



SEND TRUDEAU A MESSAGE

Trolling for trash reaps big benefits for Blue Sky

By Lori Penner

The streets of Altona were littered with students last week Friday as École West Park School participated in their 33rd Cleanathon.

The annual tradition sees Gr. 4-6 students take to the streets and clean up garbage and other debris that has been revealed with winter's melt, sprucing up tree lines, ditches, parks, and boulevards for the summer ahead.

Prior to the event, the students gathered donations and pledges. The money raised each year benefits Blue Sky Opportunities, an organization that provides housing, employment, and support for adults with intellectual disabilities.





PHOTOS BY LORI PENNER/VOICE Savannah and Diana (above) and Nathan and Nkwazi (right) at work in École West Park School's 33rd annual Cleanathon in support of Blue Sky Opportunities.

The first Cleanathon took place in 1989 and was always near and dear to the heart of long-time Blue Sky general manager Richard Neufeld, who passed away last year. He took great pride in the event and in the students' efforts, and organizers say they are

happy to see this legacy continue.

While the final tally has yet to be revealed, school staff are confident that their fundraising total will be as impressive as always.

Last year was a record year for the event, with student pledges totaling over \$43,000. To date, the Cleanathon has raised just under \$500,000.

Current Blue Sky general manager Ryan Potter said the funds raised will go to new flooring at the 212 Residence, one of several housing facilities for the clients they serve.

"That project will cost about \$43,000. It's about 5,000 square feet, so it's our biggest house, and it will be a huge project."

Potter says the organization relies heavily on the Cleanathon to maintain and upgrade equipment and facilities.

"This is our biggest fundraiser for the year, and it's always so fun to get involved with the students. They toured our facility this week and got to see everything and how it all works. They had lots of great questions, and lots of positive feedback. It was exciting for our clients too. Because of COVID, this was the first tour we've been able to give in three years, so it was so great to see the students come through again."

He adds he was also able to show the students what their fundraising helped to purchase last year.

"They were so impressed. This is a great way to show citizenship and take pride in their community."

During the celebratory barbecue that followed the cleanup, West Park principal Derek Sawatzky said, "It's really neat to see the kid's enthusiasm for getting out and finding little pieces of trash. It's quite astounding that we can motivate them to do something that can actually be kind of gross at times."

He was grateful for the warm sunny weather that accompanied the event.

"It was a great day for it, and the kids were happy to get out there and clean up. They were also very enthusiastic during the tour of the Blue Sky facilities. It's so important for our students and staff to get a sense of the important work that the organization does for adults with intellectual disabilities in our community. It inspires us to do our work and inspires our kids to get out there and raise money to support what they do."

Sawatzky said it warms his heart to see the way the community stands behind the organization and the Cleanathon.

"People will hold on to their donations for Blue Sky until the kids from West Park come around to do their fundraising. It's so great to see the kids enjoying this and having the community just say, 'Absolutely! Here's a cheque I've been holding onto all these months, and I support this great organization.""

Potter added that it's a great way for students to learn about citizenship as well.

"They make their town clean and are taking pride in their community. That's great to see. We're so grateful to the community for all their support over the years. They come through for us every time. I also want to thank the students and staff at West Park School for their ongoing efforts and support. It's always so appreciated."

Giveaway Weekend

May 27 & 28 All Day Curbside

Waste Drop-Off

June 5 -10 M-F: 8 am - 8 pm Sat: 8 am - 4 pm

Altona Rhineland Waste Disposal Site

Branch Pick-Up

June 8 & 9 All Day Curbside items on the boulevard, and then take a look around town to see if someone else's items are just what you are looking for! You are responsible for cleaning up by Monday May 29th.

Place gently used household

Drop off divertible waste using the Waste Diversion Loop, Used Oil Recycling Depot and Yard Waste Drop Off Site.

Altona residents may also drop off non-divertible waste free of charge during this time.

Place branches in a neat stack on the boulevard, parallel to the curb by no later than 7 am for our team to collect.

> Altona Spring Clean-Up

A thank-you gift for Boundary Trails Health Centre staff

By Lorne Stelmach

The Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation is hosting staff appreciation days at the regional hospital as part of May being Pay It Forward Month.

Funds generated by the foundation's staff payroll 50/50 program were used to purchase engraved YETI mugs for hospital workers.

They're being handed out over two days to try to catch as many people as possible on different shifts. Foundation executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett said it's a small gesture to express their gratitude.

"The foundation has really been working over these last few years of difficult times to showcase our health care workers at Boundary Trails Health Centre, let them know that we appreciate them," she said, noting the gift was well-received. "There was some excitement. They didn't know what we were doing, so when they came in the room and saw it, they just lit up. That feedback right there was worth it. That's what we were trying to do, make everybody smile. There was buzz around the hospital.

"These are really good, dedicated people who are working really hard, so here's a little token of our appreciation," Samatte-Folkett added. "I always love when we can do things like this for the staff there."

"It's important to show appreciation for them," agreed Myra Peters, executive director of the Winkler Community Foundation, who was on hand last week to help hand out mugs. "We know that every little encouragement makes a difference in someone's day ... we hope that they continue to pay it forward to someone else and show kindness in some small way."

Samatte Folkett noted the gifts were made possible in part thanks to the generosity of Olympic Source for Sports.

"We can't thank them enough for the support they give to our foundation year after year."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Kerry Smith to run for Liberals in Portage-Lisgar

Voice What's Your story? Call 204-325-6888

By Voice staff

The Liberal Party of Canada has announced that Tyndall's Kerry Smith will be running in the Portage-Lisgar by-election on behalf of the party.

The *Voice* reached out to the Liberal Party to facilitate an interview with Smith but had not received a response by press time Monday.

A bio provided by the party characterizes Smith, who is the senior director of the Manitoba Métis Federation, as being instrumental in helping Indigenous families and youth pursue greater opportunities.

She currently leads a province-wide employment and training department that plays a central role in developing youth leadership and promoting Métis culture. Smith has also been appointed to the Future Skills Council, providing advice on emerging skills and workforce trends.

"Kerry is committed to advocating for the needs of Portage-Lisgar," the bio notes. "As a Member of Parliament, she will work with Justin Trudeau and the Liberal team to keep Canada moving forward and continue to make life more affordable, grow a strong economy and deliver well-paying middle class jobs, advance reconciliation, and build a fairer and more inclusive Canada."

The Portage-Lisgar by-election takes place on June 19. Currently in the running is Smith, People's Party of Canada candidate Maxime Bernier, and the Conservative Party of Canada's Branden Leslie.

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SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC



Dick Remus honoured with Lt.-Gov award

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Emerson's own Dick Remus was honoured last week for his years of dedication to the preservation and promotion of local history.

Lieutenant-Governor Anita Neville presented Remus with one of four Historical Preservation and Promotion awards at a ceremony in Winnipeg May 18.

Also recognized was Doug Evans of Winnipeg, Nelson Gerrard of Arborg, and Mackenzie Stewart of Clandeboye.

"It is such a pleasure to celebrate the contributions of today's honourees and their tireless dedication in preserving and promoting the history of this great province," Neville said in a statement. "Through the creation of events and programs to engage with communities large and small, the writing of books for the benefit of future generations, and so much more, these outstanding individuals ensure Manitoba's rich history is kept alive."

All of the honourees were recommended by the Manitoba Historical Society, who receives nominations from the public year-round and then selects up to five people for the Lt.-Gov. to consider.

MHS head researcher Gordon Goldsborough noted it's always a tough decision—they received a couple dozen nominees this year alone.

"I've often said that you could justify giving an award to each and every nominee because they're all doing wonderful work," he said. "And the work they do is incredibly diverse ... some of them work in museums and archives, some of them write books, some of them compose songs, paint paintings, advocate on behalf of heritage buildings."

Remus was selected because of his involvement with the Post Road Heritage Group, which maintains the Fort





SUPPLIED PHOTO BY TRACEY GONCALVES

Emerson's Dick Remus (far right) accepting the Historical Preservation and Promotion Award from Lieutenant Governor Anita Neville and Manitoba Historical Society's Gordon Goldsborough last week. Remus has been a longtime volunteer with the Post Road Heritage Group and the Fort Dufferin historical site.

"ANY JOB THAT

TO DO IT."

NEEDS TO BE DONE,

HE'S THE GO-TO GUY

Dufferin National Historic Site north of Emerson.

He headed up the group's board of directors for over 20 years and is still, at the age of 92, involved as an active member today.

"His work with Fort Dufferin goes back decades," Goldsborough said. "Any time I've been there, he's been there volunteering ... any job that needs to be done, he's the go-to guy to do it."

Over the years, Remus has had a hand in several major milestone events at the Fort, including those commemorating the 125th anniversary of the North West Mounted Police in 1999 and the 125th anniversary of the arrival of Mennonites to Manitoba's West Reserve in 2000.

He's been integral in the creation of an interpretive centre at Fort Dufferin based on a restored historic building and the development of the walking trail along the Red River, and has given countless presentations and tours of and about the site, often in period costume.

Remus said on Friday that news of the award came completely out of the blue.

"The first thing I knew about it was when I received a phone call from the Lieutenant Governor," he said. "I guess our Post Road Heritage Group was the one that nominated me, and I thank them profusely for that."

He's quick to point out that every

one of the group's dedicated volunteers deserves to be recognized.

"I would say every one of those people that work with our group is as deserving as I am," Remus said, stressing that generations of volunteers have had a hand in preserving and promoting Fort Dufferin.

His own interest in local history started at a young age.

"I grew up at Dufferin School, a little country school not that far from Fort

Dufferin," Remus shared. "We heard all about this fort and we had a visit there once where we were shown some broken clay pipes that we were told were discarded by people that used to live there."

The fort has a lot of history behind it, serving as the head-

quarters for the North American Boundary Commission surveying the 49th parallel and as the assembly point for the North West Mounted Police's "March West" in 1874 when they set out to what is now Alberta to establish additional posts on the Canadian frontier.

It then served as an immigration station for tens of thousands of settlers who arrived in Manitoba in the late 1800s bound for lands to the west.

"It's a very important site with a lot of history," Remus said, urging people to come check it out on their own (there's a self-guided walking tour you can take) or stop by their Heritage Day festivities this fall.

MB gov't announces Building Sustainable Communities funding

By Lorne Stelmach

A variety of projects around the region are benefitting from the Building Sustainable Communities program.

The Manitoba government last week announced the investment of over \$25 million through the program to support 428 community development projects throughout the province.

The grants are to be matched by the organizations or municipalities involved in the projects, but receiving up to 50 per cent of the eligible costs makes a significant difference.

"We simply couldn't do it without the support of the Manitoba government and Building Sustainable Communities," said Barbara Biggar, who was involved in landing a \$117,118 grant for the Nellie McClung Heritage Site in Manitou for upgrades to the McClung House.

"It absolutely makes a huge difference in terms of how quickly projects can move ahead," noted Henry Siemens, mayor of Winkler, which received grants of \$72,372 for Lion's Park upgrades and \$150,000 for phase one of the pathway between Winkler and Reinfeld.

In Morden, the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre received \$62,075 for equipment upgrades.

"It is thanks to this kind of support that we can improve out mission to preserve and research our Manitoba heritage and to reach as much public as possible now and in the future," noted executive director Adolfo Cuetara.

The Building Sustainable Commu-

Twenty-one local projects benefitting

The Building Sustainable Communities program is benefitting a variety of projects across the province.

The Manitoba government announced the investment of over \$25 million through the program to support 428 community development projects.

Here are some of the projects that are receiving support across the south central region:

MORDEN

• Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre: \$62,075 for equipment upgrades

 Morden Community Curling Club: \$32,505 for facility upgrades. • Pembina Valley Humane Soci-

ety: \$30,000 for community education and volunteer recruitment.

RM of STANLEY

• R.M. of Stanley: \$123,616 for phase one of the municipal pathway project.

• R.M. of Stanley: \$68,304 for Stanley Park upgrades.

• Reinfeld park committee: \$135,802 for the development of a community park.

WINKLER

• City of Winkler: \$72,372 for Lion's Park upgrades.

• City of Winkler: \$150,000 for phase one of the Winkler-Reinfeld pathway.

• The Bunker Youth Ministry: \$41,000 for youth centre upgrades. • Winkler Whips senior baseball

team: \$75,000 for baseball diamond upgrades.

CARMAN

• Carman Dufferin Grey Planning District: \$60,000 for a development plan and zoning bylaw updates.

• Carman Golf and Country Club: \$40,914 for golf course upgrades.

• Town of Carman: \$33,664 for pool upgrades.

• Youth for Christ (Winnipeg): \$75,000 for phase two of the Carman youth centre upgrades.

MIAMI

• Lloyd Orchard Community Arena: \$6,248 for facility upgrades. • R.M. of Thompson: \$19,102 for a

zoning bylaw update.

MANITOU

• Nellie McClung Heritage Site: \$117,118 for upgrades to the Mc-Clung House.

PILOT MOUND

• Pilot Mound: \$300,000 for upgrades at the Louise Aquatic Centre.

• United Community Arts - Pilot Mound: \$13,500 for arts centre upgrades.

CRYSTAL CITY

• Crystal City Community Centre: \$145,925 for arena upgrades.

ALTONA

• Elmwood Home and School Association: \$39,375 for playground upgrades.

nities program commitment of \$25 million was doubled from last year to increase support for community projects.

It was launched four years ago to offer municipalities and non-profit organizations a new program that streamlined administrative processes and reduced red tape, replacing several other funding programs.

"The idea of it was to consolidate some of the other projects and the other funding streams into one so that municipalities and community groups across the province could have one place to go and apply for funding," Municipal Relations Minister Andrew Smith said in announcing the recipients last week.

"Locally developed projects are, by design, tailored to address their community's specific, unique needs and opportunities," he continued. "Our government is pleased to continue supporting community-based projects that foster thriving, sustainable neighbourhoods and improve residents' quality of life."

The Building Sustainable Communities grant program supports planning activities, organizational capacity building projects, equipment costs, capital infrastructure and other local or regional initiatives that enhance the sustainability of communities.

Projects can receive up to 50 per cent toward eligible costs. The maximum grant for projects in the regular stream

is \$75,000, while larger-scale capital projects can receive up to \$300,000.

"The program is making a remarkable difference in communities province-wide," suggested Smith. "From installing play structures to creating outdoor recreation spaces to renovating community centres, these projects make communities healthier, stronger and more competitive."

"WE'RE EXTREMELY APPRECIATIVE"

"As a community, we're extremely appreciative of these dollars and the fact they've contributed to projects that we believe are very worthwhile," Mayor Siemens said.

He also welcomed grants for The Bunker for youth centre upgrades and the Winkler Whips baseball team for its diamond upgrades.

"Both of those are really good as well and help to build comunity," said Siemens, who especially cited the Whips for their efforts on the improvements at Arctic Field. "They have put lots of sweat equity into it and lots of fundraising. They are building a first-rate diamond."

"We're really glad to receive these grants," said RM of Stanley Reeve Ike Friesen, who welcomed news of a \$123,616 grant for a municipal pathway project and \$68,304 for Stanley

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Peter Cantelon

Oxford defines diplomacy in a couple of ways, one political and the other in terms

War tactics.

right vs. wrong.

been discarded in

favor of pre-deter-



YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE THERE

Yes, Ms. Cox, you do have the right to be at the table since 1916 when women won the right to vote in Manitoba ["Cox says she's been wrongly removed from RM of Thompson council", Voice, May 11, Pg. 17]

Ms. Cox was elected by the residents in her ward by 48 per cent. She also came to council with 12 years of service on the school board. Eminently qualified and obviously well thought of in the community.

Just like in St. Andrews, male councillors stripped their mayor of her powers. The appeal court of Manitoba found these councillors crossed the line and again restored the powers of the mayor. By the way, the mayor was a woman and the first women elected to that position in the RM of St. Andrews. Their claim

was that the mayor needed to be a better person. In this case [it's that] Ms. Cox isn't a good fit.

Here is another council usurping democracy. Changing the time of the meetings to hamper her attendance is bullying.

What's the financial cost to the community if a by-election needs to be called? What is the cost to com-

Continued on page 7

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feels as if the idea of

diplomacy is some-

thing old-fashioned

these days, as though

it was a skillset of a bygone

time now seen as naïve and

useless in our modern era of

Even locally it has felt for a very long

time that the concept of dialogue has

By Peter Cantelon

verywhere | look it of people. The definition I want to focus on which states that diplomacy is the "skill in dealing with people in difficult situations without upsetting or offending them."

Why talk when you can fight?

These days a person attempting to operate by such a rule would be dismissed as "woke."

I am thinking about these things because I am nearly finished reading Ronan Farrow's astounding book War on Peace: The End of Diplomacy and the Decline of American Influence. A truly remarkable overview of the erosion of diplomacy across three key presidencies-Clinton, Obama and Trump-in favour of the military and proxy war approach, i.e. conflict over conversation.

Everything these days seems to be conflict. There is no such thing as discourse seeking compromise because to compromise in today's culture is to lose.

In these days of instantaneous outrage there is no room for a respectful conversation, only angry monologue at one-another. Even our wonderful media (of which I am a part) acts frustratingly to support this divisiveness by zeroing in on negative voices, however few on a variety of issues.

Heck, CTV decided it was newsworthy to cover the City of Morden's decision to create a cool festival space on a tiny half-block in its core because as many as possibly 10 people out of 10,000 had voiced "concern."

This kind of irresponsible journalism lends a megaphone to tiny outraged groups of people which enables other tiny outraged groups of other people to press their own issues and try to bully others into giving in to them.

When we lean away from dialogue and compromise we create a healthy atmosphere for conflict. When we focus overtly on small segments of a population simply because they are loud we skew perception amongst decision makers, leading them to make panic-based decisions that do not nec-

Continued on page 7

The Voice Thursday, May 25, 2023 7 **Regional Connections receives funding boost**

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Continued funding support from the Manitoba government's Newcomer Community Integration Support (NCIS) program was welcome news to Regional Connections Immigrant Services last week.

Labour and Immigration Minister Jon Reves announced the province is providing \$4 million to 24 newcomer service organizations through the funding program's Newcomer Community Connections Stream.

"Attracting and retaining new immigrants has been identified as a key factor in Manitoba's post-pandemic economic recovery," Reyes said.

> LETTERS, FROM PG. 6

munity pride and good stewardship? What's the message to future generations about community service?

Maybe the mayor and council are not fit to be there. By these actions they are proving they are not worthy of office. They just want power. This is not in the best interests of her ward or the RM as a whole.

Lois Wales, Selkirk

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Peter Cantelon, we enjoyed your column again immensely [Fear and Loathing in the Pembina Valley, Voice, May 18, Pg. 6].

Had some hearty chuckles and, yep, I think you've hit a lot of nails right on their heads!

Keep on keeping us up with all that's important and not so important in our little bubble called Pembina Valley.

> Ellie & Neil Reimer, Winkler

A NOTE OF FRUSTRATION

Your letter policy states to keep letters respectful.

I fully support freedom of speech, and as such Mr. Cantelon may say "This funding supports our government's vision of a skilled and talented Manitoba, a key component of which is to welcome newcomers and ensure they are able to participate fully in the community and contribute to a growing economy."

Regional Connections received \$245,700 through the program, shares executive director Steve Reynolds.

"This is a funding renewal for us [not new funding], but we did get a little more than we did last year," he said. "So that's good, because it's needed."

The funds will be used to support programming across all four of Re-

what he wishes on political views, beliefs, etc. But as readers can we not expect the Voice to uphold its own standards?

Mr. Cantelon's columns clearly show his opinions leaning to one political view, which is absolutely fine. In recent years, the expressed opinions are deteriorating into mockings and put-downs of groups of people that he doesn't agree with. This last week's headline of Fear and Loathing in the Pembina Valley are a clear example of this.

Mr. Cantelon has a unique position with the ability to freely write a commentary. Most citizens will never get that opportunity. Is it not fair to ask to use this position as a place of respect and responsibility? What would happen if you mocked marginalized groups? Would the staff at the Voice finally edit the editorial?

I don't want to see any group or individual mocked, belittled or devalued, not in my day to day life and not in my community paper. Might the staff of a community paper add writers with a variety of viewpoints to represent an entire community?

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dress, and phone number for ver-

ification purposes. Your name and

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Morden

Letter policy

letters.

The Voice welcomes letters from readers on local and regional issues and concerns.

Please keep your letters short (excessively long letters are less likely to be published), on-topic, and respectful.

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gional Connections' offices in Winkler, Morden, Altona, and Dauphin. Client numbers are on the rise across

their service areas, Reynolds notes, so every single dollar is needed to continue to provide immigrants with the help they need to integrate into their new homes.

The agency offers settlement services, English and literacy classes, employment services, and a variety of community integration programs for newcomers.

The bulk of their funding comes from the federal government, but those dollars are earmarked for permanent residents (immigrants who are living here permanently but are not Canadian citizens).

"That leaves a lot of people out," Reynolds says. "We have about a thousand clients a year who are not permanent residents, but they have the same needs. We see a lot of temporary foreign workers, seasonal

workers, and people who have gotten Canadian citizenship as newcomers but might still have something come up they need help with."

This funding, then, helps eliminate "a pretty big gap," Reynolds says. "Without it, about a thousand people a year who need these services wouldn't be able to get them, just because of their immigration status.

"Our goal is for anybody who needs support, they should be able to access

Regional Connections had a record-setting year in 2022, with 1,561 new arrivals accessing their programming (its overall client numbers are about three times that, as newcomers from previous years continue to make use of their services).

"We're on pace for lots of new people this year too," Reynolds says. 'Basically as long as there's still jobs available and people are hiring, people will keep coming."



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- Campsite electrical upgrades in Stephenfield Provincial Park

Significant amounts of money will also go towards renewal projects in provincial roads and highways to improve access to, around and within provincial parks.

For more details on the Manitoba Provincial Parks Infrastructure **Renewal Strategy**, visit manitobaparks.com.



Tanya Guenther,

Spring planting well underway: local producers

By Lorne Stelmach

There is optimism among farmers this spring as they get to work on their fields and get going on seeding.

Overall, producers started to make significant progress over the last week with their field work, and warm temperatures and adequate soil moisture could mean crops could be emerging rapidly in the coming weeks.

"Every spring, it's always an optimistic time ... we're looking forward to see what will be produced. I think we're quite hopeful with the conditions," said Wayne Derksen of Hespler Farms.

"This year is a little more normal," noted Marlon Kuhl of Southern Potato. "It's a little later than ideal, but we saw a later seeding last year, later than this year actually, and we had a really, really good crop, so I don't think there's any reason for any concern about being a little bit later than normal." Manitoba Agriculture's crop report last week estimated the seeding progress provincially was at about 25 per cent completion.

Recent warm weather was allowing progress to move ahead at a more rapid pace, the report said, and producers were able to seed most fields. That's in contrast to the week before, when producers had to be more selective on which field to plant due to wet soil conditions.

Cereal plantings are expected to wrap up towards the end of the week, the report continued, and soybean and canola seeding is expected to increase, while corn planting was at 15 per cent complete and is expected to increase as the week progresses.

For the most part, seeding was continuing at a fast and steady pace, with Carman and Roland areas further advanced in seeding than regions on the escarpment and heavier soils around Altona and along the Red River. Due to recent rains, many producers in those areas had yet to start seeding.

"We're starting a little bit later than usual, but moisture conditions are very good, and temperatures have been absolutely great," said Derksen. "The soil is nice, and I think the crops are going to come up very quickly once we get going, once we get everything planted.

"It's certainly been interesting the last few years," he reflected, going from extreme drought to flood conditions the next. "This is actually shaping up a lot like last year when we had quite a wet spring and everything was a bit later, but it turned out very well.

"We're hopeful that this year can also be a very good year," Derksen continued, noting Hespler Farms is planting corn, wheat, barley, soybeans, and potatoes.

"Right now we're able to have all units running, which is great, but we're still finding a couple wet spots on some fields, but in most spots, we're able to plant corner to corner at this time," he said.

"With the nice warm temperatures we're getting, I think things are going to pop out of the ground, which will help us out and help us catch up. Other years it's maybe been that we started earlier, but it's been cold and wet and the crop hasn't really progressed.

"So I'm very hopeful we'll have a great start with lots of moisture ... and I think the crops have as good a potential as a normal year."

"Things are progressing well. Over the last week, we were slowed down a little bit by the rain, but overall we're making good progress," agreed Kuhl.

"The early crops are already emerging and are off to a really good start,' he said. "The conditions are for the most part really good. It's a little wet in certain areas ... the conditions are good for drying lately, and things are looking really good."

Bernier wants to reopen abortion debate in Canada

By Ashleigh Viveiros

If elected to a seat in Parliament in the Portage-Lisgar by-election next month, People's Party of Canada (PPC) candidate Maxime Bernier intends to reopen the abortion debate in Canada.

Bernier announced his stance on the topic at a press conference in Winkler last week, pledging to table the Protection of Preborn Children Act, a private member's bill to amend Section 287 of the Criminal Code, as soon as possible should he take office. The bill was written by Laura-Lynn Tyler Thompson and Paul Mitchell, both of whom ran unsuccessfully for the PPC in Alberta in the 2019 election.

"The bill would limit the legal availability of abortion to

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of dust control program

Homeowners along gravel provincial roads and main market roads in unorganized territories may apply to have dust control applied in front of their homesites at a cost of \$200 for a single application.

The formal application is available from your local Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure office. The deadline for these applications will be **no later than June 2, 2023**.

For more information, please contact one of the following Transportation and Infrastructure offices:

Steinbach	204-346-6266	Brandon	204-726-6800
Swan River	204-677-6540	Dauphin	204-622-2061

Manitoba

24 weeks maximum, and outlaw late-term abortions unless the mother's life or health are at risk, there has been rape or abuse, or if the baby has a lethal abnormality or no brain function," Bernier said, lamenting the fact there is no current law regulating abortion in Canada.

"Our governments regulate almost everything in our lives, including such ridiculous things like plastic straws," he said. "But there is a complete legal void when it comes to killing unborn human beings."

The Supreme Court of Canada ruled in 1988 that the abortion provision in the Criminal Code was unconstitutional because it violated women's rights under section 7 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to security of the person (R. v. Morgentaler). Prior to this decision, women had to receive approval from the therapeutic abortion committee of an accredited hospital before receiving an abortion.

"Because of this legal void, there is no legal obstacle in Canada to have an abortion at any stage in the pregnancy—including in theory up to minutes before a child is born," Bernier said. "Freedom is one of my core values. But it doesn't include supporting the freedom of a mother to kill her fully developed baby, before or after it is born."

He noted some people would like to see even further restrictions on abortions, as is the case in other countries, and he agrees that should be discussed, but "we need to start somewhere."

Bernier, who is the leader of the PPC nationally, stressed his party "welcomes a debate on abortion."

> CANTELON, FROM PG. 6

essarily reflect the silent and assenting majority. Diplomacy leading to compromise is not a scenario where everyone loses. If it avoids conflict in favour of peaceful resolution then everyone wins.

But diplomacy requires intentional and knowing relationship. This is one of its key benefits. The stronger a relationship, the more we know someone, the harder it is to enter into hurtful and divisive conflict.

How many times have I heard leaders in both

Morden and Winkler pre-determine the other community's response to an issue and skip the conversation altogether on key issues that would benefit from compromise? Too many to count. Assumption is the enemy of diplomacy and the friend of division.

Unfortunately it is easier to simply shout down a perspective we fear. No relationship is required for conflict. No relationship is required for hate.

Send news items to: news@winklermordenvoice.ca Advertising inquiries to: ads@winklermordenvoice.ca





Pen pal program continues to bridge generations

By Voice staff

Students from Emerado Centennial School were at the Winkler Senior Centre last week for a final meet-up with their elder pen pals.

The Senior Pen Pal program teams up older adults with Gr. 5/6 students to exchange letters throughout the school year. "Seeing the kids smile and laugh with their senior pen pals honestly brings me so much joy," says teacher Tasha Roberts. "I tell people all the time that this program is one of my favorite parts of my English Language Arts programming and I couldn't be more proud of this group of kids for how well they participated."

The get-together last week saw the



SUPPLIED PHOTOS

kids bring their pen pals potted flowers as a gift and then spend the morning enjoying snacks, playing games, and visiting.

The intergenerational program has

been running for a few years now, starting up every fall and running through spring. Contact the senior centre if you'd like information about getting involved next school year.



REDress Project returns to the Pembina Valley

By Lorne Stelmach

An initiative aimed at honouring and bringing attention to the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and 2 Spirited People has been touring the region.

This is now the third year for the Pembina Valley REDress Project, and organizers are encouraged that it continues to get such a good response from communities.

"What we're finding is people want more action this year," committee member Denise Unrau Thiessen said in advance of the display appearing in the Morden Park last Saturday.

"I think potentially it's because we're hearing more of it in the news, that it's still occurring. It's a closer reality to people that is happening to families near us," she suggested. "People want to do something about it, which is really great to see. It is encouraging, definitely."

Created by Winnipeg artist Jaimie Black, the REDress project plays an important role in recognizing this ongoing issue that touches both our nation and local communities right here in the Pembina Valley.

Black has described REDress as an art project based on an aesthetic response to a critical national issue, and it serves as a visual reminder of the staggering number of women who are no longer with us.

Through the installation displaying a variety of red dresses, she hopes to draw attention to the gendered and racialized nature of violent crimes against aboriginal women and to evoke a presence through the marking of the absence.

The Pembina Valley exhibit featuring over 100 clothing items this year has already made stops in Swan Lake, Pilot Mound, Carman, and now Morden

It will be in Winkler in Bethel Heri-

tage Park this Saturday, in Altona Park this Sunday, and then in Killarney June 3 before a repeat stop in Morden June 24 Indigneous for People's Day.

Thiessen has been pleased with the response from



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/ VOICE The **REDress** Project was in last Morden week and will be in Winkler this Saturday and Altona on Sunday.

the communities so far.

In Pilot Mound, United Community Arts had organizers take over its Instagram for the day. They also provided snacks, drinks and a homemade lunch and had a fire and provided wood all day long.

In Carman, the chamber of commerce challenged their community to put up red dresses in their windows as displays, and almost every business participated.

And at Swan Lake First Nation, they were invited to the MMIWG2s honour ceremony, where they spoke and put the display on their pow wow grounds. Organizers were also invited to partake in a community feast.

"It is a pretty powerful display," said Thiessen, who ultimately hopes



it helps generate continued dialogue. "What we really hope is just that people are open to learn and they feel comfortable enough not only to walk through it but to come and ask us questions.

'We don't learn and others don't learn if we don't ask questions, and so we're open to those questions as long as people are open about it as well,' she noted. "It's a two way street, and we're seeing that this year. We're seeing people talking more and asking more, which is good, even the hard questions ... this is a good place to do that, a safe place."

For more information, you can find Pembina Valley REDress Project on social media or connect via e-mail to pembinavalleyreddress@gmail.com.



hanging baskets, roses, perennials, herbs, vegetables, assorted annuals, patio planters gift certificates & much more!

carman - 204-745-3534 3/4 mile west of the lights mon - fri: 8 - 8, sat: 8 - 6 sun: closed

> GRANTS, FROM PG. 5

Park upgrades. In addition, the Reinfeld park committee received \$135,802 for its park development project.

Friesen explained that Stanley Park will get a new bridge over the creek as well as some new signage and path lighting. The other grant is for the municipal pathway from Reinfeld and will help extend it further towards connecting it to Winkler.

"This certainly makes it all more possible," said Friesen. "All of these projects are going to be really good for community and just having the opportunity to enjoy it all more."

The funding for the McClung House will allow for a major retrofit and full refurbishment of the interior of the building, which was built in 1899 and at no point has really had any major work done on the interior.

"We will be upgrading it really from a one-season museum and facility to a three-season, so we will be adding heating and cooling, which will really extend our season overall," said Biggar. "We see this as really securing McClung House

for the future," she said. "It's going to be a real

game changer for us in terms of being able to really reinvigorate that home and secure it for the long term future."

Cuetara explained the CFDC grant is a 50 per cent contribution towards a total cost of \$124,150 to purchase a 3D scanner, 3D printer, and a powerful dedicated computer to handle the software.

The museum has also applied to the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund to match this contribution, so they hope to be able to put together both grants to acquire this technology.

"All the fossil specimens hosted at the CFDC are incomplete, which is something normal in any palaeontology museum," said Cuetara. "Making available a 3D scanner and printer is fundamental to be able to reconstruct whole skulls or skeletons.

"The possibilities of this technology for the CFDC are endless, especially for research, creation of new displays, fabrication of replicas or collaboration with other museums, like the Miami Museum."



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

The 2023 Manitoba Sunflower Queen contestants attended last month's Altona and District Chamber of Commerce gala. From left: Emily Wiebe, Olivia Driedger, Teneka Doerksen, Lanea Friesen, Dalila Friesen, Aria Ginter, and Tiffany Wiebe.

Seven contestants vying for the Sunflower Queen crown

By Lori Penner

One of the most anticipated events at the Manitoba Sunflower Festival will continue this summer.

Queen Quest coordinator Adina Schellenberg says they now have enough contestants who came forward to participate in the July event, which will result in a queen and two princesses being selected to represent the community at local events and at the Sunflower Festival in Altona's sister city, Emerald, Australia.

"We have seven contestants preparing for their big day. They've been getting together and just started speech preparation. They just completed their second session, and at the end of the month they'll complete the final draft with their instructor Laura Thiessen. She's done this with contestants in the past and thoroughly enjoys it."

The contestants will meet again for their official photo shoot at Gables Wedding Barn.

So far, Schellenberg says they've participated in two local events: the Gardens on Tenth Fiesta Fundraiser and the Curtis Klassen Memorial Fund Run and Walk to Remember.

"Now we're waiting for Danceworks in Morden to prepare the details for the fashion show and get all the music and dance routines squared away. We will start rehearsing that in June." Danceworks has worked with Sunflower Queen contestants for many years, and Schellenberg says they deeply care about making the girls feel confident in front of a crowd.

"We've told the girls it takes a lot of courage to put yourself out there in front of the public and told them we appreciate the fact that they have stepped forward. We start with fashion show practices, and in July they'll be taking part in several community events and parades."

Also arriving just in time for the Altona Festival will be the 2023 Australian Central Highlands Sunflower Queen Paige McKenzie and members of her family.

"We're very excited to welcome them and show them around the community," Schellenberg says.

Schellenberg says she's delighted that the Queen Quest will continue this year.

"The value of keeping this going not only benefits those who decide to participate but it also builds community spirit. For the contestants, it builds personal growth, and great connections with Altona and with Emerald.

"It's so great to see young people getting involved in the community, and this is so special we need to work hard to keep it alive. This is not a beauty pageant. It's a personal growth experience that has proven its value for generations."



Why I Quit the Conservative Party,

and why you should, too.

On August 23rd, 2018, I left the Conservative Party. Three weeks later, I founded the People's Party of Canada. At the time, I was fifty-five years old. Most men at that age are happy to settle down and enjoy the tail-end of their professional careers.

The question, then, people kept asking me was: "Why, Max?"

It's very simple. The Conservative Party and its predecessor, the Progressive Conservative Party — has lacked principles and guts for decades. Not since John Diefenbaker's time has there been a true conservative vision in that Party.

Today, our children are indoctrinated in the classroom into a dangerous transgender ideology which confuses and sexualizes them. It didn't appear out of nowhere. It's happening because the Conservatives let it happen. They are too afraid of being called 'bigots' by their opponents.

As a father myself, I know how important traditional families are to our communities and our country; they form the very bedrock of our nation.

Portage-Lisgar deserves a strong voice for families in the House of Commons: one that will fight tirelessly against the onslaught of the Woke Cult in our schools, institutions, and corporate media. We know the Conservatives won't do it.

On June 19th, I urge you to vote for your values. Vote for something, not against something.

Sincerely,

Marine Seri

Maxime Bernier Leader and Candidate for Portage-Lisgar People's Party of Canada



The Community Exchange honours helpers and supporters

By Lori Penner

Volunteers tend to be the backbone of every organization, and these efforts were recognized last week at The Community Exchange (TCE) in Altona.

Nearly 100 guests gathered at the facility on Main St. May 17 to share a tasty cultural meal and celebrate those who have contributed to the organization's success and their on-going support in where TCE hopes to go.

Cal Funk heads up the organization's nine-member board and is also part of a working group made up of Darlene Enns-Dyck, Carol Braun, and Laurie Sawatzky.

"This volunteer appreciation event was really our way of acknowledging that we could not have come this far without a team and community support," Funk says.

This dream for TCE started in 2018 when Seeds Church reflected on their history and their mission in the community.

"People needed a place to go to find resources, help and support. That led to a raw, expansive series of conversations with the community," Funk explains. "This eventually led to a steering group, which led to a board representing a cross section of the community."

Funk says while there is a wealth of

resources right here in Altona, it's not always possible for people to access them.

"Finding the right avenues can be challenging. And seeing the disconnect during the pandemic, we realized we needed to find a common ground to see past our differences and reconnect."

He notes that the building has always been called The Exchange, even when Seeds Church began there.

"And the vision was always that this would eventually be a community re-

source hub. When TCE came together and was formed as a board, Seeds Church was quick to say we want you to use this space. We want you to function out of here.

"So we've entered into a lease agreement where TCE is leasing the building back from Seeds Church and we run the entire building. Seeds uses it on

Sunday mornings, and they, like anyone else in the community, can book space here throughout the week. But they must get in line like everybody else."

The vision for TCE, Funk adds, is for it to become a place for people in the community to connect and help in ways they are passionate about, whether that is working at the community meal, serving coffee on Muffin Mondays, volunteering their time, or donating to the Sharing the Warmth program.



PHOTO BY LORI PENNER/VOICE

Members of The Community Exchange working group Darlene Enns-Dyck, Cal Funk, Carol Braun, and Laurie Sawatzky share a laugh during the organization's Volunteer Appreciation Night on May 17.

Since launching last September, nearly 900 meals have been served through monthly community meals put on by the Altona Bergthaler Church and hosted at TCE

"We've seen lives changed by the connections being formed through these programs, even through something as simple as popping in and sharing some muffins and coffee."

Since last October, about 500 articles of winter wear clothing have been distributed through the Sharing the Warmth program. TCE also has a small room in the building that serves as the Community Shop where anyone in need of toiletries, shampoo, diapers, or other daily necessities is free to help themselves.

TCE partners with 20 different organizations and initiatives. Their community support teams work with individual families to bring together agency and natural support, while making goals and plans for the future. "We have some communal office

Continued on page 14

Red River Mutual contributes \$500K to day care project

By Voice staff

The Kiddie Sunshine Centre's fundraising campaign for a new, larger building has received a big boost from Red River Mutual.

The company announced last week that is has committed a total of \$500,000 to the day care's capital building campaign to increase capacity and meet growing child care needs in the Altona area.

"This is a project that checks all the boxes for supporting and creating an impact in a positive way in our community," says Garth Reimer, Red River Mutual board chair. "We are honoured to work with the Kiddie Sunshine Centre and other community business partners to make a lasting investment in improving the access to quality and affordable childcare in the community."

The new day care building will double the child care spaces from the current 69 to 138, including 20 nursery school spots.

"We are so grateful for the incredible support and continued investment that Red River Mutual is making towards the Kiddie Sunshine Centre," says Laura Wiebe, Kiddie Sunshine Centre board chair. "From the beginning they have been an advocate and



champion of early childhood education in the community and our vision for the future."

This donation announcement comes about a month after the Province of Manitoba announced a \$4.1 million funding commitment for the project, which has a goal of about \$6.8 million. Thanks to additional community donations, the day care expects to begin work on the new building this summer and to open the facility in fall of 2024. "Red River Mutual supports resilient communities, and a resilient community is not only supported by its infrastructure, but they are also built by the people and families who live and work there," says Red River Mutual CEO Brenda Gibson. "Helping to strengthen our communities is a key motivator for our Red River Mutual team and as we grow it will continue to be a big pillar of our purpose, vision and values."

"THE VISION WAS ALWAYS THAT THIS WOULD EVENTUALLY BE A COMMUNITY who

RESOURCE HUB."

FriesenPress: Sharing your stories

In the heart of every author is a story waiting to be shared.

In 2009, Friesens Corporation launched a company called Friesen-Press to help more authors share their stories with the world.

Since the beginning, FriesenPress has been working with authors at all experience levels to self-publish their books with professional support, including editing, design, and promotions coaching.

Originally based in Victoria, B.C., most of their team continues to reside there, as well as in Winnipeg, but all staff have been working remotely since March 2020 when COVID hit. Though not without its challenges, the pandemic was a fruitful time for writers, creatives, and for the growing FriesenPress team.

"It's been a great transition," says President Tammara Kennelly. "Today our team is distributed across Canada, which means we can access the best talent across the country. We have 60 full-time team members who work with our authors every single day. We also have 153 part-time freelancers, including editors, illustrators, data entry specialists, indexers, and designers.

With this diverse team of professionals, we can really match our authors with just the right support. If you're looking for somebody with a certain background or experience, we have a broad spectrum of talents to meet your specific needs."

Their staff work one-on-one with authors through the entire life cycle of their book project.

"They'll get to know you and your project, and that's a really fantastic experience to build on," says Kennelly, noting satisfaction is guaranteed. "We're not letting you go away until you are delighted. If there's an error or something you don't love, we address it. We want authors walking away delighted." The self-publishing industry has been growing in the double digits for years. But initially, self-published authors didn't receive the same respect as traditionally published authors.

"The industry started out as vanity publishing; people had this perception that it was low quality writing," Kennelly says. "There wasn't a lot of respect for it.

"Tve been doing this for 12 years now, and the industry has evolved to the point where rather than being the last choice, self-publishing is often the first choice for well-respected authors. It's less expensive than traditional publishing, and we're seeing more readers fall in love with selfpublished writers.

"That shift has allowed us to evolve, as well. We've positioned ourselves as a higher end service. We work with authors who are really serious about their work and want all the support to compete in the market."

She adds, "For the longest time, traditional publishers were the gatekeepers of what was offered to readers, and what wasn't. Now there's another option for authors."

Working with a reputable company like Friesens has kept FriesenPress competitive in an industry rife with broken promises.

"If you look at Friesens as a company, they are very innovative and motivated to diversify their business holdings," Kennelly says. "They saw an opportunity where it made sense to get into self-publishing. It married up nicely with their printing business. Having a world-class printer affiliated with us, differentiated us in the marketplace. It gave us an opportunity to expose our authors to highquality printing, which is not always the case in self-publishing. It was just a marriage of two great industries, coming together to offer authors the best in class."

FriesenPress works with authors



SUPPLIED PHOTO

from every walk of life and every level of experience.

The FriesenPress team hails from all across Canada.

"So many authors dream of getting a traditional published deal, to finally see their story in print," says Kennelly. "But that's not a reality for most authors. That happens less than one per cent of the time. FriesenPress offers a variety of self-publishing paths, depending on where you want your book to go. It mimics the experience you'd have with a traditional publisher, and gives you access to all the same resources, while at the same time you remain in control, with a much higher share of the royalties."

In their lifetime, FriesenPress has published 8,911 titles—1,086 last year alone—from all genres.

"That trajectory has definitely picked up in the last few years. We've really hit our stride," says Kennelly "And we're starting to see a lot of different language books come through lately. There is real diversity in the voices we are supporting, which is exciting."

With so many competitors out there, Kennelly says a strong reputation is vital.

"We focus on doing business the right way. No matter where you look, for 116 years, people have been delighted with the work at Friesens. Every person our authors work with is an employee-owner, and owners have a vested interest in doing a great job in helping you succeed because it's their company. They take pride in it themselves. Pride in our product, but also pride in how we show up in the world. And that started with the Friesens family in the 1950s when they started employee ownership."

Sharing your story with the world can be a vulnerable process.

"Some authors are just starting out, and there's a lot of room for improvement. Some are further along in that journey. We meet writers exactly where they're at and help them move a little further down that spectrum to continue to improve their craft. There's room for everybody in self-publishing. And we love working with our authors. It's satisfying to walk alongside them through the whole project."

Every year, the company creates a compilation video featuring their authors unboxing their books for the first time.

"It's just incredible to watch," Kennelly says. "We're crying our eyes out as a team, just feeling so happy for those authors. It's pretty special, witnessing their dreams coming true."

For more information about Friesen-Press and the services they offer, go to FriesenPress.com

Paid advertisement



Active Transportation Day at W.C. Miller

By Lori Penner

W. C. Miller Collegiate encouraged all staff and students to get themselves to school under their own power on May 17 as part of Active Transportation Day.

Teacher and Altona Community Action Network (ACAN) member Connie Heppner Mueller says each school in the Border Land School Division received \$750 this year through an Education for Sustainable Development grant.

"We decided to use our ESD money to provide some prizes for an Active Transportation Day where we encouraged all students and staff to ride, roll or walk to school that day," she says. "So as not to leave the country students out, we allowed those students to take a walk, jog, and bike ride after school."

Every participant could enter a raffle to win a new bike, or other smaller prizes such as helmets and a water bottle. All prizes were a joint contribution by the Altona Farm Service and Border Land School Division.

"We had 135 students participate, which is 35 percent of the student body, and a large number of staff," shares Heppner Mueller.

Ultimately, Gian Hontiveros, a newcomer to Altona, won the Norco Storm Mountain bike. Gavin Groening won a Yeti water bottle and holder. Caleb Boughton and Cassandra Wiebe each won a helmet.

"We're thrilled with the participation, and the idea is to show students the benefits of using active transportation to get to school," Heppner Mueller says. "It's a win-win thing. It's good for the body, the mind, the planet, and usually good for the pocketbook too. We're just trying to get kids to explore this option."

After COVID, she says, people became so much more aware of the importance of mental health.

"We all know being outside and



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Prize winners at W.C. Miller Collegiate's Active Transportation Day included Caleb Boughton, Cassandra Wiebe, Gavin Groening, and Gian Hontiveros.

moving is good for us. It doesn't need to be a marathon. It can be a five-minute walk to school, or work, instead of the car."

The community is designed for active transportation, Heppner Mueller notes.

"We have so many great pathways and streets in Altona. It's not Pembina Hwy. It's flat, it's not San Francisco," she says. "If ever there was a place to bike or walk, it's Altona. We need to start encouraging more of this over

here, in our students, and in the community at large."

Heppner Mueller says they'll definitely be amping things up for next year's active transportation event.

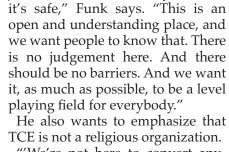
"It's important to start early. To teach people to be more active, to be more eco-minded. It can improve your mental health, your mood, your fitness level, and reduce air pollution. There's nothing but positive things there."

> COMMUNITY EXCHANGE, FROM PG. 12

spaces where people can just come and go. We have community office space for anybody to pop in. We have laptop computers they can use. Quite a few people come in just to use the Wi-Fi. It's also a meeting place for local services and organizations. Altona & Area Family Resource Centre has been using this weekly for some of their programming, Child and Family Services and Dakota Ojibway are here on a regular basis. Pembina Valley Pride uses it. Along with that, we have other organizations like Sharing the Warmth using a space upstairs.

TCE was recently designated as a non-profit registered charity, allowing them to provide tax deductible receipts for donations.

"The hope is that it will be a place



where people continue to come and join us here and that they feel that

"We're not here to convert anybody. We're all people and we all need help sometimes, and we can lean on each other. We're all working together for the common good. It's our volunteers, community members and donors who have helped make this possible. And we can't thank them enough for being such a huge part of this."

The Voice Get in touch with us at 204-325-6888

Life Takes Energy®

Public Notice is hereby given that Enbridge Pipelines Inc. (Enbridge) intends to conduct the following Pesticide Program from June 1, 2023 – November 15, 2023, to control noxious weeds on Enbridge ROW's, temporary workspaces, stations and various facilities along the Enbridge Mainline and Bakken corridors. *The herbicide active ingredients to be used include:*

- MCPA Ester
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- Dicamba
- 2, 4-D
- 2, 4-DB
- Aminopyralid
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- Indaziflam

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- Aminopyralid
- Difluenzopyr

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- (petroleum hydrocarbons)

Any person may, within 15 days after the notice is published, send a written submission to the department below, regarding the control program or register with the department their written objection to the use of pesticide next to their property.

> Environmental Approvals Branch Manitoba Conservation and Climate 1007 Century Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 0W4

"See No Evil" performs at the Kenmor next month

By Lorne Stelmach

A new theatre company based in southeast Manitoba is bringing its first major show to Morden-Winkler next month.

See No Evil is the first big production from Looking Glass Theatre, and the co-creators see this classic Alfred Hitchcock inspired story as being filled with charms and chills in equal measure.

"It's a suspense thriller, so it's a mixture of mystery and suspense, but there's also a lot of laughs in the show," said Marc Moir, who together with Laura Kathleen Turner is a driving force behind Looking Glass.

"And it's a period piece, so the costumes are really fun, and the music is really fun. The staging of it all is quite an experience when you come to see it," added Turner.

Moir is best known for his award-winning hit play *Padre X*, while actress and singer/songwriter Turner's work includes a principal role in the film *The Science Fiction Makers* and co-creating the musical *When You're a Star*.

Creating Looking Glass is something that Moir and Turner had in mind for some time now as they saw a void to be filled in that region of the province.

"We've both done theatre for many years, and we've wanted for a couple years now to start a professional theatre company that's based in southeastern Manitoba," said Moir, who is based in the Steinbach area along with Turner. "So we brought together a company of actors who are either already professional actors or they're up and coming and working towards that being their vocation."

"This show is kind of us sticking our feet in the

water ... it's in the early stages, but we're very excited with where we are; everything has gone really well so far," he added. "There's a huge market. It really is a theatre community. People love theatre here ... there was no real professional theatre."

It brings together a talented collective of young up-and-coming artists, many of whom are local to Southern Manitoba, noted Turner, and they look forward to offering theatre fans an exciting combination of classic and original works.

"There's brand new talent, brand new creators, and it's made up of people who are known from their community."

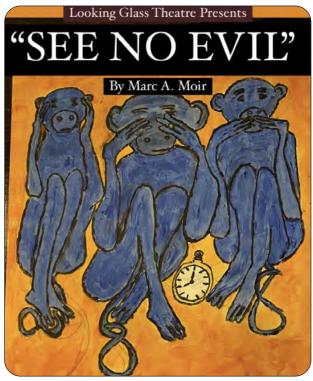
The story is set on the evening of a first wedding anniversary when Mary's husband tells her that he plans to murder her and that he has killed seven times before. Or does he? Is Russell a serial killer, or is Mary the victim of paranoid delusions?

Moir and Turner say this chilling tale will keep people on the edge of their seats.

"This show is just thrilling, from the beginning right to the end. It's really going to keep audiences guessing and on their toes," Turner said. "They're not going to know what to expect next or who to believe.

"The performances are just wonderful. We've been in rehearsals for a couple of weeks now, and what we're seeing from the actors is just really blowing us away. I think the audience is going to be delighted by the performances.

"I think that's something that we have figured out how to really do well over the years of doing community theatre ... something we have gotten quite good at is finding the comedy in the midst of drama, in the midst of tragedy."



FACEBOOK.COM/LOOKINGGLASSPRODUTIONS Looking Glass Theatre brings "See No Evil" to the Kenmor Theatre June 9-10.

"And the audience needs that," added Moir. "Hitchcock always said you can't just keep the suspense building through the whole thing. You need to give the audience a moment to breathe."

See No Evil is on stage in Steinbach this weekend before coming to Morden's Kenmor Theatre June 9 at 7 p.m. and June 10 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 at the door (cash only).

Applications being accepted for Suncatch Plaza

Street closed for community events until September

By Lorne Stelmach

The City of Morden is getting some community interest in making use of what has been dubbed Suncatch Plaza.

The seasonal closure of a half block section of Eighth Street downtown for use as a community gathering hub began last week, and the city is inviting applications to make use of the space.

Priority for booking will be given to non-profit and community organizations, Mayor Brandon Burley noted, and the farmers market and Suncatch Sounds concert series will also be priority events.

"Right now, it's on a first-come, firstserve basis as far as booking it, but it's also free for people to use to gather informally," he said. "We've had a good amount of interest from people wanting to book the space and inquiring about it.

"We've been watching very closely over the last number of years with Suncatch Sounds and the farmers market ... and we were keen to see what kind of energy and attraction there was in bringing people downtown. We saw a buzz around them," said Burley. "Our goal right now then is to create opportunity for more programming and perhaps even move some of the programming we do right now in other places into that area."

The decision to close off part of Eighth St. between Stephen St. and the back lane to the south from now until September is being done on a trial basis.

"The potential for it right now is very wide open ... and it will become what the community wants to make of it," Burley said. "The city will guide it in some respects.

"In terms of food trucks, there's no immediate plans right now in terms of engagement," he noted. "We are working to create kind of a menu board for takeout from local restaurants so people can have food delivered into the suncatch area."

The mayor noted there are some restrictions on the space: no additional infrastructure can be added beyond what is now there, and there is no option for a liquor licence aside from what events like the Suncatch Sounds obtains for its gatherings. And of course there are requirements to obey the city noise bylaw and properly clean up after events.

"In terms of the logistics, our goal in the first year is to make sure that anything that can be set up can be taken down in half a day," Burley added. "The city is committing some extra resourcing to beautify that space this year, so it will have an enhanced esthetic appeal.

"With more visibility we think there will come more engagement ... and council and, I think, other community groups are interested to see what kind of uptake there is.

"One of the stated goals of this council is the revitalization of the downtown core," Burley said. "It also brings community together ... there's a lot of opportunities.

"At the end of the season, we will be looking at whether or not we were able to increase the vitality of the downtown core."

News or sports tip? E-mail news@winklermordenvoice.ca or call 204-325-6888

sports&recreation

Bisons beat Orioles 3-2

Manitoba Junior Baseball League season begins

"WE ARE LOOKING TO

LITTLE GLITCHES THAT

WE DID HAVE AND BE

WELL PREPARED."

FIX SOME OF THOSE

By Lorne Stelmach

It's been mixed results for the Pembina Valley Orioles and Altona Bisons in the early going of the MJBL season.

Both teams were 1-2 going into action on the Victoria Day holiday after the Bisons edged the Orioles 3-2 last Wednesday.

Altona scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning, while Connor Cory allowed only two hits and struck out 10 in seven and two on thirds innings. For the Orioles, three pitchers combined to allow seven hits with Owen Goertzen taking the loss on the mound.

Earlier, the season opening doubleheader weekend saw the Orioles split their pair with the Elmwood Giants, who took game one 13-2, but the Orioles rebounded to take game two by a score of 5-3.

"We started well the first game then we let one inning get away on us. We rallied in the second game and rallied to win it," said coach Dan Giesbrecht. "I think overall any time you can come up with a split with Elmwood it's a good day.

"Our guys responded very well. We have some things to learn, but we worked on a few things at practice, and we hope to keep improving as this season progresses," he said.

"There was some strong pitching and some good offensive skills ... our defense was good for most of the games. We are looking to fix some of those little glitches that we did have and be well prepared."

Meanwhile, the Bisons dropped both games against Interlake opening weekend, with the Blue Jays winning 11-1 and 5-3.

"We were just a little rusty. We knew we would be, given it was the first time for a lot of the guys swinging a bat, facing live pitching. We were just a little off, but we know we will get better," said coach Curt Letkeman.

"Even though we lost both games, hits were pretty even between the teams for both games," he noted. "It just was a case of they happened to get their hits when the bases were



PHOTOS BY EDWARD VINCENT ARCENAL/VOICE In their home opener last week Wednesday, the Altona Bisons beat the Pembina Valley Orioles 3-2.

loaded, and we happened to strike out with the bases loaded. I think both of those games could have easily been two wins instead of two losses."

Letkeman sees the team continuing to improve, as they saw in the game against the Orioles.

"We're confident that once our guys get a few more at bats and just a few more innings pitched, we'll be fine," he said. "We've got pretty much the same team we've had the last two years, so we're going to have really solid pitching, once we get a couple guys back from college."

On Monday, the Bisons fell to Win-



nipeg South 7-3 and the Orioles lost to the St. James A's 2-1.

The Orioles visit Winnipeg South this Friday and then host Interlake for a doubleheader Sunday. The Bisons hosted St. Boniface

The Bisons hosted St. Boniface Wednesday and visit Carillon for a doubleheader against the Sultans Sunday.

Winkler Storm 1 fall 6-0 to NKMB Saints

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Winkler Storm 1 are still looking for their first win of the season, having dropped a 6-0 decision to the NKMB Saints in Winnipeg last week.

The loss followed a 5-1 defeat at the hands of Luso Canadian CCS the week before in the team's season opener in the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Premier Division.

It's a rebuilding year of sorts for the Storm, and the first one in a few years with some real stakes, notes coach Chad Bergen.

"I know the Storm have struggled

the last couple of seasons, and COVID hasn't helped because there hasn't been any promotion or demotion or anything of that sort."

The league for the last two seasons pushed pause on the usual year-end promotion/demotion tradition, in which the bottom two teams in a division move down to the next and the top two move up.

But now that teams are able to practice and play without restrictions, promotions and demotions are back, which means the Storm need to earn their seat at the Premier Division ta-

ble.

"If we win, we stay. If we come in last place, we drop down to Division 1," Bergen said.

That said, winning isn't his driving focus this summer—Bergen's goal for the season ahead is to create a team culture focused on building relationships and ongoing skills development.

"My hope is more development based than win based, because I want to see these guys play where they belong," he said. "So if we do struggle this season and we get chopped off to Division 1, then I'm perfectly fine with that, because that's where we belong.

"As far as development goes, then we can actually help the players develop at their level. And as they improve, hopefully they can earn their way back up to Premier."

The Storm next take the field against Lions FC in Winnipeg Thursday night.

They host their home opener Sunday, June 4 against Sporting Club Mosaic. The game starts at 5 p.m. at the 15th Street field.

Check out the Voice online at www.winklermordenvoice.ca or altonavoice.ca

Rocking W charity race returns to Carman

Proceeds going to support South Central Cancer Resource

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Last year's inaugural Rocking W Rick Wiebe Memorial Charity Barrel Race was a such a success in Carman that organizers are bringing it back there once again. The event takes over the Dufferin Ag Society Fairgrounds June 16-17.

"We're making a permanent move to Carman," says Rocking W Barrel Racing Productions CEO Dusty van der Steen, who notes the charity race—which has run for years but returned post-pandemic with a new name—has simply outgrown her family farm. "To host the number of people that come to compete and to watch, we just don't have the room anymore.

"Carman's facility is fantastic. The arena is great, there's barns and parking, the campground is there," she says, adding the ag society and the community gave them such a warm welcome in 2022 that they knew it would be the right fit moving for-

ward.

This year they're super-sizing the weekend with a few other competitions on top of the charity race, including a Dash for Cash Slot Race and the Rocking W Open 4D.

"We wanted to have more stuff going on here," van der Steen says. "With the price of fuel and the cost of everything these days, competitors were telling us they wanted to have an opportunity to travel once to compete in more events."

With 100 entries, the slot race is set to have a payout of \$26,000.

"It's a chance to win a lot of money," says van der Steen, noting there aren't many events like this in our neck of the woods. "So we're excited to be one of the first in our area with this."

Those two events take place on the Friday, June 16 (the slot race at 1 p.m. and the barrel race at 7 p.m.). The Rick Wiebe Memorial Charity Barrel Race then runs on the Saturday, June 17, starting at 1 p.m.

Last year's charity race raised near-

In addition to the annual charity barrel race, Rocking W is also hosting a slot race and an Open 4D June 16-17



ly \$29,000 for South Central Cancer Resource, and van der Steen hopes to hit—and possibly exceed—similar heights this time around.

The race is named in memory of her late father, who lost his battle with cancer in 2020.

"I know he'd be proud of me for doing this and supporting South Central Cancer Resource, as they really are a key support for cancer patients and their families while they're going through treatment.

"They don't have any government assistance. They rely on fundraisers like ours," she adds of the agency, which offers support programs and educational resources to cancer patients across southern Manitoba. "So we're very happy to support them so they can do what they need to for local patients."

Full details about all three events, including competitor registration information, are available online at www. rockingw.com.

Admission for spectators is free, but bring some cash along to take part in the silent auction and enjoy chow from the food trucks.

Teen mentorship program comes to Southern Manitoba

By Ty Dilello

Morden's Danselle Neufeld has been working quietly behind the scenes preparing her new Teen Mentorship program which is set to debut this summer.

Teen Mentorship was created in response to the need for healthy and interactive activities in the local communities for teens and tweens.

"My goal with Teen Mentorship is to build confidence and resilience in our future leaders," said Neufeld. "This will be done through group workshops and one-on-one mentorship."

Low self-esteem is a thinking disorder in which individuals view themselves as inadequate, unlovable, and incompetent. Once formed, this negative view permeates every thought, producing faulty assumptions and ongoing self-defeating behaviour.

High self-esteem protects youth from anxiety, depression, pressure and stress. In addition, studies show that Social Emotional Learning (SEL) positively impacts youth by giving them tools to navigate life, such as self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making.

"In order for our youth to be successful, confident adults, it is important that they have access to support and resources," said Neufeld. "It is our goal and passion to be able to teach SEL in my programs to both middle and high school-aged kids."

Teen Mentorship is a safe and non-judgmental place that's inclusive of everyone.

"Mentoring can hopefully help with stress, self-confidence, schoolwork, substance use, body image, relationships and many other common issues such as anxieties and loneliness brought on by social media," said Neufeld. "One-on-one coaching can be a valuable space to figure this stuff out so that you can live your best and most fulfilled life."

Neufeld has over ten years of experience working as administrative staff and a special constable for local police services, helping callers in distress and high-risk situations. She



also has over eighteen years of experience inspiring students and other music teachers with Valleyfield Music Studio. In addition, she has several years of experience volunteering for the Morden Youth Justice Forum.

"Helping people is my passion, and these experiences have inspired me to create a safe place where teens and tweens can be themselves."

Teen Mentorship hosts Summer Wellness Camps in Morden for teens from July 31 to Aug 4 and Aug 14-18. The registration deadline is May 12.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Morden's Danselle Neufeld has been working quietly behind the scenes getting out her new Teen Mentorship program which is set to debut this summer.

For more information, head to teenmentorship.ca.

Father-son cyclists continue cross-Manitoba trek

By Lorne Stelmach

A father and son duo with a passion for cycling have been busy traversing the province over the last couple of years as a lead-up to their ultimate adventure.

The end goal for Josh Vosper and his father James is to cycle right across Canada, but they are enjoying the ride right now as well as documenting their journeys.

"My dad and I have always had a passion for biking, and we've always talked about doing these bike trips before," Josh said last week as they looked forward to another leg that brought them to the Morden-Winkler region over the long weekend. "Another thing to is we really wanted to showcase our country. That was always one of the main things we wanted to do."

Calling the town of Plumas home and going to school in Gladstone, where he graduates this spring, Josh and his father over the last five years have been riding across the Prairies on their bikes.

Along the way they have been documenting their rides on video, filming what they are calling *The Mega Manitoba Movie* for their You Tube channel From Here 2 There.

The *Mega Manitoba Movie* playlist has well over 50 episodes and counting as they continue to edit and upload footage from their trips throughout the province.

In the summer of 2022 they focused most of their bike rides in the Interlake region, including stops in Ashern, Steep Rock, Arborg, Riverton, Hecla Island, Gimli, and Winnipeg Beach.

They are now going further through southern Manitoba after having previously hit Miami and Roland in 2021 and Elm Creek, Fannystelle, and St. Claude in 2022.

This year they've ridden in the Portage area and plan to swing through

> Steinbach next after their ride in the Pembina Valley.

It's not surprising to James that his son is so keen to take on this challenging adventure.

"We used to live in Saskatoon, and when Josh was extremely young he just loved biking. We would bike, when he was maybe four or five years old, literally around the entire city ... and then after we were done, he would be saying, 'Let's do that

again.' "So from a very young age he just had this desire to go very, very long distances on his bike, and that kind of developed into thinking about biking all across Canada."

Over the last



PHOTOS BY LORNE STELMACH/VOICE

Father-son duo James and Josh Vosper were in Morden-Winkler last week as part of their goal to cycle across Manitoba and, eventually, all of Canada.

two years they have largely stayed closer to home in Manitoba. Part of that was thanks to the pandemic, but they also got some sage advice from a loved one.

"My mom had said well, try Manitoba first ... and then see how that feels so you can kind of get an idea of how the doing the whole country would feel," Josh recalled.

"It was just something I've really enjoyed doing," he added, noting "it's really special because the time we have together is amazing ... all the joking, the fun we have ... it's such a unique experience, and I really enjoy the time we get to spend together."

"It's also nice to visit all of these communities in Manitoba and showcase the communities to other people."

"We really enjoy visiting the communities and try to go to local restaurants or see the attractions," added James. "Meeting people in the communities is actually one of the things I enjoy the most about the bike ride.

"It's not only when we visit a community physically in person on the bike trip," he added. "We have this online community where we'll try to post the video on the Facebook page of that community, and then we get dialogue going with people who watch it."

There obviously needs to be a lot of thought and preparation put into it each time they venture out somewhere.

"It's just going out biking as much as you can," said Josh. "We have an exercise bike, so it's even just biking on that to maintain yourself throughout the winter."

"We're a little more prepared now. We've got extra equipment, all the tools we need, so that at least we can get to the next major centre," noted James, who recalled one especially "desolate trail" that took them to Moose Lake, but it was so rough they had to cut their day short.

And how far they can get at any given time is quite variable depending on the local conditions.

"It depends on the terrain and the day. If you're biking in the mountains, you're not going to get that far, but if you're biking in the prairies, you're going to go further, and it also depends if you've got a headwind or a tailwind," said Josh.

"It really depends on all the weather conditions. That would really be the major factor," said James, who noted they also need to work within what is available for holiday time, so they will often have to break up trips over time.

"I think one of our longest days was about 225 km ... on a good day, if there's very little wind, you can probably get 200 km plus in," he said. "I remember on another day we were going into a wind that was maybe 70 kph in Saskatchewan ... in one hour I think we covered 24 km. But when the wind picked up, it took us four hours to do the exact same amount because the wind was so strong. We actually had to stop our ride that day because we were walking faster."

"On those days, it can feel discouraging, but you've got to just push through those days," Josh noted.

All their experiences to date buoy their spirits in contemplating their cross Canada adventure, where they hope to begin in British Columbia, biking across the mountains, prairies, Canadian Shield, southern Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritimes until they get to the eastern most point of North America: Cape Spear Lighthouse National Historic Site.

"I think it definitely does encourage us to take on Canada," Josh said. "That was kind of the goal from the start."



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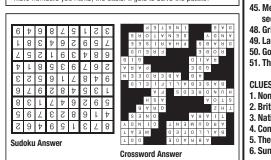
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Here's How It Works:

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 wi appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



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- 41. College organization for males
- 42. Any customary observanc or practice 43. Employee stock ownership
- plan 44. Male parent
- 45. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet 46. Female bird
- 47. Autonomic nervous system

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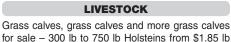
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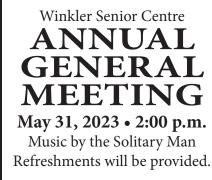
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PUBLIC NOTICE



PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice Regarding a Local Improvement Plan -

By-Law No. 2303-23 for the Water Treatment Plant

The Council of the City of Winkler has scheduled a public

hearing at Winkler City Hall, 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB on

the 13th day of June, 2023 at 6.30 p.m. to the present the

The City of Winkler water treatment plant expansion and

upgrade will increase plant capacity from ~42L/s to ~113L/s.

This will be accomplished by replacing the treatment

process with more greensand filtration and two new reverse

osmosis (RO) trains with higher recovery rates. The objective is

to increase RO recovery from the current 70% to at least 90%.

The expansion will also include a new 1.4ML above-ground

glass lined storage tank that will match the existing tank in

dimensions and features. Estimated construction cost of the

WTP is \$13,000,000, less \$5,000,000 from Provincial funding.

The net amount estimated to be \$8,000,000 to be financed

over a period of fifteen (15) years at an estimated interest rate

of 8%. The annual maintenance cost associate with the local

improvement proposed herein will be covered under the City

The annual payment of \$934,636.36. will be raised by the

portioned value of all assessable property in the City of

A written objection may be filed with the City Manager, at 185

main Street, Winkler, Manitoba, prior to the commencement

of the hearing. At the hearing, Council will hear any potential

ratepayer who wishes to make a presentation, ask questions

All objections, written or verbal, must be filed prior to the

adjournment of the hearing and must include the name,

address and property description of the person filing the

Copies of the local improvement plan are available at the City

of Winkler office at 185 Main Street, Winkler, MB, and on the

Dated at the City of Winkler this 12th day of May, 2023, and

issued pursuant to Section 318 of The Municipal Act.

or register an objection to the local improvement plan.

objection and the grounds of their objection.

municipal website at www.cityofwinkler.ca.

of Winkler Utility Operating Fund's annual budget.

Winkler as a mill rate.

Jody Penner

City Manager

City of Winkler

204-325-9524

CITY OF

following local improvement plan:

Local Improvement Plan No. 42:



for Muriel Taplin Closes June 6 @ 7:00PM Closes June 2 C Estate & Moving Closes June 7 @ 7:00P Booking On Site Spring Auct McSherryAuction.com 204-467-1858 Consignors Welcome!

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FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for land and yard site in the RM of Roland / Prairie Rose School Division described below will be received by: Franz Hoeppner Wiens Law Office Box 99, 1 - 880 J

15th Street Winkler, MB R6W 4A4

LAND: NE ¼ 34-4-4 WPM excepting public road plan 643 MLTO (157.57 acres)

YARD SITE:

Seven acre yard is beautifully treed and landscaped with excellent shelterbelts

Grain Storage:

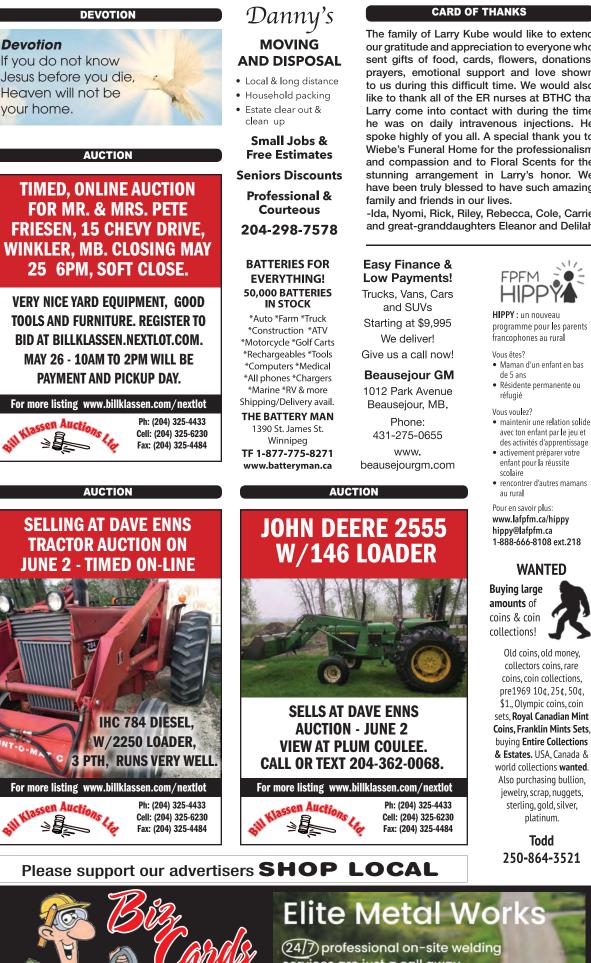
- 95,800 bushels of grain storage as follows:
- 3 x 2,000 bushel Westeel Hopper bins
- 3 x 1,800 bushel Meridian Hopper bins with Aeration
- 2 x 3,000 bushel Meridian Hopper bins with Aeration
- 3 x 5,900 bushel Westeel Hopper bins with Aeration
- 3 x 17,400 bushel Brock bins with full floor Aeration
- 1 x 8,500 bushel Brock bin with Neco Grain Dryer
- Under bin conveyor

Out Buildings:

- Grain Dryer Service Building
- Behlen Machine Shed (48'x72") with concrete floor
- House:
- Built 1991; Renovated 2011
- Four Bedrooms (2 Main Floor, 2 Basement)
- 2136 ft2 with partial basement (1380 ft2) • Concrete basement; 2x6 construction with Triple Pane windows
- New Shingles and Siding in 2011
- Brick Façade
- Hardwood flooring in hallways and Dining Room • Large Living Room (25'x16') with hardwood
- Cork flooring in Sunroom (16'x16') and Kitchen
- Carpeting in bedrooms
- 2 ¹/₂ bath with heated tile floors and Maax Jacuzzi tub
- Large Entrance (11'x8')
- Attached double garage (29'x25')
- **CONDITIONS OF TENDER:**
- 1. The parcels of land and yard site with buildings described will be sold "as is".
- 2. Tenders must be received on or before 5:00 PM on May 31, 2023.
- 3. Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
- 4. Possession is November 1, 2023.
- 5. Tender must be accompanied by a refundable deposit of \$10,000.00; 5% total deposit upon acceptance of the tender bid (cheque made payable to Franz Hoeppner Wiens Law Office). TERMS OF SALE:
- 1. The successful bidder(s) shall enter a formal agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
- 2. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
- 3. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid on the Due Date, the deposit paid may be forfeited as liquidated damages.
- 4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2024.
- 5. The purchaser is responsible for GST or shall self-assess for GST. For further information contact
- Franz Hoeppner Wiens Law Office at 204-325-4615. Additional photos can be viewed at: fhwlaw.ca/tenders.



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The family of Larry Kube would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation to everyone who sent gifts of food, cards, flowers, donations, prayers, emotional support and love shown to us during this difficult time. We would also like to thank all of the ER nurses at BTHC that Larry come into contact with during the time he was on daily intravenous injections. He spoke highly of you all. A special thank you to Wiebe's Funeral Home for the professionalism and compassion and to Floral Scents for the stunning arrangement in Larry's honor. We have been truly blessed to have such amazing

-Ida, Nyomi, Rick, Riley, Rebecca, Cole, Carrie and great-granddaughters Eleanor and Delilah

Elite Metal Works

Todd

Announcements Classifieds Voice

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John Mark Tyler

1953 - 2023 It is with great sadness that the family of Mark Tyler announce his

passing on Monday, May 8, 2023 with his family by his side. He leaves behind his beloved wife of 32 years, Ruth (nee Klassen); his children, Kimberlee Kroeker (Brian), Joshua and his grandchildren, Brooklyn, Scott, and Dallas as well as his father, Wayne and siblings, Coleen, Garry, Duane, and Lynette.

He was predeceased by his mother, Donna (2021), one brother and one sister.

Mark was born in Stratford ON, to parents, Wayne and Donna Tyler. He grew up in Stratford, ON, lived briefly in Regina, SK and then lived in Ontario with his wife and children until they moved to Winkler, MB in 2005. Mark loved God and his family deeply. He

greatly enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and serving his church as a deacon. He had a very kind and wise spirit. He will be greatly missed.

Memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 27, 2023 at the Harvest Christian Fellowship in Plum Coulee.

OBITUARY

The family would like to thank the medical staff at Boundary Trails Health Centre for their exceptional care and compassion.

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler In care of arrangements wiebefuneralhomes.com





Helen Janzen (nee Braun) (born Klassen) 1932 - 2023

Helen Janzen, 90, of Winkler, MB formerly of Hochfeld passed away peacefully on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at Boundary Trails Health Centre.

She is survived by sisters-in-law, Helen (Dave) Klassen, Tina (John) Janzen, Mary (John) Warkentin, Helen (Isaac) Friesen and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Helen was predeceased by her loving husband, Abe Janzen in September 2011, all of her siblings and many in-laws.

Funeral service was held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 22, 2023, at Chortitz Old Colony Mennonite Church with interment at

Helen's family would like to express their gratitude for all who called and visited Helen at home. A special thank you to those who volunteered to sit with Helen her last week in the hospital and to the staff at BTHC for their loving and compassionate care for Helen. May God Bless you all. If friends so desire, donations in Helen's name may be made to Faith Mission.

OBITUARY

Wiebe Funeral Home, Winkler In care of arrangements wiebefuneralhomes.com



UP COMING AUCTIONS

AUCTION

May 25 - Pete Friesen

15 Chevy Drive, Winkler - Good yard and household auction, timed online

May 26 Denis & Lorrette Dheilly -

Farm Equipment and Collector Items on-line auction. Located 5 south and 2 east of St Claude, MB- 44 M-Harris Tractors, JD 4230,.w/ loader 530 BALER S, 273 New holland baler, JD 5010 Tractor, 97 F-350 etc see billklassen.nextlot.com

June 2 Collector Tractor AUCTION

FOR Dave Enns, 6 miles north of Carman, 2 east on 305 and 1 south at the John Bargen Farm. JD D, A, IHC A, Super C, H, M, W6 W 4 ETC SEE. www.billklassen.nextlot.com for these and other interesting on-line or in person auctions

For more listing www.billklassen.com/nextlot



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AUCTIO

- Main Floor is 1224 sq ft, Basement Level is 960 sq ft for a total of app. 2,184 sq ft of Living Space.
- Features 4-5 Bedrooms and 2 Bathrooms.
 Includes Fridge, Stove, Dishwasher, Washer, Dryer.

UPSTAIRS

- 2 Bedrooms plus 1 Bedroom that we use as our Laundry Room.
- Ample Closet Spaces
- Cozy Kitchen, with Solid Oak Cabinets, Living Room, Newly Remodeled Bathroom in 2022 which has a 2 Sink Vanity with Granite Countertop, and a Shower Tower in the Tub.
- Large Breezeway that leads to 2 CAR GARAGE or to the Back Yard.
- Large Storage/Cold Room Insulated.

DOWNSTAIRS

- Fully Renovated in 2022 including Vinyl Plank Flooring, Freshly Painted.
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom with Large New Updated Shower.
 Beautiful Rec Room / Man Cave , Very Bright & Cozy Living Area

just across from our driveway. We are a retired Couple, looking to Downsize. We love our Home, but it is now waiting for a New Family to Enjoy.

HIGHLIGHTS:

ALL in 2022 ! - New Shingles, New Energy Efficient Gas Furnace, Garage Door Opener with

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Long Driveway with Parking for 4 to 6 Vehicles.

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2 Cherry Trees and a Healthy Rhubarb Plant.

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Rebate for 2022 were \$2214.05.

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This Home is 1/2 Block from Morden Collegiate/

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getinformed

Crowley was one of the top players to suit up for Maroons

By Ty Dilello

Dane Crowley is one of the most accomplished players to suit up in an Altona Maroons jersey.

Crowley started playing hockey at a very young age. So young that he doesn't remember ever not playing. He grew up in the Westwood (St. James) area of Winnipeg in the 1990s and first played organized hockey for Kirkfield Westwood Community Club.

He progressed to the St. James Canadians (AA) and Winnipeg Hawks (AAA). His family moved when he was 15 to Linden Woods (Winnipeg), so for his first year there, he played Midget for the Winnipeg Warriors.

A solid 6'2' defenseman, Crowley found himself on scouts' radar and began playing in the Western Hockey League (WHL) with the Saskatoon Blades at sixteen. After a few years with the Blades, Crowley moved on to star on the blueline with the Swift Current Broncos and then the Everett Silvertips to end his junior career.

"My first two and a half years in the WHL was a lot of learning," said Crowley. "I had some good stretches and also some rough stretches. I got traded to Swift Current at the trade deadline in 2005-06 and really progressed from there. I owe a lot of my success to the coaching staff from that organization. I was then traded at the deadline the year after to Everett, Washington, where I played under former NHL coach Kevin Constantine. I had a lot of different experiences throughout my junior career and learned a lot from them all."

Crowley was a draft pick of the Tampa Bay Lightning when they selected him in the sixth round (168th overall) at the 2006 NHL Entry Draft. "Being drafted is still one of the highlights of my entire life. I was not drafted in my initial draft year, even though I was ranked in mock drafts. I had a really good year the next season when I was traded to Swift Current. I was not expecting to be drafted the next summer as an overage player, but I knew there was a chance. I can still remember the time and place when I found out I was drafted."

Crowley went on to attend a rookie tournament with the Lightning in Traverse City, Michigan, for the two years that he was in their organization. After the rookie camps, he was invited back to Tampa Bay's main training camp.

This was only a few years after

Tampa Bay had won their first Stanley Cup, so Crowley was rubbing shoulders in training camp and competing in exhibition games alongside the likes of Martin St. Louis, Brad Richards and Vincent Lecavalier.

"It was very surreal sharing an ice surface with all of them."

Despite not making the Lightning's roster, Crowley was signed to an AHL contract and spent a season and a half playing for the Norfolk Admirals, Houston Aeros, as well as a stint with the ECHL's Phoenix Roadrunners.

"It was a great and very exciting time to be playing in the AHL, but I was caught in a weird position in that I was signed by the AHL team but not the NHL parent club. Hockey is a business, and the parent clubs want to develop their signed players, so I did not get in a lot of games and spent a lot of time in hotel rooms. It was okay, but I didn't want that to continue."

With that, Crowley decided to halt his professional hockey career to



Winnipeg's Dane Crowley is one of the most accomplished players to suit up in an Altona Maroons jersey.

come back home and focus on a different career path.

Playing in the WHL for five years, Crowley had accrued five years of paid University. And he had one year after he was finished playing in the WHL to claim it.

"After spending the year playing pro and realizing how much pro hockey is a business, I realized that my best option was to go to university as I had always excelled in school."

While earning his degree, Crowley played four seasons with the University of Manitoba Bisons men's hockey team and spent two of them as the team's captain.

Looking back, Crowley has no regrets about switching career paths from pro hockey as he is now a professional engineer and managing partner at Wolfrom Engineering, one of Winnipeg's largest structural engineering firms.

Crowley continues to play hockey in recent years by suiting up for the Altona Maroons for the past five seasons. Averaging well over a pointper-game in his time with the Maroons, Crowley has been one of the SEMHL's top defenceman that the league has ever seen.

"Playing in Altona was a lot of fun. We had great groups of people on the hockey team as well as running it. I made some good friends and will always cherish the memories of playing there with the Maroons."

Crowley stepped away from the Maroons and hockey in 2020 due to his work commitments and family.

"Unfortunately, with becoming a managing partner in our firm and having a young daughter, I do not have enough time to dedicate to playing again."



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"IT was a great and very exciting time to be playing in the Ahl ..."





1 frozen acai smoothie pack (100 milligrams)

1 cup low-fat milk

- 1 medium frozen banana, sliced
- 1 cup fresh or frozen mixed berries
- 2 slices whole-wheat bread
- fresh blueberries



1/3 cup old-fashioned rolled oats 1/2 cup low-fat milk



Servings: 3-4 2 cups shredded chicken 8 ounces cream cheese 1/2 cup sour cream 1 1/2 cups sharp cheddar cheese, plus additional for topping, divided 1/2 teaspoon onion powder 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder 1 heavy pinch dried dill 1/2 cup hot sauce 2 green onions, chopped blue cheese crumbles chips

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Acai Bowl with Whole-Wheat Toast

granola

coconut flakes

Under warm water, thaw frozen acai smoothie pack about 5 seconds.

In blender, combine acai, milk, banana and mixed berries. Blend until smooth. Toast bread slices to desired doneness.

Pour acai mixture into bowl and garnish with blueberries, granola and coconut flakes before serving. Serve with toast.

Overnight Oats

1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract 2 tablespoons mixed dried fruit 1 tablespoon walnuts, chopped

1 tablespoon honey In bowl or jar, combine oats, milk and vanilla extract. Cover and refrig-

erate overnight. Before serving, stir in dried fruit,

walnuts and honey.

Buffalo Chicken Dip

vegetable sticks Heat oven to 400 F.

In bowl, mix shredded chicken, cream cheese, sour cream, 1 1/2 cups shredded cheese, onion powder, garlic powder and dried dill until combined. Add hot sauce; mix until combined.

Transfer mixture from bowl to ovensafe dish. Top with additional shredded cheese, to taste.

Bake until cheese is melted, approximately 15 minutes.

Top with blue cheese crumbles and chopped green onion.

Serve warm with chips and vegetable sticks.

inspired Ask the Money Lady

Dear Money Lady, what do think about reverse mortgages – I own my home but only have a widow's pension and OAS to live on. Now that everything is a little more expensive, I am finding it really difficult to live and pay my bills. Verna

Dear Verna – sounds like you are asset rich, (own your home) but cash poor. A reverse mortgage could be an option.

Reverse mortgages have their place as a viable equity product and there are two primary lenders in Canada that offer them: Home Equity Bank and Equitable Bank. Most of the time this product is sold through a mortgage broker and is designed to meet the need for aging homeowners that cannot qualify for a traditional home equity loan or line of credit because they no longer work or can't make the monthly payments. This type of equity-takeout loan allows someone to access a portion of the value of their primary residence without selling it or making monthly payments to repay the debt. Now before you get too excited, let's discuss the pros and cons of this product.

To be eligible for a reverse mortgage you must be 55 or older and own your home. The matrix for gualification is based on three criteria: your age, home value, and location. Of course, the amount provided by the lender will be higher if you live in an urban center as opposed to rurally, and you can choose to get a lump sum payout or have a scheduled payment setup. There are many different types of reverse mortgage products with some that are fully open and others that are locked in. The interest rates range from 7% to 11% compounded annually and repayment is due upon your death, when you sell the home, or if you decide to end the contract and pay back the loan in full. The setup and cessation fees are quite high and of course you will need to do this through a real estate lawyer because a lien will be placed on your property for the loan. Some additional fees could involve prepayment penalties if you pay off the mortgage before it's due and independent legal advice requirements. Some initial start-up fees can be added to the balance of your loan, (which will incur additional interest over the life of the product), but others may need to be paid up front, to be deducted from your payout.

Obviously, the pros to reverse



Christine Ibbotson

mortgages are that you don't have to make regular loan payments and you can turn the value of your home into cash without having to sell it. The cons would be that it is quite costly to do so, with interest rates so much higher than most other types of mortgages and secured lines of credit. The biggest drawback I see with this product is that the equity you hold in your home may go down over time as you accumulate more and more interest on your loan. The other problem is that when you die, your estate must repay the loan + interest + fees within a set period of time, regardless of how long it takes to settle your estate, leaving the onus on your beneficiaries.

I know there are many retirees that have considered this option. It is definitely an option to "stay and play," but I must caution you on the compounded interest component. Interest is continually added to your loan each month and tacked on to the principal balance. Each month, interest accrues on a larger balance, meaning you are basically paying interest upon interest. If you are looking to this product to shore up your financial resources so you can stop working, pay off credit card debt or travel and enjoy life, I would suggest you either sell and downsize your home or look to a conventional lender with lower lending rates, (rates for a reverse mortgage average 9% - 14%). Think of this product, not as an added benefit to owning a home, but as a tool of last resort to be considered in your older years, when every other resource or option has been exhausted.

Good Luck & Best Wishes,

ATML - Christine Ibbotson

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer, National Radio Host, and now on CTV Morning Live, and CTV News @6. Send your money questions (answered FREE) through her website at askthemoneylady.ca