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Stonewall Teulon Tribune

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 24, 2015
VOLUME 6 EDITION 52

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A "tree-mendous" musical

TRIBUNE PHOTO BY MONICA BALDWIN

The students of Rosser School presented the Animal's Christmas Tree mini-musical on Dec. 17 for family and friends. Kindergarten students pictured left to right, Tiago, Madison, Mackenzie and Gabriel opened the show.

news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know



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A very 'bear'y merry holiday concert



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

Grade 1 and 2 English students of École R.W. Bobby Bend School were transformed into polar bears, black bears and grizzly bears during their holiday concert on Dec. 16. A variety of 'bear'y fun Christmas carols were sung including Jingle Bears, while the students learned how the different bears can get along while living in harmony.

Stonewall council news in brief

By Jennifer McFee

At the Dec. 16 meeting, Stonewall council appointed assistant CAO Doreen Steg as acting CAO of the town since former CAO Anne Burns is no longer in the position.

The town will wait to advertise for a new CAO for now.

"We will let Doreen fill the position for now and I'm sure she'll do well at it," Mayor Lockie McLean said by phone.

"We'll just pause on advertising for the time being."

Daycare

Council granted conditional use for a home on 1st Street East to be used for a licensed home-based daycare for preschool-aged children.

No one attended the public hearing to speak on the issue.

"It's a good thing to see," McLean said. "The community needs that."

Cemetery plot

A resident who owns a plot in the cemetery wants to sell it to a relative for \$500. Town bylaws states that this

would be possible with permission of council so that the deed is correct, as long as the plot is not sold for more than its current value.

Council approved the request.

Sunova sidewalk

Sunova had requested that the town undertake some sidewalk work while the business does construction on its front steps. Council declined to put any money towards that project.

Community Futures

Council nominated Jim Simons to be a citizen representative on the East Interlake Community Futures board

of directors.

Second ACL public hearing

A second public hearing will be held Jan. 6 for the Association of Community Living's request to rent a home on Rossmere Crescent for three individuals with 24-hour support.

Council will vote on the issue at the same council meeting.

The second meeting has been scheduled because Mayor Lockie McLean inadvertently shared an email with council related to the issue.

Former CAO Anne Burns said that no information related to the hearing could be spoken about after it was closed. As a result, the town will hold a second hearing.

Wishing all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



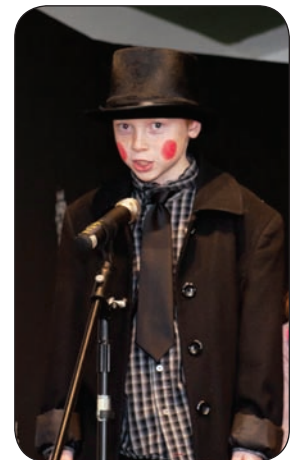
A tree-mendous evening

Staff

Rosser School presented The Animals Christmas Tree Dec 17 at Grosse Isle Recreation Club.

When the animals of Winter Wood awaken to find that their favorite pine tree is missing from the forest, they join together and mount a grand search. Having no luck in the sky, the treetops, the briar, or the brook, Cardinal, Bear, Squirrel, and Deer eventually discover their precious pine displayed in the town square of Merryville just as the annual tree lighting celebration begins.

The animals watch in wonder as the festive villagers decorate the tree, making it more beautiful than ever. The Mayor declares that he will plant a new tree in Winter Wood, and the animals vow to love and nurture the young sapling in order to give it back to the Merryvillians next Christmas.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY MONICA BALDWIN

Facebook group gives up to the minute highway info

By Jeff Ward

Driving on the highway can be a dangerous thing, even during the best possible conditions. And that danger grows when there's snow, water or even black ice on the road. However, there's a Facebook group devoted to keeping drivers safe and updating everyone on current highway conditions.

The Highway #6 Road Conditions group is more than 5,300 strong and presents the most-up-to-date highway conditions available. Users of the page, who use the highway regularly, update road conditions.

The page is active at all hours of the day with users asking about road conditions in certain areas.

"I'm leaving Eriksdale and heading to Fairford, what's the road like?" asks one user. "Conditions perfect between St. Martin and Ashern," posts another. All of this information is helping keep Highway 6 drivers safe as the weather turns those commutes into a more

dangerous affair.

"I think the biggest benefit to the group is that it's real-time and immediate. You never have to wait long for an answer," said Shawn Cote, the admin of the page, who says she gets a few hundred requests to join every few days.

"People are getting important information immediately. They tag their friends in statuses to let them know about what they're heading into and it's helping keep people safe on the road. People even post pictures, from the passenger seat of course, of the current conditions so people looking to head out are now able to see exactly what the conditions look like."

In a recent poll on the group page,

a vast majority of the users said they use the page once a day or more, and many use it two to three times a week. In the comments on the poll, many stressed the importance of using the group as a tool that keeps them safe. Many of the users travel for work or tend to visit family frequently and use the group to evaluate how much extra time they will need during their commute.

"One of the best parts of the group is that there's no extra nonsense going on in it. I moderate the group so that the only stuff that ap-

pears there is the most important information. No one needs to go searching to find what they need," said Cote.

For those wanting to become apart of the Facebook group, all they need to do is search "Highway #6 Road Conditions & The Grader Guys" in their Facebook search bar and hit the join button.

"I THINK THE BIGGEST BENEFIT TO THE GROUP IS THAT IT'S REALTIME AND IMMEDIATE. YOU NEVER HAVE TO WAIT LONG FOR AN ANSWER."

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Reality Christmas



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY MONICA BALDWIN

Students of Grosse Isle School sang and danced the night away hoping to win votes on their spoof of a reality TV show on Dec 16 at Grosse Isle Recreation Club. Fans were amused and entertained as each of Santa's eight reindeer auditioned for a panel of important judges including Rudolph, Mrs. Claus and Santa himself.



Winter driving fun has begun



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Provincial Highway 8, north of Gimli, had drivers on high alert during the province's first real snowfall on Dec. 16.

Staff

Highways in the Interlake disappeared under ice and snow when the province experienced its first real blast of wintery weather last Wednesday.

Snow-covered roads, ice buildup and reduced visibility on Highway 8 north of Gimli made for a slow journey and some white-knuckled episodes when passing semis and plows caused whiteouts.

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Interlake School Division news in brief

By Jo-Anne Procter

Wayne Davies delivered his last report as assistant superintendent for the Interlake School Board at the Dec. 14 Board of Trustees meeting.

Davies has resigned and will be replaced by SCI principal Margaret Ward. A motion was passed approving the employment contract with Ward for the position of assistant superintendent for a three-year term from Jan. 1, 2016 to Dec. 31, 2018.

Davies expressed thanks to the school board.

"I have enjoyed my 16 months," he said. "You guys have been terrific. This is a great place to work. It is a great place for people and their kids."

Board chair Alan Campbell responded with kind words.

"You have made a significant impact here in a relatively short amount of time," he told Davies. "Your contribution has been important."

Current SCI vice-principal Jason Cassils has been appointed acting principal until the end of the school year. The school board appointed John Loochuk, vice-principal of Stony Mountain School, to the position of interim vice-principal of Stonewall Collegiate from Jan. 4 to June 30, 2016.

The school board also appointed Brooke Darragh, guidance teacher at Stony Mountain, to the 0.25 position of interim vice-principal of Stony Mountain from Jan. 4 to June 30, 2016.

Student travel

The SCI travel group requested final approval to take 21 students on an international study tour of Italy, Croatia

and Slovenia during the spring break of 2016.

Four trustees opposed the motion due to safety concerns at this time.

Trustee Dave Harcus stated that he has supported international trips in the past but could not support a vote at this time.

"I think that international climate for travel is not good for safety reasons and I don't feel that it is proper that the school division endorse international travel at this time," he said.

"It is likely that nothing will happen, but we are still endorsing students in our division to travel if we approve this motion."

He told the board that some schools in Calgary and Edmonton have suspended travel for students.

Travel is booked through EF Tours and the refund is not great, especially as the date of the trip gets closer.

Board chair Alan Campbell said that the division sought out some direction from the risk manager from the Manitoba School Board Association and he echoed considerations that other boards have taken.

The ISD also considers the Government of Canada's recommendations for travel to particular countries when making decisions about approving trips. In the past, trips have been denied based on recommendations from the federal government.

"The recommendation was that we not stray from Government of Canada travel advisories at this time," Campbell said. "Certainly a close eye be kept on the situation in Europe — and everywhere, for that matter."

The board's policy guideline recom-



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

ISD Asst. Superintendent Wayne Davies (right) thanked the board and administration for their support over the past 16 months. Davies resigned his position as of Dec. 31.

mends a ratio of one chaperone per 10 students. There are 21 students and two chaperones for this particular trip, which exceeds the recommended guideline. The board has made it clear that for this motion to be approved, there will need to be a third chaperone approved and identified to the superintendent's department by the

first of February.

"If that is not met, support will be withdrawn," Campbell said.

At the same meeting a motion was passed for the Teulon Collegiate travel group to take six students on a Service Learning Tour to the Dominican Republic during spring break 2106.

Best Wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.
From Management & Staff

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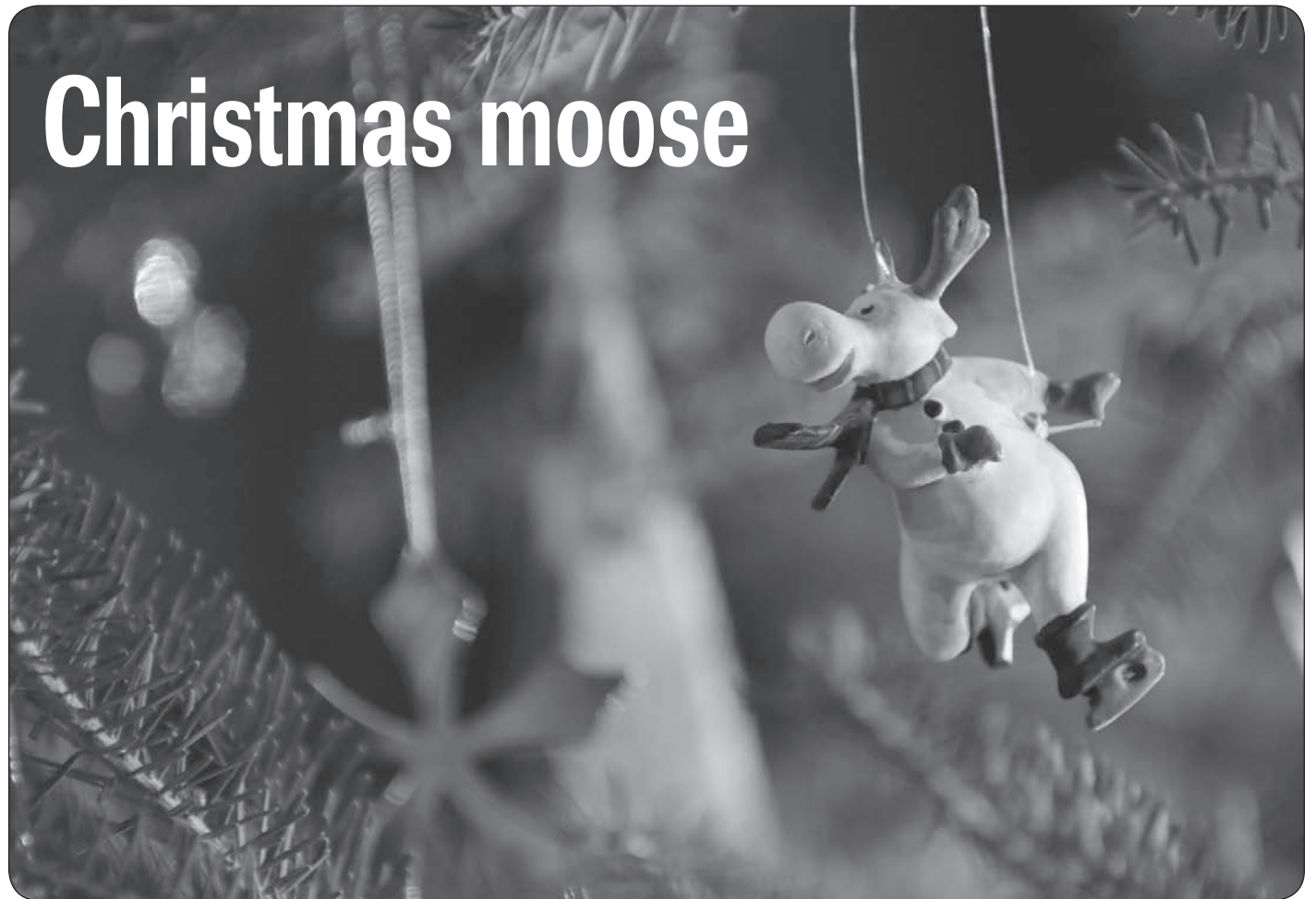


ADMINISTRATION
Jo-Anne Procter



getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS



Christmas moose

Liberty Tax warns of phone scam targeting Interlake region

Staff

Liberty Tax would like tax payers to know a phone scam targeting them is still ongoing.

"We have had several calls from our clients who have been very upset about being told that they have filed fraudulent tax returns," Liberty Tax Selkirk branch manager Jane Wunnemann said adding this month along they have had about six calls about this scam and she believes they are now targeting the Interlake

region. "They are being told that they owe \$3,000 to \$5,000 in penalties and interest.

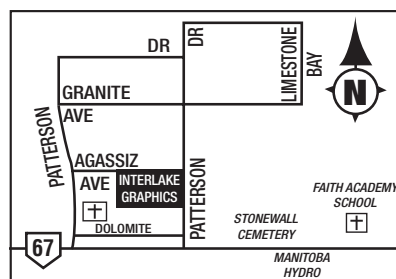
"The callers have very heavy accents and are claiming to have employee ID numbers. If you owe Revenue Canada they would send you out a notice of reassessment explaining why you would have a bill."

Wunnemann added the only people Revenue Canada calls are those who own their own businesses and owe are large sum of money.

"Please let it be known that Revenue Canada only contacts you by mail," she said.

Wunnemann advises anyone who receives these types of calls to get their names and numbers if possible and report it to RCMP or Revenue Canada. She added callers are asking people to send money to Money Mart and are threatening to send police to their house if they don't.

Advertising Deadline: Monday 4:00 pm prior to Thursday Publication



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Promoting successes of entrepreneurs with disabilities

Just Watch Me! video contest launches in Manitoba and Saskatchewan

By Jeff Ward

Community Futures is celebrating the success of entrepreneurs with disabilities by holding a video contest, where participants can win up to \$1,000.

The Just Watch ME! video contest is open to any entrepreneur who either has a self-identified disability or ongoing health conditions and who are operating a business in either rural Manitoba or Saskatchewan. Anyone interested in the contest needs to submit a two to three minute video about their business and upload it to the contest website, www.justwatchmecontest.ca by Jan. 20, 2016.

"This is such a great opportunity for people living with disabilities to showcase their talents and passions. So often their achievements go unrecognized and if it wasn't for Just Watch ME, so many people would not have had the pleasure of seeing and hearing [last year's winner's story]," said Lorraine Nickel, evening news anchor

on Global Winnipeg and the Manitoba ambassador for the contest.

Last year's winner was, Sydney Deneka, who runs Kozy Kritters by Sydney out of Beausejour. Deneka sells handmade blankets for babies and pets and suffers from a rare genetic disorder called, Coffin Siris syndrome, which effects her hearing, vision, communication, social and cognitive functioning. However, none of this has stopped Deneka from realizing her passion and turning that into a viable business. She donates \$1 from the sale of each blanket to pet rescues and shelters and to date she has donated over \$560 and many of her blankets as well, according to her website, www.kozykritters.ca.

Deneka's video submission from last year has been viewed more than 8,000 times and the attention she gained from winning the contest has translated into growth for the business.

"The video contest was a great experience. It helped spread the word

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sydney Deneka won \$1,000 for her business Kozy Kritters last year and said the contest was a great experience for business owners with disabilities. Community Futures is hoping to see even more amazing stories this year in the Just Watch ME! video contest.

about my blanket business. I have a new workroom thanks to the \$1,000 prize money I won and a new website. My community has supported me and everyone knows what I do for pets

and babies," said a proud Deneka.

The deadline for submissions to the contest is Jan. 20 and the winners will be announced on Feb. 18.

Nominate a volunteer for provincial award

Staff

Do you know a volunteer who deserves to be recognized?

If so, you can nominate them for the 2016 Premier's Volunteer Service Award, which recognizes individuals, youth and community groups.

In co-operation with Volunteer Manitoba, the premier's office established the award to honour the efforts and dedication of outstanding volunteers in Manitoba. At the same time, the award recognizes and encourages the valuable services performed by volunteers throughout the province.

In the individual category, awards will be presented to five exceptional volunteers who have contributed significantly to the quality of life in their communities.

In the youth leadership category, Manitobans under age 25 will be recognized for their volunteer contributions to their schools, organizations or community groups. These young people serve as role models and encourage other youth to contribute to a better community.

In the community groups category, three community groups will be recognized for improving the quality of life in Manitoba through extraordi-

nary collective volunteer efforts of members.

Any organization or any living Manitoban that has actively been involved in volunteer service can be nominated, as long as the service is entirely voluntary and not for pay. The volunteer must have occurred in Manitoba, and individuals of any age are eligible.

An independent panel of judges will review all nominations and select the award recipients. All nominators and candidates will be notified in writing of the judges' decisions.

Premier Greg Selinger will present the awards at Volunteer Manitoba's

annual Volunteer Week awards dinner on April 28, 2016 at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg. Each nominee will receive a certificate of

recognition. The nomination deadline is Feb. 5, 2016. For more information, call 1-800-282-8069 or visit www.manitoba.ca/volunteer.

Speeders, break-ins causing trouble in Teulon

By Natasha Tersigni

Teulon RCMP Const. Ryan Guest appeared at the Teulon council meeting on Dec. 8 as a delegation to present the local detachment's report from January 2015 to the end of November 2015.

Incidents that the local authorities have been dealing with in recent months include investigating several break-ins and the ongoing issues of speeders in town.

"The major concerns on our part are the recent break-ins in town that have been an ongoing issue for us. I can't say too much but I can let you know that we have taken additional measures to catch the culprits. We are taking this very seriously," said Guest who also told council that a new corporal will be coming to Teulon in January, which will decrease the number of vacancies in the detachment from two to one.

"With the new corporal who will be starting in January, we will be up to 80 per cent man power," added Guest.

"We are still amalgamated with the Stonewall detachment so we do spend a portion of our time down there in that area. The benefit to the Teulon area is they are spending time up here as well, because we cannot staff the detachment 24 hours a day seven days a week. The times we are not on duty they are covering our area, so that helps."

After being informed by council that a number of complaints have been made by residents regarding speeders on 7th Ave, Guest said he would take measures to address it.

"We do have our traffic units that are based out of Selkirk and Headingly and they do come up in this area and they have been coming quite often as of recently. They have issued a number of speeding tickets; I can ask them to target specific streets."



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY NATASHA TERSIGNI
Teulon RCMP Const. Ryan Guest appeared at the Dec. 8 Teulon council meeting to discuss the quarterly RCMP report.

Student Councillor

Grade 12 Teulon Collegiate Institute student Jessica Johnston has been appointed to the position of student councillor for the 2015-16 school year. TCI Principal Paul Magnan recommended Johnston for the position. After graduation in June, Johnston plans on pursuing a nursing degree at the University of Manitoba.

Committee and Board Appointments for 2016

The 2016 councillor appointments for town committees were approved and are as follows: Finance and Administration (Jim Dola and Bert Campbell), Protective Services (Mayor Campbell and council as a whole), Public Works (Dola and Michael Ledarney), Environmental Management (Ledarney and Danny Hutchinson), Community Resources (Ledarney, Cherise Griffin and Hutchinson), Crescent Creek Park (Mayor Campbell and council as a whole), Teulon in Bloom (Griffin)



Jessica Johnston, a Grade 12 student at Teulon Collegiate Institute, has been appointed as the 2015-16 student councillor for the Town of Teulon.

and Age Friendly (Griffin).

Councillors on community boards for 2016 include: Interlake Tourism Association (Ledarney), Teulon-Rockwood Fire Commission (Campbell and Ledarney), South Interlake Planning District (Campbell and Dola), Teulon and District Handi-Van Services (Griffin), Teulon and District Senior Resource Council (Campbell), South Interlake Regional Library (Hutchinson), South Interlake Emergency Measures (Campbell and Griffin as alternate), Teulon and District Chamber of Commerce (Hutchinson and Dola as alternate), East Interlake Conservation District (Campbell), Interlake Community Foundation (Griffin), East Interlake Regional Health Committee (Ledarney and Campbell), South Interlake Teens At Risk Steering Committee (Hutchinson), Teulon-Rockwood Recreation Committee (Dola), Rockwood Rosser Weed Control (Hutchinson).

The council has made the following Citizen appointments: Teulon and District Handi-Van Services (Jill

Young), Interlake Community Foundation (Linda L), South Interlake Regional Library (Yvonne Dola), East Interlake Conservation District (Scott Skinner), Teulon-Rockwood Recreation Commission (James Hardy, Beth Hutchinson and Ledarney)

As well, council passed the resolution to have Jim Dola continue in his position as Deputy Mayor for 2016.

Teulon parade donation

It was announced that during this year's Holiday Magic Christmas Parade on Nov. 20, volunteers collected approximately \$700 from parade goers for the Teulon and District Christmas Cheer Board. The money will be used to purchase food and other items for Christmas hampers that will be distributed throughout the community for those in need this holiday season.

Animal Bylaw Recommended

The Public Works committee recommended that council pass a new bylaw that would allow town residents to have more than two dogs if they purchase a yearly kennel license at \$250 a year. The recommendation was made in conjunction with the town's animal control bylaw officer Justin Sowa to address to residents that have moved to town and have already had more than the allowed two dogs as stated in Teulon's existing animal bylaw.

"He brought up a scenario for us that if somebody moves here with three dogs, we can recommend that the bylaw be amended to included a kennel license. You cannot get additional dogs, once one dog dies," said Dola.

"If we try and remove the dogs we could get into some real court battles, so (Sowa) suggested this is the way to go."

With council's approval, the public works committee will now draft a bylaw amendment which will be presented to council at a future council meeting.

Assisted Living Facility

Council approved moving forward on establishing a committee that will look into conducting a feasibility study on an assisted living facility being built in Teulon. The project will be headed by Teulon's Community Resource Officer Colleen Engel and in January Engel will begin to form a housing committee with interested residents and stake holders to help move the project forward.

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Snowmobilers urged to be safe on trails this season

STARS teamed up with SNOMAN for a mock rescue of a snowmobiler

By Natasha Tersigni

The importance of exercising safe practices when out riding on the snowmobile trails is something Joe Thieven knows firsthand. The Stonewall resident was badly injured two years ago on backcountry trails in Michigan while sledding with his wife. Although not properly prepared, the situation turned out well for Thieven who, despite having his snowmobile roll on top of him and suffering a broken arm, six broken ribs and a broken thumb, was able to drive his sled five miles to catch a ride to the hospital.

"There was no cell service or any ability to communicate with anyone; we were by ourselves and we were forced to ride out," said Thieven who is now an advocate for snowmobile safety and wants fellow riders to take the proper precautions before heading out for a day on the trails.

To help drive the message of safety home, Thieven participated in a mock snowmobile accident on Dec. 8 with the Shock Trauma Air Rescue Service (STARS) air ambulance at their base in Winnipeg. The demo, which was STARS ambulance responding to a snowmobiler suffering a stroke in a remote area, was to show how STARS can respond to snowmobile accidents in remote areas.

Already this season STARS responded to a snowmobile accident near Ri-

verton when a passenger without a helmet fell off the back of a snowmobile.

STARS is able to provide a high level of care on the scene of a snowmobile accident with on flight paramedics and critical care nurses. As well, the helicopter can also access terrain that is more difficult for conventional ground responders to access.

"If you are in a remote area, or an area where it is taking ground paramedics a long time to access, we can fly in and evacuate the patient quicker," said STARS flight paramedic Grant Therrien.

"For STARS here in Manitoba it is a pretty regular occurrence that we are out on the snowmobile trails either responding to medical emergency or trauma that occurred through collisions or falls off of snowmobiles."

Therrien added that snowmobilers should ride with safety in mind including riding sober, follow the rules of the trails, never ride alone, use protective equipment such as helmets and gloves and dress for the weather to prevent frostbite.

If riders are hitting the trails in Manitoba and an accident does occur, Thieven is confident that STARS can help snowmobilers.

"STARS provides a service that is not offered in other parts of North America. I would have been thankful



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

After suffering a traumatic snowmobile accident two years ago, Stonewall resident Joe Thieven reminds riders to include safety and emergency equipment when hitting the trails. Thieven is now an advocate for snowmobile safety and wants riders to take the proper precautions when enjoying the winter activity.

to have that helicopter come and pick me up," said Thieven who added it is still a rider's responsibility to prepare before hitting the trails.

"Today I carry a spot tracker, which is a GPS locator, a cell phone, first aid

kit and emergency equipment. I also never travel alone. If I was by myself when my accident happened I wouldn't have survived, I would have never been able to walk the five miles out."



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

To drive home the message of safety on the trails this season Snoman (Snowmobilers of Manitoba) and STARS air ambulance in Winnipeg, joined forces for a mock rescue of a snowmobiler last Tuesday.

Family
New Year's Eve

December 31st, 2015
11:00 am - 5:00 pm

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Governments support Manitoba's dairy sector

News Release

The governments of Canada and Manitoba will provide \$2.5 million toward the construction of a modern dairy processing facility in St. Boniface, Federal Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay and Manitoba Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development Minister Ron Kostyshyn announced Dec. 15.

"The Government of Canada is com-

mitted to supporting this country's dynamic agricultural industry, which is a key driver of jobs and economic growth," said Minister MacAulay. "This project is a great opportunity for governments to support private sector efforts, through Growing Forward 2, to modernize and expand the dairy processing sector in Manitoba."

The new facility, owned by Parmalat Canada Inc., will be built at the

St. Boniface Industrial Park Phase 2, a 180-acre site off Dugald Road and east of Lagimodiere Boulevard. The decision to replace an aging building with a new, \$50-million facility in a new location will allow the company to increase production with modern equipment in a neighbourhood more suitable for its business. Government funding will be used for energy and water-use reduction equipment,

waste-water treatment and new processing equipment.

"Manitoba is proud to support this strategic investment to maintain and secure good jobs, create opportunities for growth in the agricultural sector and benefit Manitoba's economy," said Minister Kostyshyn. "This expansion is important to the future of the food processing and dairy industries in Manitoba and we are committed to seeing this project move forward."

Minister Kostyshyn noted this initiative supports Manitoba's goal of creating a \$5.5-billion value-added food industry by 2022.

In July of this year, the City of Winnipeg announced it would sell city-owned property in St. Boniface to Parmalat Canada worth \$2.625 million, allowing the company to keep its dairy operation in Winnipeg. Offset by the sale of the land, the city, the province and Parmalat Canada will cover the \$5.61 million cost to extend services like electrical and water to the new facility.

"I am very pleased that the new facility will set Parmalat up for success in Winnipeg and will position the company to act as a catalyst attracting further business to St. Boniface Industrial Park," said Mayor Brian Bowman, City of Winnipeg. "I would like to thank our federal and provincial partners for joining the city in contributing to ensure Parmalat's continued growth in Winnipeg for many years to come."

Parmalat Canada employs 139 Manitobans at facilities in St. Boniface, St. Claude and Grunthal. New hires are expected once the expanded facility in St. Boniface becomes operational in 2017.

"Parmalat Canada is pleased to have such enthusiastic partners in the provincial and federal governments and the City of Winnipeg for this important expansion," said Jean Paul Quiblier, vice-president, operations, Parmalat Canada. "Local dairy producers have been extremely supportive in providing us with the raw materials to make a world-class product, and this investment shows our company's commitment and support of agriculture in Manitoba."

Funds for this project were issued as part of Growing Forward 2, a five-year, federal-provincial-territorial policy framework to advance the agriculture industry. The federal and provincial governments are investing \$176 million in Manitoba, helping producers and processors become more innovative and competitive in world markets.

Interlake Towing earns excellence award

By Jennifer McFee

Interlake Towing can consider 2015 a successful year since the local company has pulled in another impressive award.

The business has earned a CAA and AAA award for Service Provider of Excellence for 2015, which is based on customer feedback from surveys.

Owner Don Lochrie is proud of the achievement, noting that the company also won a second award from CAA plus additional awards in previous years.

"It's good. It's really nice," he says. "We're getting a lot of good feedback from it."

Lochrie has been running the business with his son Darryl for the past six years, serving the Interlake area with their two tow trucks, one deck truck and one service truck.

"We serve all the highways — 6, 7, 8 and 9 — all the way from Winnipeg up to Hecla Island," he said. "We service them all."

TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Interlake Towing has been recognized as 2015 Service Provider of Excellence by CAA and AAA.



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Songs and sounds of Christmas at Warren concert



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY NICOLE KAPUSTA

Kindergarten to Grade 4 students of Warren Elementary School performed a number of traditional Christmas carols for friends and family on Dec. 16. Grade 4 student Cole McRae also entertained the crowd with Jingle Bell Rock on the violin.

Teulon seniors enjoy early Christmas dinner



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

Residents of Cedar Lodge and Gateway Manor in Teulon had an early Christmas dinner complete with all the trimmings on Dec. 11. Along with the festive feast, residents received a surprise visit from Santa Claus who brought presents for all the guests. Pictured from the left, Eleanor Hamaberg; Eleanor Eichler-Grauff; Maria Karttinen; Mary Kowalchuck and Evelyn Smaldon.

Lights, Camera, Christmas at Balmoral School



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY CORRIE SARGENT

Kindergarten to Grade 8 students from Balmoral School performed a Blockbuster Christmas musical entitled "Lights, Camera, Christmas!" for friends and family on Dec. 16. The production, which focused on what style of movie would best pay tribute to Santa, the greatest hero of all time, featured singing, dancing, props and dialogue. The musical offered everything from an Epic Extravaganza and Film Noir to a Spaghetti Western and Super-hero-adventure film.

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Slippery roads cause concern



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY TAYLOR SHEPPARD

Drivers are reminded to slow down with winter conditions upon us. Fortunately there were no serious injuries sustained at an accident that occurred on 2nd Ave. North in between the Stonewall Collegiate and Ecole Centennial School at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 14.

Santa brings smiles to Marquette Co-op

Staff

Santa Claus took time out of his busy schedule to drop by Marquette Co-op for a holiday visit.

For the past 25 years, Santa has stopped by the annual customer appreciation event. This year, 70 kids showed up over the two-hour period for a photo with jolly old St. Nick.

Santa provided an early Christmas present by dropping gas prices to 75 cents per litre. Food was also on special, door prizes were awarded and lunch was served between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. In total, more than 200 people enjoyed the festivities, showing great support from the community for Marquette Co-op.



Liam Jackson



Iver Goodman



Brody Tully

TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY BREANNE ANDERSON

Harsher penalties for impaired and distracted drivers

By Jeff Ward

Any Manitoban caught driving while impaired by drugs or alcohol or committing other serious driving-related offences will now face harsher penalties, under the Safe Roads Act. As they do every year at this time, the RCMP in the Interlake will be conducting check stops through the holiday season.

The act came into effect on Dec. 1 and was announced by Attorney General Gord Mackintosh who said he wants to send a strong message to high-risk drivers. The Safe Roads Act was introduced last June and makes amendments to the Highway Traffic Act that specifically targets drivers who make the choice to drive while impaired. It increases immediate roadside driver's license suspension for those with a low-blood alcohol concentration (0.05 - 0.08) to three days — up from the previous 24-hour suspension. The three-day suspension for drivers under 16 years of age is increased to seven days. Drivers will also now be unable to avoid the ignition interlock

program by delaying licensing after a mandatory period of suspension has been served.

"Too often and all too regularly, our officers are called out to collisions on Manitoba highways caused by impaired drivers — collisions that are 100 per cent preventable," said Insp. Joanne Keeping, officer in charge, Manitoba Traffic Services, RCMP.

"While the majority of Manitobans make the right and safe decision before getting behind the wheel, we welcome these new amendments that target drivers that don't and hold them accountable for their actions."

According to RCMP spokesperson Sgt. Bert Paquet, these changes likely won't impact the standard operating procedure for Interlake RCMP officers. The reason for this is because all RCMP detachments have already been treating road and traffic safety as a high priority for quite some time. Holiday check stops will be seen all throughout the Interlake until Jan. 1.

Paquet mentioned that general duty officers from Ashern will set up spo-

radic check stops in the Ashern detachment area, and this will be the same for RCMP detachments in Gypsumville and Lundar.

"Detachments will dedicate resources to this initiative based on operational availability, but residents

everywhere can rest assure that they will encounter some check stops at some point this month," said Sgt. Paquet.

Impaired and distracted driving has lead to the deaths of 235 people in Manitoba from 2010 to 2014.

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Stony Mountain siblings meet dance idols

Kyra and Cole Swanson dance with stars of *The Next Step* TV show

By Jennifer McFee

A sibling duo recently had the chance to move and groove with some of their favourite TV dance idols.

Kyra and Cole Swanson jumped at the chance to attend a series of dance workshops hosted by cast members of the TV series *The Next Step*.

On Dec. 6, the popular performers appeared at a dance convention and meet-and-greet event at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg. At the event, hosted by Raw Motion Dance, participants showed off their moves in jazz, hip-hop and contemporary classes.

For 10-year-old Kyra, she enjoys all styles of dance but hip-hop is her favourite.

"When I was little I started ballet when I was about two years old, said Kyra, a Grade 5 student at Ecole Stonewall Centennial School.

"Then I had to quit my dance to start hockey, so I started to teach myself dance by looking at it on the Internet

and TV and by doing gymnastics at school."

She was thrilled to be working on her dance moves with the stars of *The Next Step*.

"It's one of my favourite shows. There were five people from the TV show who came to Winnipeg. There were four classes in the whole day and they were about an hour long. They taught us different styles of dance and a whole dance," she said.

"We did a lot of fast movement and I picked it up pretty quickly. I was pretty surprised on how hard the beginners' class was. There was one trick that is splits in the air, and after a little bit of practice, I got it."

She was also pleased to come face to face with her favourite character, Riley, played by Brittney Raymond.

"We have some sort of connection and we act a lot alike. She's a big influence on me," Kyra said.

"I can connect to her and I've had the same problems as her, so she's



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY TANYA SWANSON

Stonewall siblings Kyra and Cole Swanson enjoyed dance classes with the stars of *The Next Step*. From left to right: Zac Vron (Hunter), Victoria Baldesarra (Michelle), Kyra Swanson, Brittany Raymond (Riley), Trevor Tjordman (James), Cole Swanson and Isaac Lupien (Eldon).

helped me a lot by just watching her solve her problems on TV."

Kyra's eight-year-old brother Cole was also happy to meet his favourite character, James, who is played by Trevor Tordjman, founder and president of Raw Motion Dance Inc.

"I like James because he's fun to watch. I like to watch him to do backflips and other stuff," said Cole, a Grade 3 student at Ecole Bobby Bend School. "I like dancing. I like that they do moves that you can learn."

Parade winner presentation



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Chamber President Graham Starmer presents John Harrison from New Life Church their award for winning the Non-Commercial category in the Annual Festival of Lights Parade at the Chamber Christmas Dinner December 15th at the Rockwood Motor Inn.

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In 2013, impaired driving contributed to 19 fatalities and 32 people being seriously injured in Manitoba. On average from 2008-2012, 29 people were killed each year and 39 were seriously injured in collisions involving impaired driving. More than half of all collisions involving alcohol impairment occur on weekends. 69 per cent of fatal, impaired driving collisions occur between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

If you know you'll be drinking, there are a number of things you can do to ensure you get home safely without driving impaired: having a designated driver, calling a family member or a friend for a ride home, having cash for a taxi, staying overnight, not getting into a vehicle with an impaired driver.

To ensure the safety of friends and family - speak out against impaired driving. You can use these tips to help keep impaired drivers off the road: let your friend know you think it would be better if someone else drove or offer to put them in a cab if they insist on driving, find their keys while they are distracted and hide them, keep it light and stay calm when talking to them, let the person know you care about them and want them to stay safe, if you don't know the person that well, talk to a good friend of theirs and ask them to persuade their friend to hand over the keys, don't embarrass the person or confront them, calmly explain why you don't want them to drive.

Manitoba is recognized as having some of the toughest anti-impaired driving legislation in the country. In addition to existing Canadian impaired driving laws, Manitoba has included a number of sanctions intended to deter motorists from driving impaired and measures to reduce the likelihood of repeat occurrences. To find out more about existing impaired driving laws, please visit:

<http://www.mpi.mb.ca/en/Rd-Safety/Impaired/Alcohol/Pages/alcohol.aspx>

Article submitted by Manitoba Public Insurance

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Sweet sounds of music for the Christmas season



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

Grade 5 to 8 band and choir students from École Stonewall Centennial School performed both traditional and contemporary holiday classics for family and friends, under direction of band director Don Horbas and choir director Bambi Rutherford at their Christmas Concert held on Dec. 14. The students performed a wide array of songs from classics such as Silent Night and Good King Wenceslas to current pop music including Walk the Moon's Shut Up and Dance.

Choristers entertain at 55 Plus Centre



With a variety of Christmas tunes in their arsenal, the Quarry Choristers traveled to a variety of communities in December performing their annual Christmas concert. The community choir's last performance was held at the 55 Plus Centre in Stonewall on Dec. 10, where they delighted the audience with traditional and contemporary holiday songs.

TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

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> MEAL IDEAS

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Merry Marshmallow Sticks



Ingredients

White, Red, Green and Dark Cocoa Candy Melts candy
Large Marshmallows
Holiday Confetti, Nonpareils and Colored Sugars
Preparation

In Disposable Dipping Container or bowl, melt Candy Melts candy

separately following package instructions. Dip marshmallows in melted candy and place on cooling grid positioned over parchment-lined cookie sheet. If desired, sprinkle with sugars and sprinkles. Chill 5 to 10 minutes or until set.

Using candy decorating bag or disposable decorating bag, drizzle melted candy or pipe outlines, if desired; immediately sprinkle with sugars or nonpareils. Attach confetti with dots of melted candy. Chill 2 to 3 minutes or until set.

With point of sharp knife, carefully cut through candy on the marshmallow where stick will be inserted. Insert three marshmallows onto each Colored Lollipop Stick, securing with melted candy.

Source
Wilton Enterprises

Sweet Snowmen Cookies



Ingredients

White, Red, Green, Black and Orange Candy Melts Candy
Peanut butter sandwich cookies
Holiday Confetti, Holiday and Snowflake Mix Sprinkles
Cinnamon Drops
Black Sugar Pearls
Silver Pearlized Sugar
Preparation
Melt white Candy Melts candy following package instructions. Place cookies on cooling grid positioned

over parchment-lined cookie sheet. Spoon melted candy over top surface of cookie; chill 5 to 10 minutes or until set. Turn cookies over, candy side down, on cooling grid. Completely cover cookies with melted candy; chill 5 to 10 minutes or until set. Repeat, if needed, to completely cover cookie.

To decorate snowmen, melt Candy Melts candy following package instructions as needed. Using red, green and white candy in candy or disposable decorating bag, pipe hats, ear muff band and scarves, adding colored sugar trim to candy before it sets. For ball cap, cut a Candy Melt candy wafer in half; attach with melted candy. Attach sprinkles for buttons, ear muffs and decorative accents using dots of melted candy. Using melted black candy and decorating bag, pipe facial features. Using melted orange candy and decorating bag, pipe nose.

Source Wilton Enterprises

The Skill: Decoding Restaurant Menus



Dining at restaurants means you need to be your own food sleuth. As a starting point, read the menu carefully. You can automatically rule out anything described as "crusted" or "crispy" which usually means fried or even deep-fried. The same holds true of fare that's sautéed, since restaurants typically use more oil or butter than you'd use at home. Also, watch out for dishes that are described with words such as buttered, creamed, battered, breaded, rich, smothered, or au gratin, as all these words are a red flag for extra fat, cream, cheese-and calories.

In general, you're better off ordering something baked, broiled, grilled, poached, roasted, or steamed. When ordering meat, select leaner cuts such as round steak, filet mignon, or center-cut pork or lamb chops, and ask to have the skin removed from poultry before it's cooked. Look for freshly made entrée salads that offer a balanced meal in one dish-a variety of greens topped with chopped veggies; bits of egg, chicken, or seafood; and perhaps some nuts. You can also ask

for low-fat dressing on the side, and skip the croutons.

Of course, menus that indicate nutritious or "heart-healthy" choices take the guesswork out of the ordering process. The same is true if the menu indicates the calorie content of the dishes. (Most fast-food chains have nutrition information; if it's not posted, you just need to ask for it.) In fact, researchers at Yale University found that when people were presented with menus that had calorie counts, they ordered items with fewer calories and consumed fewer calories during the meal than those who received the same menu without the calorie info; this effect is enhanced when the menus also mention the recommended daily calorie intake for adults. The trouble with just cutting calories is that you may be left hungry and eat more later on. But if you trade up the overall nutritional quality of your choices, they will help give you a lasting feeling of fullness on fewer calories.

Disease-Proof: "The Remarkable Truth About What Makes Us Well" by David L. Katz, MD, MPH, FACPM, FACP

Brenda Stafford - Juice Plus - Team Pursuit - find us on FACEBOOK

Fast and Festive Christmas Cookies

Ingredients

Green, Red, White, Light and Dark Cocoa Candy Melts Candy
Assorted purchased ready-to-eat cookies

Holiday Confetti, Nonpareils, Holly Mix, Colored Sugars and Sprinkles
Preparation

In Disposable Dipping Container or bowl, melt Candy Melts candy separately following package instructions. Partially or completely dip cookies in melted candy. Place

cookies on cooling grid positioned over parchment-lined cookie sheet. If desired, sprinkle with sugars and sprinkles. Chill 5 to 10 minutes or until set.

Notes, Tips & Suggestions

Additional decorating ideas:

Drizzle with melted candy in a contrasting color. Chill 3 to 5 minutes or until set.

Attach sprinkles with dots of melted candy. Chill 3 to 5 minutes or until set.

Pipe melted candy bows and other decorations.



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Teulon resident reflects on life immigrating to Canada

By Natasha Tersigni

As the province braces to welcome 2,000 Syrian refugees in the coming months, Manitobans have been a buzz on the impact it will have on their daily lives. The threat of terrorism attacks; spread of disease, competition for jobs and shortage of housing has all been touted as reasons why Manitobans should be hesitant about welcoming new arrivals.

The refugees are coming from Syria where they have had their homes and lives torn apart from daily violence conducted by terrorist groups including ISIS.

The need to come to Canada for safety and freedom is something that Teulon resident Vera Lavalée knows all too well. While it was 65 years ago that Lavalée and her family fled East Germany following the Second World War, she remembers it as if it was yesterday.

Lavalée was born during the war in April 1941 and when she was just nine months old the family received news that her biological father, who was a German Nazi soldier, was killed. Her mother Hilda, who was married once before and had three children from that marriage, went on to care for her four kids cleaning houses.

In 1945, when Lavalée was four years old, Hilda married her third husband, Joseph Hotovec. The war was over and the family moved to the Czech Republic where Joseph's family originated. The family, without Lavalée's three older siblings from her mother's first marriage who stayed in Germany, had a nice life and lived in a big home.

"After a while mom was having a hard time because she was German and after the war if you were German people wanted nothing to do with you, you were considered bad," said Lavalée who eventually travelled with her mother and her baby sister

Maria back to Germany. Joseph had to escape separately because he was not allowed to legally leave the Czech Republic or enter East Germany.

Once they were all reunited in East Germany, it was decided that the family could not stay together there. Not only was Joseph there illegally, East Germany was under strict communist regime with strong military control over the government.

To escape East Germany, the entire family packed one suitcase each with only the items they could carry, and set off by foot to West Germany.

"It was winter time, around Christmas, and we walked through wet snow the whole way. We had to first make it to the Russian border and then travel from there to West Germany. If we got caught, we would have been arrested and my parents separated. We travelled by night and slept in bombed out buildings during the day," said Lavalée.

"We always walked in a straight line, everyone carrying their own suitcase and Joseph would lead the way and mom had my baby sister Maria on her back. I remember that Joseph would stop every so often for a head count. One time I had stopped to go the bathroom, fell asleep in the snow and the family kept walking. When Joseph did his head count and I wasn't there he walked back a few kilometres to find me in the snow sleeping. If he hadn't done those head counts he wouldn't have known that I fell out of line until morning and by then I would have been frozen to death."

Following the gruelling trek that took months, the family made it to West Germany where Joseph went to apply at a consulate to immigrate to a country where the family could live together.

"They asked him where he wanted to go: England, United States, Canada or Australia. He had talked to enough



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

Sixty-five years ago Vera Lavalée immigrated to Canada with her family and all the possessions she could fit into a suitcase. Lavalée was escaping the communist ruled East Germany following the Second World War with her mother and step-father for a better life in Canada.

people who had told him if he goes to Canada he can be as well off as a rich person if he worked hard, all you need to do is work hard; that is why he chose Canada," said Lavalée.

While both parents were undergoing security checks to make sure they weren't war criminals or had other outstanding warrants against them, the family stayed in a Red Cross camp.

After almost a year the family got word that they would be allowed to immigrate to Canada. The family loaded on to the General Harry Taylor, a refurbished supply ship used during the war, and spent approximately four weeks at sea before arriving in Halifax on April 1, 1951, just three weeks be-

fore Lavalée's tenth birthday.

"When we landed in Canada we knew it was the start of a new life," said Lavalée.

Although decades apart, the journey Syrian families are currently taking to seek refuge in Canada and the thousands of immigrants that came over to Canada following the Second World War is the work of parents hoping for a better life for their children. Lavalée has spent the majority of her life here and has never forgotten the sacrifices and hardships her parents faced to ensure that their children could live a safe and happy life in Canada, for which she is grateful.

Handi hamper helpers

TRIBUNE PHOTO BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

Interlake School Division staff, including technology program support Jim Saj and student services administrator Michelle Procter, spent the afternoon of Dec. 16 giving back to the community packing hampers for the Stonewall Christmas Cheer Board. This year the non-profit organization distributed 108 hampers filled with perishable and non-perishable food items for community members and families in need.



Power of Play raffle winners Knights of Columbus donation



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

RW Bobby Bend Principal Greg Ross (left) and the school's PAC fundraiser chair Mary Lowdon (middle) presented Kyle Courtney with a cheque in the amount of \$10,000. Courtney was the grand prize winner of the Power of Play cash raffle.

By Natasha Tersigni

Christmas Day came early for the three lucky winners of the Power of Play cash raffle held by École R. W. Bobby Bend School Parent Advisory Council (PAC) to raise money to purchase new playground equipment for the school.

On Dec. 16 three winning raffle

tickets were chosen. Kyle Courtney of Teulon won the grand prize of \$10,000, Corinna McMillan of Stonewall won \$5,000 and Lillian Magnusson of Libau won \$1,000.

In total students sold 2,329 tickets and brought in approximately \$27,000 to purchase new playground equipment for the elementary school.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

John Hueging of the Knights of Columbus presented a \$500 check to Nancy Hoff of the Stonewall and District Christmas Cheer Board.

Bezan demands gov't implement tariffs for COOL

Staff

Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan is demanding the Government of Canada immediately impose more than \$1 billion in retaliatory tariffs against the United States following the World Trade Organization's (WTO) latest decision on the U.S. Country of Origin Labelling (COOL) policy.

COOL was implemented by the USDA in 2009 and ruled an unfair trade barrier by the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2011, according to Bezan's release. The U.S. proceeded to appeal the WTO ruling, and the WTO once again ruled in favour of Canada. In May, for the fourth time, the WTO has ruled against the United States' COOL policy, reaffirming Canada's long-standing position that these measures are protectionist and discriminate against Canada. This decision in May was final, without the possibility of further appeal.

"Hog and cattle producers throughout Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman have been hurt by this regressive American protectionist policy that flies in the spirit of free trade," Bezan stated in a

release on Monday. "COOL increases food processing costs, impedes the economic principles of free enterprise, reduces the competitiveness of the North American meat industry, lowers returns to livestock producers on both sides of the border and does nothing to improve consumer awareness."

"The World Trade Organization has finally ruled that Canada can retaliate against the blatantly protectionist US COOL policy."

Bezan added any delay in enforcing retaliatory measures "would be considered a betrayal to our livestock sector."

"In light of this ruling, I am calling on the Liberal government to quickly follow through on our Conservative government's commitments to institute the tariffs against the USA and force Congress to repeal COOL immediately. I expect that the Ministers of Agriculture and International Trade will press Cabinet to do what is in the best interest of Canadian farm families."

The WTO decision allows the Government of Canada to implement punitive tariffs on select American products by the end of the week.

worship *with us*

> FAITH

The ministers of the Stonewall Ministerial would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas! We also want to thank you for your support in reading these articles, and encourage you to continue attending, serving, and supporting the work of the Kingdom, in your preferred place of worship. Our prayer for you this Christmas:

May the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
the perseverance of the wise men,
the obedience of Joseph and Mary,
and the peace of the Christ child
be yours this Christmas;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

From all of us, to all of you - Merry Christmas!

New hospital taking shape

Selkirk's \$120M health centre set to open in spring 2017

By Lindsey Enns

Selkirk's new \$120 million hospital will house an expanded emergency department, Cancer Care program, and an MRI machine when it opens its doors in spring 2017.

Now with its exterior 90 per cent complete, the hospital's main entrance features a 22-foot high glass wall encased in locally sourced tyndall stone.

Although it may not look like much now, landscaping the green space surrounding the hospital, located at 120 Easton Drive, is about 50 per cent complete.

"There will be bridges over ... water retention areas," said Gary Dandeneau, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority regional director of capital planning and facilities management. "Lots of trees, shrubbery ... lots of exterior lighting."

Dandeneau led a group of roughly 30 health officials, community members, media, provincial and local dignitaries through a tour and update of the hospital last Wednesday.

Following the tour, Health Minister Sharon Blady said she's "really impressed" with how the new hospital is coming together.

"It's really phenomenal to see that wonderful balance of that technology and investments ... but also knowing the spaces are being constructed in a way that's really patient centered and a way that accommodates families," Blady said.

Having an MRI scanning machine in Selkirk is also going to benefit the entire Interlake and Eastman region, she added.

"It'll bring that service out to folks in a way that hasn't been seen before," she said. "It's going to help us address wait time issues and ... it's really going to help this be a complete health centre for the folks in Selkirk."

The overall cost of the new hospital, which includes building, equipment, furnishings and landscaping, has now increased to \$120 million from its original \$111 million price tag. Sel-

kirk MLA and Finance Minister Greg Dewar said the province has agreed to cover the entire cost.

"It was regrettable in some ways that we had to make this kind of investment, because the current hospital has reached its end of life after only 30 years," Dewar said.

In 2007, the province promised to build a new hospital in Selkirk after a report found the city's current hospital was in such bad shape, it would have to be completely re-built.

Construction began in 2012, but was then halted for nearly two years due to a lawsuit filed against the RHA after it cancelled the hospital's tender.

Following last week's tour, Dewar admitted there was an "issue" with the tender.

"But the bottom line is the hospital is preceding and it will open in 2017," he said.

As for funding for the hospital's new MRI, Dewar said for the most part, the community's fundraising portion is complete.

"If there's a shortfall, it's relatively small," he said.

In May, the *Selkirk Record* reported the RHA was facing a \$133,000 funding shortfall for the MRI machine and the province was refusing to pay the balance leaving the community to pay the difference.

An RHA spokeswoman at the time said of the community's \$340,000 required contribution, just over \$207,000 had been raised.

Premier Greg Selinger promised \$4 million in funding for the MRI if the NDP was re-elected during the 2011 provincial election. However, the community would have to pay 10 per cent of the machine's total \$3.4 million cost.

The cost of the MRI, adding to the hospital's size and number of beds is what led to the hospital's overall cost increase, Dewar said.

"This is about doing it right and ... making smart, strategic forward looking investments and I think this building really encapsulates that," Blady



TRIBUNE PHOTO LINDSEY ENNS

ABOVE: Selkirk's new hospital's front entrance is seen from the second storey. The hospital's main entrance features a 22-foot high glass wall encased in locally sourced tyndall stone. The Selkirk Regional Health Centre is slated to open in spring 2017. BELOW: Health Minister Sharon Blady, pictured centre, Selkirk Mayor Larry Johannson and Selkirk MLA and Finance Minister Greg Dewar are led through a tour and update of Selkirk's new hospital last Wednesday morning.

Hospital facts and features

The new 180,750 square foot Selkirk Regional Health Centre being built along Eaton Avenue will include:

- 65 acute care beds including 45 medical, eight surgical, eight family planning, and four ICU/SCU beds.
- An emergency department service in excess of 29,000 (projected) patients per year with two trauma rooms, 13 exam and treatment rooms, one isolation room, and four minor treatment rooms.

- Three operating theatres, each with at 600 square feet, and two endoscopy suites.

• A full diagnostic imaging department with digital imaging for CT, fluoroscopy, ultrasound, mammography, general radiology, and MRI diagnostic scanning.

- An ambulatory care outpatient clinic, and a integrated same day surgery and PACU department.
- An eight bed hemodialysis unit adjacent to a nine stretcher Cancer Care chemotherapy unit.

- Information provided by the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority

said, adding the hospital will bring new employment to the area. "It's the whole package.

"It's economic growth and development and stronger health care."

Dandeneau said one of the neat features of the new two-level hospital is that in its maternity wing, labour, delivery and recovery will all be done in one room. He added the hospital's wall to window ratio is very high, making for plenty of natural light and scenic views for patients.

A large cafeteria will provide meals for their patients and Dandeneau said

they are looking into outsourcing new vendors to welcome into the space.

Although most of the hospital's interior isn't much to look at right now, with more than 200 workers on site each day, Dandeneau said they plan to have the building completely closed in by Friday.

Dewar said once the new hospital opens in spring 2017, the old one will be demolished and the land, which is owned by the province, will likely be

Exhibit created from 800 pieces of residential school history

The Witness Blanket opened Dec. 14 as an exhibition in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights

News Release

A battered shoe. Braids of hair. A hockey trophy. A wooden door. A black-and-white photograph. A piece of stained glass.

They are silent witnesses to the Indian residential schools era (1870-1996). Together with 800 other objects collected from 77 sites all across Canada, they have been given a voice in a 12-metre-long artwork created by artist Carey Newman as a national monument to the children.

The Witness Blanket opened today as an exhibition in the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR), on the eve of the submission in Ottawa of the historic final report by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). The Museum hosts the exhibition until the end of June 2016.

"As a national museum devoted to human rights education, we commit to playing a role in reconciliation," CMHR president and CEO John Young said at a news conference held today in the Museum with the artist, survivors and the director of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. "This powerful piece is one of several exhibits and programs in our museum that can educate visitors about the legacy of residential schools in order to facilitate empathy, encour-

age mutual respect, and foster a desire for reconciliation."

In its summary report, the TRC made specific reference to the CMHR and other national museums as places to promote reconciliation through education (page 300).

Newman, whose father is a residential school survivor, said he made the Witness Blanket for people who want to learn and are ready to work towards a better future together. He and his team spent over a year travelling 200,000 kilometres around the country to gather objects and stories. A documentary film about the project has just been completed. An eight-minute version plays in the CMHR with the exhibition.

"I created this monument to reflect the strength of my people, and it is my hope that everyone who stands in witness of this piece will be affected in some way," said Newman (Ha-Yalth-Kin-Geme), a First Nations artist and master carver from Vancouver Island. "If The Witness Blanket fosters awareness in one person who is just learning about this difficult part of Canadian history, or touches a residential school survivor or one of their family members, it has made a difference."

The art installation consists of a cedar frames supporting hundreds of



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A battered shoe. Braids of hair. A hockey trophy. A wooden door. A black-and-white photograph. A piece of stained glass. These

objects, explained through a unique mobile app that visitors download to their iOS devices (or borrow a loaded device in gallery). A door reclaimed from St. Michaels Residential School in Alert Bay, B.C. is left open, allowing visitors to pass through the display to a multi-media presentation on the other side. The CMHR has also

developed a "Reflection Wall" where visitors can share their own thoughts and add them to a word collage that resembles the Blanket, in gallery or online.

A few examples of the objects in the installation are listed in the attachment below.

Capital projects announced for Interlake-Eastern RHA

Government funding announced for several health-care facilities

News Release

A number of projects to maintain and improve health-care facilities throughout the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority will soon be underway, Health Minister Sharon Blady announced today.

"Every year, we work with the regional health authorities to support projects that help maintain and improve the health-care facilities throughout the province," said Minister Blady. "This helps keep our buildings healthy and safe so providers can continue to provide quality care to Manitobans when they need it."

Minister Blady said this year, more

than \$1.1 million is being invested in 15 projects in facilities throughout the region including:

- \$149,000 for site, power and Internet connections for the mobile primary care unit, which is expected to begin operating in 2016;
- chiller replacement at Pinawa Hospital;
- heating, ventilation and air conditioning control system upgrades in the Lac du Bonnet Personal Care Home, the Powerview-Pine Falls Health Centre and hospitals in Whitemouth and Pinawa;
- window replacement at Rosewood Lodge in Stonewall;

- tub replacement at the Powerview-Pine Falls Health Centre and Sunnywood Personal Care Home;

- window replacement at E.M. Crowe Memorial Hospital in Eriksdale; and

- entrance ramp repairs at Kin Place in Oakbank.

"We are so pleased to have these infrastructure needs funded and we are grateful for the support of government. Keeping our residents, patients, public and staff safe, comfortable and effectively cared for in our facilities is of paramount importance," said Ron Janzen, vice-president, corporate services, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority.

Work on these projects is scheduled to be completed within the next two years, Minister Blady said.

> HOSPITAL, FROM PG. 20

turned into green space for the time being.

"At one time there was a consideration to use it for housing, but it is on the grounds on the Selkirk Mental Health Hospital so they're very sensitive as to what they want to see on those grounds," Dewar said.

Progressive Conservative health critic Myrna Driedger said the NDP used last week's hospital tour and update as a photo-op leading up to the next provincial election in April.

"A photo-op right now is just a desperate way to remind people that they're doing something," Driedger said, referring to how the NDP originally promised funding for Selkirk's new hospital in 2007. "They've taken forever to do it and along the way they've broken their promises to the people of Selkirk."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

A Texas-size move for two local hockey stars

Johnson, Lindsay making their mark in the Lone Star State

By Brian Bowman

Everyone knows that Manitoba is a hockey hotbed. But for a pair of talented, young men from rural Manitoba, they are chasing their hockey dreams far away from home in the Lone Star State.

Drake Lindsay and Carter Johnson made a gutsy decision to leave our hockey-mad province – and the icy, cold winters – to showcase their talents in the warmer climate of Corpus Christi, Texas.

And, so far, the pair has represented Manitoba extremely well.

Lindsay, a Grosse Isle native, is currently the leading scorer on the Corpus Christi IceRays of the North American Hockey League with three goals and 16 points through the club's first 25 games.

Johnson, a Gimli product, is second on the team in scoring with six goals and 15 points. He played last season with the Swan Valley Stampede of the Manitoba Junior Hockey League.

"It's been good," Johnson said of the move south earlier this month. "I've really enjoyed it so far. The weather is a lot different down here. It's hot year-round and you're walking around in shorts and a T-shirt in the middle of December."

That's a big change compared to Swan Valley during the winter months. And the type of hockey played down south is also vastly different compared to Junior "A" here in Manitoba.

"It's more structured and there's a lot of emphasis on defence down here," said Johnson, who scored 17 goals and had 45 points last season with Swan Valley. "It's tight in the defensive zone."

Corpus Christi's organization, said Johnson, has a pro feel to it. The IceRays' roster has players from all over the United States and also includes one from Germany.

"It's a pretty cool atmosphere," said Johnson, a former Interlake Lightning. "There are a lot of promotions and guys are from all over. We don't have a single guy from Texas but with the arena and the fans that we get, it feels pretty professional, which is cool."

Johnson said he felt playing in the NAHL would give both him and Lindsay better exposure to U.S.



TRIBUNE PHOTO COURTESY OF CORPUS CHRISTI ICERAYS

Grosse Isle's Drake Lindsay is the leading scorer on the Corpus Christi IceRays of the North American Hockey League.

college scouts. He said he has already been in contact with several schools in recent weeks.

"I felt like the league was more geared to get you to college," said the 20-year-old forward. "I felt it was a good move in that sense."

That move was made a whole lot easier with Lindsay at his side. The pair are real good buddies and have played a lot of minor hockey together.

"It made it easier coming down here initially, for sure," said Johnson, noting he missed his friends and family and was coming home for Christmas. "I had a friend with me and a familiar face from Manitoba – a guy that I had played with in the past."

Lindsay, meanwhile, said he has enjoyed the move to Texas so far despite the fact that he is a long way from home. The last couple of years, Lindsay was just a short drive away from home while playing for the MJHL's Neepawa Natives.

That drive home now would be a whole lot longer. "It's been real good down here," Lindsay stressed. "I have awesome billets. They will do anything for me and I think the hockey is a little bit better. I feel I have already gotten better as a player."

Lindsay was real good during his time in Neepawa.

He led the Natives in scoring last season with 24 goals and 63 points in 60 regular-season games. Lindsay, always known as a very good offensive player, also had 96 penalty minutes last season.

He feels the pace of the game is faster in the NAHL compared to the MJHL.

"I find everybody's a better skater," he noted. "Most guys are good skaters and everything is done quicker and with more structure."

Team-wise, Corpus Christi has struggled, at times, in the win column with a 9-13-3 record heading into a two-game weekend road series in Amarillo on Dec. 18-19.

But the IceRays had been playing better hockey with three straight wins earlier this month. At press time, Corpus Christi was fifth in the six-team South Division.

"We struggled at the start," Lindsay admitted. "Guys were getting settled in with the systems and that kind of thing, overthinking, but recently guys have started scoring."

"We scored five goals (against Odessa on Dec. 4) and we hadn't done that this year. That was kind of a big thing for us."

Sunday, January 3, 2016
Stonewall Jets vs
River East Royal Knights
7:30 at VMSC



www.stonewalljets.net

COME AND CHEER ON THE INTERLAKE'S MANITOBA MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY TEAM - YOUR STONEWALL JETS

Vautour excelling for Midget Lightning

By Brian Bowman

Riley Vautour has aspirations to play in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League.

Well, after his stellar play in the first half of the Manitoba AAA Midget Hockey League season, it looks like he is well on his way to that goal.

The talented right-winger from Stony Mountain has been very good with the Interlake Lightning this season. Vautour was second on the team in scoring with seven goals and 14 points through 24 games. Two of those goals came on the power play.

"I've been training a lot this year," said Vautour, 17, explaining his good start. "And I've been playing with more confidence. I had a few good camps with Neepawa and they told me to come back and have a good season and that's what I've been trying to do.

"I've been playing with Noah (Basarab) all year and he's been helping set me up for some goals. It's been working out."

The Lightning has had a so-so start to the season with a 7-15 record that has the club in the bottom half of the league standings. Interlake thought that they had the talent to be an above .500 team this season but a lengthy losing streak has made their record look sub-par.

"I'm pretty happy right now (about our season)," said Vautour, who is

fourth on the Lightning in penalty minutes with 54. "We had a bit of a down stretch for a little while with an eight-game losing streak but we're playing better right now."

That losing streak was tough to handle, Vautour admitted, but he feels the team has gained some confidence after a recent weekend split against the Thistles in Kenora.

"I feel like we're doing well right now," he said, noting the Lightning will benefit greatly from having Wyatt Bear added to their lineup.

Vautour noted that the Lightning will play several teams with records around the .500 mark in the first couple of weeks of January. That will be an important stretch for the Lightning if they want to reach their goal of making the playoffs.

"We want to go out and win as many games as possible and get a playoff spot this year," said Vautour, an assistant captain.

Vautour is in his second season with the Midget Provincial Lightning team. He also was on the Interlake's Bantam squad that won the Rural AAA title and then played a season with the City Midget Lightning.

Vautour started his minor hockey career in Campbellton, N.B. before his family made the move to Stony Mountain when he was in the sixth grade. He played two years of hockey in Stony Mountain before making the



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY LANE MEIER

The Lightning's Riley Vautour has had a great start to the Manitoba 'AAA' Midget Hockey League season with seven goals and 14 points through 24 games.

Lightning Bantam team.

Vautour fondly remembers that special year when the Bantam team won the rural championship.

"That was a great year," enthused

the 5-foot-10, 180-pounder. "Everyone still talks about that year – it was so fun. All of the guys on our team were great guys and winning all of those games, it was a good season."

Fisher commits to Bisons

Staff

The Central Plains Capitals have announced that forward Mekaela Fisher has committed to play hockey for the University of Manitoba next season.

The Bisons play in the Canada West Hockey Conference of the CIS.

Fisher, an assistant captain, has played 78 games with the Capitals, scoring 28 goals and adding 36 assists.

Known for her speed and tenacious style of play, Fisher earned the Capitals' Most Improved Player Award in 2015. The Warren product was a key player in the team earning their first MFMHL and Hockey Manitoba "AAA" Provincial Championship and a trip to Hockey Canada's Esso Cup National Championship.

Fisher's strong play also earned her a spot on Team Manitoba through Hockey Manitoba's Program of Excellence. She participated in Hockey Canada's U18 National Championship, helping the team earn a silver medal.



Mekaela Fisher

Lightning teams lose close games

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning City Midget hockey team had a real good effort in a 5-3 loss to the Sharks on Dec. 6 in Warren.

Ethan Daniels, Jonathan Karsin, and Layne Blight scored for the Lightning, which trailed 4-3 before the Sharks' Codey Behun scored with 6:35 left in the third period.

Brandon Abraham had a strong game for the Lightning with three assists.

Lewis Negrich, Nolan Koop, Curtis Rebeck, and Noah Couch also scored for the Sharks.

Earlier this month, Interlake lost 6-1 to the Sharks and 5-1 to the Selects.

Jordan Rogers scored for the Lightning against the Sharks while Erik Asselin tallied versus the Selects.

Interlake hosted the Warriors last Sunday but no score was posted on the league website at press time.

The Lightning is back in action

tonight (7:15 p.m.) when they play the Monarchs at the MTS Iceplex.

On Saturday, Interlake will host the Sharks in Stonewall. Game time is 5:15 p.m.

The Lightning Bantam team, meanwhile, lost 3-0 to the Central Plains Capitals in Portage la Prairie last Sunday.

It was the Lightning's third game in just four days.

Last Thursday, Interlake was defeated 6-1 by the Winnipeg Warriors in Stonewall. Nick Prystupa scored an unassisted goal in the first period for the Lightning.

The next night, Interlake was beaten 11-1 by the Brandon Wheat Kings. Riley Wirgau scored a second-period goal for the Lightning, assisted by Jagger Bonkowski.

Interlake will wrap up its schedule before the holiday break with a game against the Norman Wolves this Sunday in Stonewall. Game time is 10 a.m.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Wildcats' losing streak reaches seven games

By Brian Bowman

The Warren Collegiate Wildcats' losing streak has now reached seven games.

Warren ended a dismal month of December with a 7-3 home loss to the Fort Richmond Centurions in Winnipeg High School Hockey League play on Dec. 15.

Fort Richmond led 2-1 in the third period but outscored Warren 5-2 in the final frame.

Landen Mann scored a second-period goal for the

Wildcats while Baily Proctor and Taylor Radley tallied in the third. Radley leads Warren in points with 16 (10 goals and six assists).

Brendon Burnett had two assists for Warren.

Jeremy Kaminsky (two), Joseph Courier, Kenan White, Nevin O'Donnell, Jaxon White, and Riley McCorriston replied for Fort Richmond.

With the loss, Warren remains in 10th place in the 11-team Price Division standings with three wins and 10 points through 13 games.

Warren will resume league play Jan. 7 when the Wildcats play John Taylor at the MTS Iceplex. Game time is 4 p.m.

The Stonewall Collegiate Rams, meanwhile, were in action last Thursday against St. Paul's but no score was available at press time.

Stonewall, winless through 14 league games this season, will resume WHSHL action Jan. 5 when they battle College Jeanne Sauve at Dakota. Puck drop is 4 p.m.

take a break

> GAMES

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- Elephant's name
- Support
- Mures River city
- Bastard wing
- One was named Desire
- PGA Tournament prize
- A way to leave unchanged
- Unchangeable computer memory
- Harangues
- 6th Hebrew letter
- Well informed
- Turfs
- In a way, obeyed
- Lawyers group
- Increases motor speed
- Political action committee
- Light pokes
- Struck down
- Central Philippine Island
- Japanese sash
- Afresh
- Bluish green
- Inspire with love
- Without (French)
- Counterbalance container to obtain net weight
- Express pleasure
- Cheap wine (Br.)
- Signing
- ___ compilation, compiling computer language
- Have surgery
- Being trompe-l'oeil
- Extremely mad
- Day
- Small coin (French)
- Snatched

CLUES DOWN

- Cry
- Wings
- Baseball play
- Flower petals

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

- Drive against
- Velikaya River city
- A single unit in a collection
- Stray
- Bring back
- Repented
- Receipt (abbr.)
- Expresses pleasure
- Not wet
- In a way, takes off
- Macaws genus
- "Fast Five" star's initials
- Sharpen a knife
- Oral polio vaccine developer
- Former CIA
- Fencing swords
- Aba ___ Honeymoon
- Bustle
- Minor
- Propel a boat
- Passage with access only at one end
- Underwater airways
- Small, slight
- Box (abbr.)
- ___ Blake, actress
- Repents
- Merchandising
- Exclamation of surprise
- With fireplace residue
- A small lake
- Bait
- Tip of Aleutian Islands
- K ___ : watercraft (alt. sp.)
- Norse variant of "often"
- Adolescent
- Visual metaphor (Computers)
- River in Spanish
- Cowboy Carson
- Powerful gun lobby

Announcements

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Stonewall Teulon
Tribune

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MISCELLANEOUS

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NOTICE OF HEARING

**UNDER THE HIGHWAYS PROTECTION ACT
THE HIGHWAY TRAFFIC BOARD**

Notice is hereby given that a hearing of the Highway Traffic Board will be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 204-301 Weston Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**PERMITS - PART I - SECTION 9 H.P.A.
AND PART III - SECTION 17 H.P.A.
2/067/108/S/15 - QUARRY RIDGE
PARK DEVELOPMENTS LTD.**

Application for On-Premises Sign (Commercial) adjacent to P.T.H. No. 67, S.W. 1/4 25-13-1E, Town of Stonewall.

**1/101/236/A/15 - SANDHU FARMS
INTERNATIONAL CO.**

Application for Access Driveway (Commercial) onto P.T.H. No. 101 (Service Road), S.E. 1/4 9-12-2E, R.M. of Rosser.

The Highway Traffic Board will be prepared to consider all submissions, written or oral, on the above applications by contacting the A/Secretary prior to or at the hearing.

200 - 301 Weston Street
Winnipeg, MB R3E 3H4
Phone: (204) 945-8912

Michelle Slotin, A/Secretary
THE HIGHWAY
TRAFFIC BOARD



ANNOUNCEMENT

IN MEMORIAM

Kerry Lockhart
In Loving Memory of
Our Wonderful Husband and Daddy
February 1, 1965 - December 29, 2012
You are the water that I drink
You are the song I'll always sing
You turned my world of doubt into belief
And I will love you on your way
I will remember every day
And if I fall you're never out of reach
Cause you're a part of me
-We love you forever,
Shelley, Sydney and Jayden

ANNOUNCEMENT

IN MEMORIAM



Barbara Hyde
December 30, 1938 - December 19, 2014
Mum...
If I could have only one more day,
Only one more.
I would pick up the phone and tell you I love you.
I would thank you for loving me unconditionally.
And I would thank you for helping me to be me.
If I could have only one more day.
I pray heaven is everything you dreamt it to be.
I pray you're safe and free of pain,
And have met up with your loved ones.
And I pray you have heard every word I have said.
To my Darling Mum, I will love you forever,
So be safe until we meet again.
-Love your family and friends

ANNOUNCEMENT

IN MEMORIAM



Chris Thievin
April 19, 1974 - January 1, 2007
Our lives go on without you,
But nothing is the same;
We have to hide our heartaches,
When someone speaks your name.
Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent the tears that fall;
Living our lives without you,
Is the hardest part of all.
The special years will not return,
When we were all together;
But with the love within our hearts,
We will with us forever.
-Love Mom, Dad and family

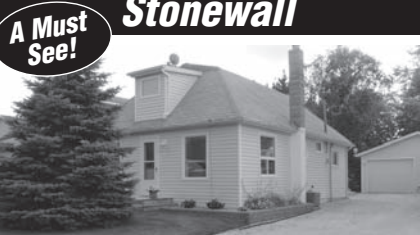
ANNOUNCEMENT

IN MEMORIAM



Kenneth (Kenny) Wayne Mollard
In loving memory of
Kenneth Wayne Mollard
March 31, 1940 - December 26, 2010
There will always be a sadness,
And often a silent tear;
But always special memories,
Of the days when you were here.
Miss you.
-Love Lil,
Bryon, Trevor and Timmy and family

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OBITUARY



Margaret Skutnik
January 18, 1948 – December 11, 2015

On December 11, 2015, I lost my wife and best friend to cancer. Margaret is survived by her husband Rick; sister Helen (John); niece Amanda; Mark, Tia, and nephew John Michael; brother Ian (Shawna); niece Heather; nephew Liam; brother-in-law Tom; nephews Paul (Thea, Kayla, and Ilaina), and Steven (Sharon, Ricky, and Anthony).

I would like to thank Dr. K. Graham, Laura Klammer - Palliative Care Specialist, and the nurses and staff at the Stonewall Hospital for their care and support. Also her friends and co-workers at Stonewall Family Foods for their generous support. Lastly thanks to the Friday night garage crew...remember Margaret's watching you.

Cremation has taken place and there will be no service.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation to Siloam Mission in Margaret's name.

"See you later alligator."

Family and friends may sign a Book of Condolence at www.glenedenmemorial.ca

Glen Eden Funeral Home & Cemetery
204-338-7111

OBITUARY



Walter Gray Ballantyne

On Saturday, December 12, 2015, we lost our Dad to a well fought battle with pneumonia. He passed away at Deer Lodge Centre at the age of 91 years.

Walter will be lovingly remembered by his children, Cameron (Bev) Ballantyne and Alison (Wally) Lecuyer. He will be sadly missed and remembered by grandchildren, Colin (Deana) Ballantyne, Bradley Ballantyne, Morgan Lecuyer, Brandon Lecuyer, J'aime (Wes) Kilberry, Jocelyn (Sean) Legault and Nicole Legault; as well as great-grandchildren, Easton and Tamsen Kilberry and Peyton Ballantyne. He was predeceased by his wife, Dorothy, in 2013 and his beloved sisters, Betty and Lil.

On August 14, 1924, Walter was born in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. He grew up the son of a Scottish blacksmith and enjoyed a very happy childhood with his two sisters, of which

he often spoke with throughout his adult years. At the young age of 16, Walter left home on the back of a train and rode it with his buddy Keith Thompson all the way to Toronto, Ontario to join the army. There he joined the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. Walter was in 'C' Company, 2nd Division, Infantry. He fought in France; was shot two days before his 20th birthday. He recovered in an Army hospital before returning to battle with his same platoon. Walter went on to Belgium and was part of the Canadians to liberate Holland. Upon returning from the war in September 1945, he travelled to Winnipeg, Manitoba to meet his mother who was living there at the time. He spent the next year in Timmons, Ontario working in the mines. Walter then came back to Manitoba to begin his career with Environment Canada, Department of Transport. He first worked at the Winnipeg Airport in the tower, letting pilots know of weather conditions before their flights. Walter then became a Meteorological Inspector and spent many years of his career travelling to the Arctic to inspect weather stations in the high North. He truly loved the Arctic and the people he met there.

Walter married our mom, Dorothy from Gimli, and built their home in Stonewall, Manitoba. It was there they raised their two children, Cam and Alison. Our home was filled with everything Scottish, due to my Dad's pride in his Scottish heritage. Walter loved to hunt and spent many happy hours with his friend and co-worker, Frank Aiken, and later with his family, hunting in Spruce Woods. He loved trees, planting many different species in his yard, as well as his great love of dogs. Walter always had one with him, sitting on his lap, or riding in his vehicle with him. He enjoyed many years after retirement, curling with the great group from Stony Mountain, and spending time every day at the Stonewall Legion.

In January of 2012, Walter moved into Deer Lodge Centre, where he was able to share a room with Dorothy until her passing in 2013. Dad made many friends at Deer Lodge, and was well liked by the staff there.

A private family interment will be held in the spring of 2016 in Rockwood Cemetery. The family would like to thank the staff of the Deer Lodge Centre, Tower 5 and especially the staff of 3 East for the compassion and care that they gave our Dad throughout his illness.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Deer Lodge Centre 3 East, 2109 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB, R3J 0L3.

Wojcik's Funeral Chapel, 2157 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB in care of arrangements 204.897.4665. For those who wish to sign Wojcik's online Guest Book please visit our website at www.wojcikfuneralchapel.com

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Classified booking deadline is Monday 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication. Call 785-1618

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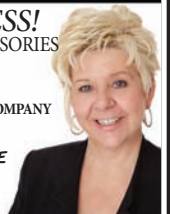
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