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One last snowman

TRIBUNE PHOTO BY SCOTT MCFADYEN

Four-year-old Brody McFadyen and his furry friend Nova took advantage of the mild weather and the latest dump of snow to build a snowman in their front yard on Thunderhill Drive in Stonewall on April 5.

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Safety measures in place at Stonewall's Lions Manor

By Jennifer McFee

The Lions Manor has been quick to adopt precautions to ensure the safety of its tenants and staff amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

In total, the Lions Manor is home to about 270 residents in 194 suites. On March 9, they began cancelling larger activities that involved groups of people.

The following week, board members confirmed other measures to implement.

"March 18, we closed down all our common rooms and cancelled all future activities. We also added large posters at each of the main entrance doors that indicate we wish to limit visitors by stating 'Essential Visitors Only,'" said general manager Andre LaFleche.

"The other thing we started doing on March 18 was sanitizing the building twice a day — so all the handrails, the stairway, the door handles where there's movement, the front entrances, the elevators, the intercom system, bathrooms. We now have two fellows on site Saturday and Sunday so the building is being sanitized seven days a week."

Then on March 19, they moved to

a delivery-only system for the meal program and implemented several other initiatives.

"In our lobbies, we took away most of the chairs except for two and we have them well separated. So if someone is waiting or needs to take a break, there is still a chair to use — but it's not a social area anymore," LaFleche said.

"We have promoted Family Foods grocery delivery system to all the tenants and we gave them the phone numbers of all the pharmacies."

For any snowbirds that returned on or after March 13, a notice was posted on their door stating "Attention: self-isolating. For your protection and mine, do not enter."

"There was a recommendation at that time that the snowbirds self-isolate. We also included anybody that came from B.C. or Ontario. At that time, it wasn't a concern for the government, but we decided to add that to our protocol too," LaFleche said.

"For those people that were self-isolating, we picked up their garbage twice a week. We gave them the numbers of the grocery stores so they didn't need to leave their suites at all. If they needed help with anything or couldn't get ahold of family, we tried

to help them out. They were all very co-operative."

The last snowbird returned home safely during the first week of April.

On March 26, LaFleche had a conference call with more than two dozen other non-profit housing complexes.

"At that conference call, we all talked about our challenges, what we've done and why we did it," he said.

"We were doing everything that everybody else was doing or more — and we did it at the early stages compared to some of the other sites."

In addition, a few tenants have been tested for COVID-19 and all the tests came back negative.

"I think two of the tests were just to comfort the people and one of them did have symptoms, but everything is good with them. If it did come back positive, we would have had a different game plan," he said.

"Everything flowed very well. They did everything correctly and we helped them out — and thank goodness they didn't have it. People here are safe."

Distance-visiting Baba



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY NANCY HEIN

Brothers Brody Hein, right, and Bentley Hein were distance-visiting their Great-Baba Mary Kowalchuk at Gateway Manor in Teulon last week. People with family and friends in personal care homes cannot visit in person due to the spread of COVID-19 but are encouraged to visit loved ones through windows or by using social media technology.



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Stay home. Stay home. Stay home: IERHA says COVID-19 spreading in the community

By Patricia Barrett

Ron Van Denakker, CEO of the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, has been holding conference calls with media once a week to provide updates on the continuing spread of the highly infectious coronavirus, COVID-19, and what measures the RHA is taking to help contain and manage it. The following are updates from April 3.

- Stay home. COVID is now circulating in the community.

"You need to assume that everybody around you could have COVID or there could be COVID droplets on surfaces, counters and so forth. You need to assume that," said Van Denakker. "Stay home. That's the safest thing to do. If you have to go out, practise physical distancing and frequent hand-washing."

- Contact tracing relating to a Selkirk health-care worker who tested positive for COVID has been completed.

"I can't get into too much detail on that other than to indicate that all contact tracing took place for not only community members/patients that were in the emergency room, but also for staff," said Van Denakker. "To date, absolutely nobody has tested positive from the results we have received,

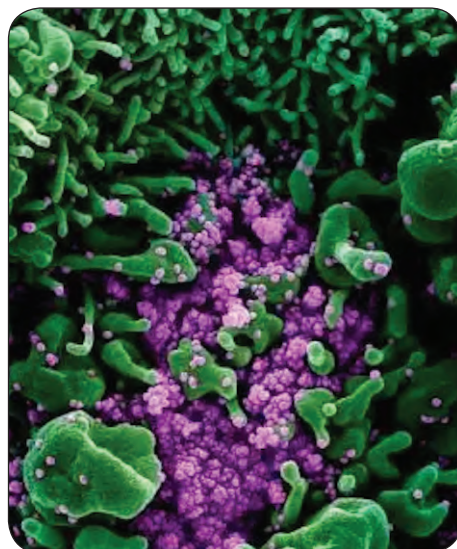


IMAGE COURTESY OF REUTERS

This colourized image shows a cell (in green) infected by COVID-19 (in purple).

[but] we don't have all the results back yet."

- IERHA staff that are in isolation because of COVID exposure or suspected COVID exposure are impacting IERHA service delivery.

"We are prioritising our services and moving staff to places where [services] absolutely have to be maintained," said Van Denakker.



PHOTO BY ANDY BLICO

Homeowners on Sixth Avenue in Gimli created an art installation in their front yard last week during a mini-snowstorm to provide a bit of moral support to fellow residents as COVID-19 continues to spread in Manitoba.

- Van Denakker said reaction from the Gimli community to the news that a Betel Home health-care worker was diagnosed with COVID last Thursday was "a little bit disturbing." (Note: on Sunday the province said that result was a false positive).

"I do plan on speaking to the mayor about this so we can get some communication out to the community,"

said Van Denakker. "Family members and staff have been somewhat ostracized. The community has been really, really upset so I think I'd like to provide some clarity to the community once we get through this. If this was influenza, you wouldn't get that hysteria. But because we're talking about

Continued on page 4

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RESCHEDULED

Given the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Government of Manitoba's prohibition on gatherings of more than 50 people, Red River Co-op will be rescheduling their Annual General Meeting, originally scheduled for April 23, 2020. No rescheduled date has been set, but notices will be posted when a new date is set.

The postponement does not affect the election results for the board of directors. The results of this election will be communicated to members and candidates at the postponed AGM. The current members of the board of directors will continue to serve in their roles until the completion of the AGM on its rescheduled date.

All members can still vote for their board either online or by-mail by 4:00 PM April 13, 2020. Instructions are included in their mailed member packages.

Interlake businesses feeling the financial bind

By Evan Matthews

Though the call to restrict non-essential business came last week, many Interlake businesses have been proactive but are feeling the effects of COVID-19 closures.

Two Interlake business owners discussed the state of Manitoba's current business sector and economy and the challenging realities many are facing.

McLeod Tea House and Gift Shop

Jon Billings, co-owner of McLeod House Tearoom and Gift Shop with his wife Joy, said the family is using the pandemic as an opportunity to do renovations that have been put off.

The business has been closed for two full weeks, as they proactively closed its doors on March 23.

"Before things got really bad, we had seen our reservations and bookings drop by over 60 per cent," said Billings.

"We had several conversations about the situation and how to act. The way we saw it, from the get-go ... we tried as best we could to look at this as a positive in doing some renovations

and further making this business our own," he said, adding he wants the building to last another 100 years.

The couple took ownership of the business in September 2019, and with no prior restaurant ownership experience, Billings said it's been a steep learning curve.

But as nice as the opportunity for renovations is, he said the loss of income is highly stressful.

"We have an extreme financial obligation, and the question becomes 'How do we potentially recover from this?' We're not a business that has been around for 20 years and has resources available to us in the bank," said Billings, adding that while the financial situation is dire, there isn't a thing anyone can do to change it.

Billings said factoring in the business has \$0 in revenue coming in, while doing renovations to the business and continuing to manage a household, the family business is losing upwards of \$15,000 a month.

"We rely on our business to support

Continued on page 5



PHOTO SUBMITTED
McLeod Tea House and Gift Shop
owners Joy and Jon Billings.



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Scott Allan, co-owner of inMotion
Network (Quarry Physiotherapy),
at a 2019 trade show.

> IERHA, FROM PG. 3

COVID, the community was quite agitated."

- The IERHA has no plans to treat COVID patients in an off-site facility after Italian health experts warned countries that Italy's biggest mistake was treating COVID patients in hospitals where it spread to other patients and staff.

"The [province's] incident command planning team ... did take that into consideration, but I think they felt that wasn't going to be a practical approach to how we'd approach things," said Van Denakker. "We've taken the approach of creating COVID-isolated units at existing hospitals as opposed to creating other facilities."

The Selkirk hospital has a dedicated site within the building where COVID patients not requiring intensive care are/will be treated.

- The province issued a call for retired nurses to come back to work. Van Denakker said nurses won't be asked to work the COVID frontlines but to backfill for staff dedicated to COVID care. Retired nurses are asked to contact the College of Registered Nurses.

- A toll-free line is now available for residents seeking testing during inclement weather. Call 1-855-347-8500

and press 1 to get updated testing hours.

Eriksdale's drive-thru COVID testing site will be closed Good Friday, April 10. Selkirk's drive-thru will remain unaffected.

"It's really important for people to know that they will be called with their test results, so please don't attend testing sites for results as they won't have that information," said Van Denakker.

- Manitoba health authorities have been practically "begging" people to stay home and to adhere to social distancing if they absolutely must go out.

"If you listen to [Manitoba chief public health officer] Dr. [Brent] Roussin and count how many times he says physical or social distancing ... it's between 16 and 20 times," said Van Denakker. "How many more times do people have to hear this?"

Mayor of Pinawa Blair Skinner and council closed to the public the beach and pool, the suspension bridge, picnic tables, all walking trails and other facilities to deter locals and people from away who seemingly don't understand why it's important to stay home during a pandemic that's killed over 74,000 people worldwide (data as of Monday evening), including Manitobans.

COVID-19 needs a host to survive. Deprive it of a host and it will die.

"It's a clever virus," said Van Denakker, "cleverer than garden variety viruses."

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STAY HOME – STAY SAFE – TAKE CARE

Our lives and our world have changed, and we are facing unprecedented times with the COVID-19 pandemic. It is extremely important we follow healthcare directives, keep updated as the situation changes and support each other to stay safe and healthy. At the end of the day, "We are all in this together".

On behalf of the RM of Armstrong council and staff, we want to stay connected with our residents during this difficult time. We are all in uncharted territory and have been told how very important it is to take care of ourselves. We need to stay home wherever possible, practice frequent hand-washing and social distancing and follow the provincial health regulations and protocols which we ask you adhere to. We are asking each of you to personally adhere to these policies at all times.

The RM of Armstrong is following all protocols set in place by the Province of Manitoba and adhering to social distancing, closures of non-essential services, closure of our municipal office to the public, additional cleaning and all other measures imposed under the Provincial State of Emergency. We are committed to Public Safety and we will continue to follow all guidelines, policies and recommendations from the province.

Communication is key and we know people appreciate a phone call from someone checking in on them. Please reach out to help or check on a friend or neighbor or someone who lives alone or is sick. Being isolated is much harder on some people than others. Please show your community spirit by reaching out to help others and don't hesitate to ask for assistance when you need it. Our lives have been turned upside down and everyone has been impacted. We are all doing what we can do to contain COVID-19. Council is still working, and the municipality is still operating as we move forward together for a safer tomorrow. We encourage you to contact us with any questions or concerns and let us know how we may assist you 204-278-3377.

We would like to acknowledge and personally thank the RM of Armstrong EMO Team, Firefighters/ Emergency Responders, Local Businesses/ Workers/Community Volunteers/ Residents Ratepayers, Friends and Neighbours for your tremendous community support, spirit and service every day – to each of you our most sincere gratitude and appreciation. Globally to our World/Political Leaders, Healthcare Professionals/Experts, all Front Line and Support Workers and the countless others for your unwavering commitment, dedication and professionalism shown, we thank you and appreciate the difficult job you have ahead of you.

Please stay home – stay safe – take care. Truly we are all in this together and as they say, "This too shall pass."

Due to concerns surrounding the coronavirus the RM of Armstrong Office is CLOSED to the public until further notice. Staff are still working. If you need to contact us please call our office at 204-278-3377 or email cao@rmofarmstrong.com

Sincerely, RM of Armstrong Reeve Susan Smerchanski and Council

> INTERLAKE BUSINESSES, FROM PG. 5

our family.

"We have some ideas for new products — launching lines related to our salad dressings and frozen options with our desserts — so in that regard it's exciting. We get to re-think what the McLeod House is for Stonewall, and for us going forward," he said.

Billings said he isn't sold on many of the government's plans for loans, deferrals and tax breaks because even if it's interest free, in four to six months the financial obligation of any business is even greater.

"I hope it's not prolonging the inevitable for many businesses, as opposed to really thinking about how the business can operate," said Billings.

"If we can find ways to reduce cost, like switching to a local supplier (as an example), and help boost community business as a whole, maybe we can be even more successful."

Hoping it could be earlier, Billings said the aim is to open up come late June or early July.

Quarry Physiotherapy Clinics

Scott Allan is part of the inMotion Network ownership group, which owns an array of Manitoba physiotherapy and multi-disciplinary clinics including Quarry Physiotherapy in Stonewall, Arborg and Gimli (and an additional location in Gillam).

As of March 17, the inMotion Network closed all of its doors prior to the provincial order, as Allan said the group decided to keep the clinics open would be unsafe to staff and the public.

"We work in close proximity with patients. Collectively, we had to make the decision," said Allan, adding the company's revenue stream sits at zero per cent.

"Unfortunately, we had to lay off over 70 people. It was the hardest day of my life, to have to lay off that number of people. You feel like you've let them down."

Allan said his hope is that once the federal government's 75 per cent wage subsidy kicks in, and owners actually have the money in their pockets, inMotion Network can re-hire many of its currently laid-off staff.

The latest public health order deems physiotherapy an essential service for urgent or emergent conditions. Urgent and emergent, according to Allan, means patients who are post-operative or patients who have complications and challenges or are high-risk.

Allan said the inMotion Network is planning to make select clinics available — Stonewall being one of them — open with limited hours and adequate social distancing measures.

"We're also going to have to implement strict screening access measures, as well as ensuring we're dealing with patients who are in dire straits," said Allan, adding if it were not for physiotherapy intervention, they would end up back in hospital admissions or emergency departments.

"We're going to be rolling out a program with a select number of clinics, ensuring access will ensure the safety of our staff as well as our safety," he said, elaborating to say the clinic will minimize encroachment on social distancing and engage in as much hands-off physio without being negligent in terms of accurately and professionally treating patients.

Limiting patients in the clinic and emphasizing cleaning measures will be of the utmost importance, too, he said.

"We provide a service essential to people's well-being. We want to do our part in reducing the number of individuals taxing the health-care system more than it already is," said Allan.

"If we can limit the number of people accessing our health-care system and emergency departments, then we're providing a necessary service."

Allan also said the inMotion Network is connecting with patients via telephone and plans to unveil a telehealth and virtual therapy program in the next week or so to help guide patients currently part of the business' case load.

Background on business restrictions

On March 30, the chief provincial public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin issued orders under the Public

Health Act restricting operations of non-critical business.

The orders included restaurants (excluding take-out and delivery), as well as businesses not on the list of critical services (though not prohibiting them from operating remotely).

"We are seeing what is happening in other jurisdictions, and the time to act is now. We must continue to adapt to the situation and change our day-to-day lives to prevent unnecessary illness and further tragedies in Mani-

toba," said Roussin.

"These measures will help us reduce the risk and protect all Manitobans during the ongoing pandemic."

Manitoba is currently under a state of emergency, with numbers in the Province totalling a combined 204 confirmed positive and presumptive positive cases at presstime, two resulting in death.

The Interlake-Eastern region has seen 10 total cases.

National Wildlife Week



PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Each year National Wildlife Week falls around April 10, the birthday of "Wild Goose Jack," (the late Jack Miner) who helped restore the Canada goose population after it was on the brink of extinction in the early 1900s. You can celebrate #NationalWildlifeWeek by stepping outside your door and enjoying the early days of the northern migration here in Manitoba. This pair of Canada Geese were spotted at Oak Hammock Marsh last Sunday.

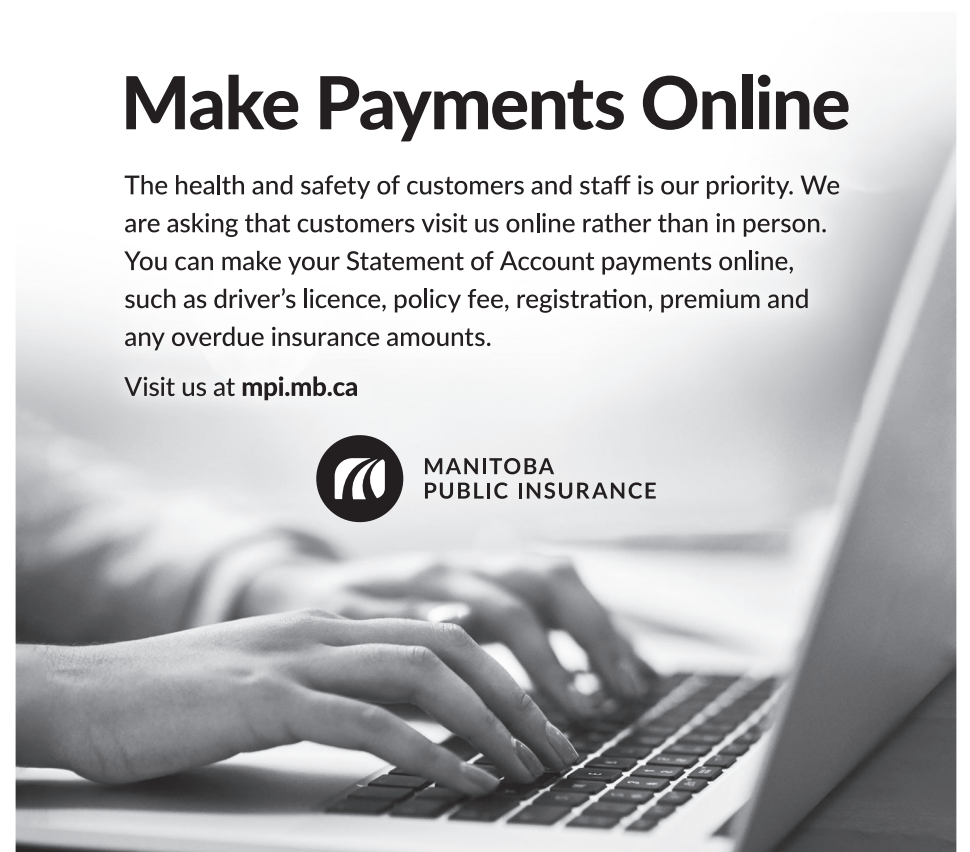
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Connecting people to build stronger communities

By Evan Matthews

Last week's editorial discussed pandemic positivity and profundity, so let's keep going with those themes.

This week, an Interlaker told me, "We are living history right now. This pandemic has forced us to sacrifice what we love most: spending time together."

How true.

We are all struggling with changes to our routines, to our financial situations, to the way we interact with one another and much more. The list goes on and on.

As is everyone else, your community newspapers are facing struggles of their own. For example, having reporters connect with communities has become a challenge in itself.

Reporters, similar to everyone else, are being encouraged to self-isolate and social distance where possible.

All to say, when the job requires one to be covering events (that are no longer happening) and cultivating relationships (that cannot take place in person) within our communities, the job becomes difficult. Finding stories, especially positive ones, becomes more difficult.

That's why this week's editorial, as opposed to providing commentary on a subject, is a call to action for our people living throughout our Interlake communities.

Everybody knows our Interlake community is going through a tough time, but we also see so many examples of people rising to the occasion and doing good things.

But as this week's newspaper points out, we are seeing people adapt in ways we may not have anticipated.

Places of worship continue to reach out to the people who used to fill the pews. Some churches have shifted

their sermons online.

Local supporters of arts and culture have found ways to connect via technology to share projects, ideas and messages of support.

Community leaders are taking time to record themselves reading children's books and sharing them online.

But there have to be more examples the newspaper isn't covering.

As a newspaper, we want to share positive stories and highlight all the good going on in our communities, no matter how bleak things can get. We'll cover that, too, but we know there are good people doing good things out there.

Our mission is to connect people

through stories to build stronger communities.

Right now, you can help us on that mission. We cannot cover what we do not know.

If you know of someone providing value, doing something special or making a difference in the community, now more than ever is the time to contact our paper.

We want to hear from you, and we want to share those stories. Let us know.

In a time when things might not seem to be going all that well, let's cultivate community.

We hope to hear from you.

News tips can be emailed to evan@expressweeklynews.ca.

Historical gas prices

Gas prices one year ago, were \$119.10/litre and last week they hit a 20-year low at \$66.90/litre. Gas prices are down to levels we haven't seen since the early 2000s. Gas price-watchers note the irony in the fact that Canadian consumers are enjoying the most affordable gas prices at a time when cars are parked in driveways and commuters work from home or have been laid off due to COVID-19. The cost of crude oil accounts for about half the price of gas, with provincial and federal taxes comprising about another 30 per cent, and refining and marketing costs accounting for the rest.

A petroleum analyst for GasBuddy who follows the retail market in Canada said that prices would typically rise through May as re-



PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

fineries switch over production to cleaner-burning, more expensive summer blends and as demand for fuel picks up with the approaching summer driving season.

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Woodlands residents wonder about spring clean up

By Evan Matthews

While much of the world is on hold due to COVID-19, a couple from Woodlands is trying to remind the RM that life doesn't stop, after finding a giant mess during the spring thaw.

Gene and Daria Denysenko, who live on Donald Street in Woodlands, discovered a mess on their property when the snow started to melt, as layer after layer of gravel had been pushed to the ditch by the winter plows.

"The public works staff actually did a great job over the winter months, but how am I going to clean the gravel with a regular rake and not destroy my back?" asked Daria, who is currently pregnant.

Daria noted the RM's residents pay higher taxes than residents in most other RMs in the region.

"Will RM step in in this case? The RM owns the ditches, so you would think clean up is their responsibility," she said.

After posting a photo of the mess left in front of their property to the Woodlands Community Facebook page, other community members questioned their priorities, with one saying, "Really? That's what you're worried about right now?" referring to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Another resident posted "Typical 'me generation attitude...' Suck it up buttercup. You live in the country, not Tuxedo or Fort Rouge."

The Denysenkos didn't understand the personal attacks, as they said the

issue is about taxes and services they feel they've paid for.

"Just because we're experiencing COVID ... life continues. Yes, we should be more careful now and follow new rules, but it doesn't mean that we have to sit in our basements surrounded by toilet paper," said Daria.

"This is about getting a service that you paid for. If no service is provided, I would expect to see a credit on my tax bill or lowered taxes or at least explanation where these funds went to."

Other residents were quick to encourage the Denysenkos, who are originally from Ukraine, as the couple is well within their rights to worry about the issue and to ask questions.

"We try to maintain our yard and make our property and surroundings look great for ourselves and for the people who visit or take walks on our street, so everyone can enjoy the views," said Daria.

"We even plan to match the ditch with our front yard, and put effort and money to it by ordering soil to even the ditch out, and buy seeds so we can plant it ... but now feel like it's not worth it to others.

"We love this town and want it to be beautiful," she said.

Many residents on the Facebook thread were hopeful to hear a response from the RM.

Woodlands Reeve Lori Schellekens also took time to respond on the Facebook page, but spoke to the *Tribune*

directly.

Generally, the RM does not remove gravel from ditches around the RM, despite the fact that the RM does own the ditches. Schellekens said, simply, the RM does not have the manpower nor the equipment.

Some gravel recovery may take place this spring, though, as Schellekens said winter conditions this past year resulted in more gravel coming off the road than anticipated.

"It's not that we don't want to (recover the gravel), I mean it's the gravel we paid to pave the roads with. We'd love to have it back on the road," said Schellekens.

With the RM's current equipment, the ditches would likely end up looking worse due, she added. The current



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED
Denysenkos posted this photo of the ditch in front of their property with a gravel mess evident.

Continued on page 9

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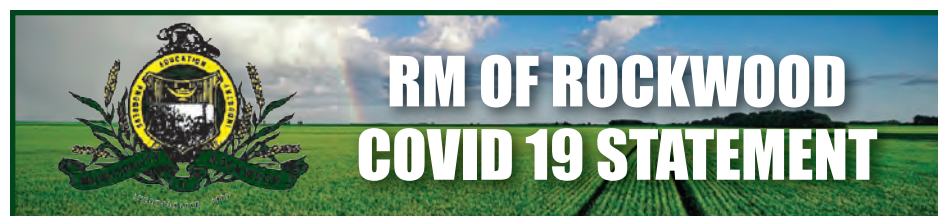
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On behalf of the reeve, councillors and staff of the RM of Rockwood, we thank our residents for their understanding and patience as we adapt to the ever-changing operational requirements as we navigate through these unprecedented times of the world pandemic crisis. We only ask that you please follow the direction of the federal, provincial and municipal governments as well as Health Canada and Manitoba Health as the leaders continue to advise on how we live our daily lives. It is with the direction of these specific departments that will help flatten the curve of this pandemic.

We have closed our recreational centres and halls to the public. We have also temporarily closed the waste disposal sites in Komarno and Balmoral to minimise exposure to our front line workers. Teulon and Winfield sites remain open with a supervised gate and no charge at this time. Winfield is only open Friday and Saturday starting March 27, 2020.

The RM has also closed all playgrounds effective March 26, 2020, until further notice. The municipal office remains closed to public but will open for bill paying, if required, by appointment. Council meetings and public hearings, when and if held, remain open to public. All other municipal facilities are closed to the public and we thank everyone for their understanding.

The RM also wishes to reduce any burden to its utility customers. Please be advised that if you are unable to make your payment at this time, you will not be penalized nor will there be any interest charged to the account. Please try to bring your account to date when able to. The hope is to offer some relief to the residents of Rockwood.

Please be reminded to support our local businesses as they need our support as much as we need the service and products they supply to us now in our greatest time of need.

We will overcome this crisis, in time, but please remember to be kind to all and assist others where you can. We all need to work together to overcome the difficult times right now and in the future.



The Unconventional Medium

JENNIE OGILVIE

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New approach to education in light of COVID-19 crisis

By Jennifer McFee

Hats off to all the teachers who have been tasked with navigating the world of remote teaching over night.

These dedicated educators are finding ways to maintain connections with their classes while also supporting parents in the quest for education.

Tanya Eluik-Prins teaches a Grade 3/4 combined class at Stony Mountain Elementary School. Like others in the profession, she had to adapt her teaching approach on a moment's notice to deal with the unexpected school closure.

"As teachers, we learn from the very beginning that we need to be flexible. There was a lot of discussion with colleagues, sharing of resources, preparing packages to send home and ensuring students had the resources and materials needed," she said.

"I had to be aware that the learning opportunities be accessible and familiar to all students. I sent home a variety of tasks, including math booklets to finish, math games to play, websites to visit, writing opportunities, articles to read and respond to and hands-on tasks."

Technology is playing a huge role in the foray into remote teaching.

"I send out daily emails to touch base and offer learning opportunities. For example, on Mondays at school, we often do MMMM (Monday Morning Mental Math). I sent families a list of questions to do with their children, as we would at school," Eluik-Prins said.

"On Wednesdays, we may do Would You Rather questions, so I sent a question for students to ponder and respond to with a quick write in their writing journals. I also have my own daughters help create tasks such as an estimation video task, which we do routinely at school."

This new approach is not without its challenges, since teachers need to be aware that each student's situation is completely different.

"I recognize that some parents are working, some may have the stress of being laid off, and grandparents or older siblings may be providing child care. The last thing I want to do is add stress or overwhelm families. Not all students have the same ac-

cess to technology, which brings new challenges," she said.

"During a regular school day, we find a balance between all subjects, but I have some students who would work on math for an hour or two straight, while others would write a story all day at home. This is why I stress to my families to find balance."

On the flipside, this new situation opens doors to more personal connections with students and their families.

"I feel that I build a strong sense of community with my students by sharing stories about myself, my family and experiences throughout the school year, but this situation has allowed me to develop stronger connections with my students' families," Eluik-Prins said.

"When we share pictures and videos, it provides a personal touch and invites each other into our own homes we would otherwise not see. This situation also gives a glimpse of the various roles I hold as a parent and teacher — to my students, their families and my own daughters."

So far, most families seem to also be adapting to their new role in their children's education.

"I have received feedback from families sharing what has gone well, questions they have and pictures with how families are spending quality time together," Eluik-Prins said.

"I'm hearing 'That's not how Mrs. E. does it,' so some students are even taking on the teaching role. I think the hardest adaptation is the lack of social interaction for students, but I feel everyone is doing the best they can in this situation."

For parents who are suddenly thrust into the role of an at-home teacher, Eluik-Prins shares some suggestions to smooth the transition.

"I suggest that families develop a system that works best for them, whether it is a daily schedule or a checklist. Prepare the evening before and have your child involved in deciding what will be included. Be sure to find a balance between academic tasks, family time, exercise, art or hobby time," she said.

"Don't get bombarded with the news or ideas that make us feel we need to be doing things a certain



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Tanya Eluik-Prins' daughters Brooke and Natalie help to create an estimation task.

way, or are not doing enough or doing things the 'right' way. Parents know their children and families best."

Teaching tips for parents

By Jennifer McFee

Teachers across the province are learning on the fly how to connect with their students from a distance.

Josh Harrison, a resource teacher at Teulon Elementary School, works with students from kindergarten to Grade 6 in a variety of subject areas while also working on reading recovery for Grade 1 students.

His first step was to determine what his students would be able to accomplish independently or with minimal parental support.

Continued on page 9

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> TEACHING TIPS FOR PARENTS, FROM PG. 8

"I selected books at the child's reading level that the student was familiar with but which would still provide further educational value through repeated exposure," he said.

"Then I connected with the families of students on my caseload, and I am working on establishing ongoing communication with them to continue to support their learning in this alternative setting."

Like other teachers in this unprecedented circumstance, Harrison is finding ways to overcome the hurdles of remote teaching.

"It is, of course, a major change to approach teaching without the personal and proximal time with our students," he said.

"Additionally, my ongoing connection with students and parents is still in its infancy. Over time, I will refine this connection to make it more accessible to students and parents."

The greatest challenge he's noticed is the difficult position that many parents find themselves in.

"They are doing their best to support the education of their children while navigating their own set of novel circumstances. Many parents are now working from home, which means trying to balance the expectations of their employers with the needs of their children," he said.

"Meanwhile, they are also managing their own elevated stress levels. As a resource teacher, I want to find ways to support parents through this transition in order to also support students."

Parents have always been their children's first and foremost educators, he adds.

"From birth, children look to their parents to model their own behaviour. They learn to make sense of the world by asking their parents questions," he said.

"Subsequently, I think the main thing I would suggest to parents is to remember that the role of 'teacher' should feel natural. You have been doing a great job as your child's teacher from Day 1."

Nonetheless, he acknowledges that parents and students are both adapting to a new structure.

"Previously there was a building where schooling happened and a building where home stuff happened. As such, I am writing a series of informational posts aimed at bridging that gap and providing parents with some strategies for supporting their children," he said.

"These posts can be found on the Teulon Elementary School website. I would recommend that people check these out if they are interested and I have also included my email so that parents can connect, ask questions and drive future posts with their personal inquiries."

The first post, which can be found at www.te.interlakesd.ca, explores Dr. Stuart Shanker's methods of supporting children under stress.

From what he's heard, students seem to be handling the transition fairly well. At the same time, Harrison has gained a deeper admiration for others in the profession.

"I think the change in circumstances has caused me to reflect and appreciate the amazing community that teachers are a part of," he said.

"Things continue to change rapidly but instead of resentment or anger, everyone that I have connected with has had a positive attitude. Everyone is making the best of this situation, finding new ways to connect with their kids and wishing everyone well."

> SPRING CLEAN UP, FROM PG. 7

equipment would likely result in taking out a lot of the grass with the gravel, she said.

"The ditches are RM property, but our mandate is to make sure there aren't too many weeds (so that the water can flow), to cut the grass down and to fix drainage issues," she said, calling gravel clean up a "grey area."

With a lack of resource available, Schellekens said the RM asks residents to come to terms with one of three options: personally clean the ditch to the property owner's satisfaction, hire a young person in the community to clean the ditch to the property owner's satisfaction or to leave it as is without repercussion.

"Leaving the mess is not an option. How will our town look if everyone leaves their properties unmaintained?" Daria asked.

"Also, if it is left like this for a couple years, it will clog the culvert and can become a problem during the spring thaw and heavy summer rains."

Daria said if the RM can't keep up with basic responsibilities like maintaining its property, perhaps the RM needs to review some of its expenditures.

Back in January, the RM hired Armia Mikhael as its operations manager, with his role largely relating to asset management.

Municipal asset management planning, by definition, is an ongoing and long-term process — dealing with current and future projects — that allows municipalities to make the best possible investment decisions for its infrastructure assets.



Keep Us In Mind This Spring and Summer!

Spring and summer are busy seasons for construction, and it's also a time when many are preparing to enjoy the outdoors.

With this in mind, the South Interlake Planning District (SIPD) would like to issue a reminder that Building and Development Permits are required for most types of construction, renovations, and structures (pre-built, site-built, temporary or permanent). These include, but are not limited to: **Swimming Pools, Hot Tubs, Decks, Sunrooms, Gazebos, Pergolas, Sheds, Fabric Shelters, Interior/Exterior Renovations or Repairs, Solar Panels, Window and Door Installations, Basement Developments, etc.**

Permits help ensure that Buildings and Structures meet Manitoba Building Code, which in turn increases the level of safety for everyone.

If you are unsure whether your project requires a permit or not, or if you have any questions, please contact the SIPD office at 204-467-5587 and we'd be happy to assist you! More information is also available on our website: www.sipd.ca

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Churches using technology to change praise practices

By Evan Matthews

Normally one would find an altar at a church, but with the province restricting public gatherings due to COVID-19, Interlake churches are altering their praise practices to find you.

As of March 30, the province limited public gatherings to no more than 10 people, which includes places of worship.

As a result, churches have temporarily closed their doors to prohibit the spread of the novel COVID-19.

However, it doesn't mean Interlakers can't get their typical dose of Sunday faith.

"We have a 14-year-old boy in our congregation, Kean Sarb — he's a technological genius — who has set up a church YouTube channel for us. It's virtual church," said Teulon New Life Church's interim pastor Henry Ozirney, who added that the congregation could get as large as 70 people on any given Sunday prior to the closures.

Though now an interim pastor, that was not always the case since Ozirney spent 44 years as the founding pastor at New Life Church in Stonewall.

"Over the last (few) weeks, (Sarb) and I go to the church

and he videotapes me doing my monologue messages. Then he posts it online," he said.

The videos posted online now have a collective 1,000 views, and Ozirney said the numbers are indicative of the fact that the messages are extending past the church's typical congregation.

To add a creative element to his monologues, Ozirney draws cartoon aids to help deliver his message. He said the creative element helps to draw in younger viewers.

"I was hoping for 50 views," said Ozirney. "We've had young families email us and tell us how much more engaged their kids — as young as five — are with our message."

So far, Ozirney said many of his messages have touched on the themes of coping with anxiety and fear. He said with the COVID-19 pandemic, it's hard for people to not feel those emotions.

Having titled his first three messages, "A Biblical response to the Coronavirus Pandemic," "Why does God allow COVID-19?" and "Peace in the midst of a pandemic," Ozirney said it is his mission to provide insight on these issues that are upsetting people greatly.

"Somebody has to address the anxiety and fear in our society," said Ozirney.

"My philosophy, the way I look at life, is that there is a personal God who is in absolute control of everything. I communicate to the congregation, whatever happens, it doesn't just happen by chance.

"There is a divine, ruling component to this. I call it, the sovereignty of God," he said.

To find Pastor Ozirney's messages, search New Life Church Teulon on YouTube.

Rockwood council news in brief

By Jennifer McFee

- The provincial government rejected a request for the installation of four-way stop signs in Balmoral at the intersection of Road 6E and Road 85N (PR236). The rationale is that traffic volumes are below the threshold that would require additional stop signs. Also, analysis shows that intersection delay times likely won't exceed 30 seconds and the provincial database doesn't have any recorded collisions at the intersection. Council is considering a three-way stop with a stop sign on a municipal roadway on the west side of the intersection. Community members had requested the four-way stop; however, council can only install on the RM roadway. As a result, a three-way stop might reduce the chances of an accident.

- The Teulon Rockwood Recreation Commission

has closed all of its facilities effective March 16 until further notice in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19. The commission will work with groups to rebook their events. To contact the public about these changes, the rec commission will place ads in the local newspaper and post information on Facebook. As well, they will place notices when the time comes to reopen all facilities.

Rosser council news in brief

By Jennifer McFee

- Council authorized councillors Ken Mulligan, Lee Garfinkel and Kelvin Stewart to attend the March 24 meeting by speaker phone. In compliance with social distancing recommendations, the municipal office is now closed to the public except for council meetings.

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, council authorized the CAO to buy up to \$10,000 of equipment and supplies needed to maintain services, including those related to safety, social distancing, and enabling staff to work at home.

- If a council member, employee or volunteer has travelled outside of Manitoba they must self-isolate and self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days before returning to RM of Rosser worksites. The CAO will determine employee pay on a case-by-case basis for self-isolation as instructed.

- Council accepted and approved the Stonewall and area mobility service 2020 levy of \$13,680, which will be included in the 2020 financial plan.



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The May 2, 2020 Firefighter's Ball fundraiser has been postponed, date to be determined. Tickets will be valid for postponed event or next year's event if the event is cancelled for this year. If you require a refund for your ticket, please see the Firefighter who sold you the ticket.
Thank you and please stay safe

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GAAC launches online outlet

By Evan Matthews

A Teulon organization is working to bring people together in an effort to build community and creativity in a time where people are forced to be apart.

As of March 28, Green Acres Art Centre has launched "Together While We're Apart," which is a Facebook group designed to be a supportive space for individuals to share their artistic ideas and projects.

"We feel the arts can play a vital role in helping people of all ages manage the extra pressures and challenges associated with this pandemic," said president Lana Knor.

"GAAC recognized the need to extend support beyond our own members and to provide an outlet for the community and its surrounding areas. ... This was the best option to keep us connected."

The idea struck after news of the three-week school suspension broke, Knor said. She and vice-president Lori Cook created a committee that includes GAAC board member Niki Struck, GAAC event co-ordinator

Stacey Burse and local artist Heidi Hunter (Runs with Scissors Studio).

While brainstorming ways to alleviate community stress and anxiety during the school suspension, Hunter said the concept for Together While We're Apart was born.

"In joining this group, people in our community can celebrate and nurture a feeling of belonging, while being encouraged to express their own personal experience through different art forms," said Hunter, adding there is no limit to creative forms, which can include journaling, drawing or learning something new.

"This can be a wonderful outlet for healing, support and getting through this together. We can use this time not only to connect with others but also develop a relationship with our own creative voice, a voice we maybe never knew we had."

To date, Knor said some examples of artistic ideas and projects being shared with the group include sketching and drawing, painting with watercolours, creative cooking with kids, musical projects, crafting, quilting, as



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Krista Ford's children Jacob Keck, 10, and Allyson Keck, 8, have been enjoying following step-by-step YouTube tutorials for watercolour painting.

well as dance and yoga.

Another overarching project within the group, co-ordinated by Hunter, is a memory sketchbook. She said she's inviting everyone in the group to make an "Art While We're Apart" memory sketchbook from materials found around the house like old envelopes, recycled greeting cards and scrap paper.

As time goes, Hunter said she'll provide content suggestions for the book, hoping people enjoy the project through drawing, journaling and doc-

umenting memories from a time the community came together in spirit while forced to be apart.

"We want to boost spirits. This group will provide the opportunity to connect and interact," said Knor.

"We're encouraging people to keep busy, try to learn new things. ... Maybe this is the time to create art with your children or simply for yourself."

To join GAAC's Together While We're Apart online projects, visit the Green Acres Art Centre Inc. Facebook page.

Manitoba schools remain closed indefinitely

By Evan Matthews

Last week the province's chief public health officer announced Manitoba would suspend classroom learning from kindergarten to Grade 12 indefinitely to help flatten the COVID-19 curve.

But Don Nikkel, Lakeshore School Division's superintendent of HR and alternative program director, said it doesn't necessarily mean school won't come back at all prior to summer break.

"There is still a chance classes will resume this school year, but it really depends on the trajectory of COVID-19 and the decision of our chief public health officer," said Nikkel.

"Obviously, there isn't a known return date at this point, and we have not had to manage a pandemic like COVID-19 in recent history, so this is new ground for everyone and it's hard to know how long these measures will be needed.

"Our hope is that we will return to regular classroom learning as soon as possible, but we are also putting in place a remote learning plan that extends beyond the next few weeks and perhaps until the end of the school year in June," he said.

Originally, the province had announced classes would be suspended from March 23 through April 10, but the new step to extend the suspension is being taken with the interests

of students, educators and, ultimately, all Manitobans, according to the premier.

Nikkel said the division has been working to develop its technological capacity for a number of years and has been leveraging the resources for its students.

"We currently have laptops available for all students Grade 5 and up, and we're looking into expanding that to other grades, too," said Nikkel.

"We have an opportunity to improve how we use these resources and anticipate there will be long-term benefits in honing these skills."

The province has stated no student would be held back due to the pandemic, but students must continue to actively engage in learning.

"The efforts and success Manitoba teachers and educators have displayed during this public health pandemic has been inspiring," said Education Minister Kelvin Goertzen.

"I join all Manitobans in asking educators to continue doing all they can to use remote and innovative methods to teach students through the remainder of this school year.

"Our government is asking for an all-hands-on-deck approach — with their assistance and with that of parents, caregivers, principals, trustees and superintendents — for the benefit of all students."

Childcare centres located in schools

continue to operate under current conditions set out by the chief provincial public health officer, according to the province, with the overall plan oriented toward the future.

Provincially, the modernization to education is happening through the response to the COVID-19 situation, according to Goertzen, who added combined efforts are geared toward the re-opening of classrooms as well as multifaceted ways to teach and learn after the pandemic.

Graduation

At this point in time, Nikkel said graduation ceremonies have neither been cancelled nor postponed.

The division continues to carefully monitor the evolving situation, he said, and will provide notice well in advance of graduation.

"It is worth noting we are only a few weeks into the COVID-19 response in North America," said Nikkel.

"Graduation is still months away, and the situation is evolving rapidly."

CHANGE TO SERVICE

Unscheduled drop-in services are not available at this time

West Interlake Watershed District is taking proactive measures to help manage and minimize the spread of COVID-19, including social-distancing measures.

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THE CONSERVATION TRUST



Manitoba



Disinfecting, cleaning business thriving during coronavirus pandemic

By Jennifer McFee

While many businesses are struggling to keep afloat, one local company is scrambling to keep up with the demand.

Dis In Fect Products Ltd., a Balmoral-based business, launched in 2016 to offer environmentally friendly cleaning and disinfecting products for the agriculture industry. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, demand for these products continues to rise.

"I'm just so busy. I do bigger agriculture-based loads all across Canada with four stores now. I have hand sanitizers and disinfectants for the producer in the agriculture business across Canada, as well as water treatment," said Darren Ruchkall, president of product development and sales.

"I mainly do everything myself, and it's big orders like sending to Maple Leaf Foods for its RWA program (raised without antibiotics water treatments program). It's been a busy time."

For Ruchkall, his interest in eco-friendly agricultural products stems from knowledge he gleaned by working in the industry.

"I worked at a turkey farm in the north for 16 years and I used harsh chemicals to wash barns," he said.

"I wanted to find something that the producer could get on his skin and in his eyes and not harm him yet do the job. That's when we started developing this four years ago now and it's taken off really



PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Darren Ruchkall is seeing an increased demand for items from Dis In Fect Products Ltd.

well."

Ruchkall is no stranger to taking extra safety precautions when delivering products. To avoid the spread of PED at hog farms, he got in the practice of arriving in full protection gear.

"I've been basically meeting at the farm gates and wearing the gloves and mask and bio-suit. That's what I've done for years and years, so for me it's not a big stretch. But for others, I could see that they

might not be used to it," he said.

"I always carry ample supply, but we sell more by bulk in 20-litre pails and four-litre jugs."

Some families are buying four-litre jugs of Durell hand disinfectant or Healthy Hands anti-bacterial soap to divide among relatives, he added. The highly concentrated products are made in Canada and approved by Health Canada as well as Agriculture Canada.

"I started this business selling earth-friendly products. It's all food grade so it's a lot easier for the aquasystem to take these chemicals. All my products are sold at hospital level too," Ruchkall said.

"My company has exploded each year with a 40 to 50 per cent gain in each market in Canada from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and eventually to B.C."

Dis In Fect products are available at Masterfeeds in Winnipeg and Ruchkall also operates from an office in Headingley. In addition, he recently signed a three-year deal with Proveta Nutrition Ltd., which will bring his products to various locations in Saskatchewan and Alberta.

"We're getting big truckloads out there," he said. "Timing is everything."

For more information about Dis In Fect Products Ltd., visit www.disinfectproducts.com or email disinfectproductsLtd@gmail.com.

Woodlands' farmer-vets watching over their flocks during COVID crisis

By Patricia Barrett

Farmers and pet owners experiencing an animal emergency or needing an essential service can rely on their veterinarians to be there for them during the COVID-19 outbreak in Manitoba.

Veterinarians are considered an essential service, but they — like dentists — have temporarily postponed non-essential services on the recommendation of their professional association.

The owners of the Woodlands Veterinary Clinic are pulling triple duty during the COVID crisis, attending to livestock and pet patients, taking care of their own sheep — half of which recently lambed — and adhering to a rigid regime of social distancing and disinfecting their clinic.

"Our business doesn't stop because of COVID. We're still out and about and going onto farms," said veterinary technician Jennifer Reesink, who works alongside her veterinarian husband, Carel. "We're being as safe as we can, adhering to social distancing. But cows still calf and sheep still lamb. And they're still getting sick so we're providing vet services to those farmers."

In Manitoba most cow-calf operations have winter calving where calves are born in the January to March period. This system is more conducive to mixed farming operations and pure bred operations where the cow/calf enterprise doesn't interfere with the cropping. And people still require care for their pets.

Because of the importance of social distancing in helping prevent the spread of the highly contagious virus that's infected over 200 people in Manitoba as of last Sunday, the clinic has scaled back services that can wait.

"We're still open because we're an emergency clinic," said Reesink. "We're still seeing sick animals



PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Nine-year-old Annika Reesink helps on the family farm.

and animals that have to be vaccinated to prevent them from getting other viruses and sicknesses. But we're using our best judgment over the phone as to what needs to be seen now and what can wait."

She's encouraging people to use their best judgment about what non-essential services (e.g., annual exams, nail trims, shaves, etc.) can be put off. If people can stay home, that will help the clinic a "tremendous amount," said Reesink.

For those who must bring their pet into the clinic, social distancing is a must. The vets and staff are also carrying out enhanced cleaning as a preventative measure.

"We are always very clean because there are viruses and whatnot that can be spread at any given time," said Reesink. "But we've majorly upped our cleaning with COVID going on to try to reduce that

transmission should it make its way into the clinic."

To make matters a bit more challenging, the Reesinks have 77 lambs to watch over on their Woodlands-area farm. About half of their 70-strong ewe flock delivered at the end of January. The other half is expected to deliver near the end of May.

"I have two flocks going. It's something that we changed last year," said Reesink. "We have some a little bit earlier to hit some different markets."

The Reesinks' nine-year-old daughter Annika is a third pair of trusty hands at home to help with the sheep. Having grown up around sheep and learned first-hand from her parents how to properly care for animals, Annika is almost like a veterinarian-in-training.

"She helps feed the sheep and helps do chores," said Reesink. "She's in there like a dirty sock. If a ewe is having trouble lambing, she will stick her hand in and pull the lamb out."

Annika also earns an "informal" wage. Profits from the wool the Reesinks sell goes into her piggy bank.

Given the disruption of the virus to the markets, sales of lamb meat may take a hit, especially at Easter.

"Definitely the market is going to go down, but I'm hoping some people will still buy lamb meat," said Reesink. "They may not be able to have the big family gatherings they typically have, but they'll still want to have lamb for their Easter dinners."

The Woodlands Veterinary Clinic's Facebook page provides a brief overview of what services are currently being offered and those that have been temporarily suspended.

Customers are urged to call the clinic at 204-383-5065 if they're uncertain about whether something can be delayed or need more information about services.

MMJHL is as strong as ever after 50 years

By Brian Bowman

The Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League celebrated its 50th anniversary this past season.

And they expect to be around much, much longer.

The 10-team league — which includes the Stonewall Jets — is as strong as ever.

“When you look back at the history and the pioneers that got us to where we are it’s amazing how the league has lasted 50 years,” said MMJHL president Kerry Lines last Friday afternoon. “We’re probably as strong as we have ever been. Ownership is strong and the competitive balance (is good). We’re liking the future, that’s for sure.”

There was a lot of parity in the league this past season. Any team could beat another on any given night.

In fact, just 13 points separated six teams in the middle of the standings.

“I look at (last place) River East, and they have struggled the last couple of years but they have a young core and the games that they are losing, they are losing in a lot of cases by one goal against some pretty competitive teams,” Lines noted.

The quality of play in the MMJHL is also as good as it’s ever been.

“It’s very fast, not what it used to be,” Lines said. “It’s not as rough and tumble but there’s still strong play along the boards and it’s very fast. It’s been fun to sit back and watch this thing develop over the



FILE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Stonewall Jets are members of the 10-team Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League.

last number of years to more of a speed game.”

The league allows players to play close to home while juggling university or starting a career. Many players choose the MMJHL over having to move away from home to play Junior “A” hockey.

Like all of the other leagues in Canada, the MMJHL was not able to complete its season due to Hockey Canada’s decision to cancel all leagues last month due to the coronavirus pandemic.

“The night it happened, I was travelling in the states and I gave the green light for the game to happen on the Thursday night,” Lines recalled. “Fans were in the building, players on both teams

had taken the pre-game warmup, and then Hockey Manitoba through Hockey Canada (shut it down). It was not so much us, but it was the officials that first got notified and you obviously can’t play without officials.”

The decision by Hockey Canada proved to be the right one as the coronavirus has spread across the world.

“At the beginning, I think there was a little bit of hope that it would be a pause like the NHL,” Lines said. “Day by day, you can see the devastation in the community, not just here but right across Canada and the world. We would have liked to continue but on the other hand we have to be socially responsible in doing what’s right in our community to make sure our teams and fans and those that support us are safe and their families are safe.

“That was totally the right decision as we look back and all we can do is look forward to what’s coming up next year.”

A lot of individuals do a lot of great things to keep this league strong.

“I want to thank our fan base and our sponsors that have supported us all year,” Lines said. “It’s unfortunate what’s going on in the world today but we’ll come back stronger for it next year. A big thank you, not only to the fans and sponsors, but the volunteers in all of the communities that make this league as great as it is.”

Christensen commits to University of Windsor Lancers

Staff

Logan Christensen is taking his hockey skills to southern Ontario.

Christensen, a Lunder product, has committed to attend school and play hockey for the University of Windsor Lancers.

“I’ve never been out to see that part of the country so I thought that would be a good opportunity,” said Christensen on the Portage Terriers’ website.

“They have a great school and a great program. I felt it would be a great place to go and further my education and play hockey.”

Christensen, who is hoping to study

kinesiology, is really looking forward to going to a Lancers’ program that finished last season with an 18-19 record.

“I talked to the coach (and) he said he liked me when he watched me play,” Christensen said. “He isn’t sure if he is going to play me on the wing or at centre, so I’m not sure where I’ll play but I’m excited.”

In Windsor, Christensen will be joining former Terriers’ goaltender Noah Giesbrecht who also committed to the Lancers.

Christensen really enjoyed his time in Portage.

“It was great,” he said. “It was a good

place with great billets. It was tough that our season had to come to an end when it did.”

Christensen played three full seasons with the Western Hockey League’s Saskatoon Blades and then suited up for 13 more games in 2018-19. He finished that season by playing in 54 games with the Medicine Hat Tigers.

The talented forward was acquired by the Terriers to add experience as Portage prepared to host the 2020 Centennial Cup.

Christensen played well in Portage, scoring 14 goals and collecting 33 points in 42 regular-season games.



Logan Christensen

Baseball Manitoba continues to work towards governing a season

Submitted by Baseball Manitoba

As we navigate these unprecedented times, please know that Baseball Manitoba continues to work towards governing a baseball season, in some format, in 2020.

All potential start dates and season lengths are being considered. Staff and volunteers remain hopeful that baseball will be played, and memorable experiences will be made this season. It is too early to tell when this may happen, so we are purposely not

giving any target dates or timelines at this time.

Baseball Manitoba has made the difficult decision to cease operations related to online registration through RAMP Interactive and player training programs — including all virtual or online training for players.

As of last Friday, RAMP Interactive online registrations have been closed and the deadline for registration (normally May 15) has been postponed. A new deadline will be provided.

Also as of last Friday, members will not be covered for accidental claims under our third-party liability insurance program. This is not a permanent decision — insurance will be provided to our members when a baseball season resumes.

Please note that Baseball Manitoba may continue to post (on their website and social media) baseball-related drills or activities for baseball players and coaches to use, if they wish.

If people choose to do those activi-

ties, it will be at their own risk. Also, in conjunction with Baseball Canada, Baseball Manitoba may be operating NCCP (coach) and NOCP (umpire) virtual clinics to prepare coaches and umpires for a season in 2020. More information will be communicated about these programs as they become available.

Baseball Manitoba appreciates all efforts and continued patience from the baseball community.

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Curbside Waste Collection Change

No Good Friday Service Regular collection on Thursday, April, 9

Regular Schedule will resume next week.



The Town of Teulon has **closed** its Civic Centre to the Public to reduce exposure to our front-line workers and our residents. Teulon Waste Disposal site remains open on summer hours with a supervised gate.

Payments May Be Made To: The Town of Teulon either by mail to P.O. Box 69, Teulon Manitoba ROC 3B0 or online through electronic banking. Contact your financial institution to register your account. Council meetings when and if held, remain open to public. All delegations to Council have been postponed until further notice. Any Public Hearings that may be required will be advertised with the appropriate notices. We thank everyone for their understanding.

We would like to remind you to please support our local businesses as they need our support as much as we need the services and products, they supply to us now in our greatest time of need.

On behalf of the Mayor, Councillors and our staff of the Town of Teulon we thank our residents for their understanding and patience as we adapt to the ever-changing operational requirements. Given the rapidly evolving situation regarding COVID-19 we are navigating through unprecedented times. We only ask that you continue to follow the direction provided by health officials with respect to social distancing increased hand washing, and staying home as much as possible.

We all need to work together to overcome these difficult times right now.



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROSSER

PUBLIC HEARING

2020 FINANCIAL PLAN

In accordance with Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act the Council of the Rural Municipality of Rosser will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** to present the 2020 Financial Plan for the Municipality at:

7:30 P.M.

Tuesday, APRIL 21, 2020

ROSSER MUNICIPAL OFFICE

The Rural Municipality of Rosser 2020 Financial Plan consists of:

- 1) the 2020 Operating Budget,
- 2) the 2020 Capital Budget,
- 3) an estimate of the operating revenue and expenditure for the 2021 fiscal year, and
- 4) a five year Capital Expenditure Program (2021-2025).

At this time the Council will present the proposed 2020 financial plan for the Municipality. The presentation will provide an overview of the proposed financial plan followed by a forum for questions and comments from the public. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Copies of the proposed financial plan are available upon request at the Municipal Office, 77 E PR 221 in Rosser, Manitoba during regular office hours Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Larry Wandowich
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Rosser

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Tollak Place has 1 & 2 bedroom suites, located at 40 Eveline Street. Spacious suites, with F/S, A/C, storage areas and large balconies; utilities are included, parking is extra. Tollak 2 is a 55 plus bldg., river view apts. with central air, F/S, DW & microwave; large storage area off the kitchen and a balcony; utilities and parking extra. Call the onsite office 204-482-2751 for AVAILABILITY.

HELP WANTED

Rockwood Victoria Co-op Ltd. is looking for a P/T Class 1 driver, Stonewall area. Someone who is retired from their work and would like a few days throughout the year for something to do to make a few extra dollars. Ph Ted 204-461-2038.

Evening part time janitorial job available in Stonewall area. Phone 204-979-0926.

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TOWN OF STONEWALL

2020 FINANCIAL PLAN PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act the Town of Stonewall shall hold a PUBLIC HEARING to present the 2020 Financial Plan for the Town on:

Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 6:30 PM
Sunova Room, Quarry Park Heritage Arts Centre
166 Main St, Stonewall, MB

PLEASE NOTE ADHERANCE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE REQUIRED

The Town of Stonewall 2020 Financial Plan consists of:

1. The 2020 Operating Budget
2. The 2020 Capital Budget
3. An estimate of the Operating Revenue and Expenditures for the following fiscal year (2021), and
4. A five (5) year Capital Expenditure Program (2021-2025)

The purpose of the PUBLIC HEARING is to allow any interested person to make representation ask questions or register an objection in respect of the Town of Stonewall 2020 Financial Plan.

Copies of the financial plan will be available for review and may be examined by any person on the Town of Stonewall website at www.stonewall.ca on April 3, 2020.

Dated this 1st day of April, 2020

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

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CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to all who came to visit, call or text, sent food, flowers, cards of sympathy, and have continued to keep in touch with us following the passing of our mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, and sister-in-law, Mina Peltz. Thank you to those who donated to the Warren United Church and the Selkirk Regional Health Centre in her memory.

A special thank you to Faye Mason for the beautiful memory tribute, and to Shirley Williams for her comforting words and wonderful service. We would also like to thank the staff at Selkirk Regional Health Centre, we truly appreciate everything you did for mom and our family while she was in your care. Thank you to MacKenzie Funeral Home for their kindness and service, to Stonewall Florists for the beautiful flowers, and to Brackendale Luncheon Specialties for catering the luncheon at Quarry Park Interpretive Centre. A special thank you to Lana, we truly appreciate everything you have done for us.

-Mark and Lisa, Jason, Ryan
Nicole and Ben, Robyn and Frank
Tracey
Ashley, Lachlan
Keegan and Samara, Sophia

IN MEMORIAM



Bonnie Hamilton

January 5, 1949 – April 6, 2011

Remember me when flowers bloom,
Early in the spring;
Remember me on sunny days,
In the fun that summer brings.
Remember me in the fall,
As you walk through leaves of gold;
In the wintertime, remember me,
In the stories that are told.
But most of all...remember,
Each day, right from the start;
I will be forever near,
For I live within your heart.

-Love always,
Grant,

Lynn, Paul, Matthew, Sarah, Jonathan,
Dawn, Taylor, Ashley, Jordan

IN MEMORIAM

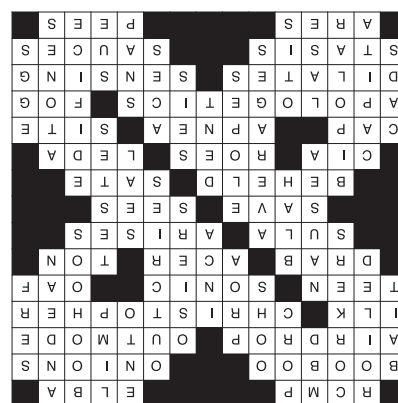


Fred Tully

July 3, 1949 - April 8, 2014

Those who loved him in life sincerely
Still love him in death just the same
His memory we shall always keep.
We will miss you always
We will love forever
As long as we live.

-Love Maureen, Garrett, Elaine, Sierra, Wyatt
Elliott, Grace, Brooklyn and Eli



Crossword Answer

OBITUARY

Maxim Sywak

August 11, 1928 – March 29, 2020

Peacefully on March 29, 2020 Max passed away at the age of 91. Dad was predeceased by his wife Helen of 56 years, his parents Anthony and Helen and sister Patricia.

He will be sadly missed by his daughter Nadine (Joe), grandchildren Kristin and Michael and brother Leonard and numerous nieces.

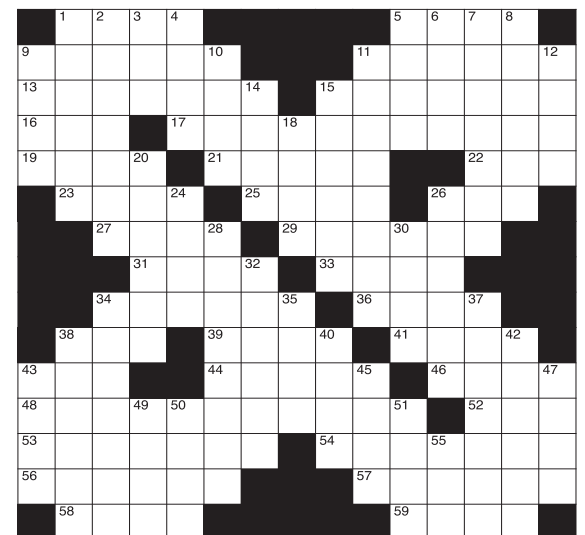
Dad and Mom were married December 2, 1950 and lived in Winnipeg for a number of years before moving to Stony Mountain in 1977. Dad enjoyed a long career at CN Rail. Dad's favorite place was at Poplar Bay, where he spent countless hours taking family and friends out on the lake in his cabin cruiser. During the early retirement years, Mom and Dad travelled in their motorhome enjoying the outdoors.

A private family interment has taken place at Victoria Cemetery.

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Canadian law enforcers
5. Actor Idris
9. Cut or bruise
11. Vegetables
13. Aircraft delivery
15. To make obsolete
16. Things similar to those already noted
17. Columbus is a famous one
19. Age group
21. Denotes nature of sound
22. Klutz
23. Uninteresting
25. Computer manufacturer
26. 2,000 lbs.
27. Genus of seabirds
29. Emerges
31. Baseball stat
33. Witnesses
34. Observed
36. Satisfy
38. Former OSS
39. Small Eurasian deer
41. Wife of Sparta's king
43. Ballplayer accessory
44. Temporary cessation of breathing
46. Where construction workers ply their trade
48. Arguments that justify a religious doctrine
52. Thick cloud of tiny water droplets
53. Widens
54. Detection
56. Period of inactivity
57. Tomato and vodka are two
58. Greek war god
59. Urinates



CLUES DOWN

1. Churned
2. Seal bottles
3. Million barrels per day (abbr.)
4. Meat from a pig (French)
5. Within
6. Walk in a slow pace
7. Cries
8. About Andes
9. Fishermen use it
10. Expresses delight
11. Shouts
12. Feudal agricultural laborer
14. Sailboat
15. Small Eurasian willows
18. S. American native people
20. Extreme disgust
24. Nonsense (slang)
26. Produce male reproductive cells
28. Computes
30. Pop singer
32. Weds secretly
34. Having two poles
35. Yankee hero Bucky
37. Building
38. Per __, each
40. Six (Spanish)
42. Makes amends
43. Scoundrels
45. Baseball's best pitchers
47. Some are scrambled
49. Emit coherent radiation
50. Singer Redding
51. Break
55. Institute legal proceedings against

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