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A family affair

Eleven-year-old Abby Emmer, middle, and her siblings, left to right, Lydia (7), Joshua (3), Ethan (13) and Andrew (9) are cleaning up Stonewall while raising money for Heroic Family Missions to support programs helping local families recover from the pandemic.

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Local girl spearheads project to help community

By Jennifer McFee

Families helping families. That's the simple yet impactful concept behind one local family's efforts to help others.

It all started with a young community-minded girl who has an inclination to make the world a better place. Abby Emmer, 11, and her team (which includes four of her siblings) are embarking on another Stonewall town cleanup.

And other families are welcome to jump on board to help. At a pickup location, volunteers can borrow sanitized grabbers, supplies and maps of the area. There's also a designated drop-off location for garbage bags filled during the cleanup.

"My brothers and sisters are cleaning with me," said Abby, who has seven siblings. "Even my three-year-old brothers are using the grabbers to pick up garbage."

Her mom, Allison Emmer, commended everyone for their efforts.

"Abigail has really spearheaded the cleanup this year," she said. "The kids all help with picking up garbage, holding open garbage bags for each other, getting supplies ready for others and smiling for photo ops. Oh, and they also gather every bug they see while we are out cleaning up garbage."

Abby is well on her way to achieving her goal of collecting 100 bags of garbage. She has experience with this type of project since last October in the midst of the lockdown, Abby and her crew managed to fill more than 80



Joshua Emmer (3) is helping his sister Abby with the garbage cleanup initiative.

garbage bags around the Stonewall area.

Through her project, Abby hopes to raise money for Heroic Family Missions to support programs helping local families recover from the pandemic.

"The pandemic has been really tough on families," Abby said.

Currently, donors have offered to match donations up to \$30,000, Allison added.

"The town of Stonewall is a great place to live and we want to serve the community and people in the Interlake through this initiative. Having strong families is important to every community. Seeing families thrive is really important to us," Allison said.

"Individuals and businesses are welcome to partner with us with a set donation or a pledge per bag of garbage collected. The funds will go towards the de-



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Emmer family of Stonewall are working together and encouraging the community to help with the Town Clean Up. Pictured, back: Ethan (13), Andrew (9), Abby (11), Paul and Allison; front: Lydia (7), Joshua (3), Caleb (3), Bethany (5) and Jonathan (9 months).

velopment and offering of courses and programs that help families recover from the pandemic, socially, emotionally and financially."

With an intention to help community members and the environment, Abby provided some insight on the courses being offered.

"There's a course to help families get out of debt. There's also a course for business," she said. "Families don't recover well if they don't have a job."

Her mom explained that one of the free courses is called Business Lift Gift, since many businesses need a big lift during this time of economic turmoil.

"Our other courses in progress are Social Homeschooler, a program designed to teach methods of connection very applicable to those who have now spent a year at home away from their peers and will be returning to school this fall; Family Finances, a debt reduction program; and The Parent Exam, a parenting plan which helps establish priorities to keep a family on track together," Allison said.

"Each are in different stages of development. Some have started and others will start in August."

For anyone interested in getting involved, there are two easy ways to help — by donating or by participating. Any donations over \$20 will receive a tax receipt.

"People of all ages can take part," said 11-year-old Abby. "We want families working together."

Partners for the initiative include Tim Comack of Ventura Developments Inc., Tyler Niven of Haulaway & More, and Heroic Family Missions.

"There's a lot of people and companies helping," Abby added. "Just wanted to thank everyone."

More information about the cleanup is available at www.HeroicFamilyMissions.com. To access the free business training, visit www.BusinessLiftGift.com. This training is geared for staff and owners, as well as people looking for work.

For more information about picking up and dropping off garbage collection supplies, call 204-872-3978.



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Pasture well drilling increases tenfold during drought

By Tyler Searle

The demand for pasture wells in the Interlake has multiplied tenfold this season, and farmers are desperate to get water to livestock, said Sonny Rohne, owner of Interlake Water Supply.

The business typically drills between one and three pasture wells in a season, but this year Rohne estimates his team has drilled 20 pasture wells and are fielding requests for at least 20 more.

On top of drilling new wells, Interlake Water has also been busy refurbishing old ones, installing water pumps and — in emergency cases — transporting water in trucks directly onto farmers' fields.

Rohne and his staff have implemented a triage system and are prioritizing their jobs based on need. The demand for emergency relief means customers looking for residential services may have to wait up to three weeks, he said.

In the past, pasture wells were not a commodity because the Interlake usually is well saturated. Now, he is finding the static water table down 12 to 15 feet in some areas.

The lower table is not necessarily cause for concern, Rohne said.

He has seen levels fluctuate over the years, citing a period in the early aughts when the table was similarly low.

Despite the increase in the number of active wells, Rohne does not expect them to put a strain on the water table, he said.

The Interlake is situated on a productive carbonate limestone aquifer. The region — which accounts for Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba and several lakes and rivers — is known for its abundance of water.

Even the prolonged dry spell is not enough to drain the groundwater, he said.

In 2011, the Eastern Interlake Watershed District (EIWD) prepared the Netley-Grassmere Integrated Watershed Management Plan.

The plan identifies wells as posing a potential risk to groundwater quality of the aquifer in areas with less than six metres of overburden.

In geological terms, overburden refers to the sedimentary rock material covering a useful deposit.

To protect and improve the quality of drinking water in the district, the plan recommended the sealing of unused, abandoned, poorly constructed and problem-flowing wells in areas with shallow overburden and areas serviced by public water systems.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED
The team at Interlake Water Supply uses machinery to drill a new well.

The EIWD identified Stonewall, Stony Mountain, Argyle, Inwood and other parts of Rockwood as having less than six metres of overburden.

Most towns in the region filter public water through a treatment facility, but a study from the East Interlake Conservation District indicated one in every four wells in the EIWD failed to meet drinking water guidelines.

The study recommends residents who drink from private wells test the water frequently.

The pasture wells drilled by Interlake Water hydrate livestock and are not for public consumption.

The plan also called for further studies to identify the safe groundwater withdrawal and recharge rates.

"In addition to groundwater quality concerns, some watershed residents expressed concern about groundwater supply due to possible future drought conditions, reduced recharge, or overuse of the water supply," it reads.

This year, the Interlake is one of the driest places in the province with less than 50 per cent normal precipitation this growing season, said Shawn Cabek, who works for the provincial government as a livestock and forage specialist.

The region has been under drought advisory since the spring, but precipitation levels have been declining for up to five consecutive years, Cabek said.

"Not only did we have a dry growing season this year, but we had a dry winter. We've been super dry since last fall, so we've been really dry for about a year now."

While the province has not declared a state of agricultural disaster, mul-



When the well is ready, Interlake Water Supply uses a pump to carry water from the well to dugout.

iple communities in the region have, including Woodlands, Rockwood, Armstrong, Coldwell, West Interlake and St. Laurent.

Cabek recommends farmers in need of support apply for funding through the province's Ag Action and GROW programs. The programs provide money for constructing new wells, dugouts and fencing, or developing alternative watering systems.

Applicants can receive support up to \$10,000, Cabek said.

Representatives from both the Western and Eastern Interlake Watershed Districts said they are inundated with calls from panicked farmers.

The districts process funding applications and subsidize water resource development with provincial money.

The money is there, but applying for funding, waiting for approval and developing solar, wind or grid-powered watering sources take time.

Beef cattle require between 10 and 13 gallons of water per day, possibly



A barren dugout can be replenished with water from a newly drilled pasture well within 24 hours.

more in higher temperatures.

Farmers who rely on dugouts to water their livestock are finding them completely barren.

Drilling or refurbishing a well and then pumping to fill a dugout can be completed within 24 hours and is the best option in an emergency, Rohne said.

WIWD has processed 31 applications for alternative watering systems at the time of print and received up to 30 more inquiries — with more coming daily.

EIWD has received 14 applications from landowners. More than 1,780 cattle in the district are affected by the drought, and farmers have reported at least 16 dugouts as barren.

Farmers who need to drill wells or install pump systems can reach Interlake Water Supply at 204-278-3328 or via their website <https://www.interlakewatersupply.ca>.

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STONEWALL

New public health orders now in effect

By Lorne Stelmach

A further easing of restrictions came early for Manitobans last week as the province reached the next target in the government's reopening strategy.

While announcing the implementation of the second phase of the 4-3-2-One Great Summer plan, Premier Brian Pallister and chief public health officer Dr. Brent Roussin also encouraged Manitobans to keep doing what has gotten the province to this point.

"We are close to achieving all of our vaccination milestones ahead of schedule. Now we just need that extra effort by every Manitoban not yet vaccinated to roll up your sleeve and push us across the finish line so we can fully reopen safely and quickly," said Pallister. "This is a marathon, not a sprint. We are not at the finish line yet.

"Vaccines are the safest and quickest way out of this pandemic. The sooner all eligible Manitobans get fully vaccinated, the sooner we can all get our lives back," he continued. "Thanks to the incredible efforts of Manitoba's vaccine team and Manitobans' willingness to roll up their sleeves — not once but twice — we are able to move forward earlier than anticipated with fewer restrictions on our economy and our communities."

The second vaccination milestone of at least 75 per cent first dose and 50 per cent second dose for those age 12 and older was reached nearly a month ahead of schedule July 6. That, coupled with continued improvement in the overall COVID-19 situation, meant restrictions were able to be eased somewhat this past Saturday.

The new orders include:

- Indoor gatherings at private residences are now permitted to a maximum of five people plus the household members.
- Indoor gatherings in public spaces are permitted to a maximum of 25 people.
- Outdoor gatherings on private property increase to a maximum of 25 people.

- Public outdoor gatherings increase to a maximum of 150 people.

- Retail businesses increase to 50 per cent capacity or 500 people, whichever is lower.

- Restaurants, licensed premises and food court capacities expand to 50 per cent capacity; outdoor maximum table size remains at eight people. Patrons may sit together indoors if they are from the same household or if all 12 years of age or older are fully immunized (unvaccinated children under 12 may dine with fully vaccinated members of their household in this case).

As well, opening hours extend to midnight, and the requirement to purchase food when ordering alcohol no longer applies.

VLTs may operate with all other restaurant/bar rules applying (two-metre distance, only households or fully vaccinated people seated together).

- Personal services (haircuts and styling, nail salons, estheticians and massage) continue at 50 per cent capacity; however, appointments are no longer required.

- Dance, theatre and music school capacities increase to 50 per cent capacity to a maximum of 25 people per group.

- Indoor sporting facilities may host groups up to a maximum of 25 people; interaction between groups and tournaments are not permitted.

- Day camp capacity increases to groups of 25; joint activities between groups and overnight camps are prohibited.

- Outdoor recreation including games and practices may take place to maximum group size of 50 people; spectators are permitted and do not count towards this capacity limit; tournaments are not permitted.

- Gym and fitness centre capacities expand to 50 per cent capacity; masks and increased physical distancing (three metres) are still required.

- Outdoor weddings and funerals may include up to 150 participants in addition to photographers and

officiants; indoor weddings or funerals increase to 25 people in addition to photographers and officiants.

- Libraries may open to 50 per cent capacity to a maximum of 150 people, whichever is lower.

- Faith-based and cultural gatherings may expand to 50 per cent capacity or 150 people indoors, whichever is lower; masks and physical distancing between households is still required. If the facility design allows, the capacity limits may be applied to different physical spaces within the venue. Outdoor faith-based and cultural gatherings permitted up to 150 people and drive-in services continue to be permitted without restriction.

- Movie theatres; bingo halls, VLT lounges and casinos, museums and galleries may now reopen for fully immunized people only to a maximum capacity of 50 per cent. Unvaccinated children under 12 may attend as appropriate if accompanied by fully vaccinated members of their household.

- Large-scale outdoor professional sports or performing arts events may operate with capacities up to 100 per cent after developing an approved event plan in consultation with public health.

In all cases, following the COVID-19 fundamentals including indoor mask use and physical distancing is still required to protect the health and well-being of all Manitobans, officials stress.

"This is the safe, reasonable and appropriate next step in our reopening," said Roussin. "More and more vaccinations allow us to loosen public health restrictions, but COVID-19 is still circulating in the province and continues to challenge our hospital and ICU capacity. A phased reopening is a safe reopening."

The current public health order is scheduled to expire at 12:01 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 7 and will be reassessed at that time in the context of vaccination rates and the province's overall COVID-19 situation.

Manitobans invited to weigh-in on water management strategies

Staff

As the much of the province remains in drought conditions, the government is giving Manitobans the opportunity to have their say on a new water management strategy.

It recently launched an online public engagement seeking feedback.

The last provincial water management strategy for Manitoba was done in 2003, but much has changed over

the 20 years, noted Blaine Pedersen, who had been in the role of Agriculture and Resource Development Minister until cabinet changes announced last week.

Pedersen said a new water strategy will ensure effective and sustainable management of our water resources and that the province looks forward to working with all Manitobans in the development of a made-in-Manitoba

water strategy.

"Water is a key resource for Manitobans, the environment and the economy, and our government is committed to the careful management of this precious resource," he said.

"We encourage Manitobans to share their thoughts with us and recognize we must work together to sustainably manage water, while considering the impacts of a changing climate and

growing economic and social needs."

The public input follows the commitment of \$1 million in funding announced earlier this year to support development and implementation of the water strategy, and a committee will review and approve projects under the fund.

"Manitoba has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create a water management strategy to drive economic and environmental prosperity in our province," said Ray Bouchard,

Continued on page 5



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Broom-making business coming to Rockwood

By Jennifer McFee

A new home industry will be soon sweep its way into the RM of Rockwood.

At the July 14 council meeting, Rockwood council conditionally approved a request to allow a home industry business that will focus on broom-making and traditional crafting.

Amina Haswell applied for permission to operate Prairie Breeze Acres and its sister company Prairie Breeze Folk Arts Studio on Road 87N in Balmoral, where she will produce hand-made brooms, brushes and other natural household items. Customers will also be able to view and buy these items on site.

All of the products are made by hand using natural or eco-friendly materials sourced from local providers across Canada.

Over the years, Haswell has received requests to teach broom-making classes from different municipal-

ity recreation departments, as well as Arborg Heritage Village, Lower Fort Garry and more. She hopes to offer classes in the community.

Haswell is currently in the process of getting permits to build several buildings for personal use, including a 480-square-foot workshop and a 600-square-foot pole-shed building that could be used as a demonstration area or classroom setting. In addition, she hopes to add an equipment shed to keep her broom-making equipment, as well as a small bathroom facility for patrons. All facilities would be built with accessibility in mind.

Haswell has owned the property for about 10 years and has used the land for personal pleasure and family enjoyment. She's also grown broomcorn and a variety of herbs and vegetables, which she's sold at farmers markets at Pineridge Hollow and St. Norbert, among others. She proposes that patrons could park on Road 4E, since

the grounds will only be accessible on foot. She anticipates the business would be open for retail and site visits during summer and fall, Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"Currently, there are limited venues such as this in the region and this would not only create employment opportunities but would generate tourism dollars in Stonewall, Teulon and surrounding areas. This project would promote education of fold or traditional arts and inspire future broommakers and other artisans," Haswell wrote in her letter of intent.

"The project is self-funded and is being built with the highest quality in mind."

The South Interlake Planning District noted some concerns with a reference to a proposed market, but Haswell asked to withdraw that concept from her application.

Conditions of approval include having a maximum of five employees



PHOTO BY JENNIFER MCFEE

Amina Haswell applied for permission to operate Prairie Breeze Acres where she will produce handmade brooms, brushes and other natural household items.

and submitting an off-street parking plan for review. To learn more about Prairie Breeze Folk Arts Studio and its products, visit www.prairiebreezefolkartsstudio.com.

Rockwood declares state of agricultural disaster

By Jennifer McFee

It's official — the RM of Rockwood has declared a state of agricultural disaster.

At the July 14 council meeting, Rockwood council unanimously passed a motion to make the declaration, joining other Manitoba municipalities including the RMs of St. Laurent and Armstrong.

The RM of Rockwood is also requesting immediate help from the federal and provincial governments to provide support and ag recovery to local farmers for tax deferrals, feed shortages, freight assistance and compensation for drilling wells.

According to the resolution, "the Rural Municipality of Rockwood has received insufficient rainfall to allow for crops, hay land and pasture to grow; therefore, our municipality is experiencing a severe drought situation."

Compounding the situation is the recent manifestation of grasshoppers that are causing severe crop and vegetation damage.

"Agriculture is a significant industry in our municipality and this drought and grasshopper destruction is devastating to our entire community," states the resolution.

The severe feed shortage in the area and the grazing situation have become critical issues. Farmers are incurring unplanned expenses to drill additional wells to provide water for their animals because their dugouts have dried up.

It's expensive for farmers to buy feed, hay or straw from other areas, and the cost of freight is high. As a result, many farmers are making the difficult decision to sell their livestock due to the high cost of providing feed — or the complete inability to provide food and water for their animals.

A local cattle farmer attended the meeting and told council that farmers are in dire straights right now.

"If the municipality had the state of emergency in place, and if help does come along from the federal government, then we're ready," he said.

He lamented that some farmers are selling their herds due to the unrelenting situation.

"You don't build up a herd overnight. It takes years," he said. "It's a lifetime thing, and once you've got to sell those off, then you have to start from square one again."

Reeve Wes Taplin expressed empathy for farmers but noted that declaring an agricultural state of emergency "doesn't open up any doors for funding, for programs, for anything else." However, he said it does raise awareness about the issue and create strength in numbers.

"Unless there's programs in place,

it doesn't mean that money's going to flow any quicker," Taplin said.

"The federal government and provincial government have got to get involved."

Coun. Lyle Willis commented that the provincial government closed local ag offices, making it difficult for farmers to connect with an ag representative. Many producers are ready to throw in the towel due to the lack of feed, he added.

Taplin said the average age of cattle producers in Rockwood is around 60 or 65 years old.

"If they have to get rid of their herd, they're not coming back," he said.

> WATER, FROM PG. 4

chair of the oversight committee for the fund.

"Over the next year, this fund will support building a roadmap for a long-term water management strategy with identified projects from key economic sectors. Insights from a di-

versity of stakeholders in Manitoba is an integral part of this process and will be sought through the EngageMB survey as well as engagement sessions planned for the fall."

To take part in the engagement, visit engagemb.ca. The deadline for feedback is Aug. 13.

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Phone surveyors misrepresenting as RHA affiliates

Submitted by IERHA

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority has learned that residents in the region are receiving phone calls from people who are misrepresenting themselves as members of Interlake-Eastern RHA's wellness team.

In reports to RHA staff, members of the public say callers ask for details about their health conditions and the medications they are taking. The callers then offer to provide medications for a fee.

Interlake-Eastern RHA does not undertake phone surveys of the public to

ask information about health conditions and/or medications being taken.

Members of the public are advised that personal health information should only be discussed with trusted family members and known care providers. Divulging personal health information over the phone to unknown callers is not advised at any time. This includes providing information about health conditions, providing Manitoba Health card information and offering any details about medications being taken.

If you should receive any calls from

individuals identifying they are from or working with Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, or from any other organization/company, and if that call leads to requests to divulge personal health information, please hang up immediately.

You can advise the RCMP of this fraudulent activity by calling the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or visiting www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca and clicking on the tab "Report Fraud."

Conditions ideal for West Nile virus skeeters

Staff

The hot, dry conditions this summer are making for perfect breeding grounds for the mosquitoes that carry the West Nile virus (WNV).

The provincial government warns that the Culex tarsalis mosquito is on the hunt for water to lay their eggs and, not finding it in the usual places thanks to the drought, are making due with unusual locations.

"While normally not suitable, the drought has caused some smaller rivers and creeks to stop flowing, thus creating ideal spots for Culex tarsalis to lay their eggs," the province's first West Nile Virus bulletin read last week. "As a result, larval control will be conducted along these unusual

larval development sites to reduce the numbers of Culex tarsalis adults that emerge and reduce the risk of WNV."

To that end, the City of Winnipeg sprayed for skeeters last week along a number of rivers and creeks.

Currently, no human cases of West Nile virus have been identified in Manitoba.

While the risk for WNV exposure is low right now, the province warns that's likely to change as we head further into the summer.

Between 2012 and 2018, there were 112 cases of WNV in Manitoba. Nearly 40 per cent of those cases were hospitalized and 11 required intensive care.

You can protect yourself by taking the following preventative measures:

- Reduce the amount of time spent outdoors during peak mosquito hours between dusk and dawn.
- Use an appropriate mosquito repellent.
- Wear light-coloured, loose-fitting clothing with long sleeves and pant legs.
- Maintain door and window screens.
- Clean and empty yard items that collect water.

For more information on West Nile virus, head to www.gov.mb.ca/health/wnv or call Health Link at 1-888-315-9257.

> Got something you want to get off your chest? How about an act of kindness to share?

Send your letters to the editor or acts of kindness to news@stonewallteulontribune.ca. Please include your name, address, and phone number for confirmation purposes.

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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The splash pad in Stonewall has become a popular spot for children to cool off this summer as the heat wave continues. Last Friday temperatures reached 32 degrees C. Pictured left to right, Jonah Bencharski, AJ Bencharski, Abigail Palumbo and Kaleb Palumbo. 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.

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor: letters@stonewallteulontribune.ca

Statement on Conservative MPs letter to Premier regarding Legislative Statues

"It was brought to my attention that federal Conservative Manitoba members of parliament (MPs) took it upon themselves to direct a formal letter to Premier Pallister yesterday regarding the incidents that took place on the Manitoba legislative grounds on July 1, 2021.

These MPs, while quite measured in their remarks, ended the correspondence with a call for the two statues to be replaced immediately with the very same statues that were taken down. To this, I take great exception.

Replacing these statues with the very same colonial figureheads, whilst bypassing any First Nation engagement or consideration on what statues best teach the history of this province is tone deaf, ignorant and beyond disrespectful. What is the point of maintaining the status quo? Where is the recognition of the role

of First Nations in this province? What was our peaceful "No Pride in Genocide" march down the streets of Winnipeg and simultaneous marches throughout the country in solidarity with First Nations for? The world is speaking out and calling for change in the form of action and reconciliation. So, why would we simply repeat colonial and tragic history by re-erecting the same colonial representations? These MPs should read the room instead of catering to their far-right base.

I'd be remiss to note that this is a letter from the federal Conservatives and directed to provincial Conservatives without any pause to consider input from First Nations. Where was the First Nations engagement? I have met with this federal caucus twice now to outline a better working relationship. Have we been unclear that

First Nations require a seat at the table in a directional and leadership role? I believe the AMC has made this quite clear.

I note that provincial Ministers Friesen and Clarke moved quickly to contact me personally within minutes of the incident occurring on July 1. I appreciated that swift and open communication. This letter from federal MPs was drafted with seven signatures so clearly a conversation between them was had. It is unfortunate that there was no place for First Nations at this discussion.

What was needed and is still needed (and appears to be falling on deaf ears within the federal Conservatives) is First Nation input and direction in these triggering and difficult times. Canada has paused to take a hard look in the mirror at its indiscretions and so too should the federal Conservatives, stated AMC Grand Chief Arlen Dumas.

- Stacia Franz
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

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Anxious Thoughts

I grew up on a farm and every spring the desire to plant something threatens to overtake my common sense. The little garden I plant now is significantly smaller than the corner of the field we used when I was growing up. I find it therapeutic to dig in the dirt and plant seeds with the hope and expectation of flowers to bloom and vegetables to grow. I don't love weeding, nor waiting for the tomatoes to produce, but the satisfaction of nurturing these little seeds into plants that produce fruit goes deep into who I am.

As I take care of my young plants, it makes me think of what's needed to care for my anxious thoughts. Paul says in Philippians 4:8 "My friends, fill your minds with those things that are good and that deserve praise: things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely, and honorable." As I nurture and care for the seeds I've planted, I am reminded to pay attention to my thought patterns in the midst of troubling days. My anxious thoughts shift when I'm reminded of Jesus' words in Matthew 6:25-26, "...not to worry about everyday life... Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are?" People are more valuable than the birds, and if God cares for the birds, how much more does He care for you and I. Peter says in 1 Peter 5:7 "Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you." Let me encourage you to put your faith and trust in God because He is trustworthy.

As I go about my day tending to my plants, I'm reminded of God's love and care for each one of us. Let's be kind to each other while offering a little more grace and patience with those around us as we navigate these challenging days.

Pastor
(interim)
Jo-Ann
Porterfield
Alive Family
Church
Stonewall, MB



Motocross Club still vying for permission to develop track

Club organizers prepare to apply for conditional use permit

By Tyler Searle

Before Stonewall Motocross Club sees its dream of a motocross track in the Interlake realized, it will have to get past council.

The club has been campaigning to build a motocross track near Stonewall since the spring of 2020 and may soon apply for a development permit, said club treasurer Darlene Dallman.

"We have been actively meeting. It's just that the wheels move slow. COVID has definitely slowed us down, but we're not giving up. This is something we really want."

Finding a suitable parcel to develop has been a challenge, she said.

A large piece of land with diverse topography would allow the club to develop multiple tracks for various riding styles, interests and experiences. While its goal is to participate in Manitoba's competitive circuit, the club also wants space for casual riders and those not interested in racing.

The group is not necessarily looking for a blank piece of land in a farmer's field, Dallman said.

The ideal space would be around 50 acres, have access to dirt and other natural obstacles like elevation and trees.

Currently, the club has its eyes on 55 acres in the RM of Rockwood.

The parcel sits off Highway 7, just north of where gravel trucks turn into the quarries. It has potential, but organizers are open to hearing offers from landowners around Stonewall or surrounding municipalities, Dallman said.

The club has negotiated a lease on the property and is prepared to move forward with the development if no

other land is available.

But before the project breaks ground, it needs to get past Rockwood's council.

South Interlake Planning District (SIPD) requires developers to apply for a conditional use permit (CUP) before undergoing projects that fall outside the realm of an area's zoning bylaws. The proposed land is currently zoned for agriculture.

According to SIPD's definition of conditional use, the proposed development must be compatible with the general nature of the surrounding nature, not be detrimental to the health or welfare of people living and working in the area, and not negatively affect other properties or developments.

A CUP allows property owners to use land in a way that is not typically permitted or included under the reigning zone. While negotiating a CUP, council can use its discretion in applying zoning bylaws and impose restrictions or conditions on the land use.

In the case of a motocross track, these conditions could dictate changes to the proposed layout and hours the venue can operate, Dallman said.

To apply for a CUP, club organizers need to submit an application form, letter of intent, site plan, status of title, and pay the SIPD fee.

"It costs us \$500 (to apply), so that would be our gamble, and then it's up to us to convince the council that it is a good place."

Once the club applies for a permit, its organizers will attend a hearing with Rockwood council and appeal for permission to develop the land.

The hearing is a public event where



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY DARLENE DALLMAN

Stonewall's Mark Thomson competed in the 204 Grassroots Motocross race at Madesa MX track in Virden on the weekend of July 9. He finished 19th in the 250 Junior class and 14th in Open Junior.

community members in favour and opposition of the motocross track will have an opportunity to state their case to council.

"The RM has received communication from five neighbouring residents who were not in favour of the track in its original suggested location," wrote Rockwood CAO Chris Luellman in an email statement.

"Council will not decide for either support or non-support of such until after a hearing is held."

Dallman is confident the club can make a compelling case.

The club envisions the track as a place for education and empowerment of Stonewall's motocross youth. Riders can come to learn about responsible riding and bike maintenance while building confidence.

The track will host one practice per week with two weekend events in an

average season — that accounts for only 25 days of use between May and September, Dallman said.

Natural features like trees help dampen noise from bikes' engines, and because of the length of the track, the sound will have plenty of space to disperse, she added.

The group also plans to employ stringent safety measures and will not allow riders on the track unattended or without consent from their parents or guardians.

Dallman anticipates the club will submit its CUP application within the next three weeks but stressed that organizers will consider all land options.

She asks landowners who have a viable piece of property to reach out to the club via email at stonewallmotox@gmail.com.

Manitoba inching ever closer to a post-pandemic world

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba reported 37 new cases of COVID-19 on Monday, on top of 106 over the weekend.

The majority of the day's new cases were in the Winnipeg health region (21) followed by eight each in both the Interlake-Eastern and Southern Health-Santé Sud health regions. The Northern and Prairie Mountain regions had no new cases at the start of the work week.

The data also shows Manitoba currently has 922 active cases of the virus, 55,117 recoveries and a total of 1,165 deaths.

The five-day test positivity rate was

at 3.6 per cent provincially and 3.1 per cent in Winnipeg.

People hospitalized with the virus total 117, including 27 in intensive care units.

The last Manitoban receiving ICU care out of province was returned to a Manitoba hospital on Friday. A total of 57 COVID-19 patients were transported to hospitals in Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta between May 18 to June 9 for care due to a lack of ICU beds here.

As the numbers continue to drop across Manitoba, the time is coming when daily case reports become a thing of the past, noted Dr. Jazz Atwal,

Manitoba's deputy chief public health officer, at a press conference in Winnipeg Monday.

"In a post-pandemic Manitoba, we will see public health guidelines, not orders. We won't be reporting daily case counts, and our health system won't be overrun by a single cause," he said.

"We have the power to make this happen through vaccination, but we will have to remember that the virus that causes COVID-19 will likely continue to be present in our communities even after the majority of Manitobans are fully vaccinated. We need to learn to live with COVID-19 like other

respiratory illnesses."

To that end, Atwal said, it will still be important for people to make risk assessments for certain activities, especially if they are at a higher risk of becoming seriously ill with the virus or interact regularly with people who are.

All Manitobans age 12 and over are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. Information about booking an appointment, finding a pop-up clinic or tracking down walk-in availability can be found at protectmb.ca or calling 1-844-626-8222.

Teulon streets get nostalgic makeover with new signs

By Sydney Lockhart

The Town of Teulon has brought back commemorative street name signs in memory of the town's original eight streets.

June Makowski, the local branch librarian, brought the idea to the town council, wanting to take on the project and lead it herself.

"I love the history of Teulon and I've researched it so many different ways," said Makowski, "I think it's really good for people to remember the past."

The new street signs do not replace or rename current streets but are added to existing street signs as a decorative homage to the old names. Makowski not only took on the project but also designed the signs herself.

"They're nice and colourful, and they're easy to read. And I think it'll just give people a bit of nostalgia," she said.

It started off as a Centennial project, but things happened and it switched over to being the town that finished it off.

"They were town founders and people that made things happen in Teulon, so it's very important to remember those names. I think you should remember people that are community-minded and want progress and want better things for the people in the town like that. That's something that I'm very passionate about," said Makowski.

Mill is one of the streets that is the furthest west in Teulon. It was named Mill because of the Grist Mill that used to reside on the road.

"Crescent, named after Crescent Lake that was located north of Teulon and made its way to the town to what is now known as Crescent Creek that runs through the park along the walking trails," she said.

The first mayor of Teulon was Archibald Wood. Wood Street was named after him.

"Railway, which is now known as Main Street, ran parallel to the railway all the way north-south



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Castle street is named after Cecil Clayton Castle, the founding father of Teulon.

through town," said Makowski.

The man known as the founding father of Teulon was named Cecil Clayton Castle, otherwise known as C.C.C. His wife's maiden name was Teulon. Castle Street is named after him.

"Carson-Francis Carson was the first permanent resident to live in Teulon. The rail line ended in Teulon when he arrived, and for several weeks, he lived all by himself in a boxcar," she said.

Ellison was named after Nels Ellison, who operated the mill on Mill Street and set up the first black-

smith shop in town.

Panser is the last street name. The origin of the street is unknown to this day. Makowski said if anyone has information about where the name came from, she would love to find out.

"I cannot find the origin of this street name. This the most eastern one in the nostalgic nod to the past," she said.

Rockwood council approves purchase of fire rescue apparatus

By Jennifer McFee

Flags flew at half-mast last week in recognition of former reeve Donald Bond and former councillor Merlyn Biloki, who both recently passed away.

The RM of Rockwood will authorize a grant up to \$13,000 for the purchase of a building to house the Gunton Post Office. The purchase must meet building requirements from the South Interlake Planning District as well as Canada Post. The funds will be taken from the community enhancement reserve.

Councillors Art Goudy, Curtis McClintock, Terry Hartle and Reeve Wes Taplin voted in favour of the resolution, while councillors Lyle Willis, Neal Wirgau and Tom Huffman voted against it.

Council directed the CAO to buy a walk-in/walk-around fire rescue apparatus from Helie Fire Trucks/Camions Helie in Joliette, Que., for \$292,361.13 plus tax. The Town of Teu-

lon and RM of Rockwood will share the cost of the \$81,861.12 deposit, which must be paid immediately.

Council appointed Reid & Miller Chartered Professional Accountants to be the municipal auditor for 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Council agreed to provide a one-time grant of up to \$3,500 to Teulon Seniors Resource for the continued operation of its Meals on Wheels program.

The RM of Rockwood is planning to establish a parks and facilities department in 2022. The CAO will hire a parks and facilities manager.

The federal government has passed a motion to adopt 988, a national three-digit suicide and crisis hotline. The pandemic has increased the demand for suicide prevention services by 200 per cent. Existing suicide prevention hotlines require the user to remember a 10-digit number and go through directories to be placed on hold. In 2022, the United

State will also put in place a national 988 crisis hotline.

The RM of Rockwood recognizes that it's a significant and important initiative to ensure critical barriers are removed to those who are in crisis and seeking help. As a result, the RM will endorse the 988 crisis line initiative. Staff will send a letter to the local MP, MPP, federal health minister, the CRTC and local area municipalities to indicate its support.

The reeve and CAO will execute an agreement between the RM and Bell Canada related to constructing and maintaining telecommunication lines, wires, cables and equipment. They will also execute an agreement between the RM and High Speed Crow related to a lease of space on an antenna supporting structure.

Council received a request from a ratepayer asking for Road 7E to be closed from Highway 229 (Road 102N) to Road 101N for about 75 to 100 days so that his cattle can have ac-

cess to water. Council agreed to the request from July 15 to no later than Oct. 9.

Council approved plans for the Vintage Locomotive Society to build a kitchen and washroom facility.

Council approved a lease for the South Interlake Planning District starting in 2022.

Council approved variance requests for proposed farmstead subdivision on Road 76N and Road 88N.

Council also approved two conditional use requests for temporary mobile homes on Road 11E made by separate applicants. Both requests would allow the applicants to care for aging parents.

Council passed third and final reading for the closure and sale of Parkdale Avenue, which is no longer needed for public purposes. It will be sold to the adjoining landowner.

Poor conditions force farmers to choose between livestock

By Nicole Brownlee

Drought and grasshopper infestations have led to several rural municipalities declaring a state of agricultural disaster.

With limited viable crops to hay, some farmers are considering selling their livestock as a last possible option if they cannot support their animals.

Jason Nickel is the third generation to care for his family's farm and owns around 300 cow-calf pairs, 150 yearlings and acres of crops.

"We're going to try to hold out as long as possible, hoping for some rain that will extend the grazing at least," said Nickel.

"If things don't change, I think everybody will be selling livestock."

He was forced to sell around 80 cows over the past few years because of challenging conditions, but this season is one of a kind, he said.

"What made this one worse was the frost that we had early on that just completely stopped everything growing for a very long time," said Nickel. "Nothing really improved after that."

Just like an average year, Nickel has been spending his time haying his crops, but the process has gone significantly faster.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Interlake farmers are struggling to find feed for their cattle this year.

"We're almost done haying them, which usually takes us all summer, but it's shortened up this year because we're trying to race against time before the grasshoppers eat it all," said Nickel.

Every day they're losing five per cent

yield at least, he added, so they're preparing to look elsewhere for more feed, but Nickel's concerned the government may not step in in time to regulate the price of hay.

"If they don't somehow try and put a cap on the price of hay, you're not

going to be able to afford to keep your cows anyways," he said.

Darcy Hueging has no plans in mind to sell his livestock, but he's started supplementing their pastures with grain to keep his cattle fed.

"I'm planning on keeping ours and gathering feed," said Hueging. "It's a challenge, but I'm trying to do everything I can to not have to sell cows basically."

Hueging has around 250 cows at his Grahamdale farm. He grew up working on his family's farm in Woodlands but started on his own six years ago.

"I haven't had a lot of years, but it's definitely the worst year that I've experienced," said Hueging.

Off of 80 acres of land, Hueging said he reaped five bales.

"I had what was looking like a decent wheat crop, and I was intending on harvesting for grain, and then just in like 10 days of the hot, dry weather, it went from a decent grain crop to just a poor salvage crop," said Hueging. "Everything's [grown] for feed right now instead of cash crops."

Farmers' morale and optimism have been significantly impacted by this season, said Hueging.

Flicks Cinema gearing up to re-open after being forced to close for months

By Sydney Lockhart

After a long 16 months of being shut down, The Flicks Cinema is preparing to open in three or four weeks for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Owner Don Smith said he has been working on upgrades to the local theatre while being closed so that when he opens, the community can enjoy the space even more.

"I've been working on building our soffit over top of the concession counter with lights in it," he said.

Smith is happy to be in a position where he can be open finally.

He added that he doesn't feel the need to rush to open his doors because he wants to understand the regulations and keep his customers safe fully.

"The problem was originally that it's all six feet apart. My lobby is very small. So how do you line people up or so on?" he said.

On top of the lobby renovations, Smith has painted the interior and installed a new popcorn fan.

"The big thing seems to be popcorn. People tell me that is what people miss," said Smith.

For over 40 years, Smith has owned

The Flicks Cinema, and this is the longest period he has had to close his doors.

"It's been pretty doggone quiet, and the bills keep coming and you still gotta keep paying," he said. "It has consumed a lot of my saved money paying the bills."

At age 77, Smith said he has seen many seniors miss going out to the movies and is looking forward to giving people a place to come and enjoy them again if they are fully vaccinated.

The movies have always been what Smith had a passion for. Since he was eight years old, he would hang around the booth at the old theatre in Stonewall. Then, after 14 years of teaching high school, he decided to start his own theatre where other movie lovers could come in town.

Smith said he is excited to open with the new provincial COVID-19 restrictions changing and can't wait for people to see the new changes.

The Flicks Cinema is located at 319 First St. E. in Stonewall and will announce its opening in advertisements in the *Stonewall Teulon Tribune* and the *Express Weekly News* or on their website flickscinema.com.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY SYDNEY LOCKHART

Don Smith, owner of The Flicks Cinema has been working to renovate the inside of his theatre while being closed due to COVID restrictions.

Local singer wins prestigious award

By Jennifer McFee

A local songstress is hitting a high note in her musical journey by earning a prestigious award for her singing skills.

Camryn Dewar of Stony Mountain is the recipient of the David G.H. Waters Hymn Sing Memorial Award, which comes with a \$1,000 scholarship. This Manitoba Choral Association award is administered through The Winnipeg Foundation.

"You deserve to be very proud of this accomplishment," said Jenny Steinke-Magnus, executive director of the Manitoba Choral Association, in a letter to Dewar.

"The Hymn Sing Award pays tribute to David Waters, producer and director of CBC Hymn Sing, who encouraged choristers in their musical development. It has been established by Deanna Waters and Hymn Sing alumni who want to pass on to others the opportunities and encouragement they received."

Dr. Stuart Sladden, current president of the Manitoba Choral Association, said when he looks through Dewar's award application, he's reminded of the huge role music has played in her life.

"Camryn is the second recipient of this new award, recognizing the support and contributions to the choral community by David Waters, pro-

ducer and director of Hymn Sing. The intent of the award is to invest and support young choral singers to help them achieve their music education goals," Sladden said.

"Having sung in school, community and university choirs since 2010, her strong drive and evident passion towards music, and her dedication towards realizing her goal through her education, MCA is pleased to recognize Camryn as this year's recipient of the David G. H. Waters Hymn Sing Memorial Award."

Lyricist Deanna Waters, late wife of producer-director David G.H. Waters, sent Dewar a special message to congratulate her.

"You have accomplished so much in a wide variety of ways, making you a stellar choice for this award," Waters wrote. "May this encourage you in your studies and future career. If Hymn Sing were still on the air, you would be singing with the group for sure! You have a bright future ahead."

For Dewar, the scholarship will be a welcome boost to help fund her studies. The 20-year-old is preparing to begin her fourth year at the University of Manitoba where she is studying vocal performance. After she graduates, she hopes to attend the Royal Academy of Music in London, England, to pursue a master's degree.

Rounding out her musical talents,

the multi-instrumentalist plays piano, guitar, saxophone and she's currently learning the bagpipes.

"It's such an honour to receive this award and to be commended for all the hard work that I've been doing ever since I started singing. I started lessons when I was four and now I'm 20, so it's 16 years in the making," Dewar said by phone from Minnesota, where she is currently wrapping up four weeks as an opera apprentice with the Northern Lights Music Festival.

"I've looked up to Hymn Sing forever. Our family friend Lisa Cosens, who is originally from Stonewall, was in Hymn Sing and I've been hearing about it my whole life. So for me to get an award on behalf of them is a huge honour. It's amazing."

As she reflects on her own role models, Dewar also offers some advice for others who hope to follow their dreams.

"Be yourself. For me, I'm a feminist and I'm Métis. I'm really passionate about Indigenous rights, relations and activism. I want to pursue opera so I can tell the stories of Indigenous women through opera. I find that those stories aren't really talked about often," she explained.

"We're getting more operas now involving Indigenous experiences and content, but I would really love to



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Camryn Dewar played the role of stepsister Tisbe in a production of *La Cenerentola* (Cinderella).

make my own opera one day and tell more stories specifically about Métis women in Manitoba. Everybody brings unique strengths and perspective, and you need to showcase them. Then the right place will find you and the right people will love you for it."

Caught reading the Trib



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Isabelle McDonald and the Manchester Titans' women's football team were caught reading the *Tribune* on the Belle Vue Speedway in Manchester, England. McDonald, a linebacker and former Interlake Thunder player, is in England playing football this season.

Ralph Eichler once again ag minister

Staff

Lakeside MLA Ralph Eichler is back again as Manitoba's agriculture minister after serving in the role from 2016 to 2019.

For the past two years, Eichler has served as the minister of economic development and jobs.

Premier Brian Pallister announced a cabinet shuffle on July 15, which returned Eichler to the role of ag minister. He replaces Midland MLA Blaine Pedersen in the role.

Waverley MLA Jon Reyes will take over as economic development minister.



Lakeside MLA Ralph Eichler

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Family members reunite with loved ones in care homes

By Sydney Lockhart

Family members are rejoicing as they can finally visit loved ones in care facilities after being double vaccinated.

"I just couldn't control myself when I saw Dad I just broke down," said Rhonda Manchulenko.

Her 93-year-old father, Noel Carriere, was moved from the Teulon Hospital to Rosewood Lodge in Stonewall during the pandemic but, unfortunately, due to provincial COVID restrictions, he was unable to see his family during this time. Manchulenko is now able to hold her dad's hand and spend time with him indoors after months of not being allowed.

Recent public health orders have loosened some care home restrictions to allow residents to visit as long as their guests are double vaccinated.

"It was awful. I found myself getting very angry because that's the situation. Because my dad is 93, you just don't know, so it was not a good experience in that part, but I mean they have to follow the guidelines," she said.

Manchulenko said that not being able to spend time with him or be near him not only put a strain on her father but on her whole family, who were not able to see him. She said now that family members can visit, and her dad isn't as isolated, he seems to be enjoying Rosewood Lodge much more.

She added that the only unfortunate thing that remains is short visiting hours when staff at the doors check vaccination statuses.

Her father has seen about 10 people indoors and outdoors since moving to Rosewood Lodge along with visiting other residents.

"It's just wonderful. Yeah, I wouldn't want to have to go through this again, and I pray that we don't have to go backwards," said Manchulenko.

Joan Porteous's mother also resides in Rosewood Lodge. She says she has seen an increase in her mother's mood since she has been allowed to have family visitors again.

"I think certainly she is brighter. You know, because we family talk about things that the staff are not aware of like, how our neighbours are doing and good people she knew," she said.

She says the presence of her children and grandchildren around her has really made a difference in her mom's life because she has never enjoyed talking on the phone and didn't feel the same connection with people when that was the only way she could talk to them due to past restrictions.

"She has a couple of friends that would come, and she missed playing cards with them. Of course, you can't play cards when you're standing six feet apart," said Porteous, "So, those types of close activities like hugs you couldn't give a lot of. You weren't supposed to give any hugs."

She said the recent stimulation from visitors for residents like her mother has helped significantly. She believes family visitation for older people is a crucial part of their life.

Porteous said they won't miss the window visits or attempted phone calls and are glad to have their family together again. She added that the one thing her mother did enjoy was getting letters in the mail from family because it gave her something to read and save in a



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Rhonda Manchulenko was very happy to be reunited with her father Noel Carriere for in-person visits following the COVID restrictions.

drawer if she wanted to read the person's words over again.

She added that she was glad during the tight restrictions that her mother was at Rosewood because of the great staff and precautions that they took.

Celebrating 50 years of helping Manitobans

Brock Vantor
Denturist

Time flies when your having fun, in our case, since 1971!

My dad (George) started our family business well before I was around, of course, but I remember coming into the clinic on days off school and watching dad put teeth into the dentures in the lab. Fascinated, I would slowly learn what tool he would need next and have it ready for him before he was ready. Later, my brothers and I would get summer jobs at the clinic. On my first day he told me to never stand with my hands in my pocket at work, then he taught me how there is a creative solution to any problem, and finally, that good is never good enough.

It has now been over 11 years since I took over and Dad is gone. Now, as we celebrate the 50th year of business and reflect on why we are still here, I can't help but remember that it has always been about treating patients like *family*, finding *creative* solutions to fix problems, doing a *great job*, and not standing at work with our hands in our pockets!

Dad really pioneered the way for Denturists to practice in Manitoba since he was one of the first. He



George Vantor poses at the front desk of Vantor Denture Centre in 1982

taught us the core principles of what we do, and we are so thankful for everything he passed along about being a Denture Genius.

At the core of what we do is finding creative ways to fix problems. Sometimes it's just a sore spot. Other times it's looseness and the inability to eat. Maybe it's discomfort and the loss of self-confidence due to an unsightly smile. Alternatively, a patient has had a denture for years and years that they love and have no issues. They know it's time for a new one, but don't want any new problems! Whatever the situation, our goal is to identify what it is you want, and then find a way to make it just right for you!



Brock Vantor poses in the patient room at Vantor Denture Centre in 2018 with his award winning dentures.

Lastly, we want to thank all of you for entrusting us with your teeth for 50 years and counting! Continuing to give smiles, confidence, and the ability to eat again gives us just as great of joy. We look forward to helping you with all teeth replacement options for years to come!

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AWARD - WINNING DENTURES AND IMPLANTS

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Acts of kindness in memory of Danica deLaroque



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Last Friday, the Williams children were passing out freezies near the sidewalk at Memorial Park in Stonewall as one of many Acts of Kindness in honour of Danica deLaroque's Angelversary. Pictured left to right, Nora (4), Arla (5) and Sawyer Williams handed out freezies to Parker Hennie and Jaxon Taplin.

By Sydney Lockhart

Community members pulled together to do random acts of kindness last week in memory of Danica deLaroque's fifth "Angelversary."

In 2016, five-year-old Danica deLaroque was in a tragic canoeing accident with her father and brother.

"Danica passed away five years ago, July 13 and obviously I struggled as the day was coming up," said Danica's mom Toni deLaroque, "She was on the earth for five years and she has not been earthside for five years."

Toni created a Facebook page to honour Danica, which she renamed Danica and Abby's Village after a second child, Abby Margetts, was taken from her family.

The Facebook page was created to honour and celebrate the girls who were taken too young. In the past week, it has been flooded with messages of support and acts of kindness in Danica's honour.

"Danica was the sweetest, kindest, most giving little girl. I just wanted her spirit to remain alive with acts of kindness in her name," said deLaroque.

After she posted about the Angelversary, which is what they call the day of Danica's passing, there were over 150 acts of kindness shared on Facebook. It was a beautiful thing to see.

Members of the community took it upon themselves to donate to charities, buy a stranger's coffee and much more. Some children went to the splash pad in Stonewall to hand out popsicles on a hot day to all the kids there.

"I have been very emotional about it. It actually has been able to fill up my cup and make me feel all the love that strangers had for this little girl who touched their lives," she said.

Danica and Abby's Village also raises funds for Rainbow Buddy Benches for children to make friends at and create an inclusive space in many school yards and public places. A bench was recently placed in the Assiniboine Park Zoo.

"Danica and Abby's Village page is a place where we're keeping updates of how our fundraising projects are coming along and that type of stuff," said deLaroque.

"We are also in the process of fundraising to build a stage that doubles as outdoor classroom space at the Brant-Argyle school."

DeLaroque said Danica loved to dance and was learning Bhangra with one of her friends in preparation to dance with her at Folklorama East Indian Pavillion.

"An Angelversary is probably the toughest day out of the year. It's the

day that our child left the earth. It's a reminder to everybody that you know, that is when we need to rely on our community the most, on our village the most to hold us up in our time of need," said deLaroque.

She added that after the Angelversary, she was feeling overwhelmed by the generous things that people had gone out of their way to do in honour of her daughter. Danica's younger brother Connor loves to hear about the acts of kindness and asks deLaroque how many she has seen and what people have been doing.

"I had an emotional hangover and it just continued. But more and more acts of kindness still kept coming through and even when I was feeling so drained, it just kept filling me up with everybody coming together and doing nice things," she said.

The deLaroques plan to do another act of kindness day on Danica's birthday on Sept. 6.

Danica and Abby's Village has a Sunova account set up under the email danicaandabbysvillage@gmail.com for donations.



Thank You, Manitoba Teachers

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, teachers demonstrated their dedication to educating and inspiring the next generation of outstanding Manitobans.

To say thank you to teachers, Manitoba Pork launched "Manitoba's Best Teacher", a contest to acknowledge and celebrate teachers across the province who have gone above and beyond for their students during these trying times.

Each of our winning teachers received a \$500 VISA gift card and a delicious pork-based lunch for the entire school staff. Congratulations to M. Hirsch from Springfield Middle School, J. MacLennan from Royal School (Winnipeg), L. Creighton from Rivers Elementary School, and C. Ziegler from Elwick Community School (Winnipeg).

Given the volume of nominations, four additional teachers received secondary prizes of \$500 each to put towards improving their schools.

Manitoba Pork is grateful for all the province's dedicated teachers and for the 403 heartfelt nominations we received from students, parents, and educators.

To learn more, visit manitobapork.com/teacher

SPONSORED CONTENT

Tour a virtual Gimli during this year's film festival

By Tyler Searle

Filmgoers have the opportunity to tour a virtual replica of Gimli during this year's Gimli Film Festival (GFF).

Festival director Alan Zeghers created the digital rendition of the town using a video chat platform called Gather.

"I thought it was an interesting way of having the possibility of spontaneous social interactions and a higher level of interactivity than just a Zoom call or watching a live stream," Zeghers said.

"Of course, that's what we're all really missing over the last year."

Gather launched last spring and allows users to create what it calls a Metaverse, a virtual layer over the physical world where people can work, socialize and learn.

The service features fully customizable virtual spaces rendered in eight-bit animation — the effect is reminiscent of a retro video game.

Users design offices, campuses or towns and use them as venues for meet-ups and events. When people join the space, they create an avatar in their likeness and are free to wander.

When avatars approach each other, they automatically connect in an impromptu conversation via video chat.

In the case of the GFF, people can enter the Gather portal from their home computers and explore the digital Gimli. Once inside, filmgoers can interact with multiple projectors scattered around the map and watch films.

The projectors feature eight short films and one feature-length docu-

mentary.

The festival commissioned the films last year in celebration of the festival's 20th anniversary and Manitoba 150. They explore life and culture in Manitoba and focus on themes distinct to the middle province.

Visitors to the virtual town will also recognize familiar landmarks like the Viking statue, Johnson Centre and Gimli beach, where the festival typically screens its outdoor movies.

The Gimli Theatre, Ship & Plough Tavern, Flatland Coffee Roaster and Robin's Donuts are all online and accessible.

GFF used Gather to host the festival's VIP virtual opening reception on July 12.

Festival staff invited all super-pass holders to attend the event, where they could screen films, participate in Q & A sessions with filmmakers and watch a live concert broadcast from the Ship & Plough.

A small number of people attended the show in person at the tavern's brick-and-mortar location, while others joined from the virtual venue.

Matlock musician Micah Erenberg performed his blend of alternative folk music to an adulating crowd of real-life fans and digital avatars.

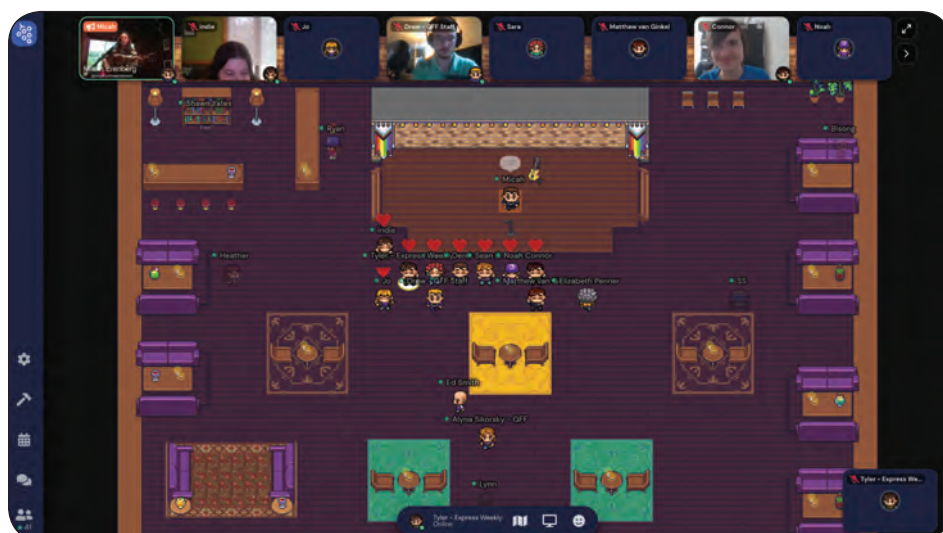
Access to the virtual town was initially reserved for super-pass holders, but festival staff have now opened it up to all festival-goers.

To explore, visit <https://gather.town/app/y96131qsBMKjcU1s/GFF%20Waterfront%20Balcony> or find the link on the festival website by looking un-



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY TYLER SEARLE

GFF director Aaron Zeghers welcomed festival-goers to the virtual town of Gimli during the VIP virtual opening reception on July 12.



Using Gather, visitors can create avatars and explore familiar locales like the Ship & Plough, where musician Micah Erenberg performed live during the reception.

der the 2021 Festival tab and selecting "special events."

COVID variants shown to pose a challenge to Moderna's vaccine

By Patricia Barrett

The ability of COVID-19 variants to partially escape natural and vaccine-induced immunity is a growing concern around the world, and Moderna is looking at ways to modify and strengthen its vaccine.

The virus's variants are known to be several times more contagious than the original COVID strain and have more severe health outcomes, including death. They, like the original strain, can be transmitted by people who have no symptoms.

A study carried out by Moderna researchers shows certain variants of concern (VOCs), which are well-established around the world, and variants of interest (VOIs), which have emerged in worrying clusters, are able to get around immune defences induced by the company's mRNA

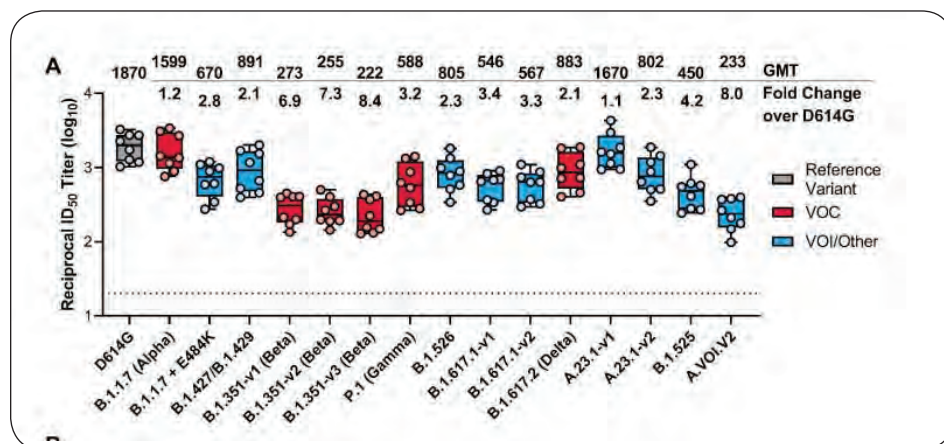


PHOTO BY PREPRINT DATA

Data from a Moderna-led study show COVID variants' resistance to the company's vaccine. The resistance is expressed as an X-fold reduction compared to the vaccine's effectiveness (95 per cent) against the original COVID strain, which is called D614G. For example, the delta variant (B16172) shows a 2.1-fold reduction compared to D614G. The beta variant (B1351 v.3) shows an 8.4-fold reduction.

vaccine. That said, the variants studied were still found to be "susceptible" to the vaccine, meaning the vaccine provides protection against serious illness.

The study titled "Serum Neutralizing Activity of mRNA-1273 against SARS-CoV-2 Variants" was published June 28 as an online preprint and has yet to be peer-reviewed for scientific accuracy.

Researchers used the vaccine's known effectiveness against the original strain (also referred to as D614G or the "ancestral" strain or the "wild type" strain) as a comparator when assessing its strength against several VOCs and VOIs. The vaccine is about 95 per cent effective against D614G but was found to be less potent (expressed as

Continued on page 17

Don't pick the lady's-slippers! Enjoy them in their natural habitat

By Jennifer McFee

Brightly coloured wildflowers bloom across our prairie province, including several stunning varieties of lady's-slippers.

But before you bend down to pluck their pretty petals, make sure you're aware of the possible impacts of your actions.

Manitoba is home to 37 species of orchids, including six types of lady's-slippers: yellow, small white, showy, sparrow's-egg, pink and ram's-head. In our area, we might be lucky enough to spot yellow, showy and small white lady's slippers.

These "rewardless flowers" trick insects into pollinating them.

"Insects are attracted to the colourful slippers and think they'll get nectar, but lady's-slippers don't produce nectar," said Chris Friesen, co-ordinator of Manitoba Conservation Data Centre.

"Once they've entered the slipper, the design of the slipper makes it difficult for the insect to leave unless it passes by the reproductive parts of the flower where any lady's-slipper pollen on the insect's body comes into contact with the plant's reproductive structures, and then the plant can deposit its own pollen on the insect for its visit to the next lady's-slipper."

As a result, the insect leaves without getting the "reward" it was looking for — nectar.

From seed germination, it usually takes more than a decade before the first flowering.

"If you see a flowering lady's-slipper, the plant has already been there a long time," Friesen said.

"Lady's-slippers, like most orchids, rely on soil fungi for help with seed germination and access to soil nutrients. Without these fungi, orchid seeds won't germinate and older plants would have trouble getting the nutrients they need."

Yellow lady's slippers are very common in our area and throughout southern Manitoba. This bright beauty blooms throughout most of June and is able to grow in a variety of habitats. It's most abundant in sunny open areas, but it can also grow in forests. This species, which comes in large and small varieties, is not endangered in Manitoba and is not legally protected.

Showy lady's-slippers are less common than yellows but are still scattered throughout the area. They tend to grow in areas where groundwater is near the surface, and they won't tolerate dry areas. However, they will grow in both sunny and shady spots. The largest of Manitoba's lady's-slip-

per species, this variety blooms right about now, from late June to mid-July. Like the yellow lady's-slipper, showy lady's-slippers are not endangered in Manitoba and are not legally protected.

However small white lady's-slippers are listed as endangered under Manitoba's Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act and as threatened under Canada's Species at Risk Act.

These designations prohibit activities that would damage or destroy the plants or their habitat, including digging them up and putting them in your flowerbed, Friesen noted.

"During surveys of a small white lady's-slipper population near Woodlands in early June, we noticed a number of holes where they had been dug up," he said.

"Not only is this illegal, these plants are very unlikely to survive where they are planted because they are very particular about where they grow. So don't move them; just enjoy them where they have chosen to grow."

The small white lady's-slipper grows in only three parts of Manitoba: southwest Interlake, near Brandon and around the Tall Grass Prairie Preserve in the southeastern part of the province.

Locally, there are several small populations near St. Laurent, Woodlands and Argyle, as well as one larger population near St. Laurent.

They bloom in late May to mid June, and they're very particular about where they'll grow. They need full sun and specific groundwater conditions. They don't do well in grazed areas but can handle occasional haying, especially in late summer. In fact, haying can be beneficial because it removes taller vegetation and reduces buildup of dead plant material.

In addition, small white lady's-slippers can create hybrids with yellows that are an intermediate off-white, buttery yellow colour.

For Friesen, he hopes people will understand the importance of leaving alone the lady's-slippers in our area.

"I hope residents take pride in having such a species in the area," he said, "and take efforts to conserve the few plants we have."

If anyone would like to incorporate native plants into their landscaping plans, Friesen recommends supporting local businesses such as Prairie Flora in Teulon or Prairie Originals in Selkirk, which specialize in providing wildflower seeds and plants that are native to this area.

"I don't recommend that people move wildflowers from where they're naturally growing. But if they are go-



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY KEITH WALDNE

Lady's-slippers rely on soil fungi for help with seed germination.



Pink lady's-slippers can be found in parts of the Interlake.

ing to do that, people should first do some research to ensure it's not a protected species and that the plant will like it where they plan to put it. They should also have permission from the landowner," he said.

"Another caution for people helping themselves to wildflowers: weed species are often mixed in with wildflowers, especially in ditches, so you'll probably end up with more than you bargained for and introduce weeds into your flowerbeds — better to get just the wildflowers themselves from Prairie Flora or Prairie Originals."

To learn more about orchids and lady's-slippers, Friesen recommends the *Orchids of Manitoba* book, which features great photos of all Manitoba's orchid species. Another useful resource is <http://www.nativeorchid.org/wordpress/manitoba-orchids/>.

Friesen invites people to contact him with any questions at chris.friesen@gov.mb.ca. He is also interested to hear from people if they find any small white lady's-slippers.

BASF Safety Scouts Program keeping farm families alive

By Becca Myskiw

BASF Canada Agricultural Solutions, in partnership with the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA), recently launched its Safety Scouts Program in the hopes of educating young farmers on how to be safe.

Last year, CASA partnered with BASF Canada Agricultural Solutions



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED
BASF and CASA have launched their Safety Scouts Program to keep farm families safe.

to launch a resource page for farm families. It has information on how to decide when a youth is ready for certain farm tasks, safe play areas on the farm, information on parent-kid safety contracts and more.

Robin Anderson from CASA said it's a one-stop shop for farm safety. And now, they've progressed the program to include the Safety Scouts Program, which is safety kits for farm youth.

Each kit includes a safety vest, name badge, colouring sheets and a membership certificate. They're completely free, and each family can order up to three at a time at <https://www.casa-acsa.ca/en/resources/for-kids/>. Anderson said they're well-rounded and give families an opportunity to start a conversation with their children.

"This is a great way for farm families to talk about farm safety," she said. "The reality of it is Canadians still die in agriculture-related incidents. We still lose children adults and seniors in farming. It's devastating."

Anderson said almost each incident that leaves someone dead or injured is preventable. CASA and BASF Canada Agricultural Solutions is hoping the Safety Scouts Program will help lower the number of incidents and keep more people safe.

"We want farms to thrive and succeed," she said. "And we want farms to last for generations. They can't do that if they're not safe."

So far, over 700 kits have been ordered from across Canada. Anderson

said she hopes more people will hop on the site and order the kits for their families, starting the safety conversation in their own homes.

She said safety vests aren't the "end all, be all," though, and the conversation that should come with it is im-

portant. Safety on the farm, she said, prolongs agriculture in Canada and keeps farming alive for generations.

"We know that people are interested in safety and keeping kids safe," she said. "It's just more tools in the tool kit to keep families successful and safe."

The Woody under new management

Submitted

In November 2019, Mithun Abraham and his wife Sherin Jose purchased the North Warren Inn, known locally as "The Woody," located on Highway 6 at Road 78W in the beautiful community of Warren.

For those that aren't familiar with The Woody, it features a 230-person capacity bar, 10 VLT machines, a five-room motel, vendor, patio and restaurant.

The new owners have a business plan that involves many exciting changes, including several that have already been implemented, such as hiring a professional chef, developing a creative new menu and organizing scheduled daily events and entertainment. They also sponsor the Warren hockey team and bring in local bands to play in the bar.

Little did they know that only a few months after taking over The Woody, a devastating global pandemic would force drastic changes to both their plan and the operation

of the business.

Mithun and his wife Sherin are especially grateful for all of the support they have received from the community during these trying times, which has allowed them to put the pandemic's impact into perspective.

"One cannot take success for granted, especially in challenging times," says Mithun. "But I'm confident that this business will not only survive the pandemic but thrive thereafter, given the community support we've received."

Mithun wants residents of the Interlake and the surrounding area to know that The Woody remains open.

"I welcome everyone to come and see for themselves the changes we've already made to this 30-year-old business," he said.

For more information, Mithun warmly invites everyone to check out The Woody on Facebook and Instagram.

See you there!

> MODERNA, FROM PG. 14

an X-fold reduction) against variants in terms of decreased neutralizing antibodies produced by the body.

Using sera (the liquid component of blood) from the same participants the company had enrolled in its Phase 1 clinical trial, Moderna's researchers measured neutralizing antibodies against the variants a week after the second dose of the two-shot vaccine was administered.

Variants of Concern were found to have a range of resistance to the vaccine. Alpha (B117) showed a 1.2-fold reduction compared to the original strain while delta (B16172) showed a 2.1-fold reduction. The three beta variants (1351 v.1, v.2 and v.3) were even more resistant, showing 6.9-, 7.3- and 8.4-fold reductions respectively. Gamma (P1) showed a 3.2-fold reduction.

Variants of Interest also demonstrated a range of resistance to the vaccine. The kappa variant (B16171) showed

a 3.3-3.4-fold reduction compared to the original strain, eta (B1525) showed a 4.2-fold reduction, and iota (B1526) showed a 2.3-fold reduction. The A.VOI.V2 variant (which has multiple spike mutations) showed an 8.0-fold reduction.

The Manitoba government is tracking and reporting — through its online variant dashboard — cases of the alpha (B117), beta (B1351), gamma (P1) and delta (B16172) variants that are circulating in the province. It also reports case numbers under a variant category called "unspecified."

Moderna's study underscores how important it is for researchers to fine-tune COVID vaccines in order to target existing variants and attempt to prevent new ones from emerging.

"These data emphasize the need to continually assess the ability of mRNA-1273 [the Moderna vaccine] to confer protection against prevalent and emergent VOIs/VOCs," wrote the

researchers. "Such data are crucial to inform necessary modifications to COVID-19 mRNA vaccines going forward, which may help to mitigate the ongoing spread of SARS-CoV-2 and the emergence of new variants."

In a company news release dated June 29, Moderna confirmed that it's pursuing a "clinical development strategy" against COVID as the virus continues to evolve. That strategy includes the development of a multivalent booster.

A multivalent vaccine would have the ability to protect against more than one COVID strain.

Worldwide, over 187 million people have been infected with COVID or its variants and more than 4 million have died (World Health Organization data, July 14). Lately, in the U.K. and Africa, cases and deaths are surging. Spain is imposing curfews in some regions to try to stem a rise in infections.

Because of the virus's ability to kill people and disable economies, several countries, including Canada and Spain, have approved administering

different vaccine types (for first and subsequent doses) despite limited scientific data on the safety and efficacy of doing so. That rush to mix vaccines resulted in a warning last week from the World Health Organization's chief scientist Soumya Swaminathan, who called it a "dangerous trend" and a "data-free zone." She later walked back her comments, saying public health authorities should decide on a course of action.

A few preliminary studies on administering a combination of AstraZeneca (viral vector vaccine) and Pfizer-BioNTech (mRNA vaccine) have found no safety concerns. There are no studies as yet on administering a combination of different types of mRNA vaccines such as Pfizer and Moderna, which have the same medicinal ingredient (i.e., mRNA) but different non-medicinal ingredients. Studies on other vaccine brand combinations have yet to be undertaken and/or published.

Realistic virtual workouts create a community of its own

By Nicole Brownlee

Christina Hooper laces up her sneakers, lays out her foam mat and turns on her camera to film a workout routine to share online.

During her series of burpees, lunges and jumping jacks, a house cat settles at the edge of the mat to watch Hooper exert herself.

The cat is calmly nestled as Hooper explains the proper technique, encouraging her viewers to push themselves for another rep while her children call a quick question down the basement stairs into Hooper's home gym.

These unscripted moments of Hooper's workouts have put many of her clients at ease seeing that while she is a proficient instructor, she is also a full-time mom.

"So many of my moms are like, your videos are professional, good quality, great music, but they're like, we love that you're yourself," said Hooper.

Whether it's one of her children running into the frame, a paw or one of the family's 11 goats, Hooper keeps going.

Joanne Magura has taken Hooper's classes in-person and online for four years and said she keeps coming back not only for the exercise but for the community.

"It's a good support system," said Magura. "The clientele that she has is friendly and accepting, no judgment."

Hooper, 42, has been working in

the fitness world for around 20 years, jumping between volunteering in a gym, personal training and teaching workout classes.

Hooper and her family moved to Warren in 2013 with four children in tow and one more on the way. At the time, Hooper had taken a break from teaching and training to raise her children alongside her husband, but in 2015 she felt the itch to get back into the profession.

"It was my husband that said, hey, why don't you revisit the fitness thing that you've been so passionate about because it's been a while," said Hooper. "I had been certified for so many years it just made sense to kind of come back into it."

During the day, Hooper would assume the role of a full-time mom, ushering her kids to and from school and watching the younger ones while her husband was at work. Once he returned,

Hooper would dash off to teach group classes at the Warren Town Hall. Backcountry Fitness and Conditioning was launched.

"It was kind of like evenings and weekends, maybe a couple mornings here or there," said Hooper. "It was kind of like my introduction into the community, where I was able to meet other people."

Clients from Winnipeg, Argyle, Stonewall and surrounding towns came to Hooper's classes at the town hall and eventually Warren Elementary School, where she moved before



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUPPLIED BY CHRISTINA HOOPER

Christina Hooper is back to teaching in-person classes at the Rubber Ducky Campground and Warren baseball field, but filming virtual workouts has become a staple of her business during the COVID-19 pandemic.

the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

"Anybody in the fitness industry has been kind of pushed to the side when it comes to this pandemic," said Hooper. "Like many small businesses, it's like, what else are we supposed to do ... because you can't run classes?"

Hooper said her saving grace during the past year when inconsistent rules restricted her in-person classes was her previous experience filming short workouts online.

"It would be kind of an online, virtual community," said Hooper.

Little did she realize four years ago that posting online workouts would become a staple of her business.

Hooper now has clients watching from across the country in B.C. and Ontario, a few from south of the border in North Dakota and a pair in

Australia.

"It made sense to do online because, well, hey, if you can't show up to a class ... all you do is you press play, and you know there's your workout," said Hooper. "I've been able to bring fitness to people ... as much as I wanted to obviously teach classes anywhere and everywhere."

Hooper is now teaching in-person boot camp classes at the Rubber Ducky Campground and the Warren baseball field four days a week.

To learn more about Hooper and Backcountry Fitness and Conditioning, visit backcountryfitnessandconditioning.com or the Backcountry Fitness and Conditioning Facebook page.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Baseball Manitoba 2021 Return to Play update

From Baseball Manitoba

Due to the most recent announcement regarding Public Health Orders, Baseball Manitoba has created and released Version 6 of its Return to Play Document.

The following guidelines came into effect at 12:01 a.m. on July 17.

Mask Use:

Coaches are encouraged to wear a mask outdoors when not engaged in physical activity or cannot properly

physical distance (two metres).

Umpires are encouraged to wear a mask outdoors when not engaged in physical activity or cannot properly physical distance (two metres).

Participant Limit:

Groups of 50 athletes plus registered team staff and officials, including coaches, managers, health and safety co-ordinators, and umpires are allowed.

Spectator Limit:

150 spectators are allowed at each session/competition and must always physical distance (unless from the same household). This number is based on the current maximum public gathering size. Spectators are not included in the participant group numbers.

Contact Tracing:

Contact tracing will continue to be required for indoor sessions.

Contact tracing is encouraged, but is no longer required for outdoor sessions and competitions.

"Baseball Manitoba will continue to monitor the public health orders," read a statement on Baseball Manitoba's website. "We will be prepared to revise any and all aspects of our Return to Play Plan in the event of any updates to the public health orders. We are extremely excited baseball is in full swing in Manitoba."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

U18 Orioles swept by Pembina Hills

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Orioles U18 "AAA" baseball team is going to have to wait a little longer to get their first win of the season.

Interlake lost three games last week, dropping their record to 0-7.

Interlake was swept in a doubleheader by Pembina Hills last Sunday, losing by scores of 15-3 and 6-0.

The Orioles lost their fifth straight game to start the season after dropping a 12-4 decision to the Elmwood Giants on July 14 at Koskie Field.

Interlake hosted the Bonivital Black Sox this past Tuesday but no score was available at press time. The same two teams will play again this Thursday (7 p.m.) at Whittier Park.

In 15U "AAA" action, the Orioles lost 9-0 to the St. James A's last Wednesday.

Interlake hosted St. James this past Monday but no score was available.

The Orioles' next game is Monday when they battle the Red River Valley Pioneers in Grosse Isle. First pitch is 6:30 p.m.

The U13U Orioles, meanwhile, dropped a pair of games last week. Interlake was defeated 13-3 by St. James on July 12 and then was downed 9-8 by Red River the following evening.

The Orioles played the Bonivital Black Sox on Tuesday and then will visit the North Winnipeg Pirates next Tuesday (6:30 p.m.) at the Sunova centre in West St. Paul.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Interlake Orioles' Hayden Faragher makes the tag on a Pembina Hills' player at second base during U18 'AAA' action last Sunday in Stonewall. Pembina Hills swept the doubleheader, winning by scores of 15-3 and 6-0.

Sholdice second at Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur

Staff

The Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur Championship needed the final hole to decide a winner at the Neepawa Golf and Country Club last Sunday.

Breezy Bend's Braxton Kuntz drained a birdie putt on the 18th hole to defeat fellow club member Ryan Sholdice by a single stroke.

Kuntz fired a final round 68 while Sholdice carded a 70 on Sunday, which included five birdies and three bogeys.

Sholdice just missed an eight-foot eagle putt on the 16th hole and had to settle for a birdie. The pair was tied going into the final two holes.

Sholdice gave Kuntz full credit for the hard-fought victory.

"Braxton played well all day, he had one bad shot," Sholdice told the Winnipeg Free Press.

"If I could have one shot back, it would be the eagle putt on 16 or my drive on the first hole where I put it in the trees on the right."

Sholdice earlier fired rounds of 70, 67, and 66 to sit at 13-under — and one stroke better than Kuntz — heading into the final round.

His impressive 66 included six birdies, shooting a 33 on both the front and back nines.

"I hadn't made any putts the first two rounds but today putts were dropping," Sholdice said on Golf Manito-



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY GOLF MANITOBA

The Breezy Bend Country Club's Ryan Sholdice finished second at the Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur Championship, one stroke back of Braxton Kuntz. Kuntz birdied the final hole on Sunday to claim the narrow victory.

ba's website after his third round.

Rounding out the top five were St. Boniface Golf Club's Jacob Armstrong (67-72-72-68-279), Shilo Country Club's Drew Jones (65-72-75-73-285) and Elmhurst Golf & Country Club's

Jordy Lutz (72-73-69-75-289).

Golf Manitoba's next event is the Senior Men's and Women's Championship at the Steinbach Fly In Golf Club on Aug. 4-6.

Going pro



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Leif Mattson, a Stonewall product, has signed a pro contract to play hockey for the Trachi Kadan in the Czech Republic. Mattson, a former Interlake Lightning, played in the Western Hockey League with the Kelowna Rockets and Spokane Chiefs.

Junior Blue Jays snap five-game losing streak

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Blue Jays snapped a five-game losing streak with an impressive 8-3 win in Game 2 of a Manitoba Junior Baseball League doubleheader against the Pembina Valley Orioles last Sunday.

"We were on a little bit of a schneid there for about a week but we're still just trying to figure things out," said Blue Jays' head coach Adam Kirk. "Figure out where guys fit in and I think after yesterday we finalized that. Hopefully, going forward here we can get things done more efficiently."

Interlake led 3-2 after the first inning before Pembina Valley tied the score at 3-3 with a run in the fourth.

The Blue Jays came right back, though, to score four in the fifth and then added another in the sixth.

Andrew Everitt led the Blue Jays with three hits and three runs scored while Kalli Einarson had a pair of hits and scored twice.

"The middle of the lineup has kind of struggled a little bit for us this year and we didn't have some guys there yesterday so those guys got to step into those spots and it was nice to get production from the middle of the lineup," Kirk said.

The Blue Jays' Jeremy Wasilewski scored once and also finished the game with two hits.

Interlake's other runs were plated by Noah Ducharme and Liam Proven.

Ducharme earned the complete-game win, scattering 12 hits while adding three strikeouts.

"(He was) efficient," Kirk said. "He gave up a hit



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

In Game 2 of the Blue Jay 8-3 win over the Orioles, Andrew Everitt led Interlake with three hits and three runs last Sunday.

but it was a ground ball through the hole. They may have gotten a lot of hits but they didn't hit them super hard. There were one or two hard hit balls but he kept throwing strikes and the defence turned a couple of double plays. It was a well-pitched game, in my mind, even though he gave up a bunch of hits."

In Game 1 of the doubleheader, Pembina Valley downed Interlake 5-1. The Orioles scored twice in

the first inning and then added three more in the fifth.

Ducharme scored Interlake's lone run in the top of the fifth. The Blue Jays had just three hits in the game.

Last Friday, Interlake was defeated 8-5 by the St. James A's in Winnipeg. The Blue Jays led 5-2 going into the bottom of the fifth but the A's scored twice and then added three more in the sixth.

Ducharme and Devon Cassan each had a pair of hits. Blue Jays' runs were scored by Ducharme, Ben Anderson, Liam Allen, Chris Fines, and Cassan.

The Blue Jays (2-5) will host Winnipeg South (2-3) on Wednesday (7:30 p.m.) and then will visit the Carillon Sultans on Friday (7 p.m.).

As a reminder, up to 150 fans are now allowed to attend all baseball games in the province. Kirk wanted to encourage spectators to come out and watch baseball in Stonewall.

In Winnipeg Senior Baseball League action, the Stonewall Blue Jays lost 9-4 to the Elmwood Giants last Thursday at Koskie Field.

Elmwood scored two runs in the second inning, added three more in the third, and then put up another four in the fourth.

The Blue Jays scored a run in the fourth and then three in the top of the sixth.

Stonewall visited the St. James A's this past Tuesday but no score was available. The Blue Jays will then host the Carillon Sultans this Thursday (7:30 p.m.) at Quarry Park.

You're out!



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

South Interlake Phillies' catcher Madison McRae makes the tag on a Lightning player during U16 action last Saturday in Stonewall.

MJHL hosts U18/U16 Prospects Camp

Staff

The MJHL #ProtectMB U18/U16 Prospect Development Camp wrapped up at the Seven Oaks Sportsplex in Winnipeg.

U16 groups, made up of elite Manitoba players born in 2006 who are eligible for the 2022 MJHL Draft, checked-in last Wednesday with daily on and off-ice activities taking place until Saturday.

U18 groups, made up of elite MJHL Prospects from Manitoba born in 2004 and/or 2005, checked-in on Thursday with daily on and off-ice activities taking place until Sunday.

The main goal of the camp was to help prepare players on and off the ice for the upcoming season, what it takes to be successful in the MJHL and what it takes to get to the next level (NCAA, WHL, USports, NHL).

Camp activities emphasized the elements these players need to focus on to transition successfully from

elite minor hockey to elite Junior "A" hockey. The camp also provided players with an important opportunity to return to organized hockey activities in a professional, safe, and fun environment.

Players received both on and off-ice skill development led by experienced professionals and high-level hockey players. The on-ice program consisted of practice and skill development group sessions, and the off-ice portion covered elements related to athleticism and mental skills, as well as the technical and tactical skills required to play in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League.

Interlake Lightning players invited to the U18 camp included goaltender Dawson Cowan, defenceman Austin Lourenco and forward Hayden Wheddon.

Invited to the U16 camp were Interlake goaltender Alex Myers and forward Brandon Burak.

Classifieds

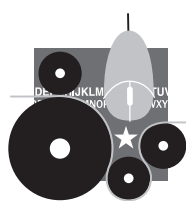
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Father & son looking for scrap cars & trucks for recycling. Stonewall & surrounding areas. Call Dave 1-204-688-8781.

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FOR SALE - 27 Stucky Drive, non restricted, Victoria Beach, MB. 100' x 180' vacant lot. \$54,900 obo. Call 204-771-3399 or email samedwardsen@live.ca

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To rent - 300-400 sq. ft. building or portion for hobby shop. Ph 204-213-1880, Graydon.

HELP WANTED

MacMillan Feed Lot Cleaning Ltd. looking for truck driver and excavator operator for part time. Call 1-204-781-9046.

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ROC 220 or email to qdc345main@hotmail.com (please indicate "Receptionist" in the subject line). NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

take a break GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The
Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

S	S	V	S		A	R	D		I	S
I	B	R	V		R	E	E	S	W	B
O	E	T	I	V		E	B	S	W	W
H	E	B	V	S	C	I	S	E	O	V
					E	T	I	E	V	R
N	B	R	V	D	S	N	V	R	I	
S	V	O	V	R	C	O	D	V		
S	T	I	D						H	O
									I	V
S	N	V	C	I	K	S	E	O	V	D
D	V	R	V						S	N
L	V	V	I						D	I
O	W	H							D	R

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Language group with Iranian influence
- No seats available
- Health insurance organization
- Having a strong sharp smell or taste
- Defunct European economic organization
- Dutch word for "language"
- Hard to penetrate
- When you'll get there
- Iranian city
- Small fishes
- Dry white wine drink
- Turkish city
- U.S.-born people
- Synthetic resin
- Major nerve in human body
- Type of recording
- Small drum
- Alters
- General's assistant (abbr.)
- Venezuelan capital
- Free of deceit
- Member of Ancient Hebrew nation
- Competition
- Launch an attack on
- Cavalry sword
- Spiritual leader
- One point east of due south
- Afflicted
- Database management system
- Snakelike fish
- Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- Small drink
- Not wet
- Impudence
- Father

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

- Performed perfectly
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Thin, compact object
- One attempting to find something
- No longer working
- Egg-shaped wind instrument
- Book of Genesis character
- Volcanic craters
- Brand of American automobile (slang)
- Hip hop icon Kool Moe
- Bangladeshi monetary unit
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Family of genes
- Et : indicates further
- Pacific Standard Time
- S. American wood sorrel
- Women's movement
- Chinese hoopster Ming
- Layers of rock
- Patriotic women's group
- Solid water
- Shade of brown
- Very fast airplane
- Put clothes on
- Quality of one's character
- Time zone
- Primates
- Pleasantly
- Metrical feet
- Rogue
- German river
- Relieves from
- Swiss river
- Prejudice
- Actor Idris
- Those who resist authority
- Criticize

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Rural Municipality of Armstrong



PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD OF REVISION FOR 2022

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2022 Assessment Roll for the Rural Municipality of Armstrong has been delivered to the Municipal Office at Inwood, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 & 43 of the Municipal Assessment Act:

APPLICATION FOR REVISION

42(1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to

- liability to taxation;
- amount of an assessed value;
- classification of property; or
- a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- 43(1) An application for revision must
- be in writing;
 - set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which revision is sought;
 - state the grounds on which the application is based; and
 - be filed by
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office of The Rural Municipality of Armstrong at Inwood, Manitoba, or
 - serving it upon the Secretary,

at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting of the Board of Revision.

The Board of Revision will sit on **Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.** in the Council Chambers in Inwood in the Rural Municipality of Armstrong to hear applications.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is **Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 4:30 PM.**

Dated at Inwood, in Manitoba this 14th day of July, 2021.

Corlie Larsen, Secretary
Board of Revision
Rural Municipality of Armstrong
Box 69, 55 Hwy #17
Inwood, Manitoba R0C 1P0
Phone: (204)-278-3377
Fax: (204)-278-3437

SAVE THE DATE

**Thursday, August 5th, 2021
7:00 PM**

VETERANS MEMORIAL SPORTS COMPLEX SITE REDEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION EVENT

The Town of Stonewall is in the process of developing a vision plan for the redevelopment of the Veterans Memorial Sports Complex site.

We are hosting a public event to receive feedback on the preliminary plans. Further details to follow.

Please join us!



INVITATION TO SUBMIT SUBTRADE TENDER

For the Stonewall Townhall Addition and Renovation Project

Contact Westland Construction Ltd. for more information.

Email: info@westlandltd.net

Phone: (204) 633-6272

Submission deadline: August 5th at 2pm central

SUMMER CATTLE SALES

The Ashern Auction Mart will be holding summer sales due to the extreme drought

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Announcements

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ENGAGEMENT



Manchulenko - Reimer
Jordan Manchulenko and Kinsey Reimer along with their parents, Don and Rhonda Manchulenko and Marc and Laurie Reimer are pleased to announce their engagement. The Wedding will take place Saturday, September 4, 2021 in the Steinbach area.

GRADUATION



Clint Torfason
Congratulations, Clint on graduating from the U of M with your Bachelor's Degree in Recreation Management and Community Development, Dean's Honour List. We are so proud of you, and know that you have a bright future ahead of you!
-Love Mom, Dad, Cole, Alina, Baba, and all your family

IN MEMORIAM



Frances (Tarn, Cathers) Holm
July 6, 1936-July 31, 2020
In God's garden up above,
Stands a rose we dearly love;
She stands with petals open wide,
Watered by the tears we cried.
Her fragrance fills our lives each day,
Locked in our hearts she will always stay.
-Loved and never forgotten,
Elmer, Gwen and Family

*There is a link death
cannot sever,
Love and remembrance
last forever.*

OBITUARY



Gary Herbert Munro
August 9, 1940 – July 16, 2021

Hearts are heavy as the family of Gary Munro announce his passing on July 16, 2021 at the age of 80 years, in the Stonewall Hospital.

Gary was born August 9, 1940. He grew up on a family farm near Warren, Manitoba. He has lived the past 30 years in The Lions Manor in Stonewall.

He was predeceased by his parents Bill Munro (1982) and Muriel Munro (1996), his sister Jean Halvorsen (2020), his brother Bill Munro (2015), and brother-in-law John Halvorsen (1988).

Gary is lovingly remembered by his brother Ron (Mavis) and family members and friends.

The family would like to gratefully acknowledge the standard of care and the extended friendship the members of the Homecare team provided for Gary while in the Lions Manor. It was exceptional. "Thank you for making a difference in his life."

Also, the family wishes to thank the medical staff at the Stonewall Hospital for their care and support.

Cremation has taken place and Gary will rejoin his family members when his interment takes place at the Stonewall Cemetery. A family graveside ceremony will take place at a later date.

Gary's earthly journey is over and we find peace in knowing when he left this world, he left the pain behind.

Goodbye Gary. Keep smiling and know you will be missed.

MACKENZIE FUNERAL HOME STONEWALL
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OBITUARY



Mark Daniel Bergen
January 19, 1976 - July 9, 2021

It is with sadness, that we the family, announce the sudden passing of our beloved son and brother Mark Daniel Bergen on July 9, 2021 from COVID 19.

Mark is survived by and will be always missed and loved by his mother, Elsie Bergen, and stepfather, Leo Naaykens. Mark is survived by brothers Jonathan and Steven as well as brother Bruce Youd (Brayden). Mark is survived by his aunt and God-mother Joyce Doering (John) of Stonewall, his Uncle John Huewan of Arborg, his Aunt Marguerite Rogalsky of Winnipeg and his Aunt Verna Doering in Chilliwack, British Columbia as well as numerous cousins and other extended family members.

Mark was lucky in life to have close connections with dear and special life-long friends, his employer family at Trans-X trucking who have been so supportive during this difficult time, as well as Mark's friends and supports from various car and racing clubs that he belonged to throughout the province.

Mark was predeceased by his father, Victor Bergen in 2010, by grandparents Elizabeth and Elias Bergen and grandparents John and Katie Huewan.

As per Mark's wishes, cremation has taken place. There will be a private family service but no formal funeral service.

Family would like to express their gratitude and gratefulness to both the Health Sciences Centre ICU team and the St. Boniface Hospital ICU treatment team who were so empathetic and supportive throughout this very difficult transition.

Condolences may be left at mackenziefh.com

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MacKenzie
FUNERAL HOME

ANNIVERSARY



George and Gayle Grandmont.
July 17, 1971

Happy 50th wedding anniversary!
Love from Patrick, Angela, Preston,
Malcolm, Evangeline,
Henrik and Kevin.

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to thank our family for arranging an excellent celebration for our 60th wedding anniversary. It was a pleasure to have everyone together after a long time because of COVID. A huge thanks to Joy and Jack at the Erinview Campground for arranging an excellent camp site for Ken and Suzanne to accommodate our family. Thanks for the good wishes whether they were phone calls or cards.

-Stewart and Ruth McMahon

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message in the Tribune*

Stonewall Teulon
Tribune

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Red River

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Red River Co-op offers a competitive salary, a comprehensive benefits package and excellent opportunities for advancement.

To apply, please send your resume to hr@rrcoop.com

OBITUARY



Wrexford Ancel "Rex" Pickell
of Edmonton, Alberta
July 15, 1941 – July 9, 2021

Rex passed at Misericordia Hospital, Edmonton on Friday, July 9, 2021. He was predeceased by his partner Joni Young on December 11, 2015.

He was born to Dr. A.D. "Cy" Pickell and Lillian Florence "Lil" (nee Howe) in Stonewall, Manitoba, July 15, 1941.

He will be remembered by his children, son Derek Pickell (Nitsa), daughter Brooke McCalmon, Joni's family daughter Karissa Olson (Quinn), son Allan Young (Sharon), daughter Barbi Price (Dennis), by his siblings Merle Tomyk (Barry), Doug Pickell (Betty-Lou) of Stonewall and Gary Pickell of Modesto, California, several grandchildren, nieces, nephews and many other relatives and friends

As a child Rex loved to spend time with his grandparents Bill and Ethel Howe in their home at the Canadian Pacific Railway station in La Riviere, Manitoba. Helping inspect trains and traveling by rail with Bill, he gained his lifelong passion for trains. Throughout life he travelled by train at every opportunity especially to Grey Cup games as the CFL and the Eskimos were passions of Rex's. Rex was a fan of many sports and enjoyed cards, his classic car collection and he will be remembered particularly for the time he enjoyed at his cabin on Lake Manitoba and the pleasure he got from his many trips on his Harley. In particular Rex will be remembered for his sense of humour.

He attended school at Stonewall Collegiate, the University of Manitoba and University of Guelph College of Veterinary Medicine. During the late 1960s working as a veterinary pharmaceutical representative, he witnessed the frustration of veterinarians unable to obtain medications for their practices in anything less than 2 weeks. He responded by developing a warehousing and distribution system in Edmonton able to deliver medications and supplies to veterinarians throughout Western Canada overnight using available public transport. This prior to the service by Fedex and UPS by years. Delibrex thrived, and providing this wonderful service to the communities of Western Canada became his career mission.

Rex was wonderfully kind, compassionate and generous. He never hesitated to stop and help anyone in need or distress, even putting himself at considerable risk more than once assisting accident victims. He was always ready to help a friend in need, and wonderfully generous with his favourite charities.

Rex dearly loved, adored and admired his Grandmother Ethel Howe. As he wished, his ashes will be interred with her in a simple graveside ceremony.

Rex was the valedictorian for his high school graduating class. In his address he compared the graduates to leaving port on a ship to sail the seas and explore the world. Rex has completed his exploration of the world and has returned to his home port and will rest in peace in the loving memory of his family and friends.

Cremation has taken place and a graveside service for family and friends will be held at 11:00 AM Saturday, July 24 at Stonewall Cemetery.

In Lieu of flowers donations can be made to the South West District Palliative Care Inc., or your favourite charity.

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OBITUARY



Glen Kenneth Bond

Peacefully on July 13, 2021, Glen Bond of Edmonton, Alberta, passed away after a short battle with cancer, with his family by his side.

He was predeceased by his wife, Pat; parents Bert and Lillian; and his two sisters Pat and Bev. Glen will be lovingly remembered by his son Derek (Michelle); daughter Glenda (Shawn); granddaughter Sara; brother George (Marg); his nieces, nephews, extended family members and many friends.

He was born in Winnipeg, MB on August 9, 1940, to Bert and Lillian Bond. The family moved to Grosse Isle, MB in 1947 where Glen and his siblings learned about country and farm life. He attended Grosse Isle School where he made many lifetime friends and memories. At the age of 19, he moved to Ottawa for meteorology school. Glen met his wife at a baseball game in

Selkirk in 1965 and they were married on June 4, 1966.

A Meteorologist with Environment Canada for 36 years, Glen has been stationed to many weather offices throughout Northern Ontario, Manitoba, Resolute Bay, and Saskatoon, where he would provide weather briefings for pilots and local communities. Most notably, Thompson, MB from 1975 to 1986 where he was very involved in many activities and many sports, and always cheering on all the kids (curling, softball, hockey, to name a few). In 1986, he was transferred to Saskatoon, where he would retire in 1995. With his retirement, Glen kept busy with helping his family and volunteering most notably with the Saskatchewan Railway museum Saskatoon, SK and the Edmonton Icelandic Canadian club of Edmonton (ICCE).

An avid railway enthusiast and aircraft fan, Glen enjoyed visiting museums and exhibits. His favourite pastime was watching the steam powered Prairie Dog Central railway running from Inkster, MB to Grosse Isle, MB. He passed his passions for these onto his children and granddaughter.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Prairie Dog Central at: The Vintage Locomotive Society Inc., PO Box 33021 RPO Polo Park, Winnipeg, MB R3G 3N4 Or to: Edmonton Cross Cancer Foundation <https://www.albertacancer.ca/in-memory/>

Funeral Service will be held on Saturday Aug 7 at 11:00 am, at the Selkirk Lutheran Cemetery (6137 Highway 9A, Selkirk). A gathering will be held at the Grosse Isle train station starting at 1:00 pm. Please note that we will be following the required Covid Regulations in place at that time.



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