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STANDARD PHOTO BY MARK COATES

Roland School Grade 2 students, left to right, Noah Thiessen, Miklo Voth, Weston Elias, and Tristan Loewen enjoyed the mild temperatures on Feb. 2.

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# Aldarweesh family settling into Carman community

By Becca Myskiw

The Aldarweesh family has been living in Carman for over one year now thanks to strong community support.

In 2015, the Carman Refugee Support Committee was formed to bring the Aldarwish family to town. It was made up of seven church-based organizations from the surrounding communities.

Around the time they formed, the Canadian government was sponsoring around 25,000 Syrian refugee families. The Carman Refugee Support Committee chose to do a blended visa sponsorship program, where they paid 60 per cent of the family's expenses for a year and the government paid 40 per cent.

They sponsored the Aldarwish family of six, who arrived at the Winnipeg James Armstrong Richardson International Airport in December of 2016.

In February of that year, the family's father, Talal, came to the committee, asking if they could sponsor his sister's family, who was then living in Lebanon. Lyle Rance of the committee said by then, the blended visa program had been reduced and less refugees were being allowed in Canada. So, they decided on a private sponsor-

ship, which meant they had to raise 100 per cent of the funds themselves.

And they did. Through church donations, they raised all the money needed to support the Aldarweesh/Mohammed family for a year. They landed in Winnipeg on Nov. 7, 2019.

"You need a whole army of people to do that," he said. "And we had a whole army of people."

Najah Aldarweesh said the hardest part was waiting for three years, not knowing if things were going to work out. They left behind everything in Syria to go to Lebanon and they couldn't go back — all they could do was move forward.

Landing on the frosty Canadian soil after all that time was special, said Aldarweesh.

"I am very lucky, and I am glad to be here with my family," she said.

Aldarweesh said her family feels like part of the Carman community — it's a family to them.

The family landed here with two daughters, and then welcomed a baby boy in December. Susan Weppler became a close friend of the family's through her work on the committee. She's taken them to medical appointments, helped them move into their



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

(Left to right) Najah Aldarweesh, Ayman Mohammed, Manar Mohammed, Malak Mohammed, Mustafa Mohammed came to Canada in 2019.

apartment, and has spent time with them, getting to know the family.

She said they've settled in perfectly, learning English, going to school, and working at True North Foods.

"I know there's a lot of misconcep-

tion with newcomers," said Weppler.

"But they are not taking something from our society, they're adding to it."

They have changed Weppler's life just as much as she's changed theirs.

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# Manitoba's reopening plans not feasible for everyone

## Small restaurants struggle to operate at 25 per cent capacity

By Becca Myskiw

Manitoba restaurants were given the go-ahead to re-open their dining rooms Friday, so long as they limit their seatings to 25 per cent of capacity.

The move is part of Manitoba's loosened COVID-19 public health orders that will be in place for the next three weeks.

However, while some restaurants opened last weekend, some Carman eateries have decided to keep their chairs up pointing to the 25 per cent limit as not feasible.

Susi Kack, owner of Crazy Lady's Cafeteria, said she's keeping her dining room closed because it doesn't make sense financially to open it. Twenty-five per cent capacity is next to nothing at her restaurant, she said. Opening it would require her to hire and pay an employee to serve and

she would have to spend more money to follow the protocols properly and safely.

Because of those extra expenses, Kack said she'd have to raise her prices to make an income and that's not something she wants to do to her customers.

"We have to spend more money so people can come in," she said. "I would love to have people in, but the business view on the numbers...it's not worth it."

On top of spending more money, if Kack opened her dining room, she would have to take people's identification and "interrogate" them based on who they're sitting with. She does not want to act like the police to her customers and waste time asking them questions rather than cooking them food.

Kack said larger restaurants are probably able to operate dining rooms at 25 per cent capacity, but smaller businesses like Crazy Lady's Cafeteria just can't do it.

President of the Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce Marni Harrison said any amount of reopening for businesses is good, but it has to make sense for them to do it.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Crazy Lady's Cafeteria in Carman is just one local restaurant not reopening its dining room.

"I would say as a whole, there's been a large mental impact to everyone," said Harrison. "It's been a lot of extra things to take into consideration — am I doing this right? There are everchanging rules that people don't want to break, their concern is about whether they're within the current rules or not...restaurants have faced a huge impact."

She said the past few months have

been stressful for every business owner, though, and she feels recreation facilities have been overlooked in the reopening plans.

The Government of Manitoba is currently asking for resident's feedback and opinions on their reopening plans, something Harrison said is a wonderful thing.

"It gives us an opportunity to have a voice," she said.

## Carman Library jam-packed February for I Love to Read Month

By Becca Myskiw

Boyne Regional Library has had a busy February celebrating I Love to Read Month.

Library programmer Tina Cronin planned various activities for people to do remotely, a lot of which can be done through Beanstack Tracker, an app for smart phones, but also a desktop site.

On Beanstack Tracker, the library has countless activities and challenges that residents can complete on their own time. Some of the challenges are binge watching their favourite television show or reading for 30 minutes in bed.

"They're all achievable little things," said Cronin. "By achievable, I mean it's things we're going to be doing anyways."

Upon completing each challenge and putting it into Beanstack Tracker, each person is entered in a prize draw. The library is giving away four quarantine care packages with items donated from local shops like Carman Florists & Gift Boutique, Evensong, and Knockabouts.

One package was given away through an Instagram contest, another with a

Continued on page 4

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# Carman offers value and a place for family roots

By Becca Myskiw

Carman is a place to put down roots — and its housing market agrees.

Real estate agent Nicole Kehler said the Carman housing market is completely opposite of the Winnipeg market. Her brokerage is in the city but she works mostly in southern Manitoba. She knows both markets quite well.

In Winnipeg, there isn't a lot of inventory, which results in constant bidding wars and makes the process of buying a house difficult. In Carman, however, the market is steady — people can sell their house, then turn around and buy one without a bidding war.

Along with the steady market, it's also a balanced one here. The average home in town sells for \$245,700, as opposed to Winnipeg's average of \$340,000. Kehler said most houses in town are along that line.

"We don't have to worry about ex-

treme highs or lows in Carman," said Kehler.

That balance and steadiness makes the area an affordable one. The cost of taxes is also lower, the properties are larger, the town offers numerous amenities that take away the need to leave Carman. Kehler said when people buy a home in Carman, they're typically getting ready to set down roots.

In 2017, she saw an anomaly of a huge jump in the average cost of houses here. Since then, the numbers have gone back down to a steady pace and will continue to rise gradually as the town grows. She said the upcoming hotel will likely bring more people in, along with the addition of jobs. The industry in the area and the population largely contribute to the cost of housing.

In 2020, Kehler said there was an 8.2 per cent increase in the average home value in Carman, based on the aver-

age 1,300 square-foot home. She said that's because people have had more time to renovate and work on their homes.

"People are investing in Carman," she said. "Which is fantastic. They're investing in their homes."

Residents also often sell their homes to move up in life to a bigger and better one. Kehler said that proves that when people move to Carman, they move to stay. And now, because of COVID-19, people are realizing they want more property and a bigger space to live in, making Carman a good option.

"Would I drive 50 minutes to have a better priced home that's just as big, maybe bigger, than what I would have in the city?" she said. "Absolutely."

Kehler predicts the housing market for 2021 will be very similar to what it was last year — a boom in the spring, a steady summer, and another boom in the fall.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Real Estate Agent Nicole Kehler said the Carman housing market is a steady and balanced one.

## KidDance among Manitoba dance studios advocating for a safe reopen

By Becca Myskiw

Chairs are coming off restaurant tables, shop doors are staying open, but dancing shoes and skates remain tucked away in a corner, waiting.

Manitoba's reopening plans have allowed restaurants to open their dining rooms at 25 per cent capacity. Stores can now sell all items, throwing out the essentials only list. Dance studios got the go ahead to open on Feb. 12, but classes had to be one-on-one training only.

Director of KidDance Physical Arts, Michelle Kidd, said that's impossible. They would need five instructors individually teaching five students in the same room, which is more bodies than one instructor teaching all five.

"Unless we offer separate private lessons which we do not normally

do," said Kidd. "So, this 'lifted' restriction for dance studios actually doesn't help us reopen at all."

KidDance Physical Arts has been closed since Nov. 12, 2020. Kidd said they originally thought their doors would be shut for a month, not three. They were offering online dance classes, but as dance is widely a team sport, it wasn't the same. Students and instructors burned out, internet access was foggy at times, and dancers weren't dancing with their friends.

"While we understand the severity of COVID and the need for restrictions, it obviously has been devastating as a business and for our dance students," she said. "Many who have now dropped out due to the closure being extended for so long."

Almost half of the students who

enrolled in classes in September have now dropped out, affecting the amount of income for the studio when their expenses haven't changed.

Now, KidDance is offering the private classes for two weeks and taking a break from their Zoom classes. Kidd said she hopes restrictions will lift more after those two weeks so they can get back to more of a normal operation.

She said dance ensures young people have a mental and physical outlet. It also provides a social outlet for them outside of school — three things none of Kidd's dancers are getting right now.

"As the shutdown continues, we are witnessing a severe increase in depression, anxiety, and other mental health issues that have taken a toll on

our participants," said Kidd.

KidDance Physical Arts is a part of the Collective Dance Studios in Manitoba, a group of over 40 dance studios fighting to reopen safely, something Kidd said they can do. KidDance enforces strict sanitization protocols, has mandatory mask policies, screens dancers, already has tracking information for them, and ensures each dancer is six feet away from the next.

The Collective Dance Studios in Manitoba group figured out, through 31 facilities, that there has been a zero per cent spread of COVID-19 through dance studios. There is also a 0.1 per cent risk of exposure.

The data they collected came from 13,000 classes and over 7,000 participants from Sept. 1 to Nov. 11, 2020.



STANDARD PHOTO BY BECCA MYSKIW

The Boyne Library has numerous giveaways and activities planned for I Love to Read Month.

### > BOYNE LIBRARY I LOVE TO READ MONTH, FROM PG. 3

Facebook contest, another with a Bingo game, and the last prize will be a grand prize given away to one of those that have been completing the online challenges.

"We really want to encourage people to use that app," said Cronin. "It's really cute and easy to use."

Along with their specific I Love to Read Month giveaways and challenges, the Boyne Regional Library is upping their game for the Take Home Tuesday activities. They applied for the Safe at Home

Manitoba grant program and received funding to expand the Take Home Tuesday projects for the months of February and March.

Instead of doing the program one Tuesday each month like usual, the library is able to do it every week during the two months, thanks to the grant from the government program. They are also able to send the activity packages to the daycares in town during the two months.

Last week, the project for older children was making a piggy bank

with a moustache that said, "Don't touch my stache." Younger children created a cardstock rainbow with cottonballs.

As usual, the packages will be available on the table outside the library from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Take Home Tuesday packages and the I Love to Read Month activities have been going extremely well, said Cronin, and she's happy the town is taking part in reading.



# Commodity groups upset with provincial ag minister

By Evan Matthews

With proposed changes to the AgriStability Program on the table, Manitoba commodity groups say if the Province does not embrace those changes, the future of the local agricultural industry is in peril.

Twenty commodity groups—including Keystone Agricultural Producers (KAP), Manitoba Beef Producers, Dairy Farmers of Manitoba, Keystone Potato Producers, among 16 others—are displeased with the Provincial Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development Minister Blaine Pedersen.

The 20 commodity groups sent a letter to the Manitoba Government asking to ratify changes to the AgriStability program; the Federal Government proposed the changes at its agriculture ministers' meeting on Nov. 27.

"Producers and farm groups have sent a unanimous message of support for the proposal, and need to know what Manitoba has decided.

"The reference margin limit (RML) has a large impact on (producers') eligibility for AgriStability," said KAP President Campbell, suggesting AgriStability would be improved by eliminating the RML.

"With time running out, it remains unclear if Manitoba will support these enhancements or walk away, and leave millions of dollars on the table," he said, further emphasizing to ignore the suggested changes would be an abject failure to protect Manitoba producers, and would jeopardize the provincial agricultural industry into the future.

## What is the RML?

The most significant change the Federal Government suggested was to remove the RML from the AgriStability program.

According to Campbell, the RML is an equation factoring in revenues and expenditures, and whether or not a producer has experienced revenue losses significant enough to "hit the trigger," on the AgriStability—insurance—program.

By removing the RML, commodity groups suggest the program will be simplified, and have a more accessible trigger for lower-cost operations.

Although commodity groups have stated publicly that the proposed changes are still less than ideal; the proposed changes are a step in the right direction and an acceptable compromise.

The groups also stated a proposed increase in coverage from 70 per cent to 80 per cent would make the program more effective for those who suffer a significant loss.

**"TO DISREGARD THIS... SUGGESTS THE MINISTER WILL NOT STAND UP FOR MANITOBA'S AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY."**

## Minister's response

But the minister disagreed with commodity groups in his response on Jan. 26, as he said the proposed changes do not address many of the outstanding issues associated with the program.

Referencing the elimination of the RML, Pedersen said while payments to some sectors would increase, it would not address concerns related to "predictability, competitiveness, and timeliness."

"The increase of compensation rate will largely benefit program participants who already trigger payments most frequently, but does not address equity, complexity, timeliness, or predictability," said Pedersen.

"Although development of these long-term options is ongoing, industry supported the continued development of these potential alternatives, including more insurance options to cover risk.

"It is vital that government and industry partners focus their concerted efforts and resources to create real and long-lasting improvements to the Business Risk Management (BRM) that work for our producers," he said.

But the minister's response is vague and insufficient in the eyes of many, including KAP.

Campbell said KAP has continually called on both the provincial and federal governments to strengthen BRM programming for producers.

# National champion



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Three local girls returned April 1967 from the Dominion 5 Pin Bowling Championships held in Scarborough, Ont. Peggy Soutar captured the Girls Singles with an average of 196.5. Meanwhile, Beverley Williams and Sandi McEachern finished 5th after capturing the Manitoba title earlier in the season. Left to right, Peggy Soutar, Johnny Harrison, Beverley Williams, Sandi McEachern are shown following a presentation of bouquets of roses to the girls.

Through the existing Canadian Agricultural Partnership framework, BRM programs can, with some adjustment, provide effective industry support, according to Campbell.

But the time to adjust is now.

"As we look at business models and risk producers take these days, if the government is not willing to ensure they do their job with regards to protecting our export markets and insuring we have sound and reasonable means to get our product to export; if they are not willing to stand up for trade deals that have been developed; why as a producer should I bear the brunt of their inability to look after what I have built my business model around?" Asked Campbell, speaking to evolution of

the canola market in Manitoba is one of the most exported crops in the province; China put sanctions on two Manitoba-based companies in 2020 as a result of federal trade negotiations, which resulted in

a significant market drop.

"Now I as a producer, without changes to the program, am bearing the brunt of that. We need more stability," he said, describing another circumstance last summer in which the rail companies could not get enough product to the point of export.

In that situation, Campbell said the producers lived up to their end of the bargain in producing crops, but the transportation sector of the industry couldn't live up to its end. Campbell said, again, it was producers who bore the brunt.

"To disregard this issue and ignore suggested changes, suggests the minister will not stand up for Manitoba's agriculture industry."

## Blaine Pedersen MLA for Midland

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195 Main St S - Unit 2 Carman, MB

midlandmla@outlook.com

www.blainepedersen.com





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**PUBLISHER**  
Lana Meier



**SALES & MARKETING**  
Brett Mitchell



**SALES & MARKETING**  
Gwen Keller



**REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Dennis Young



**REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Becca Myskiw



**REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Jennifer McFee



**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**  
Nicole Kapusta



**GRAPHIC DESIGNER**  
Tara Gionet



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**CLASSIFIED ADMINISTRATOR**  
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# getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

## letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:  
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This past year has been an unparalleled time in Canada's history and in the world not just for the COVID 19 but for the way we have handled it, especially in Canada. We have taken a one sided approach to fighting this virus. Our leaders have told us, that doctors, and science will lead us out of this crisis. I believe that's true. I think scientists are very Important to us and we need them. But leaving the scientists and doctors in charge of implementing the safety measures, has been short sighted at best. Our leaders especially our prime minister, have not shown the leadership that was needed. They are in charge of the country not the doctors and the scientists, they should have the ability to look at the big picture with the information from the health professionals and use that with common sense. In my opinion they have not!

Lock down and shutting big parts of the economy is not a good respon-

sible solution. Let me share some government statistics in regards to deaths in Canada. Mortality rate from COVID in Canada is 2.6 percent Influenza 2.4 percent, Health professionals fear that COVID will overload the health care system. Canada has in excess of 70,000 beds, as of Dec. 08/2020 there were 3,093 COVID patients in Canada's hospitals. 4 percent of the capacity. Total deaths in Canada 2019 - 284,082; COVID deaths as of Feb. 09, 2021 were 7 percent of the total.

The numbers I've shown, helps put this pandemic into prospective. Mortality rate from COVID compared to influenza is very similar, and we have learned to live with that risk factor. There is an inherent risk factor in anything we do. We all accept certain risks otherwise we would remain cowered underneath our blankets all day. Infection fatality rate from COVID-19, .03 to .04 percent below the age of 70. Acceptable

risk in the world we live in. There is no common sense in locking down parts of the economy, putting millions of people out of work with the evidence that is out there. Going into 2020 we projected a 29 billion dollar deficit by the end of the year it had ballooned to 381 billion! Is that what we call rational! Our doctors and scientists are only doing what their trained for - to save lives. How many people have died from the collateral damage from the pandemic such as, people dying from delayed surgeries, delayed cancer treatments, waiting to see specialists etc. Where are those numbers? Save one life here and three others die there? Suicides are up by close to 2,200 people from 2019. I've course I'm not advocating that nothing should be done. Yes consult with the health professionals, but please show leadership!

- Respectfully submitted  
Wayne Hiebert

## New public health orders effective Feb. 12

### Submitted by Manitoba government

Following feedback from Manitobans and advice from public health leaders, the province is loosening a variety of restrictions while ensuring protocols are in place to protect Manitobans from the risks of COVID-19, Premier Brian Pallister and Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief provincial health officer, announced on Feb. 9.

"Today is another big day for Manitobans, especially for our local business owners who are eager to safely reopen their doors, and provide the goods and services that Manitobans have missed the past few months," said Pallister.

The orders will formalize the following changes for all of Manitoba, replacing the General COVID-19 Prevention Orders made on Jan. 28 and

the Northern Manitoba COVID-19 Prevention Orders made on Feb. 1, 2021. The orders took effect at 12:01 a.m. on Feb. 12 and will last for three weeks.

The orders include the following changes, with further pandemic safety measures in place:

- allowing restaurants and licensed premises to reopen at 25 per cent capacity with patron groups limited to members of the same household only;
- allowing outdoor rinks to reopen for casual sports as well as organized practices and games, with multi-team tournaments not permitted;
- allowing gyms, fitness centres and yoga studios to reopen at 25 per cent capacity;
- allowing indoor sporting facilities such as rinks, gymnastic clubs and

martial arts studios to reopen at 25 per cent capacity for individual instruction only;

- allowing places of worship to hold regular religious services if a service does not exceed 10 per cent of usual capacity or 50 people, whichever is lower;
- allowing self-help groups for persons dealing with addictions or other behaviours to hold meetings at 25 per cent capacity of the premise where meetings take place;
- allowing museums, art galleries and libraries to operate at 25 per cent capacity;
- allowing personal service businesses, such as those providing pedicures, electrolysis, cosmetic applica-

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# Tax reduction and COVID relief promised in budget

## Rural residents provide input for 2021 budget

By Nicole Buffie

Education taxes on property, health-care and senior care were at the top of the list for the 2021 budget for Manitobans living in rural areas as they made their voices heard during a Feb. 3 telephone town hall.

A series of virtual forums were held throughout January and the beginning of February to get input from residents on what they would like to see prioritized from the provincial government on their spending.

For the last virtual meeting residents took to the phone lines to ask Finance Minister Scott Fielding questions regarding the upcoming budget for the fiscal year.

During his opening remarks, Fielding highlighted areas in which the provincial government spent extra money, including mental health and addictions initiatives such as RAAM clinics and programming for adults and children. He also noted that while

the government entered the fiscal year in a \$5 million surplus, they will end it in a \$2 billion deficit due to COVID-19.

"What is important though, and distinguishes ourselves as the government, is we have a plan to get ourselves back into balance once the pandemic is over," Fielding said.

The health minister said the cash went towards responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Fielding also noted the province issued \$1.2 million in fines related to residents flouting public health orders. The province hopes the money collected will help offset the projected deficit, which is projected to be balanced once again in eight years.

While the projected numbers weren't a point of focus for callers, many inquired about the plan to eliminate education taxes on property. One caller asked how the province plans to continue funding education

without the revenue from the taxes, which will be phased out in the coming years.

"We think we can do it through growth," Fielding answered. "When you have a situation where you're leading the country in things like private sector capital investments, businesses are coming to Manitoba and it's growing, so there's going to be growth that will happen, so obviously we're going to allocate some of that growth dollars to making life a little bit more affordable for you as a Manitoban."

Manitobans also inquired about how seniors programs and healthcare will be funded and how much of the budget will be allocated to it.

The province said they have increased spending on seniors by \$594 million every year since 2016 when the conservative party took office. Fielding said they will continue to do so to provide more cataract, hip and knee surgeries.

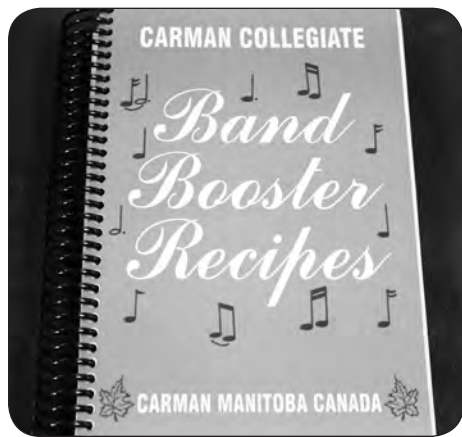
The province will also continue to reference the VIRGO report, a study

commissioned by the province to look at programming and facilities to address mental health and addictions issues, a point of concern for one caller.

"I will say it'll be a priority in this budget coming up," Fielding said. "During this pandemic, it's been very stressful for a lot of people in every walk of life, because it's had such an impact on us. And you can tell that people are struggling with mental health issues and stress. And I think that's going to be a big part of our recovery, not just on an economic basis once we're through the pandemic, like making sure that people are supported from a mental health standpoint and so that's why we really tried to make it a priority, and we're going to continue to do more of that in this budget."

The 2021 budget is expected to be released by the end of February, although no date has been set as the province is still awaiting further information on money allocation from the federal government.

## Remember that blue cookbook filled with great recipes?



By Heather Leask Armstrong

Many of us still rely on that spiral bound, blue cookbook with the words, "Carman Collegiate Band Booster Recipes", on the front. Undoubtedly well worn by now, inside the book are

tried and true hints and recipes submitted by mostly band parents when the book was first published forty years ago.

The popular cookbook was conceived as a fundraiser for the Carman Collegiate band program in 1981. A twentieth anniversary edition of the cookbook was printed by the Band Boosters in 2001. The second edition was a reprint of all of the original recipes, since as an added acknowledgement page from the 2001 Band Boosters Committee put it, "why mess with success?"

This year Carman Collegiate is offering a third printing of the book. As with the 2001 printing, the book will contain the same recipes without the side tabs to keep costs down. A new

additional page will designate the book as a 40th anniversary edition.

More than just a recipe book, the book is a reminder of the fine people, some of them no longer with us, who worked tirelessly to not only support our high school's band program but also countless other important causes in Carman and the surrounding communities of Sperling, Homewood, Roland, and Graysville.

The exact cost of the re-printed book won't be known until there is an idea of the demand. All proceeds will go to the school.

Anyone interested in purchasing a copy of the cookbook is asked to contact Kyla Orchard at the Carman Collegiate office by calling 204 745-2001 or emailing [korchard@prsdmb.ca](mailto:korchard@prsdmb.ca) by March 26.

## > PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS, FROM PG. 6

tion, tanning, tattooing or massage services to reopen at 25 per cent capacity;

- allowing photographers and videographers to offer services to individual clients or those residing in the same household in addition to providing services at weddings, with the exception of visiting client homes; and

- allowing the film industry to operate fully with physical distancing and other safety measures in place.

"These new orders allow us to resume more activities and services we enjoy, but we cannot let our guard down yet," said Roussin. "We will continue to carefully monitor COVID-19 developments and case numbers to ensure we protect each other and our health-care system. Manitobans need to continue to follow the fundamentals at all times including staying home when sick, frequent handwashing and wearing masks. We all have a part to play in

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A BIG thank you to the Town of Carman for their hard work and support! Thank you for the additional space in our new location, we wouldn't be where we are today without you.



A group of eight people and a dog are standing in a snowy field. The people are dressed in winter clothing, including jackets, hats, and gloves. They are arranged in a loose circle, with some standing closer to the camera than others. A large dog is standing on the right side of the group. The background is a vast, open field covered in snow, with some trees visible in the distance. The sky is clear and blue.

happy to accept ideas on river upkeep and activities as well. Anderson said to contact someone in the group with any input.



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# Storytelling bringing hope, personal connection during pandemic

By Becca Myskiw

Storytelling is bringing people together during isolation, and a Miami woman is taking advantage of the opportunity.

Avid storyteller Mary Chown has taken to the internet to share with strangers the magic of spoken word. Off the top of her head, she shares traditional stories and folktales through Zoom every Sunday, bringing an average of 12 strangers together each time.

Chown started storytelling in the late 1970s while she was a schoolteacher. She said they were neutral ground on which she could connect with her students, asking things like, "If you were the king, would you have done that?" and "Would you have liked to be that wolf?"

And it turned out to be easier than she thought it would be because no one knew if she made a mistake — spoken word stories aren't written in ink so they can change based on the audience and situations.

Since she started, Chown has told her stories in personal care homes, schools, hospitals, in books, and festivals. She's also keen on volunteering and said she was looking for a way to contribute to her



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Mary Chown is offerin virtual storytelling, something a Miami woman said offers personal connections in an isolating time.

community during the pandemic, so her husband suggested virtual storytelling.

Chown applied for a grant from the government, received it, and paid a web person to set her up

website ([marylouisechown.com](http://marylouisechown.com)) where people can find pre-recorded stories of hers. Along with that, she invites anyone to join her Zoom meetings at 7 p.m. every Sunday, where she tells a new story each week.

Donna Riddell from Miami has listened in on a few of those virtual tellings. She also took one of Chown's workshops 20 years ago and has been inspired to tell stories herself since then.

She said storytelling, rather than reading, is a powerful experience for everyone involved.

"Once you get that book out of the way, then the heart to heart connection with people is powerful," said Riddell.

She said oral stories are living and they're important now more than ever because of the personal connection and meaning everyone is craving.

"In 2020, you're waiting for everything to open up again," she said. "My New Year's pledge was to not waste any more time waiting, to find things we can do instead of zeroing in on what we can't. With the storytelling, we're not waiting and there's a little bit of hope."

To get in on one of Chown's Zoom storytellings, email her at [mlchown@shaw.ca](mailto:mlchown@shaw.ca) for the link.

## Roland 4-H Museum in need of community donations

By Becca Myskiw

The Canadian 4-H Museum in Roland is calling on the community for help in raising funds.

The museum researches, collects, and preserves 4-H history from the time it began in 1913. In it are artifacts, exhibits, old uniforms, banners, past projects, past prize ribbons, and everything else that tells the story of the clubs.

Leslie Whitehead, secretary of the museum board, said the museum is \$5,000 short of their expenses from last year. They receive a small provincial operating grant each year, but the most they can get from it is \$3,150.

Because of the ongoing pandemic, the museum wasn't able to host their annual meal before the Roland 4-H achievement. They also saw a signifi-

cant decrease in museum traffic because there was no Roland Pumpkin Fair, fewer summer travellers, and no regular guided tours, which resulted in way fewer donations in the box.

Now, the Canadian 4-H Museum that sits in Roland is calling on the community to help them pay the bills. In just over a week, they raised \$2,500, but that's only half of what they need.

"The more we can spread the word, the better," said Whitehead. "You just got to get the word out."

The museum is going to be open this summer but details on what's allowed will come as restrictions do.

To make a donation to the museum, mail a cheque to the Historical Society of the R.M. of Roland, Box 238, Roland, MB, R0G 1T0. Tax receipts will be provided for all donations.



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The Canadian 4-H Museum in Roland is asking the community for donations.

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# Planning, preparation key to braving the cold

By Lorne Stelmach

Being prepared to face the cold of a Canadian winter comes down to both planning and prevention.

It is something that may be taken for granted, but it doesn't take much for a misstep in that preparation to land you in trouble, cautioned Canadian Red Cross representatives last week in the midst of our cold spell.

"Look at the intense wind chill factors we had across the prairies this past week ... frostbite can happen in just a few minutes," noted Lynn Kolba, a Manitoba representative with the Red Cross.

"We sometimes take it for granted ... that everybody knows these things, but that's not always the case," she said.

"People may not have all the gear on hand to protect themselves ... or they may have never experienced this kind of weather before," Kolba added, recalling a past experience with an exchange student from India. "She breathed in the cold -40 C air for the first time in life at 20 years old, and she was just incapacitated. She had never experienced that before.

"[Newcomers] may have experienced winter before but perhaps not those -45 wind chills."

Kolba encouraged people to brush up on a number of factors to be prepared during a cold spell. Key things to know include understanding wind chill factors, recognizing hypothermia, and understanding frostbite and how to treat both it and hypothermia.

She reiterated that keeping yourself safe in the cold starts with prevention and planning, especially if you are going to be outside for a greater length of time for a winter activity.

"You can mitigate a lot of the risk of

cold emergencies by preparing, wearing the right gear, layering up ... making sure that you've got a backup pair of socks, an extra pair of sweat pants and a sweater.

"Even packing things like blankets in your car and having a winter emergency kit for the cold is important," Kolba added.

"Check the weather for the day and throughout the day," she continued. "The wind direction and wind chill is going to have a huge impact on how enjoyable your activities for the day outside are actually going to be.

"It's also determining what kind of gear you're really going to need, whether it's going to be snowy and damp or is it just going to be a blowing, biting -50 winds ... that's going to determine whether you need a balaclava or if you need a hat and scarf."

It doesn't take long for something to go wrong, so think about every possibility.

"It's a simple thing ... once any part of your body is exposed ... once they're cold, they're cold. Getting it warmed back up again is really challenging if you're going to continue to be outside."

Kolba said it has been a blessing in disguise that living in the midst of a pandemic has helped encourage people to get out and get active, and she added it is good to see that many municipalities have not only promoted it but also made safety paramount.

"That's been one of the positives of the pandemic is that people have been thrust outdoors to enjoy some recreation. It is important, though, to keep the public informed so that they can feel safe when they go out to enjoy those activities."



STANDARD PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH  
Brooke Nelson of Morden out walking her dog Winnie one cold day last week. The Canadian Red Cross urges people—especially those not used to Canadian winters—to prepare well before setting foot outside.

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# Where are they now? Catching up with Brian Hodgson

By Dennis Young

*This feature will attempt to renew some acquaintances with those who called Carman home at one time or another. I have randomly selected people to answer questions of their past and present so the readers can be brought up to speed on their lives.*

**Q. Firstly let's get familiar with you again. When did you live in Carman?**

I was from Roland so spent plenty of time in Carman but only lived there for work from 1973-1978.

**Q. Did you attend school here?**

I went to high school in Carman graduating in 1972.

**Q. What did you do for a living here?**

After a couple years at college I got a position at the Dufferin Credit Union in 1973.

**Q. What did your family do for a living here?**

My parents, Jim and Marion, ran a grain/livestock farm south of Roland. My brother Reid and my nephew Jack's families now run strictly grain farm there.

**Q. What activities did you participate in?**

I guess the most prominent of my activities would be my involvement in the local sports teams. I played for the Carman Beavers from 1971-81 when I sustained a serious leg injury that ended that career. I also played for the junior and senior Goldeyes from '71-85.

**Q. Did you meet your spouse here?**

You bet! I met my spouse, Deb Titchkosky of Morden, at one of the many baseball tournaments we took in with the Goldeyes.

**Q. Did you raise any children here? Names, where and doing what?**

Not in Carman no, but we do have two kids that were born/raised in Winnipeg. Our daughter, Linsey, is a

physiotherapist in Kamloops with two of her children. Evan is a journeyman electrician with one child living in Charleswood.

**Q. What got you to leave Carman?**

I left when I got married. Deb lived and worked in Winnipeg and was much easier for me to get a job there than it was for her here. So off I went.

**Q. Did that make you move around lots?**

No we certainly did not move around. We moved to Charleswood in '78 and raised the family there. Recently Deb and I downsized to an apartment and now Evan and Jen live in our family home.

**Q. What else have you done, where and how long?**

Upon moving to Winnipe I took a job with Canada Revenue Agency and toiled there for 35 years.

**Q. What do you do now? Retired?**

Now 100 per cent retired as of 2014!

**Q. What passes your leisure time now? Hobbies?**

I curl whenever possible. Following my Goldeye days I took up umpiring and travelled extensively since officiating and supervising Canadian and International Championships. Golf takes some of our free time up and I continue to enjoy getting back out to the farm from time to time. We try to get out to British Columbia as often as possible to spend time with family. We love Clear Lake and enjoy spending a few weeks there each summer.

**Q. Any future plans?**

We would certainly like to continue all these things going forward but that is pretty much up in the air with the current COVID situation.

**Q. Have you travelled and where?**

We have been snow birds since retirement, travelling to Palm Springs each winter. We love playing golf



Brian and Deb Hodgson

throughout the Coachella Valley and also enjoy lots of quality time with friends and family during our winter months. To celebrate our retirement from work and our 60th birthdays, Deb and I organized a family Christmas in Florida back in 2014. What a great memory. In 2018, we travelled to Maui with Linsey and family. A return trip is definitely on our bucket list.

**Q. Do you ever return to Carman?**

Travel to Carman and Syls' has been limited lately. We try to visit my Mom, who lives in Roland and my brother as much as possible. The Carman Golf Course is one of our favourites.

**Q. What are some of your fond memories of Carman days?**

Who can forget your youth! The years I spent in Carman were my formative years and making many high school sports memories for sure. I even heard my Carman Cougar hock-

ey blazer from grade 10 is hanging in the school now! We won Manitoba that year. With the Beavers I played on some poor teams but there were also some very good teams winning a couple of SEMHL titles. I spent my entire ball career playing on outstanding Carman teams winning titles almost every year...thanks to my team mates and excellent coaching.

**Q. Any last words wish to send to our readers?**

Don't forget where your footprint came from. Whether it is small town Roland, Carman or where ever, you leave a foot print. Make it a foot print you can be proud of and embrace for your whole life.

If you wish to reach this former Carmanite please send me an email at [denjohnyoung@gmail.com](mailto:denjohnyoung@gmail.com) and I will forward it to them for further contact.

## Altona is Southern Health's COVID-19 hot spot

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's daily COVID-19 case numbers were down, comparatively, heading into the long weekend, with Southern Health-Santé Sud seeing the biggest jump.

Public health officials on Friday announced 81 new cases of the virus. Prairie Mountain Health reported just three cases, there were five in Interlake-Eastern, 20 in Winnipeg, 25 in the Northern health region, and 28 in Southern Health.

Altona seems to be the hot spot in Southern Health, with 21 active cases there at press time, more than double any other community.

In comparison, Winkler had nine cases as of Sunday, Morden was at four, Lorne/Louise/Pembina had three, Carman had two, MacDonald was at four, and Morris had two cases.

A total of 178 new cases were announced over the weekend, bringing Manitoba's total lab-confirmed cases to 30,766. There were no updated numbers released on Louis Riel Day.

Manitoba as a whole had 1,619 active cases and 28,276 recoveries at the start of the week. A total of 226 people were in hospital due to the virus, 26 in ICU.

The total number of COVID-19 deaths in our province was 871 on Monday.

Chief Provincial Public Health Officer Dr. Brent Roussin said the province is working to identify COVID-19 variants in the population as needed.

"We know that viruses such as the virus that causes COVID-19 change over time and we expect to see many new variants," he said. "The vast majority of these new variants do not have any clinical concern, but we know some of them can lead to increased transmission or possibly even increased severity."

Three variants of concern are those first identified in the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Brazil.

Earlier last week, Roussin an-

nounced Manitoba's first case of the U.K. variant known as B117

He noted that the case was connected to international travel and the individual had already recovered. They self-isolated with their family, none of whom became ill.

Over the weekend, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs announced there are seven probable B117 cases on the Pauingassi First Nation in eastern Manitoba. Samples have been sent to the National Microbiology Lab for confirmation.





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Additional programs will be announced soon, including ones that celebrate our francophone roots, encourage and facilitate reconciliation, and more!

[manitoba150.com](http://manitoba150.com)



In early 2020, HONOUR 150 presented by Canada Life, invited Manitobans to recognize people from across the province who make Manitoba an amazing place to live, work, and play. Read their stories at [manitoba150.com](http://manitoba150.com)!

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## An at-home PJ party



The South Central Regional Library didn't let a little thing like a global pandemic stop them from celebrating Family Literacy Day last week. In lieu of the usual in-person pyjama parties, staff from the branches in Winkler, Morden, Altona, Miami, and Manitou recorded themselves reading a bedtime story for a video posted online at the SCRL YouTube page. Among the readers were Miami branch administrator Cherie Debreuil.

## Alarming number of vehicle fires over the past two months

Submitted by MPI

Over the past two months, a total of 81 passenger vehicle-related fires have been opened with Manitoba Public Insurance. Nearly three dozen of these fires in December and January were directly related to the use of block heaters.

Disturbingly, some of these vehicle fires resulted in houses or carports also catching fire. Investigations discovered a number of these vehicle fires resulted from the use of interior car warmers and household interior heaters being used to warm vehicles in outdoor garages and carports.

Over the same two-month time frame in a normal year, passenger vehicle fires are typically half the numbers compared to 2021.

"Many of these fires could have been prevented. The use of an interior electric heater in an outdoor winter setting is extremely dangerous," explained Paul Brisson, MPI Fire Investigator. "The issue is that moisture and overheating of the heater elements and internal components, which are not intended to be running continuously for extended periods of time especially outdoors in extreme cold, can cause the heater or power supply to fail."

Interior home heaters used in conjunction with an extension cord causes excessive power draw and may overload a circuit or cause a failure in the extension cord, plugs, fuse panels, said Brisson.

"Block heaters are intended to be used in cold climates to warm an engine prior to starting the vehicle," he said. "As a general rule, an engine block heater should be used when the temperature drops below -15 and greater. It's strongly discouraged to plug in a vehicle which is parked in an attached garage."

### Preventative Steps

- Block heater power cords and extension cords must be free of defects, cuts, dirt, and corrosion and should be stored properly to avoid damage which could lead to a fire.

- Block heater power supply cords should be capped when not in use (if equipped), and be properly routed through the front grill or bumper area of a vehicle to avoid pinching or damage to the cord during winter months.

- Do not drive over your extension cord. This could potentially crack the cord and result in electrical failure when plugged in.

- It is recommended that block heater power supply and extension cords be plugged into a GFCI outlet rather than a standard electrical outlet. The GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) adds an additional layer of safety as it contains a sensor that monitors the flow of electricity current through the wires. When the GFCI sensor detects a variation from the normal current it shuts off the flow of electricity in the outlet and may prevent damage or fire caused by an electrical fault.

## Portage-Lisgar MP hosting virtual town hall Feb. 24

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Portage-Lisgar MP Candice Bergen is inviting constituents to join her Feb.

24 for a virtual town hall meeting.

After months of not being able to hold her usual in-person get-togethers with Portage-Lisgar residents, Bergen is reaching out in a new way.

"A lot of my work in the riding would normally be getting out, meeting people face-to-face, having town hall meetings, having people come to my office, touring businesses," Bergen said, noting COVID-19 has thrown up roadblocks on all

those fronts. "I wanted to find a way that I could still speak to people and try and connect."

The meeting, which will be held at 7 p.m. that evening via Zoom, will also feature Conservative health critic Michelle Rempel Garner and innovation, science, and industry critic James Cumming. Bergen expects people will have a lot to say about the current pandemic lockdowns and our nation's vaccination strategy, which is why she wanted Rempel Garner and Cumming there with her to share their thoughts and answer any questions.

"Those are both very important and timely issues," she said. "Obviously there's the issues around the vaccine and the delay and what the federal government has told Canadians and how we feel the federal government needs to do more on the health front when it comes to COVID."

On the economic side of things, Bergen said the nation is "in big trouble economically if we don't have a plan once COVID starts to subside, and so as Conservatives we're very much focused on getting Canadians back to work, getting businesses open."

These are obviously not the only issues Canadians are facing these days, and Bergen expects she may field questions on a range of other topics. Every participant has a chance to submit questions when they sign up.

Space at the virtual table is limited, so people are asked to pre-register by emailing Candice.Bergen.C1B@parl.gc.ca.

If you've never used Zoom before and are unsure of how to install it on your devices, Bergen encourages you to call her office in Morden at 204-822-7440 (toll-free at 1-866-856-2090) for some over-the-phone help.

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# Friendship Airfield takes flight in 1964

By Dennis Young

Hundreds of spectators attended the official opening Sunday, June 28, 1964 of Manitoba's newest airstrip Friendship Airfield and the first formal air show held by the newly formed Carman Co-op Flying Club. Although temperatures reported to soar above 90, the wind conditions were ideal for all the events planned on that day.

More than 40 light aircraft from across the province landed during this fly-in event that was supported by the Manitoba Flying Farmers. The landing aircrafts were greeted by jeeps which transported the visitors to a free breakfast served by the wives and members of the local flying club. This was followed by a meeting of the MFF Association.

Officials taking part in the ribbon cutting were R.M. Reeve Harry McCullough, Mayor Roy Skelton, MFF President Robert Langtry, M.L.A. Homer Hamilton, airfield owner Bob Diemert and emcee George Loeppky. All visitors were welcomed to Carman and encouraged to take part in a tour during the day provided by the Chamber of Commerce.

Following the speeches, members of the Black Hawk parachute club performed several sky diving exhibitions such as free falling 8,000 feet in single and double jumps. Diemert got into the show by displaying a series of aerobatic maneuvers in his Mark 2 Harvard aircraft with a loop, a series of rolls and then a lazy 8.

Harold Freeman, an instructor from

the Portage Flying Club, did his own maneuvers with an Aeronca flying across the field against the wind holding the plane slightly above stalling speed, then coming back at max 100 plus mph. To further the demonstration he did a stall turn, a spin and two loops before concluding pulling off a dead stick landing (motor shut off) and gliding to a dead stop.

On the ground there was a fair share of excitement as well. Probably creating the most attention was the only privately owned World War II Hawker Hurricane fighter plane. This plane, which participated in the Battle of Britain, was restored by Diemert at Friendship Field. It was on display in its original condition with camouflage paint in R.A.F. colors for this event minus a motor. Bob was searching and had found a similar engine used during this craft's time, but was unavailable in time for this day.

Two R.C.A.F. Otter aircrafts landed and would stay for the week to do aerial surveys of the area. One of the large single engine crafts were made available to the public for tours along with a briefing by Squadron Leader Pearce as they did so.

C.F.A.M.'s Dennis Barkman provided commentary via the sound truck on the aerobatics and sky diving exhibitions to add to the enjoyment for the visitors and guests.

Local flying enthusiasts showed off their projects too. Gerald Pritchard and Harold Taylor's single seat low wing monoplane, which soon would



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The World War II Hawker Hurricane fighter, restored to flying conditions by Bob Diemert, drew much attention in the ground display.

be approved for test flight by the Dept. of Transport, was on display. Plus Ivor Milne and Spud Skelton each had their home-built planes there in various stages of completion. Spray equipped aircraft were there for the public to acquaint themselves with the versatile uses of planes.

Fortunate ticket holders were rewarded with airplane rides by the Flying Club in an effort to promote private flying. The day proved to be very successful and things looked good for future aerial days.

This 3,500 foot long grass airstrip/airfield would bear witness to other well publicized events and announcements over the years. Airplane restorations done by Bob and his crew such as a 1941 Japanese Zero, Carman and Bob hosted the National Soaring

Championships as well as Prince Philip and Princess Anne who were quite taken with his projects completed and in infancy stages.

Even today Bob is still at it and preparing to unveil his latest project in 2021. His endeavors over the years did not go unnoticed and appeared to 2 movies...The Battle of Britain and Silence of the North ...as well as receiving a commemorative sterling silver coin honoring his contribution to Canada's aviation history. More on his and the Calverley family's contribution to restorations coming soon.

Note: In my research I also found an ad for pavilion and roller skating rink at Carman Air Strip V! It was dated Saturday, Dec. 21, 1963 and offered roller skating, rentals plus rides from the Boyne Theatre. Did you go?

## sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## MJHL cancels 2020-21 season, preparing for 2021-22

From the MJHL website

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League has made the extremely difficult decision to cancel the remainder of the competitive season which includes regular season games and playoffs.

The announcement was made last Friday.

"After multiple discussions with Public Health, representatives of the Provincial Government, Facility Managers and Stakeholders, the MJHL Board of Governors have determined

that the resumption and completion of the 2020-21 season is not feasible due to current conditions," read a statement.

"It has become unrealistic to continue operating in a state of hope with so much uncertainty and no timeline provided. It is unfair to our athletes and staff, our community organizations who have been severely impacted financially and the communities/regions our organizations support and garner support from."

When hockey activities were paused as the entire province moved to Code Red on Nov. 12, at no time did we not think or work tirelessly towards having the opportunity to resume our season safely. Return to Play scenarios were exhausted with Public Health to allow for a safe, responsible, balanced and financially feasible return to team activities. This included the MJHL securing Hockey specific CCM face masks for on-ice training along with demonstrated ability to safely

manage our operations and extensive Return To Play Protocols from July to Nov. 12, 2020. MJHL teams completed 24 Prospect/Training Camps, 400-plus on and off-ice training sessions and 60-plus games safely and responsibly during that time.

"In the end, our advocacy efforts were not enough for Public Health to allow for a return to on-ice team train-

Continued on page 16



## > MJHL CANCELS SEASON, FROM PG. 15

ing activity, even in a non-contact, professionally managed, closed to public, distanced, 100 per cent masked and extremely protected environment.

"As a result, the Board of Governors see no reasonable prospect that future restrictions would be sufficiently altered, in time to allow for a feasible gradual return to regular-season play this season."

Moving forward, MJHL organizations will have the option to continue to provide Training/Development opportunities, exhibition games, etc. based on their individual circum-

stances and facility availability under current/updated Public Health Orders and Hockey Manitoba Directives.

Our athletes, staff, organizations, facilities and the entire MJHL community are to be commended for their efforts as they meticulously followed and executed the strict and extensive MJHL protocols that were put in place to ensure the safety of everyone involved. The MJHL community were Return To Play leaders throughout the province and beyond and it is disappointing that we were not able to do so once again. I would

also like to recognize the entire Manitoba Minor Hockey Community who went above and beyond this season to ensure that the many benefits of organized hockey could be enjoyed in a safe and responsible environment. The league and member organizations operational focus has now turned toward actively stabilizing our financial position, the continued advocacy for the safe and responsible return to on-ice team training activities for all players?teams across the province and planning for upcoming Team Training/Development Activities, Spring Camps, Prospect Camps, Events and Showcases.

The MJHL and each member organization will determine based on their own unique circumstances how they will proceed with their commitments to their stakeholders going forward.

We are very grateful to our communities, billets, sponsors, supporters, officials, volunteers, league staff, team staff and players for their support and leadership in navigating through the very difficult challenges faced over this past year. Although we are extremely saddened to make this announcement, we now look forward to the future as we prepare for bigger and better things for the 2021-22 season.

# Golf Manitoba announces 2021 championship schedule

Submitted by Golf Manitoba

Golf Manitoba announced its 2021 Championship schedule, which will feature 11 championships at member clubs from across Manitoba, last week.

"We are very excited to announce our 2021 championship schedule," said Lisa Andersen, Director of Competitions for Golf Manitoba. "We have an excellent lineup of venues from across the province and are very appreciative of the support we have received from those member clubs who committed to hosting this year."

Of special note for 2021 will be the 100th awarding of the men's amateur championship trophy.

"The Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur Championship has an incredible history and we are pleased to bring this event back to the Neepawa Golf & Country Club," said Golf Manitoba

Executive Director, Jared Ladobruk. "Neepawa is a fantastic venue and will provide an excellent test of golf for our men's amateur field and we are very excited about the incredible milestone we are recognizing for this championship."

As with this past championship season, the health and safety of all involved will continue to be of paramount importance as COVID-19 protocols continue to adjust. "The safety of our member clubs, players, volunteers, and staff is our top priority," explained Ladobruk. "We will continue to monitor the situation and adjust the season accordingly."

The 2021 championship season will officially kick off with the Match Play Championship qualifier and matches being held at the Grand Pines Golf Club on May 29-30 and June 5, 6, 12 & 13.

2021 CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE  
Match Play Championship – Grand Pines Golf Course (May 29-June 13)

Women's City & District & Junior Bantam Championships – Transcona Golf Club (June 26 & 27)

Manitoba Junior Men's & Women's Championships – Shilo Country Club (July 5-7)

Diamond Athletic Women's Amateur and Men's Mid-Amateur Championships – Niakwa Country Club (July 9-11)

Nott Autocorp Men's Amateur Championship – Neepawa Golf & Country Club (July 15-18)

Senior Men's & Women's Championship – Steinbach Fly-In Golf Club (August 4-6)

Ladies Interclub Championship – Lartars at St. Andrews Golf & Country Club (August 27)

Men's Provincial Interclub Cham-

pionship – Neepawa Golf & Country Club (August 28)

Men's Senior Interclub Championship – Minnedosa Golf & Country Club (September 1)

Also on the local golf calendar for 2021 is the Golf Canada junior Nex-Gen Prairie Championship being held at the Quarry Oaks Golf Course from June 10-13 in Steinbach. Golf Canada's NextGen program aims to support and develop Canada's next wave of future Team Canada athletes.

More information on Golf Manitoba championships including dates, times, eligibility, how to register and host venues will be available in the coming weeks on the competitions schedule page at [golymb.ca](http://golymb.ca). Entry for registration for most Golf Manitoba championships is set to open online on April 1.

# WHL granted approval to host Hub Centre in Regina

From the WHL website

The Western Hockey League announced last Friday it has been granted approval by public health officials from the Government of Saskatchewan to play in a Hub Centre in Regina.

This will allow the WHL's Saskatchewan and Manitoba-based teams in the East Division to open their season on March 12.

"The WHL appreciates the cooperation we have received from both the Governments of Saskatchewan and Manitoba as we work towards a safe return to play in the East Division," said WHL Commissioner Ron Robison. "With our extensive protocols and the necessary approvals now in place, we are looking forward to play getting underway in Regina and allowing our players to continue their development at the highest level in the Canadian system."

Seven WHL clubs, which operate in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, will form the East Division, including the Moose Jaw Warriors, Prince Albert Raiders, Regina Pats, Saskatoon Blades, Swift Current Broncos, Brandon Wheat Kings, and the Winnipeg ICE.

The WHL has agreed that all East Division games during the 2020-21 regular season will be played exclusively at the Brandt Centre in Regina, under an approved WHL Hub Centre model.

The WHL's East Division will play a 24-game regular-season schedule, which will be announced at a later date.

The WHL has developed an extensive set of protocols and believe the protective Hub environment will provide a high standard of safety, for not only players and staff, but the Regina community at large.

WHL players and staff from Saskatchewan and Manitoba based clubs will begin self-quarantining this Saturday and then will report to the WHL Hub Centre in Regina on Feb. 27, where they will be required to undergo COVID-19 testing upon arrival followed by an additional quarantine period. Players and staff will then undergo a second COVID-19 test before being permitted to engage in any team activity.

WHL clubs are also committed to providing private PCR testing through DynaLIFE Medical Labs, to ensure no additional strain is placed on public health. Players will be tested upon arrival to their WHL club and once again before engaging in any team activity. DynaLIFE's PCR testing is considered a gold standard for COVID-19 testing, and was utilized in Edmonton during the NHL's Stanley Cup playoffs and the 2021 IIHF World

Junior Championship.

As the WHL returns to play in the East Division, no spectators will be permitted to enter WHL facilities. WHL fans can look forward to the launch of a brand-new live streaming service that will deliver the excitement of WHL hockey straight to their homes. Details on the new WHL Live will be announced soon.

With the East Division start date now confirmed for March 12, the WHL will have three divisions ready to open the regular season, starting with the Central Division on Feb. 26 and the U.S. Division March 19.

The WHL continues to work with government health authorities in British Columbia to establish a start date for the WHL's B.C. Division. Approval from the health authority in B.C. is required for the WHL's B.C. Division to return to play.



# get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



## Grilled Portobello Gyros with Yogurt Dill Sauce

4 pita breads or naan  
2 tomatoes, thinly sliced  
1/2 red onion, thinly sliced  
1/2 head green lettuce  
crumbled feta cheese (optional)  
Remove stems from mushrooms and brush caps with wet towel. Using spoon, carefully scrape out gills. Slice mushrooms into 1/4-inch pieces and place in medium bowl with olive oil, oregano and smoked paprika.

Preheat indoor grill pan over medium-high heat. Add mushrooms and peppers; grill, tossing occasionally, until tender, 5-7 minutes.

To make yogurt dill sauce: Squeeze grated cucumber in clean towel to remove excess liquid. Add to large bowl with yogurt, sour cream, olive oil, lemon juice, garlic, salt and dill. Stir to combine.

To serve, place mushrooms and peppers in middle of pita bread. Top with tomatoes, onion, lettuce, feta, if desired, and big dollop of yogurt dill sauce.

Recipe courtesy of Emily Weeks of "Zen and Spice"

Cook time: 15 minutes  
Total time: 25 minutes  
Servings: 4  
4 portobello mushrooms  
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil  
1/2 teaspoon dried oregano  
1/4 teaspoon smoked paprika  
2 yellow bell peppers, sliced  
Yogurt Dill Sauce:  
1 English cucumber, grated  
1 cup whole-milk Greek yogurt  
1/2 cup sour cream  
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
1/2 small lemon, juice only  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 tablespoon minced fresh dill



Creamy Spinach, Mushroom and Lasagna Soup

Recipe courtesy of Emily Weeks of "Zen and Spice"

Cook time: 30 minutes  
Total time: 40 minutes  
Servings: 4  
1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 medium onion, small diced  
8 ounces crimini mushrooms, sliced  
1 jar (24 ounces) marinara sauce  
1 can (15 ounces) diced tomatoes  
2 tablespoons tomato paste

## Ham and Broccoli Frittata

2 teaspoons balsamic vinegar  
1 teaspoon granulated sugar  
1 tablespoon dried basil  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon oregano  
1/2 teaspoon black pepper  
1 bay leaf  
3 cups vegetable broth  
6 lasagna noodles, broken into pieces  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
5 ounces fresh baby spinach  
1 cup whole-milk ricotta cheese  
1/2 cup shredded mozzarella cheese, for topping  
Heat large pot over medium heat.

Add olive oil, garlic, onion and mushrooms. Cook, stirring occasionally, until onions and mushrooms soften, 4-5 minutes.

Add marinara, diced tomatoes, tomato paste, vinegar, sugar, basil, salt, oregano, pepper, bay leaf and broth. Bring to boil over high heat then reduce heat to low and simmer.

Add lasagna noodles and cook, stirring often, until softened, about 15 minutes. Remove from heat and remove bay leaf.

Stir in heavy cream and spinach until wilted, 2-3 minutes.

Divide between bowls and top with dollop of ricotta and sprinkle of mozzarella.

## Expert patient here to help!

By Susie Schwartz

Are you bubbly and outgoing? Great. Are you the strong, silent type? Shy? Also great. Regardless of your personality, here's my thoughts on being a patient in a waiting room:

Talk to people!

I sat in a basement room with 12 people lining the perimeter of a square layout. We all needed CT scans. We also, I noticed, all had either stripes or plaid adorning our clothing. Perhaps the stress hormones kicked in, but my mind latched on to this and I burst out laughing. With glances from all around, I jumped in to say that we clearly had two ready-made teams and that we should have a singing contest. From chuckles to boisterous laughing, the room erupted.

In what had been an eerily silent room, conversation began to bubble forth. "Anyone know how long the wait to go in is?" and "I'm waiting for my husband. He's in there now. We waited about 45 minutes down here." At that point I thought out loud and said, "Oh I hope my parking doesn't run out." The woman answered, "My husband has cancer so we're here all the time. We found out from staff that as long as you have a parking sticker displayed, you won't get ticketed, so never pay more than the minimum." Good. To. Know.

Nearing the end of day, people left to get scanned but no new patients were coming down. Our teams were breaking up, but the intimacy lent itself to conversation about living with cancer and illness and the ins and outs of hospital appointments. Not only informative, this became a natural one-time support group. Knowing we'd never see each other again opened



Susie Schwartz

up a safe place to share and vent a bit. The freedom in that was beautiful. Even the quiet chucklers joined in.

Over my many years of appointments, I've been gifted perspective from people who suffer more harshly or regularly than I, and yet still love life; shared in common fears of the future, walking away feeling like I was not alone; had the honour of holding an elderly woman's hand, who sat in the gratitude of that moment rather than feeling sad that she lacked family support. Being comforted by, and having the opportunity to comfort strangers is a delightful surprise in an otherwise scary or frustrating health circumstance. It's worth it, trust me.

One more thing. You might even win an impromptu singing challenge, right?!

Less health stress, yes?

A published author and motivational speaker, Susie currently lives in the UK. She welcomes feedback and questions. Find her on FB @medicalmissstress, Instagram @medicalmissstress and her website lesshealthstress.com



## Apple Cider Vinegar Beef and Broccoli

Apple Cider Vinegar

1 tablespoon cornstarch  
cooked rice

sliced green onions, for garnish  
cilantro, for garnish

sesame seeds, for garnish

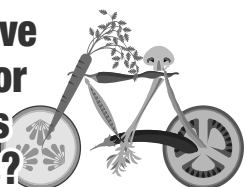
In skillet over medium heat, heat vegetable oil. Cook broccoli 3 minutes until slightly softened; set aside. Add beef to pan and cook 3 minutes until browned. Add garlic and cook 30 seconds until fragrant.

In bowl, mix ponzu soy dressing, beef broth, sesame oil, brown sugar, honey, apple cider vinegar and cornstarch. Add sauce mixture to beef in skillet and cook 10 minutes until sauce mixture cooks down. Toss in broccoli and cook 2 minutes. Serve over rice and garnish with green onions, cilantro and sesame seeds.

Total time: 20 minutes  
Servings: 4

1 tablespoon vegetable oil  
1 pound broccoli florets  
1 pound beef strips  
1 tablespoon garlic, minced  
1/2 cup Marukan Ponzu Premium Soy Dressing with Sudachi Citrus  
1/2 cup low-sodium beef broth  
1 tablespoon sesame oil  
2 tablespoons brown sugar  
1/4 cup honey  
3 tablespoons Marukan Organic

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## Prairie Rose School Division VIRTUAL PUBLIC BUDGET PRESENTATION

The Board of Trustees invites the public to the virtual presentation of the 2021-2022 Draft Budget.

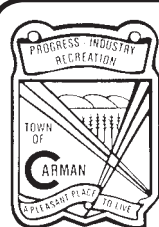
Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.  
Join through Google Meet at:  
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**Tuesday and Thursday CLOSED**

**Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

The Carman-Dufferin Standard Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication Please Call 204-467-5836

## DENNIS' WISH LIST!

*I am preparing stories on the following subjects:*

- Young Men's Section
- Reg Last
- JK/Golden Star Motel

**For an upcoming story I need your help in locating:**

Jim and/or Ruth Zacharias of Carman Bakery  
If any of our readers have memories or pictures to share of any of these subjects please forward to me @ [denjohnyoung@gmail.com](mailto:denjohnyoung@gmail.com).

**Thanks for continuing to enjoy Carman's past!**

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## OBITUARY



**George Smith**

January 10, 1929 – February 10, 2021

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle and brother-in-law.

He leaves to mourn his wife of 64 years Darlene; his children: Cheryl (Albert Tranq), Lori (Murray Pritchard), Lynda (James Zacharias) and Glen (Matthew Schimnowski); also six grandchildren: Melissa (Aaron Zerr), Jennifer (Jay McCrea), Brent (Sydney) Pritchard, Steven (Carly) Zacharias, Michael Zacharias, and Gracyn Tranq; three great-grandchildren: Elle McCrea, Ava Zerr, and Lincoln Pritchard.

George was born on the home farm in Roseisle, Manitoba and attended Roseisle School. He worked on the farm until 1954 when he went west to British Columbia where he found the love of his

life, Darlene Collins.

They were married June 29, 1956 in Dawson Creek, BC. They returned home to Roseisle to farm two years later and developed a mixed farm operation. There they raised their four children. In the fall of 1995 they built a new home and semi-retired in Carman. In October 2017 they settled in Meadowood Estates.

George loved his animals, especially his horses. He was a 4H Horse Club leader for 14 years, and owned a horse until he was 80. Even with his poor eyesight he could still judge the quality of a good horse. In the fall of 2020 he was excited to go on a road trip with his son Glen to see his new horse and give his stamp of approval.

He was a diehard Toronto Maple Leaf fan and has been waiting since 1967 for them to win another Stanley Cup. Go Leafs go!

George and Darlene enjoyed 35 years of square dancing and old time dancing and made many friends.

He had a sense of humor and enjoyed a good joke until the end. He did his share of pranks over the years!

George had two green thumbs, he always had a good garden and beautiful flowers. He always had a competition going as to who could grow the largest tomatoes! He even experimented growing tobacco from seed and gave his grandsons some leaves, all legal!

His family was of utmost importance to him. He was always there for all of us. He thoroughly enjoyed his great-grandchildren.

We have all had the values of family, hard work, integrity, and community instilled in us.

The family wishes to express our gratitude to Home Care, Dr. Atchinson and Dr. Roberts, Boundary Trails Health Centre, Lorne Memorial Hospital and Carman Memorial Hospital for their compassionate care.

A private family graveside service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, George would be pleased to see a donation made to any of the following: Roseisle War Memorial (cheque to the RM of Dufferin) Box 100, Carman, MB R0G 0J0, Roseisle Cemetery Committee, C/O Shirley Snider, Box 100, Roseisle, MB R0G 1V0 or the Roseisle Memorial Rose Garden, C/O Diane Gillingham, Box 65 Roseisle, MB R0G 1V0.

Doyle's Funeral Home  
in care of arrangements  
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**Don't forget to send your  
special wishes to your  
friends and family.**

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GREY

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the **11th day of March, 2021**, at the hour of **10:00 AM**, at Rural Municipality of Grey, 27 Church Avenue East, Elm Creek, Manitoba, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
306400	THE SLY 112 FEET OF THE ELY 122 FEET OF LOT 3 BLOCK 7 PLAN 753 MLTO (C DIV) IN W 1/2 15-8-7 WPM - 75 BIRCH AVE., ST. CLAUDE	L -\$11,800 B -\$90,800	\$7,698.51
317600	THE ELY 105 FEET OF LOTS 1 AND 2 BLOCK 2 PLAN 1020 MLTO (C DIV) IN SW 1/4 15-8-7 WPM - 57 ROY ST., ST. CLAUDE	L -\$11,900 B -\$100,700	\$10,985.18

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft to the Rural Municipality of Grey as follows:
  - The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
  - If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
  - A fee in the amount \$309.75 (\$295 plus GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 25th day of January, 2021.

Managed by:



Kim Arnal  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Rural Municipality of Grey  
Phone: (204) 436-2014  
Fax: (204) 436-2543



email [cwc.emotionalwellness@gmail.com](mailto:cwc.emotionalwellness@gmail.com)

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Rosanne,  
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