inch cubes
 1/4 cup fat-free milk
 1/4 teaspoon pepper
 Preheat the oven to 400 F.
 Lightly spray a medium ovenproof skillet with cooking spray. Heat over

medium heat. Remove from the heat. Put the potatoes in the skillet. Lightly spray with cooking spray. Cook for 4-5 minutes, or until potatoes are golden brown, stirring occasionally.

In a microwaveable bowl, microwave the broccoli, covered, on high for 3-4 minutes, or until tender-crisp. Drain in a colander. Stir the broccoli into the potatoes.

In a medium bowl, whisk the egg whites and egg. Whisk in the ham, milk and pepper. Pour the mixture over the potatoes and broccoli; stir well.

Bake for 15-18 minutes, or until the eggs are set.



Green Beans with Mushrooms and Onions

cont. on next col.
 1/2 cup thinly sliced onion
 1 medium garlic clove, minced
 1/8 teaspoon salt
 2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
 1 pinch pepper
 Fill a medium saucepan 3/4 full of water. Bring to a boil, covered, over high

heat. Cook the green beans, uncovered, 5 minutes, or until tender-crisp. Drain well in a colander.

In a medium nonstick skillet, heat the oil over medium-high heat, swirling to coat the bottom. Cook the mushrooms, onion, garlic and salt 5 minutes, or until the mushrooms are soft and lightly browned, stirring frequently. Stir in the lemon juice, pepper and cooked green beans.

Recipe courtesy of Know Diabetes by Heart
 Prep time: 10 minutes
 Cook time: 10 minutes
 Servings: 4 (1/2 cup per serving)
 Water
 8 ounces green beans, trimmed
 2 teaspoons olive oil
 4 ounces sliced mushrooms, stems discarded

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Announcements

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BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday
 Charlotte Meyers
 February 10th

Two years ago our second little Princess was born
 And filled our hearts that much more with Love!
 Charlotte, you are the most loving little Sweetheart
 Full of love for Gramma and Papa,
 We are missing those big bear hugs and cuddles.
 We love you so much and want to wish you the Best Birthday Ever!

-Love Gramma and Papa Gergatz

CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Alice Karasewich would like to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has reached out in some way since Mom's passing in October. All of the cards, phone calls and those who have sent messages on social media have meant so much to us during this difficult time. Thank you to those who sent flowers and food to our homes and to those who sent memorial donations to the Rosewood Lodge Activity department for snacks. Food and your thoughtfulness truly do feed the soul and has helped to mend our hearts.

-Love from: Marie Pull, Harold Karasewich, David Karasewich, Donald Karasewich and Nancy Lawrence

Don't forget to send your special wishes to your friends and family.

Stonewall Teulon Tribune

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IN MEMORIAM



Marian Burchuk (Balness)
May 27th, 1939 - February 10, 2011
Mom, you left us beautiful memories,
your love is still our guide,
Although we cannot see you,
you're always at our side.
-Peter, Shannon, Elanna, Rob and Lisa
Dale, Skyler, Coco

IN MEMORIAM



Rybachuk
In Loving Memory
Of our brother, Donnie,
Who passed away February 14, 2016
Those whom we love go out of sight,
But never out of mind;
They are cherished in the hearts,
Of those they leave behind.
-Love,
Darleen and Colin Cameron

IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of
Gordon Kenneth Reed
September 17, 1942 - February 16, 2015
Always in our thoughts,
Missing you in some small way,
Forever in our hearts.
-Love your family

Your memory will live forever
Engraved within our hearts

IN MEMORIAM



Ronald King
November 16, 1933 - February 14, 2006
The days we've spent without you,
Have now turned 15 years;
They reflect to us your earthly life,
As Valentine's Day appears.
We cannot bring the old days back,
When we were all together;
But memories of those we shared with you,
Live in our hearts forever.
-Love always,
Shirley and family

IN MEMORIAM



Teddy Sobkowich
(passed on February 7, 2020)
Behind every picture there is a story. And boy
did this man love to tell a good story! We will
forever remember and miss the stories, laughs
and hugs that you always had for us. You
taught us so much, from how to shoot a gun,
survive in the bush, tie a fishing line, clean a
fish, all the while teaching us how the things
on the inside worked...always showing and
explaining it all with patience. Friends were
dear to you and the door was always open for
some good conversations. Your laughter was
one of a kind. We know your true and gentle
soul must be somewhere with the Angels now.
Till we meet again, with love and good
memories.
Dybosia!
-Love wife Alma,
daughters Mona, Rhonda
and families

OBITUARY



Wilf Edward Ansell
April 13, 1950 - February 5, 2021
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Wilf on
February 5, 2021, at the age of 70.
He was predeceased by his parents Edward and Frances Ansell.
Wilf leaves behind son Aaron (Jody); grandchildren Desiree
(Reuben), Darren (Brittany); brother James; sisters Connie and
Colleen; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and
friends.
A special thank you to his nephew Dwayne McArthur.
Wilf was born in Arcola, Saskatchewan. He moved to Inwood in
1959 with his family who owned and operated the Lantern Café.
In 1966 his family moved from the area, but Wilf later returned to
Inwood in 2002.
His hobbies included his love of model airplanes and fishing. You
could find him at the Gimli Airfield most weekends. He worked for the R.M. of Armstrong for nine
years before retiring in 2020.
There will be no funeral at this time, however a celebration of life will be held for family and
friends at a later date.
Special thank you to the doctors and nurses at the Stonewall Hospital.

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

MacKenzie
FUNERAL HOME

OBITUARY



James Joseph Leslie Mikula
With heavy hearts we announce the sudden passing of James
Joseph Leslie Mikula on February 1, 2021; born September 7, 1962
in Eriksdale MB.
He leaves to mourn his partner Sherry; children Andrea and
Jordan; grandchildren Leeland, Chiara, Blake, Aubrey and
Kourtney; brothers and sisters, Andy (Janet), John (Darlene),
Myrna (Randy), Dolly (Ken), and Carol (Grant); nieces and nephews
Charlotte, Wanda, Candida, Adam, Bryce, Tammy, Tannis, Daniel,
Crystal, Erica, Lynnette, Megan and Ashley.
He was predeceased by his parents, Andrew and Connie, and his
wife Carol Mikula.
Jim was a great outdoorsman. He loved his snowmobiling,
quadding and was so proud of his campsite in Mulvihill. He was a
superb craftsman, and his work will be one of his lasting legacies.
Jim was a staunch community supporter and always ready to lend a
hand. His grandchildren were a light in his life.
Jim will be sadly missed by his family and so many friends.
A memorial service will be held at a later date.
'til we meet again.

Ken Loehmer
FUNERAL SERVICES
204-886-0404

OBITUARY



Gloria Jean Turchyn (nee Dunk)
After a lengthy battle with cancer, Gloria peacefully passed in her
sleep at home, on January 23, 2021, Selkirk Manitoba.
Gloria was born to Arthur and Hazel Dunk on June 20, 1944 in
Fort William, Ontario. Growing up with sisters, Joan (Joe), Gayle,
Deloraine (Mike) and Dayle. Gloria loved to swim in the Neebing
River, play tennis in the summers and dig snow tunnels and skating
on the outdoor rinks in the winter.
Gloria worked as an operator for Bell telephone in Thunder
Bay which is where she met and married her wonderful, loving
husband, Leonard George Turchyn (1942-1999). Leonard and
Gloria had four children, Brad (Meloney), Brent (Tammy), Tamara
(1972-1973), Joanna (Jeff).
Gloria had great style and taste. Whether it be clothes or house
décor, she knew how to make everything beautiful! In addition to
being a dedicated and loving mother, Gloria loved family gatherings. Christmas was her favorite.
Gloria knew how to make a house a home, and loved watching her grandchildren playing games
such as, guess how many candies in each jar, while surrounded by her children.
Gloria also enjoyed summers at the cottage. After working part of the day on cottage life, Gloria
liked to relax by the lake, beach fire and fireworks and sip a cool gin and tonic. Even on the beach
in Lundar, Gloria still kept it classy.
Shortly after moving to Stonewall from Charleswood, Gloria began what would be a 24 year
career with Manitoba Hydro serving the Stonewall and later the Selkirk area. Gloria was a
dedicated and professional employee who loved her job, her co-workers will always remember
Gloria as an energetic and fun lady.
Not long after her retirement from Hydro, Gloria found a new love, Oakley. He is an energetic,
fun loving Shih Tzu, who loved to cuddle with Gloria, especially in her final days.
Gloria also leaves behind nine grandchildren, Edyn, Lily, Nick, Ethan, Julia, Alexandra, Tatyana,
Kali and Drew. Gloria never missed a Christmas concert and tried to split her time between
soccer and volleyball as best she could. Granny loved them eternally and will be missed by all.
Special thanks to the doctors, nurses and medical staff at SMHC and
HSC, who helped take care of mom with skilled and respectful care.
When COVID allows, a Celebration of Life will take place.
In lieu of flowers, donations in her name can be made to Cancer Care
Manitoba.

Ken Loehmer
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