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Chamber awards recognize four outstanding members

By Becca Myskiw

The Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce has announced the recipients of their 2020 chamber awards.

The awards showcase the top chamber members each year and are a way of the chamber to recognize them.

There were four awards announced — Outstanding Business of the Year, New Business of the Year, Community Builder Award, and Chamber Member of the Year.

AutoReady Collision Centre won Outstanding Business of the Year. This award goes to a business that has been in operation for three years or more who constantly shows business excellence.

Albert Kooiker of the collision centre said 2020 has been a tough year and being awarded this was a light in the constant dark.

"In a year like this, it feels pretty good to get an award like that," he said.

They started the business here 23 years ago and Kooiker said their main goal is to always give the community the best service they can.

New Business of the Year went to Carman Florists and Gift Boutique.

This one goes to a business that's been operating for more than one year and less than three. They have gained a positive reputation and demonstrate excellence in what they do.

Carly Boklaschuk of the flower shop said the business is a team effort and the award is a for that team. This year has also been tough for her business, she said, and right when they were feeling the most defeated, the award came.

"The win was just what we needed," she said. "I think we just love what we do and the community supports that."

The shop has opened a coffee bar and since the pandemic's second lockdown, they've also opened a virtual tour of the business and a website for online orders.

Robert Bryson was awarded Chamber Member of the Year for being an outstanding community leader and mentor. He said there's a lot of behind the scenes action that people never hear about and the award takes notice of it.

"To me it's recognition," he said. "It's nice that people recognize what you do."

Bryson spends a lot of time helping small businesses in Carman get on

their feet and grow. He said he hopes young people keep investing in the community and help it grow.

The Community Builder Award went to Travis and Stacey Enns, owners of Syl's. This is the award's first year, and it went to the business for

their addition of the mini golf course that was a province-wide summer attraction.

The Enns's were unavailable to comment on their award, but the chamber thanks them for their commitment to the community.



STANDARD PHOTOS SUBMITTED

AutoReady Collision Centre was awarded the Outstanding Business of the Year award by the Carman and Community Chamber of Commerce



Carly Boklaschuk of Carman Florists and Gift Boutique won New Business of the Year.



Robert Bryson won Chamber Member of the Year for being an outstanding community leader.



Travis and Stacey Enns of Syl's Drive Inn won the Community Builder Award.

Public Notice

Due to changes to the Pandemic Response System Memorial Hall is closed to the public until further notice. All departments are available by phone between 10am and 3pm Monday to Friday.

Town of Carman 204-745-2443

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Planning District 204-745-2443 or 204-745-2301



SCRL launches the '12 Crafts of Christmas'

By Lorne Stelmach

The South Central Regional Library is offering some creative ideas for families to fill their time this holiday season.

The *12 Crafts of Christmas* video series aims to show how kids and their parents can "spend some time together creating something interesting and really simple," said Tetiana Miminoshvili, an assistant programming manager with SCRL.

"Some families are struggling with what to do ... and sometimes they need ideas of what they can do together," she said. "They can spend some time together, and I think it's very interesting and fun."

The short videos filmed by Miminoshvili are being posted every Tuesday and Thursday on the library's YouTube channel.

The first two posted last week included making cookie mix in a jar with the ingredients arranged decoratively and making a Santa Claus craft out of paper.

Miminoshvili's approach is to come up with ideas that can be done simply at home without requiring a lot of



SCRL PHOTOS

The South Central Regional Library is posting family craft videos on YouTube twice a week until Christmas.

materials.

"We're trying to combine some crafts which kids can do alone ... some crafts that don't require the parents too much," she noted.

With so many restrictions and activities limited or not able to happen at all this holiday season, including celebrations that the library might normally host, Miminoshvili thought it would be nice to create something to help fill the void.

"This year, Christmas is going to be a little extraordinary and different ... I just thought it might be something useful."



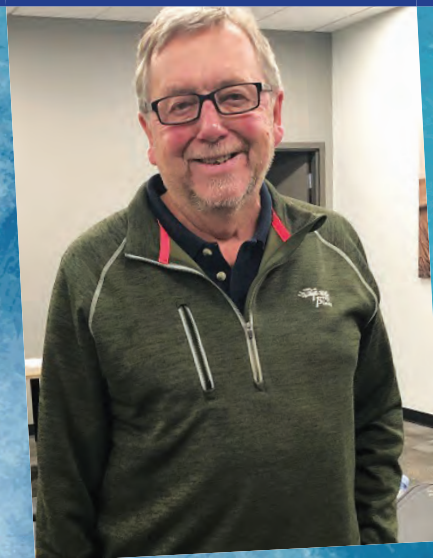
Sincere apologies

Staff

In the article "GPAC and Boyne Regional Library team up to showcase local art" published in last week's *Carman Dufferin Standard*, we failed to mention Access Credit Union, who is sponsoring two of the chosen art pieces. Tickets for this initiative will be sold throughout March to December also, not just in the last month.

The *Standard* apologizes for the oversight.

Congratulations on your Retirement Fred!



More information on his replacement will be announced at a later time

Fred Colvin will be retiring from his position as Executive Director of the Carman Area Foundation effective January 1st, 2021.

The Board of Directors sincerely thanks Fred for his hard work and dedication over the past seven years and wishes him all the best in his retirement!



<https://carmanareafoundation.com/>

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Be the Light Project showing off local businesses

By Becca Myskiw

A new movement in Carman is shining the light on local businesses.

Be the Light Project is a Facebook page that showcases the different small businesses in the area one day at a time.

It was arranged by Chelsea Kozak and Nicole Spencer after they got to talking about wanting to help the local businesses. In a matter of minutes, the name was decided on and the Facebook page was created — @bethelightprojectcarman.

How it works is one business gets to take over the page for a day and post whatever they want about their products and such. People can then comment and get in contact with the shops about which items they'd like and how they'd like to get them.

On the first day Brad Dunn Designs took over the Facebook page. He post-

THE GREATNESS OF A COMMUNITY
IS MOST ACCURATELY MEASURED
BY THE COMPASSIONATE ACTIONS
OF ITS MEMBERS.



Be The Light Project

@bethelightprojectcarman · Product/Service

Send Message

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Be the light Project is a way of convincing people to shop local this holiday season.

ed different pieces he had throughout the day and did a live video demonstration.

Kozak said some businesses have offered 15 per cent off on their day for the page takeover. Knockabouts gave 20 per cent of their profits to the local

cheer board during their Be the Light Project day.

"It's really important that we support local businesses," said Kozak.

These businesses are the ones who support the sports teams, dancers, and theatre productions when they

need, she said.

"So, we wanted to turn around here and help them out when they need it the most."

Kozak said along with the page, she's also got a group of volunteers who said they will help any business with deliveries if they need. They haven't done any yet, but the reaction this has been positive from the businesses, she said. Some businesses who don't have an actual service or product to offer right now, like the bowling alley, have found other ways to utilize the page. Carman 5 Pin Bowl took half a day on the page to offer gift card specials.

The Be the Light Project Facebook page will be up and active as close to Christmas as it can be. To get a day to take over the page, contact Kozak at (204) 745-8787.

"I really hope people utilize this page and use it," she said.

Think twice before driving impaired: MPI, MADD

By Standard staff

Manitoba Public Insurance is urging Manitobans to think twice before getting behind the wheel impaired this holiday season.

Impaired driving was a leading contributing factor in at least 18 road deaths in Manitoba from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, the agency announced last week.

While that number is below the five-year average of 25 and pandemic restrictions continue to keep Manitobans off the roads more than ever before, MPI remains committed to raising awareness about the devastating consequences of impaired driving.

To that end, they've launched their annual Friends for Life Speaker Series. The series features real-life stories delivered by individuals who have been personally impacted by a decision made behind the wheel of a car.

"MPI has long been committed to providing education and programming about the risks and dangers associated with dangerous driving decisions," said spokesman Satvir Jatan. "The importance of reaching thousands of youth to create awareness about the consequences of impaired and other risky driving decisions hasn't changed in the face of the pandemic. That's why for 2020 we've moved to a virtual format so that we don't miss out on the

opportunity to reach Manitoba students."

MPI is also continuing its annual support of the MADD Canada School Program for middle and high school students, much of which is also being offered online this year.

"Our mission is to stop impaired driving and to support victims of this violent crime" said Dawn Regan, MADD Canada's chief operating officer.

MPI has also donated a salvage vehicle to the Winnipeg Chapter of MADD Canada. The vehicle, which has highly visible anti-drinking and driving messaging, will be on display in high traffic areas.

2020 fatality counts are high

As of the end of October, 73 people have been killed on Manitoba public roadways, MPI reports.

If this trend continues, 2020 will be second worst year for road deaths in Manitoba over the last five years, beating out 2016's 107 deaths.

In addition to the 18 impaired driving deaths, the province has also seen 16 deaths attributed to distracted driving and at least 13 deaths owing to drivers and passengers not wearing their seatbelts.

Speed, weather conditions and other factors contributed to the remaining deaths on Manitoba public roadways.



MPI PHOTOS

MPI had teamed up with MADD to get this vehicle out into high-traffic areas for awareness.

Annual Carman Christmas dinner cancelled for 2020

By Becca Myskiw

The annual Christmas Day dinner in Carman has been cancelled for this year.

The dinner has happened every December. 25 for the past seven years, but due to the COVID pandemic and provincial restrictions, the committee has decided to call it off. The event usually feeds around 200 people who would otherwise be alone for Christmas. It gives them a place to socialize, food to eat, and something to do. Last year's event was held at the community hall. Dinner started at 5 p.m. and served the guests a traditional Christmas dinner — turkey, ham,

scalloped potatoes, mashed potatoes, dainties, pies, and more.

Volunteers would typically get together on Dec. 24 to start preparing the food and the chef would cook the next day. Most of the food served was either donated or bought for a lower price at Homestead Co-op.

Yolande Gautron of the committee said the decision was not an easy one to make.

"It's really sad that this year we're not going to be able to do it," she said. "But we're hoping to do it again next year."

Blaine Pedersen
MLA for Midland

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letters to the editor

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letters@carmanstandard.ca

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Send your letters to the editor or acts of kindness to letters@carmanstandard.ca. Please include your name, address, and phone number for confirmation purposes.

COVID lockdown was useless and destructive

Dear Editor,

To date the Canadian government has spent about \$300 billion to pay for the lock--down. The provincial governments have added their own \$100 billion to the fray. With tight lockdowns all over Canada, these astronomical numbers will continue to rise.

As we have repeatedly been told, lock-downs were implemented solely on the premise that our hospitals would be swamped otherwise. Let us examine this claim.

The cost to build a 120 bed general hospital, complete with an ER is about \$210 million

(<https://www.fixr.com/costs/build-hospital>).

If instead of closing businesses and paying people to sit at home, we had used half of this \$400 billion to

build hospitals, we could have built 952 new hospitals. That equates to 17 new hospitals in every city with a population more than 100k. And it would have provided Canada with an extra 114,240 hospital beds.

If we had used the remaining \$200 billion to pay for the cleaning staff, secretaries, nurses and doctors needed to work in these new hospitals, we could have hired two million people, and paid them an average income of \$100,000 per year. Two million people working in 952 hospitals means there would be 2,100 staff per hospital. Assuming a 40 hour work week, that would be 4.2 hospital staff on duty 24/7 for every new bed.

We could have started this massive project back in February and finished most of the hospitals by now. Likewise, we could have used

the summer to train most of the new staff that would be needed to work the hospitals.

Had we done this, unemployment would have been zero, the economy would have been booming, and people would feel great for having done something useful for the cause. As a bonus, we would have 952 extra hospitals for any future emergency.

All of this, of course, would have been massive overkill. Most, if not all, of the two million staff would have stood idle, waiting for the flood of patients. Notwithstanding the fact that previous to 2020 our hospitals were already nearly swamped, how many hospitals in Canada have actually been swamped by COVID patients? Furthermore, if the governments had been as concerned about swamped hospitals as they claim, why didn't they take steps to transform our hockey rinks and community centers into hospitals? And why weren't they offering and promoting crash courses all summer for would-

be medical assistants? After all, it is no secret that the average Canadian was fully expecting a second COVID wave this fall. There is a strange and condemning silence here. It forces one to ask: Is the government really that worried about hospitals being swamped?

So instead of building new hospitals and paying good salaries to people, or instead of turning community centers into overflow hospitals, we locked down our country, incurred a \$400 billion debt, and gained nothing. Actually, we lost much. The economy has tanked. Depression and stress and poverty and suicide and drugs and abuse have skyrocketed. Worst of all, we have accomplished absolutely nothing in the fight against COVID, as the daily numbers testify. Lockdown is a useless and destructive option. It should never have been tried. It should now be abandoned immediately.

- Thomas Verduyn
Roland

Do our restrictions go too far?

With all due respect for COVID-19, I do think that our government goes a little overboard when forcing restrictions and closures of certain shops. I realize how difficult it is to make rules that are just for all citizens. We can buy pet food and liquor, but we cannot buy a flower or plant for an older aunt, a neighbor across the street or even my wife at a flower shop! We

should remember that we are to show love and care to those around us and not put anyone under stress and fear more than needed at this time. I do wonder whether we need the kind of security check by way of policing and fines. We are become a police state and are even afraid to stick our head out of the door. Is that the kind of society we want? I think not. It is hard to live

under a government that controls every move we make. The media shows that criminality is increasing. Can we get an answer as to whether the total death due to sickness or aging in Manitoba is higher this year than 2018, 2019? Please stop the fearmongering so we can enjoy living in Manitoba; that already helps a lot to stay healthy.

- Auke Bergsma

We loved the Boyne Theatre

One of my first very vivid memories of The Boyne Theatre was in 1953 or 54 missing a Dale Evans & Roy Rodgers classic Saturday matinee because I had been injured by the "hobby horse" ride at Carman Elementary.

My favourite Dr. North had to stitch my ear and my brother promised to tell me all

about it and he did! Saw many movies and changes over the years. There were the ten cent matinees and the Friday night movie night when everyone was there. Mr. Pearly McCullough did everything and ran a very tight ship. Miss Burton sold tickets and came rain or shine. Many generations of Carman and area have great

stories to share.

We lived it and loved it!

Dennis, I just want to say one more time how much I and everyone else love this paper and thank you for all your time and effort. The articles and everything for that matter make us laugh and cry and for some of us bring back great memories. And we all need that right now.

- Mary Ann Johnston

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getheard

EDITORIAL > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS

Winkler sees second COVID-19 death

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Winkler recorded its second COVID-19 death last week with the passing of a man in his 80s connected to the outbreak at the Buhler Active Living Centre.

The death was one of nine announced on Nov. 25. At Monday's daily briefing, public health officials announced another 11 deaths, bringing the tally over the previous seven days to 76 and the total number of Manitobans killed by COVID-19 since spring to 312.

"So this is 11 more Manitobans that we've lost," reflected Dr. Brent Roussin, Manitoba's chief public health officer, on Monday. "I can still recall advising Manitobans of our first death related to COVID-19 back in March and I remember that being a very somber day in Manitoba.

"And now we continue to announce many deaths every day. Today, again, into the double digits," he said. "I

think we all know we can't continue along these lines. We have to bring these numbers down. We can't keep losing this many Manitobans."

Manitoba was reporting 9,260 active cases of COVID-19 and 7,253 recoveries at press time (though there is a backlog in clearing cases, the province has noted).

There were 342 people in hospital with the illness on Monday, 43 in intensive care.

"We know we have a burden on our health-care system right now with all of these numbers," Roussin said. "We really need to stay home and prevent the transmission of this virus."

Locally, Winkler added 25 new cases over the past week to hit 110 on Monday, Morden is at 53 cases, Altona dropped slightly to 59, Stanley has 18, Morris is at 20, Lorne/Louise/Pembina has 17, and Carman remains at 14 active cases.

Manitoba remains at red/critical on

the pandemic response system, which has forced non-essential businesses to close their doors to the public.

"We know these restrictions are hard," Roussin said. "We've heard from a number of Manitobans that they want these restrictions lifted.

"The consequence of lifting these restrictions right now is a much longer page of Manitobans that we lose to this virus, an overwhelming of our health-care system, more strain our health-care workers," he said. "So although these restrictions are very difficult, and it's been a long haul, we need these in place right now.

"We ask all Manitobans to follow them, not look for ways to get around them, and, for the most part, to stay home," Roussin said, stressing these are short-term measures. "We will get around this. But right now we need all Manitobans to step up."

Province to top-off caregivers' wages with new subsidy

By Lorne Stelmach

Caregivers in care homes and other critical settings are getting bonus pay from the province over the holiday season.

The payments coming through the new \$35 million caregiver wage support program will benefit thousands of front-line workers who provide direct care and help protect vulnerable Manitobans in personal care homes, shelters, child welfare and other sectors.

Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister and Morden-Winkler MLA Cameron Friesen said the payments are recognition of the vital roles of these workers and the additional stress and burdens they are facing as a result of the pandemic.

"The pandemic creates challenges for all Manitobans, and those are very real challenges that everyone is grappling with," he said last week. "It's an

impact that is very real for front line workers who are providing care."

Friesen said this program is aimed "to address those support workers who are making more modest amounts and would provide an additional support for them.

"We're depending on them to provide care for Manitobans ... we're relying heavily on our front line workers."

Eligible employees will receive an hourly \$5 top-up to their wages based on the number of hours worked between Nov. 1, 2020 and Jan. 10, 2021. To qualify, workers must earn a regular wage of \$25 per hour or less.

Two intake periods will close Dec. 14, 2020 and Jan. 18, 2021, and the program benefit will be paid directly to workers by the province in the week after each intake period closes.

It was estimated the program will be available to more than 20,000 Manitobans currently working full-time

or part-time. Recipients will include health-care aides, housekeeping staff, direct service workers and recreation workers who provide direct care at personal care homes or in disability services, child welfare services, homeless and family violence prevention shelters or long-term care.

"It is designed in order to support those workers in a way that does not interfere with other targeted programs," Friesen said, noting they need to be actively working. If, for example, someone needs to be off work to isolate, there are other support programs in place for such an instance. "Those individuals are being compensated if they are home due to COVID-19."

The province has partnered with the federal government in cost-sharing the program, with the Government of Canada providing \$17 million while Manitoba is contributing \$18 million.

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Manitoba pottery star from Carman area still learning

By Becca Myskiw

A ceramic professional making news in the world of pottery has roots in the Graysville area.

Mary Ann Steggles came to Carman in 1969 from the United States of America during the Vietnam War. She had studied ceramics as part of her education at Oklahoma State University and used her knowledge from that to start building a life in the north.

Steggles started doing pottery at her home in Graysville as a way to be self-sufficient. She started by making practical items like mugs, bowls, plates, and teapots. Soon enough, she bought land in Graysville where she had a studio for her work from 1973 to 1985.

In 1977, Steggles became part of the Artist in the School program, where she travelled throughout Manitoba teaching young people about ceramics. She then became the artist in residence for the central region of Manitoba and travelled that area giving pottery workshops.

During this time, Steggles was still doing her own pottery at home. She'd get in the studio after her kids got off the bus and after they went to bed. Because of all her work creating things from clay, Steggles had developed carpal tunnel by 1984.

Doctors weren't able to operate at the time, so she wasn't able to spend as much time in the studio working.

"I absolutely couldn't put in the type of hours that I needed to make enough ceramics to support myself," she said.

Steggles then made the tough decision to move herself and her children from the community to Winnipeg so she could go back to school and study

a new profession.

While she attended the University of Manitoba (UofM), she finished the degree she had started in America and finished her master's in art history. From there, she went to England as a commonwealth scholar to do her PhD and returned to teach art history in Canada.

Though Steggles wanted to study ceramics, there was no one taking students on, so she went in a different direction of looking at art as a part of politics. She started teaching in Quebec, then Nova Scotia, and eventually took an opportunity to teach at the UofM in 1999.

In 2006, she became the assistant director of the UofM's School of Art until 2016.

"I call it the miracle that happened," she said. "In 2010, the Manitoba Craft Council asked me if I would give a talk on International Women's Day, so I did."

She gave the talk at the UofM. It was called, "Where have all the potters gone?" and featured talks she had with her own pottery friends — they were worried about why young people were not coming up in pottery.

So, her talk focused on that concern, and though she didn't expect many people to come, a room that would normally hold 50 people was packed like a can of sardines. And in the front row, staring right at Steggles, was her boss.

Steggles was concerned. Her talk had her own opinions and afterwards she was answering students' questions about why they've never fired a kiln their fourth year or why they've never made anything on a potter's wheel.



STANDARD PHOTO BY BECCA MYSKIW

Mary Ann Steggles is a renowned potter originally from the Carman area.

"When someone asks me a question, I tell them what I think," said Steggles. "I thought that was scandalous."

The next day her boss came in her office and told her she had to fix it — that's how she became one of two ceramic teachers at the UofM. She retired in December 2019, but in her three full years doing that, Steggles put in more pottery wheels, added more electric kilns, built soda and wood kilns, and taught, taught and taught. Her students left being able to set up a studio if they wished to.

Her ceramics department was one of the only in Canada that was all women.

Today, Steggles spends her time trying to make pottery more sustain-

able. A recent trip to Scotland showed her the environmental impact her art practice has, and she said there are some shocking facts.

One way she found she can be more sustainable is by not using a kiln all the time. She learned this by doing a trial where she made a bunch of really tall clay cylinders. She then covered them in natural dyes made from avocado that she had broken up and boiled down.

Then, she took each cylinder and put them along the coast where they soaked in the sun — pottery lasts forever when all the water is drawn out.

Steggles found that you don't have to fire a kiln to make art.

McGee's Family Restaurant giving up lease at Carman's golf course



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Robynn Linde took over McGee's 10 years ago and after five years at the golf course, she's ending her lease there.

By Becca Myskiw

McGee's Family Restaurant is closing its doors this year.

Robin Linde has owned the business for just over 10 years. She got into it after a "filler" waitress job at Bubba's inspired her to take on the bigger responsibility.

Linde said she found herself giving the owner of that restaurant idea upon idea and she was soon taking on more responsibilities. That boss helped her realize management runs in Linde's blood and suggested she take over the business.

So, at the young age of 21, Linde became the owner of her own business — McGee's Family Restaurant.

Five years ago, she changed locations to the golf course as a way to ex-

pand her business. The summers, she said, were amazing. Her restaurant was always busy with golfers and she loved the demand of patio season as Linde thrives under pressure.

Winter, however, brought more challenges. As there were no golfers and she's on the outskirts of town, Linde said she found it difficult to keep up with the restaurant's expectations in the cold.

"Running a restaurant is not for the faint at heart," she said. "It is a lot of hard work and has many challenges."

She's been open with consistent hours that customers know, but that's turned out to be unsustainable because of the costs of such a large location.

"I didn't feel I could have my name

up on the wall if I could not provide that for people, so ultimately, I decided that this was not the right fit for McGee's for this reason," said Linde.

This decision was not an easy one for her to make. She loves her team and serving the community with them, so giving up her lease is sensitive for her.

Linde said she doesn't know what's next for her. COVID-19, she said, has been rough on all businesses and though she's hopeful it'll get better, she's taking it as a sign to maybe let her restaurant go.

If things do get better, she said she might consider tendering at the golf course again or opening her restaurant at another location. The golf course is now accepting tenders for a new tenant until Dec. 31, 2020.

Two memory trees: Palliative Care and United Church



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Carman Palliative Care and the Carman United Church have memory trees up this year.

By Becca Myskiw

Carman residents will have two trees this year for remembering their loved ones.

Carman Palliative Care's memory tree is up at Access Credit Union (ACU) like usual, and now the Carman United Church has one up as well.

Both trees work the same: someone takes a paper angel and writes the name of a loved one or loved something on it.

The Carman Palliative Care memory tree requires a donation to write something on one of the paper angels before hanging it up. Sandy Cameron of the organization said there is no minimum donation, but anything over \$10 will get a tax receipt.

"We've done it every year for so many years that people start to look forward to it and anticipate it," said Cameron.

To make a donation and receive an angel to write on, call ACU.

Because of the nature of the fundraiser, Cameron said it's one of Carman Palliative Care's most important ones.

"It's always important that people have the opportunity to remember their loved ones and it's a good time of year to take the time to," she said.

Karen Tjaden of the Carman United Church said

their memory tree is not to compete with the other one, it's just another opportunity for remembrance. She said she hopes town residents will utilize both.

They got the idea for it after not being able to carry out the Christmas season as usual. They typically purchase poinsettias for congregation members who have died, but as in-person services are a no-go right now, they had to cancel that.

As another way to recognize loss, the church thought of a memory tree. Theirs will be outside in the courtyard for anyone to use — even if they aren't members of the church.

"It's just a way to really acknowledge and honour people's loss and the things that they love," said Tjaden.

The church's memory tree does not require a donation to use. There will be a box with paper ornaments by the tree, all they ask is people bring their own markers to write with.

Also in the box with the ornaments will be prayer squares for people to take. The squares are a reminder the church's prayers are with whomever has one.

"We just want to remind people that they're not alone," she said.

Access Credit Union named one of Manitoba's top employers

By Standard staff

A local employer has been named one of Manitoba's top employers for the seventh year in a row.

Access Credit Union was one of 30 employers to make the list created by *Canada's Top Employers* last week.

"For seven years, this recognition has highlighted the excellence of our staff and their engagement in creating a truly outstanding organization," ACU president and CEO Larry Davey said in a statement. "As our organization grows through our merger with Crosstown Civic Credit Union, we look forward to continuing that tradition to deliver excep-

tional service internally and to our members every day."

The award is given to employers that "lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work."

Employers were evaluated on the physical workplace they offer, work atmosphere, health and financial benefits, vacation and time off, training and skills development, communication, and community involvement.

"The employers chosen as this year's winners have also distinguished themselves during the pandemic," said Richard Yerema, managing editor of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project at Mediacorp.

"They continue to demonstrate leadership, going the extra distance to take care of their employees and the community in what is proving to be one of the most challenging years in living memory."

ACU says it strives to create a "culture of innovation where employees can test and implement new ideas to overcome challenges and deliver solutions."

ACU staff have access to paid training and continuing education, flexible hours and work locations, matched pension plans, competitive salaries, and the opportunity to contribute to their community.

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"Building strong communities is essential to building a strong business," said Sheldon Stott, Senior Director of Corporate Sustainability at HyLife. "We are excited to be able to provide opportunities and grow our relationships with rural Manitoba."

Since 2017, there have been over 20 new barn sites or barn expansions developed in Manitoba, with several others currently in the planning or approval stage. This represents over \$100 million in private investment in rural Manitoba. As well, more than \$200 million has been invested by Manitoba processing facilities.

New barns are designed, built and managed to the highest standards, with consideration given to shelterbelts and ventilation to help mitigate odour concerns. The provincial government's technical review process ensures that approved sites do not pose any risk to the environment.

In the coming years, with the support of fellow rural Manitobans, provincial pork producers are prepared to invest upwards of \$2 billion in the hog sector, creating jobs and raising the economic wealth of rural communities and of all Manitobans. Ongoing investments like these reinforce the provincial government's sustainable protein strategy, which seeks to ensure that Manitoba remains a leader in animal protein production as global demand increases.

"Our employees are our most important asset," noted Stott. "We need the best people in order to meet the demand for our world-class pork products. We are excited about the future and will continue to look to grow alongside our communities."

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Image: A new HyLife barn

Non-traditional funerals causing a halt on the grieving process

By Becca Myskiw

Among the many changes this year and provincial regulations on gathering sizes, funerals are now a different event following the COVID pandemic.

Craig Johnston of Doyle's Funeral Home has been helping families through the changes while getting through them himself. He said the pandemic restrictions have been a real challenge not only for the funeral industry but for the people that use it.

A few of the most notable changes he's seen are there are only five people allowed at a funeral or viewing and there are no more funeral luncheons. The luncheons, Johnston said, were a time for the attendees to shed a tear, give a hug, and reminisce — all of which has been taken away.

"It's probably one of the most difficult times a family will experience in their lifetime," he said, noting that it's only become more difficult because of COVID-19.

Funerals offer those grieving a healthy way to do so. They're a beneficial process in transitioning to life without someone, Johnston said, and he strongly believes funerals are needed. Now, he's worried about the

mental health of those who weren't able to have a traditional funeral for their loved one.

"Not getting to grieve will have consequences," he said.

Kaila Morden from Elm Creek has been feeling those consequences since her mom died in July. They chose at the time to only have a graveside service with immediate family, leaving Morden no time to socialize and reminisce with friends afterwards.

"It seems so trivial, the social part of it," she said. "But it's so important."

Morden's grieving process has been halted. She said she now experiences post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) where she relives the loss, the panic, and the heartache.

During times when she should otherwise feel at peace, like when she's having her morning coffee or winding down before bed, Morden is overwhelmed with the grief she hasn't been allowed to feel completely.

Her mom also wanted that social gathering so now Morden is waiting for the day she can make it happen. She said if she's having a good day, she'll remember what's to come in the unforeseen future and start to panic



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Pictured clockwise from top left, Jared Cummer, Eli Cummer, Kaila Morden, Linda Olson (Morden's mother), Astrid Cummer and Axel Cummer.

again.

Johnston said he's unsure if funerals will ever get back to how they were before. Morden is hoping she gets the

chance to socialize in memory of her mom and get the closure she needs to move on.

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Living in quarantine: a local family's COVID story

By Becca Myskiw

What wouldn't have caused Lauren Nakonechny to bat an eye 10 months ago, made her pull her children out of school at the beginning of November.

Nakonechny's son, Ben, was feeling under the weather after Halloween. He had a bad headache, bad aches in his legs, and sore eyes. They assumed the headache was from too much Halloween candy and the sore legs was from working out with his hockey team. The eyes, however, concerned her a little more.

So, even though she didn't think her son had COVID-19, Nakonechny pulled her daughter, Taylor, out of school and took Ben for a COVID

test. Nakonechny said she took him because she wanted to be respectful of everyone around them and ease their worries that it might be the novel coronavirus.

Once they were home, Ben self-isolated away from his mom and sister while awaiting his test results. Soon

he had a runny nose and sore throat, but still nothing major.

Within 36 hours, Ben was back to feeling normal, but his results were back: COVID-19 positive.

"I was totally shocked," said Nakonechny. "I tell people it was a reality check and an emotional rollercoaster."

Though Ben's symptoms were mild, she said that didn't change how they felt at the time.

"Our story is probably not unique, but it was extremely emotional," she said. "It wasn't the health scare for us — it was the guilt."

The first thing Nakonechny did upon getting Ben's posi-

tive result back was contacting his school. Luckily, she had them around 6 a.m. so any students in his class that showed up that day were sent straight home.

She said telling everyone was the hardest part. Nakonechny had to contact anyone her son had been in con-

"I TELL PEOPLE IT WAS A REALITY CHECK AND AN EMOTIONAL ROLLERCOASTER."



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Nakonechny family, Ben, left, Lauren, middle, and Taylor share their own COVID-19 quarantine story.

tact with over the past few days and she felt awful telling them they might have caught COVID-19 from Ben.

Everyone was really good about, though, she said, and never made her feel bad.

Once his results were back, Nakonechny and Taylor also went and got themselves tested. Hers came back negative, but her daughter's was positive.

Taylor was sick for less than 12 hours with extremely mild symptoms — a headache, slight fever, and feeling "blah."

Then, Nakonechny had to self-isolate away from her children. Taylor and Ben spent isolation time together playing mini sticks, shooting hoops, playing video games, and doing homework. Nakonechny would text them often, bring up a tray of food for each meal and chat with them from a distance, masked up if they were com-

ing downstairs.

It was a total of 17 days that Nakonechny had to self-isolate for until she could leave her home again. In those days she had people bringing her wine, food, and coffee, which she is extremely grateful for.

Nakonechny is also grateful for the fact that her children had mild cases of COVID-19 because she knows how deadly the virus can be. She said in any other year they would have all carried on with life and treated it like a cold, which could have been devastating for just one person they came in contact with.

"You can have [COVID-19] and not realize it for sure," she said.

Now, she's just trying to get the word out, so people know when to self-isolate and get tested. Her children are back in school and she's allowed to grocery shop again, but her personal research has found they're not immune to it.

PHOTO CALENDAR

Merry Christmas

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January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <small>New Year's Day</small>	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

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Where are they now? Catching up with...Bob Miller

By Dennis Young

This feature will attempt to renew some acquaintances with those who called Carman and surrounding towns 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 Bob Miller again. When did you live in Elm Creek?

1954 – 1987. We currently reside in Kamloops, BC

Q. Did you attend school there or move there for career?

Born and Raised in Elm Creek. Attended school to Grade 11, prior to moving to Dauphin to play Junior A hockey in the MJHL for Dauphin Kings

Q. What did you do for summer jobs as a student here?

Farm work on mixed family farming operation of livestock and grain

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

Farm

Q. What activities did you participate in as a student?

Hockey in winter months, Baseball in summer, Track & Field at school

Q. Did you meet your spouse here?

I met my spouse (Heather) in Portage la Prairie while playing Junior A hockey there for Portage Terriers. Married in 1975, we recently celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary

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

We have two children both born in Portage la Prairie Hospital; (son) Bobby Jr, wife Kalynn and 6 year old daughter Hadley live in Eckville, Alberta. Bobby is an auctioneer with Ritchie Bros Auctions and works on his in-laws ranch.

Daughter Haley lives in Sherwood Park, Alberta with husband Jordan, sons Chase (13) and Ty (11).

Jordan is a sales manager with Sherwood Park Chevrolet. Haley is a fitness trainer and a stay at home hockey Mom

Q. Do you have extended family now?

You bet. Brother Jim and Kathy live in Creston, B.C. plus sister Kathy and Mike are in Calgary.

Q. What got you to leave Elm Creek and where?

Career opportunity managing a high profile Purebred Polled Hereford op-

Continued on page 13



Bob and Heather Miller



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The Winkler-Morden
Voice

> WHERE ARE THEY NOW?, FROM PG. 12

eration in Millbrook, Ontario. Moved there in 1987.

Q. Did you move around lots in career or life?

It seems so, between the Purebred cattle industry and hockey.

1971 – Left Elm Creek to Dauphin to play Junior A Hockey (lived with billet family in Dauphin)

1972-74 – played Junior A hockey for Portage Terriers, Portage la Prairie, Mb (lived with billet family in Portage)

1972-73 Playing member of National Centennial Cup Champion Portage Terriers

With fellow teammates: Scott Hetherington (Carman), Don Arthur (Carman), Doug Wood (Miami), Glenn Miller (Elm Creek) and George Miller (Elm Creek).

Since married we have lived in Elm Creek, Manitoba, Millbrook, Ontario, (cattle related) Portage la Prairie, (cattle and hockey related) Canmore, Alberta (hockey related) and now 12 years in Kamloops, BC. (cattle and hockey related) (that's as far west as we are going).

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

1975 – 1987 – Farmed and raised Purebred cattle in Elm Creek, Mb

1987-1990 – Managed a Purebred

Polled Hereford operation in Millbrook, Ontario

1990-1996 – Served as Fieldman for Manitoba Hereford Association, GM and Assistant Coach for Portage Terriers

1996-2000- Served as Head Coach / GM for Portage Terriers

1992-2000 – Served on Hockey Manitoba board as Junior A Chairman

2000-2008 – Served as Coach / GM for Canmore Eagles, Junior A Hockey Club, Canmore, Ab

Q. What do you do now? Retired?

While riding a Junior Hockey bus for 16.5 years, I often wondered what I would do after hockey. In spring of 2008, I accepted a career move from Canmore to Kamloops to serve as General Manager for the livestock brands registry and inspection service for BC. The company, Ownership Identification Inc is privatized to administer the Livestock Identification Regulations and Livestock Identification Act for the Ministry of Agriculture in BC.

Q. What passes your leisure time now? Hobbies?

At the age of 66 years, I enjoy my work and plan to continue as long as I am physically and mentally capable. I have no hobbies. I enjoy golf and

spending time with our three grandchildren, although those cherished times are limited, as they reside approximately 9 hours away in Alberta.

2008- 2018 – I served as a BC Regional Scout for WHL Medicine Hat Tigers

Q. Any future plans?

None other than work and enjoy friends and family

Q. Have you travelled and where?
Yes, for several years we would spend some time in Mesa, Arizona in March to enjoy golf, sunshine, friends and MLB Spring Training. Not now during these strange Covid times!

Q. Do you ever return to Elm Creek?

We have several friends and relatives in Elm Creek, but must admit last time we visited there was November 2017 for my Dad (Jim Miller) celebration of life

Q. What are some of your fondest memories of your Elm Creek days?

Growing up in a small agricultural town in Manitoba where everyone knew one and other provided so many fond memories. More specifically for me was participating in sporting events, such as high school track & field and of course hockey and baseball.

I will forever be thankful to Scotty Sisson for the time he invested in the mentorship of many a young hockey player playing minor hockey in Elm

Creek over the years. He taught us of comradery, sport, religion and education and the importunacy of family and balance in our lives.

There was no prejudice in those days. Growing up seemed simple, fun and rewarding.

I also have fond memories of showing cattle at Portage Fair, Carman Fair Miami Fair and Morris, during the summer months and judging 4H and cattle shows in my later years.

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

As previously mentioned, I have so many great memories growing up in a small agricultural town. We knew the difference between right and wrong, we helped our fellow neighbour, we cultured life long friendships, we played and worked outdoors, we were taught by our parents to trust and respect. How times have changed!!

Growing up in Elm Creek, Carman was our closest big town for commerce. In my adult days, playing in the SEMHL for Carman Beavers and eventually Elm Creek Kernels was a memorable and special time in my life. So many friends, so many memories.

If you wish to reach this former Elm Creeker please send me an email at denjohnyoung@gmail.com and I will forward it to them for further contact.



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(An initiative by a coalition of charities from Carman and Area)

Winkler man launches letter-writing campaign

By Lorne Stelmach

The Winkler resident behind an on-line petition calling on the province to allow the reopening of businesses stresses the aim is for it to be done in a safe but fair manner.

Tomm Penner initiated MB Unite (Manitoba Business Owners United For Responsible Reopening) as a grassroots campaign to rally business owners and employees to speak out for the reopening of all businesses in the province.

He acknowledged many people were likely misconstruing the thought behind the petition, which encouraged supporters to send letters to elected officials by Dec. 1.

The response had been encouraging from many business owners, he suggested, but the reaction was different from people "who misinterpret what we're doing.

"Our request is that we simply have fair restrictions," Penner stressed. "Some people are under the impression that we want to just recklessly open business and run it a hundred per cent. That is not what we're saying. We're saying we understand the government is going to impose some rules and restrictions. All we're asking as business owners is that they impose these fairly."

The petition suggested that the province doesn't have to choose between the economy and public safety and that businesses can operate safely and responsibly by implementing the same protocols used by the businesses which currently remain open.

Penner suggested there are many questions such as why is it deemed safe for larger stores to be open, albeit under restrictions, while many smaller businesses are more limited

by comparison, and why is it unsafe to sell such things as flowers or a guitar, as examples.

What drove him to spearhead this and ask these questions is that he sees local small businesspeople who are suffering.

"There are people going without incomes, losing their businesses, losing their life's work, and during the holiday season," Penner said. "It's tragic. It's tragic to see small business owners suffering and their families suffering, and they have nowhere to turn.

"I have many friends and acquaintances who are business owners," he continued. "I think business owners are frustrated ... with a government that is imposing unequal guidelines across Manitoba."

"We want our voice to be respectful to the government, understanding that their job isn't easy and they

have some difficult tasks; they have to make some hard choices," he said while suggesting that many businesses "can open safely and responsibly by using the same measures that are being applied at businesses that remain open."

"In mandating that small retail businesses lock their doors, the government of Manitoba is effectively choosing to take revenue from local community shops and give it to big box stores and online retail giants," stated one supporter of the petition, named only as a retail owner in Winkler. "As part of the backbone of the Manitoba economy, it's vital that small businesses be allowed to reopen and continue to operate in a safe manner."

You can learn more at mbunite.ca.

Finding ways to grieve, heal during the holidays

By Lorne Stelmach

For someone who is grieving, the holiday season can be difficult enough during normal times, so living with it this year under pandemic restrictions will be even more challenging for people.

It has those who are involved with local support programs encouraging people to reach out to whoever and however they can when they are in need.

"It would be nice to see the light at the end of the tunnel right now," said Linda Fehr, who has been a pal-

liative care volunteer and is involved with the area's grief and bereavement group.

They had originally planned to host an evening for people grieving to come together and support one another, but the increased restrictions now in place prevented that from happening.

They however still want to reach out to people in the community because the reality right now is "that the support group that is always there, as far as family and friends are concerned, just isn't able to swoop in this year be-

cause of the protocols we have to follow," Fehr said. "Grief is a lonely journey, and it's lonely not having family around.

"So there's extra thought that has to go into it this year from all directions," she said. "I think we're discovering more and more by all the media that is covering mental health that there has been so many losses ... and it's just compounding as time goes on. It's a lifestyle adjustment, which is what 2020 has been for everyone right from the start."

Fehr said people need to find ways to fill the voids from those things they are missing out on, like Christmas gatherings, and especially find ways to maintain that vital contact with other people in your lives.

"The holiday season is all about traditions, and those are things that we are learning probably won't take place this year," she said. "Even the entertaining and concerts and shopping are not even things we can fall back on ... going out and meeting and greeting people that we don't see very often.

"The one saving grace is our ability to connect and to reach out to people through technology and the social media ... to connect with those people who would swoop in there and be a comfort."

Even an old-fashioned handwritten

letter or note sent by 'snail mail' can be a surprising comfort.

"There can be nothing better than getting a hand written note from someone who knows what you're going through and can connect with you and give you that little boost of support," Fehr said. "It can be very special for people at this time."

Finding simple pleasure in holiday decor and enjoying Christmas lights around the community can be uplifting as well.

"It's interesting how the twinkle of the lights can sometimes be just a little boost," Fehr said. "We have shorter days, and all of our colour is gone from Mother Nature, so it can be depressing.

"There's just so many changes that we have had this year ... since March, we have just had such huge changes to our lifestyle, not to mention then if you have suffered a loss," she said. "Once that person has suffered a loss, holidays bring a lot of firsts that we encounter ... they will be making that journey alone ... all the things they maybe would have done together.

"It's hard to keep the merry and the joy. But the holiday season is quite often the time that we do reconnect with people we haven't seen for some time ... so make that connection still and reach out."

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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

**"IT'S HARD
TO KEEP
THE MERRY
AND THE
JOY."**

Baseball back in the Day... The Carman Cardinals 1953

By Dennis Young

Just as the 1952 season started with name calling and arguments over player salaries, so did this year. The Man-Dak brain thrusts met in Carman at the Legion Hall in September to focus on upcoming matters. League President Roy Reimer told all in attendance this was not a voting meeting but to discuss past seasons events and to put recommendations on the table for the annual meeting.

The Cardinals reps, Skelton, Woods, Cunningham, Churchill, Armitage, Bedford and Shilson, bore the brunt of the meeting time regarding league fines. A letter filed with the league by Brandon was read accusing Carman for not showing for a contest. Based on miscommunication between the clubs the discussions were torrid affairs over whether Carman's \$100 fine would be cashed or remitted. President Reimer ruled in favour of Brandon but Carman was cleared of any intentional wrong doing.

Curly Haas of the Winnipeg Royals brought up the same claim but was not accepted since proper procedures were not followed as Brandon did. This too heated the meeting up but eventually cooler heads discussed more important matters like salaries.

At the 1952 annual meeting it was passed that monthly salaries could not go over \$5,000 and if they did the \$500 deposit would be cashed and the 2nd offence would equal \$1000. However during mid-season this was tweaked to suit two clubs (Brandon & Wpg) who claimed they could not field competitive teams unless higher caps were offered. It had been decided that June to eliminate the cap but it not be made public.

Roy Skelton took a stand and asked "Is there going to be a limit on salaries or is it to be a rat race to see who could pay the most to secure a wanted player?" Both aforementioned clubs replied they either had to spend more or fold and hence the league would too. Carman being the "little guy" in the league just wanted an even playing field.

The league stressed better communication between clubs and the office and less secrecy. It was suggested when a team is making a contact with a player, the office and each team should be notified. This would eliminate a player working one team against another. Carman, Brandon and Winnipeg all felt that Minot was in a better position financially and could hire better players. President Reimer, who is from Minot, stated Minot would not be prepared to pay beyond the limits of the other clubs.

One thing they all agreed on was



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Carman Cardinals 1953 team, back row, left to right: Bob Turner, Curly Williams, Jim Swanton, Chick Longest, Lester Locket, Felix Pines, Lyman Bostock, Joe Atkins and Al Preston; front row, Harry Rhodes, Willie Hutchinson, Norm Robinson, Sonny Andrews, Jim Newberry, Herby Souell and Ron Skelton (bat boy). Missing from the photo are manager Chet Brewer, Almer McKerlie, Benny Lot and Walt McCoy.

better publicity throughout Manitoba. Although claims were made that certain clubs were too secretive surrounding their activities, if sports writers were given an open book it would benefit everyone. It was suggested that invitations should be sent to all newspapers in the circuit to attend league and team meetings.

Additional teams interested for 1953 were Williston, Grand Forks, another Winnipeg team and an interlocking schedule with the Saskatchewan league. Mr. Haas went on record there was no room for two Winnipeg teams. Finally the last matter discussed was a program much like Carman's successful one to raise league funds.

Come Nov. 27, they all met again in Minot over two days. The limit on salaries was removed and happily three teams expressed their desires. Curly Haas of Winnipeg went on the record that they will field the best team possible regardless of the cost. Brandon expected to reach \$6000 a month and Minot will field a team they feel can take the Championship. Basically all telling Carman they would just have to fall in line.

Teams from Moose Jaw, Regina, Saskatoon and North Battleford would play home and home games with points being awarded in the Man-Dak standings. Grand Forks and Williston were not joining this season. A 66 game 37 home game season was passed.

The motion for fines for appearance guarantee to \$1000 was passed followed by elections which saw Roy Skelton take the 1st Vice President position.

On a happier note after all these politics was the news that 2 players joined the Whiteside family for the holidays. Chick Longest and Lyman Bostock arrived Christmas morn-

ing, got their chance to try curling then were on their way back south. They both declared that was the best Christmas they had ever enjoyed!

As for the Cardinals personal agenda it was passed at the February meeting held at Memorial Hall that the executive remain as they were from 1952. The financial report showed there was a reduction in gate receipts last year by \$3,183.79 (attributed to the polio outbreak) but expenses were reduced by \$9,279.27 in salaries paid out. There will be an operating deficit of \$5,144.82 but was reduced by \$1,800 from the annual auction. The 9 directors of Carman Baseball Company were obliged to pay, from their personal resources, the sum of \$2,989.68, to cover a portion of that 1952 deficit.

President Skelton pointed out these directors could not continue to pay such deficits and proposed that the directorate of nine be augmented to 41 each responsible for \$100. Of the 35 present at the meeting 23 stepped up but all agreed they it will not be put into effect unless the full 50 was reached. By March 19 they had 45.

Meanwhile Doug Woods was busy securing players and a new manager. It looked like Gentry Jessop's 4th season here was over as Doug could not come to terms with him but announced that Chet Brewer, regarded as the best color pitcher of all time, would be player/manager. Fred Garnett was looking forward to the local tryout camp once again come May. With all teams bragging, and now forced to announce player signings, Carman was in deep to be competitive news scribes would print.

Opening day was May 21 but before game time specially selected guests enjoyed a dinner hosted by the Cards at the Shamrock Tea Gardens (now the Breakaway) owned by Mr. and

Mrs. Randall Douglas. Reps from Mb. Hydro, Man-Dak, Town of Carman, Dufferin Ag Society, visiting Brandon Greys and media plus the special guest was Mayor James Creighton of Brandon. Mr. Creighton was a former insurance salesman who called Carman home at one time.

The Cards attracted huge crowds as usual. "It was an exciting place to be at their home games" Fred Van Koughnet told me. "With highway #3 still gravel, there was a constant cloud of dust coming and going south. It was a scary drive for me back then but it was worth it as my first date with my wife Joyce was at a Card game!"

By June the Cards were in second at 14-8 then slowly slipped to fourth by Aug. 27 with a 36-34 record. Brandon hung on to first all summer with Minot close behind.

During this summer two local boys, pitchers John Murray and Fred Van Koughnet, got their chance to play "pro" ball. John was listed as playing one game vs the Greys and Fred was taken to Minot for a tournament by Fred Garnett.

"Fred got me started in ball at 16 and in '53 at 25 I got my Cardinal debut pitching one inning then watching the finals (which they were not in) on TV in the local bar lol."

Fred had a comment about Almer McKerlie I could not leave out of this. "He had a unique practice that was rarely done by other catchers. On an infield hit he would try to beat the throw to first by running down the base line his shin pads just a chattering! He also threw the ball back faster than it was coming in."

The season came to an end Sept. 10. After a tie breaker versus Winnipeg they won just the one against Brandon.

MANDAK

Brandon Greys	43	31	0
Minot Mallards	43	31	0
Carman Cardinals	37	37	0
Winnipeg Royals	37	37	0

Playoffs - Carman Cardinals 1 game to Winnipeg Royals 0 - Tiebreaker

Playoffs - Minot Mallards 2 games to Brandon Greys 0 - Tiebreaker

Playoffs - Minot Mallards 4 games to Winnipeg Royals 2

Playoffs - Brandon Greys 4 games to Carman Cardinals 1

Finals - Minot Mallards 4 games vs Brandon Greys 2

Hits Leader: John Washington Brandon 98, Lynn Bostock 97 Herb Souell 96 Bobby Robinson 79 all Carman

Homers Leader: Pete Hughes Winnipeg 13, Willie Williams 12 Carman

RBIs Leader: Pete Hughes Winnipeg 66, Lynn Bostock 55, Joe Atkins 40, Barney Longest 40 all Carman.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

SEMHL, KJHL postpone start of seasons

Staff

Hockey fans in a pair of leagues will have to wait longer to watch their favourite team this season.

With the Province of Manitoba currently in code red, Southeastern Manitoba Hockey League officials and team management met virtually on Nov. 23 and agreed to delay the start

of the 2020-21 season until at least 2021.

A follow up meeting in late December will determine a possible start date, discussion on number of regular-season games to play, and playoff format.

Meanwhile, the Keystone Junior Hockey League officially announced

it has pushed back its season start date even further.

"The KJHL has adjusted the projected start date of the season to January 1, 2021," the league wrote in a statement. "Public health protocols will determine the actual start date and we will update the public by no later than December 15, 2020.

"Thank you all for your patience as we cannot wait to start the season!"

Back on Oct. 27, the KJHL announced that it would be pushing its proposed start date for the 2020-21 season back to December. The league later announced the decision to further delay the season to January.

Manitoba Scotties, Viterra to be held in Selkirk in February

Staff

The Selkirk Recreation Complex has been very quiet in recent weeks.

But CurlManitoba intends to make it extremely busy in early February.

It was announced Monday that the provincial men's and women's curling championships will be played in Selkirk from Feb. 2-7.

The field for the Viterra Men's Championship has been cut in half

to 16 teams while the Scotties is now down to eight teams.

Regional qualifiers for the two events will take place in mid-January. The plans hinge on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic in the province and the approval of Manitoba Health.

The Viterra Championship will remain a double-knockout event while the Scotties will be a round robin.

Curl Manitoba is also adopting the

new pandemic curling rules for provincials that were introduced at the start of the season. Teams can only use one sweeper and skips can't sweep opposing rocks in the house.

Six of the men's berths and four of the women's berths have already been secured.

Teams that have qualified for the Viterra Championship include Jason Gunnlaugson, Mike McEwen, Braden

Calvert, Ryan Wiebe, Jordan McDonald and Tanner Horgan.

Manitoba Scotties teams that have already qualified feature Jennifer Jones, Tracy Fleury, Darcy Robertson, and Mackenzie Zacharias.

Kerri Einarson, the reigning women's national champion, has already earned an automatic berth into next year's Canadian championship.

2021 Manitoba Open curling bonspiel postponed

Staff

Curl Manitoba announced the postponement of the 2021 Manitoba Open - the world's largest and longest running bonspiel - last week due to the coronavirus pandemic.

"This decision was not done lightly but was necessary in the interest of safety and health of all volunteers, athletes, spectators and clubs," read a statement.

CurlManitoba said it is working with the Winnipeg Curling Clubs Association to ensure

that the Manitoba Open will continue to be a mainstay program and event for the curling community in Manitoba.

There is, however, still a small glimmer of hope that the 2021 Manitoba Open could go on at a later date as the event has not yet been cancelled.

The 133rd edition of the event, formerly called the MCA Bonspiel, was scheduled to run from Jan. 14-18 at various curling clubs in Winnipeg.

WHL Cup cancelled for 2020

Staff

Hockey Manitoba, BC Hockey, Hockey Alberta, and the Saskatchewan Hockey Association, in conjunction with the Western Hockey League and Hockey Canada, have made the decision to cancel the 2020 WHL Cup.

"With the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision was made with the health and safety of all coaches, staff, and participants as the top priority," read a statement.

The WHL Cup features U16 provincial teams representing B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

The round-robin tournament is the first step in the Hockey Canada Program of Excellence and assists Hockey Canada in evaluating top prospects in this age group for future high-performance programs.

The WHL and western branches remain optimistic the 2021 WHL Cup may be held in the fall of 2021.

Hockey Manitoba cancels provincial championships

Staff

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Hockey Manitoba has decided to cancel all provincial championships which were scheduled to take place throughout the province in February/March 2021.

The announcement was made Monday on the Hockey Manitoba website.

"Each year, the hockey season is capped off with the Hockey Manitoba Provincials presented by Cargill Ltd bringing together approximately 250 teams and 4,000 players to compete for the provincial championship," read a statement.

"The decision to cancel the minor hockey championships has been made with the safety of all members and the community in mind. These tournaments will not be rescheduled for the 2021 season."

The cancellation will provide leagues with more time to plan the current season, said Hockey Manitoba, and the ability to extend the season past February as teams return to play.

Provincial leagues will still have the ability to name a provincial champion and compete to represent Manitoba at a national tournament.

Hockey Manitoba remains optimistic that they can regroup and host the 2022 Hockey Manitoba Provincial Championships presented by Cargill Ltd. next season.

Remember when: the Boyne Theatre history

By Dennis Young

In my research for the Boyne Theatre history, I came across many articles about it over the 46 years of ownership. Here is an excerpt written by Deanna Allen for *The Leader* in 1986 I never discovered until after my first Life and Times at The Boyne Theatre was printed Nov. 12 as it related to those years:

"Orvil Soole, who was a clerk at the RM of Grey, worked out of the Memorial Hall Theatre for seven years before moving the operation to the Boyne Theatre. The Memorial Hall Theatre sat 463 and was also used as a forum for live theatrical productions. For such events the projection screen had to be moved off the stage area. During one transition the screen ripped and according to Spud Skelton, the projectionist, this occurrence provoked Soole into building the Boyne.

Skelton was king of the reel for 19 years at the Boyne. He apprenticed under Hugh McIvor, the original projectionist at the Hall and Soole contracted Hugh's father Don to build the Boyne. Soole and company moved from the old to the new without missing a working day.

For Skelton the move meant more than a change of scenery. It meant

some much more appreciated space to breathe. In the old theatre Skelton said they used to work in thin t-shirts because of the heat produced from some 450 bodies. The work was quite aromatic as well Skelton commented. He was swamped by the smell of the women's perfume going into the box.

Spud was paid \$15 a week for running the highly flammable film through the Motiograph projectors seven days a week. It was small compensation for the amount of time spent worrying about the film that "could almost burn under water" with the theatres packed with 100s of youngsters.

Soole's business code was to please the customers. Female ushers not younger than 16 years of age, flashlight in hand, kept a watchful eye on the patrons. The sight of their crisp black and white uniforms was all that was required to top vandal's intentions or momentarily restrain the advances of an amorous boyfriend.

Just after the war, in 1945, a 30 foot extension was added onto the rear. Charlie Stevens recalled working on a Sunday so that the show would not miss a day.

In the mid 50s there were two other changes. A larger screen replaced the 24 foot one and Perley McCullough



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Boyne Theatre as it was in 1984, two years before demolition.

was hired for \$65 a month as manager to replace Mr. Cleghorn. He stated that it didn't make a difference where you sat. A watchful eye was reserved for the kids with knives who were slicing the leather bound seats.

Donavan Shilson was on record as boycotting the Theatre. I went one night and got hit in the head with a popcorn box. Just a rowdy place and I never went back to the show after that.

McCullough said Asper did not like the idea of popcorn in the theatre. One reason was the possibility of mess and more importantly the constant traffic from seat to popcorn stand made it almost impossible to maintain concentration.

So that is it...all I could discover in my hunt for Boyne Theatre stories. Hope it "brought to light" some fond memories.

Wedding and event industry lobbying province

By Evan Matthews

Hundreds of wedding and event industry professionals are lobbying the province, as they allege their industry has been halted entirely, with no relief available.

Chantelle Dione, A Stony Mountain-based photographer specializing in weddings, portraits, boudoir, headshots, personal branding, events, and soul sessions, has joined forces with hundreds of other industry professionals to lobby the provincial government.

"We have a couple social media groups—one called Manitoba Wedding Network (A Wedding Vendor Networking Group)—and we all check in with one another, work with one another on events, etc.," said Dione, adding most industry professionals she's in contact with have not received a paycheque relating to their field in over a year due to postponements and cancellations.

In her own situation, Dione said she had to find a part-time job to make ends meet for her family.

"I know there are many Interlake vendors affected by this situation, barely making it above the poverty

line. The issue arose when discussing the most recent provincial grant announcement," she said, estimating she has lost about \$50,000 of income due to COVID-19.

On Nov. 16, the province of Manitoba announced \$5,000 available to all Manitoba businesses and organizations required to close under the current public health orders. The \$5,000 is available through what the province is calling the Manitoba Bridge Grant.

Those eligible include small- and medium-sized businesses and organizations required by the province to fully close their premises to the public because of Manitoba COVID-19 public health orders in effect as of Nov. 12.

The list includes non-essential retailers, restaurants, bars, beverage rooms, brewpubs, microbreweries, distilleries, recreation and sport facilities, museums and galleries, theatres and concert halls, not-for-profit organizations, faith-based organizations and registered charities.

However, the list does not include wedding photographers, videographers, florists, make-up artists, caterers, DJs, or event planners, according to Dione.

Many of the industry's wedding and event related vendors do not have a "brick-and-mortar" location, she said, but despite that, businesses with commercial leases have also been denied from the Manitoba Bridge Grant.

"Let's be realistic, we don't always need a physical location to run a business nowadays, but the list also doesn't include hundreds of entrepreneurs who work from—and are taxed on—a portion of our homes," said Dione.

"Over the course of this pandemic we have been fighting, the wedding and event industry has been completely left out of negotiations regarding gathering sizes, government assistance, and business shutdowns.

"Unlike the food and beverage industries, the wedding and event industry has never been consulted regarding the rulings, nor safe work protocols," she said, adding the Manitoba Bridge Grant is just the most recent example of the government overlooking the industry.

Dione said not only is there no government aid available to her, and not only has she lost 2020 revenue due to cancellations; but many of Dione's

clients who had already paid decided to simply rescheduled to 2021, which equates to less revenue and less dates available in 2021, she said.

"It just keeps coming," said Dione.

When the federal government originally rolled out CERB, Dione said most people in the wedding and event industry went job hunting instead of applying.

Reliable paycheques were generally deemed the safer option, despite bringing in less income than what CERB offered.

While the group of wedding industry professionals reach out to their local MLAs, Dione said she'll be spearheading the effort in the Interlake. MLA's Ralph Eichler (Lakeside) and Derek Johnson (Interlake-Gimli) will soon be receiving letters, she said.

The hope, is the government will acknowledge the issue, and offer support, Dione said.

For anyone checking social media, the group of industry professionals have assigned hashtag—#MyBusinessIsNotAHobby—to the issue.

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Servings: 10
20 asparagus stalks
10 slices Coleman Natural Hickory Smoked Bacon

Bacon-Wrapped Asparagus

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
Preheat oven to 400 F. Line rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper. Wrap 2 asparagus stalks with 1 slice bacon. Repeat with remaining asparagus and bacon. Place bundles on baking sheet. Drizzle asparagus ends with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake until asparagus is cooked through and bacon is crisp, about 20 minutes.



Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes
Servings: 6
1 New Zealand grass-fed beef tri-tip (2 1/2-3 pounds)
1/4 cup olive oil
2 tablespoons minced garlic
3 tablespoons fresh chopped thyme
3 tablespoons fresh chopped rosemary

Garlic Herb Tri-Tip

1 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 teaspoons black pepper
Preheat grill to high heat. Rub tri-tip with olive oil. Add minced garlic and use hands to evenly distribute. Combine chopped thyme, rosemary, salt and pepper; cover oiled tri-tip on both sides with spice blend. Place tri-tip on hottest part of grill and sear 2-3 minutes. Flip tri-tip and transfer to indirect heat. Continue grilling until internal temperature reaches 135 F for medium-rare. Transfer meat to platter, cover with foil and let rest 10 minutes. Slice across the grain and serve.



Little Hasselback Potatoes
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Servings: 8-12
1 bag (3 pounds) The Little Potato Company Holiday Blend
10 sprigs thyme, removed from stem
6 sprigs parsley, chopped
4 cloves garlic, minced
6 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 teaspoon kosher salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper

Sweet Potato Casserole with Pecans and Toasted Marshmallows

sour cream (optional)
cooked bacon pieces (optional)
green onion slices (optional)
Preheat oven to 400 F. Lay wooden spoon flat on solid surface and place one potato in spoon. Using paring knife, slice 1/8-inch thick slices along length of each potato one at a time. In bowl, toss potatoes, thyme, parsley, garlic, olive oil, salt and pepper. Place potatoes on parchment-lined baking sheet, cut sides down. Bake 10 minutes, flip and bake 10 minutes, or until soft. Serve with sour cream, bacon and green onion, if desired. Photo courtesy of Getty Images (Holiday small bites)



By Gwen Randall

The mind-body connection is not just a theory anymore. Time and time again, science has validated the impact our minds have on our health, in the short-term and over time. Research documents the strong negative impact of stress on immune system function.

We are living in a pandemic, and we hear a lot about protecting the body physically, with masks, sanitization and distancing. We don't hear as much about protecting our immune system.

Science has shown that stress, worry, anger and negativity suppress the immune system. Positive thinking, being kind and loving, and creating inner peace strengthen it.

Even before the pandemic, stress was its own epidemic in our society. COVID has exacerbated this, and has brought our attention to some of the negative aspects of our lifestyles. The constant state of being "so busy," the multitasking and electronic demands have changed the way we live.

As biological animals, we were programmed to have balance in our lives. Just look at your pets. They can be full of energy and activity, but then they take a nap and are completely relaxed. Humans seem to have lost the ability to get into such a relaxed state.

We know that stress contributes to high blood pressure, overeating or drinking, poor sleep, and conflict in relationships. The same can be said of negative thinking. When we focus on blaming others for our unhappiness, or spend time gossiping about others, holding grudges, or replaying our

Combat COVID fears with mindfulness

hurts for years, it is only ourselves we are hurting.

One may argue that stress is happening to us, or coming from outside of ourselves. In truth, it is our perspective that creates the stress. When we focus on worst-case-scenarios, or feel powerless to change the way we think and feel, we are creating stress in our own minds. That stress impacts the physical system, and, as stated above, weakens our immune system.

A big part of my practice involves helping people to take control of their thought processes. This is not about people whose business is failing or a loved one is dying. Rather it is for those whose suffering comes from painful ways of thinking, and an inability or unwillingness to change a negative focus.

If there is a problem, it is better to focus on solutions rather than to worry in circles. Yes, a pandemic is serious and scary. It is also time to draw on our wisdom and resiliency. It is important to limit worry time, and instead focus on gratitude and make every effort to spread positive energy.

Yes, it is sad if we can't have a normal Christmas, but think of those living in war-torn or desperately poor parts of the world who have never had anything like a 'first-world' Christmas. One Facebook writer noted how great it is that we can still have food and wine delivered to our door!

What if our focus was on seeing how fortunate we are, and releasing any old ways of being that harm ourselves or others? Perhaps that is how we strengthen personal and global immunity.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for daily inspiration.



While main courses, sides and desserts may be what holiday memories are made of, you can calm family members' and guests' appetites with an array of appetizers like these:

Meatballs
Stuffed mushrooms
Stuffed peppers
Sliced cheese
Sliced meats
Crackers

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Spinach dip
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BIRTHDAY



Iva Garnett (nee Mordquist)
Our Mother Iva Garnett, nee Nordquist, celebrated her 102nd birthday November 13th, 2020. Iva has lived in the Miami and Carman area until she and her late husband Earle moved to the Lindenwood Manor, an assisted living facility in Winnipeg. She believes that country living and gardening has been key to her long quality life.

FOR SALE BY TENDER

Sealed, written tenders for the property in the Rural Municipality of Roland for the lands described below will be received by:

PKF Lawyers
326 Stephen Street
Morden, Manitoba R6M 1T5
Attention: Matthew Bolt

PROPERTY:

PARCEL 1:

THE NE ¼ OF SECTION 6-4-4 WPM
EXC THE WLY 487.68 METRES PERP OF THE SLY 281.94 METRES PERP
(Approximately 126 Acres of Crop Land)
The property is approximately six miles north of Winkler, just east of Highway #3 and would make an excellent addition to any farming operation. Crop rotation and current soil test are available on request.

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

1. The land will be sold "as is". The bidder is solely responsible to determine the value and condition of the land, land quality, land use, environmental conditions and all other information pertaining to the land that may be of interest to the bidder.
2. Tenders must be received on or before 12:00 noon on Friday, December 11, 2020.
3. To be considered, tenders shall be accompanied by a certified cheque in the amount of ten-thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars and shall be payable to "PKF Lawyers in Trust" as a deposit. Cheques accompanying unacceptable bids will be returned.
4. Highest or any tender may not be necessarily accepted in the Vendor's sole discretion.
5. The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE:

1. The bidder whose tender is accepted shall be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
2. In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing, which shall be December 18, 2020, or in the alternative, clear evidence shall be provided that the balance of the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor in its sole discretion. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit paid shall be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
3. Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment of the tender price are made following acceptance of tender.
4. Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing accruing from and after December 18, 2020.

For further information contact PKF Lawyers at 204-822-4463.



Prairie Rose School Division 2021-2022 BUDGET SURVEY

The Prairie Rose School Division Board of Trustees welcomes the public to complete the Divisional 2021-2022 Budget Consultation Survey.

The survey consists of three general budget questions and a comments/suggestions section. The survey closes 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 18, 2020. All comments will be reviewed and discussed as part of our 2021-2022 Budget Development process.

Please complete the survey online at
<http://www.prsdmb.ca/2021-2022-budget-survey/>

Paper copies are available by request by contacting the Division Office at (204) 745-2003.

The Board is hopeful this budget survey will provide an opportunity for all participants to identify items for consideration in developing next year's budget.



TOWN OF CARMAN PUBLIC NOTICE TRANSFER STATION HOURS

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday –
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

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DENNIS' WISH LIST!

**I am preparing stories
on the following subjects:**

- Ryall Hotel...popular watering hole
- Tubby Turnbull ...Work or Play
- Gus Dupas...Carman Shoe Store
- Santa/Walter Johnson
- Sanders Drug Store/Barrie's era
- Carman Pharmacy/Harry Malcolmson era
- Rex and York Cafes

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

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

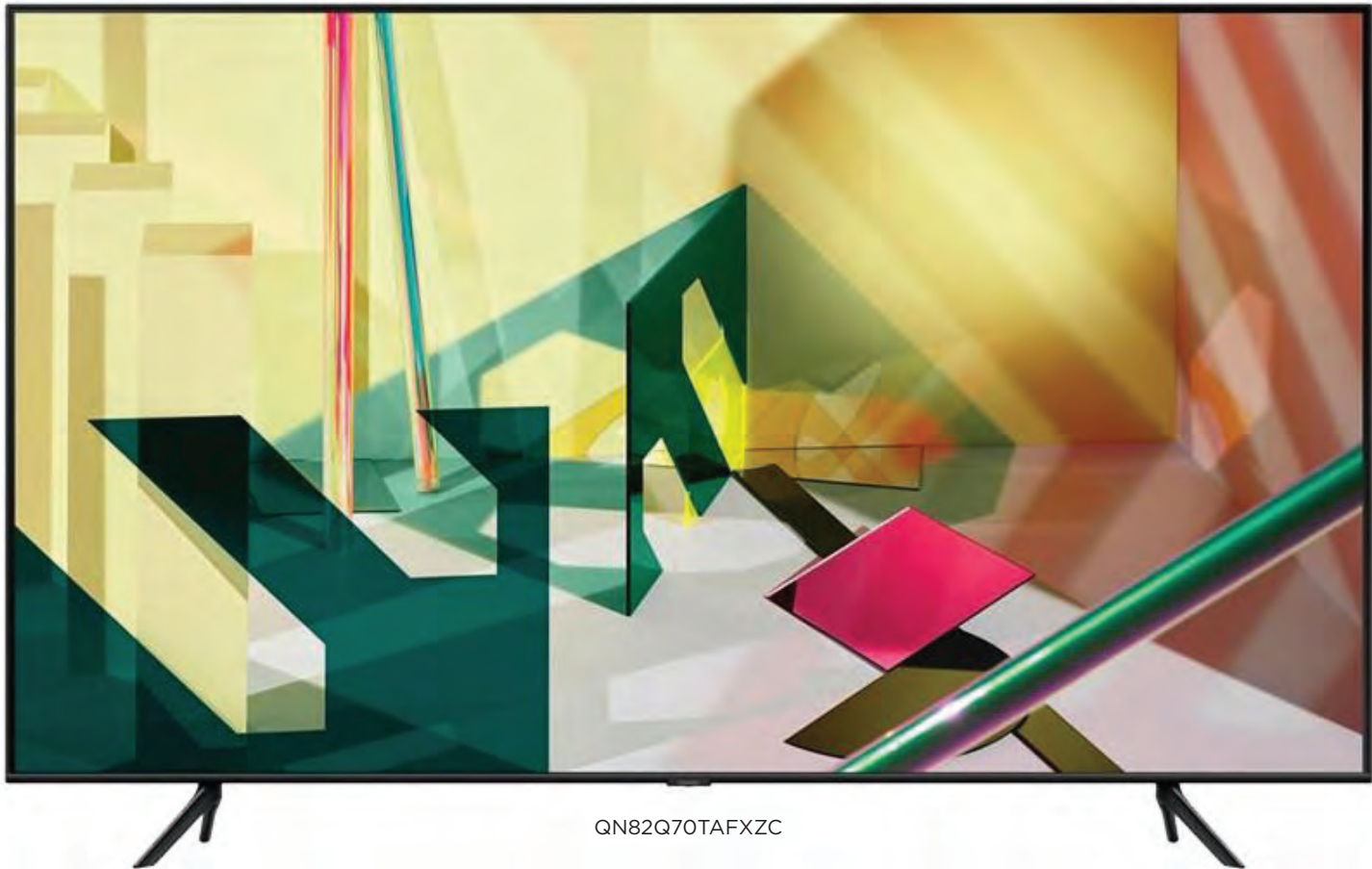
The Carman-Dufferin
STANDARD

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



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