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Boys and their toys

TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Spring weather, ditches of mud and water and a day off school made for perfect dirt biking adventures last Monday. Pictured from left: Duncan Thompson, Layne Stewart and Griffin Lowry from Stonewall spent the day off roading.

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COVID curlers enjoy outdoor adventures

By Jennifer McFee

A group of fun-loving curlers enjoyed outdoor adventures on the Quarry Park skating pond.

Age Friendly chairperson Joie Van Dongen said the idea of curling on the pond came up in late 2020, and now the "Crazy COVID Curlers" are pleased that it became a reality — at least for a short time while it was still safe to be on the ice.

"We connected through the South Interlake 55 Plus Zoom exercise program," she said.

"First it was too warm, then too cold, and now just right and within COVID restrictions."

The idea was initiated by community members, and on Feb. 18, Age Friendly wrote a letter to the Town of Stonewall requesting that two curling circles be painted on a portion of the skating pond at Quarry Park.

"The next day, we were there," she said. "Keeping our distance from one another, we use push brooms to push pails of frozen water on the ice."

They could accommodate about 10 people at once by dividing into two groups due to COVID restrictions.

It was all in good fun — and there was definitely no curling experience



Two and half gallon plastic buckets were filled with frozen water and used for curling on the outdoor rink at Quarry Park.

required.

"A few understand the game, but it is far from real. The first time out, we quickly realized we could not shoot a rock from one end to the other unless we changed it to a game of ice golf," Van Dongen joked.

"So we used one circle and it became more like crokinole. The rules change approximately every five minutes with much cajoling and laughter."

Although the group also sees each other through Zoom exercise classes,



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JASMIN WOLF

The Crazy COVID curlers, left to right, Brenda Badger, Laurie Briggs, Ria Cameron, Maria Glanfield, Debbie Hinds, Joie Van Dongen. Missing from the photo Clair Stephensen who joined after the photo.

Von Dongen said it feels fantastic to get together again in person.

"Realizing the importance of social contact but in a safe manner brightens everyone's spirits," she said.

"Getting outside in the fresh air is so important, as well as exercise and having fun."

Looking ahead to spring, Van Dongen already has some ideas in mind for safe outdoor activities, including

playing bocce and croquet once Quarry Park dries up — keeping COVID precautions in mind, of course.

"Quarry Park is such a beautiful place to visit," she said.

"When the time comes and we are able to gather outside, it would be fun to have a 'bring your own' picnic lunch. I am sure we can invent new alternative fun and safe activities."

Rosser Central Community Club prepares to reopen

By Jennifer McFee

The Rosser Central Community Club is looking forward to reopening within the next couple weeks at 25 per cent capacity.

In October 2020, the community club wrapped up a major renovation project, including a complete upgrade to the insulation, exterior tin and doors. The HVAC system also underwent an upgrade.

As a result, the Rosser Central Community Club can transition to year-round and multi-use facility, while also decreasing its operating fees.

President Jessica Beachell said they will finish up programs that started in fall programs such as indoor soccer, gymnastics and yoga. They were operating at near full capacity six days per week when they needed to close their doors due to code red restrictions.

Spring sessions will start in May for other programs, but they are still in the planning stages. There is a possibility that dance and gymnastic camps will run this summer too.

Beachell said COVID precautions will be in

place, including using masks at all times indoors.

She also expressed gratitude for all those who helped along the way.

"I'd like to thank the community for the fundraising efforts, our volunteer board for all the hours of work and grant proposal writing and Crane Steel of Headingley and Riddell Mechanical services of St. Francois," Beachell said.

"I would also like to thank all the organizations that provided us with grant funding."

Other contributors include the Interlake Community Foundation, the RM of Rosser, Manitoba Hydro, Building Sustainable Futures, Farm Credit Canada and Manitoba Ag Days.

Beachell said the community club is also set up and available for rent for sports teams and clubs year-round, including baseball. For more information about rentals, contact Andrea at 204-479-6476.

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Manitoba delaying COVID-19 shot second doses

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's vaccine task force announced a major change to the rollout of the COVID-19 shots last week.

Dr. Joss Reimer, the task force's medical lead, said the province is increasing the length of time between first and second doses of the vaccine. This change could allow every eligible Manitoban to receive a first dose of the vaccine by the end of May or June, depending on vaccine supply.

"This approach will allow us to immunize more eligible Manitobans sooner," Reimer said. "This helps protect us all."

Manufacturers of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines recommend second doses be administered three or four weeks after the first.

But recent guidance from the National Advisory Committee on Immunizations (NACI) has stated the interval between doses could potentially be extended to four months without losing a great deal of effectiveness.

"These vaccines are providing a significant level of protection even after one dose," Reimer explained. "This means that there is more of a clear advantage to getting vaccine to more people sooner."

Data from other parts of Canada, the United Kingdom and Israel have put first dose efficacy of the vaccines to be between 70 and 80 per cent.

"That's excellent real-world vaccine effectiveness," Reimer said, noting, of course, the vaccines have not been out long enough to get four-month data yet.

"We feel very comfortable with the data that we have in front of us, that it's been so consistent in so many different jurisdictions to provide that

high level of effectiveness up until two months," she said. "But we also will be watching and if there's any signs after that two month point that immunity starts to decrease, we can pivot again."

"That's the nature of science — we are always putting out our best plan but then testing it and

watching," Reimer said. "We need to be ready to adapt to new information as it comes in ... we feel that, based on the information available to us, this is the best plan."

Health officials have said that all second-dose appointments made before this change was announced will be honoured.

It's also important to note that a second dose of the vaccine is still needed for full protection.

"For long-lasting immunity, that second dose is really important," Reimer stressed. "We don't want to have to do this next year."

**"THIS APPROACH
WILL ALLOW US
TO IMMUNIZE
MORE ELIGIBLE
MANITOBBANS
SOONER."**

"The whole world is watching"

Reimer also addressed questions about the differences between the various vaccines now approved for use in Canada, including the newer AstraZeneca vaccine.

"Clinical and real-world studies have shown all of these vaccines to be effective in preventing COVID-19," she said. "The people who have been immunized are much less likely to not only become infected but also to have severe symptoms if they do become infected."

While these vaccines were developed quickly they still had to meet certain standards before being approved for use.

"There have clinical trials, there have been data reviews — all of the processes associated with a more typical vaccine authorization process," Reimer said. "Data on these vaccines are growing all the time and they continue to be very closely monitored. In fact, the whole world is watching as these vaccines get rolled out."

She pointed out that this close monitoring and quick reporting of any potential side effects doesn't happen with any other type of medical intervention.

"So we know far more about the vaccine safety than we do any prescription that I might write in my clinic, for example," Reimer said. "For me, the development of these vaccines shows what we are capable of on an international scale when there's a strong collective will to protect people's health."

Reimer urged people to get vaccinated with whichever vaccine is available as soon as they are eligible.

"They have all been tested and they have all been found to be safe and effective," she said.

Up-to-date vaccination eligibility guidelines and details about booking your appointment are available online at manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/index.html.

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Clocks spring forward this Sunday for daylight savings

Staff

Daylight Saving Time goes into effect on Sunday, March 14, when clocks will "spring forward" by one hour beginning at 2 a.m. The shift will essentially make it darker in the early morning hours, while leaving one extra hour of light in the evening.

It also means that March 14 will only be 23 hours long, and you'll lose sleep if you have fixed times for waking up

on the weekend. Regardless, you'll probably feel a bit discombobulated over the following days as you adjust to a different sunlight schedule.

Clocks are pushed ahead one hour in spring to what's commonly called "daylight saving time," an idea first used in Germany during the First World War with the goal of saving energy. It aims to take advantage of daylight hours in the spring so that

people don't sleep through the first few hours of sunshine.

When the daylight period gets shorter in the fall, the clocks are readjusted to the proper "local standard time."

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Staying safe at home

By Jennifer McFee

Stay safe. Stay home. Stay connected.

This trio of goals are the impetus for Safe At Home Manitoba program, which acts as an at-home resource for free online health, education and entertainment programming for Manitobans as we hunker down to abide by pandemic restrictions.

"Our PC government recognizes the importance of investing in programs to help improve the quality of life for Manitobans, while helping us stop the spread of COVID-19," said Lakeside MLA Ralph Eichler.

"The Safe at Home Manitoba programs provide the opportunity for Manitobans of all ages to stay active, engaged and entertained while spending time at home."

Several local organizations received grants through this \$5-million provincial initiative, which features free events and resources through the Safe At Home website at www.safeathomemb.ca.

Rubber Ducky Resort and Campground received \$750 in funding to provide weekly virtual bingo nights.

Owner Sheri Crockatt said information is posted on the activities page of the Rubber Ducky website (www.RubberDuckyResort.com). There's an optional Zoom link for audio and chat features, but it's not necessary since all you need is your browser.

"We've had people participate from as far as Maine," she said. "We even had someone playing on her phone while she watched the Jets game."

Typically, there aren't any prizes for regular these virtual bingo events, which include four games followed by a blackout round. However, they offered one special edition event with a prize in February and they hope to offer one more prize game in March. Upcoming games are set for 7:30 p.m. on March 11, 17 and 25.

During the camping season, Rubber Ducky Resort and Campground also hosts weekly in-person games with prizes.

Woodlands Pioneer Museum received a \$9,575 grant for its "Arty-Facts" program. This project features a series of videos set at the museum, created in conjunction with Melissa Van Soelen Digital Media Services.

"Our project was to make a series of YouTube videos set at the museum. They were created to explain some crafts and activities that people in early settlement could have done with found items and smaller things," said president Lorelee Procter on behalf of the museum board.

"The idea of all the crafts was so that people could also try those out at home if they were so inclined. As a museum, we wanted that would be something safe to fill some time while people have been so isolated. It's something old-fashioned and fun to do at home. At the same time, we can bring our museum into people's homes when they can't come to visit in person right now."

The video topics include how to build a fire like a pioneer, how to make popular toys from the early days, how to darn holes, how to make holiday crafts and how to make mitten liners from repurposed socks — among others.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Reese and Brook Maxwell have been participating in the Backcountry Fitness virtual programming since its launch. All videos are accessible through the Rosser Woodlands Recreation website or through Backcountry Fitness Facebook page.

The videos are posted on the Woodlands Pioneer Museum's website at www.woodlandspionermuseum.com as well as on YouTube.

In addition, Settlers, Rails & Trails Museum received \$6,525 for its COVID-19 Artistic Relief Project.

Shayne Campbell, president and executive director, explained that this two-part project focuses on art supplies kits and a children's historic colouring book.

The free art supplies kits were handed out recently to people who signed up online.

"Our group came up with four types of art kits, ordered the items and assembled them into kits. When they were ready, people came to the Argyle Community Centre to pick them up, doing so with curbside pickup," Campbell said.

"We gave 76 kits away, mostly local — Argyle, Stonewall, Teulon, Balmoral, Grosse Isle, Warren, Woodlands, Winnipeg, Stony Mountain and even Thompson. When artists are done creating their pieces, they have the opportunity to submit them to the museum's upcoming Art & Culture Exhibition."

This exhibition starts April 2 and runs for a year.

The children's historic colouring book is based on original artwork by Campbell with help from Kristin McCurdy with the wording and Ryan Carivic with graphic design.

This month, the museum will print the colouring and activity books, which are aimed at students in Grade 1 to 6 but could appeal to all ages.



Backcountry Fitness owner Christina Hooper has her goats make guest appearances.

"The book covers important historic events of a typical Manitoba small town," Campbell said, "using examples from the Argyle community."

In addition, Teulon and District Seniors Resource Council received \$20,340 for its 12 Weeks of Giving project. Through this initiative, about 140 to 150 local seniors in congregative living environments will receive a gift and a handwritten note on their door-knob each week.

The gifts, which are different each week, are delivered by different volunteer groups. The goal is to provide a sense of excitement and remind the older generation that someone cares about them.

Other local organizations that received Safe at Home funding include Cartier Senior Citizen Support Committee for isolation kits for seniors (\$8,500), Grosse Isle Memorial Park Recreation Club for a snowshoe loaner program for families (\$2,000) and Rosser Woodlands Recreation Committee for Families Active Together virtual programs (\$1,800) delivered by the rec commission and Back Country Bootcamp.

South Interlake 55 Plus also received \$700 in funding for creative journaling led by local artists and another \$700 for a series of interactive Zoom trivia events called "Cabin Fever Reliever — The Game Show." The next creative journaling session will take place via Zoom on March 17 at 10:30 a.m. The next game show event will take place on March 18 from 3 to 4 p.m. To register for either free event, call 204-467-2582 or email si55plus@mts.net.

To learn more about Safe at Home Manitoba, visit www.safeathomemb.ca.

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Selkirk vaccination supersite up and running

By Nicole Buffie

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority reached another milestone in the fight against COVID-19 this past Monday as the newest vaccination supersite opened at the former Selkirk and District General Hospital.

Among the first to be vaccinated at the site was Calvin Long.

"I feel no different than I did when I walked in," said Long, 93, after receiving his vaccine.

Another resident to receive their first dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech shot was Donnamay Innes, a resident from Gimli. She said it was a relief to have the site in Selkirk, meaning those in the area don't have to commute to Winnipeg or Brandon to receive their jabs.

"For a lot of people from the country, they maybe don't know their way around the city," Innes, 68, said. "I was happy that we'll just have to go this far."

Health Minister Heather Stefanson and MLA Dr. Alan Lagimodiere (Selkirk) were also in attendance of the new site reveal, receiving a tour of the registration, vaccination and observation areas.

The site is one of four supersites to open in the province, providing inoculations for those eligible including any member of the general public the age of 80 and over, and First Nations 60 years and older.

The site has 15 vaccination stations in total and had 198 people scheduled to receive their first dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech shot on opening day. Shan-



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY NICOLE BUFFIE
IERHA regional director of public health and wellness Shannon Montgomery, Health Minister Heather Stefanson and MLA Dr. Alan Lagimodiere (Selkirk) receive a tour of the COVID-19 vaccination supersite at the former Selkirk and District General Hospital this past Monday.

non Montgomery, regional director of public health and wellness for the IERHA, said they plan to ramp up numbers to provide 1,000 doses per week.

"As the vaccines start to flow, which is not a real problem today, then we'll be happy to be putting vaccines in people's arms," she said.

Montgomery said while the site can only provide the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at the moment, as different vaccines are approved community clinics will be able to inoculate eligible persons as well.

"We'll be doing pop-up clinics as we move forward," she said.

"[They] will come into the community and pop up for the day, do six or eight clinics, and then return maybe a week later or two weeks later and keep that rotation through the region going until we get as many Manitobans with shots in their arms as we can."

Supply chain disruptions have caused a hiccup in the number of people able to receive their shots. However, with the recent federal approval of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine the government is hopeful their timeline for inoculations stays on track. The province estimates with a high-supply scenario they can provide first doses of vaccines to all eligible Manitobans by mid-May. Under the low-supply scenario, the timeline moves to the end of June.

As for the Selkirk supersite, any eligible person can book their appointment at the location even if they do not reside in the area. Those in the community wishing to get their jabs at one of the Winnipeg, Brandon or Thompson locations can do so as well. As of March 7, 90,927 doses of vaccines had been administered.

Stonewall council to host waste collection public hearing

By Jennifer McFee

The Town of Stonewall will host a public hearing next week about waste collection and recyclable curbside collection, removal and disposal service.

On March 17 at 6:35 p.m., council will present the special service proposal at the public hearing in the Sunova Room of the Quarry Park Heritage Arts Centre.

The proposed service plan set up rates for 2021 and 2022, while replacing rates that were set for 2019 and 2020.

In 2020, the cost per dwelling was \$150.05. The proposed rate is set to increase by \$10.24 to \$164.22 in 2021, followed by another increase to \$174.46 in 2022. For properties with more than 80 dwellings, the proposed cost per dwelling is lower.

More information, including a copy of the special services plan, is posted on the Town of Stonewall website at www.stonewall.ca.

In other council news:

- The Town of Stonewall hosted a public hearing on March 3 regarding a conditional use ap-

plication for a cannabis retail store on Main Street in a property that is currently occupied by a retail clothing store.

According to the letter of intent, applicants Sami Toa and Kishan Patel believe that opening a cannabis retail store on the property will provide a new and positive retail service for the benefit of the community and surrounding area. They anticipate that between 180 and 200 customers would visit the retail store each day. The hours would mirror those of the Stonewall Liquor Mart.

They also noted there would be no associated odour since all products would be properly sealed and packaged by a licensed producer.

Non-medical cannabis was legalized in Canada in October 2018. In Manitoba, the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Act outlines most cannabis laws. To open a new retail cannabis store, the applicant needs to obtain an agreement with Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries, as well as licensing from the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba. In addition, the federal government share responsibility for regulating non-medical cannabis.

Council conditionally approved the application. Conditions include obtaining the required provincial licensing and approvals, entering into a development agreement with the Town of Stonewall and obtaining required permits from the South Interlake Planning District.

- Community members expressed concern about the potential removal of historic records from the town office for relocation to Manitoba Archives for permanent storage. The town will work with the Historical Society to address the issue and to ensure long-term retention of Stonewall's history.

- The Town of Stonewall and RM of Rockwood will host an online open house and community forum via Zoom on March 11 at 7 p.m. The Town of Stonewall, in conjunction with the RM of Rockwood, is developing an annexation proposal for the lands bordering the west and south boundaries of town.

More information, as well as the Zoom link, is posted on the Town of Stonewall website at www.stonewall.ca.

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Collectibles going crypto?

By Evan Matthews

A new trend is emerging in the “collectibles” industry.

Market researchers such as Deloitte or industry experts such as Antique Sage have emphasized there is renewed worldwide interest and pursuit of collectibles as an option relating to investment portfolio diversification.

Hobbydb.com, a Boulder, Colorado-based company, self-identifies as building a giant database of every collectible ever made — from diecast cars to action figures to comic books to corkscrews. The company estimates the annual sales of collectibles to be roughly \$200 billion.

So, what is this new trend?

Digital collectibles, and as of now, the best example relates to sports.

NBA Top Shot is a website designed by Dapper Labs, in partnership with the NBA and NBA Players’ Association. The website offers users the ability to purchase “moments.” The same way a collector would purchase a hockey or baseball card, a collector can now purchase a digital basketball moment.

A “moment” is a five to 10 second video clip — an NBA player of your choice shooting a three-pointer, driving the lane for a layup or smashing down an uncontested slam dunk.

Attached to these moments are players’ stats and information, the same way it would be on a card.

But why purchase a moment that you could just go on to YouTube and watch for free?

Well, why purchase a hockey card that you could just go and find a picture of online and print out?

No different than the unique serial of a printed collectible, the digital encryption provides a serial number unique to each digital moment.

Sure, you can go on YouTube and watch the same moment for free, but you don’t own any unique aspect to it. Whereas if you purchase an NBA Top Shot moment, you do, in fact, own a unique and individual digital item.

The website has its own digital marketplace where collectors can day trade.

Once a collector owns a moment, they can either showcase it on the NBA Top Shot website and social media or they can re-list it for whatever price they see fit on NBA Top Shot’s marketplace.

Once a sale is made, collectors have the opportunity to withdraw U.S. dollars in a cryptocurrency called Ethereum, which they can then subsequently convert and withdraw into Canadian dollars.

As of press time, the lowest ask for a moment for sale was US\$6. However, a 2014 moment featuring the reigning NBA MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo sold last week for almost \$137,000. Forbes has reported digital

collectibles using the cryptocurrency — blockchain technology — will grow into a \$200-billion annual revenue opportunity.

For those who don’t know, blockchain technology refers to a service acting as a cryptocurrency wallet — and a cryptocurrency exchange, in this case converting U.S. dollars to Ethereum to Canadian dollars — supporting two largest cryptocurrencies, Bitcoin and Ethereum.

Now, this is not an advocacy effort suggesting everyone buy in to this idea, but it is something to watch.

Could the financial bottom fall out of NBA Top Shots? Absolutely. Could the same happen to any or all cryptocurrencies? Anything is possible.

But so far, NBA Top Shot has already seen \$230 million in sales, and the website is still in its beta format.

As for Bitcoin, the most traded and recognized cryptocurrency? Well, it’s been around since 2010, when it was valued at \$0.08 U.S. dollars for a single Bitcoin. In 2020, a single Bitcoin is now valued at \$50,742 U.S. dollars, and increasing in value daily.

Does everyone understand cryptocurrency? No. Is there inherent risk? Yes.

Can we deny the existence of economic change and a digital shift any longer? No.

The proof is in the numbers, and the numbers are only growing.

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:
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Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are unlikely to be

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Please include your full name, address, and phone number for verification purposes.

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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY MATTHIEU MEIER

The first goose of 2021 was spotted at Oak Hammock Marsh on March 4 at 1:05 p.m. This pair was photographed on March 8. Since 1994, Oak Hammock Marsh staff have kept track of the first sighting annually, which has typically been between March 3 and March 20. The earliest recorded arrival was Feb. 21, 2017, at 1:45 p.m. and the latest was April 6, 1996, at 7 p.m. Help us record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends and/or families enjoying the outdoors. Email your photos to weather@stonewallteulontribune.ca.

Province issues third round of Manitoba Bridge Grant payments

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba government is increasing its budget for the Manitoba Bridge Grant and making a third round of payments to help protect businesses in the province from the impacts of COVID-19, Premier Brian Pallister announced on March 2.

"As the pandemic and public health orders continue to impact businesses, we are increasing our budget by \$15 million for the Manitoba Bridge Grant to help create a bridge for businesses through this challenging time," said Pallister. "We are focused on creating an environment for a sustained reopening of our economy so that businesses can reopen safely and stay open. We continue to work side-by-side with all businesses to help them get back to doing what they do best — create jobs for Manitobans and offer the services Manitobans rely on."

Through a third round of payments, the province will provide up to \$67 million in immediate support to eligible small and medium-sized businesses, not-for-profits and charities impacted by the #RestartMB Pandemic Response System. This brings the total program investment to \$215 million, which is \$15 million above

the province's original commitment of \$200 million. The province has also extended the Manitoba Bridge Grant application deadline until March 31.

Eligible businesses that received a first and second bridge grant payment, each worth up to \$5,000, will automatically receive a third equal payment beginning as early as Friday, March 5 and will be notified of the deposit via email. New program applicants will be eligible for a one-time immediate payment to a maximum of \$15,000.

"This additional payment will help cover the impact of public health orders on operating costs pending the careful reopening of our province, as well as help businesses with reopening costs as we safely loosen public health orders," said Pallister. "We recognize and appreciate the sacrifices our business community has made to keep all Manitobans safe and the crucial role it plays in our safe reopening plans."

The province created the Manitoba Bridge Grant in November 2020 to provide \$5,000 upfront to businesses, not-for-profits and charities directly affected by public health restrictions and temporarily ordered to close their

storefronts to the public. It expanded the program Dec. 8, 2020, to support home-based businesses indirectly impacted by public health orders, offering up to \$5,000 based on 10 per cent of their most recent calendar year revenues. The province expanded program eligibility Jan. 8 to include hotels, resorts, lodges and outfitters, travel agencies, janitorial services companies and owner/operators of licensed passenger transportation businesses that saw demand for their services impacted by public health orders.

To date, the Manitoba Bridge Grant program has paid approximately \$134 million to 14,775 eligible applicants. This includes approximately \$117 million to more than 11,700 storefront businesses and organizations, and \$17 million to more than 2,400 home-based businesses.

More information about the Manitoba Bridge Grant is available at www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/programs/bridge-grant.html.

Businesses that require assistance in completing the online form can contact Manitoba Government Inquiry at 204-945-3744 or 1-866-MANITOBA (1-866-626-4862).

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Some unexpected pandemic benefits

The other day, I had a conversation with my son, who is an elementary school teacher in Winnipeg, about some of the challenges he is facing as a teacher, teaching in a time of pandemic. He said he felt bad for the kids and what he felt they were missing out on because he simply was not able to teach them as he would like to. Compared to last year, this has been a stressful year for him and many of the children.

As we talked, I recalled reading about the effect of the Blitzkrieg on the people of London during the Second World War. In a survey done after the war, many people said it had been one of the best experiences of their lives. The reason? Tough times can make tough people. It's the thinking, "When all this is over, we'll be better because of it." I thought of my parents who went through the Depression in the Dirty Thirties and how they came out the stronger for it.

I went on to say to him that both his and my generations had never experienced such difficulties before. I suggested that if anything, the relatively "easy" time we've had up till now has tended to make us soft and even caused many of us to develop a sense of entitlement.

On the other hand, I suggested this may become a defining moment in the lives of these children. We may see them go on to do amazing things because they have weathered this ordeal.

One of the Bible's key teachings is that it's trials that cause us to grow. "Because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance." James 1:3

1 Peter 1:6-7 "In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith — of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire — may be proved genuine."

That may end up being one of the most unexpected benefits of this pandemic.

Pastor Henry Ozirney
New Life Teulon

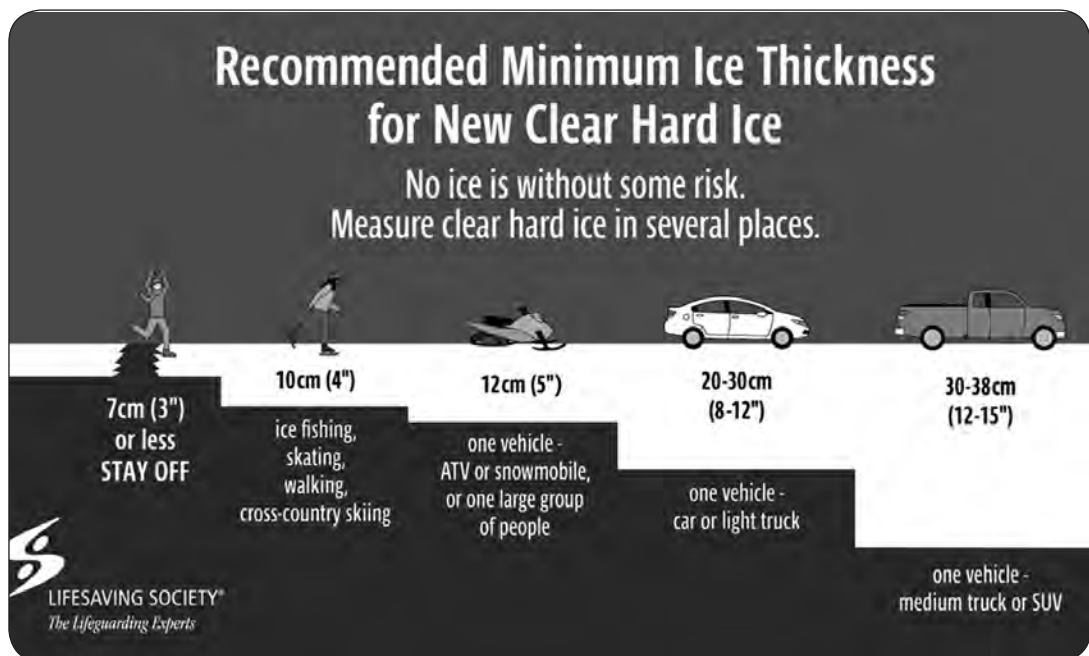
Warmer weather brings thinner ice

Submitted by the Lifesaving Society of Manitoba

Due to the ongoing above average and fluctuating temperatures in the province, Lifesaving Society Manitoba is advising everyone to stay off frozen bodies of water. All ice in the province is now unpredictable and potentially unsafe.

"If you do choose to go on the ice, then you need to plan ahead and be prepared to go through the ice and into cold water," said Lifesaving Society Water Smart co-ordinator Dr. Christopher Love. "Wear something that floats, like a life jacket over your winter clothes, don't go out alone, and be prepared to perform a rescue."

Lifesaving Society Manitoba's Ice Safety Thickness Cards are now available in nine different languages. The cards tell you how thick the ice needs to be to walk or drive on it. However, no ice should be considered without some risk.



Thicknesses of ice required to hold various weights of objects.

TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Sales tax and health and post-secondary education deadlines extended



COMMUNITY NOTICE

ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way of any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure.

For safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual vegetation control program on its rail lines in the province of Manitoba. A certified professional will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16 feet graveled area/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

The program is expected to take place from April to October 2021. Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at contact@cn.ca or 1-888-888-5909.

CN.CA

Staff

Manitoba Finance is extending its tax relief measures to provide extra support to businesses, as the province continues to protect Manitobans against the impacts of COVID-19.

Small and medium-sized businesses with retail sale tax (RST) remittances of no more than \$10,000 per month are eligible for an interest and penalty-free payment deferral to June 30, 2021. The deferral is for the January, February, March, April and May 2021 return periods. Businesses are also eligible for an interest and penalty-free payment deferral until June 30, 2021, for the March quarterly RST return.

As well, the Health and Post-Secondary Education Tax Levy returns for small and medium-sized businesses with remittances of no more than \$10,000 per month are eligible for an interest and penalty free payment deferral to June 30, 2021. The deferral is for the January, February,

March, April and May 2021 return periods. The RST and tax levy deferrals are optional and for tax payments only. Businesses must continue to file returns by the required due dates.

The province has also extended the previous interest and penalty-free repayment option set to expire March 31, 2021, until June 30, 2021.

The deferrals recognize Manitoba businesses are facing a challenging economic situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and some businesses may need access to these extra funds. The government provided similar relief in 2020, which benefited 20,000 businesses.

Businesses can contact the collections unit at the taxation division to update payment arrangements. Further information regarding filing requirements is available on the Manitoba tax publications webpage at www.gov.mb.ca/finance/taxation/bulletins.html.

Case numbers on the right track, but risk remains: Roussin

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials announced 63 new cases of COVID-19 and one new virus-related death on Monday.

That brought the total of lab-confirmed cases in Manitoba to 32,288.

There were 1,145 active cases, 30,236 recoveries and 907 total deaths due to the virus at press time. Manitoba has thus far reported six cases of the B117 COVID-19 variant and three of the B1351 variant.

"Our case numbers for the most part continue to improve, trend in the right direction, as do our hospitalization numbers," said Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer. "However, we still see many individuals in hospital, still see many individuals still in intensive care."

"So there continues to be a need for us to be on guard. The variants of concern add to that need. We are still at

Continued on page 11

Interlake School Division presents draft budget

By Jennifer McFee

The Interlake School Division is hosting an online public meeting on Wednesday, March 10 to share the 2021-22 draft budget.

To balance the budget, there needs to be a \$700,000 reduction in program and service expenditures, according to the school division's "draft budget at-a-glance" document. The primary focus is to preserve programs and services directly connected to classrooms.

School board chair Alan Campbell said it's important for the community to be clear on the total revenue and expenses.

"We are projecting an increase in our expenses of approximately \$1.05 million over the current year's expenses. The lion's share of this increase is attributable to increases in staff salaries and benefits for all of our staff based on Bill 28 mandate from the provincial government. This is consistent with the reality that staff salaries and benefits make up nearly 85 per cent of our annual expenses," he said.

"One third of our teaching staff are also entitled to increment salary adjustments until they reach 10 years of experience. We continue to budget for salary increases for all staff in accordance with Bill 28, the provincial government's Public Services Sustainability Act."

Year 3 and 4 of the sustainability period call for 0.75 per cent and one per cent increases respectively.

"Our revenues are not keeping pace with our expenses, projected to be about \$350,000 more than the current year's revenues. For the last five consecutive years, Interlake School Division has received two per cent reductions in our annual base provincial funding, in spite of the fact that our enrolment has been stable over this period," Campbell said.

"In other words, we continue to receive 98 per cent of the provincial funding that we received the year prior."

In previous years when government funding fell short, Campbell said the school board could generate revenue through local education property tax from property reassessment growth and new housing developments.

"This is the first year of the provincial government's Property Tax Offset Grant, which unfortunately does not allow the school division to increase our taxation levy from property assessment growth, which would benefit our revenue stream and would enable us to maintain most of our programs and services," Campbell said.

"This would nearly cover our pro-

jected shortfall of \$700,000."

It's proving extremely difficult to make up that \$700,000 shortfall, he added.

"When considering different areas for cost reductions in programming and staffing, the senior administration and board of trustees have been deliberate in trying to protect our K-12 classrooms," Campbell said.

"Both as a result of the COVID-19 public health requirements and also in keeping with our longstanding commitment to maintaining low pupil-teacher ratios, these reductions will not impact teachers or EA supports in classrooms."

To reduce divisional expenses, the draft budget considers potential reductions to programming for continuing education, junior kindergarten and high school alternatives. Reductions are also being considered for administrative assistant allocations, library staffing and clinical services staffing. As well, reductions might be made to student fee support, school bus purchases and school supply budgets.

"I can't stress enough that it is extremely difficult for the senior admin team and board of trustees to have to consider a list like this," Campbell said.

"We are very aware that many staff members will be directly impacted and that while K-12 classrooms continue to be insulated from these cuts overall, many students and families will be adversely impacted."

As a result, Campbell stressed the importance of community members sharing feedback and questions through the budget presentation and consultation process.

"Perhaps more importantly, we need our constituents to share their concerns with their local MLA Ralph Eichler, the Minister of Education Cliff Cullen and perhaps with Premier Pallister," he said.

"Despite ongoing advocacy to government for many years by the Manitoba School Boards Association and by divisions themselves, there is no reason to believe that the provincial government's patterns of underfunding are going to change, while expenses are expected to sky-rocket as a result of the arbitration awards."

He added that Bill 28, called The Public Services Sustainability Act, has

applied to schools for the past four years. The provincial government mandated school divisions to negotiate annual staff increases of 0.75 per cent in Year 3 and one per cent in Year 4, following no increases in the first two years.

"This government mandate is not holding up under pressure. In the last 10 months, the Manitoba Teachers Society has won arbitration hearings against two larger urban school divisions, resulting in those school divisions being ordered to pay millions of dollars in salaries to their teachers in lieu of the years where all school divisions budgeted as mandated by government's Bill 28," Campbell said.

"It is very likely that all other school divisions, including Interlake School

Division, will need to pay our local teachers along the same lines as these arbitrated awards. Even though Bill 28 is entirely the result of the provincial government, the school divisions have been told that they need to come up with the money themselves to cover these arbitration awards."

If the provincial government continues to refuse to fund these costs, Interlake School Division could see a more

substantial shortfall for the 2022-23 fiscal year, he added.

"We will have no choice but to cut teacher and EA positions," he said.

For Cathy Pleskach, president of the Interlake Teachers' Association, she's concerned that Manitoba teachers continue to do more with less funding.

"They are creating outdoor lessons and learning spaces, supplementing extra materials since equipment can't be shared or used in groups of students," she said, "and they have created at-home packages and learning plans so that there are no gaps in learning and all students can remain on pace with curricular and grade-level outcomes."

Historically, the Interlake School Division has been able to support staff and students in all these items, she said, includ-

ing going above and beyond during the pandemic.

"But years of inadequate funding by the provincial government has paid a toll, and there are going to be very tough decisions for our board to make in this budget."

The division will receive less funding than last year and has for a number of years, and we know all costs rise each year," Pleskach said.

"So it is not a matter of if students will be affected by education funding cuts this year, it's to what degree. We won't know the full impact that inevitable cuts to services will bring, but the ITA continues to advocate for staff and students as this budget is finalized." As if this isn't all complicated enough, the government is expected to release the report of the K-12 Review Commission in the coming weeks, Campbell said.

"The report, which was completed before the COVID-19 pandemic, is expected to include recommendations for the amalgamation of school divisions and possible elimination of locally elected school boards. It is unclear as to why the provincial government would consider these sorts of radical actions given it has been proven that amalgamation only wastes tax dollars and eliminates community voice in public schools," he said.

"The last thing our rural school division needs now is less local voice. While these decisions are very difficult, if they're being made by someone who has no connection to our communities, the cuts could become much deeper and wide ranging, including wide-spread position cuts, programming eliminations and school closures. Once the report of the K-12 Review is released, the ISD board of trustees will engage on further advocacy from our communities."

Community members with questions on the proposed budget can email isd@isd21.mb.ca.

The Zoom link to the budget presentation on Wednesday, March 10 at 7 p.m. is available on the Interlake School Division's website at www.interlakesd.ca.

"OUR REVENUES ARE NOT KEEPING PACE WITH OUR EXPENSES, PROJECTED TO BE ABOUT \$350,000 MORE THAN THE CURRENT YEAR'S REVENUES."



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Interlake teachers donate books to ISD schools

By Jo-Anne Procter

With this past year being one for the history books, the Interlake Teachers Association (ITA) recognizes the extra work that Interlake teachers have put in and how they are making a difference in the lives of their students.

Last week ITA president Cathy Pleskach and members of the association made special deliveries to each of the 23 schools in the Interlake School Division.

To show appreciation and in celebration of I Love to Read Month, two books were selected because of their messages of hope and donated to each library. The high schools and middle schools each received a copy of *A Road Less Taken* by Robert Frost and illustrated Vivian Mineker, and elementary schools received the book *There is a Rainbow* by Theresa Trinder.

Since March 23, 2020, students have been making history as they navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. The hope of the ITA is that when teachers sit down and read the book to students, that each person will feel honoured and supported.

There is a Rainbow was written by Trinder during the COVID-19 lockdown. There is a line in the book that reads, "On the other side of a window... is a neighbor," which encourages us to look beyond the four walls of our homes and know that we can find comfort and community on the other side of a window.

Students can relate to this past year being an uncharted path. The ITA hopes that when students consider all of the choices that were made for

them, but also left up to them, that both provided some measure of gifts and rewards. In years to come, students will come across these books commemorating the time everyone got through the pandemic.

"When you take everything away, as our students have been faced with this year, it is the teachers who remain the constant our students need and have been tirelessly keeping everyone connected and moving forward," Pleskach told the *Tribune*.

Students have missed out on making so many school life memories — time spent with friends on the playground, memorable class trips, school dances, intramurals, representing their school in sports, band, choir or academics, time spent together dedicated to studies, clubs, activities and graduation, just to name a few.

"The school experience this past year has become very militarized. Everything students do is regimented by space and time. When and where they can enter, play, study or even eat their lunch. Which hallway, which direction and even who they can interact with has been carefully scripted and monitored by ISD school staff," she explained.

High school students attend alternate days and learn half-time from home using virtual communication with their teachers and classmates.

Teachers have been working synchronously with students in-class, virtually and often everywhere in between to keep students motivated, engaged and support them as individuals.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Ecole RW Bobby Bend school received a copy of *There is a Rainbow* from ITA last Thursday. Pictured left to right: librarian Andrea McLelland, Grade 1 students Kasen and Jorja, principal Patricia Crockatt and ITA president Cathy Pleskach.

"Teachers have succeeded in keeping the school experience unique for students," Pleskach said. "They have incorporated inspiration and creativity wherever they can such as virtual field trips, classroom competitions, dress-up meetings which has helped keep spirits up and students engaged while the focus remains on the importance of curricular outcomes."

Teachers have kept students pressing on during the pandemic. Pleskach reports that Interlake teachers are meeting the needs of their students in ways that are so creative and new, and many say they will continue many of

the strategies and tools they've built moving forward.

Teachers were tasked with a big ask this past year, as were so many sectors of society.

"They responded with support and inspiration in many ways that may never be known," she said.

"Don't give up. We are here for you, we will always be here for you, and we hope you see the greatness of your accomplishments."

It's the very message the ITA hopes the donation of the books will portray.

Student journalists to contribute to *Tribune*

By Jennifer McFee

Local high school students will be getting their first bylines at a young age through their journalistic contributions to the *Tribune* newspaper.

Jesse Hourie, French immersion teacher at Stonewall Collegiate Institute, came up with the idea to have his Grade 11 and 12 French students research and write journalistic articles as a school assignment. Taking the plan one step further, he reached out to the *Tribune* to see if the students could contribute their stories for publication during "la semaine de la francophonie."

Tribune publisher Lana Meier supported the project, so readers will now have the chance to enjoy the students' French articles, with translation into

English.

For Hourie, he found that his students have remained engaged throughout the process, which began with an analysis of newspaper writing.

"We looked at newspaper bias and writing techniques and different ways to tell stories in journalism," he said.

"We also talked briefly about the importance of local media in this current climate of Facebook and social media."

After that, small groups of students brainstormed some ideas for potential stories that could be published.

"There are some really interesting ideas, and they came up with them very quickly. I gave them a whole period, but after 20 minutes they had settled on some ideas. It was nice to

see that happen," he said.

"It was also nice for them to learn that it isn't something you can do last minute. For this project, you really do have to take the initiative for it."

In addition to developing their research and writing skills, the students also learned some practical communications skills. Some students were surprised when they didn't receive immediate responses from people, who sometimes took a couple days to answer requests.

"A lot of them came to the conclusion themselves that they need to include in the subject line for the email that this is for a school project because that will help their chances at getting a response — and to clearly identify that the responses will be published

in the *Tribune*," Hourie said.

"Those are important lessons for them to learn as well. Maybe it will inspire them, and it will hopefully make them more interested in what's going on in their community. I was happy that they were really engaged with the idea from the get-go."

Hourie expressed gratitude to the *Tribune* for the opportunity and pride in his students for their hard work.

"It is exciting and I'm grateful to the *Tribune* for allowing this project to go forward. I think it does make a difference that it will be published," he said.

"The students have done really well and I'm proud of them."

Teulon woman looking for donations for furry friends

By Evan Matthews

A Teulon woman is asking for help from the community that raised her, as she tries to find "forever" homes for rescued cats to be raised, too.

Desiree Griffin, 21, started running Grateful Friends Animal Rescue in April 2020. The rescue serves Winnipeg and its surrounding areas.

"I always feel compelled to help because I love animals, and the rescue's mission is to help and protect animals in need of care," said Griffin.

"The cat population in Manitoba is very high, and there isn't enough resource to help with getting them spayed and/or neutered, as well as finding appropriate care and housing for them."

A rescue partner located in the Brandon area called Grateful Friends Animal Rescue to help with a situation in which "hoarders" had 71 cats in total, all of which need to be fostered and re-homed.

The two rescues took cats from the original home to foster homes, which Griffin organized prior to taking on the situation. The cats received an initial vet exam and vaccinations if healthy enough, she said, and some required further veterinary care and medication.

Griffin also organized a spay and neuter clinic with the veterinarian, and 12 of the cats were spayed and/or neutered. Others, however, were either pregnant, nursing kittens or still too young for the procedure.



It isn't hard to see why Griffin works so hard to save animals in unfavourable situations. Griffin has saved 41 cats and kittens.

In the end, Griffin said Grateful Friends Animal Rescue ended up with 41 cats in its care, and Griffin needs help. Once healthy enough the cats will be posted for adoption to find "forever" homes, she said, adding if someone doesn't want to adopt they



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY DESIREE GRIFFIN
Desiree Griffin sits with her cat Orange Baby and her dog Willow.

can always donate.

"If someone didn't step up to help with this situation there would be many more cats suffering and living in unfavorable conditions," said Griffin.

"It costs a lot of money to care for these animals until they're adopted. The rescue pays for the initial vet check, vaccinations, spay or neuter, deworming, tattoos and the vetting to assess whether or not they are sick and potentially need medications,"

she said.

Griffin said Grateful Friends Animal Rescue also rescues dogs. For more information, visit www.gratefulfriendsanimalrescue.com or find Grateful Friends Animal Rescue on Facebook.

The rescue is always in need of kitten food, paper pellet litter, old towels or blankets, kennels and, of course, funding. Donations can be sent by e-transfer to gratefulfriendsanimalrescue@gmail.com or by contacting the rescue directly.

The Woodlands school came tumbling down



In 2015, the former Woodlands school was foreclosed due to a mould infestation, making it an unsafe environment for children and staff. Last week the demolition of the old building finally began. Students from the new school enjoyed watching the old building come down, and for some staff and community members, it was bittersweet. The old school was built in 1975. Pictured: Mrs. Hoas' Grade 1/2 students and Ms. Peltz's Grade 1/2 students were able to watch the building come down last week.

TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY MICHELLE PELTZ

> RISK REMAINS, FROM PG. 8

risk."

A total of 164 people were in hospital due to the virus on Monday, 22 in intensive care. Fifty-four of those patients were considered to be contagious.

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 3.5 per cent provincially and 2.4 per cent in Winnipeg.

Our health region, Interlake-Eastern, had a total of 138 active cases at press time on Monday and 10 people in hospital, including three in ICU.

Breaking down the numbers fur-

ther in the Interlake-Eastern region, there were 110 active cases in Northern Remote and five in Powerview/Pine Falls at the start of the week.

Arborg/Riverton, Beausejour, Ericksdale/Ashern, Fisher River/Peguis Gimli, Pinawa/Lac du Bonnet, Selkirk, Springfield, St. Clements,

St. Laurent, Stonewall/Teulon, Unknown, Whiteshell and Winnipeg Beach/St. Andrews were all reporting zero active cases.

These areas together have seen 2,255 recoveries and 36 deaths since the pandemic began a year ago.

Viewpoint: Pandemic debt will affect generations to come

By Becca Myskiw

Mona Brown at PFK Lawyers is urging people to get ahead of the inevitable post-pandemic debt.

PFK Lawyers and BDO are hosting a series of webinars to educate people on what's to come and to help them plan for it. Brown said there's no way to know what will happen, but it's important to anticipate it.

Right now, the debt-to-GDP ratio is over 72 and climbing to 106, said Brown, which is the worst it's been since the end of the Second World War.

Because of COVID-19, government spending has been higher than usual. They've rolled out the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), business and rent subsidy programs, forgivable loan programs, and have given loan upon loan. There's also vaccine spending and an higher than usual unemployment rate, which was at 9.5 per cent federally in January.

Brown said there will also be a big bailout coming up for large airline companies because without them, the economy will cripple.

"So, someone has to pay more taxes to get the debt down," she said.

Brown said to lower the debt, the government will have to cut spending, but

they can't while they're trying to boost the economy. So, instead they have to increase taxes or cut the benefits people have right now.

The benefits Brown is referring to are the small business and small farms corporate rate of tax, which is nine per cent. She's concerned the special farmer rules will be significantly changed to get ahead of the incoming debt, but that's not the only sector that needs to worry.

"Everything and anything is potentially on the chopping block," she said.

Brown expects the economy to get worse before it gets better. There's no question, she said, that Canadians will have to pay more taxes because of the pandemic for multiple years to come.

"People have to be aware that we can't just saddle our grandchildren," she said. "It's our debt."

Anything people can do now to save for the future and prepare for it will be helpful, she said, and she encourages anyone who can, to do so. Taking advantage of the current rates is also important because they won't last much longer.

For more information, email Mona Brown at mbrown@pfklawyers.com.

Spectacular northern lights



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY DESTINY GULEWICH

The aurora borealis, or northern lights, have been dancing up a storm over Manitoba over the last few weeks. These photos were taken just outside of Teulon on March 2. A large number of pictures of this spectacle have been posted to social media by those fortunate enough to catch the show. But what causes this light show in the sky?

The bright dancing lights of the aurora are actually collisions between electrically charged particles from the sun that enter the earth's atmosphere. The lights are seen above the magnetic poles of the northern and southern hemispheres. They are known as "aurora borealis" in the north and "aurora australis" in the south.

Auroral displays appear in many colours although pale green and pink are the most common. Shades of red, yellow, green, blue and violet can also be seen. The lights appear in many forms from patches or scattered clouds of light to streamers, arcs, rippling curtains or shooting rays that light up the sky with an eerie glow.



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Your FARM



Mixed farmer maintains five income streams

By Jennifer McFee

Although he might be among the last of the small mixed farmers, an Argyll man enjoys trying out new forms of agricultural technology.

Ian Smith generates his entire income from five different sources on his quarter-section that he bought from his parents, Malcolm and Audrey, in 1994. The industrious farmer cares for a couple hundred naturally raised pigs, 15 head of cattle, 85 laying hens as well as three fields — one for canola that he sells, one that he rents out to another farmer and one for barley that he uses for feed.



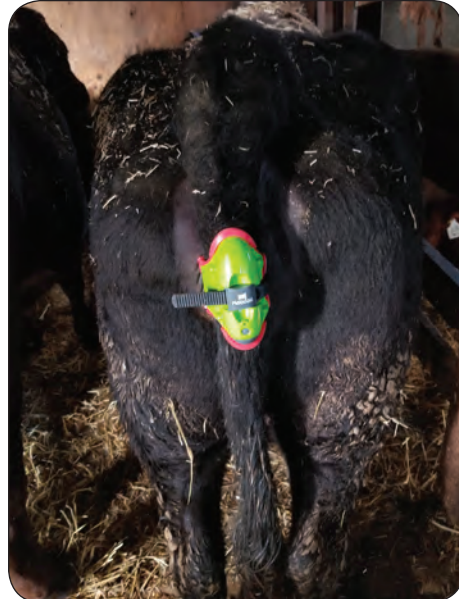
Smith raises pigs along with the beef.



Smith with his bull Gallagher.



Still driving a 1954 John Deere 60 tractor.



The Moocall sensor is attached to the cow's tail two to three days before her due date. It sends regular updates when the cow is going to calve with 95 per cent accuracy.

"I'm the last of the true mixed farmers in the province, meaning I have a little bit of everything. Hardly nobody has a quarter-section anymore. If they do, they don't have as much diversity as I have here," said Smith, who drives a 1954 John Deere 60 tractor.

"I have no off-farm income here. I have no pension coming in. I have



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Ian Smith with one of his shorthorns cows and her calf.

no spouse here that's working off the farm. I have no other money to rely on except what I'm making off this farm."

When Smith's parents bought the farm in 1953, it came with some dairy cattle. Although they shifted their focus to hogs, they still kept cattle over

the years.

Since it's preferable if cattle remain calm in order to gain more weight, Smith decided to try the docile shorthorn breed. He bought four registered shorthorn heifers from Tom Walls of

Continued on page 15

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Your FARM



The varied value of trees

PVWD urges landowners to take advantage of shelterbelt project funding, support

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Pembina Valley Water District is urging landowners to give some thought this spring to the value of shelterbelts.

Clinton Cavers, the district's GROW Program co-ordinator, says they're doing everything they can to incentivize people to plant and maintain new shelterbelts, including providing partial funding and labour for tree planting projects.

It can still be a hard sell, though, in an area where land values are so high. "Most people want to farm as many acres as they possible can get," Cavers says.

"Shelterbelts were pretty popular 40, 50 years ago, but now because they haven't been maintained they're starting to degrade, the trees are getting to the end of their life cycle, and with machinery getting larger they're maybe not in the ideal spot. That's



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

From left: PVWD GROW Program co-ordinator Clint Cavers with Kroeker Farms organics agronomist Jason Peters. Kroekers has for years made shelterbelt planting and maintenance a priority.

why you see so many that are being torn down."

But as aging trees come down, it's becoming more clear than ever the vi-

tal role they play in the landscape.

"I think people are starting to realize

Continued on page 15

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Your FARM



> VALUE OF TREES, FROM PG. 14

the value in trees," says Cavers. "Once they're gone they can see what those old shelterbelts were doing for them and how they were beneficial."

Among the benefits? Wind erosion, for starters.

"Soil is the key to having a productive and successful farm, so if the soil's blowing away you're actually losing your productivity," says Cavers.

Shelterbelts also do their part to keep snow on the fields in the winter — something that can be immensely helpful during a dry spring.

On the flip side, they also provide a measure of flood protection.

"Having that snow stay in the field and on the field a little bit more slows the runoff in the spring, which has great effect for soil erosion and flooding," Cavers says.

A well-placed shelterbelt also provides shelter for livestock and wild-

life and reduces the impact of wind on snow drifting on nearby roads and yards.

But perhaps one of the biggest benefits — and one the water district is understandably most excited about — is the role trees play in refreshing local aquifers.

One recent study shows that a single kilometre of shelterbelt can supply over nine million litres of water to an aquifer per year.

"It's pretty incredible," says Cavers. "And with an area like Winkler in particular where you have irrigation and lots of development happening, that aquifer recharge is hugely important."

PVWD, through the GROW Program, has about \$80,000 it can spend on shelterbelt projects across the region this year. It also teams up with local municipalities in funding certain projects, including the City of Winkler

and the RM of Stanley.

Whether it's a single row of trees along a driveway or several shelterbelts on a larger farm, no project is too small for consideration, Cavers stresses, explaining funding is based on the size of the shelterbelt.

"There's a huge list of trees that are available to plant," he says. "We will basically supply the trees. We can also supply some help with summer students to install the trees."

"And with this program we offer a little bit of incentive for the land that the shelterbelt takes up," Cavers explains. "So if there's an acre or two taken up by a shelterbelt along the side of your field, you can apply for some incentive payment to offset that."

One local farm taking PVWD up on this offer are potato growers Kroeker Farms, who have made shelterbelt planting a priority for years.

Jason Peters, organic agronomist with Kroekers, says that while some

trees do need to be removed at the end of their life cycle, the company is committed to replacing as many as they can.

"Potato ground is extremely vulnerable to erosion," he points out. "We know we need trees to help keep it where it is. Without the soil, we have nothing."

CEO Wayne Kroeker adds that they feel a duty to the land they oversee.

"I do think we have an obligation beyond economics — we need to protect and enhance the environment and the precious resource of our soil."

If you'd like to learn more about the incentives available for shelterbelt projects, contact Cavers at 204-245-0636 or pvwdgrow@gmail.com.

"If anybody has any ideas or inklings that they might want a project to happen on their land, just give me a call and I will come out and see them," he says.

> MIXED FARMER, FROM PG. 13

Balmoral in 2017, followed by two more the next year.

"He's been my mentor and guides me through," Smith said of Walls.

Now, Smith and Walls are the only two registered shorthorn breeders in the Interlake. In total, there are about 20 registered shorthorn breeders in the province, Smith notes.

Shorthorns were the first registered breed in North America, he adds. He refers to his animals as "Armac" shorthorns — "Ar" for "Argyle" and "Mac" for his dad's first name (which was actually Malcolm, but everyone called him Mac.) His family, his community and the shorthorn breed all have ties that bind to Scotland.

With an appreciation for agricultural history, Smith also keeps his eye on the future of the industry — and he doesn't shy away from incorporating new technology.

About two months ago, Smith installed cameras in his cow barn so he could keep an eye on his cattle remotely.

"The cameras are quite a novelty. They're pretty nice to have. I can sit in the house and watch the cows calve from my couch. I can watch it on TV or the computer or even my phone," he said.

"There's a camera in the centre of the barn on the ceiling and I can turn it around from inside my house or anywhere from my phone. I could be in Winnipeg and turn the camera around to see what's going on with each cow."

A couple weeks ago, he also added another technological feature — a calving sensor called Moocall from Ireland.

The sensor is attached two to three days before

the cow's due date, high on the tail opposite the vulva, using a ratchet clip. The Moocall measures tail movement when a cow gets contractions and sends an SMS notification to a phone or computer.

"I'm only the third person in Manitoba to have this. It straps onto the cow's tail and it detects when the cow is going to have a calf. It's supposed to give you a two-hour notice, then another text an hour before they calve," Smith said.

"The technology is just unreal. It's totally awesome. I have two of them now, and it's unbelievable. They'll save a calf's life, for sure, because you can't be there all the time when a cow's calving. It gives you a warning and tells you when a cow is going to give birth."

For Smith, the best part of farm life is the hands-on experience that comes from working with the animals. All of his pigs and cattle are under a herd health program with his vet. Smith runs a closed herd, which means he keeps his own replacement females to reduce bringing in any health problems with other animals.

"Every animal has their own personality. I've only got Grade 9 education and that built character in me. I'm not a big believer in textbooks; you've got to learn by experience," said Smith, who goes outside at 5 a.m. to start his daily chores with the animals seven days a week.

"I might be the hub of the wheel of this place, but the hub is no good without the spokes, meaning the people who surround me — like the guy I buy my hay from, the veterinarian I deal with, the guy that does my AI for me for the cattle, my neighbours at New Haven Hutterite

Colony, the mechanics, the electricians that I depend on. In some cases, the big operations don't depend on locals in the same way."

For Smith, the bulk of his business still comes from pork sales. He proudly maintains a binder with the names of hundreds of customers as well as a website called Natural Raised Pork at www.naturalpork.ca.

"I've got customers that have been very loyal to me," he said.

"If you love what you're doing, it's not work. I just turned 58 and I would say I've never worked a day in my life."

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RCMP investigate disturbance at Stonewall Collegiate

Staff
Stonewall/Headingley RCMP received a call of possible disturbance/fight at Stonewall Collegiate Institute on March 2 at about 12 noon. Following an investigation, it was revealed that students from another school had planned to attend the SCI for a fight with some other students. As a result of the unfolding situation, SCI was put into a “hold and secure” phase for the safety of the students. Police officers from Stonewall/Headingley RCMP attended the school area to keep the peace and deter such negative actions. As a result of co-operation from SCI staff and the police, nothing of the sort occurred and the hold and secure was lifted from the school.

RCMP execute search warrants and seize firearms

Staff
Manitoba East District Crime Reduction Enforcement Support Team (CREST), along with the assistance of RCMP Stonewall detachment and other specialized units, executed two search warrants in Stonewall and Gunton in relation to illegal firearm possession on March 5. Police seized two firearms, a cross-bow, various types of ammunition, methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. Two males from the Interlake region were arrested. A 61-year-old male is facing charges of possession of a firearm without a licence and storage of a firearm contrary to the regulations. A 36-year-old male is facing charges of possession of a firearm without a licence, possession of a stolen firearm and storage of a firearm contrary to regulations. They were released and are scheduled to appear in court on June 21, 2021. The investigation is ongoing.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED
RCMP seized two firearms during two search warrants, one executed in Stonewall and the other in Gunton on March 5.

INTERLAKE SCHOOL DIVISION 2021-2022 DRAFT BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE

ISD Quick Facts:

Student Enrolment:

2020-2021: 2964 Students
2021-2022: 2952 Students

Pupil : Teacher Ratio

2020-2021:
K-8 Avg. PTR = 19.28
9-12 Avg. PTR = 16.25

2021-2022:
K-8 Avg. PTR = 19.65
9-12 Avg. PTR = 17.54

*Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) is the number of students divided by the number of classroom teachers in each building.

Professional Staff:

2020-2021: 235 Prof. Staff
2021-2022: 235 Prof. Staff

*Professional staff includes teachers, school administrators, program support, and clinicians.

Student Services:

Clinical services available to students include:

- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech/Language
- Psychology
- Social Work

Transportation:

- 1500 Students transported by bus
- Approx. 900,000 km travelled in total per year by ISD buses

Operations:

- 13 Public Schools
- 9 Colony Schools
- 2 Divisional Buildings

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The Interlake School Division's Board of Trustees and Senior Administration have developed a draft budget for the 2021-2022 school year.

FROM 2020-2021 BUDGET TO 2021-2022 BUDGET	Overall Expenditure Increases	\$1,050,000
	Overall Additional Revenue	\$350,000
	Budget Shortfall	\$700,000



Balancing the 2021-2022 budget will require a reduction of \$700,000 in program and service expenditures.

Our primary focus in budget planning is the preservation of programs and services directly connected to Kindergarten - Grade 12 classrooms.

The following programs and services are being considered for revision in the 2021-2022 budget and will be discussed in detail at the Public Budget Meeting.

- Administrative Assistant Allocations
- Continuing Education Programming
- Junior Kindergarten Programming
- Student Fee Support
- Library Staffing
- High School Alternative Programming
- Clinical Services Staffing
- School Supply Budgets
- School Bus Purchases

Public input is an important part of our planning process.



Online Public Budget Meeting

Wednesday, March 10 at 7:00 PM

Login information will be posted at:
www.interlakesd.ca

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



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Irish Potato Bread

tender. Remove potato from saucepan into large bowl. Mash potato then set aside.

Grate second potato onto cloth. Wring potato in cloth to remove excess water. Add grated potato to mashed potato in large bowl. Add egg, egg white, oil, milk, onion, caraway seeds, 3 1/4 cups flour, baking powder and salt. Stir with wooden spoon until mixture is soft and sticky.

Turn dough onto floured surface. Adding flour as needed, knead dough to form 8-inch round shape with slight dome. Place dough onto baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Cut large "X" on top of dough about 1/2 inch deep.

Bake 55 minutes until golden brown. Cool on wire rack 1 hour before serving.

2 medium or large russet potatoes
1 egg
1 egg white
1/3 cup canola oil
3/4 cup milk
2 tablespoons green onion, minced
1/2 teaspoon caraway seeds
3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus additional for dusting and kneading
1 1/2 tablespoons baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
Heat oven to 375 F.
Peel potatoes. Slice one potato and boil in saucepan 15 minutes, or until



Mint Brownies

1/2 cup butter

Heat oven to 350 F.

Spray 8-by-8-inch pan with nonstick cooking spray.

In large bowl, mix brownie mix, water, oil and egg until combined. Pour into prepared baking pan. Bake 35 minutes. Cool completely, about 1 hour.

To make filling: In large bowl, beat powdered sugar, butter, whipping cream, cream cheese, peppermint extract and food coloring. Spread over cooled brownies. Refrigerate 1 hour, or until set.

To make topping: In saucepan, melt whipping cream, chocolate chips and butter until smooth. Cool until lukewarm, about 10 minutes. Pour over filling; spread to cover. Refrigerate 2 hours, or until set.

Before serving, let brownies set 10 minutes at room temperature.

Tips: Cut brownies with wet knife for cleaner cuts. Store covered in refrigerator.

Servings: 9-12
Nonstick cooking spray
1 box supreme brownie mix with chocolate syrup pouch
3 tablespoons water
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1 egg
Filling:
3 1/2 cups powdered sugar
1/4 cup butter, softened
1/4 cup whipping cream
5 ounces cream cheese, softened
1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract
5 drops green food color
Topping:
1/2 cup whipping cream
1 bag (12 ounces) chocolate chips

Forgiveness and letting go



By Gwen Randall

The hardest pain to carry in life may be the one we create within our own mind. The deepest hurts, notwithstanding loss of loved ones, invariably result when we feel someone has not lived up to our expectations. They have not loved, respected, or cared for us as we wish they might have.

We yearn for that fulfillment to come, like a cat waiting for someone to fill up her food dish. We feel a void inside, and keep focusing on that emptiness. We feel sad it is there, and look to someone else to fill that void. It may be a parent, partner, friend or even an employer. When it does not come, there is a feeling of disappointment, sadness, and perhaps bitterness along with feelings of lesser worth.

Unfortunately, the reason another does not fill this void in the way we would like is because they do not know how. They have their own inner void. We are all moving along a healing path, after all. The love, respect and caring we crave needs to come from within anyway. If we truly love and honor ourselves, with compassionate patience, we fill the inner void. Then we are free to simply love others, without expecting anything in return.

This is the unconditional loving

that returns a hundredfold. Waiting for others to do this for us creates pain. Resenting them for not having done it in the past creates bitterness. Pain and bitterness reside in our own hearts: we are hurting ourselves. If we no longer want the hurt, we must give up the idea of changing what is outside of ourselves. Instead, we just release the pain and bitterness. That's it. As soon as we choose to let go of the pain and bitterness we have chosen as the response to life events, the hurting stops.

Forgiveness does not mean that the hurtful acts of others are okay. Forgiveness means that we are no longer going to hold others responsible for the pain and bitterness we have been carrying in relation to them. We may not understand their actions, or why it is they cannot change. We recognize the pain as our way of blaming them for not being who we want them to be. Forgiveness means that we see they are who they are, and we are free to choose a less painful response. We may love them anyway, or decide to keep some distance. Either way, we no longer blame them for our unhappiness.

This is letting go. Once we learn to let go, whether the person is in our lives or not, we have untied the knot that bound us together in negativity. Both feel the freedom. The irony, or the miracle, is that often once we have let go, the love we have always wanted begins to flow freely.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for daily inspiration.



Mint Chocolate Chip Cookies

Servings: 24-32

2 1/2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup butter, softened
1 1/4 cups sugar
2 eggs

Mint Brownies

30 drops green food coloring
1 teaspoon peppermint extract
1 package (12 ounces) chocolate chips

Heat oven to 375 F.

In large bowl, mix flour, baking soda and salt until blended. Set aside.

In medium bowl, beat butter and sugar until combined. Add eggs, food coloring and peppermint extract; beat until combined.

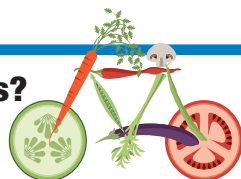
Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients; beat until combined. Stir in chocolate chips. Drop spoonfuls of cookie dough onto baking sheet.

Bake 11-14 minutes, or until edges are lightly browned.

Cool on wire racks.

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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Manitoba baseball community loses a legend

By Brian Bowman

The baseball community in Manitoba lost a legend recently.

George Ledochowski passed away on Feb. 27 at the age of 89.

His baseball resume is a very impressive one.

In 1946, he joined the Chatfield baseball team, along with four of his brothers, and as their pitcher he led the team to dominance throughout the Interlake.

In the early 1950s, Ledochowski was invited to a professional baseball try-out in Florida but declined to continue operating the family store.

Famous for his "hook ball," Ledochowski was quite the outstanding pitcher in his prime.

"George was an excellent pitcher," recalled his good friend, Gladwyn Scott. "His famous pitch was a curveball. ... I heard stories about him from the '40s and '50s."

Scott was often referred to as Ledochowski's baseball twin due to their passion for the sport and the fact they were both born on the same day and same year.

"In 1981 I met him and he was going pretty strong then with the Teulon team," said Scott. "I used to write for the papers there, Selkirk and Stonewall, and I used to write a lot about them. We also played some oldtimers (baseball) in the early '80s and we were pretty much over the hill then. We pretty much became good friends. We both had a strong interest in sports, particularly baseball."

The Chatfield team was inducted to



Ledochowski took to the mound at 15 and soon became a mainstay on Chatfield's Senior Men's Team.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

George Ledochowski, front row, second from left, joined the Chatfield baseball team in 1946 along with four of his brothers.



Ledochowski, left, was inducted to Manitoba's Baseball Hall of Fame for his individual achievements both as a player and as a coach. Pictured with Ed Helwer.



In 1970 Ledochowski, front row, third from left, moved to Teulon where he and Mike Makowski combined to form some of the Interlake's premier baseball clubs. The Teulon Whips captured two provincials Intermediate titles, while the Cardinals won the Western Canadian Championships in 1975. The Cardinals also claimed Red Boine Senior Baseball League titles in 1970 and 1981.



Ledochowski pitched his last game when he was 68 years old at a Chatfield Oldtimers' tournament in 2000.

Manitoba's Baseball Hall of Fame in 2003 in recognition of their great success from 1952 to 1957. While playing in tournaments with Chatfield, Ledochowski played league-organized baseball with the Balmoral Orioles.

He became involved with the Teulon Whips in 1971, winning back-to-back provincial titles in 1974 and 1975, when they also went on to win the Western Canadian championship.

Ledochowski continued to play, coach, and manage Teulon men's baseball over the course of five de-

acades. In addition to their numerous provincial titles, the Teulon Cardinals' all-time highlights included a spot at nationals in 1991 and 1998.

It was a banner year in 1998 for Ledochowski as he was inducted to Manitoba's Baseball Hall of Fame for his individual achievements both as a player and as a coach.

Ledochowski was involved in baseball for 68 consecutive years (1946 to 2014). He pitched his last game when he was 68 years old at a Chatfield Oldtimers' tournament in 2000.

"He was a hard-working man, building roads, things like that so he was always in good shape," Scott noted. "He lasted a lot longer than most baseball pitchers would."

Ironically, that's the same place where he threw his first pitch in 1946 with the Chatfield Cardinals.

His sons, Ross and Rodney (who was coached by Scott), played for the Teulon Cardinals for many years, keeping the team active until 2014. His daughter Roxane was a member of Smitty's fastball team.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Bremner commits to Selkirk College Saints hockey program

By Brian Bowman

Rhys Bremner's junior career disappointingly ended when the MJHL made the decision to cancel the 2020-21 season last month due to COVID-19.

But a new chapter in his hockey career will begin this fall.

The Stonewall product and former Interlake Lightning recently committed to attend school and play hockey for the Selkirk College Saints, located in Castlegar, B.C.

Bremner heads west after three seasons with the MJHL's Neepawa Natives.

Former Natives' captain Brad Marshall plays for the Saints and, along with Neepawa head coach Ken Pearson, helped persuade Bremner to select Selkirk College.

"It's a good pace of hockey," Bremner said. "I haven't gotten to watch any games yet because this year there weren't any games because of COVID. There are a couple of guys that

were 98s that played in the MJ in my first year and they were high-quality players. I expect it to be high-quality hockey."

Bremner is also going to have an opportunity to witness some high-quality scenery. Selkirk College is surrounded by trees and mountains.

"I'm really excited," Bremner said. "I was just talking to Dave, the coach, on the phone and he said it hasn't been colder than minus six (Celsius) since he's been out there. Compared to Manitoba when you're plunging in your car everyday, it's pretty crazy."

Bremner expects to play a key part on the Saints' blueline next season. He had a real good 2019-20 season in Neepawa, scoring five goals while adding 18 points and collecting 150 penalty minutes. He had two assists in 10 games this season before the MJHL halted play due to COVID.

"Personally, (last season) I put up better numbers than I did in my rookie year and a lot of that just came

with confidence," said the 6-foot-2, 181-pound Bremner. "I was getting used to the speed and stuff. "Defensively, statistically, things didn't go the way I had hoped in Neepawa. In Neepawa, we were all more worried about winning games than our personal stats. We were just trying to do what we could to win. It's nice to have some personal success but at the end of the day, it's not the most important thing."

Bremner gave the Natives a very physical presence on the back end and was never one to back down from a fight. He will continue to play a physical style at the collegiate level.

"It's definitely not as prevalent (in university) as the game is faster," he said. "But I do think it's an important role and every team needs a couple of guys to go in there and play that role. You can't have a team made up of all first liners. You need guys to go in there and shut down the other team's first liners."



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Former Neepawa Natives' defenceman Rhys Bremner has committed to play hockey and attend school with the Selkirk College Saints of the British Columbia Intercollegiate Hockey League next season.

MJHL launches first annual Draft Prospect Camp

From the MJHL

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League is pleased to launch the MJHL Draft Prospect Camp to be held in conjunc-

tion with the annual MJHL Prospect Development Camp.

Hosted from July 14 to 17 at Seven Oaks Sportsplex in Winnipeg, the

U16 age-division (MJHL Draft Prospect Camp) will feature elite Manitoba players from the 2006-born age category who will be eligible for the 2022 U17 MJHL Draft.

With the recent updates to the MJHL Draft process, moving to a U17 age category, the addition of the MJHL Draft Prospect Camp will give MJHL organizations the opportunity to begin identification of those (U16) 2006-born players in a high-performance environment.

The current MJHL Prospect Development Camp has traditionally seen one division of the top U18 prospects from MJHL teams who are listed or drafted and eligible to compete for a roster spot in the upcoming MJHL season. That camp will coincide July 15-18 also at Seven Oaks Sportsplex.

Both camp divisions will further provide hockey partners such as the Western Hockey League, NCAA, and Hockey Manitoba U16 Program of Excellence opportunities for player identification and evaluation within one convenient setting.

"We are excited to add another age group to our annual summer MJHL

Prospect event and for the opportunity to work with these young athletes as they continue on their development path," said MJHL commissioner Kevin Saurette.

"It has been a difficult season for all of these players and this camp will provide them with the environment to showcase their abilities, while also learning more about the MJHL and what it takes to succeed at the next level."

An elite class of guest coaches and development personnel that regularly participate in the MJHL Prospect Development Camp along with "AAA" coach networking and mentorship opportunities will become a part of the new MJHL Draft Prospect Camp.

Initial invites for the 2021 MJHL Draft Prospect Camp will be distributed in the coming weeks directly to those players identified.

The MJHL will continue to monitor and adjust to public health orders leading up to the planned event in July.

Please stay tuned for upcoming camp announcements including event schedule and rosters.

King signs with OCN



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Interlake Lightning captain Karson King has signed with the MJHL's OCN Blizzard. The Warren product was a 2019 seventh overall pick in the MJHL Bantam draft.

Tim Hortons Brier is underway; Team Koe leading the way

By Ty Dilello

Team Kevin Koe of Alberta featuring Gimli's B.J. Neufeld at third is currently leading the way at the 2021 Tim Hortons Brier in Calgary.

The upstart Koe rink has started the event with five straight wins, the most vital being a decisive win over the defending champion Team Canada rink that is skipped by Brad Gushue.

"They're a great team, and we're a great team. When both teams are playing pretty good, it's an entertaining affair," said Neufeld. "This is why we play the sport – to have these types of games on this type of stage. You've got a lot of great players out there that know how to play under pressure, and the result of that is great games, exciting, and they usually go down to the wire."

"I think that's a safe bet," Koe added when asked if he expects to play Gushue again in the playoffs. "They're defending champs for a reason. They'll only get better. Both teams had a lot of good shots and a few sloppy shots, but it was a pretty well-played game. They'll be around for sure, and if we're playing them again, that means we're in there as well."

At 5-0, Koe's new lineup of B.J. Neufeld, John Morris and Ben Hebert is poised to make a deep run in the event.

West St. Paul's Mike McEwen (Team Wild Card #1) and his team of Reid Carruthers, Derek Samagalski, Colin Hodgson are also in the thick of things this week with a 2-2 record.

"We've had some good games and some not great ones so far," said McEwen's third Reid Carruthers. "We know we can play a lot better, and we know we're going to need to as wins are only going to get harder and harder to come by as the week goes on."

"You just gotta take things one game at a time," added McEwen. "That's the only way you can get through the week."

Jason Gunnlaugson of the Morris Curling Club is also carrying the Manitoba flag this week and is an impressive 3-0 to start the Brier. Gunnlaugson's week was kickstarted by defeating perennial favourite Brendan Bottcher of Alberta.

"Really a fantastic start," said Gunnlaugson's third Adam Casey. "It's a long week, and with three teams making the playoffs, you can only afford to pick a win against a top-three or four team in the world is just a fantastic start. I think everyone felt pretty comfortable out there, figuring out the ice. Such a good start to build on and grow on."

Saskatchewan's Matt Dunstone, who hails from Winnipeg, pulled off quite the victory on Monday night when he drew the button with his final stone in the tenth end to defeat Team Canada's Brad Gushue 6-5. The win moved him into a tie for second place in his pool with a 3-1 record.

"They're all big wins, but this one, especially — a little bit of a revenge game from last year, so it feels good to get that one," said Dunstone. "We've



TRIBUNE PHOTO CURL CANADA

Gimli's B.J. Neufeld and Team Kevin Koe are currently pacing the field at the 2021 Tim Hortons Brier in Calgary with a perfect 5-0 record.

been playing really well the first four games; we feel like we've been in control of almost every end we've played out here."

"We're pretty pleased. But we're only halfway through the first round robin, so if we can keep it trucking, I like where we're going to be at the end."

This year's Tim Hortons Brier in the Calgary bubble features 18 teams, split up into two pools of nine. All teams play an eight-game round-robin, and

if by the end of it, they are ranked as one of the top four teams in their pool, they will advance to a championship pool where they will face off against the four qualifiers from the other pool. The three teams with the best overall records will qualify for Sunday's playoffs.

At the end of the week, the winning team will go on to represent Canada at the 2021 World Men's Curling Championships in Calgary in early April.

Hockey Manitoba updates Return to Play policy

Staff

Based on the province's public health orders that took effect last Friday, indoor ice rinks will be permitted to open for practices and drills. There will no longer be a one-to-one

requirement and no organized games or tournaments are allowed.

Groups of a maximum of 10 players will be able to participate in practices (excluding coaches and instructors) and must take reasonable measures to ensure that there is no interaction between different

groups participating at the same time. The ice surface can be divided in half with one group on each side.

Indoor rinks will be permitted to open at 25 per cent total capacity, with public health measures in place for spectators and common areas. Dressing rooms will be permitted to open at 50 per cent of the usual capacity or

to a number that ensures that all persons in the dressing room are able to maintain a separation of at least two metres from other persons, whichever is lesser.

Hockey Manitoba has released Version 6 of its Return to Play (RTP) plan which includes updated Indoor/Phase 2 protocols.

Interlake Minor Hockey Association
is currently accepting applications for the following



**REGIONAL COACHING
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for the 2021-2022 season:

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- AAA U15 Male • AAA U15 Female
- AAA U17 Male • AAA U18 Female

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Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League ices season

Staff

The Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League has made the decision to suspend league play for the remainder of the 2020-21 season.

While no league championship will be awarded, teams are permitted to pursue activity, including practices, team events and exhibitions games, as Public Health restrictions may permit.

"Our decision reflects the uncertain time-

line and lack of direction from public health with respect to game play," said Manitoba U18 Hockey League commissioner Levi Taylor in a statement. "Thank you to our players, coaches, managers and volunteers for continued dedication to this program. We share in your frustration. We will continue to engage with the provincial government, public health and local facilities to ensure a safe and responsible return to play for the 2021-22 season."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Students raise money while spreading kindness

By Jo-Anne Procter

Kindness is a characteristic trait worth sharing, and students from Grosse Isle School were able to collect \$720 worth of kindness to share with the 4th annual Keira's Winter Klassic Ringette Tournament.

Keira's Winter Klassic is a ringette tournament held in Winnipeg in honour of Keira Bond, a St. James ringette player with ties to Grosse Isle who passed away from an aggressive malignant brain tumour. In December, 2016 at 10 years old, Keira was diagnosed. Soon after, she began Keira's Krusade to fundraise for others with cancer and sadly passed away in June 2017.

Grosse Isle school students and staff wanted to help spread kindness by taking part in this year's 12 Days of Kindness for Keira while focusing on

their ringette skills.

Due to the pandemic, Keira's Klassic took on a new look. It became the 12 Days of Kindness for Keira and ended up being a Canada-wide, 12-day shooting challenge where participating teams tried to take the most shots while raising money for pediatric brain cancer research and sharing acts of kindness. Teams from British Columbia to Prince Edward Island signed up, and 26 teams took over half a million shots for this year's Klassic.

For two weeks in February, all Grosse Isle students practised their ringette skills. They held a COVID-friendly hot dog lunch fundraiser, practised random acts of kindness and wrapped up with an outdoor "Klassic Day" on the Grosse Isle outdoor rink.

The 4th annual Keira's Winter Klassic raised over \$15,000, which will be



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY MONICA BALDWIN

Grosse Isle Grade 5 and 6 students took part in ringette skills as part of Keira's Winter Classic in February.

added to the \$83,000 raised at the last three tournaments. All funds raised goes to CancerCare Manitoba's pediatric brain cancer research.

For more information on Keira's Krusade, please go to www.keiraskrusade.com.

MHSAA announces transfer policy amendment for the 2021-22 school year

From the MHSAA website

The MHSAA received numerous inquiries as to the effect the COVID-19 pandemic has on the association's transfer policy, and questions surrounding transfers happening now or moving into next school year.

At the request of the MHSAA board of directors, a survey of all 15 member zones was conducted by the MHSAA's executive director regarding this topic. Responses were received from all zones' presidents and the results clearly indicated a desire by our member schools to see a temporary amendment to the transfer policy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A core element of the MHSAA transfer policy, as established by our member schools, is that student-athletes that transfer schools are ineligible for 12 months, in any sport they have participated in during the preceding 12 months. This is a common concept in school sport across Canada.

We know that at times in the past, individuals or schools make efforts to get around the rule, but generally the rule acts as a deterrent for athletically motivated transfers, something our membership has steadfastly believed is contrary to the goals and values of school sport. The issue created by

the COVID-19 pandemic is that we have had no interschool competition since mid-March 2020, and it appears unlikely we will see any meaningful competition for the remainder of this school year.

This results in every student-athlete in Manitoba no longer being tied to their school for athletic purposes. Creating, for all intents and purposes, 35,000-plus free agents who under current MHSAA policy would be able to move schools primarily for athletic purposes and participate immediately. There has been concern raised that without a change to policy in response to the situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic, there would be an unprecedented number of transfers motivated by sport that would have a significant effect on the competitive balance of school sport in Manitoba for years to come.

Any student-athlete requiring a transfer for one of the other approved reasons in the MHSAA transfer policy (change of principal residence, etc.) would still be able to have their new school submit a standard transfer appeal submission. The desired effect would be to achieve a consistent application of the existing MHSAA transfer rules, allowing those transfers that

have traditionally been allowed, while closing the opportunity created by the COVID-19 pandemic for a potential high number of athletically motivated transfers. The association is cognizant that student-athletes and their families are currently planning for the Fall 2021 academic year, and we want to provide our member schools with the proper guidance so they can inform any inquiring students and their families appropriately.

Transfer Policy Amendment: Not competing in interschool competition in the COVID-19 affected seasons of play would not meet the requirement to transfer without a period of athletic ineligibility, therefore ensuring student-athletes are subject to the normal and existing MHSAA transfer policy. The MHSAA board of directors has approved the following amendment to the MHSAA's transfer policy:

Point 1 of the MHSAA transfer policy for the 2021-2022 school year will read:

The student did not participate in a particular sport at the interschool level for 24 months prior to the date of transfer. Written confirmation from the principal or vice-principal at the previous school is required or the student accepts his/her ineligibility un-

der the Transfer Policy, but requests eligibility for the sports he/she did not participate in at the interschool level for the 24 months prior to the date of transfer. Written confirmation from the principal or vice-principal at the previous school is required. Students who transferred schools before Oct. 1, 2020, are exempt from the 24 months amendment.

Timeline: The amendment will be in place for the 2021-2022 school year only. This amendment will be automatically removed following the 2021-22 school year.

Intent and Rationale: The intent is to state that missing a season of play due to COVID-19 cancellations, does not allow a student to transfer schools without restriction. The Oct. 1, 2020, date is to recognize that students may have transferred prior to the 2020-21 school year and were expecting to either go through the process to obtain eligibility due to a valid transfer, or to sit out a year already. The MHSAA is aware that most student movement that occurs in the first few weeks of the year is normally done by the Oct. 1 date.

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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

S	E	T	A	S	E	R	T	R	V	S
S	U	O	R	I	C	E	T	L	I	A
K	W	R	G	N	E	S	S	V	P	D
S	I	H	A	V	W	S	V	D	O	S
E	N	C	V	A	S	R	E	S	U	
D	V	R	D	F	L	D	S	I	D	
	V	S	E	M		O	T	I	P	E
E	N	I	M	V			E	T	E	R
T	O	R	V	P		T				
U	I	T	B	I	S	E	V	S	V	N
O	T	V	S	T	E	M		S	H	V
V	W	M	S	V	V	S	E	C	E	I
E	R		T	V	C	I	T	N	E	I
R	E	T	V	A	P		I	R	E	I
V	A	E	H	C	S	B	A	V	A	C

Crossword Answer



CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Large dung beetle
- Representation of a plan
- In a fervid way
- The Book of Psalms
- Morning
- Exactly the same
- About
- Brown and basmati are two
- Swiss river
- Philippine island
- Expressions of surprise
- An ant
- Common Japanese surname
- Deoxyribonucleic acid
- Car mechanics group
- A person's brother or sister
- Ancient pharaoh
- Quantitative fact
- Vividly colored bird
- Your home has one
- Organic compound
- Section at the end of a book
- Flat tableland with steep edges
- Criticize
- Split pulses
- Brief trend
- Cool!
- Purposes
- Brews
- Skin condition
- Pops
- American air travel company
- Minute bug
- Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
- One who rides in your car
- One of the Gospels
- City in southern Spain
- Inquisitive
- Jean Paul __, author
- Pop singer Harry

CLUES DOWN

- An ape or monkey

	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	
13								14						15
16			17					18					19	
20		21				22				23		24		
25					26				27		28			
29				30				31		32		33		
		34	35						36		37			
38	39									40				
41					42				43					
44				45		46		47				48	49	50
51			52		53		54				55			
56				57		58				59				
60			61		62				63				64	
65		66						67				68		
	69							70						

- Chemical element
- Zodiac sign
- Removes
- Brew
- Nickname
- Architectural structures
- Trigonometric function
- Postmodern architectural building in Vienna
- Henderson and Fitzgerald are two
- Mountain (abbr.)
- Landscaping practice
- Capacitance unit
- Redirect
- Hat for women
- In a way, dressed down
- Granny
- Feed
- Endpoint
- Indian instrument

- Bleated
- Cablegram (abbr.)
- Root mean square (abbr.)
- Jellyfishes
- Individual TV installments
- Talk
- More (Spanish)
- Leaseholder
- Monetary units
- Hostility
- Work stations
- Linguistics giant
- Female sheep
- Calendar month
- Seasoning
- Lofty nest of a bird of prey
- Single Lens Reflex
- A way to remove
- Virginia
- Old English

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DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME WILL BEGIN AT 2:00 A.M. ON MARCH 14



Rural Municipality of Woodlands REQUEST FOR QUOTES



Proposals will be received by the Rural Municipality of Woodlands for the following:

- Pumping out of septic tanks within the Community of Warren and the Community of Woodlands on an annual basis. The Contract will commence May, 2021 for a three year term.
- There are approximately 325 tanks to be pumped out in Warren and approximately 10 tanks to be pumped out in Woodlands. The annual pump out will commence May 15 with completion by September 30. Pump outs to be conducted between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- The contractor will be required to enter into an agreement with the Rural Municipality of Woodlands.
- Details of the agreement are available at the R.M. of Woodlands Office. Please call (204)383-5679 to arrange to obtain a copy of the agreement.

Sealed quotes can be in mailed to Municipal Office or left in the Municipal Office Dropoff Box, on or before March 18, 2021. R.M. of Woodlands, Box 10, Woodlands, MB. ROC 3H0. Please record "Septic Tank Pumping Agreement" on the outside of the sealed envelope.



THE TOWN OF STONEWALL & RM OF ROCKWOOD WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

ANNEXATION UPDATE MEETING ONLINE OPEN HOUSE & COMMUNITY FORUM

MARCH 11TH, 2020 | 7:00 PM | ON ZOOM

visit www.stonewall.ca for the zoom meeting link and to view a copy of the Annexation Proposal

The Town of Stonewall, in conjunction with the RM of Rockwood, is developing an Annexation Proposal for lands that border the West and South boundaries of the Town. We are hosting a public event to receive feedback and questions from the community.

Please join us!

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Invites applications for the following positions:

- **Finance Officer-Full Time**
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Interested applicants may view details online at www.teulon.ca

"Employment Opportunities"

Deadline for Applications is March 24, 2021 at 3:00 p.m



PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the **Interlake School Division** intends to conduct the following Rodenticide and Pesticide Control Programs during 2021 through 2023:

1. To control rodents on Interlake School Division properties at various times during the years 2021, 2022, and 2023, the following rodenticides may be used: Rodents Away Repellent, Wilsarin Rat & Mouse, and Motomco Tomcat Mouse Killer.
2. The proposed dates of application for insecticide programs is May 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021, and for the following two years (2022,2023) during these times.
 - To control insect pests including wasps, hornets and yellow jackets, the following insecticide may be used: Wilson One Shot.
 - To control Ant colonies, the following insecticides may be used: Ortho Home Defense Max Eliminator Liquid, Ant Out, and Ortho Ant-B-Gon.

Any person may, within 15 days after the notice is published, send a written submission to the department, regarding the control program or register with the department their written objection to the use of pesticide next to their property:

Environmental Approvals Branch
Manitoba Conservation and Climate
1007 Century Street
Winnipeg MB R3H 0W4

Poison applications may be done at any or all of the following locations:

Administration Office, 192 – 2nd Avenue North, Stonewall, MB
Transportation/Maintenance/Technology Facility,
Winfield & Summit Rd., Stonewall, MB
Balmoral Elementary School, Balmoral, MB
Brant Argyle Elementary School, Argyle, MB
Grosse Isle Elementary School, Grosse Isle, MB
Rosser Elementary School, Rosser, MB
R. W. (Bobby) Bend School, 377 – 2nd Avenue North, Stonewall, MB
Stonewall Centennial School, 573 – 2nd Avenue North, Stonewall, MB
Stony Mountain Elementary School, Stony Mountain, MB
Teulon Elementary School, Teulon, MB
Warren Elementary School, Warren, MB
Woodlands Elementary School, Woodlands, MB
Stonewall Collegiate, 297 – 5th Street West, Stonewall, MB
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ST. LAURENT

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 8th day of April, 2021, at the hour of 10:00 AM, at Rural Municipality of St. Laurent, Council Chambers, 16 Veteran's Memorial Road, St. Laurent, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
44100	LOTS 26 AND 27 PLAN 574 WLTO (P DIV) TOGETHER WITH A RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR THE PURPOSE OF INGRESS AND EGRESS IN DRAWING WATER AS APPURTENANT TO BOTH OF SAID LOTS ABOVE DESCRIBED OVER AND UPON LOT 24 AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAN 574 IN LOT 4 OF THE SETTLEMENT OF OAK POINT - 84 LEIGHTON AVE, OAK POINT	L -\$1,800 B -\$40,000	\$2,754.94
67447	LOT 16 BLOCK 3 PLAN 13810 WLTO IN LOT 6 PARISH OF ST LAURENT - 50 SANDPIPER COVE, SANDPIPER	L -\$5,900 B -\$45,700	\$5,416.98

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in **cash, certified cheque or bank draft** to the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent as follows:
 - i) The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - ii) If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - iii) A fee in the amount \$309.75 (\$295 plus GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 17th day of February, 2021.

Managed by:



Hilda Zotter
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of St. Laurent
Phone: (204) 646-2259
Fax: (204) 646-2705

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CARD OF THANKS

Drew Lambert would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated during this difficult time to make her 100th birthday so special. All who participated in her parade including Arborg RCMP, Fire, EMS, family and friends; to Susie for putting together center pieces and decorations and all the people who made donations for her to do so; to everyone for the phone calls, cards, flowers and gifts; as well as to anyone else that made an effort to make it special. Drew's girls would like to join in as well in extending a HUGE thank you to Maureen and all the awesome staff at Assisted Living for going above and beyond at making Mom's day truly memorable. Thank you to all the residents for being participants at this special milestone and making her feel so accepted. Lastly, Drew thanks her granddaughters, Tamara for the wonderful digital frame and Dawnett for the fabulous cake!

Express your
Thanks with a
message in the

Stonewall Teulon
Tribune

Call 204-467-5836 or
email igrphic@mts.net

BIRTHDAY



Happy 95th Birthday
Mary!
March 13th

-Love your family

Reporter/Photographer Wanted

Are you a natural born storyteller with an eye for photography and a passion for community news? The Stonewall Teulon Tribune and Express Weekly News is currently seeking a full-time reporter and photographer to join its multi award-winning weekly community newspaper.

We are looking for someone who is both motivated and passionate about being the best outlet of interesting and breaking news stories and event coverage in the Interlake and surrounding area communities.

Qualifications:

- A post-secondary degree/diploma in journalism or equivalent experience in a related field
- Strong photography and writing skills with an interest in social media
- Self-starter with the ability to exercise solid news judgement
- Ability to establish professional relationships to consistently source and write a wide range of stories and cover events in a fair, balanced and accurate manner
- Able to work both independently and as a team on a flexible work schedule including both evenings and weekends to meet our weekly editorial deadline
- Experience covering council and school board meetings
- Knowledge of CP Style and about the Interlake and its surrounding communities would be an asset

Please forward your resumé along with
three writing and photography samples to:

Lana Meier
Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca

Deadline to apply is Friday, March 19.

THE **EXPRESS**
WEEKLY NEWS
Stonewall Teulon
Tribune



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PLANT MANAGER/ SEED TREATER

Rutherford Farms has been producing, processing and selling pedigreed seed for over 60 years. We grow the seed we sell and are leaders in producing quality seed for our local retail market. Rutherford Farms specializes in contract seed production and processing for large multinational seed companies. Currently we are seeking a:

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Based in Grosse Isle, MB, this opportunity will be exciting for a dedicated professional seeking to be part of a team that ensures ongoing and timely supply of top-quality seed to retail and wholesale customers. Reporting to the General Manager, the Plant Manager's primary responsibilities include:

- overall accountability for all seed processing plant operations (maintenance, operation, calibration, cleaning, etc.);
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- working alongside other employees, contract personnel, and third-party service providers;
- ensuring operating procedures are followed in the handling, processing, storage and shipping of seed products;
- ongoing communication with management and seed producers on production status; and,
- representing Rutherford Farms' best interests with growers and industry partners.

Qualifications include:

- a university degree or diploma in agriculture, engineering or relevant field considered an asset;
- plant management experience desirable, or industry experience with a preferred focus on seed;
- Manitoba Agriculture Pesticide and seed treatment certification considered an asset;
- knowledge and understanding of the seed business, including quality, processing, and logistics;
- excellent interpersonal skills; strong ability to build relationships;
- highly organized, task orientated, independent worker with proven team building skills;
- good judgement, problem solving skills, professionalism, high ethics.

Salary commensurate with experience, qualifications and ability.
Apply, with resume to: corey@rutherfordfarms.ca by March 22, 2021.



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Applicants can apply to
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Only those applicants selected will be contacted.

Announcements

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Stonewall Teulon
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IN MEMORIAM



Denis Aimie Nolin
April 26, 1937 – March 11, 2016

Five years have passed since
We said our final good byes.
As hard as it was and broke our hearts
We would never wish you back
To suffer all those years of pain.
We love and miss you every day.
All your little great-grandchildren
Would of loved their great-grandpapa so much.
Your memory will live on in my heart
Your children and grandchildren
Till we meet again.

-Your loving wife Shirley
and family

IN MEMORIAM



Pete Skihar
March 14, 2003

"It is somehow appropriate that I am here
at this ghostly place with the wind working
its hardest, flexing its muscles, to push me
forward into the past, into the memories, to
think of you. It sounds like hungry fire. It feels
like a boxer's fist. But I need no urging. The
incessant clanging of metal bars torment me
like strangers knocking at my door. The rusty
gates rattle and cry out. They are like needy
children vying for my attention. They long
for someone to come by and fill them, make
them real. Rusted metal like blood stains,
chipped paint like weathered skin and skinned
knuckles. Men lived and worked and laughed
and cried here. If you strain your mortal ears
you can hear the shouts, the cursing, the
encouragement, the manliness of the true
cowboys' life. You left your mark like a searing
brand and are remembered, perhaps not so
much by the people still living as the spiritual
earth these buildings and corrals occupy.
Memories live and do not rely on human
recollection. A cowboy may sometimes be a
lost soul but he is never lost where he lived,
loved, worked, dreamed.

The head gate holds a particular attraction as
it was my father's favourite job while at the
corrals. He is everywhere out here along with
the others whose sweat, blood and even tears
were left here, absorbed into the earth, ever a
part of this place."

(Excerpt: Back to Wellington) Arlene Skihar
Some put on a hat, some jump on a horse,
some strut and wear duds,
They call themselves "cowboys" but they are
not the Real Thing.

For the real thing feels the life, lives the life,
loves the life.
Riding the range, pounding the pulsing prairie,
wind in face,
Heart on fire, the work and the lifestyle its
own reward.

In all that you were – Father, Friend, Cowboy,
Good Man,
You were the **Real Thing**.

-Forever loved. Cherished. Missed.
Arlene

IN MEMORIAM



Doris Tully
June 27, 1928 – March 14, 2020

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day;
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
So loved, so missed, so very dear.

-Love your family

IN MEMORIAM



In loving memory
Ragna Bezo

September 05, 1930 - March 10, 2020

Mom, you always had a smile to share
Time to give and time to care
A loving nature tried and true
That's the way we remember you.

-Forever loved and missed,
Laureli, Debby, Valdean, Kelly
and families

OBITUARY

Agnes Anna (Brunger) Brurok
April 12, 1929 – February 27, 2021



Agnes Brurok passed away peacefully to her eternal rest in
Stonewall, Manitoba on February 27, 2021 at the age of 91 years.

Agnes Anna Schmidt was born April 12, 1929 in Gypsumville,
Manitoba, the eldest of eight children born to Benjamin and Leah
Schmidt.

After becoming a Permit teacher at age 17 Agnes taught at
Skogan School near Sandridge. She married her sweetheart Fred
Brunger and they lived near Inwood. She became a farmwife and
had four children, Marie, Alfred, and twins Bruce and Brian. In 1965
Agnes graduated from University of Manitoba in Education and
began teaching elementary school. Her strong faith encouraged
her to teach and be Sunday School superintendent for decades
at Gethsemane Lutheran church in Inwood. Agnes and Fred

celebrated 27 years of marriage before Fred died in 1975.

In 1978 Agnes married long-time friend, Eskel Brurok and they resided in Teulon until 2010.

Agnes became instrumental in organizing and expanding the Teulon Museum and was involved
in managing the Inwood Cemetery. In 2002 she was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal
for outstanding community service. She also enjoyed her passions of flower gardening, travel
and entertaining family and friends.

Later, Agnes moved to Stonewall Lions Manor to be near to Eskel who resided at Rosewood
Nursing Home until his passing in 2013. Agnes eventually also moved to Rosewood where she
lived until her passing.

Agnes' love of family, especially the children, was expressed in her knitting "Grandma mitts"
for all her 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. She was a much-loved mother, grandma
and great-grandmother. Her hard work, positive attitude, zest for life, welcoming home and deep
faith were inspiring. As a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church she sang in the choir and loved
to welcome young people in church with her cheery smile.

Agnes is cherished and mourned by sisters Rita Covernnton and Mae Frailich; sister-in-law
Claudia Schmidt; daughter Marie (Dave) Baer of Calgary; daughter-in-law Joan Brunger of
Waterloo, ON; sons Bruce (Fern) Brunger of Teulon and Brian (Lois) Brunger of Calgary, AB; also
by 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. Agnes was pre-deceased by her husbands Fred
Brunger and Eskel Brurok; son Alfred Brunger; brothers Manfred, Harold and George and sisters
Florence and Gertrude.

The family wish to thank the Rosewood Lodge staff for their compassionate and excellent care.
If friends so desire a memorial donation may be sent in her honor to St. Peter's Lutheran church,
Teulon, MB R0C 3B0.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions funeral arrangements will be postponed until a later date.
Condolences may be forwarded to the family and at mackenziefh.com.

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

MacKenzie
FUNERAL HOME

IN MEMORIAM



Hank Ammeter
February 20th, 1938 - March 13th, 2001

Sadly missed along life's way,
Quietly remembered every day...
No longer in our life to share,
But in our hearts, you're always there.
We miss you everyday!

-Love all of your family

Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

Announcements

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Stonewall Teulon
Tribune

OBITUARY



Donald Gulewich

January 18, 1939 – February 10, 2021

Predeceased by his wife Grace Gulewich, and survived by many siblings, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and loved by many.

He had long careers at both Domtar and later Stony Mountain Penitentiary where he spent 40 years as a boiler engineer. Although he never truly retired. He was a man that could never sit still, and his many hobbies and accomplishments are proof of that. Throughout his life he was a farmer, a beekeeper, competitive shooter, a greenhouse owner, and had race horses at the Assiniboia Downs with his wife. His latest venture and passion over the last couple years was his lumber mill. He also loved hunting, carpentry, tinkering with anything he could get his hands on, and music. He could frequently be found strumming away at his guitar while

singing a country song.

He was also truly a family man whose house was always filled with jokes, laughter and generations of happy children. His adoration and dedication to his family was evident to all.

His love for life and selflessness was inspiring. His smile contagious. He will be dearly missed, but always remembered by all those who had the privilege to know him.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

OBITUARY



Vernon Hugh Appleyard

It is with great sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Vernon Hugh Appleyard on Friday, February 26, 2021 at his home in Stonewall, Manitoba, with his wife Darlene by his side.

Vern leaves to mourn his wife Darlene and sons Curtis and Tyler Jenkins (Maria); brothers Wayne (Cyndi) and Larry (Lindy), and his brother Kevin's wife Ali. Also mourning his passing are his mother-in-law Shirley Bollman of Brandon; as well as sisters-in-law Wendy Smith (Don), Lillian Bollman, and Beverley Kreller (Doug). Vern is survived by several aunts, cousins, nephews and nieces to whom he was close, and share in the family's grief.

Vern was the third born son of six boys of the late Donald and Patricia Appleyard (McFee). He was predeceased by his parents, his infant brother Keith, and adult younger brothers Lyn and Kevin.

Vern was born May 26, 1960 in Stonewall, Manitoba and resided there his entire life. He attended Stonewall Collegiate, graduating in 1978. At an early age Vernon took a special interest in the family pharmacy and as a teenager spent many hours working at the business. Vern attended the University of Manitoba Faculty of Pharmacy, graduating in 1983. Vern was the Faculty Senior Stick in his final year of Pharmacy.

Upon graduation Vern joined his father in the pharmacy in Stonewall. After his Dad's retirement Vern was very proud to carry on the Stonewall Pharmacy legacy in the community business which his father had started in 1950. For several years Vernon was a director of Procurty Pharmaceutical Inc., a major wholesale distributor of prescription drugs across Canada. He was one of the founding members of the Manitoba Liquor Vendors Association. Following his retail instincts, Vern expanded his business ventures into several other areas including "Buck or Two" franchises, a Christmas Store at The Forks, and, in partnership with his wife Darlene, several Hallmark stores stretching from Dryden to Regina. The dedication and efforts of his wife Darlene and many staff members allowed him to pursue these many opportunities.

Vern was well known for his easy demeanour and was blessed with many close friendships both personally and in business. He had a kind heart and was known by many within the Stonewall community and beyond. His list of close friends is many and too long to list. He was a generous business person who ran his enterprises with compassion for his customers and staff. Vern was a man of his word who will leave a lasting void with many people.

Over the years Vernon became involved in several community activities and charities including the Stonewall Curling Club and South West District Palliative Care.

He was a staunch supporter of the Terry Fox Run and was given special recognition for his and his staff's fundraising efforts reaching several hundred thousand dollars in the fight against cancer.

Vernon met Darlene while she was managing one of his first Christmas Stores in Winnipeg. Out of their strong working relationship developed their love story and they were married on May 20, 2006. While leading active business lives they enjoyed travel when the opportunity presented itself. Trips to gift shows and pleasure travel together with friends were always a highlight.

Darlene and family would like to give special thanks to CancerCare doctors and staff and Doctor Graham in Stonewall. Thanks also to palliative care nurses who provided support to Darlene and Vern, allowing Vern to spend his final days at his home in Stonewall. Special thanks to the many friends and family who have called over the past several weeks, to his loyal and reliable staff, and to family and friends who have assisted in the operation of the business interests during these trying times.

As a result of COVID restrictions the immediate family held a private service with interment at the Stonewall Cemetery. A virtual funeral service can be viewed on Vern's obituary page at mackenziefh.com with Reverend James Bardsley officiating.

In lieu of flowers, should friends so desire, Vern would be honoured for any donations to be directed to CancerCare Manitoba, South West District Palliative Care, or a charity of one's choice.

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



OBITUARY



William (Billy) Parkhill

September 11, 1941- February 26, 2021

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of William Dick McKay Parkhill on Friday, February 26, 2021; loving husband, Dad and Papa.

William leaves to mourn his wife, Marie; his children, Mark and Julie (Darryl); and his grandchildren, Matthew, Christopher and Markie Lee.

He is predeceased by his mother, father and two younger brothers, Jim and Roy of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

He will sadly missed by his family members across the miles and close friends, whom he shared many great laughs.

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face

and rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Due to COVID there will be no service. Peace

OBITUARY



George Ledochowski

January 28, 1932 – February 27, 2021

Peacefully on February 27 at the age of 89, Dad passed away at Goodwin Lodge with his daughter, Roxane, at his side.

He was predeceased by his wife, Laura (2019), and son Roger (2016). He is survived by his daughter, Roxane (Craig), grandchildren Kristen (Kirk), Jennifer, Wesley (Brenna), Michelle (John) and Brayden; his son Ross (Sonya), grandchildren Kaila, Kailen, and Rye; and his son Rodney (Diana), grandchildren Jade (Garrett), Jake, and Jacey.

Surviving family members are sisters Kay and Gloria, as well as sisters-in-law Helen and Myrtle, along with many nieces and nephews.

He is now reunited with his parents, Fred and Anna; sister, Mary; brothers, John, Harry, Mike, Steve, Alex, Joe, Kost, Paul, and Dan;

sister-in-law, Hattie; brothers-in-law, Mike and John; niece, Linda; and nephews, Clayton, Gary, and Brian.

Dad was born on the family farm in Wheathill District. He moved to nearby Chatfield in 1949 to operate his father's General Store. Mom and Dad were married in 1954. Together, they operated the store until 1970, when they made the big decision to move the store and attached house to Teulon and converted the building into a restaurant. With their four children, they opened G & L Restaurant in 1971, quickly becoming famous far and wide thanks to Mom's incredible cooking. Expansions included The Cardinal Lounge and Motel, and eventually they sold the highly successful establishment in 1986.

Dad entered the construction business with his partner, Nick, in 1965, when they started land clearing. Later, they worked for the municipalities of Armstrong and Rockwood building roads, in addition to digging dugouts and drainages. Dad was an active business owner until just a few years ago as his health began to decline. Rodney worked alongside Dad for 20 years.

Dad was an avid outdoorsman, and for many decades he was well-known for his trapping skills. One of his many pastimes was digging Seneca roots to be sold for medicinal use. Dad operated a grain farm near Silver in the '70s.

His lifelong passion was baseball. In 1946, he joined the Chatfield baseball team, along with four of his brothers, and as their pitcher he led the team to dominance throughout the Interlake. In the early '50s, he was invited to a professional baseball tryout in Florida but declined to continue operating the store. The Chatfield team was inducted to Manitoba's Baseball Hall of Fame in 2003 in recognition of their great success from 1952-1957. While playing in tournaments with Chatfield, Dad played league-organized baseball with the Balmoral Orioles. He became involved with the Teulon Whips in 1971, winning back-to-back provincial titles in 1974 and 1975, when they also went on to win the Western Canadian championship. He continued to play, coach, and manage Teulon men's baseball over the course of five decades. Serving as a town council member in Teulon throughout the 1980s, Dad had an essential role in the development of Green Acres Park. In addition to their numerous provincial titles, the Teulon Cardinals' all-time highlights included a spot at Nationals in 1991 and again in 1998, which was also the year that Dad had been inducted to Manitoba's Baseball Hall of Fame for his individual achievements both as a player and as a coach. Dad was involved in baseball for 68 consecutive years (1946-2014). Dad pitched his last game when he was 68 years old at Chatfield Oldtimers' tournament in 2000; ironically the same place where he threw his first pitch in 1946 with the Chatfield Cardinals. Ross and Rodney played for the Teulon Cardinals for many years, keeping the team active until 2014. Many have cherished memories of Dad's baseball journey. Sport truly does create friendships and memories that last a lifetime!

We would like to thank the staff at Teulon Hospital and Goodwin Lodge for their care and compassion over the past few years. Special thanks to Ken Loehmer for his thoughtfulness and unwavering support. Sincere gratitude to Father Peter Chorney and Father Barry Schoonbaert.

Family and friends are invited to leave condolences or to share memories on his tribute wall at www.klfuneralservices.ca.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Teulon Senior Resource, Box 418, Teulon, MB. R0C 3B0, IERHA — Attn. Goodwin Lodge Box 89, Teulon MB R0C 3B0, or a charity of one's choice.



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