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STANDARD PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG

(Left to right) Noah Friesen, Brooks Falk, Carter Bryson, and Hadley Nicolajsen watched the Cardinals game Sunday night.

> everything you need to know in your locally owned and operated community newspaper





Machining Welding Hydraulic Repairs ONSITE Service Grain-Vacs Feed Trailers

² The Carman-Dufferin Standard Thursday, July 30, 2020 Graysville White Horse and Pony Club hold three-day clinic

By Becca Myskiw

A three-day horse clinic was held at the Carman Fairgrounds last week teaching members of the Graysville White Horse and Pony Club all things equestrian.

The clinic held Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, ended with the club's achievement presentations on Wednesday evening.

Rina Dyck of the club said during the year, the children have meeting and do book work for horse care and stable management topics. At the end of the year, they hand their books in and at the achievement, do a showcase with their horse to show something they've learned.

Their books get judged and each child gets a plaque to show that they have completed the year in 4-H.

"It's a chance to celebrate what they've learned," said Rina Dyck.

The achievement typically happens in May, but due to COVID-19 it had to be postponed. Dyck said she's glad they can still do it —and the clinic she helped organize.

Club secretary Calleigh White, 12, said at the clinic they had one instructor come in each day to teach the chil-

dren lessons in trail riding, English riding, barrel racing, walk trot, and more.

Approximately 20 children aged seven to 16 came out for the three days and rode their horses from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

È-zine reporter Bailey Dyck, seven, said they also learned stable management at the clinic from four parent volunteers. That includes cleaning the stable, showmanship, feeding the horse, barn safety, and show preparation.

Bailey Dyck said she feeds her horse Lenny apples and carrots every morning, then he gets hay, water and minerals and vitamins.

This clinic was Bailey Dyck's first time riding her horse alone in a group of other riders. She said that was her favourite part.

White said she liked being able to ride in groups.

"Most of us ride at home alone. [The clinic] exposes horses to other horses and they're riding every day," said White.

Rina Dyck said the clinic ran as smoothly as it did because of their sponsors who essentially paid for the



STANDARD PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG Natanael Schmitt rode Blueberry at the clinic.

clinicians. The Dufferin Agricultural Society also gave them the use of the fairgrounds and stables.

Rina Dyck said the clinic was like a big end to the club's year and it was beneficial for all involved. "Having a camp and being able to work with your horse every day for a few days gives the kids a chance to really grow as riders and as people who are caring for horses," she said.



CDR's Summer Day Camp for Children aged 5-12 at the Carman Community Hall!

Spots still available for the weeks of: August 10-13th & August 17-20th Themed Weeks and daily swimming at the pool! Cost: \$20.00 per day. Pre-registration only. Registration is online now at: www.carmandufferinrecreation.com or call the office for assistance at 204-745-2684!



carmanmanitoba.ca

Driver fatigue leads to crashes: Manitoba Public Insurance

Submitted by MPI

With summer holiday road trips now in full swing, Manitoba Public Insurance is raising awareness about the dangers of driver fatigue on average, 75 crashes each year in the province are tied to some form of driver fatigue. Some of these crashes are fatal. In a recent poll conducted by Manitoba Public Insurance, almost half of 800 respondents reported driving while drowsy/sleepy.

"Survey data confirms people are pushing themselves when fatigues. Raising awareness about this issue is important as we enter into summer where traffic volumes on our high-



ways typically increase as people travel to holiday destinations," said Satvir Jatana, Vice President, Employee and Community Engagement, Manitoba Public Insurance. "Some drivers may be tempted to push themselves to drive for longer periods of time to get to their holiday destinations more quickly, but doing so could lead to unnecessary collisions. Driver fatigue is a concern to everyone on our roadways."

When traveling on summer road trips alone or with family, it's important that drivers remember to build in time for frequent breaks to ensure a safe arrival. Drivers should also build

in time for potential travel delays due to severe weather, traffic congestion or road construction.

"We encourage all drivers to selfmonitor and be aware of the symptoms of fatigue," said Jatana. "This means recognizing when you are too tired to be behind the wheel. Pull over, rest and continue on when you're alert and completely awake. It's better to arrive late than not at all."

Carman Legion donates \$50,000 locally in five years

By Becca Myskiw

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #18, more commonly known as the Carman Legion, has donated approximately \$50,000 to local organizations in the last five years.

Clubroom manager Brian Maxwell said the Carman Branch #18 received their Charter on Dec. 6, 1926, meaning they've been in the community for 94 years. The Carman Legion Ladies Auxiliary received theirs eight years later on Sept. 4, 2934.

The Royal Canadian Legion is Canada's largest Veteran Support and Community Service Organization, said Maxwell, with 260,000 members nationally.

Back home in Carman, just under 400 members make up Branch #18.

The first Legion hall in Carman was built in February of 1951. It sat just north of the current hall and cost about \$25,000 to construct. That building has since been moved and now sits north of the Carman Home Hardware.

In 1978, the Carman Legion donated land to the Town of Carman — where the community hall sits now. It was in that year, Maxwell said, that the community hall and present legion were constructed.

The 389 members of the Carman Legion work every year to carry on the Poppy Campaign, the annual golf tournament, the Meat and Lucky Card Draws, and to keep clubroom operations going.

The annual golf tournament is on Aug. 9 this year at the Carman Golf & Curling Club.

With the money raised from the annual functions and hall rentals, the Legion has been able to donate around \$50,000 to various local organizations in the past five years, including the Boyne Valley Hospital, Carman Cemetery Cenotaph, Roseisle Cenotaph, Carman Splash Pad, Carman Handi-Van, and more. Maxwell said all funds generated at the Legion

stay in the community. That's not all the Legion is for, though.

"We continue to organize the Remembrance Day services and Decoration Day to honour our veterans," said Maxwell."We also keep alive the memory the memory of those veterans that have passed on including those that gave their all serving our country."

Members of the Carman Legion are under the categories of Affiliate, Associate, Life, and Ordinary.

Members and non-members get access to the clubrooms which have VLTs, food and beverages, pool and shuffleboard tables, and darts — free of charge.

Maxwell said anyone can become a member and they're always looking to expand. To become a member in any capacity of the Carman Legion, call (204) 745-2454 or email legion18@mymts.net.



STANDARD PHOTO BY SUBMITTED The original Charter and flag of the Royal Canadian Legion Carman branch.

Boyne Regional Library starts female-based book club

By Becca Myskiw

Boyne Regional Library has a new book club for those looking for something new.

It's the "Good Books for Bad Babes No Pressure Book Club" organized by library programmer Tina Cronin.

Cronin said she's bad at conventional book clubs and typically finds herself not wanting to read those books, which is why she started this one. The Good Books for Bad Babes No Pressure Book Club focuses heavily on books with female authors and ones that have strong female leads, but as Cronin wants the book club to be for everyone, there are books with male authors too.

"I wanted to create something that would give people in the community a choice," said Cronin.

The book club has a list of books for members to read. They can pick whichever book they want to read that month, and even if they didn't read it, Cronin still encourages them to come to the oncea-month meetings.

At each meeting, Cronin said they will talk about three highlighted books from the list. If those end up interesting members, that's a bonus, said Cro-

The books Cronin chose to highlight for July are one from each list of fiction and nonfiction and one with a male author to add diversity.

The highlighted book, "In My Own Moccasins: A Memoir of Resilience" by Helen Knott is the most popular this month, said Cronin. Knott is an Indigenous Canadian. Her memoir tells of addiction, intergenerational trauma, and the effects of sexual violence. It also shares her story of sisterhood, family, the power of ceremony, and the possibility of redemption for her. "In My Own Moccasins" is rated five stars on Amazon.

Boyne Regional Library's The Good Books for Bad Babes No Pressure Book Club is free to join. People can call the library at (204) 745-3504 or email Cronin directly at tcronin.carmanlibrary@outlook.com to ask questions or sign up. They can view the book lists at tcronincarmanlibra.wixsite.com/badbabes.

The book club is an adult club because of the subject matter in some books. Cronin said so far there are seven members and she's hoping more people sign up. She's reached out to the seven members to determine their availability and set the first meet-



STANDARD PHOTO BY SUBMITTED The new book club is for anyone of any gender over 18 to join.

ing time which will be in August.

This book club gives a voice to females and the authors of the books on the lists, said Cronin.

"It's important to get adults into the building and encourage this discussion and highlight important literature," she said.

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65

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Our commitment to you: we want to help build stronger communities through articles that both inform and entertain you about what's going on throughout the Pembina Valley. This is your community newspaper let us know what you want to see in it.

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Setural > VIEWPOINTS > LETTERS Manitoba dealing with 74 active cases of COVID-19

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Public health officials announced six new cases of COVID-19 on Monday on top of another 10 cases identified over the weekend.

That brings the total number of labconfirmed positive and probable positive cases in Manitoba to 400.

Manitoba's total active caseload as of Monday was 74. A total of 319 Manitobans have recovered from COVID-19 since the pandemic began this spring.

Three people were in hospital at the start of the week, two in intensive care. Seven Manitobans have died due to the virus.

An additional 1,393 laboratory tests were completed on Friday, 1,581 on Saturday, and 808 on Sunday, bringing the total number of tests completed since early February to 84,967.

The current five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate in Manitoba is at 0.45 per cent.

Health Minister Cameron Friesen urges people to focus on that low rate. "It's a truer representation of the risk

in Manitoba" than is the daily number of new cases, he said in an interview last week.

Manitoba had gone nearly two weeks without any new cases of CO-VID-19 before the numbers began to climb once again in mid-July.

While the numbers have gone up significantly since then, nearly all of the new cases can be traced to travel or close contact with known cases, Friesen said, stressing that public health officials are not alarmed by the recent increase.

"While the numbers have climbed the last number of days, clearly we know that a lot of this spread is attributable in sub-populations," Friesen said. "So that gives us a certain confidence. We know where the cases emerged and the people who tested positive are now self-isolating. That's good news for all Manitobans. The spread of COVID-19 through our communities is still very limited."

Phase 4 begins

Manitoba entered Phase 4 of its plan to ease COVID-19 restrictions this past Saturday.

The government unveiled its updated plan last Thursday after hearing back from over 50,000 Manitobans on the draft plan proposed earlier in the week.

Friesen said they took Manitobans' concerns about relaxing some restrictions too early to heart.

"People had strong opinions," he said, explaining people were given the chance to weigh-in on the draft plan through a telephone town hall and an online survey."We've listened ... we're endeavouring to make sure that our plan going forward relies on the advice of experts in public health but also reflects the views of Manitobans."

To that end, the province dropped the idea of relaxing the 14-day selfisolation requirement for travellers from eastern and southern Ontario, Quebec, and Atlantic Canada.

It also put the plan to increase the maximum sizes for indoor and outdoor public gatherings on hold for now. Those numbers remain at 50 for indoor gatherings and 100 for outdoor ones.

Walk-up counter service in bars, beverage rooms, brew pubs, microbreweries, and distilleries will also have to wait for a future phase.

What did change on Saturday was that movie and stage theatres and casinos are now allowed to operate at 30 per cent capacity.

Faith-based services are also limited to 30 per cent capacity, but the prov-

ince has eliminated the need for subgroups within church buildings.

Residents of personal care homes and long-term care facilities also saw visitation rules relaxed somewhat. They are now able to designate two support people who can visit with them in their own rooms at the same time.

"Public health officials will be reviewing possible adjustments to these things on a week by week basis," Friesen noted.

"It is not a return to normal," he stressed. "We are in this for some time."

The minister said Manitoba's continued success in dealing with CO-VID-19 comes from people's commitment to doing what it takes to protect themselves and others.

"Our plan to reopen Manitoba has been working, but our success in the future is going to rely on the willingness of Manitobans to continue to do the right things," he said. "To comply with the rules, wash their hands, stay home if they're sick, don't go into gatherings over sizes that aren't prescribed."

New Winkler testing site

The Winkler drive-thru community testing site is on the move this week.

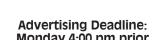
After operating out of the Winkler Centennial Arena for the first few months of the pandemic, the testing site will now be at the Southland Mall starting Thursday, July 30.

The Park St. drive-thru site is closed on July 29. Testing resumes at the mall on Norquay Dr. at noon on Thursday. Access to the site is off of Kimberly Road at the rear of the mall. Signage will be up to direct people. Testing is available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

> DRIVER FATIGUE, FROM PG. 2

Fatigue warning symptoms to watch for while driving: can't stop yawning, trouble keeping your eyes ope, can't remember the last few kilometers

you've driven, car starts drifting within your lane, unable to concentrate and find that your thoughts wander. If you have one of these symptoms,it's best to get off the road and to find a safe rest area to take a nap.



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Tribune

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Roseisle war memorial gets sheltering canopy

By Becca Myskiw

Next to the grocery store in Roseisle sits the war memorial with the new addition of a canopy.

The canopy was built this year after the masonry was fixed last thanks to the Roseisle War Memorial Committee.

On the cenotaph are three plaques with 136 names of soldiers from the community who fought in the First World War, the Second World War, and the Korean War. It was originally built in 1988, but the middle plaque is just over 100 years old, made of marble in 1919.

The committee was formed two years ago for one purpose: to repair the cenotaph. Frank Peters noticed it was in need of some fixes — there were cracks in the mortar and some bricks were coming loose.

So, he called some community members and they had a meeting where the Roseisle War Memorial Committee became officials.

The brick repairs were done last year and completed solely on grants, so the \$8,000 cost didn't hit the committee or community financially.

Cheryl Smith-Tranq is a committee representative along with Peters. She said once the masonry repairs were done, there was more work to do.

"Then we thought, in order not to have this issue again, we should look at building a canopy or shelter to protect it from rain and snow," she said.

That's exactly what they did. The Roseisle War Memorial Committee went knocking on doors in the community, held a progressive 50/50, made phone calls and wrote emails to family connections of the soldiers on the plaques to fundraise for the canopy.

The total cost of the final project was \$11,000 — it was all fundraised, thanks to the community. Brad Harms designed it and Ryan Peters Carpentry built the canopy all within one week.

Now, the canopy sits sheltering the cenotaph from the elements. Peters said the plaques were also getting damaged from the sun, and after redoing the marble plaque, they wanted to preserve it for as long as possible.

"It's not about us," said Peters. "It's about the people that served. We enjoy what we have because of them."



STANDARD PHOTO BY BECCA MYSKIW

Peters, left, and Smith-Trang hope the new canopy lasts "longer than their lifetimes."

He said the war memorial serves a way to honour the soldiers and their families, but also as a way to educate future generations on why they have what they do.

Peters and Smith-Tranq said they hope the work of the committee is done because that would mean the cenotaph is staying in prime condition

Free women's support group coming to Carman

By Becca Myskiw

A free, confidential women's support group is coming to Carman this August.

Taylor Richards is the housing and outreach coordinator with Genesis House, a shelter for abused women in their children out of Winkler.

She has a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in clinical social work, making her a licensed social worker. She's spent the last few years working with women's groups on empowerment and feminism.

Richards works with women from Carman, Winkler, Morden, Altona, and surrounding communities to find them housing options and determine the barriers to their success.

She said this program is new as of April 2020 and the support group is part of it. Because it's so new, she doesn't have numbers that reflect the situation in the area, but she's hoping to have that by this time next year.

The support group is for all women in the area — they don't have to have previously worked with Richards to attend. She said it's a group to connect women with other women in the community who are going through a similar time in life.

"It's important to have all these women connect with other women who are experiencing the same things," said Richards.

The group will focus on self-esteem and self-worth, giving women the social and economic connection to thrive. Richards will be running the group and said they'll look at asserting needs and boundaries, identifying core beliefs of self-esteem and self-worth, and identifying the qualities of positive self-talk. The meetings will be held every Thursday for eight weeks starting on Aug. 6 and ending on Sept. 24. As the group is confidential, for the time and location, contact Richards at (431) 775-6622. Richards

said she's already had a few women sign up. She's hoping the group size will be six to eight women, so they have the opportunity to meet new people in an intimate setting. Maintaining housing can be difficult without

Continued on page 9

What's *Your* story?

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.



Thank You

The Roseisle War Memorial Project has recently been completed! The masonry was repaired last year through grants received. This year, as a result of fundraising efforts, a newly constructed canopy now protects the Memorial from our Manitoba weather.

Our Committee would like to thank the R.M. of Dufferin Council and Staff for their support throughout this project. Thank you also to Shaun Allard for the masonry work, Boyne Electric Ltd. for locating the buried electrical cable, Brad Harms for designing the canopy, and Ryan Peters Carpentry Ltd. for building the canopy.

Tickets were sold on a Progressive 50/50 Draw. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets. Susan Worms of Stephenfield was the lucky winner!

We gratefully acknowledge the following businesses,

the honoured soldiers' descendants, and community members past and present who donated funds in support of our project. Access Credit Union

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Rolling Plains Veterinary Corporation **Roseisle Electric Roseisle Friendship Club** Roseisle Memorial Rose Garden **Roseisle Planning** Committee **Raymond & Carol Roulette** R-Way Ag George & Darlene Smith Glen Smith Robert & Debbie Smith Shirley Snider Glenda Soenen George & Marie Taplin Albert, Cheryl, & Gracyn Trang Carol VanAssen Kathy Vandersluis George & Kathy Verhaeghe Wes's Tire Shop Darren & Melinda White John & Susan Worms James & Lynda Zacharias

The Roseisle War Memorial Committee

Where are they now? Catching up with Peter and Beth Sanderson

By Dennis Young

This feature will attempt to renew some acquaintances with former Carmanites. 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. When did you live in Carman?

All my early life from 1947 until grad in 1965. I moved back to Carman in December 1972 with Beth to open up various business ventures. We left Carman once again in 1994.

Q. Did you attend school here?

I did 1-12 in Carman. Firstly in the present elementary school then into the old 3 story school on the north side of that school yard. I finished schooling at Midland Collegiate. Beth took her schooling in Winnipeg at Dakota High.

Q. What did you do for work as a student?

As a student I worked at home on the mink ranch and I got a few hours in at Aubin's in the drink shack. I did some babysitting too. Once I got my licence I could work at Healthy Hog (John Calverly) and at Dennis Meagher's vet clinic. Beth had a job at Eaton's book department.

Q. What did our family do for a living here? My parent's main source of income was a mink ranch just east of Carman by Aubin's. Dad retired in the late sixties and then bought the Golden Star Motel.

Q. What activities did you participate in Carman?

As a kid minor ball and hockey then when we re-



Beth and Peter Sanderson

turned we both were in the Kinsmen/Kinettes Club, Golf and Curling clubs, United Church, Habitat for Humanity and the Chamber of Commerce.

- Q. Did you meet your spouse here?
- No Beth and I met at the University of Manitoba. Q. Did you raise children here?

Yes both of them! Matthew was born 1974 and Meghan in 1975. After his Carman grad, Matthew attended and graduated Red River Community College as an Engineering Technician. Today he is with McElhanney Engineering and resides here in Courtenay, B.C. with his wife Jen and daughter Caitlin. Meghan graduated here as well then got a Red River Community College business Diploma. Today she is with the Royal Bank and resides in Victoria with her husband Patrick and sons Nathan and Nicholas. We are very proud parents and grandparents.

Q. Do you have any immediate family still? Family has moved to our community over the years as besides Matthew, Beth's Dad lives a few blocks away by himself at the age of 91. Beth's sister and her boyfriend are also in town having relocated from Alberta.

Q. What got you to leave Carman?

Well first time was for my education at U of M Faculty of Agriculture where I met Beth. For me to leave again after returning "home" was a very very hard decision. We made several trips to the coast and to Vancouver Island weighing the options. Ultimately we were in our mid 40's, the kids had left home to pursue their opportunities and we decided that now was the time for an adventure. Little did we know the adventure was the move! Beth and I left Carman on October 31, 1994 and in preparation for leaving we had sold our home on Ross Place and sold our business Parkland Floor and Interiors. Then we had an auction sale and what was left went into a cattle trailer for the trip west. Made a big mistake there as the trailer was so overloaded the springs on the truck were flat. So we had to unload and reload. What amounted to a second load was stored in our neighbour's garages on Ross Place (thanks to the Maykuts and Thiessens). We drove home for Christmas, picked up a second trailer and

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DOGust, Steps for Pets return next month

By Lorne Stelmach

The Pembina Valley Humane Society is looking to make up lost ground with three fundraising ventures in the month ahead.

Like many other organizations, the humane society has been hit hard by having to shutdown and cancel events due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Blaine Pedersen MLA for Midland "This has been an extremely challenging year for the shelter," said Holly Thorne, public relations chairperson.

"We know that we are not alone, but we need to continue to do our best for the animals in our care," she said, noting they welcome the relaxation of restrictions that allows them to host three events next month.

"We hope that these events can put us back into a position of being able to plan for the future growth of the shelter," said Thorne."We thank all of those who have supported us during this time and those who will support our mission in the future."

First up will be the second annual DOGust event this Sat., Aug. 1 from 5-7:30 p.m.

The Universal Birthday for Shelter Dogs was started over a decade ago by a shelter in New Jersey, with August 1 chosen as the day to hold a birthday celebration for pooches in care.

The local party takes place as a come-and-go event at the PVHS shelter at 462 Jefferson Street in Morden.

Boston Pizza and George's Kitchen and Ice Cream will be on hand selling pizza and ice cream, with partial proceeds going to the shelter.

People are encouraged to come with their dogs to enjoy the Allen Titchkosky Memorial Dog Run and visit with shelter staff and volunteers. A 50/50 prize will also be up for grabs.

Next up will be the Access Credit Union Steps 4 Pets Walkathon, which has been rescheduled from June to Saturday, Aug. 22 at 11 a.m. in Morden Park.

This will be a scaled-down event with a walk of about three kilometres, Thorne said. People are encouraged to create a team and collect pledges. Continued on page 8



Manitou man pens autobiography

By Lorne Stelmach

Ron Watson's journey in life has been all over the spectrum from insurance and farming to being an explosives expert and a treasure hunter.

Not to mention surviving cancer at the age of 49 when he had been told he may have had just six months to live, so it's no wonder someone suggested Watson should put pen to paper to share his unique life story.

"It's hard for me to believe that it actually all occurred," Watson acknowledged.

"If you don't write it down, it will be lost forever. No one will believe what you did," the Manitou resident recalls someone telling him. "I have a photographic memory ... so it took me six weeks to write that book ... but I work until about two in the morning. That's normal for me; I'm a workaholic."

Watson recently began selling his autobiography *Go Not Quietly to the Grave.* It tells quite a story that also includes becoming a pilot at a young age and work as an antiques dealer and documentarian.

The spunky 72-year-old doesn't hold back in telling his many stories while also occasionally not masking his disdain for some of his critics and detractors.

"I don't accept brush-offs; not from politicians and not from doctors," he said in a recent interview from his home.

Born on a small farm in the Kaleida area, Watson early on worked for United Grain Growers for about a year, but he said he became disenchanted with it and how it treated farmers.

It was around that time that his first accomplishment came in getting his private pilot licence by age 20.

"My flying instructor was a Royal Canadian Air Force pilot during World War Two," Watson recalled.

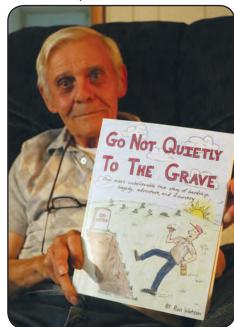
He then went to work with the Canadian Indemnity Company in Winnipeg, where a manager who had also been a pilot saw his wings and hired him on the spot. It wasn't long before he was promoted and became the youngest department head in the company.

His work focused on the commercial sector and carrying out investigations for things like theft, fraud, and arson. Watson recalled occasions when he needed to have a bodyguard.

"You're dealing with some major crimes, and I used to have to confront these people after I got enough background information that I felt I could take them to court unless they paid back the loss."

He said there were times when people he encountered may have had connections to the Mafia.

"Which makes you look over your shoulder all the time when you're out of the office, but at the same time it



STANDARD PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH Manitou's Ron Watson has detailed his life in a new autobiography called Go Not Quietly To the Grave. was very exciting work for a 21-yearold man."

His next opportunity came with an insurance company in Thompson, a city he recalls as having quite a frontier mentality.

"Thompson, at that time, was like the wild, wild west," suggested Watson, who met his future wife Shirley during those years.

When Watson's father took ill, he returned home to southern Manitoba to take over the family farm, although it would have never been his first choice of things to do.

"I never liked farming ... I didn't mind the work, but I hated fighting Mother Nature," he said. "I didn't have a large enough farm that I could keep going, and I wasn't able to expand. So we had some pretty rough years."

Life got better, though, as his wife

Continued on page 8

Who will Pick the Berries?

My wife called from the kitchen, "Who will pick the raspberries?" Company was coming and I roused to volunteer. It was a hot and muggy day, and the berries seemed to be well into the interior of the patch. There were bees and black flies, and the plants were barbed, and oh, forgot to mention, I get bored easy. To endure until there was enough was going to be a task. I started thinking about visiting my parents on Vancouver Island where my mother had a patch that was smaller in size but very productive. She was known for her raspberries and her summer desserts were always fresh raspberry something. Just then, it occurred to me that when we showed up at Mom and Dads place the work was already done. She had spent her time in the patch, cultivating, pruning, picking, and preparing so that we could just pull up to a place at the table. I'm reminded of Luke 14:17 where God is pictured as a certain man who prepared a great supper and sent out his servants to announce, "Come, for all things are now ready". In the Bible, "Come" is the great invitation word for the Gospel of Gods grace. It is Gods loving invitation to the weary who need rest (Matt. 11:38-40), the sin-stained who need cleansing (Isa 1:18), the hungry who need nourishment (Luke 14:17), and all who thirst for the water of Life (Rev 22:17). There was no greater display of Gods love to man than when, on the cross, Christ cried "It is finished", where he completed the work of redemption for all of man. Now God invites us into fellowship with him based on the work that his Son accomplished on our behalf. The invitation is to Gods full and furnished banqueting table – the place where believers receive the graces and blessings of Christ. We come to God through his Son for in John 14:6, Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me". We are reminded in John 1:12 that when we COME we BECOME. "But as many as received Him, to them gave he power to BECOME the sons of God, to them that believe on his name". Gods invitation is today (2 Cor 6:2b "Behold, Now is the day of Salvation), and there is an urgency to it. One day it will end; Do not be late. Ron Burley www.sermon4u.com

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Len and Cooper Penner Manitoba Hog Farmers Blumenort, MB

Carman, Carman how do your flowers grow?

By Becca Myskiw

Lining the streets and adorning the sidewalks of Carman are flower baskets of rich, vibrant colours.

The plants go up and around in mid-June every year, and if they don't, residents are making phone calls asking where they are.

Alyssa Bennie has been taking care of the town flowers for seven years. She started as a summer student when she was 14, and because of CO-VID-19, she's back full-time this summer. She said all of the flowers in the near-100 hanging baskets are donated by Vanderveens Greenhouse. At the end of February, the town delivers the actual baskets to them and until mid-June when the town picks them up, Vanderveens plants and grows the flowers.

Then, four guys go around town with the bucket truck and trailer and take two days to hang up each one.

Each hanging basket has a threegallon reservoir, so those flowers get watered on Mondays, Wednesdays,



STANDARD PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG Vanderveens also donates the flowers on the rail.

and Fridays. Two people go around — one driving the truck and weeding, and the other connecting the hose to the basket spout.

"They're good for the weekend but by the time Monday comes, they need water," said Bennie.

Sometimes, because of the heat this

summer, she waters them more often. The flowers on the rail in the downtown parking lot are also donated by Vanderveen Greenhouse. The flowers on the ground, however, are picked out by Bennie. She said first she looks at where each plant is going to go and chooses them based on how much

> DOGUST, STEPS FOR PETS, FROM PG. 6

Pledge forms are available online at www.pvhsociety.ca or at the shelter or various businesses around town. There is a \$250 prize for the top individual fundraiser, and the top fundraising team will earn an in-home catered dinner for eight from chef Kevin Funk. Finally, PVHS is introducing

the new Empty Cans = Full Bellies fundraising initiative where they are asking the community to collect their empty beverage cans and bottles to

Manitoba. I was called in to remove ice jams, remove beaver dams ... build fire guards in front of forest fires ... I was making ditches for municipalities."

OUTLIVING EXPECTATIONS

More so perhaps than anything else, Watson has been driven by his experiences surrounding being diagnosed 23 years ago with esophageal cancer.

He had surgery but was told that he might have just six months left to live. He refused to accept that sentence.

"I'm 72 now, so I didn't die in six months ... my one doctor told me God doesn't want you and the devil's afraid of you."

Recognizing many other people were suffering from this cancer, Watson joined a support group forum of survivors, and he was motivated by the many questions sent his way.

He started doing his own research, looking into common factors, and ended up making a documentary about how he believes he survived.

"I'm still getting calls from esophageal cancer sufferers, and I do the best I can to tell them what I survived. You have a chance."

As if all of this hasn't made for a full enough life, Watson also found anothsunlight and shade there is in the area — something the Garden Club helped her with a few years ago.

This year, she spent somewhere around \$2,300 on the ground flowers.

Those flowers are watered every day. Directors of public works Joe Richardson said each tank of water is mixed with fertilizer, so whenever the flowers get watered, they also get fertilized. Bennie said she also weeds each basket as she waters it.

"It's a full-time job taking care of them," said Richardson.

And if the flowers are looking only a little down, Bennie said Vanderveens lets them know.

"It looks good on the town and Vanderveens to have nice flowers," she said.

Richardson said the town flowers usually add a pop of colour to the town, but they really took off this summer.

"This year seems to be really extraordinary," he said. "They really took good."

donate to the shelter. A 24-pack will get the shelter \$2.40, which in turn buys three cans of cat food or two cans of dog food.

er passion in art and antiques.

"I was a treasure hunter," he said, noting how he early on had a metal detector and "used to come home with pockets full of silver."

From there, he expanded into pursuing more valuable antiques, and he maintains it has been an adventure that on occasion has led him to dealing with everything from museums to film productions.

He is proud now of having added the title of published author to his resume, and he would be pleased if reading his book might get across to readers the idea of making the most out of your life.

"I hope they learn never to go quietly to the grave ... to rather skid in sideways with a bottle of single malt Scotch in one hand and a Cuban cigar in the other, screaming all the while 'Now that was a riot," said Watson.

"You do your best for your fellow man, and that's what you will be judged on," he concluded. "Live life to the fullest ... never give up, even if there's insurmountable odds ... there is no such thing."

Look for Watson's book around town in Manitou or reach him via phone at 204-242-2828.

> BIOGRAPHY, FROM PG. 7

got a job and he went to work at an auto dealership in Manitou. Things also picked up on the farm.

"I worked around the clock between the farm and working in the automobile garage in Manitou," said Watson, adding that it was during this time that he then got into doing some demolition work, eventually earning his blaster certification.

"When you start getting fairly good at it, other people want to start hiring you," he said. "Because I was very good at what I did, I got contracts with the federal government, the provincial government, municipal governments and the CPR and CN railways." Coming into a period of drought, when farmers were struggling to maintain water supplies, he even

started making dugouts. "I used to go from the Ontario border to the Saskatchewan border and halfway up into the Interlake ... I built 31 dugouts in six weeks," said Watson. "I became a leading service blaster in



compliments on them!

We would also like to thank you personally for helping us to maintain the flowers throughout the season. Your dedication to your industry and community is appreciated.

Th Co Of

Thank you! Council, Staff, Citizens and Visitors Of the Town of Carman

> SANDERSONS, FROM PG. 2

early in January 1995 we again left for the coast for good.

Did you move around lots in Q. career or lives? My summer job during university days was with a chemical company that led to a permanent position after grad. But that entailed a lot of travel which was difficult on our marriage so Beth and I eventually moved back to Carman in December 1972 to become the Imperial Oil Agent. In 1980 we purchased Parkland Floor and Interiors on 1st Street and the next year I joined A & M Soil Service as Agronomist and Sales Manager. Beth then joined Parkland Floor and Interiors staff with Judy and Jim McGregor. The decision to leave Carman was not taken lightly and we had done a lot of research on our next home. We found that home and community here in Courtenay, BC. Other than more people Courtenay has that same small town feel and strong sense of community that we loved about Carman. We bought a home there in 1994 before building one in 2005.

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

We joined the Shell Canada retail system in the mid 90's and spent 10 years as retailers and retail trainers. Shortly after that we joined the Habitat for Humanity affiliate in Courtnenay first as a volunteer and board member and then as Project and Construction Manager. We remain involved with Habitat to this day. We sold that a few years later, lived aboard our boat for a few years before settling in our present home.

What do you do now? Q.

Retired. I remain involved with Habitat as a consultant and build leader on a part time basis. Beth remains active as a build volunteer.

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

We bike and kayak. I like to take the boat fishing and I do all our own vehicle maintenance and home maintenance. I have a workshop that I have made garden furniture, household furniture, cabinets and currently am building a skin on frame kayak. Beth has a huge garden that fills the yard so that keeps her busy with me helping as needed. We are involved in the Courtenay Rotary, Comox Valley Yacht Club, Habitat for Humanity and the St Georges United Church.

Q. Any future plans?

No great bucket list. Covid 19 has interrupted everyone's lives and is setting ground rules for the new normal

O. Have you travelled and where?

Mostly in North America but Beth has been to Europe. We have travelled in our motor home from coast to coast to coast in the United States over the years. Exploring the waters off the west coast of Canada from Vancouver to Prince Rupert in our boat was breath taking. Now we spend our winters in Yuma Arizona.

Q. Do you ever return to Carman?

We return to Carman on occasion and were there in 2015 and again in 2019. Lots of good friends to visit for sure. The advantage of the internet and Facebook allows us to maintain contact. I was a regular reader of the Leader online until its demise but hope to keep that up with this new publication!

Q. Fond memories of Carman days?

Our neighbours and good friends on Ross Place. The Kinsmen Fair Booth and the Carman Fair. Fowl Suppers at the United Church and then the Community Hall. The Borscht and pie suppers, Beaver hockey games, Cougar hockey games, Curling bonspiels and those memorable winter snowstorms. Last wishes to send to read-Q. ers.

These are easy words to write. Carman remains a strong, vibrant community as it continues to adapt to the challenges of the next generation. We are proud of that and will brag about being a Carman couple every chance we get.

> SUPPORT GROUP, FROM PG. 5

a support system, said Richards. "This group is to help them con- to bridge that gap."

nect," she said. "This group is meant

up for the group see it as a commit- women involved. It's completely free.

All Richards asks is those that sign ment to themselves and the other



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Ru Fest 2020 honours baby loss online

By Becca Myskiw

After her daughter Ru was stillborn in March of 2019, Caitlin Owen from The Little Strawberry Farm found herself struggling with grief and wanting to do something about it.

Ru was 34 weeks when she was born at Boundary Trails Health Centre. Owen said the doctors told her there was no obvious reason for her daughter's death, but later contributed it a rare condition found during an autopsy.

Because Ru died at birth, Owen said she felt like she wasn't allowed to share about her.

"it's kind of like a dirty dark secret that you don't talk about," she said. "It's a lonely, dark place to be."

Then, after reaching out to other mothers and families who had lost their babies, Owen said she realized she wasn't the only one with the feelings she was having.

So, four months after Ru died, Owen held Ru Fest on The Little Strawberry Farm in honour of the little girl and all of the other babies who have died.

"We wanted to say these babies matter," said Owen."They existed.

Ru Fest celebrated the babies and v

raised awareness of baby loss as it's not something widely talked about in Owen's experience. The day had an entrance fee which gave people access to a bouncy castle, a face painter, a petting zoo, pony rides, yard games, raffles, and a maker's market.

All proceeds from strawberry sales and the festival that day went to charity. Owen said most parents are told when their baby dies that there isn't always a reason for it, so the proceeds from Ru Fest mostly went to funding research into baby loss.

"I just feel like in 2019, being told there is no reason is not a good enough excuse," said Owen.

So, some of the money from Ru Fest last year went to Tommy's, a baby charity in the United Kingdom committed to the research Owen is supporting. The other proceeds went to Boundary Trail Health Centre and their program for aiding parents with baby loss. The plan for the proceeds from this year's Ru Fest was to go to Boundary Trail Health Centre to buy a cooling cot, which would slow the dying process of a baby. This, Owen said, allows the parents more time with their baby.



STANDARD PHOTO SUBMITTED

This is the wall from Ru Fest last year where people wrote the name of their baby on a star in their memory.

"Having that time with your baby is so valuable," she said. "The cot would help make it more comfortable and more bearable."

Due to the pandemic, however, Ru Fest 2020 was cancelled. In lieu of the interactive festival, The Little Strawberry Farm asked supporters to post on social media using the hashtag #RuFestRemotely to honour the babies that would have been celebrate at this year's Ru Fest. Owen said that's what the whole day is about and seeing all of the posts on Facebook and Instagram helped her and families like Owen's feel less alone.

Redboine Rain Barrel sale raising money for education

By Becca Myskiw

The Redboine Watershed District is having a rain barrel sale to raise money for their educational programs.

Redboine Watershed District manager Justin Redi said they help rainbarrel.ca with advertising and the company does all the sales for them. Then, the district gets \$10 or \$20 per barrel sold.

The sale is to fund their three main educational programs — water festivals, Envirothon, and water sampling.

Their water festivals are mainly for Grade 4 students in the district. Reid said the children take half a day and walk along a trail by Manitou. There, they partake in an educational event or activity at each station that has to do with forestry, birds, mammals, or water.

Envirothon is an event for high school students. In teams of five, each student has a specialty — forest and plant ecology, wildlife ecology, aquatic ecology, soils and geology, and the year's current theme.

They then go through a course of stations answering questions based on their specialties. For wildlife ecology, it could be listening to animal calls and determining which is which or matching a pelt to an animal. For forest and plant ecology, it could be measuring how tall a tree is with a formula from the ground.

Each team also has to create a presentation for a panel of judges about the year's current theme. Envirothon encourages teamwork, problem-solving skills, and public speaking skills while teaching students about environmental issues.

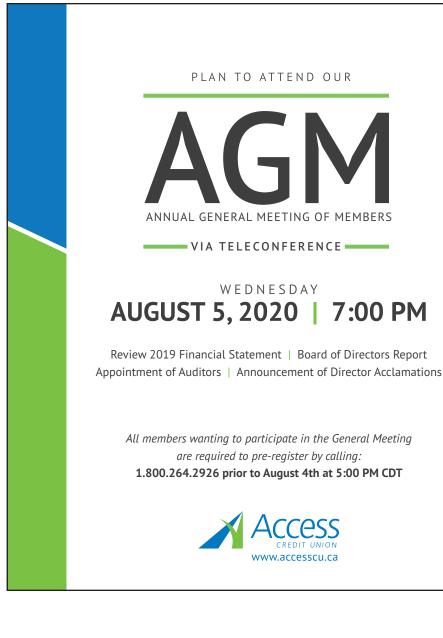
Winners of regionals go to provincials and then nationals.

The district's water sampling is for a number of classes. Reid said Carman Collegiate students go to a site on the Boyne River and work through water sampling to determine if that could be a career possibility for them.

"It also helps give kids a sense of ownership of their small piece of the river," said Reid.

The money from the rain barrel sale will go to new equipment for these three programs. It started the second week of July and goes until the end of the month.

Reid said they hope to sell 100 barrels. To purchase a rain barrel, go to redboine.rainbarrel.ca.



Spontes upside Down

Belfour is still Carman's finest

By Ty Dilello

Eddie Belfour was one of the game's elite goalies for a very long time.

"Whatever the motivation was-the desire to prove people wrong, the desire to be loved or needed-Belfour focused all of his energies into preparing to win," said ESPN's Scott Burnside. "And though he was demanding of his teammates, he saved his greatest demands for himself."

Focus and preparation were everything to Eddie. "The bigger the game, the narrower the focus," recalled his Dallas Stars coach Ken Hitchcock. "The bigger stage the better he played all the time."

Eddie was a stand-up/butterfly hybrid style of goaltender in a time where the position was slowly evolving to what it's like today with virtually every goalie playing solely a butterfly style. The 6'0", 190-pound Belfour relied on his quickness, aggressiveness, and technical strength. He was excellent at controlling rebounds and had solid puckhandling skills to go with it. His only major flaw perhaps was his volatile temper that sometimes came out with his aggressiveness and determination.

A neat stat I found out when researching Belfour is that he is one of two people ever (along with Neal Broten) to win an NCAA championship, an Olympic gold medal, and a Stanley Cup over the course of his career.

Ed Belfour was born in Carman on April 21, 1965. He wanted to be a goalie at the age of four when his parents first took him to the local arena. He started skating by the time he was five, but didn't start playing goalie full-time until he was eleven or twelve.

Growing up, Ed, his sister Patricia, and parents Henry and Alma lived in a three-bedroom bungalow in Carman. His father was a maintenance worker for the town of Carman. Right from an early age, Eddie and his buddies spent hours at a time playing hockey on the outdoor rink. On days where it was super cold, Ed would take off his skates and have mom rub his feet until the feeling returned to his toes. He would then go back and play hockey for a few more hours.

His first job was having a paper route in town so he could help pay for his hockey in the winter.

"He's always been so competitive," recalled his mom Alma to the Chicago Tribune,"so when the paper ran a contest to see who could get the most subscriptions he canvassed the whole area and won the contest. He won a stereo and it's the one we used for many years."

Ed watched Hockey Night in Canada every Saturday night and idolized Chicago Blackhawks netminder Tony Esposito and Soviet legend Vladislav Tretiak, often emulating the two in daily street hockey games. He became a goalie after seeing the cool-looking masks and acrobatic saves that Esposito and Tretiak made on television.

Belfour had his fair share of obstacles in making



Carman's Ed Belfour had an illustrious Hall of Fame career in the National Hockey League.

it, but from the time he started playing hockey, he had a dream that he was going to make the NHL. A dream that seemed a bit farfetched at times, especially when he was cut from his Carman Cougars high school team. He eventually battled his way back onto the roster as a backup goalie, and then finally became the starter, playing two and a half years of high school hockey.

After he graduated from high school, Belfour joined the MJHL's Winkler Flyers for the 1983-84 season and spent three years there. He was 21 years old by the time he played his last game with Winkler. He went undrafted several times at the NHL Entry Draft, but managed to get a hold of a scholarship to play college hockey at the University of North Dakota.

In his freshman year, Belfour went 29-4 and led his Fighting Sioux to the NCAA championship. It was finally after that great success that NHL teams came knocking at his door, and he signed with the Chicago Blackhawks as a free agent on September 25, 1987.

Legendary Soviet netminder Vladislav Tretiak was hired by Blackhawks bench boss Mike Keenan to be the team's goaltending coach and for years he worked extensively with Belfour, who later credited Tretiak with his maturation as a goalie and more importantly as a person. Eddie wore number 20 in tribute to Tretiak later in his career.

Belfour was sent by Chicago to their IHL affiliate in Saginaw, where he spent a season and a half learning the ins and outs of the professional game. The Blackhawks called him up during the 1988-89 season and he played his first 23 games of NHL action.

For the 1989-90 season, Belfour played for the Canadian Olympic development team, but was called

up by Chicago during the 1990 Stanley Cup playoffs. Alternating with two other goalies, Eddie appeared in nine games for Chicago and went 4-2, but they ultimately fell in the conference final to the Edmonton Oilers in six games. Edmonton went on to win the Cup that year.

Belfour had a pretty interesting set-up in his early years in Chicago. Vladislav Tretiak was his goalie coach and the other goalie on the team was Dominik Hasek. Eddie's 1990-91 campaign was one of the greatest rookie seasons anyone's ever put together. He played in 74 of the team's 80 games and went 43-19-7, leading the league in wins, goals-against-average and save percentage. When the awards night came around at the end of the year, Belfour left with all of the hardware as he won the Calder, Vezina and William Jennings Trophy, and was runner-up for the Hart Memorial Trophy.

Eddie followed up his dream rookie season by leading the Blackhawks to the Stanley Cup finals in 1991-92 season where they ran into Mario Lemieux, Jaromir Jagr and the Pittsburgh Penguins who promptly swept them for their second straight Stanley Cup.

After five more years as Chicago's starter, Belfour was dealt to San Jose, and then from there, signed as a free agent with the Dallas Stars in time for the 1997-98 season. In his first season with Dallas, Belfour led his club to the conference finals.

The pinnacle of Eddie's career came the following year in the 1999 Stanley Cup playoffs when he carried Dallas to their lone Stanley Cup win in team history. For those who don't remember, Dallas won game six of the Cup finals over the Buffalo Sabres in triple overtime off a highly controversial Brett Hull goal that still gets talked about today.

Nonetheless it was a huge personal triumph for Eddie as previously he had faced much criticism from the press on whether he could push a team all the way to the Cup, which is the likely reason why he was not invited to Canada's 1996 World Cup or 1998 Olympic squads. But in 1998-99 he was simply on fire the whole way through and you have to wonder if any Stanley Cup-winning goalie has gone through a more impressive line of opposing goalies than Eddie overcoming Tommy Salo, Grant Fuhr, Patrick Roy, and Dominik Hasek. Three of the four are Hall of Famers which pretty much says all that needs to be said.

Dallas coach Ken Hitchcock thought that Belfour was even more impressive in the 2000 Stanley Cup finals where they fell to the New Jersey Devils in game six of the Cup finals."As good as he was in the Cup year (1999), he was better the next year in the finals," Hitchcock said. "Just check out the shot totals against New Jersey-we'd have something like 18 or 19 a night, and they were always over 40.

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for him."

"I've never seen a person so oblivious to what's going on. If you ever want to see goaltending alone win a playoff, look at us in 2000. Eddie won two series all by himself—our team had nothing left, we were banged up and just done. He just refused to let us lose games."

"Eddie was a unique teammate. Socially, he probably wasn't real tight with anybody, but we all admired the seriousness he took at his position. He prepared himself. He was the first guy

We had no business being there but there and the last to leave," said teammate Joe Nieuwendyk."There were a lot of things that went with that. Eddie needed his certain type of groceries; he needed a skate sharpener and all that kind of stuff. But we accepted it because we knew the type of goalie that we had. We knew the competitor he was. He was maybe the best biggest-game goaltender I ever played with."

After a few stints in Toronto and Florida, Belfour retired from hockey after the 2007-08 season. Belfour finished with a 484-320-125 record in 963 NHL games with 76 shutouts. He also had 88 wins in the playoffs. Currently, Eddie ranks 3rd in wins all-time and 5th in games played for a goaltender. In addition to his one Stanley Cup (1999) and 2002 Olympic gold medal, Belfour won the Calder Trophy (1991), two Vezina Trophies (1991, 1993), and four William Jennings Trophies (1991, 1993, 1995, 1999). He was named an NHL First Team All-Star twice (1991, 1993) and a Second Team All-Star once (1995). Ed also played in six NHL All-Star Games (1992, 1993, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2003). Belfour was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2011. Today, Eddie lives in Dallas, where he

and his son, Dayn, have started a distillery "Belfour Spirits". He still gets back to Carman a few times a year to see his parents and other family and friends. When asked about how he made the big leagues and had such an amazing career despite being pegged as a long-shot, Belfour said, "growing up in a small town in Canada and watching Hockey Night in Canada and playing for the Stanley Cup every day on the street. We had a real competitive high school. I played a lot of sports and I was a pretty good athlete. Obviously, a God-given talent, never give up, never quit and always give 110%."

Cardinals win pair of games last week

Submitted by Jack Pethybridge

The Carman Cardinals travelled to Winkler on July 21 and came away with a 2-1 victory, giving the Whips their second loss of the season.

Brent Aldie pitched 1 1/3 innings to start the game and then Kevin Dunn came in to complete the game. Carman's two runs came in the fourth inning.

On Sunday, the Cardinals hosted the West Division-leading Cartwright Twins. The Cards dominated the Twins with a resounding 14-7 victory. Carman scored four runs in each of the second and third innings and then

added three runs in the fifth and sixth frames. Tim Dunn started the game and pitched four innings. Kevin Dunn replaced him in the fifth to complete the victory. The Cardinals had 13 hits in the game.

The Cardinals will finish out the regular season at home versus the Altona Bisons on Aug 7 at 7 p.m. This game was originally scheduled for July 31.

Carman will begin the playoffs following the end of the season and will host at least one game. Details will follow next week.

See you at the ballpark.



Girls having a ball



STANDARD PHOTO BY DENNIS YOUNG Beach volleyball enthusiasts Kayla (15), left, and Anika Bergsma (13) having a fun game at King's Park Sunday night against their opposition Sierra (15) and Carter (13) Vanderswaag.

STANDARD PHOTO BY LORNE STELMACH The Cardinals' first base Jordan Riddell attempts the out on first base against Winkler on July 21.

MJHL's Neepawa Natives changing their name

Staff

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League's Neepawa Natives are changing their name.

Neepawa will begin the process of looking for a new team name and logo after the team's board of directors decided it was time for a change.

The decision was made on July 21 and announced the following day. The new name will go into effect for the 2021-22 season.

The process of changing the name will include research and input from different community members, stakeholders, and fans of the team.

"We appreciate your patience and support as we go through this process," read a statement on the team's website."Going forward, we want the focus to be on the work we do in our community and our commitment to improving on the ice as we prepare for the upcoming season."

Neepawa has been a member of the MJHL since 1989.

The Morden Redskins of the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League are also debating a name change while the NFL's Washington Redskins and the CFL's Edmonton Eskimos recently announced they are making changes.



Announcements Classifieds Standard

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CARD OF THANKS

Mel Montgomery, along with sons Gord and Jamie, would like to thank everyone for their cards, condolences, messages and donations to charity on Shirley's passing. A special thanks to Sylvia Tissot and Marg Clarke for organizing such a wonderful celebration of Shirley's life. It represented how kind Shirley was and the service reflected her wishes perfectly.

CARD OF THANKS

Thanks to my family, Anita and friends for helping me celebrate my 95th birthday on July 19. I'm still going to the MCC every Tuesday morning! Who?

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BIRTHDAY

Dennis Young

How is it possible another year did fly, And on August 2nd you will welcome 65? It is so hard to believe this milestone arrived, Quite frankly that you actually survived. Always a generous host to family and friends, Friday coffees, campfires, whatever life sends. You are always up for Mr. Mikes' appetizers, Or cooking the meal for home socializers! Your retirement decision was quicker than I thought.

Seems you keep busy and skills are sought. Keeping the house and yard tidy at home, Then off to the golf course to weed, pick branches, you roam.

And then when The Standard came to our town,

Of course you were up for the challenge without a frown.

And don't forget the sports you still try to play, Hockey, stick curling, golf, pool – what more can I say?

We could not miss the opportunity to say, And wish you a Happy 65th Birthday! To the husband and dad with a heart of gold,

That has become VERY old! -Love your family





Linda Marie Olson October 5, 1961 - July 20, 2020

Peacefully, with loved ones at her side, Linda Marie left us and went to join her parents in heaven.

Linda leaves to mourn her beautiful daughter Kaila and son-in-law Jared Cummer; her three beautiful grandchildren Eli, Axel and Astrid all of Elm Creek, MB.; her life long partner Bob MacDonald of Winnipeg; her sister Valerie Olson (Dieppe, New

Brunswick), brother Robert (Carol Birch) Olson of Carman, MB and sister Crystal (Don) Zacharias of Elm Creek, MB. She also leaves to mourn her nieces Carrie (Jordan) Last, Shaylin (Ryan Owen) Olson, Cierra Zacharias and nephew Dustyn (Nicole) Zacharias. She leaves two great nieces Brielle and Sophie and one great nephew Asher and soon to arrive baby Zacharias!

OBITUARY

She was predeceased by her parents, father Kermit Orval in September 2015 and her mother Eileen Joyce in April 2016.

Linda's life started out in Elie, Manitoba where at the age of three, along with her sister Val and parents, moved to Elm Creek, MB. It was here that she lived her life till she graduated from Elm Creek High School! Linda was active as a child with figure skating, curling, Brownies and Guides. It was at Guides where she was able to attend the International Girl Guides camp on the East Coast. She loved playing piano and singing in her early years. After high school, she moved to Winnipeg and started working at Marshall Wells and then obtained her life long dream job at Manitoba Pool Elevators Office in Winnipeg, MB.

In December of '86, she rejoiced with the birth of her daughter, Kaila Marie! She was so excited to be a mom and make her parents grandparents! A couple years later she met her life long partner Robert (Bob) MacDonald. Towards her end of life, she reaffirmed to her family that they were the best years of her life! Linda loved her flowers and gardens and had a great skill with them as well as being in the kitchen, which she inherited from her mother. She was active with work, being involved with Kaila's social activities such as skating, Brownies, Guides, etc. and continued on with curling and helping Bob with the Casino Bus Tours.

In February of '93, Linda was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and her world was given a new challenge. She tried her best to keep life normal as she could for Kaila and Bob but through the years MS took over and made things complicated for her. She then decided to move to Carman, MB so she could be with family. In 2012, Linda's quality of life declined and she moved to Carman Boyne Lodge where she resided for the last eight years.

Even though Linda's health declined, it never stopped her from living. The joy of her life was her daughter Kaila and son-in-law Jared who provided her with three beautiful grandchildren, whom she could not stop talking and bragging about. Her love for them was highly recognizable by her eyes that would sparkle and the excitement in her voice. Her room at the Lodge was filled with goodies and treats for them, as she was a typical grandma who spoiled them when they came to visit and they in turn provided her with drawings and presents of their own. It was never a question how much she loved her family! She said it all the time!

If anyone had visited Linda at the Lodge you would have seen her walls covered with postcards from around the world! The postcards started off as a small gift from someone who had travelled and it became Linda's world and adventure. Every time someone travelled, she would receive a postcard from where they were, they became her life. She always said that although she could not travel herself, the postcards allowed her to travel their adventure with them and she got to see the world!!!

When COVID 19 hit...it was extremely challenging for Linda. It affected her deeply not being able to see her daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren. Outside visits arrived and she was able to see her siblings and daughter briefly but was not allowed to visit her grandchildren and that broke her heart! They had a couple window visits but they could only hold up a sign for her. Towards the end of Linda's life, she got to see them close at the window.

The last two weeks, Linda was surrounded by Kaila, Crystal, and Rob at all times. Video visits with her sister Val were daily and she still cracked a smart remark every time. Her wit, humour, smile, love and compassion through the years were a family trait that she honestly inherited. Having her in the room with the rest of the family was always entertaining!

We will miss her dearly, but knowing she is no longer in a wheelchair and is free from MS, we are at peace!

Our family would like to thank everyone who gave her an opportunity to live her life to the fullest, the best way it could be. It would never of happened if we didn't have the following: Carman Home Care Services, The doctors and nurses at Carman Memorial Hospital, the doctors and nurses at Boundary Hospital, Carman Handi-Van, her companions that took her out and about, and to all the staff at Carman Boyne Lodge.

"With every life comes many journeys that brings love and joy. With every life brings hardships and sadness and with every life there leaves memories that can never be taken away. Go free... walk... run... hug... sing... dance and love like it was at the beginning of your life!"

A private family graveside service will be held in the Elm Creek Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the MS Society, 100-1465 Buffalo Place, Wpg, MB, R3T 1L8.

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