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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JUDI CARROLL

Teulon Collegiate's Vice Principal Jason Darragh shares an inside joke with family about getting Emily Haynes a pet snake during the official graduating ceremony last Friday. Haynes received her grade 12 diploma at an outdoor ceremony on June 25. See full graduation coverage inside.

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Local volunteer needs financial support from the community

By Sydney Lockhart

A Stonewall local will be travelling over 6,000 kilometers to Germany for back surgery in hopes of finding a way to live her life free of excruciating pain.

Bev Lewicki fell from a stack mover on her family farm when she was just 17 years old; while no bones broke, bruises and contusions littered her body and have left her with pain ever since.

Now, at the age of 66, Lewicki has had the pain increase dramatically over the last two years.

"It is unbearable. I mean when you can't walk across your own yard without severe pain, Or you fall down because the pain in the legs, just gives way," she said.

Lewicki's pain has become so severe that she spends every day in bed, most of the time unable to sit or walk. For years she has gone for massage therapy, needling therapy and Rhizotomies, which is when the nerves in her back are burnt to try and reduce pain.

"Every day I get up in the morning. I sit at the computer for maybe half an hour and have breakfast and then I gotta go lay down again, because the pain is increasing again so I go lay down and have another sleep," she said.

With the amount of pain she is experiencing Lewicki said she felt she had two options; go to Germany to the ONZ Spine Clinic for surgery that is not performed anywhere else in the world, or live in pain for the rest of her life.

"In January of this year it hit me with the fibromyalgia, as well as arthritis that hit me so hard, I could not get out of bed for about a week, maybe even 10 days," she said.

"I just wanted to die, I truly wanted to die."



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Bev Lewicki is going for back surgery in Germany in August after spending years in extreme pain. Her friend has set up a GoFundMe page to try and raise \$70,000 for the surgery.

Despite the choice for surgery seeming like the obvious, Lewicki said it was one of the most challenging decisions of her life because it came along with a cost of about \$70,000 that she and her husband Don do not have.

"So, it's all under our own money, we had to remortgage our house. And I'm not well off by any means because we both are retired now, we live on retirement income," she said.

Lewicki worked as a nurse for many years but was forced into early retirement because of the worsening pain she was experiencing.

She has volunteered in the community in many ways while living here. She made countless gowns and masks through the pandemic to try and help healthcare workers, she tried to start a branch of the

Heart and Stroke Foundation for two years, and she has spent countless hours volunteering and sitting on the Senior's Resource Board of Directors.

Lewicki said her grandchildren will often lay beside her on the bed when they want to come see her and hold her hand; she said she misses being able to have them sit on her lap and worries that they don't understand what is happening.

The surgery is set for this August. The Lewicki's decided to take on the financial burden to give her a chance at living again.

"They're giving me 90 per cent less pain after the recovery. So, it's one week in the hospital, dependent on how long it takes to be healed. And then one week I go to rehab," she said.

The surgery will replace multiple discs in her back with artificial ones that are titanium.

Lewicki said she doesn't believe she would have made it through the pain without the support from her husband, family, and close friends.

Her close friend Barb Kaminski visited her the other day and asked if she could create a GoFundMe page to try and raise money to help lessen the financial burden of the surgery.

At first, Lewicki refused, saying they didn't want to ask the community for help, but she agreed with some persuasion from her best friend.

"She's just such a caring, loving person. And she always gives and doesn't want anything back," said Kaminski, "It all adds up, every dollar adds upon every dollar. So I would just love if they could find in their heart to help some way."

So far about \$1,925 of the \$70,000 goal has been raised. To contribute to Lewicki's surgery fund go to <https://gofund.me/2ebf084e>.

Study shows Pfizer COVID vaccine protection lasts up to almost 4 months

By Patricia Barrett

Whether or not COVID-19 vaccines can induce long-lasting immunity is a key

research focus as the virus's more highly transmissible and deadly variants such as delta and delta plus ramp up in countries around the world.

An American study led by researchers at Washington University's School of Medicine in St. Louis, Mo., looked at the longevity of Pfizer-BioNTech's mRNA COVID vaccine. The findings suggest the vaccine can induce persistent immunity after the first dose of vaccine – up to 15 weeks in some people – and up to 12 weeks after the second dose.

The peer-reviewed study titled "SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines induce persistent human germinal centre responses" in the journal Nature was published online June 28 as an accelerated article preview (not yet copy edited).

The study had 14 participants undergo a procedure (ultrasound-guided fine needle aspirate) to extract serum samples from their axillary (armpit) lymph nodes (the vaccine is injected into the deltoid muscle, which primarily drains to the lateral axillary lymph nodes). All participants were recruited from the St. Louis metropolitan area and had received two doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Researchers focused on the response of germinal centre B cells, which are induced by mRNA vaccines.

B cells (also called B lymphocytes) are a class of white blood cells, which are part of the immune system. B cells make antibodies to destroy antigens, which are pathogens/foreign invaders such as viruses and bacteria. Germinal centres

Continued on page 2

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Canada Day celebrations at the Kiln Drive-In



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY LOU ANDERSON

Tossing axes and eating ice cream was on the menu Canada Day at The Kiln Drive-In in Stonewall. Haulin Axe, Manitoba's only travelling mobile axe throwing unit set up in the parking lot while approximately 100 people took a toss at the bullseye. Axe throwing has become a popular recreational sport in the last few years and Haulin Axe delivers their private throwing range to all kinds of events. Haulin Axe will be set up on July 9 at Market 6 store in Warren and on July 10 at Rubber Ducky Resort east of Warren. For more information www.haulinaxe.ca

\$250,000 EXTRA win in Teulon

Staff

William Werth was excited when he thought he'd won \$250 on his LOTTO MAX and EXTRA ticket; he was overjoyed to find out he'd actually won \$250,000 on the May 4 EXTRA draw!

Werth checked his ticket on the Lotto Spot! app. When he saw the amount he won on the screen, he was shocked.

"Time froze!" he exclaimed. "I was in my car when I checked, so I held on to my ticket tightly and went straight home to hide it."

The Teulon winner said he will invest his winnings and save for a rainy day.

Werth purchased his winning EXTRA ticket at Red River Co-op, located at 1850 Brookside Blvd in Winnipeg. He won his \$250,000 top prize by matching all seven EXTRA numbers drawn on May 4 – 2126088.



William Werth



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Credit unions partner to bring Inuit art to rural communities

By Nicole Brownlee

Manitoba 150 has partnered with Manitoba credit unions to share Inuit art across the province.

"The Manitoba 150 Host Committee has been, from the very beginning, looking for ways to engage all Manitobans in this acknowledgement of our 150 anniversary," said Monique LaCoste, co-chair of the Manitoba 150 council.

Alongside the Winnipeg Art Gallery, Tour 150 will showcase several pieces from the Qaumajug Inuit art centre through municipalities across the province, stopping at a credit union in each town.

"We tried to think of organizations that are firmly embedded in rural communities, so of course credit unions are a perfect fit," said LaCoste. "They're the backbone of rural Manitoba."

Tour 150 will be stopping in Fisher Branch, Gimli, Selkirk, Riverton and Arborg at several Noventis and Cambrian Credit Unions in the Interlake.

"Supporting our communities is a big part of our vision and mission," said Kevin McNight, CEO of NCU. "This is an exciting way to that."

Brigitte Burgoyne, communications and community engagement director at CCU, said the organization is honoured to be a part of Tour 150.

"I think this is just a really nice opportunity for more Manitobans to learn about contemporary art... and Canadian history," said Burgoyne. "Especially in some of the more remote communities... we're extremely proud to be able to have a part in



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Cathy Cox, Minister of Sport, Culture and Heritage and Tour Team member Albyn Carias check out prints, wall-hangings and sculptures inside Nakatamaakewin, the Tour 150 van.

facilitating."

A retrofitted tour vehicle, named Nakatamaakewin, which means "to leave something behind" in Michif, will house the artwork and act as a portable exhibit for visitors to explore.

Riva Symko, the head of collections and exhibitions at the WAG and a curator of Canadian Art, said the gallery wanted to choose pieces that showcase the diversity and variety of Inuit art.

"I think people, you know, generally think of Inuit art as carving almost exclusively," said Symko. "We have carvings represented in the van as well, but we

also have textiles, wall hangings... dolls made out of felt and a range of materials."

They also worked closely with the learning and programs team to create educational material about Inuit culture, Inuit voices included in the artwork and engaging stories about the pieces.

"We've been really thinking about, like, how do we make our collection of Inuit art accessible to audiences in the north as well as the south. Or how do we reach audiences that aren't necessarily in Winnipeg," said Symko.

The van, decorated with Inuit artist Kailey Shepard's designs, became a way for the WAG to share artwork some communities otherwise would have never seen.

"The van sort of represents part of that larger objective in being able to bring art or make art accessible to these audiences," said Symko. "We're the Winnipeg Art Gallery, but in a lot of ways, we represent all of Manitoba too."

"When we live in small towns, we don't always have the opportunity to be in touch with art on a daily basis, and certainly not Inuit art," said LaCoste. "We hope people will really take advantage of the opportunity."

LaCoste said she also hopes the accessible art will also spark conversations about Manitoba's culture and history.

"We really hope that people have an opportunity... to be proud of who we are as Manitoban. To be in awe of our province's beauty. To, you know, look at our past, which is not an easy one, but to have conversations around it and appreciate the culture that surrounds us," said LaCoste.

To find a tour stop near you, visit <https://manitoba150.com/en/programs/tour-150/>.



Public Notice

You're Invited

to share your views about the proposed rate changes from Manitoba Public Insurance

The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation (MPI) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for a 2.8 per cent decrease to Basic Autopac vehicle insurance rates and premiums effective on April 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023. MPI is also seeking to replace the 5 per cent capital release from last year's application with a rebate request currently estimated at \$155 million to be filed later this year. If approved, the rebate would be equivalent to a rate reduction of approximately 15 per cent.

For further details, please contact MPI at inquiries@mpi.mb.ca or visit the Board's website at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

An electronic-based virtual public hearing on the proposed decrease will be held beginning:

Tuesday, October 12, 2021
at 9 a.m.

Please view the hearing via the Board's website (www.pubmanitoba.ca)

If you are interested in learning more about this rate decrease, you are encouraged to attend the hearing, observe the hearing via live streaming, or provide your perspectives through the Board's online comment tool.

If you wish to speak at the hearing or make a written submission, please contact the Board Secretary, Dr. Darren Christle, at 204-945-2638 or toll-free 1-866-854-3698, no later than **October 1, 2021**.

For more information, visit www.pubmanitoba.ca.

Manitoba Public Utilities Board
400-330 Portage Avenue,
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0C4
Phone: 204-945-2638
Email: publicutilities@gov.mb.ca

> PFIZER, FROM PG. 4

are anatomical structures found in human lymphoid organs such as the thymus, bone marrow, spleen, lymph nodes, tonsils and mucus membrane layers. B cells enter germinal centres to proliferate and diversify in response to an invader, much like a massing army, with its infantry, artillery and cavalry, on a 19th-century battlefield.

After the booster shot (dose two of Pfizer), researchers found that B cells increased "transiently" in all 14 participants and "persisted at high frequency" in most of them for at least seven weeks. At the 15-week mark, they found that the B cells of eight participants had remained "at or near their peak" and had high proportions of S-binding cells.

S refers to the SARS-CoV-2 [COVID-19] spike gene, to which B cells bind and secrete antibodies.

"In the draining LNs [lymph nodes], we detected robust SARS-CoV-2 S-binding GC [germinal centre] B cell and PB [antibody-secreting plasmablast] responses in aspirates from all 14 participants. These responses were detectable after the first immunization but greatly expanded after the booster injection," the researchers wrote. "Notably, S-binding GC B

cells and PBs persisted for at least 15 weeks after the first immunization (12 weeks after secondary immunization) in 8 of the 10 participants sampled at that time point."

The researchers say this is the first study to provide direct evidence of a "persistent" antigen-specific B cell response after vaccination in human subjects.

The researchers don't note any limitations to their study, such as whether the serum samples collected from participants can be considered representative of the general population or how generalizations about the duration of other COVID mRNA vaccines, which were not part of their study, can be made.

However, they say the persistence of B cells and plasmablasts in draining lymph nodes is a "positive indicator" of a long-lived response. They added that future studies will be needed to determine whether mRNA vaccinations can induce an S-specific, long-lived response in bone marrow.

"Overall, our data demonstrate a remarkable capacity of SARS-CoV-2 mRNA-based vaccines to induce robust and prolonged GC [germinal centre] reactions," the researchers wrote.

Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation is giving away \$5.5 million in grants.

By Sydney Lockhart
The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation is awarding \$5.5 million in grants to watershed districts across the province.

"Every year my organization is able to provide grants for environmental projects from the revenues that come out of those endowment funds," said Tim Sopuck, CEO of Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (MHHC).

The money that MHHC has to award as grants comes from endowment funds that the provincial government has set up the last three years. The Conservation Trust, the GROW Trust and the Wetlands GROW Trust create a pool of money every year, the MHHC then gets a portion of this money and donates millions to help individuals across the province with watershed conservation efforts.

"Wildlife conservation projects are supporting land, water and wildlife projects. These projects are generally done on private land on farmland and the projects themselves have to involve farmers and landowners to a great extent," said Sopuck.

Since 2018, 119 conservation projects around the province have been completed thanks to the grant money that gives individuals and organization the means to do them.

"It means that groups like watershed conservation districts can step up their programs and work, if you will, on a piece-by-piece basis to fully reassemble natural areas on the landscape that will help us with these bigger problems," he said.

Some of the projects that have been taken on include perennial cover, protecting riparian areas, protecting wetlands by developing run-off storage.

We know that wetlands are very vulnerable because wetlands and agriculture don't work very well together, particularly for cropping, and we've lost the majority of our wetlands, from drainage, and so this program can provide incentives for landown-

ers to, perhaps, conserve what's left or even bring some back that have been drained but landowners might have some reasons to see them restored, reducing nutrient run-offs into rivers and much more.

"Some of the watershed groups have told me they've doubled and tripled their programs on the ground, as a result of the establishment of these trusts," said Sopuck.

The East Interlake Watershed District received \$226,500 to be used in their Enhancement Protection Program.

This project will improve the habitat of endangered and at-risk flora and fauna, decrease flooding events, improve watershed resilience to the impacts of climate change, reduce nutrient loading and improve surface water quality. It is estimated that: 100

ac. of wetland will be enhanced, 360 ac. of wetlands and 50 ac. upland areas protected, 90 ac. feet of water storage will be created, 40 ac. of acres of upland area will be enhanced and conserved, and 100 cows be removed from waterways, according to their plan summary.

Armand Belanger, manager of the East Interlake Watershed

District said they are able to help 75 landowners and other organizations with their watershed conservation projects because of the grant money they have received from MHHC.

"Farmers and landowners and everybody seem to have kind of a conservation project in the back of their mind and the back of the field that they always wanted to do, but they never got around to doing it. Now's the time that they can contact us, and we can try to help them along the way, not only with planning but hopefully with financing the project as well," he said.

Belanger said he hopes that the interest in applying for project aid increases because they have been able to boost their programming so much with the grants from the past three years.

"EVERY YEAR MY ORGANIZATION IS ABLE TO PROVIDE GRANTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS"



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation donates money to assist landowners to help with conservation projects.



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Pandemic's days are numbered: Roussin

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials announced 65 new cases of COVID-19 and one more death on Monday.

The daily numbers continue to drop as the number of Manitobans getting vaccinated is on the rise, providing hope for an end to the pandemic that has upended everyone's lives for the past year and a half.

"We know that all pandemics end, and this one will be no different," said Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer.

"Looking at other jurisdictions that have had high vaccine rates, we can see that perhaps this pandemic's days are numbered," he continued. "It's certainly reason to be hopeful considering Manitoba's vaccine uptake."

As of Monday, 74.8 per cent of eligible Manitobans had received their first dose and 50.2 per cent their second.

Monday's COVID numbers were part of 177 total new cases announced since Friday.

They brought the total number of active cases in Manitoba to 1,022 and recoveries to 54,309. Deaths due to COVID are at 1,151.

There are 156 Manitobans in hospital due to COVID-19, including 46 in intensive care (six in ICUs at hospitals in Ontario).

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate on Monday was at 6.3 per cent provincially and 6.1 per cent in Winnipeg.

One day soon, the health care system won't be under strain, daily COVID-19 briefings will be a thing of the past, and public health restrictions will no longer be needed, Roussin said of what a post-pandemic Manitoba will look like.

"With each passing day, more and more Manitobans are getting vaccinated," he said. "Nearly 1.5 million doses have been administered in Manitoba already."

"This is really a tribute to the vaccine team and to Manitobans for stepping up and getting that vaccine as soon

as they can. We need Manitobans to continue to do so ... our ability to re-open businesses, services, facilities, to gather with each other once again relies on Manitobans getting those two vaccines. Immunization is our key to a post-pandemic Manitoba."

All people age 12 and up are eligible to make first- and second-dose appointments for the COVID-19 vaccine. You can do so online at protectmb.ca or by calling (toll-free) 1-844-626-8222.

By the numbers

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health reported nine new cases on Monday bringing the total to 161 active cases with 3,633 recovered.

A number of districts continue to report zero cases including Arborg/Riverton, Gimli, Pinawa/LacduBonnet, St. Laurent, Whiteshell and Winnipeg Beach/St. Andrews. Fisher River/Peguis reported 81 active cases, Eriksdale/Ashern 36, Powerview/Pine Falls 19, Selkirk 10, Unknown 4, Stonewall/Teulon 3 and Beausjour, Springfield and St. Clements all with one.

letter to the editor Letters to the Editor: letters@stonewallteulontribune.ca

Vandalism at the Legislature is a criminal act contrary to reconciliation

Dear Premier Pallister,

We are writing to express our shock and dismay regarding the acts of vandalism at the Manitoba Legislature on July 1, 2021. The Manitoba Conservative Members of Parliament condemn the destruction of public property on the Legislative grounds in the strongest possible terms. We acknowledge that the small number of individuals who perpetrated these acts are not representative of the thousands of Canadians who exer-

cised their right to attend a peaceful protest.

Vandalism at the Legislature and the burning of places of worship in provinces across Canada are criminal acts contrary to reconciliation. We agree Manitoba's elected officials have a responsibility to condemn these violent acts that jeopardize public safety and endanger reconciliation.

As a province, we are committed to resolving our differences through lawful democratic debate, not vandalism. We cannot allow a small number of individuals to subvert our democracy or erode our democratic institutions. Therefore, we re-

spectfully request that the statues of Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II be repaired and restored to the Legislative grounds as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Larry Maguire, MP Brandon-Souris, Honourable Candice Bergen, PC, MP Portage-Lisgar, James Bezan, MP Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman, Honourable Don Plett Conservative Senator-Manitoba (Landmark), Raquel Dancho, MP Kildonan-St. Paul, Ted Falk, MP Provencher, Eric Melillo, MP Kenora, Marty Morantz, MP Charleswood-St. James-Assiniboia-Headingley and Dan Mazier, MP Dauphin-Swan River-Neepawa

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TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY KEITH WALDNER

The petite, star-shaped flowers of milkweed are perfectly designed for pollination. Depending on the plant, milkweed flowers bloom in yellow, green, purple, pink, or orange. Besides monarchs, frequent visitors also include native bees, honey bees, hummingbirds, and many other types of butterflies. Help the Tribune record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or families enjoying the outdoors. Email: weather@stonewallteulontribune.ca.

mRNA vaccine labels to include warnings of rare heart inflammation

By Patricia Barrett

Health Canada advised it is updating COVID-19 vaccine labels to warn the public and health-care professionals about the possibility of serious side effects associated with different vaccine products.

The agency will require AstraZeneca's COVID-19 vaccine (also called COVISHIELD) label and product monograph to include warnings about capillary leak syndrome (CLS), one case of which has been reported in Canada (as of June 11).

"Capillary leak syndrome is a very rare, serious condition that causes fluid leakage from small blood vessels (capillaries), resulting in limb swelling, low blood pressure, thickening of the blood and low levels of albumin (an important blood protein) in the blood," stated the health agency in a safety alert issued June 29.

It is also advising people with a history of CLS to not get vaccinated with AstraZeneca.

If they've received the vaccine, they should seek immediate medical attention if they experience symptoms of CLS, such as rapid swelling of the arms and legs and sudden weight gain, which can be accompanied by feeling faint.

"Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada have been monitoring this condition since it was raised as a potential safety concern by the European Medicines Agency in April 2021," states the alert. "Up to and including June 11, 2021, one case of capillary leak syndrome following vaccination with the AstraZeneca or COVISHIELD COVID-19 vaccine has been reported in Canada."

AstraZeneca's vaccine has already been linked to a condition called vaccine-induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia characterized by blood clots and low platelet levels. Fatalities have occurred in countries – including Canada – that approved the vaccine.

"The [AstraZeneca] label has also been updated with information about very rare events of blood clots associated with low levels of platelets following immunization," states the alert.

International regulators have been updating labels to include capillary leak syndrome as a potential side effect, states the alert. Of 78 million doses of AstraZeneca administered in the U.K. and Europe, six cases of CLS were reported as of May 27, 2021.

Health Canada said it will continue to monitor CLS and "take further action" if necessary.

The agency will also require Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna's COVID vaccine labels to include warnings about pericarditis, an inflammation of the tissue surrounding the heart, and myocarditis, inflammation of the heart muscle, it said in an alert issued June 30.

Both conditions have been reported in Canada and Internationally after receiving the mRNA vaccines, primarily after the second dose of the two-shot vaccines and in mostly in "young male adults and adolescents." The agency said a "small number" of cases have been reported in Canada.

People who develop chest pain, shortness of breath or experience feelings of a fast beating, fluttering or pounding heart within several days of being vaccinated are advised to seek medical attention immediately. Severe cases can lead to heart muscle damage.

According to Health Canada's weekly vaccine summary report, a total of 31,400,466 vaccine doses have been administered in Canada (as of June 18). Adverse events have been reported by 7,926 people (about 3 out of 10,000 people). Of those 7,926 reports, 6,207 were considered non-serious and 1,719 were considered serious.

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To my wife on our 50th Wedding Anniversary

Proverbs 18:22 "He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord."

As I write this, it is exactly 50 years ago to the day, that I married Linda Fordyce. Today we celebrate that marvelous milestone in our relationship.

I asked her the other day if she wanted to sign up for another 50 years and she told me she would get back to me on that (no, I'm just kidding...)

Those of you who know her personally would agree with me when I say that she is one amazing woman. I won the lottery when she said yes to my marriage proposal on December 27, 1970.

After our wedding on Saturday, July 3rd, 1971, we moved into a house on 2nd Avenue North in Stonewall and I began my role as the pastor (at age 22) of a new church in town (then called Stonewall Baptist Church; now New Life Church.)

Since then, we have worked together as pastor and wife, first here in Stonewall for 45 years and most recently as a part time Interim Pastor in Teulon. I can honestly say that she has been the single most important human factor in the success of my ministry. As someone has put it, "Behind every successful man stands a surprised mother in law" – no, wait, I got that wrong: "Behind every successful man stands a great woman."

She has been my single greatest source of inspiration and support. Through thick and thin, she has stood by my side and I am sure that if I had not had her with me, a much, much different story would have been told. More than once, I was ready to throw the towel in on pastoral ministry, but she was always there beside me, encouraging me on.

Of her, I can join with the man in the Bible, who as a husband said of his wife, "Many women have done wonderful things, but you've outclassed them all!" Proverbs 31:29.

Thanks Linda. I love you forever.
Henry Oz
New Life Teulon (Interim Pastor)

Local wedding business adds rustic touch to wedding décor

By Iris Dyck

Richelle Ross has always had an eye for design.

Over the years, friends and acquaintances urged her to go into interior decorating. The Interlake School Division teacher filled her spare time with carpentry and floral design projects, dressing up her home with her creations.

When a friend needed help with her wedding décor last summer, Ross was happy to step in. She and her husband designed and built rustic décor pieces for the outdoor venue as their gift to the bride and groom.

"She was so thrilled and so grateful," said Ross. "It was really nice to be a part of that."

The experience inspired her to create her small business, Rickrack Rustic Weddings. Rickrack offers two lines of wedding décor and three different floral themes for rent. The lines include items like wooden archways, signs, and table centrepieces, and can be rented as a package or on a per-item basis.

While starting any business can be demanding, starting one that is dependent on in-person gatherings during a pandemic presents its own set of challenges. Ross saw the challenge as an opportunity to do something she'd always wanted to do.

"I just thought, what the heck, we'll

just try this and see where it goes," she said.

Ross starts with an idea of what she wants a piece to look like, sometimes looking on Pinterest for inspiration. Sometimes she finds items to repurpose, but if she can't find what she needs, she has no trouble building the pieces from scratch.

"My favourite part is just designing everything," she said. "Just having that vision of how beautiful this could make somebody's wedding."

While Ross did have to purchase some items to round out the collections, she took time to add detailing to each piece so they would fit in the "Country Chic" or "Rustic Romance" lines.

"I want to have my own personal stamp on everything," she said.

As COVID-19 forced many to cancel or modify their 2020 wedding plans, Ross worked on her décor, hopeful the pandemic would be over by summer 2021. But as the second and third waves gripped the province, she realized this year's wedding season likely wouldn't go as she had hoped.

Ross had time to think and decide which additional services and products to offer. Rickrack Rustic Weddings can deliver, set up and take down the rented pieces. In March, Rickrack launched its website where brides- and grooms-to-be can find in-



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Richelle Ross started Rickrack Rustic Weddings after she helped decorate for a friend's wedding. Rickrack offers décor, set-up and tear-down services for weddings up to 150 people.



Ross and her husband design and build rustic décor pieces.

formation on packages and photos of the items for rent. Ross also narrowed her focus to small, outdoor weddings as preferences changed during the pandemic.

"It's gone from the big indoor wedding to sort of something a little more discreet and a little more close to home," she said.

Ross anticipates a busy 2021 wedding season and is also working on a Christmas floral line for winter events.

She believes being prepared and willing to adapt to the circumstances will be key to Rickrack's success.

"We've done a lot of troubleshooting of potential obstacles we could run into with delivery, set up in various environments, and issues regarding weather," she said.

More information about Rickrack Rustic Weddings can be found at rickrackrusticweddings.ca.

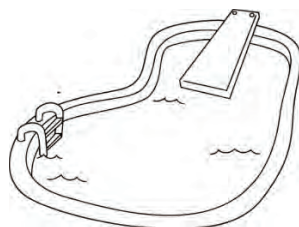


SOUTH INTERLAKE PLANNING

Make a (Safe) Splash this Summer!

The South Interlake Planning District (SIPD) would like to give a friendly reminder that **private pools (inground and above ground), hot tubs and swim spas** require a Development and Building Permit.

The *Manitoba Building Code* requires any artificially constructed basin, capable of containing a water depth of two feet or more, to conform to the *Code*. Part of conforming to the *Code* means having proper fencing installed, which helps prevent accidents.



Permits help ensure that buildings and structures meet the *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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Keeping score: VMSC buys new score clock—Ice Palace gets hand-me-down

By Tyler Searle

When athletes return to the Veteran's Memorial Sports Complex (VMSC) in Stonewall, they will find a new score clock hanging on the arena walls.

The plan is to replace the clock in the VMSC and transfer it next door to its older counterpart, the Ice Palace, said Stonewall Minor Hockey & Ringette Association (SMHRA) Director Jeff McCallum.

McCallum and his colleagues at the SMHRA spearheaded the initiative to bring a new score clock to the arena.

The move comes after technical difficulties left organizers hamstrung during hockey tournaments in the past.

The Ice Palace clock is more than forty years old—an old mechanical relic, prone to issues and failures. There have been moments mid-game where the clock or horn stops working, causing trouble for scorekeepers, McCallum said.

"If you don't have a working score clock in a facility, it's really hard to have a hockey game."

The VMSC is home to seven tournaments annually, and 140 teams visit the arena each year to play hockey.

A single weekend tournament can earn between \$50,000 and \$60,000 for Stonewall's minor hockey community. That number does not include the money spent at local restaurants, bars, and gas stations, McCallum said.

Maintaining equipment is essential to making the VMSC an arena that teams continue to return to. The new score clock is an investment in minor hockey and the Town of Stonewall, he said.

It was clear the Ice Palace clock needed to be replaced, but it didn't make much sense to put a new one

in an old arena, so McCallum devised the switcharoo.

McCallum has a friend who works for Centaur Products, a sport contracting business with experience installing and servicing scoreboards. He figured if he could get a good deal, he'd be able to fundraise the money needed.

In the end, the SMHRA managed to finance the project entirely through a grant and donations.

"It was a huge team effort. This is something that everybody just stepped up with to get involved in," McCallum said.

The total cost of the new score clock was \$34,000.

The SMHRA secured a \$10,000 community improvement grant from the Richardson Foundation and fundraised the remaining \$24,000.

"IF YOU DON'T HAVE A WORKING SCORE CLOCK IN A FACILITY, IT'S REALLY HARD TO HAVE A HOCKEY GAME."

"The Richardson Foundation is there to support worthwhile causes in the communities that we're involved with," said Bryce Mowat, director of operations at Richardson Pioneer's South Lakes Terminal.

Local sports, businesses, and initiatives enrich the rural experience, and the Richardson Foundation donates more than \$1.5M annually to support communities across the Prairies, he added.

Seven organizations donated to the project: The Richardson Foundation, 2020 SMHRA Bantam Tournament, 2020 SMHRA Female Tournament, 2020 SMHRA Veteran's Cup Tournament, Stonewall Jets, and Town of Stonewall Parks and Arenas.

Centaur Products donated equipment in lieu of money. The clock is not up yet, but the town hopes to install it by mid-August, said Parks and Arena Supervisor Brett Chatfield.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY TYLER SEARLE

Stonewall Mayor Clive Hinds, Deputy Mayor Peter Bullivant, Stonewall Jets President and General Manager Dale McClintock, Parks and Arena Supervisor Brett Chatfield, SMHRA President Jeff Morden, SMHRA Director Jeff McCallum, Richardson Pioneer Area Marketing Rep. Shane Johnston, and Richardson Pioneer's South Lakes Terminal Director Bryce Mowat stand outside the VMSC on July 5.



The new score clock will have a similar layout to this one from the Rosemount Community Center in Rosemount, MN. The VMSC clock will feature a darker indigo base and white lettering.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



A beautiful gesture for the hardworking frontline

Something Beautiful feeds 76 healthcare workers with the help of community donors

By Tyler Searle

The mother-daughter duo behind Standard Limestone Quarries partnered with Community Living Interlake (CLI) to provide meals for 76 healthcare workers in Stonewall.

Juliette and Merle Balsillie approached CLI's Executive Director Jimm Simon in mid-June with the idea of preparing a meal for staff at Stonewall & District Health Centre and Rosewood Lodge Personal Care Home.

CLI is a non-profit that provides housing and employment for individuals living with intellectual disabilities in the Interlake. The organization enlisted the help of their staff at Something Beautiful to provide the catered meal.

The menu included apple butter BBQ pulled pork, chipotle baked beans, roasted potatoes, coleslaw, and a corn muffin.



Mike Maartense works at Something Beautiful and helped prepare and deliver the meals.

Something Beautiful also offered an alternative vegetarian option consisting of veggie samosas and garden



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY TYLER SEARLE

Left to right, Tracy Fidler, Katie McVicar, Merle Balsillie, Mike Maartense, Juliette Balsillie, Joan Auger and CLI executive director Jimm Simon.



Merle Balsillie, Tracy Fidler, and Joan Auger lay out 37 meals for staff at Rosewood Lodge.



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Every meal came with mini-New York cheesecake for dessert and a drink.

The Balsillies and the Something Beautiful staff hand-delivered the meals in two waves on June 29. The first batch went out around noon to feed the day shift, and the second at 5:00 p.m. for the night shift.

The meal donation was a way to express gratitude for healthcare workers' hard work and dedication while supporting an outstanding local business in Something Beautiful, Merle

Balsillie said.

"It was priceless to see the smiles."

This is not Merle's first foray into philanthropy. Early in June, she fed 500 healthcare workers at HSC in partnership with Four Crowns Restaurant and Hotel.

"It means so much to have community support during the pandemic. The staff enjoyed a delicious meal while taking a restful break. Thank you so much for this recognition," said Patrice Lee, clinical team manager at the Stonewall Health Centre.

Introducing the new owners of Pizza Den Restaurant

The two new owners of Stonewall's longest-standing pizza joint say hello

By Tyler Searle

Amandeep Singh and Munish Pathak are the new owners of Pizza Den Restaurant & Lounge in Stonewall.

The pair are friends and business partners with nearly 15 years of collective restaurant experience.

Pathak is a branch manager for TD Bank in Winnipeg but formerly managed a Chester Fried Chicken and Pizza. Singh ran a restaurant in Winnipeg that served Eastern cuisine.

The men also own the Sandbar Motor Inn in Grand Marais, just outside of Grand Beach.

A combined love for business and food inspired the duo to buy the Den, Pathak said.

Singh will be the primary manager responsible for daily operational duties. Pathak will come in evenings and weekends when he is not at the bank.

Since early June, both men have been spending extended hours at the restaurant, working alongside former

owner Robert Magnifico to learn the nuances of Stonewall's longest-standing pizza joint.

Their goal is to make the transition between owners as seamless as possible, Pathak said.

"(Magnifico) is introducing us to the community and at the same time teaching us all of the things about Pizza Den."

"He's given us great guidance. We are lucky to have him."

Connecting with people is essential to running a business in a small town, Pathak added.

"We definitely will be getting feedback from the community. In the city, you don't know where the customer is going to come from."

Singh and Pathak look forward to getting to know the regular customers, community members, and other business owners of Stonewall, they said.

"My goal, especially in the next few months, is to reach out to the commu-



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY TYLER SEARLE

Munish Pathak and Amandeep Singh are the new owners of Pizza Den Restaurant & Lounge in Stonewall.

nity members and introduce myself and Aman, and go from there," Pathak said.

The new owners are retaining the staff, recipes, and menu curated by Magnifico. And Pizza Den will continue to support local events, tournaments, and schools. Overall, the com-

munity should not expect much to change at the business, he said.

Customers may see Magnifico still bustling around the restaurant into mid-July as he has agreed to continue helping staff transition until the 15th,

Continued on page 13



It's berry season!

How to preserve fresh berries

While having an abundance of fruit on hand is a happy problem to have, keeping your berries from going bad does present a challenge. Here are four great ways to preserve them. 1. Make jam. To turn your berries into jam, all you need is a pot, your fruits, some sugar and pectin. Make certain you properly seal your jars to ensure the jam's safe to eat for up to a year. Homemade jams are perfect for spreading on toast or slathering over a bowl of ice cream. 2. Dehydrate them.

Turn your oven into a dehydrator. Place berries on a baking sheet on the middle rack, and set your oven to the lowest heat possible. In a few hours, you'll have dried berries to snack on, mix into trail mix or even bake with. 3. Make freezer jam. Freezer jam is thinner than the cooked variety, but tastes more like fresh berries. First crush the berries and then mix them with sugar and no-cook pectin (available at most grocery stores). Spoon the mixture into small jars and freeze

it. 4. Freeze them. Having frozen berries on hand is great for making smoothies, oatmeal and baked goods all year round. You can also try them thawed and topped with heavy cream and maple syrup for a decadent dessert. Before freezing, lay them out in a single layer in a freezer bag, making sure to remove as much air as possible. These preserving methods will allow you to enjoy fresh berries long after the season has ended.



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Winnipeg is your urban oasis this July

Clockwise from left: Assiniboine Park's English Gardens (Mike Peters); Oodena Celebration Circle at The Forks (John Slipec); Explore The Forks (William Au)

Temperatures and vaccination rates continue to rise, while Winnipeg's outdoor attractions are back and better than ever.

Now's the time to rediscover the city's lush new attractions—where hidden gems will be music to your ears and hotels will have you sitting poolside within the city's glittering skyline. Here are some options for a full day of exploring this month.

Great gardens, goats, mini donkeys and massive dinos

Assiniboine Park and Zoo is a peach of a place to spend a morning, providing a little something for everyone. The English Garden

and Leo Mol Sculpture Garden provide a brilliant bouquet for the senses, from the smell of fresh flowers to visions of Mol's wondrous bronze works, which depict everything from local ambassadors to scenes from Greek Mythology.

The Gardens at The Leaf are new for summer 2021 and open July 9. This near 30-acre horticultural exhibit surrounds the impressive, 90,000 sq. ft. conical Leaf building, which is currently under construction. The outdoor gardens consist of The Indigenous Peoples Garden, the Kitchen Garden, Sensory Garden, Performance Garden, Seasonal Garden and the Grove, providing a bountiful showcase of plant species, all interconnected by charming pathways.

Assiniboine Park Zoo also offers plenty of new things from the cute and whimsical to the fierce and ferocious.

On the cute side of things, there's Aunt Sally's Farm. This new exhibit is such good fun with inhabitants that include goats that traverse right over your head via rainbow-coloured bridges. Pot-bellied pigs, mini donkeys and llamas that frolic to and fro, guaranteed to bring a smile to your face.

For something more ferocious, Dinosaurs Uncovered has returned, with 17 life-sized animatronic dinos lurking in the Zoo's forested trails. This time around, Dinosaurs Uncovered also includes museum-quality fossils and interactive archeological fun.

Plus, while you're at the zoo you might even encounter some stars—and we're not just talking about the polar bears that swim right overhead in the Sea Ice Passage. Several of the zoo's caretakers and research scientists were recently featured in CBC Television's *Arctic Vets*, which you can still stream.

Find it at The Forks

For the afternoon, adventure awaits at The Forks, where the Red and Assiniboine rivers meet and inspirational new works are ready to welcome visitors.

In the past few years The Forks has become, to quote national award-winning columnist Niigaan Sinclair, "One of the largest collections of Indigenous-led public expressions in any historical site in Canada." Sinclair is the Indigenous Curator at The Forks and the host of *The Forks: A self-guided audio tour*, which reveals some of its 6,000-year history and public works of art. This includes the massive Niimaamaa ("my mother")—a huge sculpture by KC Adams, Jaimie Isaac and Val Vint that is a must-see on the south-east side of The Forks. You'll also find signage throughout the area in Cree, Ojibway and Michif.

The Forks Market is open for shoppers and culinary enthusiasts. It's the place to be for locally made fashions, products and gifts. End your day by sipping wine or craft beers under a spacious, tree-covered patio, while sampling food from kiosks run by some of the city's best chefs.



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Woodlands Pioneer Museum celebrates 50 years in the community

Tickets on sale for 50/50 draw

By Sydney Lockhart

The Woodlands Pioneer Museum celebrates its 50th anniversary with an online 50/50 fundraiser that will aid in building an accessible washroom and water project for the museum.

"Reaching a 50th year of volunteer driven accomplishment and achievement is a reason to celebrate," said President of the board of directors Lorelee Proctor.

"The many hardworking individuals that put together exhibits, attended meetings and had the vision for what has been created in that 50 years is incredible."

When the museum first opened, it was one small building; since then it has grown to be seven buildings on the property, all of which depict life in the prairies in the 1900s.

The buildings include the metal shed with agriculture and industry history, the Log House, a turn of the century replica house, the gallery that houses an Eclectic collection.

> NEW OWNERS, FROM PG. 11

Magnifico said.

Magnifico has had many community members coming in to offer him kind words and farewells as he finishes up his time at the Den.

These final warm regards from customers and friends embody the spirit of Stonewall, which he has come to appreciate so fondly over the years. Treating others with kindness and respect is standard practice here—it's how this town does business, he said.

Singh and Pathak are running a promotion at the Den as a gesture of goodwill to the community.

Patrons who have their first dose of the COVID-19 can enjoy 10 per cent off their meals, and those with double doses get 15.

Den staff will not ask customers for proof of vaccination.

The promotion begins July 9 and ends July 23.

"During the past fifty years of incorporation, the governance, membership, along with many volunteers, has evolved and progressed to the place it is today," she said.

In addition to the number of buildings increasing in the last 50 years, the museum has also added accessible pathways so all community members can experience and take part in the museum. They were awarded the grant money to accomplish this in 2018.

Another significant moment for the museum was when it obtained its charitable organization status in 2018.

"The museum is an important part of the community because it is a place where people can gather to reflect on agricultural and rural lifestyles of the past," said Proctor.

In their goal to being fully accessible, the museum is attempting to raise funds for a fully plumbed on-site accessible washroom. Unfortunately, the museum does not have running water, representative of the period it depicts.

Museum staff and volunteers have to haul water on-site right now to clean and water gardens, as they do not have access to even a hose.

"With the support of many Provincial and local government support, as well as Community Foundations within our area, this work will begin this Fall of 2021," said Proctor.

She added that the museum hopes



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY PHOTO CREDIT TO LORELEE PROCTOR
Two of the buildings that sit on the museum land depicting the pioneer prairie life. The buildings still to this day do not have running water.

the community will not forget about them despite the pandemic canceling their annual pioneer dinner that would raise funds for their ongoing projects and programming and participate in the 50/50 draw in place of the dinner.

Proctor said the museum has provided programming for school-age children and played a role in many community members' lives who have put time and energy into making it a great space.

"It is representative of the area and has been cared for by many volunteer community members over the past 50 years," she said, "The museum has offered summer employment for many young adults along the way who have contributed to the fabric of the museum in their own ways."

The 50th anniversary online 50/50 draw will occur from July 5 to August 16 on the museum's website at <https://www.woodlandspioneer-museum.com>.

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ISD board denies transportation request; Eichler's view on Bill 64

By jo-Anne Procter

Interlake School Division's three high school 2021 General Proficiency Award winners were special guests at the last regular meeting for the 2020-2021 school year on June 28.

Of the 189 students that made up the graduating classes of 2021, one student from each of the high schools were recognized for their academics, for being respectful, courteous, cooperative and their willingness to participate in school activities. SCI's Madison Fines, TCI's Josh Charison and WCI's Kaden Stewart also each received an ISD gold medal for averages exceeding over 90 per cent in their Grade 12 year.

Each recipient was asked to make a shout out to three positive influences they have encountered along the way as well as a wish they have for their own future.

WCI's Kaden Stewart, thanked his employer Craig Riddell. Riddell has been instrumental in Stewart's decision to take an agriculture engineering degree. Stewart explained that Riddell's agriculture intelligence has opened his eyes to a very hardworking industry.

He thanked his teachers who have always encouraged him and his family that has been his biggest support and been by his side every step of the way.

His wish is to be successful and he plans to remain in the community and give back by way of coaching minor hockey and baseball and maybe high school sports as well.

SCI's Madison Fines is thankful for the support of family and specifically her sister who Fines was able to follow in her shoes and has pushed her that much harder.

She thanked her friends that she could always count on motivate her and the SCI teaching staff that she feels very attached to.

Fines' future wish is to carry her motivated attitude and apply it to whatever she does next.

TCI's Josh Charison thanked his family for pushing him to who he is today. He thanked his teachers who helped him through the complicated

COVID year and his friends at TCI that made Grade 12 a positive experience.

Charison's hope for future is to live a happy successful life and apply the skills he learned at TCI to his university studies.

Transportation

Amber MacDonald attended the meeting as a delegation with a request for bus transportation to and from Balmoral School for her son that will be starting Kindergarten in the fall of 2021.

MacDonald is located in the middle of two different catchment areas. Teulon Elementary School is 15.1 km north of her residence, while Balmoral is 5.6 km south.

The Teulon catchment cut off is Road 88 and the Balmoral cut off is Road 87. MacDonald's home is between these two roads. The cut off is at the half mile mark to which her driveway is 178 meters north of, however, her property line is south of the half mile mark. If MacDonald's driveway was on the south side of her home as opposed to the north side that it is, she would be in Balmoral catchment.

Currently there is a bus that goes past MacDonald's home transporting students from the Gunton area to both Balmoral and Stonewall schools.

MacDonald was informed later in the week that her request had been denied. Because her driveway is on the Teulon catchment side, bussing would not be available to the Balmoral School but would be available for the Teulon School.

Eichler's comments on Bill-64

Lakeside MLA Ralph Eichler was invited to attend the meeting to share his views on Bill 64 with ISD trustees.

Board chairman Alan Campbell stated the province did not follow the recommendation of the K-12 review and has since recommended the elimination of locally elected school boards and the disillusion of school divisions.

Campbell asked Eichler to provide a rational for his support of Bill 64.

Eichler said he continues to support the legislation and knows many Man-

itobans are for the legislation, some are against and some unsure.

"We don't have to agree on how the fundamentals of how the education roles out," he said. "Now even ISD is having trouble finding school trustees, we have seen a decline in that."

Eichler admitted that the government doesn't have a strong dialog with the teachers association or with the school board associations.

"I just keep seeing it dwindle and dwindle," he said.

Eichler believes there is going to be good come out of this conversation on Bill 64. "There will be a lot of changes that will not sit well with everyone and others that will sit well with some," he said.

He explained that there are five more town halls that Minister Cullen is having. Information will then be shared and there will be a dialog on what that new legislation will look like.

"We will wait and see how it looks, we will hear what committee has to say and we will take away from that point."

With regards to closing of schools, Eichler explained that the PC government has committed to build 20 new schools, on top of the existing schools. "We have made no comments or commitments to close any schools." He also said that the maximum one hour bus ride will also stay in the legislation.

On the topic of Local Voices, they will be appointed from each district, so there will still be representation, it just wont be by an elected school board.

Trustee Fran Frederickson asked Eichler if this government really values input from Manitobans when they are making changes before the legislation has even passed.

"I can say I think it is a good thing they are having those conversations. I don't necessarily see it as implementation, I would see it more as getting their things lined up they way they want to see them," he said. "If there are tweaks to it, now is the time to do it, not wait until the bill passes."

"I personally don't have a problem



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Lakeside MLA Ralph Eichler attended the Interlake School Division meeting via Zoom on June 28 to discuss Bill 64 with trustees.

with it (Bill-64), implementing is different thing, but consultation and meeting with folks isn't really implementing in my mind."

Campbell asked as the MLA if hundreds, not thousands are opposed to Bill 64 what will it take for him to break with party lines and oppose the legislation or call for it's withdrawal before second reading in October.

Candidly Eichler stated that with regards to all of the correspondence he has received to date, which is pretty even, he will wait until he hears all the voices. "I am not going to make a commitment to neither change or support the legislation."

He agreed that there are some things that can be tweaked and believes the government is smart enough to listen. "Education and the students and the outcome is what we focus on and that's what is going to happen at the end of the day and that is what is going to be most important to me."

"I have been very clear. I'm open, I'm listening and I am going to support what is best for Manitobans. It is not about party lines at all, this is about making sure we get the best results for our students in Manitoba."

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Nixon accepts position with Pilot Mound Hockey Academy

By Brian Bowman

Every year, Stonewall Collegiate Institute loses a lot of great students due to graduation.

This year, they also lost a great educator and coach.

Kyle Nixon is leaving SCI after accepting a position as a teacher/coach at the Pilot Mound Hockey Academy. He will be coaching the Buffaloes' U15 male prep team.

"It's going to be a new challenge," said Nixon last week on his final day at SCI. "I guess my goal over the last little while was to try to find a career position that I can teach and coach hockey with that being my job and obviously get paid to do that. This opportunity seems to fit that so, yeah, I'm excited and it will be different. I'm sure I'll have a few lessons to learn but I'm excited."

Pilot Mound will be playing against some of the top U15 players in the country as part of the Canadian Sports School Hockey League's 30-game regular-season schedule.

After graduating from the University of Manitoba, Nixon started teaching full time at Stonewall Collegiate in 2008.

He feels very fortunate to have landed in Stonewall while surrounded by great people.

"I was very lucky to start here," he said. "My job is to teach in the gym or be in the classroom and I've enjoyed that. My passion was definitely with athletics and it's such a supportive staff here. It's a great community with great students, great families to deal with, and the people in the gym that I work with every day, the other Phys. Ed. teachers, I learned a lot from them and probably a lot more than they learned from me. It's been a great fit for me and I've had a lot of memorable life experiences."

Nixon began coaching the Rams' junior varsity boys' volleyball team, helped out with badminton,

and spent a lot of time coaching baseball and hockey.

He admitted it was a tough final day of work for him knowing he was leaving SCI, most likely, forever as an educator.

"We had a little staff lunch today with some going away stuff for myself and then another teacher is retiring," he said. "So there was some of that that went on and I kind of thought I was fine with it because I was excited but then you kind of hear some goodbyes and thank yous, things like that, so actually it was a little bit emotional. That's a good thing because it showed I cared and it showed that this place meant something to me."

Nixon is really going to be missed by everyone at SCI.

"Kyle has positively impacted many students and student athletes in our school over the years," said SCI principal Jason Cassils in an email. "He has spent countless hours coaching at our school and he will be missed greatly. He is very excited about this new challenge in his career and we wish him all the best."

"We know he will do a great job and put in 100 per cent to his new position. These hockey players and students will be lucky to have him as a coach and teacher."

Outside of work, Nixon was the head coach of the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League's Charleswood Hawks from 2016 to 2021. Before that, he joined the team as an assistant coach in 2013.

"That's what's given me some confidence to make me feel that I can keep teaching kids at different levels the right way to play the game," Nixon said. "The Hawks were great, some of my really good friends that were Hawks' alumni...were people that brought me on board and I was super lucky to have that opportunity."



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Stonewall Collegiate Institute educator and coach Kyle Nixon is leaving to take a teaching-coaching position with the Pilot Mound Hockey Academy.

Then Hawks' team president Wayne Deschouwer, now deceased, saw plenty of potential in Nixon as he promoted him to head coach.

"Wayne was awesome and I kind of knew him because he was a rural guy," said Nixon, who grew up in Russell, Man. "He knew my family a little bit before I got involved with the Hawks. I was a little bit different than some of the staff that had been with the Hawks prior to me taking over so he definitely took under his wing to teach me the Hawks' way. He was super flexible with some of my own ideas and he was always supportive. He was an overall amazing hockey guy and a better person. To be the last coach to work under him, I think is pretty special. I put a lot of pressure on myself and the team to continue his legacy once he passed away and I think we did that."

2021 Baseball Manitoba provincial championships cancelled

Staff

Baseball Manitoba has made the difficult decision to cancel all provincial championships in 2021.

The announcement was made on Baseball Manitoba's website on June 29.

"The decision was made with the safety and de-

velopment of our members as the top priority," read a statement. "Provincial championships create environments with large gatherings with people from across the province. Also, by cancelling provincial championships, we believe that there is more opportunity for a longer season for more players, as

they compete late into summer within their regions.

"Baseball Manitoba would like to thank our 2021 championship host groups for all the work they have done this year. We will be working with each host, as we plan our 2022 provincial championships."

MJBL season gets underway this week

Staff

Baseball is finally back.

The Manitoba Junior Baseball League's season officially gets underway Wednesday with three games on its schedule.

One of those games features the Interlake Blue Jays hosting the Carillon Sultans for a 7:30 p.m. game at Fines Field in Stonewall.

But the current provincial health guidelines still present a long list of challenges to sport or-

ganizers and coaches in Manitoba.

The current rules, which came into effect June 26, allow for outdoor organized sports and recreation activities for groups up to 25 people.

That poses a problem for older-aged teams, specifically the MJBL, which voted on expanding its rosters to 20 players for this season.

The MJBL has been discussing the scenario of having home teams with 13 players each game and the visiting clubs only 12.

The group of 25 doesn't include coaches or officials and a maximum of 25 spectators are also allowed if they can be physically distanced by at least two metres.

The MJBL schedule has been reduced to 18 games this season. The St. Boniface Legionnaires were not able to field a team this year so the league is down to seven teams this year.

At press time, the playoff format had not been announced.

Lindsay joins Trinity Western University

By Brian Bowman

Drake Lindsay will have a new home this fall.

Lindsay will be playing hockey and attending school at Trinity Western University, located in Langley, B.C.

"I have decided to join the Spartans' program because I feel it is a great opportunity to continue my hockey career while giving me the ability to complete my MBA," said Lindsay on the TWU website.

"The culture of the team and athletics program as a whole is what really sold me on TWU. I am excited to develop on and off the ice this upcoming year."

Lindsay played four seasons of USports hockey with the Nipissing University Lakers in North Bay, Ont.

He scored 10 goals and collected 30 points in 69 games from 2016 to 2020.

This past season was wiped out due

to COVID.

The former Interlake Lightning forward from Grosse Isle also played in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League with the Neepawa Natives (now called the Titans) and in the North American Hockey League with the Corpus Christi Ice Rays.

In his lone season in Corpus Christi, Lindsay led the team with 38 points in 56 games.

The Spartans are really looking forward to Lindsay joining their team.

"Adding experience and depth to our forward group is going to be critical for us to build our foundation this year," said Spartans' head coach Barret Kropf. "Drake brings us speed, game sense and a sweet shot and those are some great tools that we can integrate into our team. I look forward to seeing him fit into our program and help us continue to build a winning culture."



TRIBUNE PHOTO TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY
Grosse Isle's Drake Lindsay will be attending school and playing hockey for the Trinity Western Spartans this season.

Peake, Kuntz, and Ross lead after junior championships' first round

Staff

Clara Peake, a Golf Manitoba Public Players Club member, was the first-round leader at the Manitoba Women's Junior Championship at the Shilo Country Club.

Peake carded a 12-over par 82 on Monday to lead Swan River Golf & Country's Crystal Zamzow by a single

stroke.

Rounding out the top five placings in the 11-player field were St. Charles Country Club's Addison Kartusch (87), Elmhurst Golf & Country Club's Armaan Dhillon (89), Golf Manitoba Public Players Club's Cala Korman (90), Clear Lake Golf Course's Jeri Lafleche (90), and Glendale Golf & Coun-

try Club's Payton Oakden (90).

Meanwhile, Breezy Bend Country Club's Braxton Kuntz and Rossmore Country Club's Trey Ross were the first-round leaders at the junior men's championship in Shilo after firing even par 72s on Monday.

Rounding out the top five after Day 1 were Golf Manitoba Public Players

Club's Jose Mekish-Lacquette (74), Pine Ridge Golf Club's Noah Fiks (76), and Golf Manitoba Public Players Club's Feanor Valaquenta (76).

Action for both junior tournaments continued Tuesday and Wednesday of this week but no scores were available at press time.

Henderson Silver Knights sign Jermaine Loewen



TRIBUNE PHOTOS FROM TWITTER/HENDERSON SILVER KNIGHTS

The Henderson Silver Knights have signed forward Jermaine Loewen to an American Hockey League contract for the 2021-22 season. Loewen, 23, returns to Henderson after tallying one assist in 22 contests during the 2020-21 season. As a rookie in 2019-20, the former Interlake Lightning forward, who grew up in Arborg, scored a goal and added an assist in 31 games with the AHL's Chicago Wolves. A native of Mandeville, Jamaica, Loewen was a seventh-round choice by Dallas in the 2018 NHL Draft, becoming the first Jamaican-born player ever selected.

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The preferred applicant will require a valid Class 4 Driver's Licence and be able to produce an acceptable Driver's Abstract, Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse Registry Check.

Remuneration will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Qualified persons are invited to submit a detailed resume including three professional references to the undersigned.

Stonewall & Area Mobility Services

Attention: David Underwood

293 Main Street, Box 250
Stonewall, MB ROC 2Z0
SAMS@stonewall.ca

Deadline for applications:

4:00 PM on July 23, 2021

Start date: To be determined

We thank all those persons who apply, however only those granted an interview will be contacted.

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If you are interested in applying for this position, please send or email your cover letter, resume, and three references (a minimum of two references must be work-related) to the General Manager of SIPD by **July 9, 2021, at 4:30PM CST:**

Eric Shaw, General Manager
South Interlake Planning District
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Email address: eric.shaw@sipd.ca

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(Chris) and (Patty), and their families.

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to our many relatives and friends for the calls, texts, emails, floral arrangements and cards following the passing of our sister Dorothy. Your prayers, support and sympathy have helped tremendously during this trying time. Thank you very much to Michelle Loehmer and the home care staff and to the staff at Stonewood Place for all their efforts on Dorothy's behalf while she lived in her apartment. Thank you to Dr. Venter and Michelle for assistance in arranging for personal care placement. Thank you to the staffs of Stonewall and Teulon Hospitals and Red River Place, Selkirk. Special thank you to Dr. Graham and the entire staff at Rosewood Lodge for all their care, compassion and patience with Dorothy over the last year and a half. Thank you to Ken Loehmer for his assistance with arrangements.

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OBITUARY



Doreen Lenore Matthews
March 12, 1939 – July 1, 2021

It is with great sadness that we announce Lenore's passing on July 1st at the Seven Oaks Hospital.

She is lovingly remembered by her husband of 60 years Bruce, daughter Barb (John), granddaughters Lena (Josh), Julie (Cody) and son Dave (Carmen). She is also survived by brother Oliver (Shirley) and numerous nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Lenore was born the third of six children to Harold and Lena Lyons on March 12, 1939 in Winnipeg where she had her early education. A move to the farm saw her completing her high school education and graduating from Balmoral, MB. After a year teaching on permit in Mafeking, she attended Teachers College in Winnipeg and graduated with a class of 650 in 1959. She taught for two years at the Lakeside Hutterite Colony.

Lenore married Bruce Matthews in 1961 and they started their married life and family in Charleswood. In 1967 they took on their Centennial project of building their own home in the Lilyfield area south of Stonewall and this was where they raised their two children Barb and Dave. In 1980, another move to start a farm in the RM of Woodlands north of Argyle. Lenore was an active part of starting and growing the farm alongside Bruce and Dave. From sheep to cattle, some grain farming and hay production as well as an electric fencing sales business kept her busy. Lenore was active in the United Church and UCW in Lilyfield and Argyle, and lent her support to the many community dinners and fundraising events. She was an amazing homemaker, her love of cooking, baking, gardening and sewing was boundless and her talent immense. She made it all seem effortless and loved to pass on these skills to her special little friends who came to spend time with Mrs. Matthews. She cherished her time spent with her granddaughters and enjoyed watching them grow into the capable women they are today. She was so very proud of them both.

One final move to Metropolitan Kiwanis Courts came in 2018 where they made some new friendships and adjusted to a slower pace of life. The family wishes to thank the staff at MKC for their kindness and assistance these past three years. We would also like to thank the doctors and nursing staff at The Seven Oaks Hospital 3rd floor Unit 1 for the excellent care and kindness shown to Lenore in the past weeks.

In lieu of flowers, if you so desire, a donation may be made to The Alzheimer Society of Manitoba or the Manitoba Heart and Stroke Foundation.

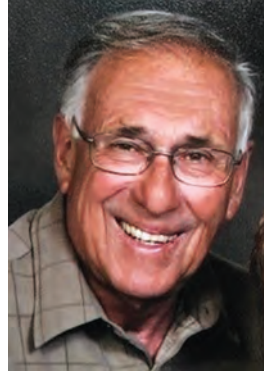
There will be a small funeral held with the immediate family.

Thank you also to Mona Denton of the Lilyfield United Church and Ken Loehmer Funeral services for their assistance in the arrangements.



204-886-0404

OBITUARY



Merlyn Biloki

After a courageous battle with cancer, we are saddened to announce the death of Merlyn Biloki, age 78 years.

Merlyn was born at the St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg to parents Helen and Demetro (Dan) Biloki. Until attending school, Merlyn would share how the only two languages he spoke were Ukrainian (spoken at home,) and French (spoken by his neighborhood playmates.) Many of those playmates, he stayed in touch with all throughout his adult life. Merlyn was an avid bowler, billiard player and loved to roller skate. He also enjoyed fishing, curling and playing goalie for his rec hockey league. Merlyn was born with an exceptionally strong work ethic that lead him to start his own paper delivery business at a very early age. This devoted work ethic continued and strengthened, helping him become an electrical journeyman and thus begin his electrical career with well known companies such as Keewatin Electric and Boeing. Throughout his life, he continued to work hard, and developed and ran multiple businesses of his own. Primarily, he started his company, Interlake Electric, which he operated and grew until deciding to get into the grocery store business. With that decision, he built Family Fare in Teulon, which he owned until he retired.

In 1963, Merlyn married the love of his life, Kathleen. They were virtually inseparable for their 58 years of marriage. Merlyn loved to take Kath for a spin on the dance floor, travel or enjoy the simple things in life, such as hanging out at the lake or going for a ride in the golf cart with her. They also chalked up many years of games of Crib (always keeping track of wins and losses!). Together, they welcomed three beautiful children, Curtis, Alison and Cory. Merlyn was proud of many things, but he was most proud of his children and grandchildren.

Merlyn belonged to several organizations and was a dedicated Hunter Memorial Hospital Board Member, RM of Rockwood Councilman, Kinsman and was a long time Lions Volunteer.

Merlyn is survived by his wife, Kathleen; sons Curtis and Cory and his daughter, Alison. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Kayleigh, Riley, Emily, Alex and Hunter. Merlyn was predeceased by his parents, Helen and Dan; sisters Evelyn and Christine and brothers Vernon and David.

Cremation has taken place. A private family interment will take place at a later date and a public memorial ceremony is yet TBD.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Lions, HSC Cancer Care, or the Palliative Care Unit at Stonewall Hospital.



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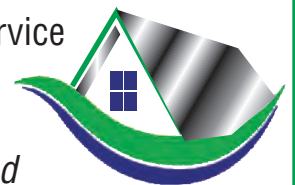
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Inwood grads celebrate their achievements at drive-in

By Sydney Lockhart

Inwood School had an outdoor ceremony on June 26 to celebrate the achievements of their small graduating class.

This year the small school had only two graduates, Learyk Thorvardson and Wyatt Westfall, who have played significant roles in being school leaders and examples for the younger students.

A canopy tent was set up on the side of the school with distanced chairs for the graduates to sit in; facing the tent, the two immediate families parked their vehicles for the drive-in ceremony.

On an outdoor projector, videos of congratulatory messages from the Lakeshore School Division played, as well as a slide show of photos of Thorvardson and Westfall's time at Inwood School. Members of both families stood watching the ceremony with tears of joy as they watched their children graduate.

The two graduates took on the role of valedictorian together and created a video presentation with a speech they worked on to play on the projector.

"Throughout the years of being here at Inwood we have to appreciate the people around us whether it is our teachers, EAs, or even our classmates

because they were there giving us help or advice even when not needed or wanted," they said. "You have made school tolerable long enough for us to reach our goals, now the next step is to get into the real world and excel at what we go; thank you."

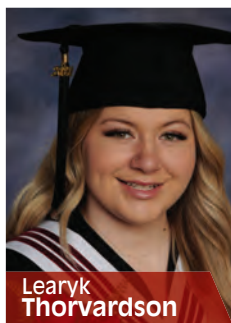
Teachers Gail Postlethwaite and Toss Kupchak gave a very personalized speech to each of the graduating students.

Postlethwaite talked about Thorvardson's nicknames she had acquired through her years at the school, Beans, Learyk and Richard being a few. As well as Westfall's ability to complete the 'beep test' without breaking a sweat in his gym class.

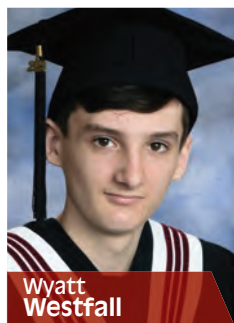
"They both have great never-let-you-down attitudes, they are both gifted athletically, they both play the right way winning or losing with grace and sportsmanship, and they were both excellent teammates," said Kupchak.

Both graduates walked away with an Interlake Metis Federation sash and awards. In addition, Thorvardson received the Interlake Community Swim Program plaque and the Governor General Medal, while Westfall received the Derek Johnson Citizenship Scholarship.

Thorvardson plans to enter post-secondary education eventually, and Westfall plans to do carpentry with his grandfather.



Learyk Thorvardson



Wyatt Westfall



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY SYDNEY LOCKHART

Graduates Learyk Thorvardson and Wyatt Westfall after their outdoor graduation ceremony at Inwood School.



Thorvardson and Westfall received their diplomas in a ceremony put together by Inwood School staff. Only immediate family was invited due to public health restrictions.

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INWOOD SCHOOL

GRADUATION 2021



The grad's family drove up opposite the tent to watch. Many tears were shed by family members at the intimate ceremony.

Inwood School decorated the outdoor ceremony with celebratory signs for their two graduates of 2021.



INWOOD Award/Scholarships 2021

Learyk Thorvardson

Governor General's Award, Inwood Community Swim Program in honour of Colleen Rohne, Interlake Metis Federation, Class of 2018 award

Wyatt Westfall

Interlake Metis Federation, Derek Johnson Citizenship Scholarship



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Congratulations Graduates!


























Congrats to all Stonewall Collegiate grads!

By Jennifer McFee

Adaptability. Resiliency. Perseverance.

This year's grad class from Stonewall Collegiate Institute learned valuable life skills during the pandemic that will equip them well for the next stage of their journey.

On Saturday, June 26, the 110th graduating class had the chance to tune in to enjoy a virtual graduation ceremony. Two days prior, the school also hosted four small sessions of grads for a drive-up opportunity to pick up their diploma.

Principal Jason Cassils launched the event with a reflection on the past 15 months of education during the pandemic.

"Today is a day that a lot of you have been looking forward to for a long time — a huge accomplishment in your life. Your graduation ceremony presents an opportunity for each of you to look at how far you've come from that first day of kindergarten until today," he said.

"Now that you have all made it to this stage in your life, make sure to enjoy this. Embrace what you've just gone through. Yes, it was quite different. For crying out loud, we just had a convocation in the parking lot."

Nonetheless, the unique graduation festivities won't soon be forgotten.

"You had your chauffeur drive you to the stage like a limo driver. You got out onto the red carpet where you crossed the stage like an actor or an actress receiving an Oscar award," he said.

"The paparazzi were all over you taking pictures. Wow! What a graduation. No one else has had a graduation like this."

He encouraged graduates to remember those who helped them reach this

milestone.

"You will look back at this day and at your time at school and you will be so proud of what you've accomplished. But remember, you can't graduate or be successful in life without a great team around you," he said.

"Think of all the people that helped you along the way to get you to this point of your life. When it's safe to do so, make sure to give them a big hug. Your family, teachers, friends and community have helped you lay the groundwork. Now it's your time to excel. Go pursue your dreams. Good luck, graduates. We're so proud of each and every one of you."

On behalf of the Interlake School Division's board of trustees, chair Alan Campbell shared a congratulatory message via video.

"We acknowledge that COVID-19 will not define you as you move forward, but at the same time I think it's safe to say that this experience has strengthened your resolve and certainly your adaptability as you take on the challenges ahead — post-secondary education, entering the workforce or the like," he said.

"On behalf of the board of trustees and our communities in the Interlake, congratulations to the class of 2021. We wish you all the very best."

Stonewall Mayor Clive Hinds also offered words of encouragement to the graduates.

"We would like to wish you all the best in your futures and in your endeavours and we hope that you have nothing but happiness and great health in the future," Hinds said. "This is your moment."

In addition, students and their families

Continued on page 7



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED


SCI valedictorians, left to right, Carter Ives, Larissa Palsson and Julian Murdock.



Chloé Morrison earned the Governor General Medal.




Madison Fines was awarded the General Proficiency Award.



GRAD of 2021


On behalf of the residents of the RM of Rockwood, Council congratulates the graduating class of 2021. Best wishes on your future endeavours.

Reeve & Council
RM of Rockwood



While we can never pretend to understand what it is like to graduate during a pandemic; we do know that the Grads of 2021 have shown their resilience, motivation and persistence making you unique & special.

Congratulations and Best Wishes for your continued success.



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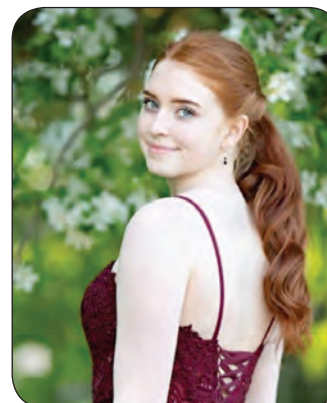
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Stonewall Collegiate Awards, Scholarships and Bursaries

Chloé Morrison	Canadian Parents For French Stonewall, Bryan Lefley Memorial - Interlake Community Foundation, Keith A. Cosens Memorial - The Winnipeg Foundation, Ronald & Jessie Matthewson - The Winnipeg Foundation, University Of Manitoba Chown Scholarship, Merranda H. Abas Memorial, Beck Family - Interlake Community Foundation, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence, Governor General Bronze Medal	Graeme Perrie	Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Branch #52
Brooklyn Cherniak	Canadian Parents For French Stonewall, Stonewall & District Lions Club	Bailey Georgison	Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Branch #52 - Stony Mountain Grad, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
Dylan Zacharias	Ella Mae Emms Johannesen Memorial, Stonewall & District Chamber Of Commerce, Interlake Bus Drivers, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence	Braden Bell	Stonewall Veterinary Hospital
Juliana Dicks	Ella Mae Emms Johannesen Memorial, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence	Julian Murdock	Talbot & Associates, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
Stella Mcauley	Ella Mae Emms Johannesen Memorial	Carter Ives	William M.A. Campbell Memorial - The Winnipeg Foundation, Ryan Grandmont Memorial - Interlake Community Foundation
Teagan Sheppard	Interlake Association Of Non-Teaching Employees, Keith A. Cosens Memorial - The Winnipeg Foundation	Ryan Ruchkall	William M.A. Campbell Memorial - The Winnipeg Foundation, Ronald & Jessie Matthewson - The Winnipeg Foundation, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
Gabryella McKnight	Jennifer Jensen & Kelsey Moeller Brown - Interlake Community Foundation	Lauren Brown	Ronald & Jessie Matthewson - The Winnipeg Foundation
Davia Georgison	Interlake Teachers Association, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence	Noah Harold	Ronald & Jessie Matthewson - The Winnipeg Foundation, Beck Family - Interlake Community Foundation, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
Emma Ferenc	Interlake Teachers Association	Brody Thibodeau	Ronald & Jessie Matthewson - The Winnipeg Foundation, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
Taylor Manning	Walter Malazdrewich Memorial	Carlen Macfarlane	Ronald & Jessie Matthewson - The Winnipeg Foundation, Walter Malazdrewich Memorial
Madison Fines	Patricia M. Sanders Memorial, Stonewall Kinsmen Club, Interlake Community Foundation, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence, Interlake School Division General Proficiency Award	Andrew Macduff	Ronald & Jessie Matthewson - The Winnipeg Foundation, Walter Malazdrewich Memorial
Gabriel Perrie	Stonewall & District Lions Club, Dwayne Swanson Memorial, Interlake Community Foundation, One Insurance, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence	Emma Stephens	Ryan Grandmont Memorial - Interlake Community Foundation, Stonewall United Church, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
Chloe Hunter	Stonewall Kinsmen Club, Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Branch #52, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence	Michael Cliffe	Dave & Annette Unrau - Interlake Community Foundation
Kaitlyn Luke	Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary, Stonewall Kinsmen Club, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence	David Mcrae	Dave & Annette Unrau - Interlake Community Foundation
Abigail Enns	Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Ladies Auxiliary, James Family - The Winnipeg Foundation, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence	Andrew Perrie	G.M. Willis Family - Interlake Community Foundation
Hailie Andries	Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Branch #52	Daniel Buckle	Lifetouch Canada
		Mackenzie Shastko	Lifetouch Canada
		Deana Johnson	Stonewall Independent Order Odd Fellows Lodge #49, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
		Ashley Woods	Stonewall Kinsmen Club, Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence
		Amelia Viveiros	Stonewall Starting Blocks
		Sydney Byle	Stonewall United Church
		Lauren Brown	Interlake School Division 90+ Academic Gold Excellence



Gabryella McKnight was awarded the Jennifer Jensen and Kelsey Moeller Brown Scholarship of \$1,000.



Emma Stephens received the Ryan Grandmont Memorial Scholarship.



Teagan Sheppard received the Keith A. Cosens Memorial scholarship.



Chloe Hunter was awarded the Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Branch #52 and Stonewall Kinsmen Club Scholarships.



Dylan Zacharias received the Ella Mae Emms Johannesen Memorial.



Bailey Georgison was awarded the Stonewall Royal Canadian Legion Branch #52 - Stony Mountain Grad.

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**Congratulations
2021 Graduates**
Stonewall Teulon
Tribune

STONEWALL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

GRADUATION 2021

> SCI, FROM PG. 5



French Immersion students celebrate their graduation.

lies were treated to video greetings from an impressive lineup of local celebrities, ranging from radio and TV personalities to talented musicians — including Fred Penner.

"I know this isn't the kind of grad that you were expecting, but you will remember this time and the global pandemic that we are going through. It has been difficult. Lots of challenges, I know," said Penner, before he serenaded his virtual audience with "Take Good Care of Each Other."

"I hope that you've learned something about yourself and others. I hope that you're feeling strong because now is the time for you step into the world to make a difference."

After that, video footage showed students receiving their diplomas, along with acknowledgement for awards and achievements.

Other highlights included a video to highlight the school division's first-ever French immersion class, musical performances, a presenta-



Sydney Byle, Madison Fines, Emma Stephens and Larissa Palsson.

tion of excellence medals and acknowledgement of staff who will be leaving the school.

Then valedictorians Carter Ives, Larissa Palsson and Julian Murdock reminisced about times gone by and anticipated days ahead in an entertaining and articulate speech.

They expressed gratitude for teachers, parents, staff at the school canteen and Tim Hortons, and their fellow graduates. At the same time, they acknowledged the ever-changing atmosphere of their final year of high school.

"Isn't it just awesome that we will be able to tell our kids how bad we had it growing up, like all the stories we hear?" Ives said. "It's going to be hard to top graduating high school during a pandemic."

At the same time, they reminded fellow grads to be grateful for the positives.

"We have been able to go to school throughout the entire year and been able to see at



The Kiln graduates

least half of our friends every second day," Ives said, "which in many parts of the world was not achievable."

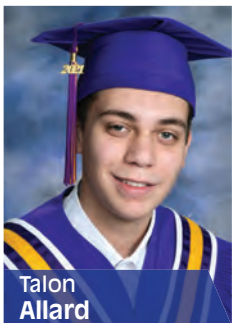
For Palsson, the pandemic taught her the importance of being resilient and patient.

"I learned that through a pandemic, life doesn't stop or even slow down. I learned that to achieve good grades, I had to push myself and find the motivation to work on school at home, surrounded by a million things that I would rather be doing," she said.

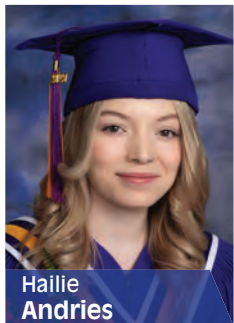
"I learned that our restrictions might look completely different from one week to the next and that there was no way of predicting what life was going to look like or when any kind of 'normal' way of living would be restored — or even when myself and my fellow fake blonds could touch up our roots."

Change is nothing new for their graduating class, said Murdock.

Continued on page 8



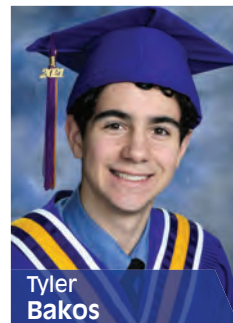
Talon Allard



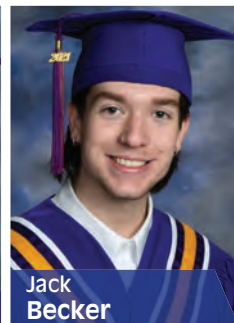
Hailie Andries



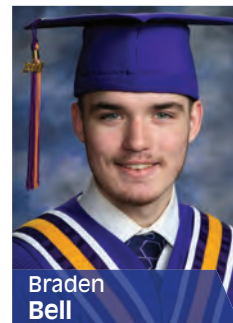
Payton Armstrong



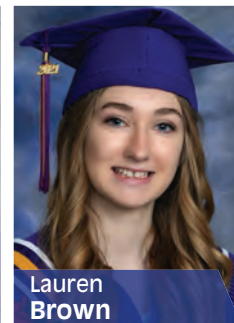
Tyler Bakos



Jack Becker



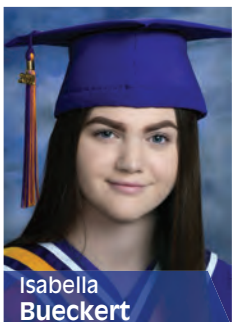
Braden Bell



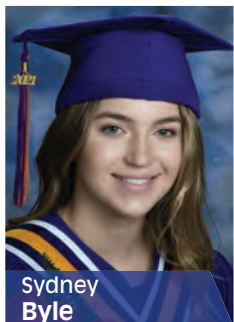
Lauren Brown



Daniel Buckle



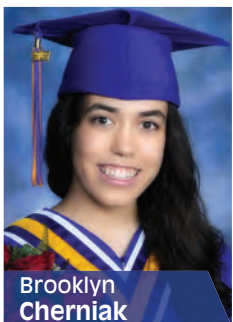
Isabella Bueckert



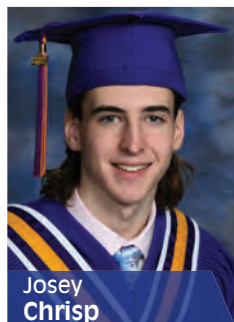
Sydney Byle



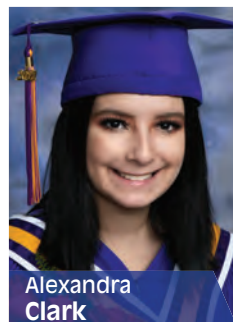
Akeisha Castel



Brooklyn Cherniak



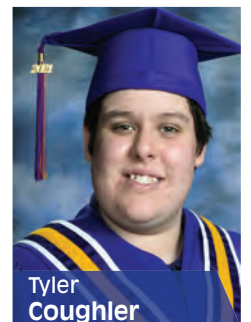
Josey Chrisp



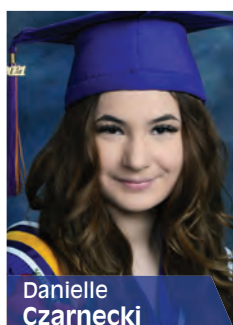
Alexandra Clark



Michael Cliffe



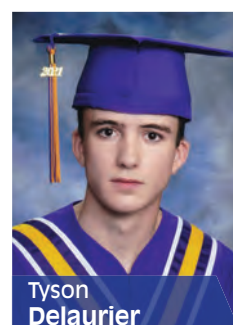
Tyler Coughler



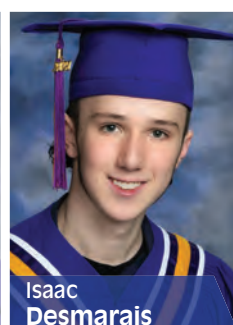
Danielle Czarnecki



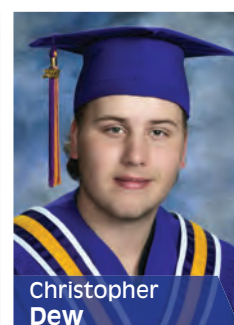
Maddox Daneliuk



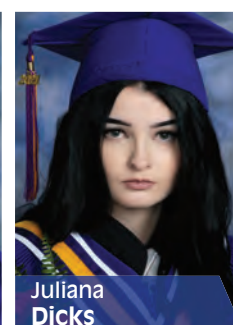
Tyson Delaurier



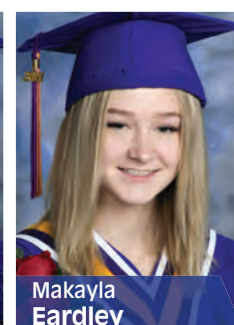
Isaac Desmarais



Christopher Dew



Juliana Dicks



Makayla Eardley



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> SCI, FROM PG. 7

“We can take the resilience that we’ve acquired over these past couple years and apply it to our future and life as adults,” Murdock said.

“Moving forward, we can use that to take risks because we know we’ll be OK. By playing it safe, we won’t reach our potential, so we shouldn’t be afraid to move beyond our comfort zones. We’ve overcome adversity in the past, and we always will in the future.”

The potential of the graduating class was personified in Chloé Morrison, who earned the governor general’s medal. The organized, self-driven student achieved a combined average in Grade 11 and 12 of 98.06 per cent. At the same time, she’s an accomplished athlete and an excellent leader with a positive attitude.

The general proficiency award went to Madison Fines, who was described by teachers as a pleasure to teach, a friend to all and an all-around great role model. She maintained a 95 per cent average while also challenging herself athletically and serving as a leader in the school community.

To wrap up the two-hour virtual presentation, principal Cassils shared some final words of wisdom with the 108 new graduates.

“It’s been a long year and you need to celebrate this major accomplishment. Just remember, be safe,” he said.

“You have worked so hard to get here and we’re all so proud of you. You will look back at this time in your life and all of those special memories in your life and you will always remember this grad. Now go have fun!”



From left to right, Principal Jason Cassils, Vice Principals John Loochuk and Bryce Baldwin.

 Abigail Enns	 Kaylee Erickson	 Easton Ewanek	 Gina Farina	 Jacob Fearn	 Angelique Ferchuk	 Emma Ferenc	 Madison Fines	
 Owen Forbes	 Myles Fotty	 Carter Gage	 Bailey Georgison	 Davia Georgison	 Ashley Gobeil	 Aaron Griffin	 Payton Gross	
 Joshua Gulay	 Noah Harold	 Sage Henry	 Madison Hildebrand	 Tyler Hogg	 Kirk Holyk	 Zac Howard	 Kayleigh Hadowy	
 Alexander Hume	 Chloe Hunter	 Kaitlyn Inman	 Carter Ives	 Deana Johnson	 Dylan Kernot	 Skylar Kopec	 Jackson Kummen	
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 Andrew Macduff	 Carlen MacFarlane	 Kurtis Mann	 Taylor Manning	 Erik Mattson	 Stella McAuley	 Gabryella McKnight	 David McRae
 Megan Meikle	 Blake Meyers	 Kaydence Michalsky	 Chloé Morrison	 Julian Murdock	 Felicity Normand-Smith	 Jazlyn Nychka	 Bryn O'Neill
 Evan Ozirney	 Larissa Palsson	 Andrew Perrie	 Gabriel Perrie	 Graeme Perrie	 Stephanie Place	 Sébastien Pruneau	 Rayanne Redhead
 Logan Resch	 Ellis Riley	 Sarah Robertson	 Ryan Ruchkall	 Matthew Schmuegen	 Tatiana Selk	 Mackenzie Shastko	 Teagan Sheppard
 Jonathan Shipley	 Jordyn Shymko- Wieringa	 Brittany Slatcher	 Adam Stamler	 Emma Stephens	 Jayden Stewart	 Jackson Stoecklin	 Brody Thibodeau
 Cristian Tilling	 Amelia Viveiros	 Brianna Waldner	 Thomas Waldner	 Samuel Warkentin	 Kaitlyn Whittington	 Ashley Woods	 Dylan Zacharias

★ ★ ★ **Congratulations** *to the Class of 2021* ★ ★ ★

Copies of this Graduation Keepsake Edition can be picked up at the Tribune office at 74 patterson Drive, Stonewall

A historic senior year of perseverance, hardwork and citizenship

Warren's graduating Class of 2021

By Jo-Anne Procter

Vehicles carrying precious cargo filled Meadow Lea Hall parking lot last Thursday. Graduates of Warren Collegiate were chauffeured to the make-shift stage atop the Janke family's hay rake. They crossed the stage to receive their high school diplomas, awards, and scholarships in front of family and friends with horns honking.

"At this time of reflection, it would be easy to lapse into sadness at all of the things that we have missed over the past year and today," principal Laura Perrella said in her greeting to graduates and their families.

From their first days in Grade 9, WCI staff knew it would be an interesting journey for this group of incredibility bright and talented students.

"We knew if we could harness and focus all of that energy and potential, we could really see some exceptional things happen."

"Even though in some ways it seems like we have missed out on a year and a half of school experiences, this group has been able to make exceptional accomplishments," she said.

Despite the situation in the world, WCI students were able to make the community a better place by leading food drives for the local Food Bank, collecting blankets and warm clothing and backpacks filled with necessities for homeless people. In addition, they beautified the schoolyard with trees, ensured that no one in the school was hungry, and sent kind messages to seniors.

Over half of the graduates are on the honours list graduating with more than 30 of the minimum credits required and more athletes moving on to post-secondary sports teams than ever before.

"We know that you are more than ready to leave the walls of WCI and take on larger challenges," said Perrella. "So take this opportunity to reflect upon your time here. Be sad about some of the things we've missed, but take comfort in the fact that this adversity has proven beyond a doubt that you have been a class to be reckoned with and one that will not only survive through adversity, but thrive through adversity."

Unlike most valedictorian speeches, one through a pandemic is different. Valedictorians Paige Wright and Brady deLaroque thanked families for raising the young adults they are today.



General Proficiency Award recipient Kaden Stewart accepted a self-distanced congratulations from teacher Andrea Schutz.

"Time has gone by too fast," deLaroque, who spoke first, said before thanking WCI staff.

"You have played a crucial role on the road to our success. Even though we may have gotten tired of you telling us to spread out and stay six feet apart, we still appreciate you."

"Throughout our high school experience, we have persevered many tough challenges," said Wright.

"People have always told us that high school is the easiest time in our lives, but this past year has effortlessly put that quote to shame. Our graduating class has conquered some of the hardest years of anyone's life, while applying for university, studying for tests and most importantly missing out on the most memorable moments of anyone's high school experience."

"We first learned to never give up, even through the toughest of times. This past year tested every students' limits," deLaroque said. "Our normal lives got turned upside down and we were forced to learn a new normal. We constantly found the positives that taught us the greatest life lessons of all. Life won't always go our way and it is never fair. How we fight through the difficult times will dictate how successful we are in our many years to come."

Wright added that their senior year also taught



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
Valedictorians Paige Wright and Brady deLaroque high five following their speech.



Governor General Award recipient Amber Archer.

Continued on page 11

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WCI Graduates

> WCI, FROM PG. 10

them to appreciate the little things. "We never expected that partying with our friends or even having a normal grad would be out of the picture. We have realized to cherish everything as it comes because you never know when it will be the last time to do so. These lessons learned will last a lifetime."

"Despite all of the odds against us we managed to graduate. We know every single graduate will do well in their future. So even though you don't need it, we would like to wish you all good luck and thank everyone for all the great years."

Forty-one graduates crossed the stage to receive their diplomas.

Amber Archer received the Governor General medal for completing 33 credits and maintaining a 97.86 per



Graduates from left to right Gerrit Boonstra, Riley Buchanan, Brady deLaroque, Kaden Stewart, Andrew Henry, Riley Janke, Keon Joynt, Sheamus Gorman and Lane Bond.

cent average through Grades 11 and 12.

Kaden Stewart was the recipient of the General Proficiency Award and

received a plaque and a cheque for \$1,000. Stewart is described as a well-rounded student. He is cooperative and willing to participate in school

functions. He is courteous, has good manners and you can always count on him to get the job done. Stewart does not shy away from a good challenge. He always displays good citizenship, kindness, politeness and respect to all.

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 **2021** 

Congratulations Graduates!
On behalf of the residents of the Rural Municipality of Woodlands, Council extends congratulations to the Class of 2021.

As you begin this new chapter of your life, we wish you much success, luck and happiness.

Reeve & Council
Rural Municipality of Woodlands



Ashton Fisher cruises out of Warren Collegiate in style.



Tamara Buhler riding in style with her family.



Graduates Gabe Bjornson and Kailey Langrell jump for joy on the completion of their high school careers.



Dani Gardwine gives a thumbs up after receiving her high school diploma.



Abby Procter was the recipient of four awards.



Warren Collegiate 2021 Graduation drive thru lineup.



Amber Archer



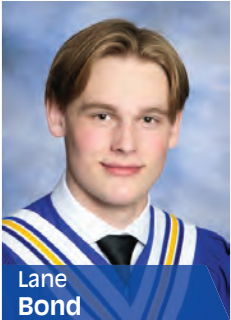
Tyler Arnott



Liam Bangle



Gabriel Bjornson



Lane Bond



Gerrit Boonstra



Bryan Braun



Emma Briere



Clayton Brown



Riley Buchanan



Tamara Buhler



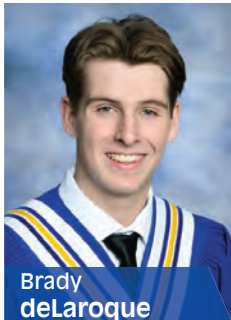
Lauren Carter



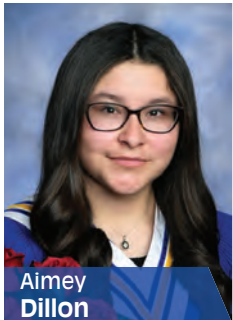
Sarah Crockatt



Hannah DeBin



Brady deLaroque



Aimey Dillon

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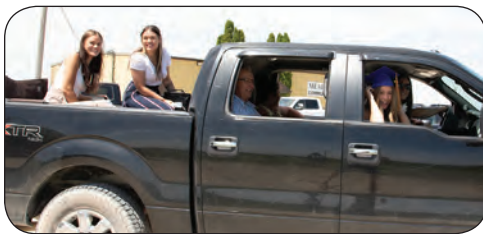
GRADUATION 2021



Marissa Varnes



Emily Fehr



Emma Goodman and her family.



Bobbie Fairlie

2021 Warren Collegiate Grade 12 Scholarships

AMBER ARCHER

U of M entrance scholarship, Lifetouch Scholarship, Ben & Marjorie King Memorial Bursary, Starting Blocks Bursary, Governor General's Academic Award

**GABE BJORNSON
LANE BOND**

Prairie Roots Employee Scholarship, Arizona State University Entrance Scholarship, Foresters Financial Scholarship, One Insurance/Wawanesa Insurance Bursary, William M.A. Campbell Memorial Scholarship

GERRIT BOONSTRA

Prairie Roots Graduation Bursary, Manitoba Pool Sub-District 802 Memorial Bursary, ISD Bus Drivers Association Bursary,

BRYAN BRAUN

Michael Lindell Memorial Scholarship, Warren Horizon & District Lions Club Scholarship

RILEY BUCHANAN

Prairie Roots Graduation Bursary, CDC Leadership Award, Myra Langrell Scholarship,

TAMARA BUHLER

U of M Entrance Scholarship, Abby Margetts Memorial Arts Scholarship, Ben & Marjorie King Memorial Bursary

HANNAH DEBIN

James Family Scholarship

BRADY DELAROCQUE

Mayville State Football Scholarship, Caisse Financial Scholarship, Warren & District Lions Club Scholarship, Woodlands District Ladies Group Award, Woodlands District Wildlife Association Bursary, IANTE Scholarship,

Woodlands Legion # 248 Kaylee Atchison-Heaps Citizenship Bursary, Walter Malazdrewich Memorial Award,

Interlake Community Foundation Leadership Award, Ben Elskamp Memorial Scholarship

EMILY FEHR

RYANNE GAREAU

SHEAMUS GORMAN

RILEY JANKE

Brock University Entrance Scholarship

Grosse Isle Women's Institute Award

CDC Trades Scholarship

Prairie Roots Graduation Bursary, Meadow Lee Church Bursary,

Meadow Lee Community Center Award,

Hemp Growers Association Scholarship

ABBY PROCTER

Loran Provincial Scholarship,

Interlake Teachers Association Scholarship,

R.M. of Woodlands Scholarship, Woodlands Hall Board Award

KADEN STEWART

U of M Entrance Scholarship, Bryan Lefley Scholarship,

Chown Centennial Entrance Scholarship, Myra Langrell Scholarship,

Betsy Elskamp Memorial Scholarship, WCI General Proficiency

U of M renewable scholarship

MARISSA VARNES

PAIGE WRIGHT

CMU entrance scholarship,

MHSAA Dr. Dale Iwanoczko Memorial Scholarship,

Bryan Lefley Scholarship, Warren & District Lion Club scholarship

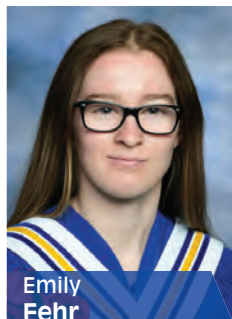
MHSAA Scholar Athlete Award,

Interlake Community Foundation Leadership Award,

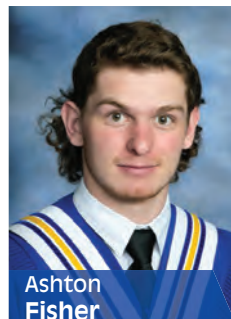
William & Francis Dutka Memorial Scholarship



Bobbie Fairlie



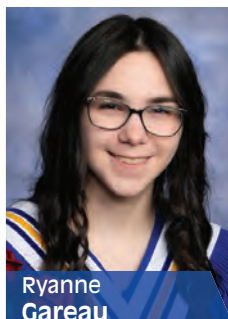
Emily Fehr



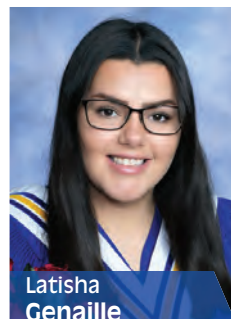
Ashton Fisher



Dani Gardewine



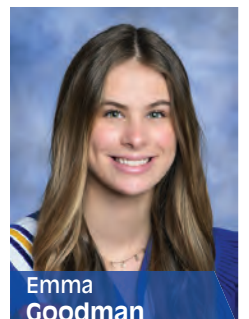
Ryanne Gareau



Latisha Genaille



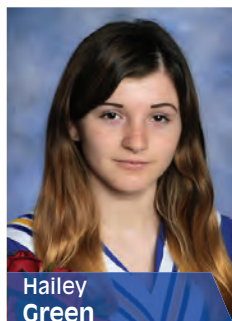
Steven Gladu



Emma Goodman



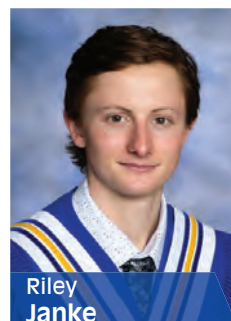
Sheamus Gorman



Hailey Green



Andrew Henry



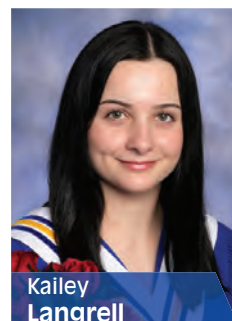
Riley Janke



Keon Joynt



Marshal Kaplar



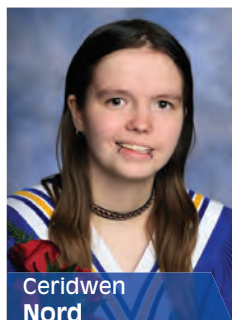
Kailey Langrell



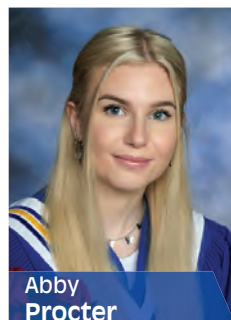
Grace McDonald



Connor Nesbitt



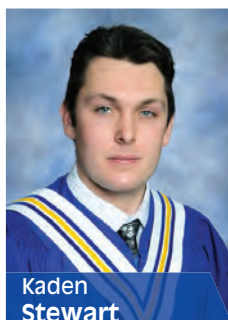
Ceridwen Nord



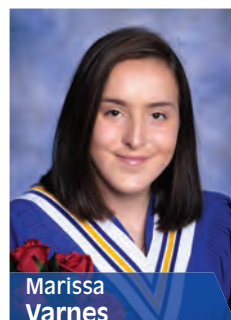
Abby Procter



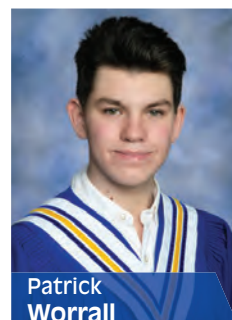
Nikolas Remillard



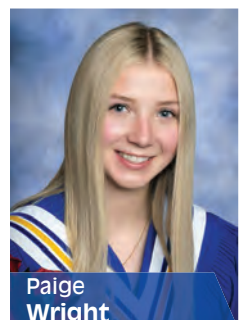
Kaden Stewart



Marissa Varnes



Patrick Worrall



Paige Wright

Drive-Thru graduation is the first of its kind in Teulon

TCI's graduating Class of 2021

By Tyler Searle

Students in Teulon Collegiate Institute's (TCI) Class of 2021 celebrated their graduation in the first outdoor ceremony since the school opened in 1907.

The event began at noon on June 25 with a pre-recorded speech from Valedictorian Camryn Kowalchuk.

"Ever since grade seven, we have fantasized of this moment," she started.

"Unfortunately, we did not have the graduation that we once dreamt of."

This year taught the Class of 2021 to take nothing for granted, and living under lockdown has only intensified the bond between grads, she said.

"Being in this class with so many amazing people has been a privilege. I know that this day will not be a goodbye because the bonds that we as a class have made will stay true forever."

All 28 students who were eligible to graduate did so successfully thanks to their hard work and the help of their parents and teachers, said TCI Principal Myles Blahut.

"Everyone thought that last year's grad would have been one-of-a-kind, but here we are, one year later, with yet another one-of-a-kind ceremony," he continued.

The ceremony was a drive-up affair held in the TCI bus loop. The school permitted grads and four members of their household to attend the ceremony in their vehicles.

Families dropped off their grads, who entered the Northeast Gym and donned their cap and gown. While inside, they posed for photos and waited for Vice Principal Jason Darragh to



Valedictorian Camryn Kowalchuk Kowalchuk also won an Excellence Medal and six awards.

call their names.

TCI staff set up a makeshift stage to present graduates with their diplomas outside on the front sidewalk. As the grads made their way to the stage, household members could exit their vehicles and cheer on their loved one.

Darragh introduced each student with their name, number of credits, and notable awards before reciting personal messages prepared by the grads.

The messages included fond memories of time spent at TCI, future plans, and parting advice. Some graduates shared dreams of travelling the world or pursuing their education, while others looked fondly toward beginning their careers, having children, and settling down in a rural community.

The customary whistles and claps accompanying a grad ceremony came from single families rather than



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JUDI CARROLL
Carley Poloski won an Excellence Medal, Governor General Bronze Medal, and four awards.

crowds, but the sentiment was the same.

The graduates accepted diplomas, smiled for photos, and shifted their tassels to signify the end of their high school careers.

Eleven students accepted 39 academic awards.

Notably, Joshua Charison won ten, including the ISD General Proficiency Award and an ISD Excellence Medal.

Kowalchuk and Brady Stott also won Excellence Medals and six awards each. Carley Poloski won an Excellence Medal, Governor General Bronze Medal, and four awards.

Numerous students graduated with honours.

There were no athletic awards this year due to the pandemic.

"The students had such a strange year with COVID-19 restrictions. They attended school every second day, wearing masks and practicing social distancing. There were no dances, sports, concerts, art shows or events—yet they worked hard and obtained their credits for graduation," said Teacher Shayne Campbell in an email



Joshua Charison won ten, including the ISD General Proficiency Award and an ISD Excellence Medal.



Brady Stott was recognized with an Excellence Medal and six additional awards.

statement.

Public Health orders prohibited gathering with other households before or after the student's presentation.



Continued on page 15



GRAD of 2021

On behalf of the residents of the RM of Rockwood, Council congratulates the graduating class of 2021.
Best wishes on your future endeavours.

Reeve & Council
RM of Rockwood

Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2021

The Citizens of Teulon are proud of you!
All the best in your future endeavours.

Mayor, Council, & Staff
Visit us at www.teulon.ca



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TEULON COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

GRADUATION 2021

> TCI, FROM PG. 14

TCI provided a live stream of the ceremony on their website and asked non-household guests to refrain from gathering at the collegiate.

TCI allotted each student roughly five minutes to walk the stage and take photos with their family. Afterward, they asked families to drive to the back of the school, return their gowns, and exit the property.

Despite restrictions, the ceremony ran smoothly, Campbell said.



Rheo Ewankiw



Jeannine Slater received the Teulon & District Métis Local Bursary, Interlake Métis Association Bursary and The Homer Fund Orange Scholars Award.



Braiden Kehler was awarded the Michael Ferley Scholarship.



Dillon Borlase received the Interlake Métis Association Bursary.

Teulon Collegiate Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries

JOSHUA CHARISON

Chown Centennial Scholarship
U of M Guertin Centennial Entrance Scholarship
ISD General Proficiency Award
ISD Excellence Medal
Hunter-Cumming Scholarship
Interlake Community Foundation Leadership Award
Town of Teulon Award
TCI Principal's Scholarship
Lorne Ferley Scholarship
Chris Chartrand Memorial Scholarship

CARLEY POLOSKI

ISD Excellence Medal
Governor General Bronze Medal
Interlake Teachers Association Scholarship
William Dychuk Memorial Bursary
Walter Malazdrewich Memorial Bursary
Interlake Bus Drivers Association Award

BRAIDEN KEHLER

Michael Ferley Scholarship

SAMUEL GREEN

Interlake Métis Association Bursary

CAMRYN KOWALCHUK

ISD Excellence Medal
Dr. Goodwin Memorial Scholarship
U of W Special Entrance Scholarship
Interlake Community Foundation Leadership Award
Town of Teulon Award
TCI Alumni Scholarship
One Insurance and Wawanesa Insurance Community Engagement Bursary

JEANNINE SLATER

Teulon & District Métis Local Bursary
Interlake Métis Association Bursary
The Homer Fund Orange Scholars Award

DILLON BORLASE

Interlake Métis Association Bursary

CARSON TRAUB

Interlake Métis Association Bursary

BRADY STOTT

ISD Excellence Medal
Royal Canadian Legion Branch #52 Award
Royal Canadian Legion Award of Excellence
James Family Scholarship
Teulon Chamber of Commerce Scholarship
Janet Kuchma Leadership Award
Lifetouch Grad Portrait Scholarship

PAITIN CARTWRIGHT

IANTE Scholarship

MICHEAL CONNELLY

Interlake Métis Association Bursary

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 Stephen Anslow	 Hannah Beardy	 Dillon Borlase	 Elizabeth Burton	 Paitin Cartwright	 Camren Chandler	 Josh Charison	 Micheal Connelly
 Rheo Ewankiw	 Samuel Green	 Josh Hall	 Emily Haynes	 Jasmine Hudec	 Jordyn Inglis	 Devin Jones	 Braiden Kehler
 Adam Knott	 Camryn Kowalchuk	 Noah P.	 Carley Poloski	 Jeannine Slater	 Liam Smith	 Brady Stott	 Carson Traub
 Brandon Watson	 Anika Wetherill	 Ty Williams	 Victoria Yankech	 Congratulations 2021 Graduates Stonewall Teulon Tribune www.stonewallteulontribune.ca			



Congratulations to the graduating students from the Hutterian Schools

June 24th - Prairie Blossom Susanna Maendel	June 25th - Rock Lake Julianna Gross Samuel Gross Emily Waldner Rachelle Waldner
June 24th- Omega Tarrah Hofer	June 28th - Concord Tara Kleinsasser
June 24th - Lightly Dorothy Waldner	June 29th - Mallard Corey Hofer Jaydee Hofer Jayden Wollmann Nolene Wollmann
June 25th - New Haven Janessa Wollmann	