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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The third annual Teddy Bear Toss took place last Friday at the Veterans Memorial Sports Complex. After the Stonewall Jets scored their first goal against the Raiders, fans cheered and tossed teddy bears on to the ice for the local Christmas Cheer Board. Players from the U11 girls team went onto the ice to collect them.

everything you need to know in your locally owned and operated community newspaper



² The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, December 9, 2021 Artwork donation to brighten Rosewood Lodge wall

By Jennifer McFee

Spirits will blossom at Rosewood Lodge thanks to a colourful creation donated by a local art group.

The Stonewall Art Group is donating an art piece known as the "Flower Quilt," which has been displayed in the entranceway of the Quarry Park Heritage Arts Centre for more than five years.

This work of art consists of smaller paintings of flowers hung together in a large grid formation. A different artist worked on each piece using oil or acrylic paints.

Member David Mackinder explained that the art group is now working on a new project to celebrate the history of Stonewall.

"The Historic Stonewall project will replace the Flower Quilt and spill over to adjoining walls. In total, 30-plus works will be displayed, hung in two phases, the first of which is expected to be ready early in the new year," he said.

"We will be depicting many historic buildings still existing and some long gone."

Images will include the old post office, the Co-op elevator and the original Stonewall school, as well as various storefronts and street vistas. In addition, the artists will create portraits of local people who were important to the town's history, such as Samuel Jackson, Dr. and Mrs. McLeod and war hero Alan McLeod.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED The Flower Quilt artwork will be hung at Rosewood Lodge for the residents to enjoy.

"We hope that this installation will become a permanent one and act a complement to the museum," he said. "The staff at the centre is planning an unveiling party in the new year. They have been very supportive of the project."

To make space for the new exhibit, the art group is happy to share their work with Rosewood Lodge.

"The group wanted it kept together and enjoyed somewhere else," Mackinder said. "We figured that some bright and happy art would be well





TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Stonewall Art Club member Kathryn Jack, left, was working on her painting of the W. Montgomery Store for the club's Historic Stonewall Art Wall Project earlier this month. Pictured also are art club members David Mackinder and Cindy Trachsel.

received by the Rosewood residents." Catherine Precourt, Quarry Park manager, said they love having the work of the Stonewall Art Group on display in the building.

"It brightens our day and that of everyone who visits the HAC. The Flower Quilt is beautiful. I know the residents of Rosewood will enjoy it as much as we have," she said.

"We are excited by the art group's latest project and look forward to sharing it and other work of the art group with our visitors."

Carrie Munro, recreation co-ordinator at Rosewood Lodge, expressed gratitude for the gesture.

"The residents will certainly appreciate this artwork. They love flowers and this will look like a quilt. There are many colours in the pieces, and it

is very bright and cheery," she said.

"It is so appreciated, the thoughtfulness of the art group thinking of the residents here at Rosewood Lodge and making their day a little brighter." New members of all skill and experience levels are welcome to join, Mack-

inder added. "The Stonewall Art Group is a 30-plus-year organization that is made up of local drawers and painters who use a multitude of mediums," he said.

"The group meets every Thursday morning from 9 until noon at the Heritage Arts Centre. They paint together and assist each other with becoming better at their craft."

To join the group, email stonewallartgroup@gmail.com or drop by any Thursday morning.





The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, December 9, 2021 **3**

Hearing aids open 'a whole new world' for Teulon girl

By Iris Dyck

When Kara Powroznik put on her hearing aids for the first time, the first thing she noticed was a ticking sound.

It was coming from the clock on the wall of her audiologist's office. It was the first time the 11-yearold had ever been able to hear one.

"I heard the clock. I heard myself breathing. I heard my footsteps," she said.

Kara then asked her mother Brittni Powroznik if she was hearing her mother's "real voice." It was then that they realized how limited Kara's hearing had been without the hearing aids.

"When they started talking about my hearing, I was like, 'Wait, so the world isn't supposed to sound so quiet?" Kara said.

Without the hearing aids, regular voices sound like whispers to Kara. If someone speaks quietly, or isn't directly in front of her, she has trouble hearing them at all. Background noises, like a ticking clock, are completely inaudible to her.

But until just a few months ago, no one, not even Kara herself, knew anything was wrong.

Kara lives in Teulon with her family. The second of four girls, Kara did well in school and played sports. Brittni described her as a happy kid who was always asking questions. Sometimes Kara would withdraw from groups if there was a lot going on but not to an unusual degree.

"She would keep to herself and stuff, but we just thought that was her personality," said Brittni. "There were no real issues that jumped out or concerns to anyone that anything was wrong."

When Kara was in Grade 4, her teacher suggested she get her hearing tested — she'd noticed Kara had to focus extra hard in class and that some concepts just weren't sticking. Brittni made her an appointment with an audiologist in Selkirk, but the earliest appointment was a year out. Kara continued to do well in her classes — so well that Brittni nearly cancelled the appointment.

"If I did, we still wouldn't know," said Brittni.

The audiologist then referred Kara to an ear, nose and throat specialist in Winnipeg. Brittni thought the doctor would tell them that Kara's sinuses needed to be drained. Instead, Kara was diagnosed with conductive hearing loss.

"I tried not to cry in front of her, but I cried because it was not what we were expecting," Brittni said."We had no clue."

"I just didn't know what was wrong with them," said Kara. "I was born with this, and I didn't even know about it."

Conductive hearing loss is when sound can't reach the inner ear. It can be caused by an obstruction,



Brittni Powroznik was shocked when she found out her daughter Kara had conductive hearing loss.

like ear wax or an infection, or by a defect to the ear canal. People can be born with conductive hearing loss, like Kara, or it can develop over time. Kara's case is unusual because of how long and how well she adapted to living without her sense of hearing. She doesn't have any speech issues

and was able to get by with what little sound she could make out.

"Even the audiologist was almost in tears because he said he's never seen anything like it," said Brittni.

Once Kara got her hearing aids, she and her family discovered how she'd been able to "hear" without them. She watched other people and followed their lead, and she was always asking questions not because she didn't understand but because she couldn't hear. She learned to read lips and even managed to understand people through their masks when the pandemic hit in 2020. She kept to herself because she sometimes felt overwhelmed trying to

fill in the gaps and keep up with what people were saying.

But until her diagnosis, she thought everyone did these things, too.

"I just thought the world sounded quiet," she said.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED Kara Powroznik didn't know she heard differently until she got hearing aids at age 11.

Kara is going for more tests in December to see what exactly caused her hearing loss and if sur-

"KARA'S CASE IS

OF HOW LONG

AND HOW WELL

SHE ADAPTED TO

LIVING WITHOUT

HER SENSE OF

HEARING."

UNUSUAL BECAUSE

gery could help fix it. For now, she is still getting used to the sounds around her. Her favourite sounds are animals — hearing a cat meow or her dog walking down the hallway. Music sounds "so much better" to her now. Sounds that most people tune out, like birds chirping or traffic, Kara is hearing for the first time.

There are a few instances where Kara takes out her hearing aids — when she doesn't want to listen to her sisters, for example. But for the most part, Kara is "really happy" she can hear what they can.

"When she got those hearing aids, her eyes just lit up," said Brittni. "She had no clue what she was missing out on.

"It's literally a whole new world for her."



IERHA's spends nearly \$1.8 million on agency nurse costs

By Patricia Barrett

With nurse shortages in Manitoba's rural and northern regions, the use of agency nurses by provincially funded regional health authorities is being questioned by the NDP.

The official opposition NDP says the Progressive Conservative government has resorted to paying private companies for nurses to cover for health-care cuts after revealing the government has spent over \$22 million on agency nurses.

Agency nurses are temporary hires from private agencies. Health authorities pay a nurse's wage and a fee to the agency for their use.

"The nursing shortage in rural and northern communities has reached a breaking point and families are suffering," said NDP leader Wab Kinew in a Dec. 1 news release. "We need more nurses, but the PC leader won't hire them. Overpaying for private nurses is bad for patients and fiscally irresponsible. We need the staffing capacity to care for Manitobans in good times and bad."

The NDP filed requests for agency nurse spending under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The party obtained data from the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority for the first three months of this year. The IERHA spent \$600,722.21 in January, \$601,332.16 in February and \$595,254.54 in March on agency nurses, for a total of \$1,797,308.91.

The Prairie Mountain Regional Health Authority spent \$10.5 million on agency nurses between January and September 2021. It also broke down costs by individual health facility. The Northern Regional Health Authority spent \$7.5 million from January to August 2021, breaking down agency costs by community such as Flin Flon, The Pas and Thompson. The Southern Regional Health Authority spent \$2.4 million on agency nurses between January and August 2021.

The data show the government has so far spent a total of \$22.2 million in the four health regions.

An IERHA spokesperson told the *Express* in mid November that over the last three months, its average use of agency nurses has ranged from 23 to 36 per cent of nursing staff regionally whereas in 2019 its use of agency nurses from August to October ranged from 9 to 13 per cent.

The IERHA's chief executive health officer Dr. David Matear said agency nurses cost about 25 per cent more than the cost of top-of-the-scale nursing staff employed full-time with benefits.

But with pressure on the health-care system from the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to protect its nursing workforce from burnout, the IERHA needs to use agency nurses.

"The options you've got if you don't have safe baseline nurse staffing levels are that you either bring in agency staff or you look at overtime for exist-



ing staff. And given the overtime rates, it [agency nurses] may be a slightly less expensive option than overtime," said Matear last Friday. "The other thing we're trying to do is if agency staff are available

Build Interlake Growth Program

Calling all not-for-profit (non-paid share) organizations in the East Interlake region. Grant funding available. Through the Build Interlake Growth Fund, Community Futures East Interlake (CFEI) will stimulate community and regional economic development by supporting local community organizations undertaking community and regional development projects. Maximum of \$5,000 grant or 50% of total project costs whichever is less.

Accepting applications now tell December 15 2021. **Full applications and eligibility details at:** https://cfmanitoba.ca/images/east-interlake/ BIG_2021.pdf

Send your complete application, or for more information contact: Community Futures East Interlake Inc. Box 1620, Gimli MB R0C 1B0 Phone: 1-800-378-5106 Email: tdziadek@eastinterlake.com or ezalevich@eastinterlake.com www.eastinterlake.com



TRIBUNE GRAPH COURTESY OF THE NDP

The NDP obtained IERHA spending on agency nurses from January to March 2021. Data for April to November was unavailable as it has not been audited.

— given the stresses on the healthcare system and the workload on our staff on a day-to-day basis — we are looking wherever possible to bring them in. The last thing we want to do in this climate [COVID] in terms of workload is to burn our staff out."

Whether the IERHA will actually spend more money on agency nurses is yet to be seen as that cost could be offset in the budget in a number of ways, including financial savings from position vacancies and underspending in areas that aren't under pressure and still maintaining service.

"You will have savings from vacancies that exist even though we are trying to hire into those positions. So that would balance it out a little bit. And it will depend on how many agency staff we'll be bringing in and where they're deployed. All that would go into the calculation," said Matear. "We're trying to have as many staff as we need to cover shifts and care for patients we have in the house [in a facility]."

The use of agency nurses over the long-term is not something the health authority plans to do, and it monitors its budget every month so it knows where it overspent and underspent, he said. It also submits monthly and quarterly financial and performance

data to the government so it knows the status of RHA spending.

"With agency staff, we know we're spending more in the short-term. That may be more than we have in our budget over the long-term," said Matear. "But as we hire into [vacant] positions, agency costs will go down and overtime costs will go down. That would contain costs and enable a balanced budget. We're not cutting services."

The reason the IERHA was able to provide only three months' worth of 2021 data on agency nurse spending is that the data had been audited.

"Our finance lead has advised that we only release financial information that has been audited," said an IER-HA spokesperson regarding agency spending between 2021 April and November. "Our fiscal year ends at the end of March so that is why you have data up to the end of March."

Matear said the IERHA wants to be as transparent as it can so that the public understands current staffing issues and pandemic pressures.

"We're trying to be as transparent as we can be and we don't want to confuse anybody," he said."We want people to understand what we're trying to do and, hopefully, reassure them we're doing the best we can for all the residents in our region and other residents in the province."



Wellness Room offers peaceful space at Stonewall school

By Jennifer McFee

Some Stonewall students now have a peaceful place to seek solace at school

Ecole Stonewall Centennial School has launched its new Wellness Room as a welcoming space for a little quiet time.

Vice-principal Jeff Levesque explained how they revamped an underused art room into a peaceful place for staff and students alike.

"We have so much need with kids who are either involved with the recovery learning or just have additional wellness needs, whether that be from the pandemic or just life in general," he said.

"They can get juice or have some hot chocolate or tea. We also have oatmeal. It's not a breakfast program but if kids come to school without food, we can try to meet that need."

The Wellness Centre is funded this year through the divisional recovery grant, which the provincial government provided to school divisions to address pandemic-related wellness and academic issues.

"There's a huge need with the pandemic," he added. "Even Christmastime is a hard time for some people." Child-youth support worker Trena Levesque has been instrumental in

igging up the past

Bv Nicole Brownlee

Artifacts found in Manitoba may be mistakenly credited to the wrong historical groups because of an outdated provincial act.

To approach this issue, the Manitoba Métis Federation is drafting a list of suggestions to protect their cultural autonomy.

"Our government has always made it a priority to protect the cultural and heritage resources of our Red River Métis citizens," said Jack Park, MMF minister of infrastructure and energy, in a statement.

Archeological material significant to Métis history, development and citizens is being generalized as First Nations artifacts, said an MMF spokesperson. The Manitoba Heritage Resources Act protects heritage resources like historical sites, objects or remains from being changed, moved or restored without permission from governing bodies.

"The act does not recognize Red River Métis as rights-holders on the same level as the First Nations," said Park. The act came into force on May 12, 1986, and has not been updated since. An MMF spokesperson said the act is not inclusive.

With the help of Dr. Kisha Supernant, the MMF is creating a process to protect culture inherited resourc-

es like artifacts. Supernant is an anthropology professor and director of the Institute of Prairie & Indigenous Archaeology at the University of Alberta.

The MMF has been working on this project to protect Métis historical items for around two years with help from the federal government.

The Manitoba-Minnesota Transmission Project has also raised concerns about the disturbance and misappropriation of historical artifacts for the Métis government. The MMTP is a transmission line that runs from the Winnipeg area to the U.S. border in southeastern Manitoba to export renewable energy to Minnesota Power's Great Northern Transmission Line.

"Industry development in southern Manitoba impacts the rights, claims and interests of our citizens," said Park.

The drafted study will be added to a federal impact assessment on the licensing conditions set out in the approval of the MMTP.

"Through this work, we can document defined cultural heritage values, along with mechanisms to protect that cultural heritage and a process for cultural heritage consultation by the Métis government for own citizens."



"The Wellness Room is an area where students can go for a variety of reasons. If a student is overwhelmed in the classroom or if there's a lot going on around them and they're finding it hard to focus and work, they can come to the Wellness Room," she said.

"If a student has some personal things going on in their life that are a lot to handle and they need just a few minutes to reset and collect their thoughts, they can come to the Wellness Room. Maybe things are usually fine for a student but something has come up that has thrown them off or upset them. This is a quiet, calm, relaxing place for them to come and regroup themselves."

And for students who need a distraction-free area to complete their schoolwork, the Wellness Room provides an ideal setting.

"It has a variety of different functions but the core piece is wellness, which might look different for different students," she said.

"Some might need more emotionalsocial needs met, while others might need some academic support in a different environment. We try to cover everyone as best we can in those three morning hours."

It's important to focus on well-being, she added, particularly during the pandemic.

"We've seen a lot of struggles with kids with their mental health, with handling everything that's coming at them. Some kids are coming off of remote learning and struggling with that transition back into the classroom," she said.

"We have a maximum of 10 kids in there, so it's very manageable and can be kept quiet and calm."

As soon as someone walks through the doors of the Wellness Room, they ent environment.

"We keep the big lights off, so it's all lamps with warm lighting," she said.

"We have some nice relaxing music playing in the background. When you enter that space, you can leave what's going on outside in the hallways or the classroom and recollect yourself." Already, the Wellness Room seems

to be making a difference. "We've found that it's been very

successful. Lots of people are excited about it and using it. It's great to have a space to send students where their needs can be met. For a school of over 400 students, it's quite a small building so the hallways can get busy and congested. Sometimes it's nice to have a place to turn everything else off. The kids have been receptive to it and really love it. It has been really positive," she said.

"We have several kids who have been accessing it, and that's growing as we become aware of those needs. We all work together to have the kids access it. There's a process to identify the kids, and they're either given a wellness pass to use the room in that moment or it's part of a plan for them to use that space. It's all very organized."

One student even told Levesque that it's the greatest room in the school.

"We've seen a lot of really great things come out of it. New relationships and friendships have formed among the students. This is a place where they can get to know each other on a quieter level as opposed to a big classroom level. We're seeing a lot of positive relationships and social skills as well," she said.

"There's always going to be students struggling in school and that's not going anywhere. This is going to continue to be very important. We're excited to let the community know about some of the things that Interlake School Division is doing to help people be well."







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Labour Crunch

By Cam Dahl, general manager, Manitoba Pork Council

The availability of labour is a critical factor in determining the long-term growth and profitability of Canadian agriculture. The ongoing viability of many farm businesses will be determined by labour. Farms, rural communities, value-added processing and key support sectors like transportation, are all struggling to find and keep staff. This is not a new story, but the problem is growing and must become a primary policy focus for industry and governments alike.

The root causes of the agricultural labour shortage are many. At the beginning is a shrinking rural population and a reduction in the number of farm family members wanting to carry on in the business. Combine this with difficulties experienced by all parts of the value chain in convincing urban Canadians to take on jobs that are often located in rural Canada and which are often, erroneously, viewed as unskilled. Accessing foreign workers in a timely manner is complicated, challenging, and often out of the reach of many independent agricultural operations.

How critical is the situation? Work by the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC) shows that over 40 percent of farm operations indicated they did not have sufficient staff in 2020. That number is even higher for hog farmers, with over 50 percent of pork producers not being able to fill all the positions they need. CAH-RC reports indicate that in 2017 labour shortages cost agriculture \$2.9 billion in lost revenues. Across the country the demand for agriculture employment exceeds what the domestic workforce can fill. By 2029 it is projected that the industry will be short 123,000 people.

The availability of skilled labour extends beyond the farm gate to include

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specialists, like large-animal veterinarians and the technical support they need to run their practices. Challenges in recognizing foreign credentials are needlessly limiting our ability to support this critical labour pool.

What needs to be done to address the labour crunch? Most importantly, all of agriculture needs to face this problem together. Fractions between sectors or within value chains will result in overall policy failure. Resolution will not be found by a single industry segment or company. Agriculture needs to deliver a unified message to federal, provincial, and municipal governments on the need for practical solutions.

We also need to get beyond the perception that agriculture employment means just hewing wood and drawing water. Today's agriculture industry is seeking people to fill careers, not just jobs. We need to work together to better inform those entering our universities and colleges about the skilled and diverse opportunities agriculture has to offer. Agriculture today is on the cutting edge of genetics, nutritional sciences, health of animals, environmental sciences, international marketing and more.

The private sector needs to work with government and our education institutions to build the technical training programs that are needed to fill the growing labour gap. This programming needs to be made available to both Canadians as well as potential immigrants. Opening skills training to future Canadians will mean changing our immigration policies to reflect the fact that modern agriculture is seeking skilled labour and not unskilled workers.

Increased engagement by Canadians must be part of the solution to agriculture's growing labour shortage. We should begin by exploring ways to remove barriers to participation in the sector by those who are currently underrepresented in our industry. For example, we should be exploring op-



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portunities to forge partnerships with organizations that represent women, youth, Indigenous communities and others who may not view agriculture as a viable career choice. We must become more creative in our business practices in areas like flexible work hours and accessible childcare.

Agriculture's labour gap means the industry needs to look beyond our borders for staff, yet rules and regulations impede the recruitment of foreign workers. Regulatory red tape means it can take six to eight months or more to navigate the process required to bring in a new worker from abroad. This creates problems when a vacancy is opened by a two-week notice. Can we be more innovative in meeting the needs of both immigrants as well as employers? For example, could industry associations like Manitoba Pork speed up the process by facilitating a pool of foreign skilled labour that would be accessed by the industry as needed?

There are signs that the seriousness of the crisis has been recognized. At their recent meeting, federal, provincial, and territorial agriculture ministers set labour attraction and retention, training and automation as priority areas for the next agriculture policy framework. We are also seeing agriculture representatives reach across sectors to help resolve the issue in a co-operative way. For example, in Manitoba, commodity organizations have come together under the umbrella of the Keystone Agricultural Producers to form the Labour Task Group. Nationally, we see organizations like CAHRC attempting to develop common industry messages.

There is still more to do on this front. Sectors are still largely approaching the problem from an individual commodity point of view. We must develop collaborative and unified action if we are going to resolve one of the greatest barriers to modern agricultural growth and development.

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TRIBUNE PHOTO BRANDEN LUSSIER

Keevin Erickson was on Lake Manitoba last week catching walleye at sundown. 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

Manitoba RCMP remind motorists to drive sober this holiday season

Submitted by RCMP

From Jan. 1 to Nov. 30, 2021, 73 people lost their lives in 63 vehicle collisions across Manitoba RCMP jurisdiction.

Alcohol is suspected to be a factor in 21 of these collisions. While impaired driving enforcement is conducted throughout the year, this Saturday is National Impaired Driving Enforcement Day, the annual launch of increased enforcement for the holiday season.

Impaired driving remains the leading criminal cause of death, but that is a statistic you can help change:

1. Report any suspected impaired drivers to your local police. We can all work together to keep impaired driv-

ers off the road.

2. Take responsibility and make the smart choice to plan ahead. Make your decisions while sober. Those decisions are what will get you and other drivers on the road home safely. Stay safe on the road and make the smart choice when you pick up your

Il smart choice when you pick up your v- keys.

Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor: Letters@stonewallteulontribune.ca

Health care is like buying insurance

It was interesting, or more accurately saddening, to read health-care articles in last week's *Tribune*. One article about patients being transferred on Nov. 24 against their wishes all over the province, explained by provincial officials as being able to facilitate opening beds for COVID. And then another article about closing 21 beds in Interlake hospitals on the very same day, Nov. 24, explained by provincial officials, as being due to staff shortages, particularly lack of nurses. There's something seriously wrong with those answers.

Health care is a little bit like buying insurance. Paying for something that you hope you will never need, but thankful for in a time of crisis. Our provincial governments seem to not understand that concept and have been short-sighted imposing cut backs for years. Funding cuts, staff reductions, not filling vacant positions, reduced training, no imagination in attracting doctors, lack of maintenance on existing facilities, shut downs and dragging their feet on building new facilities. Now we have a crisis and we are paying for it with stress and lost lives. My father was a victim of indiscriminate hospital transfers years ago when the town hospital he was in only had a doctor

on staff every second weekend. A socalled cost-savings measure. Critical care patients were transferred by ambulance to another facility in another town on Friday and then brought back on Monday. A ridiculous procedure that likely cost as much or more than simply hiring a doctor full-time rather than half-time. Not to mention the added stress on my father's failing health and the stress it created on family no longer able to visit him.

We have a new premier in Manitoba. Let's hope that she has learned from the huge mistakes made by her predecessor and will "transfer" our critically ill health-care system to the top of the government's priority list.

- Garry Mitchell, Stonewall



Why am I here?

A question I began to discover the answer to as I stepped out and served in Church. I had no idea how much gets done by volunteering in this world till I started to do it. Think about all the clubs that are run in your community by volunteers. Then there's the charitable organizations! Many people around the world benefit from the aid of others and I've personally discovered why. It's good to give! Jesus said whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for me. Matthew 25:40 Helping others puts the focus on another person's needs instead of our own. Thinking about what I need or want is draining and very unsatisfying. Getting what I want is great but only leads to short term happiness but taking part in something bigger than myself that will help others is very exciting!

Giving is key to purpose. I began to learn this principal when I was asked to volunteer to teach Sunday School at my church. They were very short volunteers. I had this desire to please the Lord but didn't feel very adequate to do it, but I knew I must respond to the tugging in my heart. So I did! I studied for hours to teach the children a lesson each week at the little church in Warren. Though it took sacrifice, I understood that these kids were important to God, and He wanted them to know how much He loves everyone – (the least of these).

When talking to potential volunteers for Discovery Time, I often hear something similar: how they don't think they are right person for the job. I know that if you feel a nudge in your heart to do something, don't let fear stop you. Ask the Lord to show you how you can volunteer, then ask Him to give you the courage to do it and He will. *Joshua 1:9* He will be there with you every step of the way. Hebrews 13:6 Serving at the church helped me to discover my God-given purpose. Helping others to know Him and discover who I am in the process. A loved child of the Most High God. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:12

Laura Lawrence Discovery Time Director Ilawrence@cefmanitoba.org Equipping people to teach children about Jesus

8 The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, December 9, 2021 Southern Health test positivity rate over double rest of province

Staff

Public health officials Monday announced six more deaths due to CO-VID-19 and 539 new cases.

Saturday saw the case count jump by 191, Sunday it was 211 (the highest it's been in months), and Monday's new cases numbered 137. Manitoba's active caseload at press time was at 1,613.

Breaking it down by region, Winnipeg added 186 cases over the weekend followed by Southern Health-Santé Sud with 176, Northern with 79, and Interlake-Eastern and Prairie Mountain with 49 each.

A total of 152 Manitobans are in hospital due to COVID-19, including 104 with active COVID-19 (still infectious). A further 30 people are in intensive care, including 24 who are still actively contagious.

Of the active hospital admissions, 67 per cent of patients were either not vaccinated at all (62 per cent) or only partially vaccinated (five per cent).

In intensive care, the unvaccinated make up 92 per cent of the active cases.

With the weekend's reported deaths,

a total of 1,334 Manitobans have died due to COVID-19.

The five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate was 6.3 per cent provincially and 4.1 per cent in Winnipeg on Monday.

Last week, the province updated its regional test positivity rates. Southern Health, which has the lowest vaccination uptake in Manitoba, had a test positivity rate of 15 per cent.

No cases of the new omicron variant have been detected in Manitoba yet. In the Interlake-Eastern region, a to-

tal of 130 active cases were reported

as of Monday. Winnipeg Beach/St. Andrews reported 29 cases, followed by Arborg/Riverton and Springfield, both reporting 20. Selkirk and Stonewall/Teulon both had 12; Fisher/Peguis, eight; Beausejour, Gimli and the Unknown district, all six; Powerview/ Pine Falls, five; St. Laurent, three; St. Clements, two; Northern Remote, one; and Whiteshell, Pinawa/Lac du Bonnet and Eriksdale/Ashern all reporting zero.

Workers Compensation act amended to enhance support and benefits for firefighters

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba government is amending the Workers Compensation Act (WCA) to include coverage for five additional cancers to the list of presumptive cancers, pertaining to firefighters and at-risk personnel in the Manitoba Fire Commissioners Office, becoming a national leader in taking this step to protect Manitobans on the front lines, Premier Heather Stefanson announced today.

"Each and every single day, firefighters in every community of our province put their lives at risk to help those in need and for that we are deeply grateful," said Stefanson.

"We recognize firefighters are at a heightened risk of contracting various cancers due to the nature of their work and the inevitable exposure to carcinogens on the job, despite all efforts to prevent and mitigate exposure risks. We are pleased to work with the firefighters association to make these changes that will enhance supports and benefits for their members."

Being added to the 14 types of cancer already included in the act are:

primary site thyroid cancer; primary site pancreatic cancer;

primary ovarian cancer; primary site cervical cancer; and

primary site penile cancer.

"These additions to the firefighters presumptive cancer list will make Manitoba's legislation one of the strongest in the world and our legislation will be a template for proper WCB support for firefighters around the world being diagnosed with occupational cancers they received due to the exposures they encountered while simply doing their job," said Alex Forrest, president, Manitoba Professional Firefighters Association.

"This support for our sisters in the fire service to have equal protection as their male counterparts would not have been possible without Heather Stefanson becoming our premier."

The first list of presumptive cancers for firefighters was added to the act in 2002. The list was expanded in 2005, with coverage extended to parttime firefighters. The list was further expanded in 2009, and again in 2011, along with the addition of coverage for fire commissioner personnel.

"We are pleased to be able to of-

fer this expanded WCA coverage as a show of support to our firefighters, the men and women who serve our communities every day with courage and professionalism," said Finance Minister Scott Fielding.

"Today's announcement marks another step forward in recognizing and mitigating the human costs of the dangerous work they do."

The proposed amendments to the act do not contain any regulatory requirements. The Workers Compensation Board will be responsible for administering the changes and identifying any concerns that arise, the minister noted.

Province invites applications for building sustainable communities grants

Submitted by Manitoba government

Applications are now being accepted for the 2022-23 Building Sustainable Communities (BSC) program, which helps to support important community development projects, Municipal Relations Minister Derek Johnson announced.

"Our government recognizes the importance of community-based organizations in building thriving and sustainable communities across the province," said Johnson."The Building Sustainable Communities program provides community organizations a much-needed boost as we continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and helps to bolster Manitoba's economy."

The program responds to local neighbourhood, municipal and regional priorities to support a broad range of community development projects, including planning, capital, capacity building, community initiatives and recreation and equipment purchases. Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, charitable organizations, municipalities and Northern Affairs community councils.

The program provides a grant contribution of 50 per cent of eligible project costs up to \$75,000 and up to \$300,000 for large capital projects. This funding will respond to community need and support projects across the province, noted the minister.

"The Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) commends the Province of Manitoba for continuing to invest in our communities through the Building Sustainable Communities program," said Kam Blight, president, AMM."As municipalities look to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, the BSC program is essential to promote economic development and build stronger communities throughout our province."

The deadline to apply for the 2022-23 Building Sustainable Communities program is Jan. 17, 2022. For more information about the program or to submit an application, visit www. manitobago.ca.



Empty grain bags and used baler twine can still be recycled in Manitoba

Submitted

If Manitoba farmers have empty grain bags or used baler twine around the farm, there is still time to tidy up and recycle them before the full onset of winter, Cleanfarms says.

"It doesn't matter if the grain bags were purchased this year or if they were left over from previous years," says Cleanfarms executive director Barry Friesen. "As long as farmers take steps to make sure they are free of grain and debris and rolled, we'll take them at our collection sites for recycling."

Directions for preparing grain bags and twine for recycling are included on cleanfarms.ca.

Cleanfarms, a non-profit industry stewardship organization that has developed similar recycling programs for used ag plastics across Canada, has operated a multi-location pilot recycling collection program for used empty grain bags in Manitoba since 2013. It also developed and operates the successful small and large pesticide and fertilizer container recycling programs.

In 2020, Manitoba Conservation and

Climate asked Cleanfarms to transition the grain bag and twine pilot to a province-wide permanent recycling program that will give Manitoba farmers broader access to recycling for these used ag plastics year-overyear. Under the regulation, responsibility for the permanent program now rests with the companies that supply grain bags and baler twine into the province.

Beginning on Dec. 1, the regulated program includes a non-refundable environmental handling fee (EHF) that helps cover the cost of recycling. It is applied to grain bag and baler twine sales at the time of purchase, which usually begins in early summer. For grain bags, the EHF will be 25 cents per kilogram; for baler twine of all sizes, it will be 33 cents per kilogram.

A similar program that includes an EHF has been in place for the past three years on the sale of grain bags under the provincially regulated program in Saskatchewan. During this time, Saskatchewan farmers have consistently surpassed year-over-year recycling rates. The Manitoba-regulated program will help to harmonize the recycling programs across the two Prairie provinces.

Cleanfarms has set up 35 recycling collection sites across Manitoba. Details about the location and hours of operation of each recycling collection site, along with instructions on how to prepare the materials for recycling, can be found at cleanfarms.ca/what to recycle and where. Recycling collection centers are located in the following municipalities:

RM of Armstrong - Chatfield Transfer Station

RM of Armstrong - Inwood Transfer Station

RM of Armstrong - Meleb Waste Disposal Grounds

RM of Coldwell Eriksdale - Waste Disposal Grounds

RM of Grey - R-Way AG Ltd.

RM of Grey Landfill

RM of Norfolk-Treherne - Rathwell Transfer Station

RM of Norfolk-Treherne - Treherne Transfer Station

RM of Portage la Prairie - Portage la Prairie Landfill

RM of Westinterlake - Ashern

RM of Westinterlake - Oakview Waste Transfer Station

Recycled grain bags are used to make new products such as plastic construction sheet products and industrial garbage bags. Recycled baler twine is made into car parts, composite decking, flowerpots, dimensional lumber and similar items.

Cleanfarms is a non-profit, agricultural industry stewardship organization that contributes to a healthier environment and a sustainable future for present and future farm families by recovering and recycling agricultural and related industry plastics, packaging and products. It is funded by its members in the crop protection, fertilizer, seed, animal health medication and grain bag industries. It has staff located in Moose Jaw, Lethbridge, Etobicoke and St-Bruno, Que.

Stonewall council news in brief

By Jennifer McFee

The Town of Stonewall's SPRUCE program has been spruced up for 2022.

In 2019, the town implemented the SPRUCE (Stonewall Program for Rental Construction and Expansion) program in an effort to address the need for additional housing stock. Stonewall has fewer rental units and a lower overall percentage of rental units within the town's housing inventory, compared to the provincial average. As a result, this shortfall could be a barrier to attracting people — and economic development opportunities — to the town.

The successful SPRUCE program provides incentives to encourage construction and operation of multi-family rental housing developments. If they add five or more rental units, they are eligible to apply for a SPRUCE grant.

These grants are awarded per unit over a three-year period, with \$750 in the first year, \$500 in the second year and \$250 in the third year.

The three-year SPRUCE program will continue from Jan. 1, 2022, to Dec. 31, 2024.

In other council news:

• Council's indemnity rates will

be adjusted for 2022. The mayor will receive \$21,473.97, up from \$20,510 in 2021. The deputy mayor will receive \$19,065.87, up from \$18,210 in 2021. Councillors will receive \$15,788.76, up from \$15,080 in 2021. The daily per diem rate will increase to \$177.99 from \$170, and the citizen member hourly rate will increase to \$22.25 from \$21.25.

• The Town of Stonewall posted a request for respect for town employees on its website (www.stonewall.ca). The posting notes that some town employees faced verbal attacks from a couple residents following the heavy snowfall in November.

"Times have been stressful for everyone, we understand that, but it doesn't give anyone the right to engage in potentially abusive confrontations with Town employees. Town workers made sure that roads were made accessible to commuters and pedestrians as best as possible, as quickly as possible," the post states.

"All we ask is respect for our employees because they are doing the best they can in a difficult situation. Please remember, especially at this time of year, to treat others with kindness."



To book, go to ProtectMB.ca or call 1-844-626-8222





New members welcome in Lions Club

By Jennifer McFee

A local service club contributes towards a lion's share of worthy causes, and they're always looking for new members to get involved.

The Stonewall and District Lions Club launched in 1985 and continues to make a difference in the community since then.

They recently donated \$1,000 to the Christmas Cheer Board, \$1,000 to Children's Wish Ride and \$2,000 to STARS air ambulance. They've even got a few more donations in the works that are awaiting confirmation.

President Len Kolenich explained that the club is there to help.

"Our goal is basically to help with anything related to medical aid. When people need to go into the city for medical appointments or treatments on a regular basis, we pay for their fuel or parking," said Kolenich, who is a charter member of the club.

"We've also donated in the past for people who have to go away for medical appointments. We try to assist financially wherever we can."

In addition, the local Lions Club helps out with other community initiatives.

"In the past, we've also donated towards other projects like the Kinsmen Splash Pad and the Settlers, Rails and Trails Museum," he said.

"I think a lot of people relate us to the Lions Manor. As a club, we initially got it started but it's basically its own entity. We are separate from it, but you need to be a member of the club to sit on the board." Pam Palcat, who has been involved for about 11

years, encourages others to get involved.

"We're always looking for new members. The more members we have, the more we can do for the community. It's a great club. We've donated so many things to the community, like wheelchairs



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED The Stonewall Lions made a \$2,000 donation to STARS air ambulance on Nov. 26. Pictured left to right: Lions members Len Kolenich, Wally Finnbogason, Mel Harrison and Daryl Braun, STARS donor relations.

and reading glasses. We've helped with the renovations of the palliative care room and the summer reading program for the library," Palcat said.

"You meet so many great people and everybody has something different to offer. It's really rewarding to help people in our community."

About eight years ago, Ashley Huewan was looking for somewhere to volunteer. A co-worker suggested that she join the Stonewall and District Lions Club — and she's glad she did.

"I really like the fact that we're able to raise money and give back to our community because that's what our club focuses on. We also donate to Lions Club International Foundation, and they disperse that money where required across the world, like when there's a natural disaster," Huewan said.

"You're a part of a group, working on things together and making decisions together. You get to



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER Stonewall Lions made a donation of \$1,000 to the Children's Wish Ride on Nov. 24. Pictured left to right: Wally Finnbogason, Shohn Godin, Linda Doubleday, Mel Harrison, Silver Peltier and Len Kolenich.



Stonewall Lions made a donation of \$1,000 to the Stonewall & District Cheerboard on Nov. 24. Pictured left to right: Linda Doubleday, Wally Finnbogason, Mel Harrison and Len Kolenich.

chat with different people. It's really fun."

For more information about the Stonewall and District Lions Club or to become a member, contact membership chair Wally Finnbogason at 204-981-1666.

Fireworks set for Christmas Eve

By Nicole Brownlee

The Teulon community is joining together for their second annual Christmas eve fireworks display.

Tarrant Rempel started the holiday event last year after most festive traditions were delayed or cancelled because of public health restrictions.

"It went very well," said Rempel. "I think what a lot of people like about it was because it was Christmas Eve, there's not a lot of events, (especially) locally."

Vehicles parked on PR 415, 8 East and PTH 17 to watch the explosive display last year.

"I'd be guessing that there was maybe around 100 people probably," said Rempel.

Community members reached out to Rempel this year to ask if he would continue organizing the event.

"At the time we started it, we didn't really know what else was being orga-

nized for fireworks within the town," said Rempel.

Teulon celebrated with a parade on Nov. 27 to welcome the festive season, but Rempel decided to continue planning the Dec. 24 display.

With the help of Debbie Bushby, Rempel hopes to collect around \$2,500 to help pay for the display, the same amount he was able to collect last year.

Over a dozen businesses and indi-

viduals had donated funds by the first week of December, including the Teulon Motor Hotel, Teulon Tractor and Motor and Sunova Credit Union.

"We're hoping for around \$2,000. \$2,500 presented about a 30-minute show," said Rempel.

Archangel Fireworks Inc. is working with Rempel to orchestrate the holiday show.

Vehicles can park on the same roads as last year to watch the fireworks, starting at 7 p.m. on Dec. 24.

To donate to the display, contact Tarrant Rempel at 204-797-2071 or visit the Christmas Eve Fireworks Facebook group.



Budding filmmakers and performers prepare for showcase

By Nicole Brownlee

Film classes and additional programming at the Green Acres Art Centre are receiving praise in time for the centre's upcoming showcase on Dec. 19.

A new addition to the centre this season was a film class taught by Arthur Holroyd.

"The film program is going amazingly. Everybody seems to be having a wonderful time," said Holroyd.

Children between 10 and 14 years old explored filmmaking in the program and had the choice to shoot commercials, mockumentaries, short films and more.

"We sort of sat down and decided, OK, what do we want to write about, and it came up that we wanted to write about vampires but make it funny," said Holroyd.

The film follows vampires who struggle to fit stereotypical vampire characteristics and a team of vampire hunters trying to become better hunters.

"We have lots of really beautiful, wonderful, hilarious moments," said Holroyd.



The 10 enrolled students learn film techniques, set etiquette and digital editing skills through their vampire project.

"Attendance has been awesome, which usually tells me we're doing something right as a class," said Holroyd.

Holroyd also teaches a Story & Theatre for Kids class for children between five and 10 years old, which encourages students to make stories their own.

"There are less kiddos, but that's also wonderful because we're able to really dig in and build a show that is from those kids," said Holroyd.

"We're really able to get everybody's ideas."

The three students in the class based their show on *The Butter Battle Book* by Dr. Seuss.

The centre added several more classes for younger children's programs to encourage higher attendance.

"We've done really well," said Lana Knor, president of the art centre.

Knor said she noticed that middle school youth tend to have less interest in the art centre programs because of more extracurricular opportunities, so they want to welcome as many new families to the younger programs as they can.

"We really focused on building the younger grades' classes," said Knor.



Green Acres Art Centre has added a film class to their programming.

Around 40 new families from Teulon and surrounding communities joined the art centre this season for preschool programs.

"We have lots of families coming out of Balmoral and Stonewall to our dance program," said Knor.

The centre welcomes families to watch the young students perform pieces they've worked on throughout the season on Dec. 19. Performers are separated into two show times on the Sunday based on their age group to accommodate social distancing.

"We want to be safe," said Knor.

"We decided we're going to separate the showcases just to keep numbers down to keep the children safe."

For the new year, Knor plans to partner with local businesses to support the local economy.

"The businesses of our community have suffered through the pandemic, and our board are strong believers that recreation and business work together."

The art centre is looking at hosting workshops and performances at restaurants throughout the community.

"Something different in the quieter months to help (the businesses) and help us and help people get out," said Knor.

New legislation aims to deter metal theft

By Jennifer McFee

The provincial government is considering new legislation that aims to protect property and public safety.

The proposed Scrap Metal Act would require scrap metal dealers to record identifying information.

"Metal theft is an increasing concern in Manitoba that affects public safety and can be extremely costly to individuals and business owners," said Justice Minister Cameron Friesen at a Dec. 2 announcement.

"These changes will require sellers and scrap dealers to provide and record identification for all metal sales. In addition to these measures, scrap metal dealers will be required to keep records and produce those records when requested, increasing accountability and providing barriers to those who seek to steal and sell metal items for quick cash."

Friesen added that metal theft is a global issue driven by

St Peter Lutheran/St Cyprian Anglican Christmas Services Jointly at St. Peter Lutheran, Hwy #7 Teulon Sunday, Dec. 12 - 9:30 am Holy Communion Sunday, Dec. 19 – 9:30 am Advent Carols/Lessons Thursday, Dec. 23 - 7:00 pm Candlelight/Holy Communion Sunday, Jan 2 - 9:30 am Holy Communion Following all Manitoba COVID Guidelines

world metal prices, which affects residents and businesses in both urban and rural areas. It's extremely costly to the electricity, construction, telecommunication and industrial sectors, he noted. It seems to be an increasingly common crime since thieves can often sell stolen scrap metal quickly for cash, which makes it hard to trace transactions. Interlake Salvage and Recycling, located at 47 Patterson Dr. in Stonewall, purchases all types of metal for recycling. "Interlake Salvage is fully aware of this pending legisla-

tion," said Michael Clarke, company president.

"We are in support of the objective to end criminal activity in the metal trade."

In addition to recording the identifying information about scrap metal sellers and details about metal sales transactions, scrap metal dealers would need to report information about legislated items that are highly vulnerable to law enforcement and to hold this information for two years for law enforcement purposes. As well, the proposed legislation would prohibit using cash for highly vulnerable items, regardless of value, along with some situations involving other stolen metal.

The overall goal is to deter metal theft for resale. The bill contains exceptions to ensure it's not too much of a burden for legitimate sellers and doesn't apply to items at a lower risk of being stolen and resold.

During a two-month public and stakeholder engagement period last fall, most respondents were in favour of this new approach to combat metal theft.

Margaret Hryciw, Selkirk

about 25 minutes.

350 degree oven until golden brown,

The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, December 9, 2021 13

New vision hub now open

By Jennifer McFee

It's clear to see that a new local business is already off to a strong start.

Clarity Vision launched its Stonewall location on Nov. 15, adding a new option to its existing locations in Portage la Prairie, Selkirk, Winkler and Winnipeg.

Dr. Andrew Aiken, owner of the clinic, explained why Stonewall is an ideal location for the business.

"In 2014, we dedicated ourselves to improving the health-care services available in the Interlake and opened in Selkirk. The Selkirk clinic has been very successful, so we made the decision to further our commitment to the Interlake by opening our doors in Stonewall," he said.

"We felt that it was a community that would appreciate the values we bring as a clinic and it is optimally located to provide further access to those in the Interlake."

The new business offers a range of ways to serve the community.

"Clarity Vision is a full-scope optometric practice utilizing the latest technology to deliver industry-leading care. As doctors, we focus on patient-centred care to provide optimal ocular health and functioning," Aiken said.

"Our highly trained staff will ex-



Clarity Vision opened in Stonewall on Nov. 15.

Family Foods under new ownership



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Stonewall's Family Foods changed hands on Dec. 1 and is now owned by long-time employee Kristle Snell. Snell has been employed at the store since February 2008 and is looking forward to the new chapter in her life. Pictured left to right: Megan Ireland (front end manager), Tracy Wald (meat and deli manager), Jill Dobson (produce and bakery manager), Kristle Snell (owner/store manager), Glenda Neufeld (grocery manager), Sheila Mogk (office manager) and Paige Stechkewich (human resource manager).



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Pictured left to right: Dayna Toth, Dr. Sarah Sung, Cindy Allard and Katelyn Morran of the Clarity Vision team.

pertly help you pick the right eyewear and lenses, tailored to your look and needs. We have a full-service dispensary that has a large assortment of eyewear for all budgets. We also offer most brands of contact lens and provide services to fit these lenses."

Clarity Vision is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Currently, Dr. Sarah Sung and Dr. Carl Durand work at the site, and a new doctor is set to join the staff in the second quarter of 2022.

"We currently are providing two doctor days per week, which will ex-

pand as our patient base increases. We direct bill to most insurance providers that allow for direct billing. We have a fabulous kids' program that grows with your child, and we are wheelchair accessible," Aiken said.

"We have just opened our doors and really hope the community and surrounding area come out to support us."

Clarity Vision is located at 3-411 3rd Ave. South in Stonewall. For more information, call 204-507-0390 or visit www.clarityvision.ca.



Lung Assoc. reaching out to COVID-19 survivors

By Lorne Stelmach

The Lung Association of Manitoba sees itself as helping to fill a void as the pandemic and its impact continue to be felt by so many people.

The organization is co-ordinating an online support group for people who continue to live with the effects of COVID while also wanting to support research and studies to better understand the long-term effects.

It's about contributing to understanding life after COVID-19 as there remains so many unknowns about what the future will look like postpandemic, said Hailey Coleman, health programs and operations coordinator for the Lung Association of Manitoba (LAMB).

"People are coming out and saying, 'This is what's happening to me. It's not going away.' ... So we can give them the information as more comes along," said Coleman. "We needed something started ... so we hope individuals take us up on this and ask to join this group because right now there's nothing else."

As part of their efforts, LAMB has connected with leading experts in this field and particularly with Manitoba based studies being conducted by Diana Sanchez-Ramirez, who is an assistant professor in the department of respiratory therapy, College of Rehabilitation Sciences, at the University of Manitoba.

Many people are dealing with a vast difference in the experience of long COVID effects, so continued research is important to help patients and health-care providers understand how and why COVID affects the lungs and how it should be treated, said Sanchez-Ramirez.

"There are many unknown aspects of post-COVID-19 that we have yet to unravel. Therefore, we are planning some research studies that will help identify the best ways to optimize rehabilitation interventions for patients with persistent long COVID symptoms," she noted.

"We have identified that a large proportion of post-COVID-19 patients may experience persistent respiratory symptoms, fatigue, decreased functional capacity and decreased quality of life for up to six months after infection," she said. "However, evidence from the previous coronavirus first identified in 2003 suggested that longterm effects may continue for years.

"As researchers and as health-care providers, we must aim to identify the best way to support the recovery of post-COVID patients. I think one of the first steps is to raise awareness and provide patient support," added Sanchez-Ramirez.

"That is why I applaud LAMB's initiative to offer a virtual space that could make it easier for patients to connect with their peers, discuss their concerns and needs, and share information on existing local resources."

Coleman said they have seen how their support groups have good mental health and wellness benefits in other categories of health management, so they wanted to provide that for individuals post-COVID.

One of the first steps to provide patient support is to raise awareness, so that is why it took initiative to offer a virtual space that could make it easier for patients to connect with their peers, discuss their concerns and needs, and share information on existing local resources.

"We've had an influx of calls asking for programming or just what we offer. ... We wanted to put together this Facebook support group where individuals can come safely, discuss their post-COVID symptoms," said Coleman.

A priority was to connect people with respiratory therapists and other leading experts to help get them the information they need.

"Because there are such different experiences with post-COVID symptoms, and this is still such a new reality people are dealing with, we wanted to create a support system that anyone can access to work through this uncharted territory," said Coleman.

"It's just a starting foundation so there's somewhere for people to go ... and as the studies progress, we can share the information," she said.

"We just felt that at least having this available is what we can offer right now, and it gives individuals a place to come and feel safe to discuss things with professionals.

"We are seeing an influx of individuals saying how their lung capacity decreases, how they're more fatigued ... so we are seeing long-term effects from individuals who have had CO-VID six plus months ago and still having to deal with lung health issues."

You can find "Manitoba's Post CO-VID-19 Support Group" on Facebook. You can also find more information and join the study at www.respirabilitylab.com or email to respirabilitylab@gmail.com.



Food Bank funding



Lynn Hainstock, left, of the Teulon Food Bank accepts \$1,500 from Interlake Community Foundation board member Cherise Griffin for their food program last week.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. While you're not too busy building snowmen, singing carols or visiting Santa, here are a few tasks to complete.

• If you want a real one, this is the time to buy your tree and bring it home to decorate.

• Wrap your gifts (or have them wrapped at a local shop), and then find a place to hide them.

• Pick up your turkey and any non-perishable menu items for your dinner.

• Create a playlist for the party, and prepare a few activities to entertain your guests.

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The wait is over! Brace yourself for deliciousness because your M&M Food Market Express favourites are now available. Stop by your local Stonewall Home Hardware and try our assortment of mouth-watering appetizers, entrées and desserts! #MMFoodMarketExpress #NowAvailable #PreparedWithCare #ExpertlyFrozen #FromFreezertoTable



486 Main St, Stonewall Phone 204-467-5589 Hours: Mon-Fri 9-8pm, Saturdays 9-6pm & Sunday 12-5pm

By Ashleigh Viveiros

An online town hall last week gave Manitobans a chance to ask questions and hear from medical experts on the pediatric COVID-19 vaccine.

The session hosted by Doctors Manitoba Nov. 30 focused on the vaccine recently authorized by Health Canada for children aged five to 11, and it covered such topics as the benefits and risks of vaccination and the effectiveness of the vaccine.

The hope was to help ensure parents have the facts to make a fullyinformed decision about vaccinating their children.

The panel of five doctors stressed the vaccine offers the best protection against COVID-19 and related complications, and they also sought to offer assurances about its safety and particularly about the risk of side effects.

CHRISTMAS CHEER BOARD Help needed! The Stonewall & District Christmas Cheerboard is looking for donations to help those in need this Christmas. Donations of toys and monetary donations would be greatly appreciated and can be made at Sunova Credit Union, mailed to Box 1991 Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0 or made by e-transfer to stonewallcheerboard@gmail.com. Donation receipts will be given if name, address and donation of \$20 or more is received. "Immunizing your child helps to add that added level of public health security in managing the pandemic," said Dr. Ruth Grimes, president of the Canadian Paediatric Society. "With the evidence that we have so far, it seems that those major complications can be dealt with quite handily."

"The best thing I can say is that we know a lot about the immune system and how it responds to vaccines, how it responds to infections ... and what we see in every other infection and every other vaccine is a lack of long term surprise side effects," said Dr. Joss Reimer, medical officer of health and medical lead for the Manitoba Vaccine Implementation Task Force.

"We don't see people five years, 10 years, 20 years later having some unexpected damage to their body because of their immune response, and so we're very reassured that this will be the same thing because the immune system hasn't changed."

"Collectively, pediatricians are very good at looking for signals that would warn us about safety in this particular age group, and we haven't seen anything to date ... so that's reassuring," noted Dr. Jared Bullard, section head of pediatric infectious diseases and associate medical director of Cadham Lab. "In addition, we'll be continuing to monitor for any sort of safety concerns or signals going forward." The hour and a half long session covered a lot of ground, including even the doctors' thoughts on talking to your children about vaccination, with Dr. Marni Hanna, president of the Manitoba Pediatric Society, touching on her experience with her own daughter.

"We talked about it positively at home, and she saw how excited we were to get our COVID shots, and she knows that this means something big for her," said Hanna. "If you know your kid is really anxious, try to book their appointment in an environment where they feel safer ... in a place they feel familiar with."

Do whatever is needed for them to feel comfortable and give children some degree of control over the environment and situation, added Grimes. Hanna addressed a question about whether the vaccine might in any way affect a child's development or even future fertility, and she stressed there

was no basis to support that thought and that the risk instead is from getting COVID. "If you get really, really sick [with COVID-19], in a child, that can lead to developmental delay ... so it really

cine." Bullard addressed a youth's questions about the smaller dose for children and age considerations.

makes a lot more sense to get the vac-



SCREENSHOT

Dr. Joss Reimer, medical lead of Manitoba's vaccination campaign, was joined by a panel of other medical professionals for virtual town hall hosted by Doctors Manitoba last week to field questions about the COVID-19 vaccine for children.

"When we were looking at this particular vaccine, we actually did look at different amounts, and we looked at all sorts of kids," he said. "There's really no reason to put off getting that

Continued on page 18

Vandor Denture Centre's 'No-Gag' impression technique really works

By Elisha Vandor

Making dentures is pain-
less, so it should be a no brainer
when it's time to get new.goop that remains from goin
into the gag zone. I am hap-
py to say that patients love it
They are so relieved to have
gagged and are amazed at h
fast it was, which makes me
smile every time. It's actually

If you consider yourself a regular or extreme gagger, then going for the initial impression appointment is a real concern for you. The one person who understands this the most is Brock, the Denturist. He says, "As for me, I hated gagging my patients. If they gagged, they would feel bad, then I would feel bad, so I had to make a better way. After combining different techniques, experimenting with some ratios, and using a funny looking tiny tool, I came up with what has been nicknamed the "No-Gag" technique. Essentially, it uses much less goop and also prevents the goop that remains from going into the gag zone. I am happy to say that patients love it! They are so relieved to have not gagged and are amazed at how fast it was, which makes me smile every time. It's actually now been years since I have developed the "No-Gag" technique and am happy to say that every single day, myself and our Denturists get to hear how patients love it! Actually, Ruth was here not too long ago and had to share her story.

"The impression appointment was amazing. There was no discomfort whatsoever. There was no gagging reflex. Nothing! In fact, I would do it again. It was very quick and it wasn't like anything I've had done before and I've had lots of impressions. For me, the impression appointment was usually gaggy. This is amazing. It's a great procedure."

> We asked 10 patients about their experience after impressions and a resounding 10 out of 10 agreed: a much more comfortable and 'no-gag' experience.

The tool is all about making great fitting dentures in the most comfortable way possible! To keep your dentures fitting and functioning great, it's recommended to replace your dentures every 7-10 years. You can read other patients comments on our website: *www.vandordenturecentre.com/blog.*

Helping people is our passion and this technique is just one way to make your experience one to smile about. Call today for your free consultation.



Denturist's wife Elisha holds the inventive tiny tool that's making a big difference when starting new dentures.

> VANDOR • DENTURE • CENTRE award-winning dentures and implants



Manitoba Winter Explorer Ideas

Winter fun for the whole family

Families who play together, stay together. Use our Winter Explorer Guide to welcome winter by planning some family activities—both indoors and outdoors—that will have you enjoying the snowy season with some extra laughs.



↑ FortWhyte Alive





SNOW MAZE

A Maze in Corn in **St. Adolphe** is home to the world's largest snow maze that holds the official Guinness title. The maze will take a family over 45 minutes to navigate, and warm-up fire pits and snow sculptures will help you navigate through the snowy corridors. Other activities include a sky-high toboggan run, horse-drawn sleigh rides and an ice bar.

INDOOR POOLS AND WATER PARKS

Plan a getaway to Elkhorn Resort or Hecla Lakeview Resort, two all-inclusive family resorts that boast top water parks, including outdoor pools and hot tubs. Check into a hotel with a waterslide, such as Days Inn (**Steinbach**), CanadInns Destination Centre (**Brandon**) and Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott (**Winnipeg**). Or plan a day trip for affordable family fun. **Swan Valley** and **Portage la Prairie** have great indoor pools at their recreation complexes.





Manitoba encompasses Treaty 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Territory and communities who are signatories to Treaties 6 and 10. It is the original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Anish-Ininiwak, Dakota, Dene, Ininiwak and Nehethowuk and the homeland of the Métis. Acknowledging these original caretakers is a reminder of our unique heritage, our important relationships and our obligations to and shared responsibilities with Indigenous peoples.



SCAN THIS OR CODE to open the Winter Explorer Guide on your phone.

TRAVEL SAFE IN MANITOBA

Keep yourself and others safe as you explore Manitoba. Remember to:

- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently
- 😌 Wear a mask
- Practice physical distancing
- Stay home when you're sick
- Be prepared to provide proof of vaccinations at restaurants, events and museums
- Follow all local travel restrictions

Travel Manitoba cannot guarantee that the attractions and businesses featured will be open and operating as described. While we strongly recommend that all tourism businesses adhere to the public health and safety measures set by the Government of Manitoba, we cannot guarantee the compliance of any business featured in this content. Please contact businesses directly for operating hours and policies.

JOURNEY TO CHURCHILL, ASSINIBOINE PARK ZOO

WINNIPEG

From Arctic foxes and ringed seals to wolves and polar bears, Journey to Churchill is the perfect winter activity, especially considering these animals love the cold weather. See polar bears swim in the underwater Sea Ice Passage or play outside your window at the Tundra Grill. The indoor Polar Playground is a great place for kids to burn more energy.

VALLEY VIEW TUBING HILL

Slide to your heart's content at the Valley View Tubing Hill located in the **Assiniboine River Valley**. Valley View is a perfect day trip for families with little ones who don't feel comfortable on skis or snowboards just yet. Kids of all ages will love swooshing down the hill and spinning in delight. The groomed run includes a tow rope system and tube rentals.



Local students build pond hockey nets for upcoming event

By Jennifer McFee

A group of local high school students has scored an opportunity to showcase their woodworking skills in a project that benefits the community. Stonewall Collegiate Institute's woodworking technology students are making pond hockey nets from repurposed wood for the Climate + Sport Initiative Event.

From Feb. 18 to 20, 2022, Kinsmen Lake will transform into an outdoor hockey rink for the much-anticipated event, which uses sport as a platform to educate, engage and empower Canadians to protect our environment for future generations.

The event will include a Save Pond Hockey game featuring Hayley Wickenheiser and other top athletes, along with many other exciting activities.

Woodworking technology teacher Garret Groves outlined a few reasons why his students are getting involved with the project.

"There is a fairly large hockey culture in Stonewall, and with climate being such a pressing issue today, it seems like a great way to combine the two," he said.

"We're hoping it results in a lot of the community getting together, seeing each other — which isn't always the norm these days — getting outside and seeing the message this event is hoping to get across pertaining to climate."

With sustainability in mind, the students are building the nets with recycled materials that might have ended up in a landfill or burned.

"I think it ties in very well with why we're having this event in the first place — creating less waste and helping the environment," Groves said, "which, in turn, has a great impact on our climate."



to build the pond hockey nets.

In total, about 10 students are involved in building the nets, which meet the specifications of the U.S. Pond Hockey website.

"I made the first one to get our measurements, and the students have been mass producing them from that design," Groves said.

"I think it really builds a sense of ownership, and also they are the ones using them when we get them on the ice."

Groves usually finds a way for his students to focus on giving something new life and making materials fresh again, so this project fits perfectly to serve that purpose.

"It's actually a project I have my Grade 11 class normally do," he said, "so it tied in great with my program at SCI."

Groves gives a shout out to Laine Wilson, recreation facilitator for the RM of Rockwood and the Town of Stonewall, for her hand in getting the recycled materials.

"Laine Wilson has been fantastic at organizing all of that and has been great to work with thus far," he said. Principal Jason Cassils said they

TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Students Rylan Slatcher, Carter Boughton and Hayden Wheddon honed their wordworking skills by helping to build the pond hockey nets.

overwhelmingly agreed to tackle the project when Wilson approached them, along with Randy Frykas, chair of the Save Pond Hockey event committee.

"It's nice to give back to the community. One of the goals that we have is to work with community," Cassils said.

"We've got such an amazing community, so it's nice to be able to help and give back. It makes the kids feel important, too, that they're part of this big project."

Frykas agrees that it's a win-win situation.

"We are so happy that the students at Stonewall Collegiate are able to help out with making the pond hockey nets," Frykas said.

"Not only is this an event focused on hockey and climate, it is also an event for the community. Our goal is to connect everyone and encourage community events like this one for years to come."

The Save Pond Hockey event is a collaboration among the Town of Stonewall, RM of Rockwood, Randy Frykas (Outdoor Hockey Club), Stonewall Minor Hockey, Stonewall Jets Hockey Club, R.E.A.C.T., CARHA Hockey, Community Living Interlake and Stonewall and Area local of the MMF Red River Métis.

The Climate and Sport Initiative is led by GLOBE Series, The Delphi Group, and Leading Change Canada, funded in part by the Government of Canada in partnership with the Clean Foundation, and championed by Hayley Wickenheiser.

Registration for the 3-on-3 tournament closes Dec. 17.

For more information, visit https:// www.carhahockey.ca/cms/stonewallpond-hockey or email info@outdoorhockey.club.

there may be special situations."

Addressing further questions about side effects, Hanna said they are primarily local where they received the injection (a sore arm), but there can be some systemic side effects such as fever, chills, muscle ache and fatigue, although they are believed to be much less common in the younger age group of children.

Reimer reiterated that studies did not show any more severe outcomes among younger children than any other age group, but it is something they continue to watch very carefully.

"We're talking about incredibly low numbers ... it's still such a low risk compared to what this infection is doing in our communities," she said.

Reimer also touched briefly on the most recent COVID variant of concern and noted that they still have more to learn about it.

"I think it's very clear that experts are worried about it, but we don't know how much more transmissible it is; we don't know the impact that it will have on how well the vaccine works, but what we do know is that the vaccine will work against this variant," she said.

"Is it going to be a little bit lower effectiveness? Maybe. We're far too early to know," she said."If you're vaccinated, you still have an army ready to go ... don't hold back on being as fully protected as you can be."

For more information, you can go online to ManitobaVaccine.ca. The site, created by physicians about CO-VID-19 vaccines, will be updated with answers to common questions about the pediatric vaccines.

> VACCINE, FROM PG. 16

vaccination ... the sooner you get the vaccine, the sooner you're going to see the benefits of getting that vaccine."

The doctors then went on to the waiting period for the second dose, noting that their current recommendation is an eight week period even though Health Canada has approved it a 21-day period.

"The reasoning for spacing it out by eight weeks instead is that a longer interval provides longer lasting and stronger protection," suggested Hanna.

"There can be some flexibility because everyone's treatment plan is a bit different," added Ashley Chopek, a pediatric oncology and bone marrow transplant specialist. "Overall, we really do want kids to get that eight week interval because it works better and we think it's safer ... it's probably still worth waiting ... I wouldn't rush that second dose," said Reimer, who noted one exception is related to First Nations communities where there is elevated risk. In that instance, they want to get the second doses done sooner because of the more severe outcomes being seen in some of these locations.

Hanna also noted that they don't want families to wait too long if their children have recently had other vaccinations, but they are recommending other vaccines not be given within two weeks of the COVID-19 shots.

"The main reason for that is to monitor for potential side effects ... it makes it very confusing if they've had multiple vaccines at one time ... however,



France, Rams win Canadian Bowl championship

By Brian Bowman

For the first time in franchise history, the Langley Rams are CJFL Canadian Bowl champions.

The Rams, whose roster includes former Interlake Thunder Alex France, posted a 37-0 shutout win over the London Beefeaters in London, Ont., on Saturday afternoon.

The team had quite the party that evening.

"It was wild," said France from Vancouver on Monday afternoon. "(It was great) except for the 8 a.m. plane ride the next day."

It's not every day a team wins a national championship

"It's still settling in slowly but surely," said France, 22, a receiver with the Rams. "It's definitely something that I'll never forget, that's for sure. We've been to the Canadian Bowl the past three years but this is the first time that we've been able to take it home. It's been 75 years in the making for the organization."

The Rams' defence was stifling, giving up just five first downs and a net offence of 20 yards. They also set a new Canadian Bowl record with 10 sacks and are arguably the best in CJFL history.

The Rams' defence pitched the Canadian Bowl's first shutout since 2003 and are the first B.C. Conference team to win a national championship since 2009.

"Everyone is calling them the best defence that the CJFL has ever seen," France noted.

France definitely feels he made the right decision in heading west to Langley to play football. It was a tough choice deciding to play in Langley or Winnipeg.

"We have a solid group of guys and most of us have been playing together for three, four years," he said, noting he has one more year of junior football eligibility."They're all-around a great group of guys and great friends. We all get along well."



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Alex France and the Langley Rams won the 2021 Canadian Bowl Championship after defeating the London Beefeaters 37-0 in London, Ont., last Saturday.



The Stonewall Skating Club had skaters compete in the Super Skate competition in Winnipeg last weekend. Gaia Turner and Mallory Desmarais won gold in CanSkate while Orren O'Neill captured gold in the Star 5 men's free program. Anna Hoff won gold in Star 1 Freeskate and a silver in Star 2 elements. Lucy Hoff earned a bronze in the Star 5 women's free program. Pictured, left to right: Orren O'Neill, Anna Hoff, Lucy Hoff, Gaia Turner and Mallory Desmarais.



Wildcats reach MHSAA 'AA' varsity girls' volleyball final

By Brian Bowman

The Warren Collegiate Wildcats proved they are one of the top MH-SAA "AA" varsity girls' volleyball teams in the province.

Warren reached the provincial final, losing 2-0 by scores of 21-25, 19-25 to the Major Pratt Trojans on Sunday evening.

The Trojans gave the Wildcats a tough test.

"They didn't let much hit the floor but our girls competed and worked hard," said Wildcats' head coach Tyler Oliver. "(Our girls) played absolutely excellent and they're games where you have a little bit of luck on your side and we didn't have any of that. I think we needed to have a few lucky breaks and we just didn't get them."

The Wildcats advanced to the championship game after soundly defeating Gabrielle-Roy Les Roys 2-0 (25-11, 25-10) in a semifinal match.

"They were cooking. That was a game where nothing could go wrong," Oliver said. "We needed that one to get to the final. In that semifinal, nothing could go wrong. We served great and put every ball in play."

In a quarter-final game, Warren beat



Alyssa-Lynn Procter, left, and Abby Cassidy were named MHSAA 'AA' provincial all stars.

Mikisew Mikisew 2-0 by scores of 25-14 and 25-10.

The Wildcats finished first in their four-team pool with a 3-0 record. Warren swept Major Pratt (25-21, 25-18) and the Souris Sabres (25-18, 25-18). The Wildcats also beat Gabrielle-Roy 2-1 by scores of 25-15, 23-25 and 15-7. The Wildcats had two players — Alyssa-Lynn Procter and Abby Cassidy — named provincial all stars.

"They were outstanding," Oliver



The Wildcats' Alyssa-Lynn Procter goes up high in the air for a kill.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER Warren Collegiate's Bryn-Lee Procter dives to keep the ball off the floor.

said. "We could have had three, four, five even, that could have all been (all stars). Alyssa and Abby were our horses all season. They're outstanding volleyball players and they will go on to bigger and better things after high school with volleyball, there's no doubt about it."

The Stonewall Collegiate Rams, meanwhile, were eliminated from the Boston Pizza "AAA" varsity girls' volleyball championship after a quarterfinal loss to the Niverville Panthers on Saturday afternoon.

Niverville won the match 2-0 by scores of 25-11 and 25-14.

The Rams finished with an 0-3 record in their four-team pool.

Stonewall lost 2-1 to the Neelin Spartans (25-16, 22-25, 10-15) and the Calvin Christian Eagles (24-26, 25-16, 13-15). The Rams were also defeated 2-0 (29-31, 22-25) by the Westgate Wings.

U18 Lightning snap 10-game losing skid

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning U18 "AAA" male hockey team's losing streak is over.

Interlake snapped a 10-game losing skid with a solid 3-0 win over the Pembina Valley Hawks on Saturday in Morden.

After two scoreless periods, Nic LeClair put Interlake on the board at 6:46 of the third. Kadyn McMahon added a power-play goal about four minutes later and then Liam Foley netted an empty-net goal with 13 seconds remaining.

Interlake outshot Pembina Valley 20-11 in the third.

Ty Hogue was outstanding in goal, stopping 49 Hawks' shots.

Last Wednesday, Interlake put forth

a solid effort in a 3-1 road loss to the Winnipeg Wild.

Keefe Gruener scored a shorthanded goal for the Wild just 4:38 into the game and then Jack Kabulak made it 2-0 about five minutes later.

McMahon scored the Lightning's lone goal on the power play at 15:52 of the third.

Winnipeg's Aiden Wuerfel replied with a power-play goal at 17:30 of the third.

Zach Meadows made 41 saves in the losing cause.

The Lightning will head east this weekend to play the Kenora Thistles on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday (3:30 p.m.).

In U18 "AAA" female action, Interlake was defeated 6-1 by the Yellow-

Graduating all-stars



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED The Warren Collegiate Wildcats' Lexie Carriere, left, and Abby Cassidy were recently named MHSAA Graduating All-Stars.

head Chiefs on Sunday.

The Lightning's Tessa Stewart scored her first goal of the season. Assists went to Kenady Christensen and Brooke Wadge.

Interlake goaltender Rachel Halldorson stopped 50 Yellowhead shots.

Earlier in the day, the Lightning dropped a 5-1 decision to Pilot Mound. Interlake's goal was scored in the third period by Sarah Shewchuk, assisted by Emerson McAuley and Mackenzie Waddell.

On Friday, Interlake was defeated 1-0 in overtime by the Central Plains Capitals.

Halldorson was very good in goal once again, making 51 saves.

The Lightning will play the Winnipeg Ice on Saturday (2 p.m.) at the Bell MTS Iceplex.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT

Interlake's Nic LeClair opened the scoring for Interlake in their 3-0 win over the Pembina Valley Hawks in Morden on Saturday



The Lightning's Andrew Thevenot, left, and Kaydyn McMahon celebrate Interlake's power-play goal.

Rams' hockey team continues to win

By Brian Bowman

The Stonewall Collegiate Rams' hockey team keeps on winning games this season.

Stonewall picked up another two wins last week, wrapping up action with a 6-3 home win over Poweview-Sagkeeng last Wednesday.

Stonewall is 9-1 in its past 10 games. "We're definitely on a roll since the beginning of November," said Rams' head coach Rene Comeault. "We've been in the win column a lot and it's been a lot of fun."

Gage O'Neil had a great game for Stonewall with two goals and two assists while Jace Woods chipped in with two goals and an assist.

The other Rams' goals were scored by Adam Newcombe and Ty Woods. Connor Crosby had two assists in the game.

Carter Courchene, Anthony Bruyere and Julius Guimond replied for Powerview-Sagkeeng.

Macrae Gard earned the win in goal. On Nov. 30, the Rams blasted the Kildonan East Reivers 8-1 at the Gateway Recreation Centre.

"Kildonan East, when you look at their team, they look like a big, strong looking team but for whatever reason ... we were able to take it to them," Comeault said. "Our forwards, again, were in attack mode and we spent a ton of time in the offensive zone. "In that game, we probably created our nicest goals of the season. There was some real unselfish play amongst our forwards and they were moving the puck around. We scored some beauties and that's nice to see." Stonewall, which built period leads of 4-1 and 6-1, received goals from Logan MacDuff, Reid Byle, Newcombe, Carter Boughton, Kael Brown, Ethan Rogowsky, Brody Stovin and Woods. MacDuff led the Rams with three points.

Jordan Ranger scored for Kildonan East, putting the puck past Gard.

The Rams have played some great defensive hockey this season, allowing just 26 goals in 13 league games.

"Our defencemen are an older group and they really do a great job getting the puck out of their end," Comeault said, noting the Rams have also had some excellent play from their goaltenders. "Our first pass has become very good and that's getting us out of the zone. The less time you spend in your defensive zone, the better. Once

they get that first breakout pass going ... then our forwards are taking over and their forecheck is tenacious. We're spending a lot of time in the offensive zone and getting results from that."

Stonewall has their sights on placing first in the Winnipeg Free Press West Division standings. The Rams are currently tied with St. John's Ravenscourt for top spot, each with 28 points.

"Honestly, when we started the season and we had been off all of last year, nobody in the league really had any idea how things were going to evolve," Comeault said. "We started out a little bit iffy ourselves but it's become a little bit more realistic that we can take a run at this thing."

The Rams will host the Shaftesbury Titans on Friday at 3:30 p.m.

U15 'AAA' Lightning struggle in lopsided losses

Staff

The Interlake Lightning gave up seven third-period goals in a 13-1 road loss to the Brandon Wheat Kings in U15"AAA" action last Saturday.

Evan Deprez scored a second-period goal for the Lightning.

The Wheat Kings goals were tallied by Cole Temple (four), Roan Michalchuk (three), Easton Odut (two), Brady Turko (two), Jaxon Jacobson and Dustin Bell. Last Wednesday, Interlake lost 7-1 to the Winnipeg Bruins Gold.

Deprez scored a second-period power-play goal for the Lightning.

Maxx Hamelin (three), Mikey Thomas (two), Danny Cross and Ridley Ringor tallied for Winnipeg.

Lightning goaltender Jackson Vandersteen stopped 50 Winnipeg shots.

The Lightning will visit the Parkland Rangers in McCreary on Friday (6:30 p.m.) and then will play the Southwest Cougars Saturday (2 p.m.) in Hartney.

The U17 "AAA" Lightning, meanwhile, were defeated 4-1 by the Winnipeg Wild on Friday in Warren.

Trailing 3-0 early in the second period, Interlake's Adam Vigfusson scored, assisted by Brandon Burak and Hayden Kaczorowski.

Marlen Edwards had a hat trick for Winnipeg while Reece Unrau also tallied. Interlake netminder Alex Myers stopped 41 Winnipeg shots.

Interlake will play the Winnipeg Bruins on Wednesday (6:30 p.m.) at Southdale West before hosting the Winnipeg Thrashers on Friday (7:30 p.m.) in Warren.

On Sunday at noon, the Lightning will take on the Wheat Kings in Brandon.

Mercs crowned by Royals

Staff

The Warren Mercs were crowned by the Winkler Royals in South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League action on Saturday evening.

Winkler led 3-2 after the first period and then blew the game wide open with four goals in the second on its way to a 9-3 home victory.

Chase Faulkner scored a goal and had two assists for Warren while Eric Swanson and Travis Bobbee also tallied. Winkler goals were scored by Remi Laurencelle (two), Mitch Fehr (two), Brendan Heppner, Brandon Friesen, Jamie Thiessen, Brett Dudar and Marlin Froese.

Mercs' goaltender Jarrett Hogue made 36 saves.

The Mercs, now 4-2 and tied for third place with Carman, hosted the Morden Bombers on Tuesday but no score was available.

Warren will host the Portage Islanders on Saturday at 8 p.m.



at Warren Arena



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY RICK HIEBERT

The Warren Mercs' Foster Bytheway checks the Royals' Carter Wall during SEMHL action last Saturday in Winkler.

Jets', Twisters' game postponed on Sunday

Staff

The Stonewall Jets' road game against the Pembina Valley Twisters was postponed on Sunday due to poor weather.

On Friday, the Jets played a solid game with a 3-1 victory over the Raiders Jr. Hockey Club in Stonewall.

Cole Emberly gave the Jets a 2-0 lead with a pair of first-period goals. He leads the Jets in goals scored this season with 16.

The Raiders' Levi Thiessen replied in the second period and then Stonewall's Hudson Chamberlin tallied in the third.

The Jets' Jaxon Blight had two assists in the game.

Liam Jardine made 24 saves for the

win.

Meanwhile, the Jets traded the Hockey Canada playing rights of Daniel Paseschnikoff to the St.Vital Jr. Victorias in exchange for the Hockey Canada playing rights of Carter Buschau and future considerations last week.

Later in the week, Stonewall dealt Greg Paseschnikoff to the Ft. Garry/ Ft. Rouge Twins for Nick Prystupa.

Just five days earlier, Buschau was acquired by St. Vital in a trade with the St. Boniface Riels. He started the season with the Charleswood Hawks. Stonewall, now 7-13-1, will host the Transcona Railer Express on Wednesday and the St. Boniface Riels Friday. Both games will start at 7 p.m.

Cockerill ties for 12th in South Africa

Staff

Aaron Cockerill fired rounds of 69 and 70 to finish tied for 12th at the 2021 DP World Tour Joburg Open in Johannesburg, South Africa. Due to increasingly inclement weather in the region, the third and fourth rounds of the event were cancelled.

With the finish, Cockrill earned \$12,144 euros and 20.61 points toward the DP World Tour Rankings where he sits in ninth position.

PHOTO SUBMITTED Aaron Cockerill sits in ninth position of the DP World Tour Rankings.





TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANA MEIER Jets' forward Cole Emberly scored a pair of first-period goals to lead Stonewall to a 3-1 home victory over the Raiders Jr. Hockey Club last Friday.



Trevor Gesell, middle, of Beausejour was the lucky winner of the Jets Track the Jack draw last Friday. Gesell won \$896. Pictured left to right: Jets' director of marketing Matt Wahoski, Gesell and Dale McClintock, president.

Stonewa





Wednesday, December 15 Stonewall Jets vs River East River Knights at 7:30 @ VMSC



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ified by Statutory Dec-

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at their offices. P.O.

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INSTRUCTION

Learn to line dance & laugh Tuesday and/ or Thursdays 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall, Stonewall. Two free classes. Call Donna 204-467-5455 for more info

WANTED

Wanted - Honda Big Red ATC 200 ES 3 wheeler. Must be in good running order. Ph. 1-204-376-5206.

FINDERS FARM & SERVICES ESTATE - we offer CASH for home contents, home & building clean outs, multiple consignment options. No middle man. Please call Dave at 1-431-374-4672.

204 PALLET AND

Like working with wood and working close to home?

204 Pallet & Packaging in Stony Mountain is looking for full time production workers. Wage depending on experience, and health benefits after 3 months. Please call 204-344-5404 for more details.



NOTICE TO Are you suffering from

CREDITORS joint or arthritic pain? IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of Marilyn Jean Rohne, late of the Postal District of Inwood, in Manitoba, deceased. mans and pets. EVA is

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, P.O. Box 1400, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0 on or before the 12th day of January, 2022. DATED at Stonewall,

Manitoba this 2nd day of December, 2021. **GRANTHAM LAW** OFFICES

Solicitor for the Administrators

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igraphic@mts.net

McSherry Auctions Online Timed Auctions

@ iCollector.com Last Estate & Moving Auction for 2021 Closes Wed Dec 15 @ 7:00 PM

First Estate & Moving Auction of 2022 Closes Wed Jan 5 @ 7:00 PM

Starting in 2022 - The last Estate & Moving Auction of each month will feature Guns & Ammo along with the regular items! Consignments Welcome! (204) 467-1858 or

(204) 886-7027 ncsherryauction.com

Rural Municipality of Woodlands LAND FOR LEASE

The R.M. of Woodlands is accepting tenders for the lease of the following lands available commencing January 1, 2022.

30.3 Acres	NW 20-14-2W
59.44 Acres	SE 34-13-3W
16.1 Acres	NE 22-15-3W
79.98 Acres	SW 35-15-3W
42.87 Acres	SW 29-13-1W

The lease of the property applies to the surface of the property only and for agricultural use only.

The lease shall be for a term of 5 years.

For further information contact R.M. of Woodlands, 204-383-5679 or by email at finance@rmwoodlands.ca

Sealed tenders must be dropped off at 57 Railway, Woodlands, MB bv 4:30 December 23, 2021.

Classifieds - A great way to advertise your business! Call 204-467-5836



Winter Road Haul 2022 **Class 1 Drivers** needed for deliveries in MB & NW Ont. (800) 665-4302 ext. 251

> or email: orderdesk@ penneroil.ca



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Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204.947.1691 or email classified@mcna.com

www.mcna.com

Classified and Notice booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication.

Call 204-467-5836



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Driving Position

Stonewall Teulon

We have an opening for a long-haul driver. No waiting for back-hauls.

Our customers are located in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Iowa, South Dakota and Minnesota Compensation is paid on an hourly basis. We have a health package including dental, a deferred profit sharing plan, and paid meals while outside of the province

For further information call Shaunne at 204-886- 2922 ext 205 or email resume to shaunne@charisons.ca

CLANDEBOYE AVE in Selkirk **Executive Mall OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE**



Property Features

Total square Footage 1700, includes eight offices of various sizes, a board room and a front reception area. Current tenants include Sun Life Financial, a Massage Therapist, an Esthetician, Glow Fitness for Women and the Selkirk Record. The building was upgraded in 2012. Both the reception and board room are shared, there are currently two offices available for lease.

For information please contact: **BIG Real Estate** 204-485-0010



email bigandcolourful@mts.net



Manitoba Government **Job Opportunities**

Construction Worker Nine (9) Departmental Full-Time Positions Manitoba Infrastructure, Water Operations, Morris, Ashern, Grosse Isle, Carman, Teulon, The Pas, Dauphin, MB Advertisement Number: 38406 Closing Date: December 19, 2021

Salary Range: \$39,360.00 - \$43,409.00 per year; remoteness allowance where applicable

The Manitoba government recognizes the importance of building an exemplary public service reflective of the citizens it serves, where diverse abilities, backgrounds, cultures, identities, languages and perspectives drives a high standard of service and innovation.

The Manitoba government supports equitable employment practices and promotes representation of designated groups (women, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, visible minorities).

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

Introduction

Water Operations has nine (9) full-time departmental Construction Worker vacancies in Ashern, Morris, Carman, Dauphin, Teulon, Grosse Isle, and The Pas. As well, the eligibility list will be used to fill future departmental and/or seasonal Construction Worker positions in the province within the next 12 months.

We are seeking highly motivated individuals that are results oriented with a strong work ethic to work within our Water Operations Branch. We offer a competitive benefits package, extensive orientation, certification and training, with opportunities for professional growth and advancement. Water Operations ensures safe and effective provincial water related infrastructure through the delivery of inspection, planning, design, maintenance, rehabilitation and construction activities. The Branch is responsible for the overall management of infrastructure inventory that includes: drains, dams, flood protection dikes, diversions, bridges, culverts and pumping stations.

For a complete list of conditions of employment and qualifications please visit our website at: www.manitoba.ca Applications must describe how the applicant meets the requirements of the position to be considered further.

Duties:

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

Apply to:

Advertisement No. 38406 Service Centre 3 Human Resource Services 600-155 Carlton Street Winnipeg, MB, R3C 3H8 Phone: 204-945-8819 Fax: 204-948-3382 Email: govjobs@gov.mb.ca

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

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

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

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

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

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manitoba.ca/govjobs



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

Announcements Tribune

Book Your Announcements or Classified Ads Today -Call 467-5836 or Email classifieds@stonewallteulontribune.ca

5 GENERATIONS

BIRTHDAY



5 Generations of the **Chwartacki/Sherlock Family** Great-great-grandmother Zennith Chwartacki, great-grandmother Beverly Sherlock, grandfather Vincent Sherlock. father Darren Sherlock and baby Kaydence (Rose) Sherlock.



Happy 80th Birthday, Granny! Best wishes as you begin your 80th voyage around the sun!! (November 30th, 1941) -Love all of your family and friends





Interlake School Division is hiring Substitute:

Educational Assistants Bus Drivers Custodians **Teachers**

Please visit the Employment Opportunities section of our website for the application forms www.interlakesd.ca.

Interlake School Division welcomes applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available upon request during the hiring process.

Further information can be obtained by calling 204-467-5100.

Announcements

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM





Velma and Charlie Slater Mum and Dad, we are so grateful for all the happy times with you and will keep those memories in our hearts forever. The magical Christmases in Balmoral are with us all every December. Your lives were a gift to us. You will never be forgotten. -Love, Carol, Heather, Jean and Joan, and families





Dennis Riter

December 24, 1945 - December 8, 2020 We think of the things you used to say, And all that you would do; And at some point, every single day, Our thoughts return to you. To lose you was a bitter wrench, The pain cutting to the core; We cried until our tears ran out, And then we cried some more. This wouldn't be your wish for us, That we be forever sad; So we try to remind ourselves, Of all the happy times we had. We know we can't be with you now. And you can't stay with us; But safe inside our hearts you'll always stay, That's where you'll always be.

-Betty, Rachel (Dallas), Shannon, Lenore (Darcy), grandchildren Travis (Vikki), Colby, Jaclyn (Andre), Charlyn (Jonah), great-grandson Jasper

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email classifieds@stonewallteulontribune.ca



September 4, 1938 - November 27, 2021

On Saturday morning, Dad peacefully passed into eternity surrounded by his loved ones.

He was born in Iberville Community on September 4, 1938. He moved to Rock Lake Community in 1947 and resided there until Keystone was established in 1993. He married Kate Basel on June 30, 1963. Together they were blessed with six children. Dad was a people's person. He enjoyed nothing more than hosting and visiting friends. He was a great storyteller. He loved spending time with his grandchildren, often taking them on rides on his golf cart.

Eight years ago he was diagnosed with dementia, which deteriorated his health until the end. We rejoice with you that your suffering is over on this earth. Ruhe Sanft, Dad!

Our sincere thank you to the Stonewall Home Care team, most especially Sherrie, Megan, Tammy, Annette, Collene, Bonnie, Marilyn, Matthew, Tyler, Randy and Janice and many more. We will always remember your love and care shown to our Dad!

OBITUARY



Sophia Elizabeth Klimpke April 13, 1926 – December 4, 2021 Peacefully, Sophia Elizabeth Klimpke, in her 96th year, passed away at the Stonewall Hospital on Saturday, December 4th, 2021. She was born in the RM of Rockwood in the Stonewall District on April 13, 1926

Mom is by our father's side now and that is exactly where she wanted to be.

She is survived by her children Kenneth (Audrey), Barbara (George) and Leonard (Karen). She is also

survived by her six grandchildren: Kimberly, Andrea, Kent, Timothy, Lauren and Myles. She is also survived by 12 great-grandchildren.

Predeceased by her husband of 74 years, John and her parents Colin and Nancy McDonald. Predeceased also by her grandson Douglas Williams. Mom was also predeceased by her three brothers and five sisters.

Mom met Dad at school when she was in grade 5 and Dad was in grade 7. Their relationship was sealed as they married about 10 years later. They lived at the family farm located in Rosser for about 50 years before retiring and moving to Stonewall.

Mom was a lifelong member of Immanuel Lutheran Church. She was an avid sports fan and followed her children all over the province attending hockey games, baseball games and football games. Mom was renowned for her unbiased analysis of all types of sports not just limited to hockey or baseball. She was also a very active member of the Stonewall Legion Branch #52.

Funeral Service will be held on Friday, December 10 at 11:00 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2528 King Edward Street, Winnipeg. Pastor Mark Just officiating. Interment to follow at Lilyfield Cemetery. Double vaccination along with masking will be mandatory to attend.

In lieu of flowers, if friends so desire, donations can be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2528 King Edward Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2R 2Y8 or to the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch Number #52 located in Stonewall, Manitoba.

A special thank you to the Stonewall Hospital for their excellent care given to our mother and grandmother. Thank you to Ken Loehmer for guiding us through this process with such care and compassion.



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OBITUARY

Cecilia (Cecile) Hubar Cecile Hubar formerly of Stony Mountain, passed away at the Gimli Hospital on Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

Lovingly remembered and forever in our hearts, husband Daniel Hubar, daughter Tracy (Fred), grandson Nicholas; daughter Roxanne (Glen).

Cremation has taken place, with a private service to be held at a later date.



28 The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, December 9, 2021

