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Future stars

STANDARD PHOTO BY ALLAN FROESE

Madison Froese, 11, and her brother Colton Froese, 8, use the backyard rink their dad built at least twice a week. Story on page 2.

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Lack of public skating: how one Carman family brought the rink to their backyard

By Becca Myskiw

Backyard skating rinks are a staple of Manitoban winters and this year they've become more popular than ever.

Allan Froese built his first backyard rink this year for his children to skate on. He said not being able to access the public rink played a huge role in the decision to get flooding.

"Once in a while it's nice to go to the rink and do a free skate," said Froese. "This just gives us something else to do this winter. I certainly noticed... not being active in that springtime frame, the kids put some weight on. This is another option to keep them active."

So, he started searching the Internet and watching YouTube videos on how to construct a backyard rink. He also asked neighbours and people he knew who built one every year.

First, Froese had to find a part of his yard that didn't have a slope — in other words, it had to be virtually flat. Some people, he said, have used a laser level to determine the slope, but Froese didn't have anything fancy like that, so he worked off of a "rough guesstimate."

Once he had that, Froese laid down a sileage tarp but found that longer grass and weeds poke holes through

it, creating small tears. He didn't worry about it too much, though, and carried on with building a 24-foot by 40-foot-long frame. He supported the outside of it with stakes, taking into account that water expands when frozen.

Then, using his neighbour's trailer with a water tank that he borrowed, Froese flooded the rink with 4,000 US gallons of water. He built it in late November, though, and the unusual nice weather made the water take longer than usual to freeze. The small holes in the tarp also allowed a bit of water to escape, extending the process.

Froese and his two children use their backyard rink two or three times a week. There have also been a few other families in town that have taken advantage of it.

"It's been nice that some other families have made use of it as well," said Froese.

The constant use of the rink requires upkeep of the ice.

To clean off the snow and flood the rink, Froese made his own version of a Zamboni. He cut holes into the bottom of a Rubbermaid tub and attached a cloth to it. The water goes in the tub, out the holes, and onto the cloth as he drags it around the ice.



STANDARD PHOTO BY ALLAN FROESE

The Froese family built a backyard rink using YouTube videos.



STANDARD PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG

The Boyne River has found new life this winter with games of shinny, avid walkers and snowshoers. The old swimming hole area welcomes visitors.

Elm Creek Cargill donates \$8,000 to Elm Creek Stay & Play Centre

By Becca Myskiw

Elm Creek Stay & Play Centre received an \$8,000 donation from Cargill in town that will go toward its new build project.

Derrick McIntyre, retail manager at Cargill in Elm Creek, said the donation came from a program the company does during chemical season. 2020 was their second year doing the program.

Essentially, Cargill partners with a chemical company and when a farmer buys a certain amount of the company's chemical, they get a chance to vote on which organization will receive a portion of the profits from that

sale. This year, they partnered with Corteva Agriscience.

Farmers could vote once they purchased 80 acres worth of chemical, and then again for every 160 acres worth. The program ran for the months of June and July.

Elm Creek's Cargill chose three local organizations for farmers to vote on — the 4-H Beef Club, Elm Creek Stay & Play Centre Inc., and the new Carman ball diamonds. Ultimately, the nursery school won the most votes, and the company raised \$8,000 to give them.

Continued on page 7

Snow Shoe Lending Program

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Manitobans living with dementia share their stories

Submitted by Samantha Holland, Alzheimer Society

Manitobans living with dementia share their stories to create understanding and reduce stigma in Alzheimer Society campaign: "I live with dementia. Let me tell you more."

Over the past three years, the Alzheimer Society has highlighted stories of Manitobans who live with dementia in an effort to tackle the ongoing stigma associated with the disease. Some have the disease themselves, and others are family caregivers or friends.

"With the current pandemic situation, we have to practice social distancing and wear masks," says Manitoba resident Tara Liske, whose dad was diagnosed with early onset dementia four years ago at the age of 64. "My mom, especially, finds this hard because she can't touch Dad or give him a kiss when she leaves."

Tara is one of many Manitobans who have courageously stepped forward with their personal stories in the Society's campaign, I live with dementia. Let me tell you more, launching Monday, January 4 as part of Alzheimer's Awareness Month. She says, "Reach out and talk about the diagnosis. We had so many family and friends come forward with their own stories."

Research indicates that 1 in 4 Canadians would feel ashamed or embarrassed if they had dementia. The campaign gives a voice to Manitobans with dementia who are frustrated by the constant assumptions and misinformation associated with the disease.

"By providing a platform for Manitobans to share their stories, we can cultivate empathy and compassion. Often, others see themselves in the stories we share, which helps them realize they are not alone," says Wendy Schettler, CEO, Alzheimer Society of

Manitoba. "Too often, negative feelings, attitudes and stereotypes surrounding dementia dissuade people from seeking help and discourage others from lending their support."

Since the launch of the campaign in 2018, over 85 Canadians with dementia, including caregivers, have taken a stand against the stigma associated with the disease.

Joining Tara in this year's campaign are:

- Nancy, whose husband, Randy, was only 53 when they first noticed signs that he may have dementia. "He can't change the way he's thinking or behaving, but I can change the way I respond."

- Tannis, whose mom had Alzheimer's disease before she passed away June 2018. "Even though she couldn't communicate anymore, in my eyes, she was still my mom."

- Gary, a retired teacher diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease almost eight years ago. "I still ride my bike, take my dog on walks and read the paper."

More than 23,000 Manitobans are living with dementia today, excluding the thousands of family members who provide direct care. In the next 12 years, it's projected that nearly a million Canadians will have dementia. The Society encourages families living with dementia to connect with their local Alzheimer Society for help and support.

"The number of Manitobans with dementia is soaring and Covid-19 has brought new challenges families must now face," says Schettler. "Support from the Alzheimer Society and our surrounding community is more important now than ever before."

To read the stories of these four Manitobans and to find out how you can help reduce the stigma, visit www.alzheimer.mb.ca/ilivewithdementia.

I LIVE WITH DEMENTIA
LET US TELL YOU MORE

alzheimer.mb.ca/ilivewithdementia

READ THEIR STORIES

Alzheimer Society MANITOBA

PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Alzheimer Society campaign is sharing stories of Manitobans living with dementia with hopes of people gaining a better understanding and to reduce the stigma for those living with the disease.

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Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre celebrating 50 years

By Lorne Stelmach

It remains uncertain what awaits the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre in 2021, but the facility regardless marks a major milestone this year.

The centre, which has been closed as a result of pandemic restrictions, began life as the Morden and District Museum 50 years ago when it was opened in 1971 during the Morden Corn and Apple Festival.

Despite the current circumstances, executive director Adolfo Cuetara is still optimistic about not only what the next 12 months may hold for the museum but the longer-term future as well with planning for a new stand-alone building ongoing.

"Everything has a positive side," Cuetara said last week as he continued working on a number of new exhibits. "In a way, we are more busy than when we are open because there are all these things that are almost impossible to handle when we are open."

"In this case, we are working on new exhibits and new displays," he continued. "When we are open, it is almost impossible to work on it. We are changing some exhibits in the galleries and some displays."

"We are working on some new cabinets for display in the mosasaur hall," said Cuetara, explaining his hope is to have the actual fossils of Bruce the mosasaur eventually on display alongside the full-size replica.

"We have a very spectacular skeleton hanging in the Mosasaur Hall, but those are replicas ... people ask where are the original fossils?" said Cuetara, who is also developing another new

mounted display of a smaller mosasaur that will feature the actual fossil bones. "It will be almost 25 feet long ... and it is about 85 per cent complete."

One in-the-works display will highlight the process of continental drifting, while another features the Microeye Discovery Station, which uses a special microscope to put a spotlight on the smallest pieces in the CFDC collection.

"We have some very special fossils that are very tiny," Cuetara noted. "People will be able to see these smallest fossils on a big screen."

In addition to display development, work continues on implementing new collection management software Cuetara sees as vital in allowing researchers from anywhere to be able to have remote access to their collection.

"We have also been working on a new website because more than ever we need the online presence now, so we are working on it," he noted. "More important than ever is the new online gift shop. For us, it's the only way to have some income when we are closed."

"We are working hard to maintain the museum. We are trying to improve our online presence, and we are trying to improve the museum for the future when we are able to open. We are doing all we can do right now."

Looking to the future, the CFDC has not given up on its dream of having a standalone building to call its own.

The museum is currently completing a comprehensive feasibility study and business plan for a new facility,

"We are working with a company in



STANDARD PHOTOS BY
LORNE STELMACH

Cuetara with the new Microeye Discovery Station, which will allow visitors to more easily view the smallest fossil specimens in the museum's collection.

Winnipeg to develop the facility study and a business plan," said Cuetara, who hoped they will have something to present to the public within a couple of months. "We are working very hard to design a business plan to show that we can be sustainable financially."

"We have a nice location we will be presenting with the facility study, so I think everything is looking good," said



CFDC executive director Adolfo Cuetara with a new mosasaur fossil mount he's been working on for when the museum, which marks its 50th anniversary in 2021, is able to reopen to the public.

Cuetara. "The conversations with different levels of government are positive."

"So, despite everything with the pandemic, I feel we are in a good position."

Cuetara encourages people to check out the CFDC's new website and gift shop at www.discoverfossils.com.

Carman Wellness offering three programs this spring

By Becca Myskiw

Carman Wellness Connections (CWC) — Supporting Emotional Health is gearing up for three courses this March.

After great success with two art therapy courses, the committee has decided to add another along with two different courses this spring.

There were two art therapy courses available for registration this month and each filled up quickly.

Art therapy is a specialized form of psychotherapy where clients use art media and the creative process to heal. The ways art therapy works is it helps the clients to:

- Explore feelings
- Reconcile emotional conflicts
- Foster self-awareness
- Manage behaviour and ad-

dictions

- Develop social skills
- Improve reality orientation
- Reduce anxiety
- Increase self-esteem

The courses CWC offered were taught by local artist Chris Larsen. Program committee chair Terry Warburton, who is also a mental health practitioner said though this is new for the committee, she knows it's important.

"I know for some people, talking isn't where they're at," she said. "Good therapy is about helping emotions to move. Art has proven to be a very powerful way to help people."

Due to both courses filling up so quickly, CWC decided to offer another course in March, which isn't yet available for registration, but will be

in the coming weeks.

Along with another art therapy course this spring, they are also offering a parenting course and a support group over Zoom. The art therapy course will on Tuesdays in March from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The parenting course is called "Making Sense of Alpha Children." It will help parents to understand the alpha dynamic a growing number of children and youth are presenting with today. The alpha dynamic shows as demanding, prescriptive, bossy, and controlling. It makes children more challenging to parent and more susceptible to anxiety, aggression, oppositionality, and eating problems.

The course will be on Thursday evenings in March from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will be taught by Warburton,

who is a therapist, parent consultant, and Neufeld Institute faculty member. She said understanding the alpha dynamic opens opportunities for change within the family, which can help relationships in every aspect.

The support group is called "Anxiety and Worry Support Program (AWSP)." It's a cognitive behaviour program for adults to help them combat anxiety and worry. It will be taught by Tami Giesbrecht, an Anxiety Disorders of Manitoba (ADAM) outreach manager and support worker. The support group will be on Tuesdays starting March 9 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for six weeks. All courses are free, and materials needed for them will be provided. Watch for CWC's updates in the coming weeks for instructions on registration.

BTHC Foundation raffle winners take home over \$19K

By Ashleigh Viveiros

One local family certainly ended 2020 on a high note.

New Year's Eve brought news to John and Tina Bueckert that they were the big winners of the Boundary Trails Health Centre Foundation's 50/50 raffle.

The Winkler area couple brought home \$19,272.50, half of the \$38,545 pot.

John said he was at work in his yard and so missed several calls from the foundation to let him know he'd won. Once they finally connected, he planned to tell his wife later that day.

Tina beat him to it, spotting the foundation's social media announcement (John had given them the go-ahead to make his name public) before he had even walked through the door.

"I actually saw it on Instagram," Tina says, laughing.

The couple have been longtime supporters of the foundation, Tina having seen firsthand the work they do at BTHC during her career there as nurse, including time spent working in the palliative care ward.

"So we've always supported palliative care and the foundation with buying tickets," says Tina. "And I used to do a lot of volunteering, helping with all the events when I was a CRN [clinical resource nurse]."

The couple viewed the raffle ticket

purchase as a donation, and so were floored to find out they had won over \$19,000. They have no plans for how they'll be spending the windfall.

"We don't know yet what we want to do with it," says Tina.

"It's too new," adds John.

The raffle exceeded organizers' expectations.

"It was very successful," says foundation executive director Shannon Samatte-Folkett. "I had set myself little goals along the way but I didn't expect it to exceed \$30,000, so it was really exciting to see it continue to grow towards that."

The 50/50, which also included weekly early bird draw prizes courtesy of Co-op@Home, was part of the foundation's campaign to make up for fundraising dollars lost with the cancellation of its annual golf tournament and gala banquet in 2020.

The Donation Conversation initiative used advertising and social media to shine a spotlight on the foundation's three key areas of focus in the hospital: palliative care, spiritual care, and equipment purchases.

The campaign brought in \$174,185, far surpassing its goal of \$150,000.

"Not only did it raise the amount of money that we wanted it to do but it also got people a lot more informed about the foundation," said board chair Ben Friesen. "We had new peo-



STANDARD PHOTO BY ASHLEIGH VIVEIROS

John and Tina Bueckert (left) stopped by BTHC last week to pick up the cheque for over \$19,000 they won through the BTHC Foundation's 50/50 raffle. Presenting the prize was the foundation's Shannon Samatte-Folkett and Ben Friesen.

ple giving that wouldn't have thought of it before but now they realize, 'Oh, this is what all the foundation does.'"

Combined with year-end donations and other gifts that came in throughout the year, Friesen says the foundation is in good financial footing to continue its work at BTHC heading into 2021.

"We are where we need to be financially right now," he says, adding, how-

ever, that the fundraising push never really ends. There is a big question mark, though, as to whether the usual events will be possible again this year or not. "We will start planning them, but it will be tentative until we see what the next few months bring."

Samatte-Folkett notes they haven't ruled out doing another 50/50 cash raffle for 2021.

Carman Handi Van still operating, but on two days a week

By Becca Myskiw

The Carman Handi Van is running two days a week during the pandemic — and they want residents to know.

Kathleen Findlay, board member and administrator for the service, said the Carman Handi Van hasn't been busy during the pandemic, but it is still working.

On Tuesdays and Fridays those in need of the service can use it. It used to operate five or six days a week, but with the lack of places to go, there's a lack of need for it.

"It's a real catch 22 as with every business around right now," said Findlay. "How do you provide a service that is necessary, is essential, but not be paying an employee full time to operate five days a week when we know people have nowhere to go?"

She said trips used to be for going to the coffee shop or the salon, but now people just use it to get groceries, medical appointments, and picking up prescriptions. The van also used to make around two dozen one way trips each day it was in operation.

A one-way ride on the Carman Handi Van is \$4, making a round trip \$8. Along with the money from fares, they receive a Mobility Disadvantage Transportation Program (MDTP) grant of \$20,000 each year.

Those two incomes, Findlay said, still don't cover the cost of upkeep, fuel, and driver salary. So, they do fundraisers and events each year, but the pandemic has made most of that impossible. As the year carries on, the Carman Handi Van is taking everything month by month.

If business stays reasonable for the van, Findlay said they'll do their best to keep it available as they know it's an important service for those who use it. There are still around 200 people in the community who use the van fairly regularly.

"The pandemic has really hit the Handi Van hard right now," she said. "Like every other business."

It's not all dark for the service. They received a grant from the Carman Area Foundation last year and have used the money to cover the cost of



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Chair of CAF Barry Gosnell, left, and chair of Carman Handi Van Corp. Ken Stevens show off the new van with the new advertising thanks to the CAF grant.

advertising on the new van, which they got in November 2019. There are two advertising spots left on the

van — if businesses are interested, they can contact Findlay at kfindlay@mymts.net.

The Carman-Dufferin STANDARD



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EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:
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A day does not go by without a call, email or a pat on the back for *The Carman Dufferin Standard* coming to the “rescue” and providing Carman and areas current and archived articles. But as you enjoy reading it, as much as we enjoy providing it, the most important part is that we have revenue to support the pages we produce.

In this world as we have it now, our small town businesses struggle daily and we are asked to support them. We at *The Standard* are no different. Weekly we are shelving articles, feel good stories and photos that in a normal year would see light/print if we

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Contact the office by Mondays before 4 p.m. at 204-467-5836 or email to ads@carmanstandard.ca.

Thanks,
Dennis Young

“We definitely want to see this trajectory continue”

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba is finally seeing a consistent downward trend when it comes to our COVID-19 numbers, but we're not in the clear just yet.

Chief Provincial Public Health Officer Dr. Brent Roussin urged Manitobans to stay the course in battling the spread of the novel coronavirus as he announced 133 new cases and three deaths on Monday.

That brought the total number of lab-confirmed cases in Manitoba to 26,450, including 3,414 active cases and 22,295 recoveries. There have been 741 deaths due to COVID-19.

Our province's five-day test positivity was at 10 per cent at the start of the week. There were 316 COVID-19 patients (162 considered to still be infectious) in hospital with the virus, including 37 in intensive care (21 considered still infectious).

“Today's numbers are encouraging. We definitely want to see this trajectory continue,” Roussin said, stressing the relatively low daily case count (which just a few weeks ago numbered in the hundreds with double digit death rates) are “a testament to the hard work of Manitobans follow-

ing the very tough restrictions that are in place.

“We're certainly not back to normal, not out of the woods, but we are seeing the trajectory that we were wanting to see,” Roussin said. “We need to continue to have Manitobans still put in that hard work to limit the transmission of this virus.”

Roussin noted the holidays did lead to a spike in cases in recent weeks.

“We could be even in a better place right now, but we did see a lot of gathering over the holiday season,” he said. “As of this morning we have 538 confirmed cases that were identified on or after Dec. 25 that our contact tracing indicates were related to gathering during the holiday season. Those cases are linked to 2,879 contacts.”

It's expected some of those nearly 3,000 contacts will test positive for COVID-19 in the days ahead, Roussin said.

“This is really why we needed to extend the restrictions we have in place,” he said, referring to the government's decision to extend the code red/critical public health orders that expired last Friday to Jan. 22. “We have to still see what the impacts of this holiday

gathering was.”

The province will begin lifting some pandemic restrictions once it is deemed safe to do so, Roussin said.

“If we open things up too soon, if we have Manitobans that are not following the public health restrictions or public health advice, we'll see those numbers come back up again and it will again extend the need for restrictions.”

By the numbers

The Pembina Valley's active COVID-19 numbers have dropped from the heights of a few weeks ago.

At press time, Winkler was at seven active cases, 312 recoveries, and five deaths while Morden had three active cases, 130 recoveries, and two deaths.

Elsewhere around the region, Altona had nine active cases and three deaths, Lorne/Louise/Pembina had 19 ongoing cases and no deaths, Stanley had two active and one death, Roland/Thompson was down to one active case and one death, Carman had three active and one death, and Morris was at four active cases and three deaths.

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Monday 4:00 pm prior
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Code red restrictions remain in place until Jan. 22

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba's COVID-19 numbers and hospitalizations are still too high to roll back restrictions, public health officials announced last week.

The code red/critical public health orders slated to expire Jan. 8 were extended another two weeks to Jan. 22.

That means the in-person sale of non-essential products remains restricted and non-essential businesses must continue to keep their doors closed to the public, relying instead on curbside pick-up and delivery.

Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer, said that while the previous eight weeks of restric-

tions had begun to lower Manitobans' COVID-19 numbers, the holiday season did lead to a spike in cases.

"We see 355 of our current cases linked to holiday gatherings, with almost 1,900 contacts," he said last Friday, adding that some of these gatherings saw over two dozen people attend. "And so these numbers are certainly things we had to take into consideration when addressing these orders that are expiring."

Extending the orders will allow "us to continue to protect Manitobans, to continue to reduce the case numbers, continue to ease the hardship in the health-care system," Roussin said.

The extended public health orders did come with one modification to allow exemptions for professional hockey teams.

The Winnipeg Jets were already allowed to train under the old orders, with players and staff exempt from self-isolation rules after travel.

The updated orders now extend those exemptions to all professional hockey teams to allow games as well as training.

"It's important to note that this is able to occur because of the strict protocols that are being put in place by the NHL," Roussin said, noting play is only taking place within Canada right

now and all teams have detailed testing and exposure procedures in place. "This is a quite low risk to Manitobans."

Health officials will continue to monitor the case numbers and the strain on the health-care system in the weeks ahead to determine what will happen when the new public health orders expire in two weeks. They'll also be asking Manitobans for their thoughts on the ongoing restrictions.

"We're going to launch consultations with Manitobans for feedback on potential future changes to the order," Roussin said. "That's, of course, if our case numbers allow."

Manitoba sets out to vaccinate all care home residents

Staff

The provincial government is setting out to get the most vulnerable Manitobans vaccinated for COVID-19 as quickly as possible.

Premier Brian Pallister announced last week that Manitoba is embarking on a 28-day campaign to immunize all eligible personal care home (PCH) residents at 135 sites across the province with the first dose of the vaccine.

"We want to make sure that [care home residents] are looked after, because they're vulnerable," Premier Brian Pallister said at a press conference Jan. 6. "As we know, significant

fatalities have occurred in personal care homes right across the world, and our folks that live in them deserve our protection and our love."

The PCH immunization campaign began on Monday with focused immunization teams visiting seven care homes in all five regional health authorities. In Southern Health-Santé Sud, residents of Boyne Lodge in Carman will receive the vaccine first.

The province expects to immunize 1,157 people this week and then expand the campaign to other care homes in the weeks ahead. An estimated 9,834 people live in Manitoba's

personal care homes.

"By mid-March, every single eligible PCH resident will have received both doses and the fullest protection we can provide them with against this deadly virus," Pallister said.

The vaccine will be offered at all care homes, regardless of whether the PCH has had an outbreak, is having an outbreak, or has never had an outbreak of COVID-19.

All eligible residents will be included in the campaign if they consent to be immunized. Residents will be offered the vaccine even if they have previously tested positive for COV-

ID-19, as long as they do not have any other medical conditions that would exclude them from immunization.

In addition to the doses heading to personal care homes, the province is also sending thousands of doses to First Nations communities in addition to continuing to vaccinate eligible health-care workers at super sites in Winnipeg and, starting next week, Brandon.

The government is planning to have approximately two per cent of Manitoba's population vaccinated by the end of January and four per cent by the end of February.

Fall soil moisture normal to below normal in most of province

Staff

Manitoba's fall freeze-up hopefully bodes well for flood season next spring.

Manitoba Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre has released the 2020 Fall Conditions Report that indicates soil moisture levels before

freeze-up were normal to below normal in most Manitoba basins.

"The 2020 Fall Conditions Report describes the hydrologic conditions of Manitoba basins at the time of freeze-up," explained Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler last month. "Hydrologic and weather conditions in the winter

and spring are the main factors that affect the risk and extent of high water events."

Due to minimal summer and fall precipitation, the soil moisture at freeze-up was normal to below normal for most of the southern, central, and western Manitoba basins, with

the exception of the Little Saskatchewan River basin and in areas close to Brandon where the soil moisture is normal to above normal. Northern Manitoba basins, including the Saskatchewan and Churchill river basins,

Continued on page 9

> CARGILL DONTION, FROM PG. 2

Last year, Cargill in Elm Creek gave \$7,000 to the Elm Creek skating rink.

"It's important to us, the people who work here at Cargill in Elm Creek," said McIntyre. "We live here, we pay taxes here, we play here, our kids go to the school and to the daycare, play sports here. It's just a way to give back to the community."

Chairperson of the Elm Creek Stay & Play Centre's board Janelle Lepp, said this donation, along with any others they get now, will go toward their new build project.

In the last six months, the nursery school has raised almost 30 per cent

of their total amount so far, which is \$255,000, including the donation from Cargill. She said the \$8,000 brought them that much closer to their goal.

"We very much appreciated the local community support," said Lepp. "Right now, to get to the next step in our project is we need local companies and people to be supporting our project right now."

Lepp said they're hoping to raise another \$150,000 before they finalize the plans for the new centre, which they're hoping to have done by fall of this year.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

(Left to right) Assistant director of Elm Creek Stay & Play Centre Jeannine Inman, director Jenna Middleton, and Cargill Elm Creek customer service representative Rebecca Wolfram.

Morden entrepreneur developing a one-handed controller

Will allow people with disabilities to control drones, play video games more easily

By Lorne Stelmach

A newcomer to Canada who now calls Morden home is working to pioneer a new controller for drones and video games that he believes could be revolutionary.

The idea of combining a drone controller with a computer joystick in a single gadget came to Konstantin Borysov, the founder and CEO of Knuckles-5, after he read a post on the internet.

A father of a mobility-challenged boy was asking people how to assemble a one-handed joystick, as he could not find a fully-functioning one suitable for his son.

"I realized that our product could be the perfect solution for this boy and for many other people," Borysov said in an e-mail interview. "If it works out, I think it would be a good example of a technology that can be put to good use."

"From the very beginning of working with drones, I felt that the controllers used for them were not the best option. But development of the new controller was a hobby until I read the message on the forum and thought that there are people around me who can't enjoy the things that I use without hesitation," he continued. "Then I took up the project in full force."

Borysov traces the roots of the idea back to 2016 while still in the Ukraine when he started on making something for himself. In 2019, a couple months before moving to Canada, he started on the project and found friends to help him with its development.

"In general, my field of interest is drones. I want to help people integrate this technology in everyday life. It can be helpful for firefighters, police, rescue teams, farmers and so on," he suggested.

"This is just one of my projects. I am involved in another project that involves using drones with special multi-spectral cameras to search for plastic pollution in a natural zone."

Borysov has high hopes right now though for Knuckles-5, which is the name given to the new controller and the team of specialists he has assembled from various fields related to the drone industry.

Initially, their focus was on drones, but they soon extended the functionality of the controller by adding an additional option for games, allowing it to be plugged into a computer as a joystick.

"Knuckles-5 is a new alternative to the classic two-handed remote controller. Its purpose is to overcome the disadvantages of a two-handed controller and to offer more possibilities and freedom to its users," said Borysov. "People will be able to control a spaceship in a computer game or a remote-controlled model or a heavy cargo drone with ease using only one hand."

"One of the benefits of Knuckles-5 is that the controller functions are extremely customizable," he added. "Users can choose the optimal control



STANDARD PHOTO SUPPLIED

Mordenite Konstantin Borysov of Knuckles-5 is developing a one-handed controller to make it easier for people with disabilities to control drones or play video games.

elements to act. Advanced users have the possibility to widen the functionality of Knuckles-5 even more with custom setup.

"There are many devices and gadgets around us that can expand our capabilities. Now my friends in Ukraine are helping me to squeeze all the functionality that I conceived into the small body of the joystick."

If everything falls into place, Borysov would love to have a finished product ready to market by the end of 2021, but he realizes there is no guarantee of success.

"There are hundreds of reasons why this project could fail, and only one

is enough to fail," he said. "The other extreme [is] if it is in demand. This means that I will have to say goodbye to a fairly measured life and again engage in organizing production, collecting a team, logistics, registering a company, organizing several assembly points for finished products and not forgetting to continue developing new product modifications."

"So I am as wary of success as I am of failure. In any case, my friends and I have been ready for both options from the very beginning."

Learn more online at knuckles5.com.

Despite pandemic, Viterra wraps generous STARS calendar campaign

Submitted by STARS

In a holiday season that is anything but normal, STARS is receiving an extraordinary \$42,000 gift of support from Viterra's customers.

The world-leading agriculture network just wrapped its annual program to sell STARS calendars – nearly 1,000 in total this year – from its grain handling and marketing facilities across the Prairies on behalf of the non-profit air ambulance organization.

Since 2015, Viterra has supported STARS' popular calendar program as its print sponsor, helping the charity share its mission stories of rescue and recovery through patients' eyes. With bases across Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta, funds raised through calendar sales help keep STARS in the sky.

"STARS provides such an important service, and our annual calendar campaign shows how communities will come together to support a worthy cause," said Nikki Deobald-

Churchman, Facility Sales and Admin at Viterra

Rosetown.

"We continue to support STARS because they go above and beyond for those who need it most, and we see the difference that it makes in our communities," said Jeff Cockwill, VP, Corporate Affairs for Viterra North America. "Despite the unusual circumstances presented to us by the pandemic, our employees and customers demonstrated their giving spirit and made a significant and positive impact to this year's campaign."

Over the years, STARS has touched the lives of Viterra employees, customers, and their families. This partnership helps ensure that STARS can continue to provide immediate medical attention in critical situations.

"Almost everyone on the Prairies knows someone whose life has been impacted by STARS," said Wanda Marchewka, Facility Sales and Admin at Viterra North Battleford. "It's comforting to know that the service is available to all of us if we ever need it."

In addition to Viterra's very generous print spon-

sorship, its employees have contributed to an additional \$300,000 in calendar and merchandise sales and collected donations over the past six years.

"In a year of uncertainty, Viterra and its dedicated employees has never once wavered in their commitment to STARS, and in true grassroots spirit, they have found new and innovative ways to continue supporting our mission," said Andrea Robertson, STARS president and CEO.

"We are so grateful for the role that Viterra plays year in and year out, helping to keep us on the cutting edge of critical medical care and making sure that we can be there for the next patient who needs us," said Robertson.

The calendar campaign is in its 28th year, and while it has always been a significant source of revenue for STARS, it is particularly important this year, when so many fundraisers have had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A limited quantity of calendars are still available for purchase online at starscalendar.ca

Federal government launches vaccine injury support program

By Patricia Barrett

The federal Liberal government is introducing a no-fault vaccine injury support program for all vaccines approved by Health Canada and will be working in collaboration with the provinces and territories to implement the program.

The launch of the national program comes as COVID-19 continues to decimate populations and shatter economies across the globe, and as vaccines to fight the deadly virus are just being distributed.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) made the announcement Dec. 10.

"This will be the first pan-Canadian vaccine injury support program (VISP) in Canada," said Health Canada senior media relations advisor Tammy Jarbeau by email after Christmas. "The intent of the program is to provide financial support to people in the rare event that they experience a serious permanent injury after receiving any vaccine authorized by Health Canada, including COVID-19 vaccines."

COVID has infected over 84.4 million people worldwide and killed more than 1.8 million. Almost 600,000 Canadian have been infected and over 15,000 have died (Data: Johns Hopkins University, Jan. 2).

Although Manitoba escaped the brunt of the virus over the summer, infections sprinted from the starting gate like a thoroughbred in the fall, prompting the Manitoba government to lockdown the entire province in early November. COVID has killed 678 Manitobans (Data: Manitoba government, Jan.2).

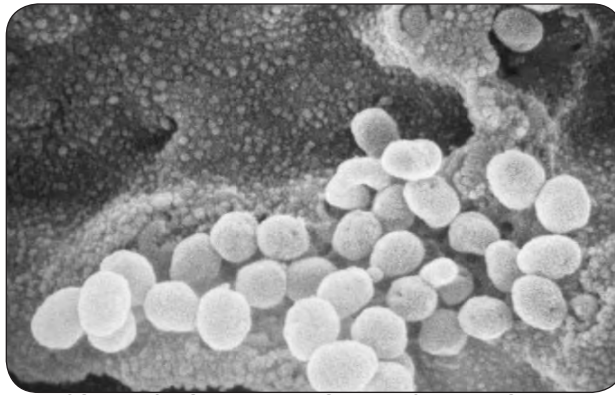
Quebec created its own vaccine injury support program in 1988 and is the only jurisdiction in Canada that has such a program. The new federal program will be modelled, where possible, on the Quebec government's program, said Jarbeau. The national program will be an ongoing program that will form part of Canada's broader vaccination strategy. It will also put the country on par with nations that already have support programs.

"With a major rollout of vaccine in the works, it is important that Canadians have the same support as citizens of G7 and other nations," said Jarbeau.

There have been growing calls over the years for Canada to create a support program, she added. In January 2020 a petition was initiated by Bob Martin of Victoria, B.C., gathering 792 signatures. British Columbia had the highest number of signatures at 277, followed by Ontario at 218. Manitoba had 19 signatures.

Whether the new federal program will lead to a greater willingness among Canadians to get a COVID-19 vaccine is unclear. Fewer than half of all adult Canadians get vaccinated for influenza each year, although the trend over the past five years shows those numbers increasing.

Statistics Canada's Seasonal Influenza Vaccination Coverage Survey for the 2019-2020 influenza season found 42 per cent of adults (aged 18 and older)



COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH COVID-19.

were inoculated, the same percentage as the 2018-2019 season. In the 2017-2018 season, 38 per cent of adults were inoculated, and in 2016-2017, 36 per cent got the flu jab.

But COVID may tell a different story. The Canadian Community Health Survey, released by Statistics Canada last September, found three out of four Canadians (aged 12 and older) saying they'd get the COVID vaccine when it became available.

Jarbeau said there's not enough evidence to definitively link vaccine injury support programs to an increased willingness to get inoculated.

"There is limited data on the impact of providing no-fault vaccine injury support on vaccine uptake. That said, all immunization programs are based on the principle of reciprocity: Canadians are encouraged to get vaccinated for their own benefit and for the protection of others," she said. "In return, there is a duty to ensure that Canadians who are immunized are financially supported should they experience serious permanent injury as a result."

The worldwide COVID vaccine development and approval process had been fast-tracked with the first trials starting last March. Health Canada has already approved two COVID vaccines, one from Pfizer-BioNTech on Dec. 9 and another from Moderna on Dec. 23.

Pfizer's clinical trials showed its vaccine to have 95 per cent efficacy. Two doses are required for maximum efficacy. Moderna's clinical trials showed its vaccine to be 94 per cent effective in subjects with no prior COVID infection, and 87 per cent effective in people over 65 years of age. Two doses are required.

Each province/territory has set – or will set – out its own inoculation schedules based on priority populations. Those schedules follow overall recommendations from the federal National Advisory Committee on Immunization.

Health-care workers in Manitoba are first in line to receive the vaccine. But exactly when the general public can get inoculated is unknown. The province's rollout plan entails making "adjustments" to provide COVID vaccines to a "broader range

of health-care workers, residents of personal care homes and elderly Manitobans," according to its COVID-19 website.

Ontario may begin inoculating the general public sometime in July while Alberta may start in the fall. PHAC said last month the country's vaccination campaign is expected to wrap up in December 2021.

Health Canada is warning people who are allergic to the ingredients in the COVID vaccines not to take them (ingredient lists are available on the agency's COVID-19 health product industry webpage).

Last month the Associated Press reported that two health-care workers in Alaska suffered allergic reactions after receiving Pfizer's vaccine, with one person experiencing anaphylaxis (difficulty breathing) and having to be hospitalized. The United Kingdom had also reported two similar cases in early December. The Manitoba government reported on Dec. 24 that one person – presumably a health-care worker – had an "adverse reaction" to the vaccine.

In a summary of the Pfizer COVID vaccine, published Dec. 10 in the New England Journal of Medicine, researchers noted reactions such as pain, swelling, fever, headache and myalgia, but most were "mild to moderate and resolved rapidly."

Jarbeau said serious and permanent adverse reactions are extremely rare, at fewer than one in a million.

"The Government of Canada is committed to protecting the health and safety of Canadians," she said. "Health Canada has a rigorous scientific review system in place to assess vaccines for safety and effectiveness in preventing the diseases they target. Health Canada will not authorize a vaccine unless evidence demonstrates that its benefits outweigh the risks."

Health Canada has placed orders to reserve millions of doses of different COVID-19 vaccines, including those from Janssen Pharmaceutical, Novavax and Oxford-AstraZeneca, and all will be subject to the agency's approval process. If vaccines are found problematic while on the market, Health Canada can pull them.

PHAC is currently in discussions with provinces and territories to implement the vaccine injury support program, but details on eligibility criteria, compensation and whether the program can be applied retroactively to COVID vaccines are yet to be determined.

"As discussions with provinces and territories are ongoing, no further details can be disclosed at this time," said Jarbeau. "Further information on program funding, operations and how the program can be accessed by applicants will be available when the program is launched in 2021."

Medical researchers currently don't know how long COVID vaccines will provide a measure of immunity to the virus. Like influenza, COVID inoculations may be required each year.

> FALL SOIL MOISTURE, FROM PG. 7

have normal to above normal soil moisture.

The minister noted another factor affecting potential spring high water events is the base flow in rivers and the water levels on lakes prior to freeze-up. Base flow is a portion of the stream flow that is not from surface

run-off; it is water from the ground, flowing into the river channel over a period of time. Base flows on most rivers are normal to below normal for this time of the year, with the exception of northern Manitoba rivers, where base flows are well above normal to record high.

Environment and Climate Change Canada's December long-term precipitation forecast indicates precipitation will be normal to above normal from December to February for most of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The National Weather Service (NWS) Climate Prediction Center's outlook indicates above normal precipitation within the U.S. portion of the Red and

Souris river basins from December to March.

"We will continue to monitor watershed conditions closely and will release spring flood outlooks through the winter as required," said Schuler.

To view the 2020 Fall Conditions Report visit gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/pdf/2020/2020_fall_conditions_report.pdf.

ECS makes teacher interim principal for rest of 2020-21 school year

By Becca Myskiw

Elm Creek School (ECS) has an interim principal for the rest of this school year.

Leslie Howard took the position of interim principal at ECS at the end of November 2020. The spot opened up when the school's current principal went on medical leave.

Howard has been teaching at ECS since 2011. She mostly works with high school students, teaching essential math and science. Whenever the principal was away, she and another teacher would fill in for the day.

So, when this opportunity arose, Howard offered her help as she already had some experience in the area. Now, she's the interim principal at ECS until the end of June, or earlier

if the principal returns before then.

"I've always. Aspired to become a principal one day in my career and I feel confident in my leadership abilities," said Howard. "I thought that this will let me know if this is something I want to pursue moving forward."

The biggest change for Howard has been how often, or less often, she gets to see her students in her current position as it requires a lot more screen and desk time. She said she still loves teaching and she loves her students, so she tries to take walks often to poke her head in the classrooms.

Along with the constant emails and paperwork, Howard is now involved in budget planning and creating timetables for the next semester.

Her number one priority right now,

however, is her staff.

"I know what it's like to teach remotely and I know what it's like to be a teacher right now with the extra demands upon them," she said. "I feel like a happy staff is really important right now."

That staff, she said, has been extremely supportive of her in the role as interim principal. Howard said her role models were also excellent, so she had a lot of help in getting to this spot and doing it well.

Howard's teaching job is currently being filled by a substitute teacher until the end of January. Then, they'll be hiring a term position for it as she'll be going back to that job next. School year.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED
Leslie Howard is the interim principal at ECS and has been with the school since 2011.

Banner year for PVHS despite pandemic challenges

By Lorne Stelmach

Despite being under pandemic restrictions, the Pembina Valley Humane Society had a record year in 2020, particularly with its feline friends.

There were 105 cats adopted compared to 72 in 2019, while dog adoptions were down from 75 to 53, but connected to those stats are the pace

of animal intakes. Also in that time frame, the society brought in a record 112 cats and 45 dogs, and that also meant doing 95 cat spay or neuters and 36 spay or neuters for dogs.

Overall, it means the organization was busier than anyone may have predicted under the circumstances.

"It seems a bit unprecedented. We



STANDARD PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH
PVHS acting board chair Selena Ducharme, left, and public relations chair Holly Thorne with two of the shelter's feline residents.

had no idea how 2020 was going to turn out for the shelter. Everything was so up in the air, and we had to cancel many fundraisers," said public relations chair Holly Thorne.

"The adoptions have been phenomenal," agreed Selena Ducharme, acting board chair. "We've had a lot of turnover here with the animals, so while we're sad to see them go because we've built a connection, we're just so happy when a family is able to love an animal."

Thorne offered a few thoughts on how the impact of COVID-19 may have actually worked in their favour, including people perhaps realizing they had more time to add a pet to their family and spend quality time with it.

"Animal lovers are passionate people ... and I think people are realizing for many different reasons ... like they

have more time and their kids have been asking for one," she said. "It really was quite surprising this year just how many people realized that, with the pandemic and spending more time at home, that they were actually able to spend the time to invite an animal into their home."

"There's also the mental health aspect to consider. It's proven that owning a pet improves mental health, and this was a big year to be aware of that," Thorne added. "Studies have shown that your mental health can be vastly improved when you are caring for a cat or caring for a dog."

Thorne noted another positive trend they saw in the past year related to the average amount of time an animal spends at the shelter.

The average length of stay for cats

Continued on page 14



The CAF is grateful to be part of a Shared Staffing Pilot Project with Endow Manitoba. We are pleased to announce our new Executive Director Jennifer Ching-Faux

Jennifer Ching-Faux is a graduate of the University of Winnipeg, and holds a certificate in public relations from Ryerson University. She has spent the last ten years working in community support, corporate events and advertising, and is a dedicated volunteer within her hometown of Darlingford. Outside of the office, Jennifer enjoys curling, snowmobiling, golf, and spending time in the Pembina Valley with her family. She is thrilled to be a part of the Endow Manitoba team, and is looking forward to growing and strengthening the community foundations of South Central Manitoba, including Carman Area Foundation, Miami Area Foundation, Morden Area Foundation, and Pembina-Manitou Foundation.



Carman hangs its first barn quilt on Exhibit Hall

By Becca Myskiw

Carman is now a spot on the Manitoba barn quilt trail.

At the 2019 Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies (MAAS) convention, one society said they had started a barn quilt trail. This sparked a desire in Jenien Holtland, co-director of the Dufferin Agricultural Society's Exhibit Hall Committee, and her co-chair to create their own barn quilt trail in Carman, which starts on the Exhibit Hall.

A barn quilt is a piece of wood that has been painted to look like a quilt block. Holtland said they're usually replicas of traditional quilt block patterns or geometric shapes that one would see in fabric.

"But just like in fabric quilting one may use applique," she said. "Many people also. Create unique designs featuring a farm logo, family initials, or silhouettes of animals."

The quilts, in short, tell stories of farms, historical events, and communities. They come in a range of sizes, but the one up on the Exhibit Hall is eight feet by eight feet.

It's made of two sheets of MDO plywood, with a weather resistant resin overlay to resist water, weather, and wear on the quilt. Holtland said that was ordered through Homestead Cop and the paints used were from Home Hardware. The materials for the quilt were purchased thanks to a

grant from the Carman Area Foundation. Sperling Industries hung the heavy sheets of plywood for them.

This quilt includes colours that symbolize different parts of Carman and the RM of Dufferin's history, including agricultural sectors, the first settlers, and the World Wars.

It won't be the only one, though. Holtland said they have another quilt, also eight feet by eight feet, ready to go on the Exhibit Hall in the near future. The second quilt includes more colours that aren't in the first one.

Both quilts were created by Exhibit Hall committee members Marcy Vandebos, Jenien Holtland, and Justine Hamming.

"While each step of the process was a joint effort, we each were able to put our individual talents to use," said Holtland. "Marcy and I shared some concepts of barn quilts we liked, and Justine created two beautiful original designs using these ideas. Together we decided on what kind of story we would like the barn quilt to tell and which colours to use to represent these things."

Once the second quilt is hung, there will be a contest on the Carman Country Fair's social media platforms for naming both of the quilts.

Along with the two main quilts on the hall, Holtland said she hopes more people in the area will be inspired to their own barn quilts that will be vis-



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The first barn quilt was recently hung on the Exhibit Hall in Carman.

ible from a public space. They would also like to host paint nights in the future to allow people to do this. Then,

the committee would come up with an official barn quilt viewing route for the community.

Withdrawal Management Services to receive additional funding

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba government will provide \$889,000 over three years for eight additional beds to support timely patient transfers from Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinics, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen announced last Tuesday.

"The ability to seamlessly transfer patients to withdrawal management services when required is critical to the success and sustainability of RAAM clinics in Winnipeg," said Friesen. "These beds will support RAAM patients experiencing withdrawal issues, reducing barriers to care, shortening wait times and ensuring quicker access to substance-use disorder treatment."

RAAM clinics provide immediate counselling, prescribe appropriate addiction medication and connect patients to community treatment programs and primary care physicians in their community for ongoing care. Patients who need help managing withdrawal symptoms are transferred

to these withdrawal management services.

"We see people every day in RAAM clinics requiring various addiction support services," said Dr. Ginette Poulin, medical director with the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba and clinical lead for the RAAM clinics. "Withdrawal management is an important step in the process of substance use treatment for many individuals and increasing timely access can be critical for their recovery journey. By adding more non-medical withdrawal management beds in our system, we can better respond to patients needs and help offer more safe places to stabilize."



The eight additional community-residential withdrawal management beds will include four beds for men at Winnipeg's Main Street Project, and

four women's beds at the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba's (AFM) Riv-

Continued on page 12

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Travis and Stacie Enns named among Ace Burpee's most fascinating Manitobans



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Travis Enns, left, and Stacie Enns were named among Ace Burpee's Top 100 Most Fascinating Manitobans.

By Becca Myskiw

Winnipeg radio host Ace Burpee has released his list of the Top 100 Most Fascinating Manitobans of 2020 and one Carman couple made the list.

Burpee put Travis and Stacie Enns, owners of Syl's Drive Inn, on his list. Next to their names he wrote that they make one of the best burgers in the province.

"Along with running a great joint, the couple are also tremendous assets to their community and surrounding area," Burpee wrote. "And were the recipients of the Community Builder Award by the Carman Chamber of Commerce."

Travis Enns said he and his wife were shocked at the news. They found out from a friend who read Burpee's list first and Enns said it was weird because they don't find themselves interesting at all.

"We're just regular people," he said. "My guess is just adding the mini golf and getting the award from the Carman chamber...Ace must have just taken note."

Enns said the weirdest part was being named personally, rather than Syl's Drive Inn being named as it usually is. He said wherever he goes across the country, people know Carman for Syl's, but they don't know Travis and Stacie Enns, the names behind the business. Burpee naming the couple was what stood out to Enns.

Before Burpee's list gets into naming his Top 100 Most Fascinating Manitobans of 2020, he wrote that he's left a lot on the table this year, as he does every year.

"So many people stepped up and did incredible things in 2020," he wrote. "There were thousands of people who achieved amazing things, faced the pandemic battle on the front lines, gave back, received awards and impacted lives. I try to do 100 new names every year and not repeat any from previous lists. That said, I've still got dozens of names to carry forward to next year."

Phys Ed. teacher retires from Carman Elementary after 40 years of teaching

By Becca Myskiw

A long time Phys Ed. teacher has retired from Carman Elementary.

Gord Stobbe retired in December after teaching Phys Ed. for 41 and a half years, all of them in the Prairie Rose School Division and the last 25 of them at Carman Elementary.

Stobbe grew up in Brandon with five siblings and an active dad. They went on numerous camping trips, played a lot of hockey, baseball, and golf, and went to the local YMCA at least twice a week growing up.

His school division also had a great Phys Ed. program, Stobbe said, and his teacher for the course had gone to the University of North Dakota (UND). He said growing up in that "sports culture" and having good role models in the field inspired him to follow that path.

So, like his school Phys Ed. teacher, Stobbe went to UND where he was on the gymnastics team and ended up as their student manager. He took his love of gymnastics and showed it to his students once he was a teacher.

"I just thought it was a great way to learn and I've seen that in the students that I've taught," said Stobbe.

Once he finished post-secondary school, Stobbe's first job was as a Phys Ed. teacher based out of Miami School. He would start there one morning, then spend the rest of the week taking his program to other schools in the division.

"It was very interesting to bring along all the equipment in the old vehicle that I had, and the kids would run out to the car to

deliver all the things I had in the car," he said.

After two years in that job, he went on to teach at Elm Creek School (ECS) for 13 years. After that, he went to Carman Elementary where Stobbe spent the rest of his career. In his teaching, Stobbe used exploratory discovery, which is where children test their limits, grow physical literacy, and get confident enough to try new things. He said he loved teaching that way because it was "like a self-esteem booster" for his students.

"We have these bodies, right," he said. "And we need to use them every day. We were designed to move, and I think if you don't look after your body and learn to appreciate it, you can't just go to the body shop and get new parts. It's something you have to learn on and it's a journey."

Current principal at Carman Elementary Cecile Affleck has known Stobbe for six-and-a-half years. She said he's a "master teacher."

"He is highly skilled not only in his specialist role in Physical Education, but also in his ability to build strong relationships and connections with his students and colleagues," she said. "Gord makes everyone feel good about themselves."

She said his teaching style established a fun and engaging program. She said his Cool Cats spring run club was a highlight of every year.

That run club has been going on for the last 17 or 18 years. It's an after-school commitment that got students, their families, and community members out running.



Gord Stobbe has retired from Carman Elementary after over 40 years of teaching, all in the division.

Stobbe said he had 60 to 100 participants every year.

The club went to the Manitoba Marathon every year and the experienced runner participated in the marathon's relay, which they won several years.

Stobbe's partner, Lisa Goertzen, is determined to continue the club.

As for Stobbe, he plans to spend his time in retirement at the cabin with his grandchildren and working on projects around the house.

"Life's a long journey," he said. "And I tried to instill in the kids they just have to be the best they can be with what they've been blessed with."

> WITHDRAWAL MANAGEMENT, FROM PG. 11

er Point Centre in Winnipeg. This will serve an estimated 300 people each year, the minister noted.

"Main Street Project is proud to be a part of the continuum of care in addition recovery," said Dawn Cumming, director of detoxification and stabilization, Main Street Project. "The addition of these eight RAAM beds will allow us to support clients with timely and critical access to detoxification services. We are pleased the province is investing in implementing the recommen-

dations outlined in the VIRGO report."

Since August 2018, more than 4,000 patients have used RAAM services at locations in Winnipeg (Crisis Response Centre and AFM Riverpoint), as well as in Brandon, Selkirk, Thompson and Portage la Prairie. This includes more than 2,100 people who have registered for RAAM services in the past year. The minister noted the service expansion addresses recommendations from the VIRGO report including increasing

capacity for opiate agonist therapy and increasing capacity for community-based treatment services.

Over the past year, more than \$42 million has been invested to support stronger mental health and addictions services in Manitoba.

These initiatives are in direct response to recommendations from several reports and action plans, including VIRGO, the Illicit Drug Task Force, Tracia's Trust and the Community Wellness and Public Safety Alliance.

5 ways to live green in a seniors' residence

Are you concerned that moving into a seniors' residence will make it more difficult to control your carbon footprint? Here are five ways you can continue to have a positive effect on the environment in your new home.

EAT LOCAL AND ORGANIC

You can reduce your carbon footprint by shopping at your local farmers' market, growing vegetables on your balcony and by favouring organic products at restaurants and shops.

RELY ON REUSABLE PRODUCTS

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REMEMBER TO RECYCLE

In addition to recycling paper, plastic and metal, consider what items can be sold or donated rather than thrown out. Some used objects can also be repurposed.



senior living

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Replace incandescent lightbulbs with LEDs. You can also reduce your energy consumption by using a smart thermostat, letting clothes and dishes air dry and cooking single-serving meals in a small appliance.

START A GREEN COMMITTEE

Collaborate with the neighbours and staff at your residence to implement recycling and carpooling programs, host sustainable living workshops or start a community garden. By working with others, you'll be able to make more of an impact.

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Seymour receives watershed district builder award



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Murray Seymour was honoured last month with the 2020 Watershed District Builder Award.

By Lorne Stelmach

A quarter century of service to conservation earned an area resident a special honour recently.

The Manitoba Association of Watershed Districts virtual conference in December saw Murray Seymour presented with the 2020 Watershed District Builder Award.

The honour recognizes the outstanding contributions of individuals directly associated with the growth and success of watershed districts in Manitoba. Seymour, who lives in Darlingford, got the nod after having been involved with what was up until recently called the Pembina Valley Conservation District since 1995.

"It means quite a bit to me to receive this award," said Seymour, who was originally appointed to the district board as an RM of Pembina rep and continued his involvement—including serving as the Lizard Lake sub-district chair and as board chair—until the new watershed districts were formed this past year.

"I've spent a lot of years working with the Pembina Valley district in coming up with projects and seeing them get done throughout the region," said Seymour. "It's been really enjoyable to work with an organization like this where you come up with ideas ... and it's nice to see the improvements done out there that you have been a part of."

Just a few of his many involvements include working with the Pembina River Basin Advisory Board, serving as district representative for the

Manitoba Conservation District Association, and serving as a member and board chair of the conservation district commission at the Manitoba Legislature.

Seymour said he feels fortunate to have had the opportunities to work with so many people, everyone from local district staff, board members, and municipalities to other conservation districts and provincial government departments involved with conservation.

"My greatest reward was being chair of Manitoba Conservation District Association and working with all the districts to help secure this much needed program for our future ... to convince government to invest in the future with the conservation and watershed program."

Seymour said he realized early on the potential of the conservation district program and particularly the value of water retention for landowners.

Over the years, the PVCD has built many retention structures to help keep back some of the water to protect infrastructure and supply water to local landowners.

"It has been a passion for me ... and I've always figured if we can hold back as much water as we can," Seymour said. "It can improve things for the municipalities and the people all around here."

"It's been really enlightening to be

Snowmover



STANDARD PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG
Two and half year old Jed Van Dijk of Carman helped his parents shovel snow after the big dump on Dec. 20.

part of it. It's been a very enjoyable 24 years," he concluded.

The watershed district in a statement thanked Seymour for his years of service.

"The Pembina Valley Watershed District has been the very fortunate recipient of Murray's ongoing initiative, dedication and commitment. He has provided outstanding leadership and contributed to the development, promotion and the continued success of the conservation and watershed program."

> PVHS, FROM PG. 10

and dogs decreased significantly. In 2019, the average stay before being adopted was 86 days for cats and 47

days for dogs. In 2020, it was 49 days for cats and 39 days for dogs.

"It's bittersweet because we love

them," said Thorne, "but they're spending less time in the shelter, so they're happier, and they get to be in that loving home way faster."

Otherwise, the biggest impact for the society in the past year amidst the pandemic has been needing to restrict the volunteer component of its operations.

"We had to re-

evaluate everything," said Ducharme. "We didn't have as much of the physical support in the shelter. The managers had to take on more by doing the extra cleaning."

"The volunteers have kept in touch and been asking how can we help," she added. "The public still wants to help, so that has been a huge blessing throughout the pandemic. We're ready to welcome back the volunteers as soon as we can."

In addition to looking forward to bringing volunteers back, both noted they also continue to promote regular giving to the society.

"Our biggest push now is to create that group of people who are monthly donors or regular donors where we can bank on their support throughout the year. The more monthly donors we have, the less stress we're going to feel trying to plan," said Thorne.

"The monthly donations get factored in, and it can be one of the main

things to really help keep the shelter running," agreed Ducharme.

The society is looking at no major projects right now, although there is a longer term goal for more substantial improvements to the shelter. In the meantime, they recently completed the installation of new doors that give dogs access to the outside kennels from their indoor spaces, and that has already paid dividends.

"With that, we have already reduced our monthly hydro bill by almost a hundred dollars a month," said Ducharme.

"We're always going to have needs ... but with the pandemic, we just have to be cognizant of what we are really able to do right now," concluded Thorne. "We're thinking what can we do now as the board, as the staff, as the volunteers to make this place as sustainable as we possibly can as we move forward."

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We want to hear from you.

The *Carman-Dufferin Standard* connects people through stories to build stronger communities.

Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service?

A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday?

A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas with **Dennis Young** at denjohnyoung@gmail.com or **Lana Meier** at news@carmanstandard.ca or call 204-467-5836.

The Carman-Dufferin
STANDARD

MCC closing Plum Coulee warehouse

By Ashleigh Viveiros

MCC Canada and MCC Manitoba have decided to close their warehouse in Plum Coulee this summer.

The global relief agency announced last week that it is relocating its central material resources warehouse from Plum Coulee to its facility in New Hamburg, Ontario.

"It's was a two-stage decision and the first one was taken by MCC Canada, who's in charge of moving the material resources across the country in order to be prepared for shipment internationally," MCC Manitoba executive director Darryl Loewen explained. "There have been two sites and it was their decision to consolidate those activities in one location in Ontario."

MCC has said the move will help facilitate quicker distribution of relief supplies by reducing the number of shipping sites and locating the central warehouse closer to an international port. It will also allow for canned meat, produced by volunteers in Ontario with MCC's mobile meat canner,

to be stored in and shipped directly from Ontario.

"It helps simplify the preparation of containers for delivery," Loewen said. "It puts all of the materials in a single location."

With MCC Canada making the decision to pull out of Plum Coulee, MCC Manitoba, who has run the site jointly with them since 2004, had to follow suit.

"For MCC Canada to withdraw leaves a warehouse space in Plum Coulee that MCC Manitoba just can't carry by itself," Loewen said.

The warehouse will close its doors on June 30. One staff member, warehouse manager Gord Letkeman, is affected by the closure, along with countless volunteers who used the site as a donation drop-off point and gathering space.

The warehouse had volunteers who came in regularly to sort and cut material, pack blankets, compile relief kits, and sort incoming donations from other provinces.

"The numbers of volunteers vary.



MCC MANITOBA PHOTO

Volunteers gathered at the MCC Material Resources Centre in Plum Coulee early last year to sew and tie 150 handmade comforters as part of the Great Winter Warm-up campaign. MCC has decided to shut down the warehouse and move its operations to Ontario.

There are about two dozen or so, maybe a little more, who were frequent on-site volunteers, some as many as weekly or more than weekly since 2004," Loewen said. "And as a gathering site, there were other regional volunteers from Crystal City up to Carman and further east for whom this was the delivery point where they would bring their materials."

MCC will be working hard to stay connected with those volunteers and donors in the months ahead, Loewen stressed.

"The warehouse in Coulee has served supporters of MCC really well and MCC really well," he said. "It's been a beautiful touch point between community church groups and other groups that have taken the opportunity to participate in MCC mission ministry there, so we're sad about that loss. But we are hopeful to sustain and grow those connections and do so in ways that are useful to volunteers, because they are very much the core to MCC activity around the world."

The Color record an album in quarantine

Local band locked themselves away for two weeks to record nine new songs

By Ashleigh Viveiros

A local band put themselves in quarantine this fall so they could make some headway on their next album.

The Color's deal with U.S. studio Dream Records in early 2020 came with a pledge to deliver one new album within a year.

The pandemic made that promise a difficult one to keep.

Vocalist Jordan Janzen explains the foursome normally head down to Nashville to record songs with the help of the world-class producers who call Music City home.

"We were kind of looking at the foreseeable future and we just realized that there was no certainty involved in whether or not we'd be able to go down there anytime soon," he says, noting, to be safe, they'd have to quarantine for two weeks coming and going, meaning they'd be away from their families far longer than any of them wanted to be.

Then an idea was hatched: why not bring a producer up here and join him on his quarantine as a band, using the two weeks of isolation as two weeks of creation?

After getting the go-ahead from public health officials, The Color in November flew up producer Bede Benjamin-Korporaal, kissed their wives and kids goodbye, and went into lockdown together on a nearby family farm.

"We couldn't see our families, which



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Color's Jordan Janzen, James Shiels, Tyson Unrau and Larry Abrams (front row) with videographer Dustin Wiebe and producer Bede Benjamin-Korporaal during their self-enforced two-week music lockdown last year.

was very strange to be three miles away from home and not able to be with them," Janzen says.

Close-to-home homesickness aside, it proved to be an incredibly productive 14 days.

"We essentially worked 12-15 hours a day, every day," says Janzen. "We had intended to record seven songs and we ended up recording nine in that

Continued on page 16

> THE COLOR, FROM PG. 15

time frame."

Added to the one song they had previously recorded with another producer in the spring, that makes 10 songs ready to go for an album slated to be released later this year.

"We'll see if we can get down to Nashville to do a couple more songs, but we don't have to if we can't," Janzen says.

It's not unusual for bands to tuck themselves away together to focus on the music, but the experience was certainly a unique one for The Color.

"In some ways it was kind of our dream," Janzen says. "It had never happened for us before and I don't know if it will again, but it just allowed us to be present in that process for the whole time, for better or worse."

They had upwards of 60 songs written over the previous year or so to choose from for the recording session—about half of which were written via Zoom during the early days of the pandemic.

But Janzen says COVID-19 most certainly is not a recurring theme in the music.

"I think there's definitely some influence from the season that we've been in, but we're always trying to push our creativity and part of that challenge has been to actually go outside of what's going on today, because we do want to write music that's going to

apply tomorrow or in a year or two or three years from now."

If there's a common thread running through the songs, it's the same one The Color always aspire to with their music.

"One of the goals of The Color has always been to write songs that are hopeful, that leave a person feeling like there is hope going forward," says Janzen.

That said, there were a few surprises in the album-making process this time around.

The band reached out to fans on social media and invited 50 of them to help pick their favourite songs from a selection of about 25.

"It honestly changed the outcome of the album," Janzen says. "There were songs that were not in consideration on our part, maybe songs that we didn't gravitate towards or songs that had been written a long time ago."

Some of those songs ended up being fan favourites, and they were included in the final recording list.

"And so there are songs on this album that weren't going to be, and it was such a cool thing," says Janzen. "I think people loved being involved in that process."

The Color will be releasing some of the new music over the next few months, and they hope to be able to tour to support the album when it



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Jordan Janzen belts out a tune during The Color's two-week recording session recently.

comes out in full, likely this fall.

It will be nice to get back on stage, Janzen says. Last year certainly didn't shape up the way any of the band members had expected when it came to concerts.

"It was supposed to look very busy for us. We were looking at probably 120 shows, so when COVID hit we had to cancel all of our spring and summer touring plans," Janzen says.

That didn't stop them from entertaining—in addition to a drive-thru concert near Portage in September, The Color also hosted a couple of on-line Christmas shows last month.

Janzen says they have plans for more streaming performances in the months ahead.

Check out the band's website or social media pages for more details.

Where are they now??? Catching up with Ross Swanton

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 lived in Carman for a good portion of my life. I was on the farm until 14 then into town until 19.

Q. Did you attend school here?

I went to all the schools Carman offered from nursery school through to my graduation from Carman Collegiate.

Q. What did you do for a living here?

I must have mowed lawns for half of the town during the summer breaks as well as the occasional landscaping jobs with my Dad Jack. After school I was a server at the Walnut Street Tea Room which at the time was owned by my Mom Janey and my Aunt Mary-Ann Johnston. Around 2007 I worked for Dr. Aaron Snidal in Carman at Dufferin Dental Centre.

Q. What did your family do for a liv-

ing here?

Mom had a few jobs most notably in my memory as a teller at the TD bank then later she was a Health Records Tech at the Carman Hospital. When she was done with the Tea Room, she made the move to Newman Hand Insurance where you will still find her today. My Dad was (and still is) a Jack of all trades. He farmed for most of his life and did some landscaping as I mentioned. Side bar: I thought my name was Jackson for years because everyone called me Jack's son!

Q. What activities did you participate in?

Hockey and playing goal! Through high school I played for the Cougar Zone 4 Champs of '93, '94 and '95. After grad I joined their coaching staff and played goal for various Rec teams in town.

Q. What got you to leave Carman?

Initially school was the reason and I took my fair share of it! I attended the Mid Ocean School of Media Arts where I graduated with certification in Audio Engineering. Then I joined the Tourism Careers for Youth program and graduated as a Reservation Sales Agent with

a background in Food and Beverage as well as receiving certification from Manitoba Best Customer Service.

Q. Did that make you move around lots?

All that went down in Wpg but I was back in Carman briefly before moving to Morden employed at Pembina Valley Music Centre in Winkler.

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

I stayed at Winkler for 10 years while coaching goalies for Morden's high school team, play-ing for tons of rec teams as well as running my own goal-tending school in Morden. That led me to a coaching job for the PV Twisters of the MMJHL, goal coach for Directors Cup teams and an evaluator for Hockey Canada. During all this I'd been playing guitar for a local band at local bars in the area. Eventually I started to write and formed a band called Needlefish in 1999 that released a couple of albums and were very popular in the music scene. Other bands followed and I was playing cover songs on what was called the A-Circuit in Wpg.

Q. What do you do now?

Well you asked! After 18 years play-



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ross Swanton

ing music and coaching hockey, I was approached by a few fellow musicians to form a band with the intent of going overseas. At the same time I was asked to join the Men's Swiss National Team as goal coach. At truly a crossroads mo-

Continued on page 17

Manitoba Public Insurance reveals Top 5 frauds in 2020

Submitted by MPI

While the COVID pandemic disrupted much of normal goings-on in our province, fraudsters didn't miss a beat in their efforts to defraud Manitoba Public Insurance and its customers. This year's Top 5 Fraud list highlights bogus claims, the effective use of forensic tools and astute MPI staff.

"MPI releases its annual top five fraud list to raise awareness about the costs related to auto insurance fraud about \$50 per customer yearly," said MPI's Chief Operating Officer, Curtis Wennberg. "The list is compiled based on the unique circumstances of each fraud, financial savings to MPI ratepayer, and investigative excellence in unearthing the fraudsters."

Anyone with information about auto insurance fraud is encouraged to call the Manitoba Public Insurance TIPS Line: 204-985-8477 or toll-free 1-877-985-8477. All calls are anonymous.

Suspicious claims are handled by MPI's Special Investigation Unit (SIU). As of the end of this November, claims savings are more than \$13 million with the SIU closing nearly 1,000 suspicious investigations.

No. 1 "Burning Up Debt"

The insured made a claim with MPI, reporting that his new travel trailer had been stolen out of a storage yard located within a community in rural Manitoba. That same morning, the travel trailer was found 10-kilometres outside of town burned to the ground and still smoldering on a gravel road.

MPI's SIU investigator immediately went to the burn site where he took photos and began determining the likely route taken by the thief. While travelling back to his office, the investigator noticed a building which had a surveillance camera pointing towards

the highway. The surveillance footage showed the trailer being towed around midnight by a pickup truck, which closely resembled the same year and model of the trailer's owner.

The investigation also revealed the trailer's owner was experiencing financial issues.

During the interview with the SIU investigator, the insured denied having any involvement with the theft. However, he was not willing to allow

MPI access to his truck so the investigator could download data from it which would help to determine where the vehicle was on the night of the theft.

A few days after that interview the insured contacted MPI and withdrew his claim, signing a waiver of release. Estimated claims savings to MPI was \$37,000.

No. 2 "Creative Accounting"

After being injured in a crash, the woman eventually returned to her job on a part-time basis unable to work fulltime due to lifting and other physical demands. However, she was entitled to receive MPI's Income Replacement Indemnity (IRI) entitlement which was calculated specifically from submitted income tax documentation.

As time passed, an MPI IRI calculator noticed an irregularity in a letter and email allegedly coming from an accounting firm, which the woman had submitted. After a conversation with the accounting firm it was confirmed both the email and letter were fabricated and false. Investigators then did an extensive review and discovered numerous anomalies relating to the woman's income tax information. It was noted that many of the documents appeared to have been deliberately edited and included entries that

were misaligned, entries in varying sized fonts, incomplete and incorrect field entries, wrong totals, and in two different years she reported the exact same income to the cent.

With all this information, the woman's benefits were terminated resulting in an estimated savings to MPI and its customers of nearly \$800,000: a figure based on future payouts. MPI is also seeking to recover \$100,000.

No. 3 "Wascally Wabbit!"

The driver claimed a rabbit suddenly popped out of the bushes and ran in front of his vehicle. Startled, the driver said he applied the brakes and while attempting to avoid the little animal crashed head-on into a light standard. The vehicle sustained extensive front-end damage.

However, the driver's story had a number of irregularities which caught the attention of a seasoned SIU investigator. The investigation revealed the man, 20, was experiencing significant financial issues, exasperated by a large vehicle payment.

A download from the vehicle's Crash Data Recorder showed the vehicle was accelerating at the time of the crash, contradicting the man's story that he was braking before he hit the pole. With all the evidence in hand, the claim was denied. Claims savings to MPI and its customers was \$31,000.

No. 4 "Mr. Volunteer"

The man claimed he was physically unable to do his demanding, physical labour job after getting into a collision. He soon began receiving Income Replacement payments from MPI. However, as the months moved on, an MPI case manager began to have suspicions about their claimant. The file was then forwarded to MPI's SIU.

The investigation revealed Mr. Volunteer, 33, regularly worked at a Winnipeg retail outlet including assisting customers. Unbeknownst to Mr. Volunteer, he actually served an MPI investigator and several others who were doing surveillance.

When confronted with all this information, Mr. Volunteer denied he was working, but explained he was "volunteering" his services. The man's benefits were terminated resulting in an estimated savings to MPI and its customers of nearly \$300,000.

No. 5 "Never Know Who's Watching"

After being involved in a crash, the Winnipeg man claimed he was too traumatized to drive and even had trouble being a passenger. Combined with a number of physical injuries, the man could not resume his job as a real estate agent and began receiving Income Replacement benefits.

As time moved on, several irregularities began to surface for the MPI case manager, who then moved the file to MPI's SIU. The subsequent investigation, which involved surveillance, revealed that the man had returned to his job as a real estate agent regularly showing houses to clients, dealing with contractors on various renovation sites and driving to all parts of the city; showing no signs of distress.

On one occasion, the case manager called the man, who whispered over the phone he couldn't speak because he was at the doctor's office. During this conversation, the man was in fact showing a house with clients, while also being observed by investigators.

With all this evidence in hand, the claim was denied. Total claims savings to MPI was nearly \$110,000.

> ROSS SWANTON, FROM PG. 16

ment I choose the band which had just been given a contract in the country of Bahian (Middle East). Overseas music is unlike anything I'd experienced as we play 6 nights a week, 4 shows a night for anywhere from 3-11 months in the same club. That contract in Bahian lasted 7-8 months and then we moved to a club in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. From there to Dubai, Bangkok, Surabaya (Indonesia) then back to Dubai where I live and work as a freelance musician. I have been fortunate to have played on countless albums for artists from all over the world. Four of which hit No.1 on iTunes! I think I am nearing the 3000 show mark with my band The Distillers as we have played in Oman and India to name a

couple. This pandemic has affected all Professional musicians and martial arts schools great-ly. Social distancing does not allow for close contact sports so I have not been able to practice or teach Jiu Jitsu during this time. We in the band essentially operate as a small business so with music venues closed, there is zero income.

Q. What passes your leisure time now? Hobbies?

I'm currently training in the martial arts of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu which has had an incredible impact on my life both physically and mentally. As of 2019 I graduated from white to blue belt and now have my own Fundamental class teaching beginners this amazing art. At 43 I live a healthy quality life style com-

plete with a diet that contributed to 40 lb weight loss and have had no alcohol in 6 ½ years. I also run a Strength & Conditioning program for people who want to lose weight, get in better shape or those just seeking to improve their overall quality of life through physical fitness.

Q. Do you ever return to Carman?

When I am able to afford the trip I do. I get asked often "when are you coming back?" which I reply "when are you coming to Dubai?" lol. The expense keeps my trips home years apart.

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

I recall fondly riding bikes around town, playing street hockey all year round, curling, golf-ing and winning Championships with the Cougars. Oh I can't forget spending time listening to stories told by my grandparents Bill

and Betty Peasgood and Jessie Swanton. Trips to Knockabouts for jeans, the family meals at Syl's or Chicken Chef and the Carman Fair. That's where it all started for me playing at the Midnight Madness town wide sale. The memories go on and on.

Q. Any final words for the readers?

I may be gone now and living half way around the world but I'll always be "from Carman". It has an identity and style of its own and I can recall after my parents visited Dubai, my band mates said "you can tell that you are from the same place". It's true so love your town and be proud of it. Carman is a special place to call Home.

If you wish to reach this former Carmanite or know someone that would be fun to catch up with, please send me an email at denjohnyoung@gmail.com

Life and Times at the Boyne Theatre keep reeling...part 4

By Dennis Young

In the Nov. 26 issue of the *Carman Dufferin Standard*, I left you hanging with Bob Diemert's notice the Boyne Theatre was closing as of January '73. Then I back tracked with some great tidbits I found in *The Valley Leader* archives from older days and they ran in the Dec. 3 issue. Now we are in 1973 folks and things were looking up in the movie business!

In April of 1973 there was an announcement in *The Leader*: "The Boyne Theatre, closed down in January, and will be back in business early May. The business was sold to Ray Thevenot of Winnipeg and Delphis Girouard of Somerset. Mr. Girouard has been in the movie theatre business for 37 years and operates the home theatre in Somerset. The two owners are busy renovating and cleaning in preparation for the installation of new chairs. Four hundred new theatre chairs will be installed hopeful of completing their work by early May. The projection and screen equipment in the theatre is as good as any in Metro Winnipeg say the owners. They feel that there is a need for a movie theatre in Carman and are looking forward to providing this service in the field of entertainment."

Since both owners have since passed on, I tracked down siblings and was able to get some memories from a son James Thevenot of Winnipeg. Here are his recollections of his time in Carman.

Yes my Dad partnered with my Uncle Gibette (he went by this not Delphis) who at the time owned the theatre in Somerset. His wife was a bookkeeper who took care of the books. When we took possession of the place, the chairs were in very rough shape so my Dad bought chairs from the Capital Theatre in Winnipeg. As a family I remember sanding all the arm rests and reupholstering the cushions. The seating was around 300.

The Theatre had a large stage in the front with a real velvet hung curtain and the floors were hardwood. Upstairs along with two huge projectors and a spotlight for the stage, there were living quarters with a balcony that overlooked Main Street and the river. I remember it being very ornate inside with explosion marks and starbursts made out of wood in the front with very fancy lights on the sides. We finally opened Aug. 16.

It was a family business, we all had jobs. Dad sold tickets and worked the projector after training from Grubber. My Mum, sister and older brothers ran the concession stand. Our younger brother and I were the ushers taking the tickets for people coming in and showing them to their seats. If they had to use the washroom or came late we showed them with flashlights.

As a family we commuted from the city on the weekends. The theatre was only open Friday, Saturday and Sunday for 8:30 showings. There were matinees during holidays and we never showed any X rated films more R rated if any.

At Christmas the Carman Band would come and play carols for the afternoon matinees in front of the stage. Santa Claus was also on the stage for the kids. The Easter Bunny even made an appearance once. The first time my brothers and I recall anyone clapping in the theatre at the end of a movie was for Jaws, when the shark was destroyed.

One last memory not to do with the actual theatre was when the UFO was spotted around Carman. We were contacted by the Town to turn off our



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Boyne Theatre had 300 seats.

outside lights so everyone could hang out on Main Street to maybe get a glimpse of the UFO. As a family we sat out on that balcony that evening glaring into the sky.

It was a great experience for me which was likely what shaped me to become self-employed all my life. I now deal with people at the family business called Six Pines (<https://sixpineshaunted.com/>), an agriculture tourism business in the RM of Rosser. Carman was a great town with friendly people. A great experience growing up.

What great reviews those were and for a while the theatre did enjoy a revived interest. However after just two years by 1976 it was up for sale again. Threatened by television advancements such as Beta and VHS, a new owner took possession Nov. 15 with optimism and enthusiasm. "There is more to a night at the theatre than the movie" contended Bob Holloway then.

Mr. Holloway felt that the patrons of the Boyne Theatre come not only to see the show but to socialize and meet. Recognizing this aspect of a night at the theatre, Mr. Holloway said "I will endeavour to develop features which will enhance that social outing."

He had a number of plans, including live entertainment, for the business some of which were long term while others would begin to take place in the near future. He hoped to make The Boyne as attractive as possible and would be changing the décor of the interior and exterior and he did that with a vengeance. Bob had a unique background and one that would complement his venture into the theatre business. He was a Bachelor of Arts grad that eventually did publicity for the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and was the managing director for the Contemporary Dancers. However, he always had a desire to own a farm so after purchasing land east of Sperling, he looked for another business that was allied to the type of work he had been doing. When the Boyne came up for sale he saw it as an ideal opportunity that he could do while running his farm.

When asked what type of movies his patrons might expect to see he filled *The Leader* in "The individual theatre owner has very little to say about what films will be appearing. In order to get the best possible rates the independent theatres owners must deal through an agent. My agent or broker was Barry Meyers of Winnipeg and he will be dealing with handles about 150 theatres and in turn deals with the distributors. The theatre owner usually receives about a month's notice in advance as to what mov-

ies will be coming his way. Costs varied depending on how hot the movie was. It was a per cent for most first run films and a flat \$25-\$50 for others."

Apparently owners may on occasion make some changes to the schedule if the agent has a movie that he will interchange for one the owner feels is undesirable. However that could only be possible once or twice a year under special circumstances. So basically owners showed the movies they were provided so end of story...or film.

I caught up to Bob recently, who is now in Headingley, to ask him to jog his memory for me. Who did you have for staff in those days? "The projectionist who I inherited when I bought the theatre was a guy everyone called Grubber. A couple of the kids who worked for us at the counter were Evelyn Brogden from Brunkild and Carman's Barbara McEachern. One of our neighbors near Sperling, Marian Baleja, also helped us out from time to time but there were others too."

So did you have any problems along the way Bob to mention? "Keeping the roof from leaking was a never ending struggle and the two floods filled the place with mud. It was good business for a short time we had it and we were prepared for its ephemeral prospects."

In 1984 Bob had had enough. The last movie was on Jan. 22 and the feature was Sean Connery's James Bond in *Never Say Never Again*.

"The movie business was good to us" Holloway stated. "And we very much appreciated the support we received and getting to know so many fine people. It was relatively simple but satisfying work while it was a money maker (his \$2.50 a head was only \$2.15 higher since opening day in 1938) but I don't think it can be profitable as a theatre operation."

With no local interest and with even less interest from across Canada he drew up plans for renovations into firstly apartments then office space. Those plans were shelved as negotiations with a Fannys-telle farmer were completed by February 1986.

"I sold the Boyne to Otto Wolfe who wanted the lot to build a butcher shop for his son. There is a little bit of sadness at seeing a theatre coming down, especially a landmark, but I was governed by the economics."

Bob slowly began gutting the interior. Seats were pulled up and arranged along the wall for sale "\$15 or so bucks apiece." Eventually the majority of them sold to a group for the Notre Dame arena while the projectors were shipped to Vancouver.

While Otto was circumspect about what will eventually be built on the site, he was adamant it has got to go. "The whole thing is coming off." The whole thing included a neighboring wooden building (lastly Bottoms Up) that hung over the river. That would leave a 60 x 120 foot lot for him to develop.

Or not to develop as today the lot is still empty except for our memories of.... the big screen, bright lights, yelling Grubber, sneaking in beer, hot popcorn, the flashlight guy, holding hands, causing a ruckus, hanging around outside, constant traffic up and down aisles, some stolen kisses, classic feature films, rolling bottles to the front, ever present same Santa, musty seats, smoking in the washrooms, the hustle and bustle afterwards, that lady asking for your TICKET and on and on. And if you have some memories I would love to share them with all our readers as we have from other past articles.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Wade Allison ready for pro debut in upcoming NHL season

By Ty Dilello

Roland's Wade Allison signed an entry-level deal with the Philadelphia Flyers this summer after four years of college hockey.

Allison recently completed four years of college at Western Michigan University in the United States. A second round (52nd overall) draft pick of the Philadelphia Flyers in 2016, the 6'2" right winger is set to make his professional debut in the club's organization when the upcoming 2020-21 season gets underway.

Allison got started in hockey at a young age in his hometown of Roland (Myrtle) and spent many years playing his minor hockey all across southern Manitoba.

"I got into hockey at the age of five but started skating when I was four," recalled Allison. "Pretty much everyone in Canada living in a small town has to play hockey or at least try it, and I was no different as I fell in love with it right away. My dad built a rink on the farm, so my siblings and I were able to get out and skate around all the time, many times when it was -30 out there!"

Seeking to improve his development as a player, Allison left Roland at fifteen to join the Omaha 'AAA' Lancers 16U team in Nebraska.

"I met David Wilkie, the Omaha coach during the summer before I went down to the United States. Honestly, I just thought it would be a cool experience to change things up and see where it goes. I was kind of shrugged off by the WHL at 16, so I figured I might as well try this."



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Roland's Wade Allison has recently signed an entry-level contract with the NHL's Philadelphia Flyers. He is set to join the team at their upcoming training camp in early January.

Luckily for Allison, he stayed with a wonderful billet family and ended up having a monster season in Omaha where he put up a bunch of points and started to turn up on NHL scouts' radars.

"Going to live in someone else's house you don't know can be a very odd situation when you're fifteen years old, especially in another country. It's a long way from home, but luckily for me, I ended up with great people who took great care of me."

From Omaha, Allison latched onto the USHL's Tri-City Storm, where he spent the next two seasons. He won a USHL championship in his second year (2015-16) and was named MVP of the playoffs after scoring 16 points in 11 games. Allison was then selected by the Philadelphia Flyers at the 2016 NHL Entry Draft.

"I loved Omaha and the people around me and ended up having a great year where I moved up to the USHL with the Tri-City Storm. I strug-

gled my first year with playing, school and everything going on. That first year was a struggle, adversity hit, but I learned a lot and had some success after that."

Wanting to go the college route, Allison earned a scholarship to Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He has spent the past four years playing at the college level and improving his game even more.

"I really enjoyed my time at Western Michigan. I met a lot of lifelong friends, had a lot of fun, made a ton of memories and of course, studied to learn a few things. Playing at the Division 1 level, it was such a high level of hockey that you have no choice but to improve. It was challenging every day, and it came with a lot of up and downs, but I wouldn't trade it the experience for the world."

On March 27, 2020, Allison signed an entry-level contract with the NHL's Philadelphia Flyers. The 23-year-old will head to the Flyers training camp in a couple of weeks. He is expected to begin in the AHL with the Flyers affiliate, the Lehigh Valley Phantoms.

"I cannot wait to get things going in Philadelphia. It's been too long without hockey. I'm excited because this is the next step that I have to take in trying to live my dream. It's very nerve-racking, but it's what's going to have me grow the most as a person and a player. This is my opportunity; it's everything I've worked for. I'm just going to go out, do my best, control what I can control and let the rest take care of itself."

Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League committed to restarting its season

By Brian Bowman

The Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League announced on its website last week that it remains committed to restarting its season.

The league said it has no intention of cancelling the 2020-21 season.

But the league was set a blow last Friday when the province extended the red level restrictions to at least Jan. 22.

"I know our players and coaches are chomping at the bit," said league commissioner Levi Taylor last Thursday

afternoon. "We would really like to get back on the ice. We don't want to waste a year of development for these kids, not only on the ice but off the ice with their social and physical development. We want to get this started as soon as possible and we will do so safely as the province reopens our facilities."

The league schedule will have a much different look this season, which includes the Kenora Thistles not being part of the league this year due to travel restrictions imposed by

the Province of Ontario.

"Our plan is to go back to our divisional format," Taylor said. "There are three divisions and Norman is the outlier and we will play games within those groupings for the rest of the season."

Taylor said a set number of games has not yet been discussed. It depends on when the province opens up facilities, he said.

"When that happens we'll attempt to get in as many games as possible before summer," he said.

Taylor said teams would need a two-week window for training camp and maybe an exhibition game or two.

"Teams will want to get back playing meaningful games as soon as possible," Taylor reasoned.

The U18 AAA league playoffs usually begin in February and end in April with the Telus Cup Western Regionals but the league is prepared to extend their season into May or potentially June this year.

WHL commits to 2020-21 regular season

Staff

The Western Hockey League announced last Friday that their board of governors have made a commitment to play a 2020-21 regular season.

The start date for the season will be determined once final approval has

been received from the Health Authorities in each provincial and state jurisdiction and it is anticipated the approvals will be received soon.

All models and schedule formats are being considered by the WHL to ensure a season is provided for the play-

ers. The 2020-21 WHL regular season will consist of 24 games.

"The Western Hockey League is committed to providing a season for WHL players," said WHL commissioner Ron Robison. "This commitment ensures WHL players will re-

ceive the opportunity to compete at the highest level in the system and continue to pursue their hockey goals in the world's finest development league for junior hockey players."

Hockey Manitoba extends COVID-19 restrictions

From Hockey Manitoba's website

Based on the announcement made by Manitoba's Chief Provincial Public Health Officer last Friday, current public health restrictions will continue until January 22.

Hockey teams and individuals resid-

ing in the Provincial Response Level: Critical (Red) will be ineligible to participate in hockey programming and will be reviewed as the province removes the restrictions from Provincial Response Level: Critical (Red) to Restricted (Orange).

"The health and safety of our community and Hockey Manitoba members is of utmost importance and we will return to play when it is safe to do so," read a statement. "Physical distancing, mask wearing, proper hygiene, and screening are necessary

steps that must be practiced in order to return to hockey safely and will assist in reducing the risk to the hockey community."

For more information on provincial restrictions visit Hockey Manitoba's website.

Nominations for Sport Manitoba Coaching Awards being accepted

Submitted by Sport Manitoba

The annual Sport Manitoba Coaching Awards presented by Club Regent Casino & Event Centre recognize and celebrate the outstanding achievements and significant contributions coaches have made to their athletes and their sport through coaching. This year, the award recipients for 2020-2021 will be selected based on coaches' accomplishments over their entire careers.

Coaches are a cornerstone of all sport programs and through leadership, teamwork, encouragement, character development, and countless other teachings, they build better people.

"Coaches play an essential role in the

sport system and have a significant impact on the lives of athletes," said Janet McMahon, Sport Manitoba's Interim President & CEO. "The Sport Manitoba Coaching Awards celebrate Manitoba's passionate coaches who have dedicated themselves to developing athletes not only in sport, but also in life. That's why it's so important that we recognize their achievements and countless contributions to sport throughout their careers."

The 2021 event will take place entirely on social media on April 6. Our nominees' stories from their incredible careers in coaching will be featured on Sport Manitoba's Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter feeds.

Nominations for the following cat-

egories are open to the public. The deadline to submit nominations online is this Friday.

Major award categories

Vince Leah Award (Active Start/Fundamentals athletes)

Coaches training grassroots athletes of any age

Konica Minolta Dr. Jack Hunt Award (Learn to Train athletes)

Coaches training athletes developing competitive skills and preparing for regional or provincial competitions

Janet Arnott Award (Train to Train athletes)

Coaches training athletes who compete at the Canada Games

Peter Williamson Award (Train to

Compete-Train to Win athletes)

Coaches training high-performance athletes who compete at national or international levels.

Peter Dick Award (School System athletes)

Coaches training athletes at all grade levels in the school system who coach as an extracurricular activity

Global News Active for Life Award

Coaches training athletes who focus on achieving health and fitness for life

Sport Manitoba Coaching will also recognize coaches who have dedicated a minimum of 25 years to coaching at any level, and those who have coached at international events in 2020.

MJHL planning update for a 2021 restart

Staff

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League continues to prepare for a restart and has developed a Restart Action Plan that will be initiated once it is deemed safe to do so and provincial restrictions allow for it.

In addition to the established and extensive MJHL Return to Play Guidelines already in place, a number of key elements have been identified in the MJHL Restart Action Plan to allow for a safe and responsible return to hockey.

"Our goal remains the same as in September, to provide a meaningful development season for the players through knowingly very challenging circumstances while continuing to exhaust all options in order to do so in a safe, structured and sensible manner," said MJHL commissioner Kevin

Saurette.

"The MJHL and all member teams will continue to meet each challenge head on in what has already been a monumental effort by all involved. The health and safety of our players, staff, stakeholders and communities remains our No. 1 priority as we carefully navigate a responsible and beneficial pathway to restart training and on-ice competition."

The MJHL remains optimistic that teams will have the opportunity to provide on-ice training activity for their players during the latter half of January with return to game play targeted for early-to-mid February.

Key Elements of a Restart Action Plan:

Players/staff to complete a 14-day self-isolation period before participating in team activities.

Players/staff to follow detailed travel procedures before reporting to the community/organization.

Teams to provide a 10 to 14-day modified training period for players/staff once the 14-day self-isolation phase has been completed in advance of resuming games.

All new players added to the roster would be required to complete a 14-day self-isolation period before participating in any team activities.

Each team will play a minimum of two games a week against the same team and will play the same team a minimum four times in a row over consecutive weekends.

Each team will only play teams from the same public health region, same division and/or of closest proximity based on regional restrictions at that time.

Each team will schedule games to be played during the weekend (Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday).

Regular season will be extended until the end of April to allow for further schedule and game play flexibility.

Playoff format will be reviewed over the coming weeks.

The MJHL successfully returned to conducting on-ice activity in July and has completed over 60 games since game play began in late September.

The MJHL will continue to consult with Public Health and Hockey Manitoba over the coming weeks to determine when it is appropriate to initiate the MJHL Restart Action Plan for a return to hockey.

The MJHL Board of Governors will meet this month to consider potential start dates and further restart activation planning.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Chicken, Spinach and Grape Pita

1 1/2 cups shredded, cooked chicken (about 8 ounces)

1 cup red California grapes, sliced

1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese

4 whole-wheat pita breads (6 1/2 inches each), warmed and halved

In small skillet over medium-high heat, toast pine nuts, stirring constantly until toasted, about 5 minutes. Transfer to bowl and let cool. In large bowl, whisk lemon juice, shallot, olive oil, red pepper flakes, sumac, salt and pepper. Add spinach, chicken, grapes, feta and pine nuts; toss to mix. Stuff into pita breads and serve.

Servings: 4
2 tablespoons pine nuts
2 tablespoons lemon juice
2 tablespoons minced shallot
3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 pinch red pepper flakes
1/4 teaspoon ground sumac
salt
freshly ground black pepper
1 package (5-6 ounces) fresh baby spinach, washed and dried



Grape and Salmon Power Salad

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

1 pinch cayenne pepper

1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil

Cook barley according to package directions. Drain and cool.

Tenderize kale by blanching in boiling water 2-3 seconds or microwaving 1 minute. Rinse pieces in cold water to stop cooking; squeeze dry. Fluff and uncrimp dry kale pieces with fingers. In medium bowl, mix barley, kale, grapes, salmon and walnuts.

To make dressing: In small bowl, whisk lemon juice, garlic, salt, pepper and cayenne. Gradually mix in olive oil. Pour onto salad and fold gently to combine.

Servings: 6
3/4 cup pearled barley
3 cups firmly packed kale leaves, torn and sliced into ribbons
1 cup halved red or black seedless California grapes
8 ounces cold, cooked salmon, skin and bones removed
1/2 cup walnuts, lightly toasted and coarsely chopped
Dressing:
1/4 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 clove garlic, mashed



Quinoa Salad with Orange Cilantro Salad Dressing

1 grapefruit, cut into pieces (optional)

1 lime, juice only

1/2 avocado, diced (optional)

1/4 cup feta cheese (optional)

1/4 cup diced red onion (optional)

To make dressing: In food processor, pulse orange soda, lime juice, olive oil, cilantro, avocado and garlic until consistency is smooth.

To make quinoa salad: Cook quinoa according to package directions and let cool.

Once quinoa is cool, add to bowl with orange pieces, if desired; grapefruit pieces, if desired; lime juice; avocado, if desired; feta cheese, if desired; and diced onion, if desired. Top with orange cilantro salad dressing.

Yield: 2 cups
Dressing:
1/2 cup Zevia Orange Soda
1/4 cup lime juice
1/2 cup olive oil
1 cup fresh cilantro
1/2 avocado
1 teaspoon garlic

Quinoa Salad:
1 cup quinoa
leafy greens (optional)
1 orange, cut into pieces (optional)



AsktheMoneyLady.ca

Could you tell me how interest income is taxed? My advisor wants me to switch my portfolio, but I am reluctant to do so.

Thanks, Melanie

Great question Melanie,

Many Canadians don't want to risk their retirement portfolios to the uncertainty of the stock market and instead put their money into interest savings structures like GICs to reduce risk and maintain their capital. Others, especially those who have financial planners to guide them, put their money into dividend producing guided stock portfolios. So, which is better? Is your advisor right to suggest something different? Let's compare the two options and you decide.

Dividend income gets preferential tax treatments in the form of a "dividend tax credit." Interest income is

taxed the same as ordinary income and is therefore taxed at your marginal tax rate based on where you live in Canada. It is necessary to figure out the correct multiplier to calculate the additional amount of interest income you would have to earn, to then equate this after-tax interest income to the amount of after-tax income retained from an eligible dividend. Below is a list of each province, the top marginal tax rates for 2021 and the multiplier.

Let's take the first one - Alberta: Eligible dividends are taxed at an effective top marginal rate of 34.31% and interest is taxed at the top rate of 48%. Therefore, an Alberta investor would have to earn approximately \$1.2633 more in interest income for every \$1 of eligible dividend income in the same after-tax position.

Investor A: \$1,263.27 interest income x 0.48 = \$606.37 taxes, leaving \$656.90 as income (\$1,263.27-\$606.37=\$656.90)

Investor B: \$1,000.00 eligible dividend x 0.3431 = \$343.10 taxes, leaving \$656.90 as income (\$1,000-\$343.10=\$656.90)

***Investor A has to earn more in their investment to pay more taxes to end up with the same income in 2021.

Top Personal Marginal Tax Rates by Province for 2021:

	Interest/Ordinary Income	Eligible Dividend	Multiplier
Alberta	48%	34.31%	1.2633
British Columbia	53.50%	36.54%	1.3647
Manitoba	50.40%	37.78%	1.2544
New Brunswick	53.30%	33.51%	1.4238
Newfoundland	51.30%	42.61%	1.1784
Nova Scotia	54.00%	41.58%	1.2700
Ontario	53.53%	39.34%	1.3054
PEI	51.37%	34.22%	1.3527
Quebec	53.31%	40.11%	1.2827
Saskatchewan	47.50%	29.64%	1.3402
Yukon	48.00%	28.93%	1.3667

You know I am going to recommend you chose the dividend income strategy; that being said, I also know a lot of older Canadians are worried about the markets and some have little to no tolerance for market swings. Why not consider talking to your financial planner about a blue-chip dividend portfolio. It doesn't hurt to look at other options to make money wisely. No one wants to pay more taxes than they have to.

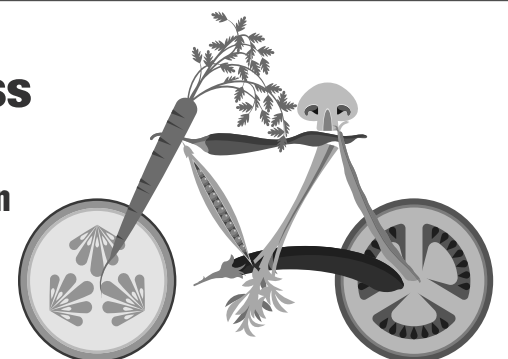
Good Luck and Best Wishes,

Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author of the best-selling book "How to Retire Debt Free & Wealthy" and a new book Don't Panic - How to Manage your Finances and Financial Anxieties During and After the Coronavirus" available at all bookstores across Canada. If you have a money question, please email on website: www.askthemoneylady.ca

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Laura Znak, Controller
LINEAR GRAIN INC.

Fax: (204) -745-6573

Email: lznak@lineargrain.com



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- Demonstrated knowledge of regulations and freight issues
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- Strong organization and multi-tasking skills

More details available to position candidates.

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- (no customers in office due to Covid restrictions)
- Data support and filing for manufacturing, freight operations, accounting, etc.

This position reports directly to the Plant Manager

This position should possess the following skills/knowledge:

- Self-motivated • Energetic
- dependability • Ability to learn new skills
- Team oriented • Basic Mathematical skills
- Professionalism • Strong interpersonal skills
- Intermediate computer skills (MS Office)
- Strong organization and time management

Education Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent
Preferred Experience:

- 1-2 years office/computer experience
- Effective written and oral skills

More details available to position candidates.

Please send job applications along with resume to:

Gord Unger gord.unger@ads-pipe.com

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MISCELLANEOUS

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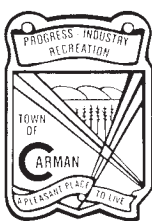
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TOWN OF CARMAN PUBLIC NOTICE TRANSFER STATION HOURS

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1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**
**Tuesday and Thursday
CLOSED**
**Saturday
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

TOWN OF CARMAN
AND RM OF DUFFERIN
will be accepting bids for
the following equipment.



Vehicle Information - 1986 Hahn Saulsbury Rescue with 21239 Miles. The vehicle has a Cummins Diesel Engine with Automatic Transmission. There is a stainless steel walk-in rescue body; 30 KW PTO generator. The equipment will be sold "as-is" and "where-is". A complete package on the equipment is available by contacting 204-745-2443.

All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope with the title 'Request for Offer- Hahn' on the outside of the envelope and mailed to the Town of Carman Office, Box 160, Carman Manitoba R0G 0J0. Bids must be received no later than noon on Friday, January 29, 2021.

OBITUARY



Margaret Isabell Tjaden

With sadness we announce the death of Isabell Tjaden on January 7, 2021 at Carman Memorial Hospital.

Isabell was born Margaret Isabell Robertson, in Whitewood SK on March 6, 1934, the only child of Cassie Isaacs and Allan Robertson. Her mother died within several days of her birth. Isabell was raised with several families, including her grandparents and an aunt and uncle at Whitewood and her Aunt Iris (Walter) Miller and their children Louise (Vern Axten) and Gayle (Carole Miller) at Minton SK. Later she went to Alexander, MB to live with her father and Vera Butterfield and family (Jim, Fern, June, Mazie, Dale, Doug, Frank, Marlene). Her strong resilient spirit was forged in these early experiences, helping to make her the kind, compassionate, gentle person we were blessed to know and love.

She completed secondary school at Alexander and moved to Brandon where she attended teacher's college. She taught in Flin Flon and Elphinstone before moving to Sperling to teach in 1957. She married Bill Tjaden in 1962 and joined the Tjaden family (Anna and John Tjaden: Helen (Gordon Stewart), Mona (Randy Bilton), Bob (Marguerite DeMason), Jim (Dorothy Hodgson), and Ken (Marlene Duvenaud). Bill and Isabell made their home on the Tjaden family farm where they continued to live for the rest of her life. Her nieces and nephews (Tjadens, Axtens, Millers, and Butterfields) share fond memories of time spent at the farm.

Bill and Isabell had three children: Karen; an infant son who died at birth in 1964; and Susan. Karen and Sue grew up surrounded by love, learning valuable life lessons every day as Isabell and Bill shared the work of farming and raising a family while contributing to the Sperling community. We are so thankful for Isabell's dedication to her family and her steadfast example of generous service, compassion for others and commitment to justice and fairness for all. We know we were very privileged to grow up in a loving stable home, with lots of love, plenty of healthy food, time to play outside, high expectations and a strong sense of our own purpose and place in the world.

Bill and Isabell's family grew with the marriage of Karen to Rob McClement (1989) and Sue to Scott Day (1992) and four grandchildren: Anna Tjaden-McClement (Ryan Koltalo), Alex Day (Ben Jones), Paul Tjaden-McClement (Erika Rempel) and Katie Tjaden-McClement. The McClement and Day families welcomed Isabell and Bill wholeheartedly into their families, creating many more strong connections and shared memories. We needed all of this support when Sue was diagnosed with brain cancer in 1995, and following Sue's death on December 21, 1999. Sue lived by the motto Carpe diem and together we learned to make the most of every day as we accompanied Sue, Scott and Alex through those years that were jam-packed with laughter, tears and so much love!

Isabell and Bill were very active in the lives of all four of their grandchildren, and they were especially involved in caring for Alex at Sperling and Deloraine. Anna, Alex, Paul and Katie feel so fortunate to have grown up guided by Isabell's love and example and they will remember her as a gentle, kind, honest, generous, intelligent, quick-witted, hard working, progressive, grounded person and overall a shining example of how to be in this world.

Isabell was a faithful member of Sperling and Carman United Churches and Sperling UCW. Isabell quietly and competently contributed to the life and well being of the Sperling community and the wider world. Although she lived with heart disease for a number of years, she always had a good heart.

Thank you to all the young hockey and baseball players, coaches, parents, volunteers and staff at arenas and ball parks all over Manitoba (and beyond) who provided countless hours of fun and enjoyment. As an avid spectator of amateur sport and an active participant in life, Isabell taught us by example that while it is fun to watch the score board, the most important thing will always be how you play the game.

We invite you to join us in remembering Isabell's life in a particular way on her birthday March 6 - read a book, work on a crossword puzzle, enjoy a hockey game, phone someone or write a letter, enjoy a winter walk, play a game with someone you love, or anything else that reminds you of the importance of enjoying each day as a gift and being the best ordinary person you can be!

We look forward to a service and gathering in person when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, may our celebration of life be ongoing as we give thanks for each day. Remember her well in thought, word and deed.

Thank you to all the staff of Carman Community Health Centre and Carman Memorial Hospital and Dr. Andrew Morris for the excellent medical care and your kindness over the years.

Memorial donations may be made to a charity of one's choice.

Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ERNEST WILHELM SIERPINSKI, also known as ERNIE SIERPINSKI and ERNEST WILLIAM SIERPINSKI, late of the Town of Carman, in the Province of Manitoba, deceased:

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, 100-105 Fort Whyte Way, Oak Bluff, Manitoba, R4G 0B1, on or before March 6, 2021.

Dated at the Rural Municipality of Macdonald, in Manitoba, on January 5, 2021.

CONTRAST LAW
Attention: Alex Bainov
Solicitors for the Executor

DENNIS' WISH LIST!

*I am preparing stories
on the following subjects:*

- Carman Co-op Flying Club
- 1970 Soaring Championships
- Rex & York Cafes
- Carman Bowling Lanes
- Charley Red Star/UFOs

If any of our readers have memories or pictures to share of any of these subjects please forward to me @ denjohnyoung@gmail.com.

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OBITUARY

Evelyn Mary Carmichael Griffiths (nee Leask)

September 06, 1924 - December 02, 2020

It is with great sadness that the family of Evelyn Griffiths, with nieces Sheila and Dena by her side, announce her peaceful passing on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at the age of 96 at the St. Boniface Hospital.

She will be lovingly remembered by her brother Allan (Jean), sister-in-law Louise (Howard), several nieces and nephews and special friend Denis. Evelyn was predeceased by her husband Ken, her parents Colin and Ethel Leask, sisters Christina, Gladys, Wilma and brother Keith.

Evelyn was born in Old Kildonan and raised on the family farm in Clandeboyne, Manitoba and received her schooling there. Following school, she attended Normal School and received her teachers

certificate. She taught in many little towns in Manitoba including the Carman area. It was during this time that she met the love of her life, Ken, at the Sperling Community Rink. Ken and Evelyn married in Clandeboyne on November 8, 1947. They resided in Sperling and farmed until 1976. Ken, along with Evelyn's help, was the postmaster in Sperling from 1957-1986.

Evelyn spent many hours sewing, knitting, quilting and enjoyed her needlepoint. She loved the community and much of her crafts were donated to fundraisers and craft sales. With some local women in Sperling, they raised funds for the local rink by making and designing teddy bears. One special bear was made and sent to the Royal Family celebrating the birth of Prince William. Many of Evelyn's family members received one of these bears and are a treasured gift in our homes today. She also enjoyed curling, was a 4-H leader for many years. Evelyn enjoyed travelling and joined a group meeting new people and travelling to different locations. She also enjoyed travelling with family and friends, especially to Scotland and trips to B.C. to visit her brother and sister-in-law. Many stories and lots of laughs were always shared.

In 1987, on retirement, Ken and Evelyn moved into a suite in Winnipeg. Following Ken's death in 1997, Evelyn remained in the suite up until two days before her passing. Evelyn was a kind, unselfish, gentle person and generous beyond words. Her demonstration of love for family and friends was unconditional.

In keeping with Evelyn's wishes, a graveside service, with burial beside her husband in Sperling, Manitoba, will be held at a later date.

The family would like to thank Dr. Pierce and nurse, Sandra, along with many others from 4-E at the St. Boniface Hospital for their care and kindness shown to Evelyn. Many thanks, also, to Doyle's Funeral Home in Carman for looking after arrangements.

We had a wonderful Aunt
One who never really grew old
Her smile was made of sunshine
And her heart was solid gold.

Doyle's Funeral Home
in care of arrangements
www.doylesfuneralhome.ca

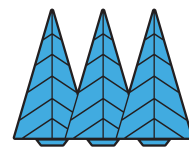
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