

The Citizen

Free PLEASE TAKE ONE



We Reward You For Referrals

Niverville CREDIT UNION

Come on over

VOLUME 4 - ISSUE 4

APRIL 2018

www.nivervillecitizen.com

DISTRIBUTED FREE TO NIVERVILLE, ÎLE-DES-CHÊNES, STE. AGATHE, ST. ADOLPHE, TOUROND, OTTERBURN, NEW BOTHWELL, AND GLENLEA



204-388-4442

LOCAL NEWS

Luxury Townhouse Rentals in Niverville

■ Local developer is breaking ground on a new subdivision of rental townhouses on Fourth Avenue South in Niverville.

Details on Page 4



LOCAL NEWS

Life in the Cadets Corps

■ When you think of teenagers, certain words may come to mind, like self-centred and lazy. Not so when it comes to the members of our local Cadet Corps! They say the program has enriched their lives and made them more active members of society.

Details on Page 20

SPORTS & RECREATION

Gab-Ray Cavaliers Honour Riley Weir

■ At season's end, Gab-Ray hockey players recognize the key contributions made by the team's hard-working water boy.

Details on Page 24

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

New Novel Focuses on Local History

■ Margaret Kyle of Niverville has released a novel she collaborated on which focuses on early 20th-century life in Manitoba.

Details on Page 29

Construction Underway on Niverville High School



»» DETAILS ON PAGE 3

EVAN BRAUN



MONDAY - FRIDAY: 9:00 am - 5:30 pm

SATURDAY: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

PHONE: 204-388-2000

101 - 106 MAIN STREET, NIVERVILLE

autopac

A Manitoba Public Insurance product

SAVE UP TO 40%

OFF SELECT ENERGY STAR® CERTIFIED LED BULBS

Item	Product Description	PROGRAM RETAIL PRICE	20% OFF PRICE
PLYC1162	A19, 2700K, 5.5W (40W Replacement)	\$3.39	\$2.71
PLYC1252	A19, 2700K, 9.5W (60W Replacement)	\$3.69	\$2.95
PLYC12424	A19, 2700K, 9.5W - 4 Pack (60W Replacement)	\$8.99	\$7.19
PLYC12454	A19, 5000K, 9.5W - 4 Pack (60W Replacement)	\$8.99	\$7.19
Item	Product Description	PROGRAM RETAIL PRICE	40% OFF PRICE
PLYC3722	R20, 2700K, 7W (50W Replacement)	\$4.99	\$2.99
PLYC5232	BR30, 2700K, 8W (65W Replacement)	\$8.99	\$5.39
PLYC5294	BR30, 2700K, 8W - 4 Pack (65W Replacement)	\$19.99	\$11.99
PLYC5732	BR40, 2700K, 17W (100W Replacement)	\$14.99	\$8.99
PLYC3223	PAR20, 3000K, 7W (50W Replacement)	\$4.29	\$2.57
PLYC3296	PAR20, 3000K, 7W - 6 Pack (50W Replacement)	\$24.99	\$14.99
PLYC4163	PAR 30, 3000K, 12W (75W Replacement)	\$7.99	\$4.79
PLYC4543	PAR38, 3000K, 15W (120W Replacement)	\$14.99	\$8.99
PLYC23332	GU10, 3000K, 6.5W - 2 Pack (60W Replacement)	\$7.99	\$4.79
PLYC23336	GU10, 3000K, 6.5W - 6 Pack (60W Replacement)	\$19.99	\$11.99
PLYC1412	A21, 2700K, 16W (100W Replacement)	\$9.99	\$5.99
PLYC1415	A21, 5000K, 16W (100W Replacement)	\$9.99	\$5.99
PLF6112	B11, 2700K, 4W (40W Replacement)	\$3.99	\$2.39

INSTANT REBATE APPLIED AFTER TAXES.

PLYC3296 - 6 Pack



REGULAR \$37.99
PROMO \$24.99

SAVE 40%

\$14.99

PLYC12424 - 4 Pack



REGULAR \$10.99
PROMO \$8.99

SAVE 20%

\$7.19

PLYC5294 - 4 Pack



REGULAR \$29.99
PROMO \$19.99

SAVE 40%

\$11.99

OFFER IN EFFECT FROM APRIL 5, 2018 TO APRIL 30, 2018

Visit hydro.mb.ca/savings for more information on fall rebates.



262 Main Street, Niverville, MB | 204-388-4727
www.wmdyck.com



Terms and Conditions - Rebates will be provided at the till while quantities last. Limit of 10 items per customer for single-pack products, limit of 5 items per customer for multi-pack products.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Developer Bringing Rental Subdivision to Niverville	4
Breckenridge Rezoning Declined a Second Time	5
Niverville Council Unveils 2018 Budget	7
Local Beauty Shops Stay on Top of Popular, Eco-Conscious Trends	8
Wm. Dycks Makes Impact in Guatemala	10
St. Adolphe Woman Honoured for Volunteerism	12
Hespeler Park to See More Enhancements	13
Recharging Mamas to Help Them Feel their Best	19
The Cadets Corps: Changing Lives and Making Friends for Life	20
The NIMBY Mentality	23
Gabrielle Roy Cavaliers Honour Riley Weir	24
Forever Young	26
History Enthusiast Co-Authors Mennonite Fiction Novel	29
Soul Purpose Releases Second Album	30

The Citizen

Box 266, Niverville, MB R0A 1E0
www.nivervillecitizen.com

Managing Editor:
Evan Braun

Sales Manager:
Ray Dowse

Operations Manager:
Cara Dowse

Design/Production Manager:
Dustin Krahn

Contributors:
Evan Braun, Brenda Sawatzky, Liz Byron,
Greg Fehr, Jan Kendall St. Cyr, Nick Anderson,
Amber Mamchuk, Heather Miller,
Eric Peterson, Jason Kehler

CONTACT US
Letters to the Editor:
editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Advertising Sales:
sales@nivervillecitizen.com

Classifieds/General Information:
info@nivervillecitizen.com

Artwork/Ad Proofs/Graphics:
ads@nivervillecitizen.com

The Niverville Citizen is published monthly and distributed through Canada Post to all those with a postal box in Niverville, Ile-des-Chênes, St. Adolphe, Ste. Agathe, New Bothwell, Otterburne, and Tourond. Additional copies are manually distributed to businesses in the aforementioned communities, as well as the town of Landmark. The paper is printed in Canada by Derksen Printers Ltd. Republishing of this paper in whole or in part without prior approval is strictly prohibited.

The advertising deadline is 5:00 p.m. on the 15th of each month. The paper will be distributed the last week of every month.

Our commitment to the reader is to provide a professional and reliable means of communication that both residents and businesses will value. This newspaper is 100 percent supported by those who choose to advertise within it. Readers who support the businesses who advertise in this publication are also supporting the development and circulation of future issues of this newspaper. Together, we can help build stronger communities.

FREE TO SHARE. PLEASE RECYCLE.



Construction Underway on Niverville High School

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Officials gathered in Niverville on Friday, March 23 for the sod-turning ceremony for the community's new high school. Superintendent Randy Dueck and several Hanover School Division trustees were joined by Ian Wishart, Manitoba's Minister of Education; Shannon Martin, MLA for Morris; and Niverville Mayor Myron Dyck. The group also included representatives from MCM Architects, the firm who designed the building, and Red Lake Construction, which won the construction contract. Also present were town counsellors, representatives of the Public Schools Finance Board, and students of Niverville Collegiate.

"Today marks something that has been spoken about in Niverville for many years," said Mayor Dyck. "While campaigning and during previous municipal elections residents wanted to know, 'When are we getting a new school?' Many times I had to answer that question and spoke about reasonableness and probabilities. I'm glad I can finally give a more finite answer. The answer to the question of when are we getting a new school is today."

The event kicked off with the singing of "O Canada" from a selection of Niverville Collegiate students, led by music teacher Jennifer Horne.

Niverville trustee Ruby Wiens remarked that at times she hadn't been sure this day would ever arrive.

"You know that proverb, hope defers make the heart sick?" Wiens said. "Truthfully, there have been many moments of discouragement. We all know the bigger picture, as Hanover is just one of 38 school divisions in Manitoba



Photo rendering of the new Niverville high school.

HANOVER SCHOOL DIVISION

and there are many needs in our province. Still, the wait for the announcement of our new school has been long and difficult at times, but Niverville's time has come. So I'm taking the liberty of flipping the proverb and saying that hope realized makes the heart glad."

Construction of the 66,700-square-foot facility is projected to take place over the coming 70 weeks at an estimated cost of \$18,450,000, not including land. The parcel of land which the school will occupy, appraised at \$3.6 million, was donated by local developer Cornell Friesen, bringing the total investment to \$22 million.

The first phase, to be completed in September 2019, will include all elements of the building except for the drama room, band room, and childcare facilities. The second phase will begin construction in January 2019 and be ready for use by the spring of 2020.

Although the sod-turning represents the start of construction on the high school, there is a lot more to this site that still needs to be realized. Education Minister Wishart spoke confidently of the prospects of getting the proposed Community Resource Centre underway as well.

"The Hanover School Division and the Public Schools

Finance Board have been working with the Town of Niverville towards a goal of creating a community campus," Wishart said. "It will be the first one in Manitoba, and we think the model that will be copied time and time again. You're the first ones out of the gate."

MLA Shannon Martin reiterated this point. "We're very cognizant that what we're doing here in Niverville, with the school and the multipurpose center, hasn't been done before. You are going to hear a lot about this campus model. This is the first time it's being applied here in the province of Manitoba. This will be the model for which all other developments are measured, and so we here in Niverville are going to set that bar."

The actual turning of the sod was handled by NCI students Hannah Dunn and Elijah Pastoor. If all goes according to plan, they will be among the first students to enter the new school in the fall of 2019.

Wiens also noted that the high school will see the introduction of more portable classrooms this year, in an effort to accommodate an ever-increasing number of students. But the end is in sight.

She took a few moments to encapsulate the hard work that's been done to make the most of limited space these

past few years. "The shuffling of classes with the introduction of middle years at the high school, the building of a new addition at the NES, the tweaking of programs as space is at a premium, the hiring of additional staff, all of these have been necessary responses to what is essentially a good problem to have," she added. "That problem is one of community growth."

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Developer Cornell Friesen says that construction will also get underway shortly on a new housing development in the area. When finished, the development will have 500-600 new homes, a mixture of multifamily and higher-end properties.

"The streets will go in right away," Friesen says. "Then we plan to be in the ground by summer, around September."

The street running south of the school and through the development will be one-way, with traffic entering east and exiting to the west. This will ease the passage of busses at busy times, improving safety.

Friesen has also set aside a strip of land for commercial development along Highway 311 and Krahn Road.

"Niverville's been great for all the years I've developed land here," says Friesen. "I've

really appreciated [the town], and I've found that they're very open-minded. Hanover School Division is awesome to deal with, too. Really good. And I'm happy to do my part."

NAMING THE SCHOOL

Since it's cumbersome to continue referring to the project as "the new Niverville high school," Hanover School Division has launched a process to give it an official name—a process that's open to the public.

Students, staff, and members of the community at large are all encouraged to suggest names. Submissions will be accepted until April 30, at which time the division's board of trustees will review the suggestions and determine a short list. The trustees will make the final decision.

"This is an open process and we welcome all suggestions," reads a note on the division's website. "Any potential name that is submitted should be able to stand the test of time. School buildings serve their communities for many generations. A name that is selected today should remain relevant to future generations."

The board notes that the proposed names should fit into one or more of the following criteria. The name should (1) identify the community in which the school is located, (2) identify the historical or geographical features of the community or local area, (3) have a distinct identity relative to other names of other facilities in the division, and/or (4) represent the cultures or beliefs of the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ For updates on the school's construction or to submit a name for the school, visit <https://niverville.hsd.ca>.

Guardian

NIVERVILLE PHARMACY

Karam Abd El Nour
Pharmacist / Manager

Always here to help you!

Niverville Pharmacy
72 Main Street
Niverville, MB R0A 1E0

T: 204-388-4533
F: 204-388-4624

Developer Bringing Rental Subdivision to Niverville

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

A new development is on the rise on Fourth Avenue South in Niverville, and it's already begun construction. When complete, it will feature 46 rental units, catering to the rental market.

"The vision started about seven years ago when I became a realtor," says developer and realtor Luke Wiebe, who co-owns the project alongside his mother Kathy Wiebe. "I saw an old home in Niverville that had a huge lot, and I noticed that all of properties had really deep lots on Fourth Avenue South—278 feet deep. Which is unusual. Anyway, my mom always told me to pay attention to old homes with large lots, as they could have development opportunity. So I approached the homeowners, and asked them if they wanted to sell."

Wiebe says he didn't initially plan to buy the land for himself, but it didn't take long for him to see the scale of the opportunity. Shortly after meeting the sellers, he told them of his and his mother's hopes to buy others along the street and one day be able to rezone the land for a development. He then agreed to purchase their home for their full asking price.

"Then we just sat on it," Wiebe continues. "Then the neighbours called



Rendering of new townhouse rental units.

LUKE WIEBE

me and asked if I might be interested in their house. So we bought it. After that, it was a chain reaction. So we bought these houses and knew that one day we would create a beautiful subdivision here."

Niverville has been a hotspot for new home builds in the last ten years, with subdivisions rapidly filling up in all corners of the community as homebuyers enter the market from places like Winnipeg, attracted to the small-town setting and easy commute.

The rental market, however, has been more or less stagnant. The vacancy rate is low in the few apartment buildings around town. Although there are a small number of houses and condos available for rent, those are in high demand.

Wiebe says that the time was right.

They started pre-advertising four months ago, well before the start of construction, to test the waters. They were delighted when the first townhouse leased out. The number of people interested in securing homes in the development, even before he could guarantee the development would be built on schedule, demonstrated just how dry the market is.

"We are marketing it as luxury rentals," says Wiebe. "We decided to target a market that wants higher quality instead of the largest space for the cheapest price. They want to live in a nice home with higher-end finishes."

The development will include two different kinds of units. The first option is a 1,300-square-foot two-story townhouse with three bedrooms, one and a half baths, a

patio, and a garage, which rents for \$1,375/month. The second option is a one-bedroom unit that rents for \$825/month. Both come with separate entrances, nine-foot ceilings, luxury vinyl plank flooring, soft-close kitchen cabinetry, and access to a common playground. The entire property will be fenced-in.

Another reason that demand is so high is that the Fourth Avenue development will be pet-friendly, including dogs, something many rentals don't allow. Not only will pets be allowed, they'll be welcomed. The development will even include space for its own dog park.

"The first building will have occupancy September 1 and the second between October and November," says Wiebe. "The third and fourth buildings will come in the months

to follow. Framing will start in the beginning of April."

Wiebe says the development has partnered with the Town of Niverville to install a water line down the street, infrastructure which will also provide an opportunity for other homeowners on Fourth Avenue to hook up to town water.

He also notes that these new rentals are located right between the two current schools, so children can walk less than two blocks in either direction to get to their classrooms.

The development, according to Wiebe, is going to help keep more young people in the community, as well as draw new residents from the city who aren't yet ready to build their own homes.

"We already have the first building 80 percent leased and the second building about 40 percent leased, but we have units available for fall 2018 and spring 2019," he adds. "We're excited. I've had people come up to me and thank us for doing something here. It's been quite the blessing to hear the local people messaging me on Facebook, saying that this is just what Niverville needed... that they almost feel forced to stay where they are, because there are no options. Now there are options. We can't wait to see people move in!"

**Need your existing
AIR CONDITIONER
Replaced?**



**INSTALLED
STARTING AS LOW AS**

\$2,300⁰⁰

PLUS APPLICABLE TAXES

CALL US TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE!

**JWH
MECHANICAL**

204-388-5366

**OPENING
April 2**

*Endless possibilities, under
the sun... and shade*

**GLENLEA
GREENHOUSES**

204-882-2626

2715 Hwy 75, Just North of Ste. Agathe

www.glenleagreenhouses.com



**NORFOLK
CHIROPRACTIC
IN NIVERVILLE**

CHIROPRACTIC CARE FOR NECK PAIN AND HEADACHES

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY! **CALL 204-898-3737**



Residents gather for the March 20 public hearing.

BRENDA SAWATZKY

Breckenridge Rezoning Declined a Second Time

By Brenda Sawatzky

bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

For the second time in six months, Fifth Avenue Estates project manager Clint Hiebert appeared in front of Niverville's council alongside local residents to weigh in on a proposal to rezone a section of Breckenridge Drive. For the second time, the zoning request was denied.

The developer's request, as presented on March 20, was similar to the first round: to rezone a series of lots from single-family residential to two-family residential. What had changed since the first proposal was the number of lots affected, bringing the total down from 27 to ten. As well, they eliminated their earlier request to subdivide the lots into smaller parcels. Finally, the ten lots in question would not include any lakefront properties, to appease the concerns of owners on the other side of the lake.

"In 2011, when the plans for this area of the subdivision were initially conceived, the real estate market for single-family land in Niverville was much more active, and despite efforts to combat this, it has since declined," Hiebert said in his address to council.

Hiebert indicated that this tactic is being used by other developers in the Niverville area who are feeling the same pinch in trying to meet changing housing demands. While he understands residents' concerns, he presented his own evidence to suggest that declining property values due to duplex housing should not be among them.

At the close of his address, Hiebert vocalized his disappointment that affected residents were unwilling to discuss their concerns with Fifth Avenue Estates before the public hearing date. "It

must be said that, despite efforts by Fifth Avenue Estates to dialogue with the public with regards to this application by open invitation to call us or meet with us, as well as attempts at private communication with select individuals, not a single resident has come forward to engage in any discussion."

One by one, residents stepped forward to publicly state their own frustrations. Impassioned statements were made about the poorly maintained condition of the lots in question, citing a possibility for the real reason they are not selling. Others shared their dismay at being required to go through this process again. A petition with 184 signatures was presented, more than the first petition in September 2017.

Jacqueline Robert Chop-tiuk disagrees with Hiebert regarding the effect duplexes have on single-family property values.

"They presently have town-houses built across a section of Breckenridge facing the lakefront homes," says Chop-tiuk. "Those homes took years to sell. This concerned many homeowners [who want] to protect their investment. Many are retired couples who have worked their entire lives and view their home as a future investment, and young families that have their life savings tied up in their home and can't take a possible \$75,000 hit."

And while Hiebert assured residents that the planned duplexes would allow contained parking for three vehicles per household—one in the garage and two on the driveway—Chop-tiuk says she's seen it before. Duplexes attract young growing families who use the garage for storage, pushing cars to the street. This in turn can lead to two problems: attracting more crime

and car theft and making the streets less safe for children.

At the close of the public hearing, Councillor Nathan Dueck made a motion to decline the rezoning request. Council unanimously voted in favour of his motion. The decision was met with a round of applause from the audience.

However, Mayor Myron Dyck took a final opportunity to make his own address to those in attendance. In answer to the question of why council would allow the developer to put the residents through this process a second time, Dyck suggested that the developer had, in fact, made significant concessions from the original plan. They had listened to the public and removed from the proposal all of the lots with a lake view.

Council encouraged the developer, he says, to talk to the residents in an effort to avoid pulling them into another public hearing.

"I have been copied in on emails that the developer sent [out to you]," Dyck said. "They have made the effort and people have said to them, 'We don't want to talk to you. We'll talk to you at the public hearing.'"

At the same time, Dyck pointed out that council is keenly interested in providing a diversity of housing in the community.

"It's the ebb and the flow that makes up both sides," Dyck said. "We want to work with the developer. They could just as easily pull up roots and say, 'See you. We're off to somewhere else.' We need our developers. At the same time, we're also elected by you to work for you. Therein lies the reason that you elect people like us: to make some of those tough decisions. And tonight, that decision has been made."



We have added more pet food to our all Canadian pet food lineup!



Better price, Delivered

Guy@RuffMutts.ca | www.ruffmutts.ca | 204-380-2341



Niverville
CREDIT UNION

Come on over

Niverville: 204-388-4747
Landmark: 204-355-4035
Steinbach: 204-326-3925

"Like" Us on Facebook

NivervilleCU.mb.ca

© HANDS & GLOBE Design is a registered certification mark of the World Council of Credit Unions, used under license.

Niverville Heritage

DENTAL CENTRE

Calling all brides!

BOOK A NEW PATIENT EXAM AND RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY WHITENING KIT!

Monday 11:00 - 7:00

Tuesday 8:30 - 4:30

Wednesday 8:30 - 4:30

Thursday 9:00 - 5:00

Friday 8:30 - 2:00

(204) 388-9694

info@nivervilledental.com

Located on the main floor of the Heritage Centre
111 - 2nd Ave South

www.nivervilledental.com

Save the Date

FOR THE NIVERVILLE HERITAGE CENTRE

GARDEN & OUTDOOR LIVING SHOW

APRIL 14TH, 2018 | 10AM-4PM

Free admission (donations accepted in lieu of)
In support of the Community Garden Pavilion
Workshops – Vendors – BBQ – Silent Auction

For a list of workshops and
more info visit the Niverville
Heritage Centre
facebook

NIVERVILLE

autobody
Collision & Glass

**COLLISION REPAIR
AUTO GLASS REPAIR & REPLACEMENT**

direct repair

Ferd Klassen

Phone: 204.388.4657

Fax: 204.388.4394

Email: info@nivervilleautobody.ca



www.nivervilleautobody.ca

autopac
A Manitoba Public Insurance product

ACCREDITED

Niverville Council Unveils 2018 Budget

By Brenda Sawatzky

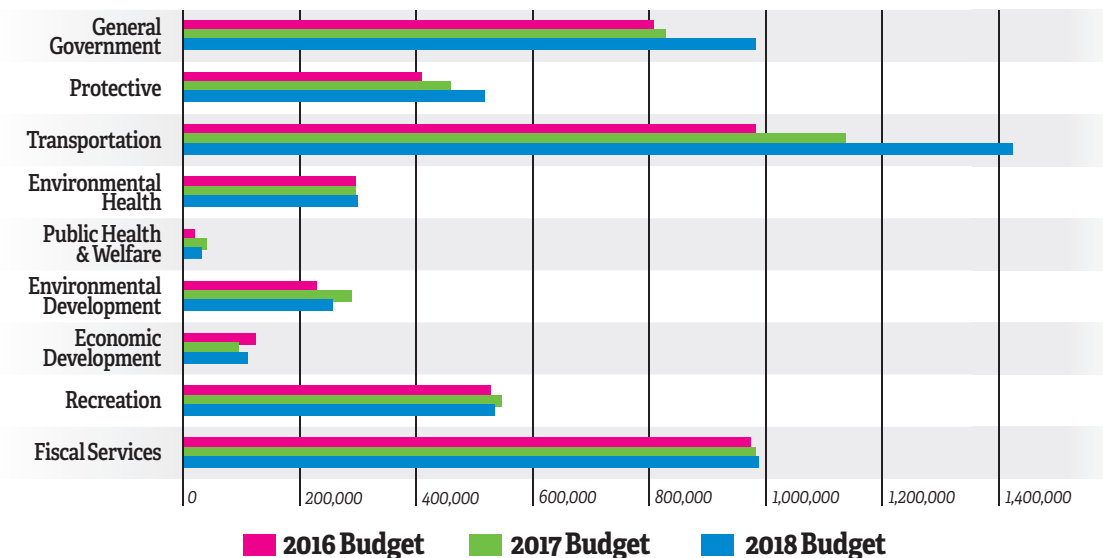
bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

Niverville's new budget plan contains few surprises. Council has been diligent over the course of the past few months, introducing updates through *The Citizen*, Facebook and Twitter posts, and monthly newsletters. The Cole's Notes version of the latest budget was introduced to the public on March 20 at an open house held at the Heritage Centre. The complete version is available on the town's website for review.

Tax increases are usually the first thing on everybody's mind. This year, property taxes are expected to go up by two percent, resulting in about \$35.80 more per average property owner. Property taxes are based on the average assessment rate of homes in the community, a rate that currently sits at \$288,300 per property and is a drop of one percent from the previous assessment period.

On the flip side, Hanover School Division's mill rate is going down for the 2018-19 school year. While council has no input into the division's rates, it will provide a small measure of relief on property tax bills to the tune of \$17 on a house assessed at \$250,000.

The budget indicates increased spending in a number of areas this



coming year. Those include anticipated expenses within the municipal office such as staffing increases and election costs. Protective services costs are also anticipated to go up nominally in almost every area—fire, emergency measures, and policing services. Council has set aside \$10,000 for a policing study and security cameras are in the works for Main Street. Transportation costs will go up as more of the community's streets and sidewalks are designated for upgrade or complete renewal.

Public health and welfare services, specifically cemetery

maintenance, is down significantly. Costs of planning and rezoning, as well as urban renewal, also saw a drop.

Some of the projects scheduled for this year are the rebuilding of Cedar Drive, Third Street South, and Sixth Avenue South. A new sidewalk will soon run along Fourth Avenue South and the Main Street sidewalk replacement project will continue. New walking paths will connect the wetlands with Hespeler Park walkways.

A water line will be installed to the upcoming rental units along Fourth Avenue South, as well as

sewer and waterline installation to the site of the new high school and proposed Community Resource Centre. Road and parking lot construction will also begin in this area.

Big plans are underway for improving economic development with the introduction of a business enhancement committee and the creation of Main Street design standards.

Council is looking at establishing a no-charge community recycling depot and will soon be introducing online payment portals for utility bill payments.

IN BRIEF

Gearing Up for Casino Blanc Fundraiser

By Heather Miller

The Casino Blanc fundraiser evening, in support of Niverville's proposed Community Resource Center, is quickly approaching. May 11 will be here before you know it, leading to a much-anticipated evening of good food, fun, and friends at Whitetail Meadow. This year's event sold out in only a couple of hours.

For those who secured tickets, cocktails will begin at 6:00 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00 and the auction events and casino to follow.

To ensure that everyone safely enjoys the event, organizers have once again secured the community bus, with BSI as the sponsor. There will be two pick-up and drop-off points this year: Niverville Collegiate and the Tim Hortons/Shell parking lot. The first pickup will depart at 5:45 p.m. and later leave the venue for the last time at 1:00 a.m.

The theme this year is white. For those who aren't quite daring enough to wear all white, a combination of black and white is acceptable.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- www.nivervillemultiplex.ca.
- Items or cash donations for the live and silent auctions are still being accepted. If you or your business would like to donate, please email resourcecenter@whereyoubelong.ca.

Ritchot Businesses Receive Enhancement Grants

By Evan Braun

editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Ritchot's Community Development Corporation (CDC) is ready to announce that one of their priority projects for 2018 is officially underway.

Last year, the RM of Ritchot launched its Main Street Revitalization Concept Plan Project, and now the CDC is supporting the project by investing in local

businesses through Main Street enhancement grants. The Board of Directors recently put out a call for applications for the grants.

A key criterion for the grants was that businesses had to either be located along Main Street or a central business street. Businesses could apply for funds to assist with exterior renovations on their storefronts, such as lighting upgrades, landscaping upgrades, painting or exterior finishing renovations, or

adding accessibility features.

Eight businesses in the municipality have been selected to receive funds ranging from \$400 to \$2,750, all of which will be undertaking renovation work in 2018.

In Ste. Agathe, Lucky Luc's Bar and Grill will complete renovations to its entranceways and exterior façade, BSI Insurance will be acquiring new signage, and Ste. Agathe Service will install exterior brickwork.

In St. Adolphe, Affinity Insurance will be installing new signage, and the St. Adolphe Pharmacy will renovate the exterior of their building, including new paint.

In Île-des-Chênes, Adventure Power Products will be getting new landscaping, IDC Garage will upgrade their lighting and signage, and LDN Auto will landscape their property and pour new asphalt.

Looking for a career change?
**CONSIDER WORKING
AS AN HVAC TECH AT**



SCMI
SOUTHERN COMFORT
MECHANICAL INC

April Showers Bring
May Flowers



Bob Lagassé
MLA for Dawson Trail
ca.lagasse@outlook.com
204.807.4663

Kackenhoff
NURSERIES & LANDSCAPING

PRE-ORDER NOW!
Pickup date is after May 5, depending on weather

**POPLAR & WILLOW HARDWOOD CUTTINGS
FOR ECONOMICAL SHELTERBELTS**
25 OR MORE - ONLY \$2.95 EACH

1317 HIGHWAY 75
2.7 KM NORTH OF HIGHWAY 210

204-269-1377
www.kackenhoff.com

NEED SOME TREE & SHRUB ADVICE?
WE CAN HELP!

FREE
**HOME MARKET
EVALUATION**

Katie Knebel
204-392-3030

ROYAL LEPAGE
Riverbend Realty



Local Beauty Shops Stay on Top of Popular, Eco-Conscious Trends

By Brenda Sawatzky

bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

Like beauty itself, current beauty trends go much deeper than the whimsical and whacky images sometimes seen on Instagram. Outrageous fishtail eyebrows, bedazzled lashes, candyfloss-coloured hair, and corkscrew fingernails may provide some temporary fun for the selfie crowd looking for a little shock value and attention, but the lasting trends are those that offer long-term value and ease of application while creating a lower environmental impact.

One need look no further than the qualified beauticians and aestheticians in our region to discover what really matters to people right now. It is, after all, their job to know. Believing that it shouldn't take hours of preparation to achieve your "going out" face, beauticians are offering more permanent solutions that save time in our busy lives.



MICROBLADING

Coralea Courtland is the owner of The Beauty Mark, located in the loft suite of her home between Niverville

and Ste. Agathe. Courtland is a microblading technician. Microblading is a jazzed-up name for semi-permanent eyebrow tattooing and provides a long-lasting solution for those whose brows are diminishing with age or who just want brows that are fuller and more defined.

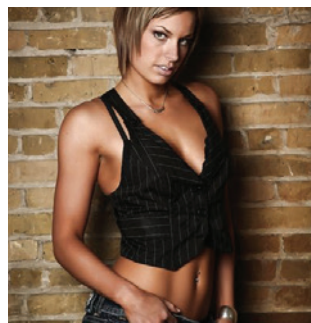
"Mainly my clients have [come to me because of] loss of hair," says Courtland. "They had really pencil-thin eyebrows and wanted to add some definition."

A microblading session takes about two hours and the tattoo itself lasts between one to three years. Courtland begins with a consultation, determining the exact shape and colour the client is after. After applying a topical anaesthetic to keep the client comfortable, a vegetable-based pigment is used on the skin beneath and around the existing brow in short, hair-like strokes. In four to six weeks the client returns for follow-up and touch-ups if necessary.

Courtland says that the microblading pigments look very natural, more so than the harsher colours used with regular tattoos. Because of the shorter lifespan of the tattoo, this technique lends itself well to changes in colour and brow shape as the client's whims change. Microbladed tattoos can also be completely removed with a saline solution before the tattoo wears off naturally.

While Courtland is a fully licensed and certified technician, she admits that it takes more than that to be skilled at what she does. It is, after all, an art.

"I love doing them as an artist. It's all in the technique—how you shape and shade them. You need to be able to trust your [skin] artist."



AIRBRUSH SPRAY TANNING

Courtland's salon is also the place to get your spray tan on. For the past 11 years she's been helping people get that sun-kissed glow without the sun. The process includes the use of a sugar-based iodine sprayed directly onto the skin and then showered off. The entire procedure, she says, takes 20 to 30 minutes and is a much safer option than soaking in the sun's UV radiation or lying under a tanning lamp.

"It's nice for the client because they get instant results," Courtland says. "You get this natural-looking colour that doesn't transfer off onto your clothes."



BODY SUGARING

Kelsey Kosman, of Four86 Body Sugaring, is a certified hair removal technician working from a salon in her home in Niverville. Licensed in 2007, she created the salon in her home to provide her greater flexibility while raising her family. While her clientele are primarily women, she has worked on men as well who are looking for back and chest hair removal.

She was intrigued by body sugaring, she says, because it contains no harsh chemical ingredients.

"The sugar paste is all natural and results in less irritation [to the skin]," says Kosman. "The ingredients are sugar, lemon, and honey. The other huge benefit compared to waxing is that the hair is pulled out in the direction of the hair growth, not against. Most people experience less in-grown hairs [because of this], since less hair breaks at the surface."

Kosman adds that this natural paste also acts as a great exfoliator, removing the outer layers of dead skin

along with the hair, which results in smoother skin and clearer, more radiant skin tone. Most of her body sugaring appointments take less than 30 minutes.



LASH EXTENSIONS AND TINTING

Charlene Kakish is the owner of Flirt Brow and Lash Studio, previously known as Lashes Lashes. She operates her salon in Niverville and her services include lash extensions, lifts, and brow- and lash-tinting.

Lash extensions are applied to the natural lash, providing fullness and length which you may not have naturally. The difference you get when they are applied at Kakish's salon is a high-quality Canadian-made product with FDA-certified safe adhesives.

"Extensions are matched in length and thickness with your natural lash to ensure we have no damage or premature [eyelash] shed," says Kakish. "You can be assured your lashes will be weightless and soft. You should never feel your

extensions on. If you do, then they are too heavy."

Lash fills, she says, are required every few weeks to keep them looking full, depending on your natural shed rate.

If you already have great lashes, you might consider the lash lift, which creates a better separation, extra definition, and increased lift, giving your eyes a more open, brighter appearance. Once the service is complete, your lashes are completely maintenance free and remain lifted for six to eight weeks.

Lash-tinting adds both definition and depth, eliminating the need for mascara. Eyebrow-tinting is also available.

Kakish says the many services she offers are about enhancing a person's existing beauty. "They're for anyone looking for get-up-and-go mornings. No need to fuss with mascara or brow pencils and powders. Everyone is born with brows, but they are not necessarily your best brows. You can create a more natural you or add some glamour or drama to your look while framing your face with perfect brows."

Certified in 2015, Kakish has gained a wealth of experience but continues to train and stay on top of changing trends.

"With all my services, we discuss your expectations, maintenance, and aftercare," says Kakish. "And [then], the big reveal. Yes, it is exciting!"



Offering eyelash extensions, lash lift, lash & brow tinting. Microblading coming soon! Appointment required.

Contact Charlene @ 204.930.7691
www.flirtbrowandlashstudio.ca

Located in done salon, Niverville

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
EMINENCE EDUCATION AND EXFOLIATION

With skincare specialist Heather St. Cyr and Eminence product reps

APRIL 18 AT 6:30 P.M. | BISTRO 290, 290 MAIN ST. NIVERVILLE

COMPLIMENTARY GIFTS, PRODUCT & SALON SERVICE DISCOUNTS, AND A WHOLE LOT OF FUN! PLEASE RSVP.



204.388.5055 | Unit B - 290 Main Street, Niverville

Follow Us   



ORGANIC PRODUCTS

Just as low-maintenance services are growing in popularity, so too are organic and natural beauty products. In the information age, more and more people are becoming aware of the toxic and dangerous chemicals in the ingredient lists of many beauty products.

Salon 421 in Île-des-Chênes carries a wide range of products that are better for you and the environment.

"Every day we come into contact with different environmental and chemical exposures without even knowing it," says Stacey Thomas-Niebel. "We have started to become conscious of what we put in our bodies, but what about what we put on our bodies? Since our skin is actually considered the largest organ of the human body and is our first line of defence against germs and viruses, shouldn't what we put on our bodies also be something we consider every day?"

Among Thomas-Niebel's line of healthier products are the Bio Sculpture Nail Gel, Image Skin Care, and Nectaya Hair Colours. Traditional nail gels, she says, are notoriously laden with harsh chemicals and toxins that are hard on the skin and nail bed and have been known to cause injury

to the respiratory system and internal organs.

Similarly, most hair products have preservatives called parabens which have been linked to hormonal issues and breast cancer. Sulfates, silicone, and ammonia are also common ingredients which can dehydrate hair, cause our hair colour to fade faster, and create skin sensitivities with long-term use.

Thomas-Niebel says that she handpicks products that promote health without sacrificing performance.

"As the owner of Salon 421, health and the environment have always been a hugely important factor to me," says Thomas-Niebel. "I don't just want to help people to look good on the day of their appointment, but [also] help them feel better about themselves and the world around them. I want to help teach and educate my clients about making better choices."

Karen Albaugh, of Done hair, skin and nails in Niverville, has been a long-time proponent of organic beauty products. Eminence Organics and Loma are her products of choice and are used for every service by the technicians in her salon.

"I specifically chose [these] when, in my early thirties, I

became extremely sensitive to all of my beloved skincare and makeup," says Albaugh. "A small shop in Kenora introduced me to the Eminence line. I noticed immediate change and really became passionate about it. I now use it exclusively and have been fortunate enough to make it into part of how I earn my living."

Albaugh says organic facial treatments in her salon always begin with a consultation and skin analysis and her technicians are trained to customize the treatment to the client's needs. The main ingredients in the masques are fresh fruit and vegetable pulps, vitamins, and minerals.

"People should care about organic products in the beauty world," Albaugh says. "Our skincare line has been described as a raw food diet for your skin. Our bodies understand how to use these organic ingredients and, therefore, you'll start seeing better, more visible results."

Anya's Hair Studio in Niverville also carries a complete line of natural and organic products. Owner Anna Sawatzky stocks the Surface haircare line as well as Pure Anada for skincare and makeup and Routine, a natural underarm deodorant.

While eliminating chemicals and toxins is important to her, she always looks for Canadian-made products, believing that it adds a level of integrity to the promises they make. The Pure Anada line offers vegan, gluten-free, and non-GMO products. The best part is that they are made close to home in Morden, Manitoba.

"I chose the products for the benefit of healthy living without all the harsh chemicals," says Sawatzky. "And because they work."

E & C Repair Shop

Mechanic: Ernie Lemoine 40+ years experience

QUALITY SERVICE & REPAIR AT REASONABLE PRICES

Service to all vehicle makes - American, Asian, European
Call for a free estimate - Satisfaction guaranteed

Authorized Vehicle Safety Inspection Station
Safety and Repairs on all makes and models - semis, trailers, tractors, farm trucks, pickup trucks and automobiles.

204-882-2472
erniesrepairshop@gmail.com

2977 PTH 75, STE AGATHE, MB



SMITH-NEUFELD-JODOIN LLP
LAW OFFICES

- Real Estate Transactions
- Corporate Law
- Agriculture Law
- Wills
- Estates
- Succession Planning
- Civil Litigation

Unit B - 62 Main Street, Niverville
Tel. 204-388-9300 | Fax: 204-388-9350

www.snj.ca



Chiropractic Care for Children

More parents are discovering the benefits of chiropractic care through childhood!

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!
204-388-6195

 **Niverville**
Family Chiropractic

Salon 421

Hair & Body

Full Service Hair, Body & Wellness Salon

204-878-4024
421 Main Street, Île-des-Chênes

salon421.biz

get wise to age-fighting

Learn how easy it is to get visibly **younger-looking** skin. A simple daily program with TimeWise® skin care helps reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles. Skin looks **firmer**. And feels **softer**. To start looking younger now, just call me to experience **TimeWise®** for yourself - **free!**

Joyce Harnett
Independent Senior Sales Director
www.marykay.ca/jharnett
204.228.3620

MARY KAY®

FOUR86 BODY SUGARING

The all natural form of hair removal



BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY
FOUR86@SHAW.CA 204.782.8610

Wm. Dycks Makes Impact in Guatemala

By Brenda Sawatzky

bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

For the second year running, a team of management and staff at Wm. Dyck and Sons plied their skills at a worksite far from home: Tactic, Guatemala. In February 2018, co-owner Heather Fast and nine staffers spent eight days in this rural area of South America, volunteering their labour at an orphanage soon to be opened by Impact Ministries.

"Impact Ministries encourages groups to go out there," says Fast. "They want people to see firsthand. When people see the good they're doing, and they get to hug the kids, then they want to keep coming back. It was such a good experience last year. We can only take ten [employees], but everyone wants to go."

While this was only their second year helping Impact Ministries, owner Carl Fast has taken staff to Guatemala on mission trips before. Three years ago, the Fast family decided to make a trip to the country on their own, seeking out a solid ministry that their business could support on an annual basis. They chanced upon Impact Ministries, toured their facilities, and returned home with a sense of satisfaction. This was a mission they could stand behind.

Founders Les and Rita Peters began the ministry to Guatemala 15 years ago. Hailing from British Columbia, they sold their belongings in 2000, packed their three children into the family van, and began a journey that would change their lives. A few



Greg Goertzen, Annette Krahn, Lin Regehr, Alison Fehr, Michele Harder, Jack Hildebrand, Jonathan Kasdorf, Heather Fast, Shawn Reimer, and Robert Fields.

HEATHER FAST

years later, Impact Ministries was born. Their mission is to train Guatemalans for leadership by teaching biblical principles in such a way that they become integrated in their lives and effect spiritual change in their society.

The Peterses began by opening one school for children, teaching less than 100 students. Since then, the ministry has built and funded ten schools, with over 1,500 students in total. The schools are spread in and around Tactic, some in remote villages where literacy is almost non-existent. In these areas, hands to work are regarded as more useful tools

than educated minds. The Peterses are helping to change that thinking for young people, running school programs from pre-Kindergarten to graduation. Today, many of the local teachers within the schools are themselves Impact graduates.

For years, the Peterses and their team dreamed of branching out to include an orphanage for abandoned children. That dream is now becoming a reality and will soon open with the launch of Children's Home. It was at Children's Home where the staff of Wm. Dycks were put to work. Five women painted the exterior of the building while five men built a

concrete fence surrounding it.

"The work part is great, but at the end of the day they can hire their own people to do that, too," says Fast. "We could just send money, but it's the relationship building and it's about bringing people out so they can see what's going on."

Fast says that only about half of their time in Tactic is spent doing manual labour. The other half is about building relationships and experiencing the culture firsthand. The Wm. Dycks team visited many of the ten schools in the area, sharing hugs with the children and witnessing the work of the ministry. Their week also

included in-home visits with some local families and a trip to the maternity ward of the local hospital. Fast says children are dropped off there on a daily basis—some abandoned, some abused. Widespread poverty, she says, plays a big part in that.

"Visiting the hospital was really difficult because it's definitely a third-world hospital [with] very little medicine," she adds.

Impact Ministries believes in making it easy for volunteers to get the whole Guatemalan experience when they come. With the donation made by the Fast family, Impact provided shuttles to and from the airport, a fully furnished guest facility, translators, meals on site and in local restaurants, and daytrips to a variety of locations in the area. This included one day in Antigua, a city in central Guatemala rich with Spanish history and colonial culture. The city is designated as a UNESCO world heritage site and provided an interesting pitstop for the team before heading back home to Canada.

Another benefit of this adventure, Fast says, is the bonding that takes place between fellow employees over the course of the week. As well, she's sure that every one of them has come back moved by the work of Impact Ministries.

"What I really like about Impact is that it really is the Guatemalan people that run it," Fast says. "One day, if Les and Rita aren't there anymore, this will continue and it will be the Guatemalan people that continue it."

FREE!
Estimates

Voagey's Painting Inc.

- In Business Since 2004 •
- Fully Insured • Proud Workmanship •

Indoor shop for spraying doors, cabinets and fireplace mantels to keep the mess out of your home.

204-371-0082

- NEW PAINTS • REPAIRS •
- SPRAY STAIN FINISHES •

Red Valley PLANT MARKET

Garden Centre & Landscaping

3091 St. Mary's Road
204-257-4361

We carry a full line of limestone, decorative stone, mulch, top soil, & boulders available in yard pickup or delivery

LIKE US ON SEE OUR WEEKLY SPECIALS

redvalleyplantmarket@outlook.com
www.redvalley.ca

BIGWAX FOODS

FULL SERVICE GROCERY

Grateful for the opportunity to be part of your community!

259 MAIN STREET, NIVERVILLE

86 Main Street - Box 267
Niverville, MB
R0A 1E0



1-204-388-4600
feedback@whereyoubelong.ca
www.whereyoubelong.ca

Open House Niverville Heritage Holdings Inc.

**April 17, 2018
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Niverville Heritage Centre | West Ballroom
100 Heritage Trail

Residents are invited to join Heritage Centre Staff and Directors for their Open House on April 17, 2018, where there will be an opportunity to interact and ask questions.

Immediately following the Open House, there will be a Financial and Operations Report presented to Niverville Council by Niverville Heritage Holdings Inc. at 7:05 p.m.

C. BROWN'S AUTOBODY & HOT ROD SHOP

**LIGHT VEHICLE SAFETIES
WINDSHIELDS • MPI REPAIRS
CUSTOM WORK & RESTORATION**

GRAND OPENING

**APRIL 25TH | 1 PM TILL 4 PM
2185 PTH 59 - NIVERVILLE | 204-388-9623**



**FREE
EXTERIOR COLOUR
UPGRADE**

Refresh your home with a
FREE exterior colour upgrade
on Northstar windows.

Hurry! Deal ends April 30th
Some restrictions apply.

**15%
OFF**

15% off our quality line of win-
dows, doors and professional
installation services.

Deal ends April 30th.
Mention promo code: **DOOR15**
when you book your appointment



OFFICE: 204-878-DOOR (3667) | CELL: 204-995-8431 | EMAIL: mike@allisonwindowsdoors.ca

www.allisonwindowsdoors.ca



Suites & Services:

- 526 square feet and up
- One to two bedrooms
- Large mobility-friendly bathrooms
- Warming kitchen
- Roomy living area
- Daily meal services
- Weekly laundry and housekeeping services
- In-house planned recreation activities
- Optional: phone, parking, TV and internet.

Niverville's NCU Manor provides the ideal opportunity for seniors needing to downsize while getting a little extra help. Families can keep their parents close to home in a comfortable and nurturing setting.

Suites are currently available in two sizes, ideal for singles or couples.

**The Niverville Heritage Centre campus
offers all of the additional amenities of life:**

Medical Clinic, Dental Office, Hair Salon, all
under one roof without ever leaving the campus.



Contact the Client Services Manager for your free tour today! (204) 388-5000 ext. 207

IN BRIEF



Social Clothing merchandise.

MADDIE THOMPSON

Niverville Teens Launch Clothing Brand

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Seven Grade 11 students from Niverville have banded together to launch a new brand of streetwear clothing. Maddie Thompson, founder of Social Clothing, says the brand fills a need in the local market for unique and stylish clothing created by Manitobans for Manitobans—specifically, Manitoban teens.

"We called our brand Social Clothing because Manitoba is the only province in Canada with socials," says Thompson. "Therefore the name is unique to Manitoba."

Their first collection, called Stylish Simplicity, features a comfy light grey hoodie, a maroon crewneck featuring the iconic Esplanade Riel, and a simple tee. All of Social Clothing's products are made in Canada, which the group describes as "a must." The collection is focussed on simple products that can be styled into great outfits.

Social Clothing's pieces

can create simple, laidback outfits for everyday wear, according to Leah Reimer, who is responsible for creating the brand aesthetic.

"Our pieces are easily worn with just a pair of joggers and a jean jacket, giving a retro vibe," Reimer says.

The group says that social media will play a huge role in their marketing strategy and will potentially get people more involved with the brand.

"Our Instagram account is growing at a steady rate, but we do hope to grow an even larger audience," says Diana Laso, Social Clothing's social media director.

In the future, they plan to launch a website and a Facebook page, so that customers can interact with them across more platforms.

The new brand was accepting pre-orders until early April. Regular purchases will begin around April 19.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ Instagram: @SocialClothingMB
■ socialclothinginfo@gmail.com

St. Adolphe Woman Honoured for Volunteerism

By Liz Byron

Leslie McKenzie is a busy woman: she co-owns a business, plays hockey, goes camping, has three kids under the age of ten, and serves as the Chief Financial Officer for the RM of Ritchot. She has also spent countless hours over the years volunteering with various organizations in St. Adolphe.

Now she is being honoured with an award for her long-standing dedication to helping her community.

On April 19, McKenzie will receive the Investors Group Financial Confidence Champion Award at the 35th annual Volunteer Awards, run by Volunteer Manitoba.

"Moving from the city to St. Adolphe 12 years ago, I quickly learned that most opportunities for my kids are run by volunteers," she says. "So I started volunteering in different events and programs where I realized how much my kids and friends benefited from them and where I can offer my expertise."

Over the past decade, McKenzie has taken on a wide range of volunteer roles, from



Leslie McKenzie.

AMBER MAMCHUK

coaching soccer and ringette to leading a Brownie group to participating in the St. Adolphe Parents Advisory Committee. These days, she uses her expertise as a Chartered Professional Accountant to help organizations with their finances.

"Currently, I am helping the local Girl Guides group with bookkeeping," she says, "As well as the St. Adolphe Child Care Centre where I've spent countless hours working their books and continue to assist the director with financial

support."

McKenzie is particularly proud that the award she is receiving focuses on her finance skills. Drawing on volunteers' specific education and professional experience is advantageous for the greater good, McKenzie adds.

"If you take a skillset you are good at, and you use it to help your community, great things can happen. By volunteering and lending a skill that you are good at, organizations can be more efficient," says McKenzie. "I enjoy getting together

with a group of volunteers and pooling our strengths to make our community a better community."

Everyone has something contribute, she points out, adding that volunteering benefits both the community and the volunteer.

It's a message she works hard to help her children understand.

"My kids see me volunteering and often come with me," she says. "So they understand where we can all help, whether a little or a lot. I love that they take pride in me that I do all that I do for my community, and I hope that they volunteer in the future."

The announcement that she was given this award came as a surprise to McKenzie, as her co-worker at the RM and fellow volunteer Lesley Gaudry nominated her in secret.

Although she is honoured at receiving the award, McKenzie is quick to share the credit with others.

"It is a great honour to be recognized, but I couldn't have done it without the support and the work of other volunteers in my community."

Île-des-Chênes Receives New Daycare Spots

Two daycare providers in Île-des-Chênes have received provincial funding for additional childcare spaces. Bob Lagassé, MLA for Dawson Trail, made the announcement on March 5.

"Our Progressive Conservative government is committed to ensuring Manitobans have access to quality childcare," says Lagassé. "I am pleased that we are delivering funding so we can now subsidize

existing childcare spaces for families in the Dawson Trail constituency."

This investment is part of the Canada-Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care Agreement. This

province-wide investment includes 47 places in Île-des-Chênes, at Garderie Île-des-Chênes Daycare Inc. and Les Boutons d'Or Inc.

Come celebrate Niverville MCC Thrift Shop's
10th anniversary in our current location

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS | PRIZES | REFRESHMENTS

All sales proceeds will go towards Niverville YFC and Niverville Helping

April 28th | 246 Main Street | 10 am - 1 pm

 Niverville
MCC THRIFT SHOP

SERVING THE COMMUNITY LOCALLY, AND GLOBALLY FOR 45 YEARS



Hespeler Park to See More Enhancements

By Brenda Sawatzky

bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

As per their promise to work on improving tourism to Niverville and provide more activities for young families, town council recently hired design group Architecture 49 to create concept plans that will enhance play areas around the splash pad in Hespeler Park.

On March 22, council invited the public to an open house at the Niverville Arena where full-colour conceptual designs were on display. Architecture 49 designers were there to answer questions and provide surveys to residents which will aid the company in focusing on what's important to the community.

"We have been designing playgrounds for more than ten years," says Bhavana Bonde of Architecture 49. "We have designed playgrounds for city schools, remote northern schools, and daycares. We have experience in designing natural play areas, splash pads, and conventional playgrounds with play equipment."

Bonde says the grounds surrounding the splash pad offer an excellent opportunity for expanding the existing play area. The plans, she says, can provide options



Bhavana Bonde and an associate from Architecture 49.

BRENDA SAWATZKY

for passive play, such as grass berms, shrubs, and trees. Also, for more active play, they could develop a uniquely designed play area that would reflect Niverville's rich history.

"We researched what is unique about Niverville," Bonde says. "The park was named after William Hespeler, who built the first grain elevator in Manitoba. It was from this elevator that the first western Canadian barley was shipped to overseas markets. Niverville's history is closely tied to grain. Some of the historic buildings which gave the town identity are no longer there. We thought the playground will be a good place to share these stories

and historical information with children and visitors. Inspired by this, we came up with two themes: historic village and country living."

The company provided three options for a large main climbing structure: an old red barn, an old-fashioned grain elevator, and historic buildings that would resemble characteristics of buildings from days gone by, like Dyck's Hatchery or an old schoolhouse.

A secondary play structure on the site could also be created in the shape of an old farm tractor or an interactive mini-Main Street with shops allowing inside and outside play. Additional play items would be scattered around the area and

could include DigiRiders and water and sand tables.

Surfacing this area is also a choice the community will need to make. While sand is one option, Bonde doesn't recommend it. This surface is not mobility-friendly.

"The CSA guidelines for the playgrounds require a safety surface to protect children," Bonde says. "The poured-in-place rubber or engineered wood fibre are the preferred options for accessibility. The cost of wood fibre is one-quarter of the cost of rubber surface. Using an economical safety surface such as wood fibre can mean more play equipment or features in a given budget, ultimately better play value for the money spent."

The cost difference between the two surfaces is approximately \$90,000. The estimated cost of the entire play area including structures, play items, wood fibre surfacing, and structure installation comes to about \$209,000. Site development could incur an additional \$96,000, depending on the variety of options council might favour.

Conceptual designs, cost breakdowns, and surveys are currently available on the town's website.

IN BRIEF

HSD Appoints New Assistant Superintendents

In the wake of two resignations announced by Hanover School Division last month, the division has appointed a couple of new assistant superintendents. Shelley Amos and Colin Campbell will officially step into their new roles on August 1.

"Both appointees bring significant administrative experience to their new roles, having served in various leadership capacities during their tenure in Hanover School Division," says HSD Superintendent Randy Dueck. "I am very excited to be working with these two proven leaders as a Senior Leadership Team."

Shelley Amos has 24 years of administrative and instructional experience, including 16 years at Woodlawn School in Steinbach, where she currently serves as principal. Before 2002, Amos taught in the Transcona-Springfield and Lord Selkirk school divisions. She recently earned a master's degree in Educational Administration.

Colin Campbell, with 15 years of experience, is the current principal of Elmdale School in Steinbach, and he also spent several years at Woodlawn alongside Amos. Campbell taught from 2006 until 2011 at Mitchell Elementary School, and before that in Pembina Trails School Division. He earned his master's degree in Educational Administration in 2017.

Hanover School Division Approves 2018-19 Budget

By Evan Braun

editor@nivervillecitizen.com

The Hanover School Division's Board of Trustees recently approved their budget for the upcoming school year. The budget, which anticipates an increase in enrollment of 71 students, provides funding for continued growth.

The division, which retains one

of the lowest cost per student averages in the province, says that it is committed to reducing the impact of this growth on school taxes.

Hanover's operating expenses for 2018-19 are estimated to be \$90.2 million dollars, reflecting a 2.74 percent increase in expenditures from the year before. To cover these costs, the budget allows for the hiring of additional teaching

staff.

Provincial funding has increased by three percent, but these funds also cover a portion of the division's revenues. Because 40 percent of revenues come from local taxation, Hanover School Division will raise its educational tax levy by 2.72 percent. However, due to property reassessment and estimated growth, this will actually

result in a small decrease of the local mill rate from 15.29 to 15.14. On a hypothetical home assessed at \$250,000, this results in a savings of \$17.

It must be noted that approval of this new mill rate is conditional upon the continuation of the province's Early Years Enhancement Grant.



FREE
HOME MARKET
EVALUATION

Katie Knebel
204-392-3030
ROYAL LEPAGE
Riverbend Realty



Perfect in every detail
Including the offer

There's never been a better time to bring home the beauty, performance and precision of Bosch appliances.

wiens
FURNITURE & APPLIANCES

132 MAIN STREET
NIVERVILLE, MANITOBA
PHONE: 204-388-4149
WINNIPEG: 204-883-2600
TOLL FREE: 888-33-WIENS

INSTANT
REBATES OF
UP TO
\$3300*
on select Bosch Appliance
packages including laundry
products

BOSCH
Invented for life

UP TO
\$500*
ON SELECT
DISHWASHERS
featuring
MyWay™ rack

*Rebate amount will vary depending on the number of qualifying Bosch Appliance products purchased, up to a maximum of \$3300. Offer is not valid in conjunction with any other Bosch offers. Valid at participating authorized dealers only. Builder sales do not qualify for rebates. Retailers may choose to participate in their own rebate programs which may be limited to specific models and rebate amounts. Prices shown may include any applicable rebates. Not all models available at all Retailers. Offer valid for Canadian residents only. Rebates do not apply to Direct Buy purchases.
Offer valid on purchases made between April 12 to May 31, 2018. © 2018 BSH Home Appliances Ltd. All rights reserved.

Visit bosch-home.ca for details

www.wiensfurniture.ca

MON. & TUES.: 9 am - 6 pm | WEDS.-FRI.: 9 am - 9 pm | SAT. - 9 am - 5 pm | SUN. - CLOSED

Fishy Things Happening at Apex Farms

Two brothers in Niverville are embarking on a bold experiment: growing trout on their land-locked farm in the middle of the prairies.

By Brenda Sawatzky

bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

On a farm property just outside of Niverville, brothers Dallas and Dustin Wiebe have been dabbling in an agricultural experiment. Their “laboratory” is discreetly concealed within a 3,000-square-foot shop surrounded by the hog barns and outbuildings of Apex Farms. While there’s nothing controversial about this experiment, it’s certainly an unusual research project to find on the Manitoba prairies.

The Wiebe brothers are growing fish.

“We toured a fish farm that was for sale in 1997 and that got us itchy to eventually try it ourselves,” says Dustin. “Our goal is to see if we can create a system that could produce 200 ton of fish a year.”

But raising fish in an enclosed system is only part of the experiment. The elaborate setup utilizes a large portion of the shop, including a section where the duo also grows plants that feed off the fish. This kind of symbiotic farming is called aquaponics.

Aquaponics is a unique technique that incorporates aquaculture (growing fish) and hydroponics (growing plants without soil). In a typical combined system, the plants receive nutrients from the fish waste, or effluent. In turn, the plants filter the water that goes back to house the fish. In a sense, this method creates a uniquely collaborative and environmentally sustainable ecosystem.

The Wiebe brothers, though, have taken their system one step further. With water already plumbed into the nearby hog barns, it was the perfect source from which to draw water for the production plant. The water is moved from the barn to the fish, to the plants, back to the fish, and finally back to the barns to water the pigs, creating a highly sustainable system with virtually no water waste.

“It’s a way more efficient use of water,” says Dallas. “We are at over 99 percent recycling capacity and we’re getting the fish nutrients out of that too to grow plants.”



Dustin Wiebe alongside children Haven, Llexci, Deklan, and Halle.

DUSTIN WIEBE

At it for a few years now, the brothers say that this project is still very much in its experimental stages. It’s been a long road of trial and error, but mostly error.

“We could have probably bought a bass boat by now, because that’s how much this system has cost us,” quips Dustin. “But the novelty of this is still pretty cool.”

Because of its high nutritional value, they’ve chosen to raise trout, a freshwater fish. Trout need a cleaner environment and lower water temperature than tilapia, a fish more typically used in aquaponics.

The entire system requires a delicate balance to maintain optimal pH levels and a water temperature of 10 to 16 degrees Celsius at all times. The Wiebes have fought with algae bloom and microscopic water impurities, requiring more and more advanced

filtration systems.

At one point, they lost 100 nearly full-grown fish in 48 hours, requiring them to bail out the dead fish and start over. Eventually, they discovered the problem. Chlorine had been added to the water system just days earlier. While it’s a highly effective means of purifying water, the two parts per million that is safe for hogs and humans is two parts too many for trout, which has zero tolerance for chlorine.

While learning to raise fish has been a hard go, they have seen much success on the plant side. Dallas is a plant breeder interested in experimenting with new ways of raising edible plants with nominal environmental impact. In the aquaponics system, the team has grown tomatoes and soybeans. Their last batch of 16 tomato plants grew almost to the ceiling and provided a yield of about

25 tomatoes per day. Their root systems took well to the bed of granite in which they were planted. Using such a medium eliminates the risk of soil-borne diseases. The fertilizer derived from the fish effluent also means no need for chemical fertilizers.

“If you’re trying out a new technique, it can get very expensive if you’re doing it on a thousand acres,” says Dallas. “Here we can try something out and it costs us way less and I can see whether that technique actually works or not. It’s really accelerating the learning curve.”

As a result of the grow lights above the plants and the humidity from the giant fish tanks, the shop maintains a very high temperature all year round, giving them a full two and a half growing seasons.

As questions arise regarding the safety of eating farmed or even wild

fish in terms of mercury levels and other toxins, the brothers agree that land-based and ethical fish farming eliminates that concern while creating a much smaller ecological footprint. Unfortunately, the capital costs to build a large-scale system such as they have makes it somewhat inhibitive.

Caged agriculture, Dustin says, usually takes place at the mouth of a river or ocean, making it easy for a company to flush the byproducts of nitrogen and phosphorus directly into the waterway. Sea life that naturally lives in those waterways is adversely affected, as are humans who need clean water sources in the long-term.

“It’s way easier and more cost-effective to just use the ocean as your toilet,” says Dustin. “But what we are doing here is sustainable, it’s green, we’re not polluting the environment, not overfishing the oceans, and there’s no risk of growing a species of fish here and having it go loose into the ecosystem.”

But in the end, he admits that quality food products are a hard sell in a cheap-food market.

“At the end of the day, many people still buy food with their wallet and not their heart,” Dustin says. “So if people see a cheaper fish product, that’s what they buy. Is this better? I would say so. You know you’re not getting mercury and lead from the fish.”

One of the joys of the fish farm, the brothers say, is bringing their children to the plant. The children get to experience what it’s like to feed 250 five-pound fish. They also gain an understanding of where their food comes from. Another obvious bonus is the freezer full of organically grown fish after their 18-month growing season is over.

As for fish farming on a large scale, the brothers agree that only time will tell. They’ve got a lot of irons in the fire with a new lambing farm, tending to their hogs, and raising crops during the growing seasons. Busy is their way of life.



FREE FITNESS CONSULT AND TRAINING PROGRAM WITH EVERY MEMBERSHIP

204-388-6300 | info@averagejoesfitness.ca | www.averagejoesfitness.ca

24/7 FITNESS CENTER

PERSONAL TRAINING

NEW EQUIPMENT

NEW GYM LAYOUT

EXPANDED MEN'S LOCKER ROOM



RED RIVER GROUP
REAL PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

Real Estate Appraisals | Property Management | Reserve Fund Studies | Real Property Consulting

1-855-371-5833 | www.redrivergroup.ca

HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL REAL ESTATE AND REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS IN NIVERVILLE, ÎLE-DES-CHÊNES, STE. AGATHE, ST. ADOLPHE, TOUROND, OTTERBURNE, NEW BOTHWELL, AND GLENLEA

Already 60% leased out in phase 1 and 2

BRAND NEW LUXURY TOWNHOUSES | NIVERVILLE



LUKE WIEBE

204.380.2582
 luke@wieberealty.com

ROYAL LEPAGE
 Riverbend Realty



**DOWNTOWN
 NIVERVILLE**

1 BLOCK FROM MAIN STREET

STARTING AT:

\$825

1 BEDROOM
 SUITES
 /MONTH

\$1,375

3 BEDROOM
 TOWNHOUSES
 /MONTH



www.nivervillecitizen.com/homes for detailed listings!



Low rate
 mortgage



Flexible
 payments

Your
 mortgage
 of choice.

A Caisse mortgage means low rates and a variety of flexible payment options:

- double a payment
- skip a payment
- pay it down up to 20% annually

Visit Caisse today.

Caisse
 Groupe Financier
www.caisse.biz

Our reputation is the cornerstone of your foundation



 **PRECISION**
Homes

(204) 388-4985
precisionhomes@mymts.net
www.precisionhomes.ca



NIVERVILLE

19 Wyldewood Crescent

\$399,900

Nick Bergmann
Phone: (866) 808-8109 | nick@bergmann.realtor





**Rendez-Vous
Estates**

COUNTRY LIVING IN LORETTE

ENJOY A WORRY FREE LIFESTYLE IN A NEW 55+ COMMUNITY

INFORMATION MEETINGS:

**WHEN: Wednesday, April 11 @ 7 PM
& Wednesday, May 16 @ 7 PM**

**WHERE: Club de Bles d'Or Hall - 1254 Dawson Rd.
(3 buildings east of the Caisse Credit Union)**

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - ALL WELCOME!



PHONE: 961-1442 **www.rendezvousestates.ca**



NIVERVILLE

144 St. Andrews Way

\$369,900

Keith Unger
Phone: (204) 371-9013
Email: keith@ungerrealty.ca





NIVERVILLE

605 Muirfield Cove

\$399,900

Keith Unger
Phone: (204) 371-9013
Email: keith@ungerrealty.ca





NIVERVILLE

21 Kirkdale Drive

\$379,900

Keith Unger
Phone: (204) 371-9013
Email: keith@ungerrealty.ca





ST. PIERRE JOLYS

336 Sabourin Street

\$216,900

Clarence Braun
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: clareb2@shaw.ca





NIVERVILLE

155 St. Andrews Way

\$329,900

Clarence Braun
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: clareb2@shaw.ca





NIVERVILLE

153 St. Andrews Way

\$319,900

Clarence Braun
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: clareb2@shaw.ca





NIVERVILLE
28 Tweed Lane

\$252,900

Nick Bergmann
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: nick@bergmann.realtor



NIVERVILLE
106-400 Prairie Trail

\$204,900

Nick Bergmann
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: nick@bergmann.realtor



NIVERVILLE
21 Denby Cove

\$479,900

Nick Bergmann
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: nick@bergmann.realtor



NIVERVILLE
118 Claremont Drive

\$399,900

Wesley Dowse
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: wes@wesdowse Realty.com



ÎLE-DES-CHÊNES
446 Dumaine Road

\$469,900

Wesley Dowse
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: wes@wesdowse Realty.com



NIVERVILLE
45 Tweed Lane

\$236,900

Wesley Dowse
Phone: (866) 808-8109
Email: wes@wesdowse Realty.com

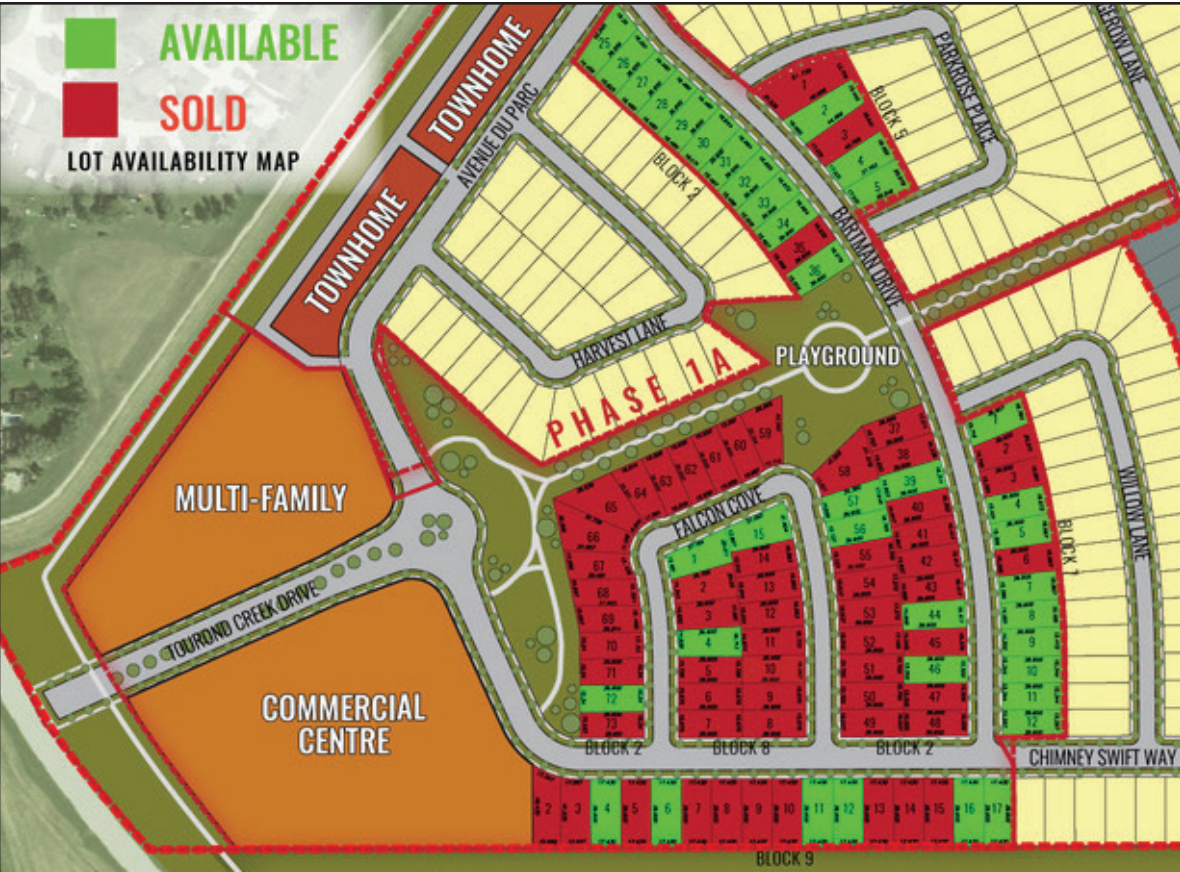


SUTTON GROUP KILKENNY REAL ESTATE

NICK BERGMANN
REALTOR®

204-230-6762
nick@bergmann.realtor

THE CLARENCE & WESLEY TEAM



Phase 1 - 65% sold out | Lots starting at \$94,900



THE **wiebe**
TEAM

LUKE WIEBE 204.380.2582 | luke@wieberealty.com



THANKS TO MY VALUED CLIENTS FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS!

DIRECTOR AWARD
Sutton 2017

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
INDIVIDUAL MLES 2017
BRONZE

Sutton SUTTON GROUP-KILKENNY REAL ESTATE

ANN LEMON
ANN LEMON
ANN LEMON
REALTOR®

It's that easy!

204-392-3192
alemon@sutton.com



13 Alders Gate | Niverville

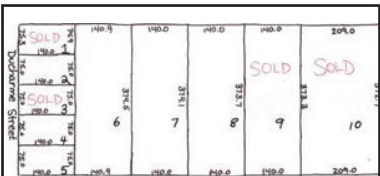
\$366,900



305-400 Prairie Trail | Niverville

\$199,900

663 STAFFORD STREET, WINNIPEG MB R3M 2X7



OTTERBURNE
4 Ducharme Street

\$36,645

Candice Bakx-Friesen
Phone: (204) 392-6406
Email: candice@cbfteam.ca

ROYAL LEPAGE
Dynamic Real Estate



SOLD
NIVERVILLE
20 Bentley Place

\$375,000

Candice Bakx-Friesen
Phone: (204) 392-6406
Email: candice@cbfteam.ca

ROYAL LEPAGE
Dynamic Real Estate



NIVERVILLE
54 Ashgrove Crescent

\$319,900

Candice Bakx-Friesen
Phone: (204) 392-6406
Email: candice@cbfteam.ca

ROYAL LEPAGE
Dynamic Real Estate



ÎLE-DES-CHÊNES
486 D'Auteuil Drive

\$259,900

Candice Bakx-Friesen
Phone: (204) 392-6406 | candice@cbfteam.ca

ROYAL LEPAGE
Dynamic Real Estate

KLEEFELD
Duplex Lots

\$69,900

ROYAL LEPAGE
Riverbend Realty

Mike Fast
Phone: (204) 381-1136
Email: mike@fastrealty.ca

GRANDE POINTE
2 Acre Lot

\$139,900

- 2 Acres
- Near Park

ROYAL LEPAGE
Riverbend Realty

Mike Fast
Phone: (204) 381-1136
Email: mike@fastrealty.ca



KLEEFELD
Kleeefeld Condo

\$169,900

Mike Fast
Phone: (204) 381-1136
Email: mike@fastrealty.ca

ROYAL LEPAGE
Riverbend Realty

TOUROND CREEK, ST.ADOLPHE - OPEN HOUSE BLITZ
April 8th | 10:00 - 1:00 pm

11 Falcon Cove

\$499,900





10 Falcon Cove

\$394,500



2 Falcon Cove

\$374,900

JAYESH | KEITH
GULIANI & BISHOP
— REAL ESTATE EXPERTS —

Winnipeg and surrounding areas | 204-981-9826

ROYAL LEPAGE ALLIANCE **Sutton**



Recharging Mamas to Help Them Feel their Best

By Brenda Sawatzky

✉ bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

Teri Watt of Niverville is changing the way young moms look at health, food, and their overall wellbeing, slowly creating an army of people who believe that nutrition is the key to feeling great.

Watt is a registered holistic nutritionist and the founder of Mama Recharged, an online forum used to teach and support other mamas like herself in the area of holistic health. While nutrition is her primary focus, she also believes that other components play a part in completing the cycle of wellbeing: adequate sleep, stress reduction, and good time management amidst life's hectic pace. A holistic approach to healing requires one to understand that while the body is a system of parts, those systems are all connected. Dysfunction in one part can affect the whole.

"It encompasses the body as a whole," says Watt. "If you have certain symptoms, I'm not just going to advise you to take more calcium or more iron. Holistic nutritionists look at your symptoms based on a variety of factors. We look at the combinations of symptoms going on in your body like a puzzle and dive into it to look for the root causes."

Watt says her career path developed organically. As a child, she'd been prone to tonsillitis, resulting in many years of exposure to antibiotics. Some health concerns emerged later, but her doctors never attempted to make a connection to the negative effects of prolonged antibiotics use.

By the time she reached her late teens, Watt was experiencing extreme fatigue, followed by aching muscles, headaches, severe acne, and abdominal bloating. She describes feeling like she was eighty years old. On top of that, she had uncontrollable sugar cravings. The doctors ran tests, which all came back normal.

By this time, Watt had given birth to her first child and was becoming desperate.

"I had my daughter and I was so fed up with not getting answers, so I



Teri Watt with son Easton and daughter Ashton.

TERI WATT

decided to start researching it myself and making dietary changes," Watt says. "After having my daughter, I needed the energy. I wanted more for my life."

Online, she encountered other people's stories, including people with similar symptoms who had found healing through dietary changes. One by one, she cut out dairy, gluten, and then eggs until her symptoms began to disappear.

After her second child, Watt decided to pursue a career in nutrition, fully believing that this knowledge could help not only herself but a large number of people with similar food-related issues. Holistic nutrition provided for her the understanding of how the body functions and the importance that food plays in our overall wellbeing.

That's how Mama Recharged was born. Watt created the website and used it to share her experiences and knowledge. She began an online seven-day cleanse program and developed a consultation package whereby clients have access to a one-on-one assessment; nutritional, lifestyle, and supplement recommendations based on their symptoms; a customized meal plan, including

recipes; and ongoing follow-up services.

"I tell people, 'If you come to me and you have a variety of different symptoms, look at food sensitivities first,'" says Watt. "There could be other things going on, too, but that's so common when you have so many different symptoms. If it's a gluten or dairy intolerance, you'll likely not only get rid of the symptom that you came to me for, you'll get rid of a whole host of other symptoms, too."

While food intolerance tests are available, they can be expensive. Watt recommends beginning with a simple food elimination process, removing foods from your diet for a period of time to see if the symptoms clear up, and then reintroducing those foods individually to determine whether they are, in fact, problematic for you.

She says that the most common problem foods contain gluten, dairy, and sugar, as well as processed foods.

"Processed, packaged food is probably the number one problem," Watt adds. "They are inflammatory, full of sugar, and packed with refined carbohydrates, food dyes, and artificial flavours. It's almost like a Franken-food. Our bodies don't really know what it is anymore because it's been

altered so much."

Watt trains clients to pay attention to their bodies and recognize what symptoms look like so they can also recognize when they go away.

While there is conflicting evidence to support the benefits or detriments of both gluten and dairy, she says there's really only one way to determine whether you have developed an intolerance to either of them.

"I think it's true to say that the pesticides and glyphosate on the wheat are a part of the problem, and maybe that's the majority of the problem for some people," she says. "But it could be the gluten protein that people have developed a problem with. It's said to be irritating to the gut lining. I've seen the changes for myself and I know that they are not in my head. There's so many people that have adopted this lifestyle and have seen positive changes."

While raw dairy products may have health benefits, the modern-day pasteurization process kills off the digestive enzymes which are needed to properly digest them, which can lead to digestive issues and inflammation of the gut.

"The dairy industry has led us to believe that we get our calcium from

milk, and if we don't get our milk then we're not getting calcium," Watt says. "If you eat a healthy diet full of fruits and vegetables, you don't need to worry about where you're getting your calcium from."

In the fall of 2017, Watt decided to introduce another program to her existing format: the Mama Recharged Method. Registrants to this program sign on for a four-week period, first receiving education as to how their food choices might be causing fatigue, skin irritations, brain-fog, bloating, constipation, diarrhea, nasal congestion, or just general malaise. For the twenty-one days following, the group joins in a complete elimination of gluten and dairy products, with a slow reintroduction of these foods at the end. Along with full nutritional support from Watt, registrants receive weekly menu plans, recipes, shopping lists, and the larger support and comradery of peers.

Twenty-five women signed on initially, many experiencing the slow return of their earlier energy and well-being. Watt provides long-term support to those who choose to continue after the four-week period.

"My focus is to show moms that clean eating can be easy and tasty," Watt says. "I don't want it to be difficult or scary and I don't want them to feel like they're deprived. I know that moms are so busy. Delicious meals can be fashioned so that they're not spending a whole lot of time in the kitchen."

While weight loss is a typical by-product of clean eating, Watt doesn't want it to be the only goal. Overall wellbeing has far-reaching benefits that affect every area of a person's life.

Watt hopes to encourage others to take a serious look at their nutrition when seeking professional help for common ailments. She also offers a free meal plan to anyone who visits her website (below).

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- www.members.mamarecharged.com/free-mealplan
- www.mamarecharged.com



**McNAUGHTON
MECHANICAL
SERVICE INC.**

Supply and install tires, Supply and install lift kits and vehicle customization.
A/C repair and electronic diagnostic on all vehicles.
Manitoba Inspections on all vehicles.

AUTOMOTIVE AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT REPAIR

120 CEDAR DRIVE - NIVERVILLE, MB

204-388-6450

NIVERVILLE SHELL

HOURS:

Monday to Thursday | 5:00 am – 10:00 pm
Friday | 5:00 am – 11:00 pm
Saturday | 7:00 am – 11:00 pm
Sunday | 7:00 am – 9:00 pm



204-388-5127

FULL SERVICE

**Advertise
With Us!**

sales@nivervillecitizen.com

The Citizen
Niverville, Manitoba

The Cadets Corps: Changing Lives and Making Friends for Life

By Eric Peterson

When you think about young adults, what comes to mind? Do you embrace the cliché that teenagers are self-centred, lazy, and oblivious to the struggles of the real world?

"They all think they're special," you might find yourself saying. "They think the world owes them something."

If you do think that way, you might have gained a new perspective while sitting around a grey foldout table on a recent late winter's night in St. Pierre-Jolys. There you would have met four young members of the 3234 Manitoba Horse Army Cadet Corps, also known as the Morris Cadets, and if you are generally unimpressed by today's teenagers, these guys are here to challenge your assumptions.

Like many cadets, Ryley Froelich has always wanted to join the military when he turns 18. When he was 12, he found a little pamphlet for the Cadet Corps. He bugged his mom to let him join. Then bugged her some more. Finally, she relented and Ryley was all signed up.

That was four years ago. Today, Ryley is one of the leaders of the local corps.

"It's made me the person I am today," says Froelich, whose other passion is sled dog racing. "It's like a second family to me. It's been such a big deal in my life."

It's clear the other cadets in the room agree. Reanne Fontaine is a senior cadet in her sixth year in the Morris program. Like others, she says the main thing she's gained from the cadets is confidence.

"I was extremely shy. Until Cadets, it was hard to talk to people and make friends. Now I'm just less afraid of seeing people and helping others," says Fontaine. "You become more organized mentally. You learn more how to organize yourself and present yourself. It's just confidence."

Cadets Canada states that the aim of the program is to develop in youth the attributes of good citizenship and



The Cadet Corps on parade.

ROXANNE MAYNARD

leadership, promote physical fitness, and stimulate youth interest in the sea, land, and air activities of the Canadian Forces. The organization traces its roots back to the 1860s. They run a set training program delivered by the cadets themselves, with older cadets leading the younger ones.

Roxanne Maynard is the commanding officer and heartbeat of the organization. Like all who hold her position, Maynard is an Army reservist. She has been with the Morris group from the beginning, through the organization's growth, and she plans to help see it into the future.

"Ten years ago if you told me I would be an officer in the Reserves, I would have laughed in your face," says Maynard. "This program reflects a lot my personality. What I find important. Respect. Leadership. Being a good person. I've grown a lot personally. It's changed my life as well."

In Morris, the local corps was born in 2011 with a whopping three cadets. From those first three cadets, the group grew to a high of 55 youths at the time of a trip they took to France for the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge, one of the most famous military battles in our nation's history.

Janelle Poirier was on that trip with her mother Yvette, who is the corps'

secretary. Janelle is in her third year as a cadet and she calls the voyage "life-changing." Poirier says she was nervous when she first joined the corps, but the trip to France and the friends she's made have made her glad she overcame her reluctance.

"At school you see less of people," she explains. "You don't get the chance at a lot of places to get to know people better. Here, you see the same people every week."

"Nobody gets bullied here. Nobody. It just doesn't happen."

Ryley Froelich | Cadet

Maynard reports that the group currently sits at 32 cadets, the typical size for a cadet corps in Canada.

But some ongoing changes bring about the promise of more growth. All cadet corps must have a sponsor. Since its beginning, the corps has been sponsored by the Morris Legion. Every Thursday night, cadets would parade at the Legion Hall. However, in recent years it has become more challenging for the legion to continue their sponsorship and the cadets began to think about a new location.

Gaetan Fontaine is the Vice-Chair

of the Cadet Corps.

"Eighty percent of the kids came from the St. Pierre region," Fontaine says. "So the Town of St-Pierre stepped in. They provide the hall at no cost."

With that, the weekly parade moved to the larger St. Pierre rec centre, which had more space for more cadets.

Twelve-year-old Jacques Roy just completed his first year as a cadet. He's learning from the older cadets like Froelich, Fontaine, and Poirier. And he is loving the experience.

"It just sounded really fun," he says when pressed to explain why he joined the corps. "It's been everything I've hoped for and more."

Jacques's mother Evelyn chimes in. "He likes to meet new people and new friends. He's always wanted to join."

It's a decision his dad Brian, who's now the corps' fundraising chair, thinks has worked out great.

"I'm glad Jacques joined," says the elder Roy. "You can see the change. He's a totally different kid."

In addition to the set program, the corps runs optional training. They have a band, a marksmanship team, and a drill team. And Maynard points out that the cadets do a lot of volunteer work to help build a better community.

"They do Remembrance Day in Morris, St. Pierre, and Niverville,"

she begins. "We volunteer as part of the Crow Wing Trail Partnership, the St. Pierre Museum, the ActifEpic bike race, [a local] quilt show, the Morris food bank, and the Village Connection thrift store. It's about building great leaders and citizens."

What all the young people in the room will tell you, while their parents nod in agreement, is that the Cadet Corps has brought them a sense of belonging to something bigger than themselves.

"Right away the highest-ranking cadets are like, 'Let's hang out.' You're instantly comfortable," says Froelich. "Nobody gets bullied here. Nobody. It just doesn't happen. The officers play such a big role. I'm super close with a lot of the officers."

One of those officers is Lieutenant Clarissa Harder, a former cadet herself. She has some advice for new cadets: "Don't quit. Stick with it. Promise yourself two years and you will never regret it."

Froelich echoes the sentiment. "You get past two months. Then four months. Then six months, and a year. And soon you can't wait for it every week. It becomes the high point of your life."

Finally he encapsulates what he, Fontaine, and Poirier have been trying to explain all night: "In high school you might have nothing in common with your classmates except a geographical area. Here, you are all cadets. You know when push comes to shove that these are friends for life."

Slothful, entitled teenagers? You won't find any of those around this table.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Cadets, call or text Roxanne Maynard at 204-324-4034 or show up at the St. Pierre Rec centre on Thursdays from 6:30–9:30 p.m. The program is open to all youth between the ages of 12–18 and it runs from September through the first week of June.



home



auto



business

Wyatt Dowling
INSURANCE BROKERS

Leave your worries at our door.™

Call 204 949 2600 or visit our Sage Creek location
101 - 50 Sage Creek Blvd.

Niverville Named Engineering Student of the Year

By Liz Byron

This spring, Niverville resident Daniel Wiebe will graduate from his engineering program at the University of Manitoba, and not only does he have a full-time job lined up and one of four required years of training already completed, but he's also been named as the Co-op Student of the Year.

The award, which is worth \$2,000, is granted every year to a student who participates in the faculty's co-op program and demonstrates the value of real-world experience gained through a work placement. The funding for the award comes from an organization called the Friends of Engineering, comprised of Manitoba industry leaders who support the University of Manitoba's engineering program.

When Wiebe entered the university to study civil engineering, he chose to opt into the co-operative education program. Co-op students complete paid work in engineering for periods of four or more months.

"You can do a co-op term any time throughout the year," explains Wiebe, "although of course the busiest time is summer, because many students like to take classes during the school year and then do work experience in the summer. But you can do it anytime."

Wiebe appreciated the flexibility that the co-op option allowed him. At one point he worked for a full year to gain extra work experience, but also to help out financially while his wife finished the last year of her teaching degree.

Through his co-op terms, Wiebe has had the opportunity to work for three different



Daniel Wiebe, Carolyn Geddert (Faculty of Engineering), and Brandy O'Reilly (Friends of Engineering). **DANIEL WIEBE**

companies, working in construction management and then water and wastewater programs. All told, he has 20 months of work experience before he even graduates.

"Once I graduate, I'm an engineer in training for four years," says Wiebe. "But I can apply up to a year of qualified pre-grad experience to that period, so I'll only have three years before I become a professional engineer."

Wiebe can't imagine not choosing to take the co-op option in his program. Aside from getting a head start on the four-year training period, it's a great way to gain a competitive edge as far as employment goes, he says.

"It can definitely be hard to find a job," he adds. "But co-op is a great way to gain good references in the field, make connections, and even get a job."

It worked for him. At the end

of his final co-op work term, his employer was impressed with Wiebe's work and offered him a full-time job upon graduation.

For Wiebe, the ways the co-op program aided him are obvious. But he says that many people aren't familiar with how co-ops work.

"When I was applying for jobs, I would advertise the program to people who maybe didn't know what it was about," Wiebe explains, adding that although the faculty of engineering has staff to help students find work placements, he still had to apply, interview, and be hired for co-op positions. "I think there's a lack of awareness for a lot of employers. They don't know that there is some flexibility to when and for how long you hire students, and they don't know that they can apply for funding for a large percentage of the student's wages. That's where I try to help and raise

awareness."

It was a combination of his overall performance in his co-op placements, as well as these efforts to raise awareness about the benefits of co-op programs to potential employers, that landed Wiebe the Student of the Year award.

IN BRIEF



Kimberley Funk.

HANOVER SCHOOL DIVISION

Principal Appointed to New Niverville High School

The Hanover School Division has appointed Kimberley Funk as principal for the new high school in Niverville, which is shortly about to begin construction.

Funk currently serves as Vice Principal of Landmark Collegiate, a role she has held since 2013. She will transition into her new role beginning in February 2019, seven months before the new school is scheduled to open.

Funk also has previous

experience as a guidance counsellor at Steinbach Regional Secondary School. Prior to that, she taught for many years in Mitchell Elementary School, Mitchell Middle School, and Niverville Elementary School.

A sod-turning ceremony for the new school, which will serve 450 students from Grades Nine through 12, took place on the morning of Friday, March 23.

Nathan DUECK

NIVERVILLE TOWN COUNCILLOR

COMMITTED TO:

- Relationship Building & Communication
- Strong Local Economy
- Structured Growth
- Healthy Community Living

nathan.dueck@whereyoubelong.ca

Sage Creek PHYSIOTHERAPY

inMotion NETWORK

Physiotherapy Clinics and More

NOW OFFERING

CHIROPRACTIC and SPORTS MEDICINE

Chiropractic Services

- Manual adjustments • Activator adjustments
- Acupuncture • Spinal and postural screenings
- Lifestyle advice • Corrective exercises • Kinesiotaping

Sports Medicine

- Concussion management • Assessment and treatment of sports injuries / musculoskeletal conditions
- Drivers medicals • Pre-employment assessment
- MPI/WCB injury management

inmotionnetwork.ca

204.253.6768

803 - 50 Sage Creek Blvd

80% ALREADY SOLD

HERITAGE *Life*

Retirement Living
LIFE LEASE RESIDENCE



LOCATED AT THE NIVERVILLE HERITAGE CENTRE
IN NIVERVILLE, MANITOBA

There is really nothing like it!

AMENITIES:

- 4 storey residence with elevator
- Wide variety of suite sizes with balconies
- Underground parking
- Spacious storage locker
- Spacious common area
- Fitness centre
- Onsite medical clinic & dentist office
- Onsite full service restaurant
- Gardens and walkways
- Available support services

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Steven Neufeld
LIFE LEASE REPRESENTATIVE

Email: steve.neufeld@heritagecentre.ca
Phone: (204) 388-5000 EXT 201

www.heritagelife.ca



Members of Niverville Fire and EMS.

BRAD WASILINCHUK

Health Foundation Honours Fire/EMS Department

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

The Niverville Health and Community Foundation and Niverville Fire and Emergency Services partnered to throw their second annual gala on Friday, March 2 at the Heritage Centre. The evening was emceed by George Sawatzky, Health Foundation treasurer, and Jason Hudson of Niverville Fire and Emergency Services.

"This was the second year the Fire and Emergency Services teamed up to help raise awareness and money for the Niverville Health and Community Foundation," says Chief Keith Bueckert. "The foundation has done so much for the community and we enjoy helping them out."

One highlight of the evening was the Health Foundation's gift of \$7,000 to Niverville Fire and Emergency Services, a gift which has since been used to purchase new automated external defibrillators (AED).

"The gift we received was to replace two aging defibrillators we have on our rescue [vehicle] and engine for medical calls," says Bueckert. "Not to alarm anyone—the two AEDs we had were still in good

order."

Bueckert explains that the pads used by transporting paramedics were not compatible with the older defibrillators. So when a patient had to be transported via ambulance, the pads had to be removed from the patient's chest before they could be hooked up to the ambulance monitor. The new AEDs thus allow for the seamless transfer of patients. They will also give first responders more information about the patient's condition, allowing them to help with early treatment with medication they carry on their truck.

The new AEDs were purchased through Aim for Life, a Niverville-based company that specializes in first aid and CPR training.

AWARDS

Many awards were given out over the course of the evening for members of the department who have served five, ten, 15, and 20 years respectively. Deputy Chief Stanford Hiebert and Captain Spencer Hunt were recognized for their 15 years of service, and Lieutenant Greg Funk was recognized for his 20 years.

Ten-year medals were awarded to Lieutenant Dave Aitken and

firefighters Mary Admiraal, Marc Bergen, James Woytowich, and Mike Friesen. Deputy Chief Brad Wasilinchuk; firefighters Peter Bowyer, Tara Fehr, and Garrett Hawgood; and emergency medical responders Tyler Neufeld, Dan Horne, and Jodie Rempel received five-year medals.

Most impressive of all, Gary Macdonald was presented an award for 50 long years of service to fire departments in Manitoba, including ten in Niverville, where he is an honorary member. Chief Bueckert and former Chief Ferd Klassen both spoke at length about Macdonald's many contributions to the department over this period.

Macdonald's award, which is so rare that the province had to specially devise it, was presented by Manitoba Fire Commissioner Dave Schafer on behalf of the Office of the Fire Commissioner.

Macdonald also received a second special award from John Lane, Chief of the Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service. Both awards have been created recently to honour individuals who have served for exceptionally long periods of time.

AUTOWORKS
Sparkline
SERVICE CENTRE

Alignments- Brakes-Tire-Safeties
Diagnostics-Free Shuttle and Courtesy Car

20 CEDAR DRIVE, NIVERVILLE, MB
204-388-4888 www.sparkline.ca

autopac | ACCREDITED
A Manitoba Public Insurance product

GDS
AUTO GLASS

George Dyck
George Dyck & Son

311 highway | Box 433, Niverville, Manitoba R0A 1E0

PHONE: 204-388-4870
EMAIL: geodyck@hotmail.com
Quality & reliable service. Over 10,000 windshields installed.

Some Things are Best Left to the Professionals!

GLORIA LAING
REFLEXOLOGY FOR MATERNITY SUPPORT



(204) 371.4804
www.glorialaing.com

Commentary

The NIMBY Mentality

By Greg Fehr

In 1973, my father purchased ten acres of land south of Mitchell. At the time, minimum wage was \$1.90 per hour and the land cost \$80 per acre. Today, two acres of land in the same area sells for \$80,000–90,000.

My first home was a small bungalow in an established (a.k.a. “old”) neighbourhood in Winnipeg. At less than 800 square feet, this modest two-bedroom home allowed me to enter the world of adulthood. Bought in the mid-1990s for around \$55,000, it wasn’t the cheapest house available and it was an affordable way for a young couple to begin building a solid foundation for life in a decent neighbourhood. At the time, minimum wage was \$5.40 per hour.

The decision to buy in Winnipeg was primarily driven by work opportunities, but there was another reason: the

lack of housing stock at our affordability level in the rural southeast. After a few years of building equity in our modest purchase, we were able to return to the southeast to raise our family.

Fast-forward to today. The least expensive house in Niverville sold in 2017–18 went for \$140,000, and the minimum wage is \$11. It doesn’t take a mathematician to realize that the inflation on housing has far outstripped the rate of wage increases. And while many of us may earn above minimum wage, the minimum is still an index of wages in general. This inflation is due to the price of servicing land and the economics of both building materials and design.

The reality is that the market requires both a density and variety of housing options, both for sellers and buyers.

To simplify, our southeast communities are in a housing

crisis. Where is the affordable housing for those who cannot afford the single-family suburban dream? Some people are being excluded from the market. We may justify this exclusion, thinking that these people are at least covered by our social safety net. But we’re excluding some important groups from home ownership, such as our youth and blue collar workers. While many dying communities are struggling to attract young people, we are inadvertently forcing many to leave through lack of choice.

Enter the resistance to non-detached housing in this community. While most people understand the situation presented above, the NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard) mentality is prone to poking through.

The word “rezoning” has the strange ability to strike fear in the hearts of homeowners. This is not to say that it shouldn’t warrant attention when a

developer or local government seeks to rezone property. That’s why we have legislation that requires a public process in order for us to change the way we use a piece of land.

The supply and demand of the housing market is a moving target. When a subdivision is designed, the developer makes his or her best estimate as to the needed variety and quantity of lots of different types. But as the actual market changes, we must leave room for adjustment—and a community filled with nothing but single-family detached homes is a community designed for exclusion.

While it be admirable to exclude certain social problems from our community, we seem to be increasingly fearful that non-single-family housing options is the root of these problems. That kind of thinking is not only unfounded but dangerous—dangerous, as it unintentionally creates barriers that prevent certain groups and individuals from enriching our community. These groups are necessary for building a prosperous future.

Ask any urban planning expert and they will tell you that a variety of housing options actually builds healthier communities, especially when they are well mixed with proper transitions. Multifamily housing—whether high-density, duplex, or townhouse—is best in both the short- and long-term when it’s intermingled with single-family housing. When multifamily housing is segregated, the long-term affect is ghettoization.

As citizens, our homes are our castles. Often, buying a home is the biggest personal investment we will make. If we perceive the presence of non-traditional houses as a deterrent, I suppose it could be argued that those homes decrease our property value and market share—if the buyers share the same view.

But looking beyond the short-term, I wonder if it’s not a risk worth taking. Imagine the long-term financial impacts of trying to sell your house in a dying town? That would be a more dire loss, both a personal financial loss and the loss of our communities’ overall health and culture.

Why We Celebrate

By Jason Kehler

I remember one Easter growing up very specifically. We sat down to eat dinner together as a family, and it was a meal that none of us kids particularly liked. As we ate, my parents left for the Easter service at church, leaving us alone at home. We were old enough to fend for ourselves, but not old enough to make wise decisions yet. Since it was a dinner we didn’t like, we conspired to throw out and hide our food so we wouldn’t have to eat it.

Needless to say, we were found out—and worse than throwing out our food, we tried to lie and cover it up. We suggested that we had in fact finished eating, and only thrown out the tiny bit of leftovers.

I often reflect on this moment in my life. It was a time I truly deserved punishment from my parents, and while we did receive a scolding, it was nothing compared to what we deserved.

With the Easter season

upon us, many families get together for gatherings that may include a meal, maybe an Easter egg hunt, and of course, chocolate. For some, Good Friday and Easter are simply a holiday and a day off work.

But Easter brings with it mixed emotions. We celebrate Good Friday and call it “good” when it’s actually one of the darkest days in history. On Good Friday, over two thousand years ago, Jesus Christ was brutally executed. He was arrested even though he hadn’t committed any crimes. He was assaulted, beaten, spit on, and made to carry a heavy cross. Jesus was ultimately hanged on that cross, with large spikes driven through his hands and feet to keep him there until he died.

There doesn’t seem to be anything “good” about this. If that were the end of the story, there wouldn’t be too much to celebrate, especially for us, two thousand years later.

But that isn’t the end of the story. Jesus endured the pain and suffering for a purpose.

Jesus knew that enduring these things would lead to a way of salvation. He knew that enduring it all would lead to a restoration of the relationship he desired to have with people. Romans 3:23 tells us that “everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard” (NLT), and Romans 6:23 tells us that “the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (NLT).

We celebrate Easter because three days later, on Easter Sunday, Jesus was raised from the dead, defeating sin, death, and the grave. We celebrate his resurrection and the hope of salvation that comes from his sacrifice for us.

Like that Easter growing up and the punishment I deserved from my parents, Jesus took the punishment I deserve, that we all deserve. He took it upon himself and bore that agony so I could have a relationship with God. May we all recognize our need for Jesus as Saviour and accept him today.

CITIZEN POLL

Do you think single-family homes and multi-family homes should be built in close proximity to each other?

- ☐ **YES.** Healthy city planning necessitates that homes of different types be built in proximity to each other. Separating residents by economic status into their own neighbourhoods eventually leads to ghettoization.
- ☐ **NO.** Multifamily homes have the potential to endanger the large investments made by some homeowners.
- ☐ **UNSURE?** Let us know what you think.



Take part in our monthly poll for your chance to win a \$10 gift card from Niverville Shell.

Congratulations to last month's winner:
RYAN LOEWEN

VOTE NOW AT www.nivervillecitizen.com

LAST MONTH'S RESULTS:

Do you agree with Ritchot council's decision to end the seniors housing/daycare project that had been initiated alongside Niverville Heritage Holdings?

NO.	YES.
69%	31%

YOUR COMMENTS:

I've lived here 45 years and nothing changes. The town council should tell its community of what is going on and not make big decisions like this with out asking us. **-Jim Harder**

Obviously a group of people that have no need for childcare or went though trying to find housing for their senior parents. Who gives up much-needed daycare spaces?

I think the senior housing/daycare facilities would be a misuse of money.

The loss of 3/4 of a million is hard to take. Should have figured a way even if the current council was not involved up to now. Disappointing.

This decision of the Ritchot council was a overly cautious one made due to inexperience. Had this project been completed it would have brought not only senior housing and daycare, but also medical services and more to St. Adolphe. Such a loss. Such a waste. Furthermore, the experience to facilitate specifically this type of project was present within the partnership: the NHHL. Instead our council has left us with nothing, not even the land... just a desperate struggle to save the daycare spots with taskforces and studies.

So disappointing! Growth is happening all around us, IDC, Niverville, Ste. Agathe, and nothing ever seems to happen for St. Adolphe! All these new homes and no business growth, housing for seniors, etc. Now we are going to struggle to make these daycare spots work for us when there was a plan and funding available to make it sustainable. Very disappointed with the new council's decision! The St. Adolphe residents were never invited to give their opinions or feedback on this.

This is a huge disappointment for the town. Not only are we left without these valuable resources, we have a main street that is undeveloped. There are three vacant commercial properties that at the moment are now costing us money to just sit there. Poor planning on the town's part.

We are starting to expand the town even bigger and we were looking forward to a radical building where old people could be around young people. Dissappointed in the decision.

Sports & Recreation

Gabrielle Roy Cavaliers Honour Riley Weir

By Brenda Sawatzky

bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

Fifteen-year-old Riley Weir is an all-around kind of guy. He is a floor hockey goalie, competes in track, and has his red belt in taekwondo. He sings and plays guitar, acts in high school dramas, and gets involved in school life wherever possible. To the staff and students of École Gabrielle Roy in Îles-des-Chênes, it would seem that Riley loves everyone and everyone loves Riley.

Riley Weir is also a special needs student.

More than anything else, though, Riley loves hockey. Few have witnessed this more keenly than Gab-Roy Cavaliers hockey coach Colin David. David, also the high school's English teacher, has forged a special connection with Riley since he first came to the school almost two years ago. Rarely a day went by without them sharing an update on hockey stats or player trades.

A year ago, David decided to invite Riley to join the school hockey team. But Riley can't skate, requiring David to invent a position for him on the team.

"Riley always talked about wanting to play hockey but wasn't able to, so we discussed him joining the team to help the coaches," says David. "We made him the team water boy. He takes it very seriously."

And according to David, so do Riley's teammates. Right from the beginning, the Cavaliers team embraced Riley, including him in everything, even after-game pizza parties.

Since he began his position as team water boy, Riley's responsibilities have grown. He is now the keeper of the locker room key, making sure the team gets in and out of the locker room promptly before and after games. Riley also keeps track of shots on goal at every



Coach Colin David and Riley Weir, wearing the Cavaliers hardhat.

JOEL MANGIN

game, providing important stats for the coaches, and he manages the medical kit, making sure supplies are available in case of injury. Maybe most importantly, he is the fist-bump guy, offering needed encouragement to each player as they skate on and off the ice.

"Everybody expects Riley to be there now and [he's] a part of our everyday practice routine," David says. "If Riley's not there then everyone is asking about him. It's not forced. It's very genuine."

And if Riley had any doubts that he was a valuable member of the team, he doesn't now. Recently, the team captain awarded him with the team hardhat—an honour reserved for the team's hardest working player.

"That was a pretty special moment because Riley was completely shocked," says David. "Everyone started cheering and chanting his name and he was all smiles."

The team's hardhat is bedecked with the Cavaliers logo and has been a tradition for a while now. David begins the season by

awarding the hat to the player he decides has put in the greatest amount of effort and put the team before himself. At the next game, the holder of the hardhat in turn gets to nominate the player he feels did the same. This continues through every game of the season.

At the end of this season, the hardhat was placed in the hands of the team member whom everyone agreed had put in an invaluable effort throughout the entire season: Riley.

Like any hockey fan, Riley has a hockey hero: Andrew Ladd. And the reason for his long-time loyalty is as good as any.

"I met him at Special Olympics [Manitoba]," says Riley.

Special Olympics Manitoba offers year-round sport-training programs and competitive opportunities around the province in a variety of sports, a few of which Riley participates in on a weekly basis. Riley was introduced to Ladd, the former Winnipeg Jets captain, at a track meet when Ladd made an appearance to do a commercial shoot. It's a day Riley

won't quickly forget and his loyalty to Ladd has remained constant, even after his move to the New York Islanders.

And just like Ladd, Riley has his own personal cheering squad: his parents. Joey and Nicole Weir spend much of their time driving Riley to his many practices, games, and music lessons.

"There's nothing that holds him back," says Nicole. "If he wants to do something, he'll go ahead and do it. He doesn't care what anybody else thinks. It's pretty awesome."

Riley's parents could have never anticipated the vibrant and active young man he would become. Their son was diagnosed with a condition called 18p Minus syndrome, a rare chromosomal disorder, when he was three years old. At the time, even the family doctor had never heard of it.

Apart from one education session in Texas early on, the Weirs have had to learn as they go, watching Riley struggle through childhood milestones, and seeking out speech and physiotherapists to help him along the way.

"There's been a lot of challenges along the way, but he's overcome so much," says Nicole. "He's very kind and persevering, dedicated and happy. He's known [to his peers] as Smiley Riley."

While David may not have fully anticipated the impact his decision to include Riley would make, he can see the amazing benefits that have come from it.

"For someone like Riley who eats, sleeps, and breathes hockey, it's pretty great for our school to find a way to accommodate him [by making him] a part of this hockey program," David says. "And I really feel like he's getting something out of this. He's making new friends, and it's really good for these young players to learn how to accept everyone and make them feel a part of the team."

IN BRIEF



Niverville Junior Varsity Girls basketball team. DAWN SCHMIDT

Junior Varsity Panthers End Provincials in Sixth

Niverville Collegiate's Junior Varsity girls basketball team headed to provincials this year in Somerset, Manitoba. Despite some great play, the team finished in seventh place in the season-ending tournament which took place March 9–11.

Coached by Nathan Dyck and Alex Graham, the girls lost their final game to the MacGregor Mustangs by a close score of 52–46.

The team was ranked sixth late in the season after wins in the Northlands Parkway Tournament in Winkler and the Immanuel Christian Tournament in Winnipeg.

Niverville Varsity Boys Win B-Ball Provincials

Niverville Collegiate's Varsity Boys basketball team won the AA provincial championship in Gretna on Sunday, March 18.

The team defeated the Carmen Collegiate Cougars in the final by a score of 76–40.

Niverville player Keegan Beer was named MVP of the tournament. This is the first provincial win for Niverville's varsity boys at the AA level in 40 years.



152 Fourth Street, Niverville



Katie Knebel

204.392.3030

katieknebel@royallepage.ca



ROYAL LEPAGE
Riverbend Realty



TRENDY T's

Now Available Locally!

ORDER ONLINE AT
CREATIVEPRINTALL.COM

creative
PrintAll
204-326-1718



Jason Barnabe runs a taekwondo class in Niverville.

JASON BARNABE

In Taekwondo, the Focus Is on Both Mental and Physical Training

By Liz Byron

For over 20 years, students in Niverville have been training in the Korean martial art of taekwondo. In 1995, Kang's Taekwondo Academy opened its branch in town, and people of all ages have been showing up to classes at the Golden Friendship Centre to train ever since.

"Taekwondo is a self-defensive martial art," says Master Bill Tam. Tam ran the Île-des-Chênes location of Kang's for years, although he now works at the main branch in Winnipeg and manages the academy headquarters. "While training in taekwondo, we focus on concentration, discipline, self-defence, and of course fitness."

Branches in Niverville and Ste. Agathe are both run by Jason Barnabe. Barnabe began training in Île-des-Chênes in 2008 as a student of Master Tam. Seven years later, he decided to open a new branch of Kang's in Ste. Agathe. Then, in the fall of 2017, the instructor in Niverville retired and asked Barnabe to take over that branch as well.

The change in role from student to teacher was a challenge for Barnabe, but he felt that it was important to push himself out of his comfort zone for personal growth. It's a decision he is happy with.

"Teaching has proven to be rewarding, and watching the students go from white belts to black belts fills me with pride," he says.

It's also a considerable commitment, for while he has achieved

black belt status, he isn't done learning. Instructors are required to attend seminars to learn about changes to the martial art and the way it is taught.

Kang's is the oldest taekwondo academy in Manitoba. The first branch opened in Winnipeg in 1976. The academy faced upheaval in 2016 when their chief instructor was sentenced to prison for sexual assault. Since then, ownership of Kang's has been transferred back to the original owner and founder, Great Grandmaster Kang and Mrs. Kang. That was also when Master Tam returned from Île-des-Chênes to the main Winnipeg branch, one of several changes in leadership.

"We have had a lot of policy changes, leadership changes, many things changed," affirms Tam.

But one thing hasn't changed: the long list of benefits the art of taekwondo offers its students.

Barnabe says that most new students are drawn in by an interest in martial arts and learning kicks and punches, but they don't typically know much about the other advantages offered to them.

"The most obvious benefit is fitness," he says. "Taekwondo trains quickness, agility, flexibility, and stamina. I think the more important benefit is that we train minds as well. Discipline, respect, perseverance, confidence, and drive are all attributes we try to instill in students... In the end, the mental training is more important than the physical."

When Barnabe began lessons a decade ago, it was at a suggestion from his wife. He instantly felt it was a good fit.

"I enjoyed it right away," he says. "I like it because it's an individual activity where your success depends on how much work you put in."

Despite the individual nature of the activity, though, he says there's still plenty of room for teamwork in the martial art. "It's not a team activity, in that your success is not largely determined by others, but it is like having a team in that you're in a supportive environment and everyone helps everyone else get better."

Of course, he adds, going to practices with other people allows students to meet new people and make friends in a way that completely solitary activities don't.

In taekwondo, there is always an emphasis on respect. Students must show respect to their instructor as well as each other, and particularly by seniority.

"All martial arts go by seniority, not by age," explains Master Tam. "As you achieve a higher rank, it doesn't matter the age. A 70-year-old with a white belt must show respect to an 18-year-old with a black belt."

This also shapes how lessons are run. Students are grouped by achievement level, regardless of age, and classes are not separated by age.

"They all practice at the same time," Tam says. "Whatever your

age is, you practice with your level and you all work on the same technique at the same time, but when you get to more advanced techniques for higher levels, the lower level students sit down and watch."

Barnabe says that this means that taekwondo offers a great opportunity for families to participate in an activity together.

"We have fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters who all train together," he says. "It's a good opportunity for parents to spend time doing an activity with their kids instead of just watching from the sidelines. It's also a good opportunity for kids to be given some responsibility. The higher-ranked students help the lower-ranked students, even if the higher-ranked student is younger."

Since students work at their own pace and move on as they feel ready, there is no start or end date to classes. This means flexibility: new students are free to join at any time throughout the year. People of any age are welcome, although children four to six years old train separately at a special time.

Similarly, there is no particular fitness level required to start.

"When I started taekwondo I could do three push-ups," recalls Barnabe. "At my black belt task, I was asked to do 100. So I don't think fitness level matters when you start, as long as you work to improve yourself."

GORP WORLD ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



Nicholas Lemoine

Nicholas Lemoine has been learning taekwondo for two years. The 11-year-old finds it a great way to become stronger and make a lot of new friends. He also enjoys bike rides, time with friends, and playing on his PS4. Lemoine has already earned a junior black belt. He can earn his adult black belt when he reaches 16.

His taekwondo instructor, Mr. Barnabe, says that Nicholas "has a good attitude, is always putting in a big effort, and is willing to help others in class."

SAVE BIG

at Niverville Bigway

SAVE WHEN YOU BUY
GORP READY MIX!

\$5.00 OFF!

Valid April 1 - 15, 2018
Must present coupon.



IN BRIEF

Niverville Synchro Team Skates to Silver

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

The Niverville Skating Club's synchro skating team, Aurora Ice, attended the 2018 Skate Canada Manitoba Crocus Invitational Synchronized Skating Competition in Souris, Manitoba on March 17.

At the competition, 24 synchro skating teams competed, coming from all over the province at the St. Patrick's Day event. Aurora Ice won silver for their skate in the Beginner 2 category.

"In order to be a competitive synchro team, there must be eight skaters minimum on the team," says Leslie Bardal, president of the Niverville Skating Club. "This is our first year with a competitive team and they have been training hard every Tuesday night at the Niverville Arena."

In addition to training on-ice, every member of the team spends 45 minutes per week off-ice, developing their dance skills and building core muscle strength and balance.

The team's skaters range from CanSkate Stage 4 to StarSkate Level 3, including two male skaters.

Bardal adds that the team's outfits were generously donated by the Morris Skating Club, and their choreography was developed with the assistance of volunteer coach Heather Hamblin.

"We greatly appreciated her time, knowledge, and skill," Bardal says of Hamblin. "Her dedication to the sport of synchronized skating was to our benefit and it was a pleasure to work with her."

Forever Young

fitville

By Amber Mamchuk

From the moment the first note hits the air, the dance floor at St. Adolphe's Pioneer Hall is packed. St. Adolphe's Old Tyme Dances started just five years ago, and in no time they proved to be a big hit on the Old Tyme Dance circuit.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of local volunteers Rae and Jules Manaigre and Denise and Romeo Belisle, the St. Adolphe dance sees anywhere from 120 to 200 dancers every month.

As you walk up the stairs to Pioneer Hall at the St. Adolphe Community Centre, you're greeted with the sound of live music. Bands from all over Manitoba are hired to play the dance, and each one has something unique to offer. The March dance brought in crowd favorite Mark Morisseau on the fiddle, and halfway through the evening special guests were invited to join the band onstage to call a square dance.



Jules Manaigre, Rae Manaigre, Denise Belisle, and Romeo Belisle.

AMBER MAMCHUK

My husband and I love to dance and enjoy a good polka or two, so we thought that the Old Tyme Dance would make a great date. After two songs, we were feeling the burn, amazed at how others didn't seem to sit the entire time!

Not knowing much more than the average two-step, we were a bit uncertain if we would be able to pick up the steps of other dances. Luckily, no experience is required at the Old Tyme Dance—and if

you're willing, the dancers are more than happy to teach you. It's not often in life that you'll dance in a circle of strangers and come out with new friends and skills.

If you're looking for something new to try for a girls night out or date night, consider stopping by the next Old Tyme Dance. Admission to dances is just \$15 and includes a light lunch and cash bar.

UPCOMING DANCES

- Wednesday, April 11 with Patti Kusturok, 7:00–11:00 p.m.
- Saturday, May 12 with Country Plus, 7:00–11:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 9 with Mark Morisseau, 7:00–11:00 p.m.
- To reserve a ticket, call Rae at 204-883-2440 or Denise at 204-883-2429.

Pee Wee Clippers Win A1 Championship

By Evan Braun

✉ editor@nivervillecitizen.com

Another season of Clippers hockey has come to a close.

The highlight of the post-season was the Pee Wee A1 team clinching the Eastman Championship on Monday, March 19 at a game in Niverville, pushing their best-of-three final series against the St. Adolphe Hawks to three full games. The Hawks won game one by a 5–3, with the Niverville/Ste. Agathe Clippers tying up the series with a 5–2 win in game two. The Clippers won the deciding third game 7–4.

But the organization's many other teams have also ended their season on exciting notes.

"Our Initiation teams were very busy this year, using every moment for a game, practice, or tournament," says Travis Mason of Clipper Ice Sports (CIS). "Squirts B had a great season! The all-boys team participated in two tournaments—December 9 in Steinbach and February 24 in Altona. They also played in a Manitoba Moose intermission game and in the Tim Hortons Jamboree on March 11. The team is looking forward to playing together one more time at the intermission of the Moose game on April 8."

The veterans of this year's Squirts B team will move up to Novice next year, including players Benjamin Raftis, Deklan Billey, and

Isaac Chamberlain.

The Novice A squad lost to Steinbach in the opening round of the playoffs, whereas Novice B beat Sagkeeng in three straight games to capture the consolation banner.

"Novice B ended the season playing in the Manitoba Moose Challenge, where they beat Stony Mountain in an intense gold medal game thanks to big goals by Caleb Reimer, Dekker Dorscht, and Trae Worrell," says Mason. "The player of the game was awarded to Brett Buros, while goalie Hudson Doerksen stood tall, allowing only one goal."

Atom A fought a tough best-of-three final series, losing the third game to Steinbach by a 4–1 score.

CIS President Jeff Spencer reports that it's been a great year all-around.

"Registration numbers were slightly up, and we all look forward to continuing growth next year," Spencer says. "The CIS board are very excited about new initiatives for the next season. [We] would like to thank all coaches, managers, team safety people, tournament coordinators, referees, arena staff, and all parent volunteers for their dedication and commitment. Without all of you, we wouldn't have had such a successful club for all these children to play in."

\$369,900



20 Denby Cove, Niverville

Katie Knebel
204.392.3030
katieknebel@royallepage.ca

ROYAL LEPAGE
Riverbend Realty

IT PAYS TO BE A MEMBER

MEMBERBONUS | \$7.5 MILLION IN CASH

Just one of the many reasons to join SCU.

memberbonus.scu.mb.ca

STEINBACH CREDIT UNION

Playoff-Bound Jets Will Contend for Lord Stanley's Cup

By Nicholas Anderson

The Winnipeg Jets are heading back to the NHL playoffs, and they're doing so in incredible fashion. From Patrik Laine putting up a 15-game point streak (the longest point streak by any teenager in NHL history) to the Jets setting a new franchise record for wins in a single season (49 and counting), the month of March was full of positive storylines.

All in all, the Jets posted the fifth-best record last month, going 10-3-1 in 14 games, including two separate win streaks of four and six games respectively. They currently sit second in the Central Division and are likely to stay there as the red-hot Predators sit five points ahead of the team with only three games remaining as of April 2.

Though there are still a few games remaining on the season, it's looking more and more likely that the Jets will face the Minnesota Wild in the first round of the playoffs, a matchup Jets fans should be anxiously anticipating.

Against the Wild this season, the Jets were 3-1-0, outscoring the Wild 14-10 in those four games. Statistically, the Jets would be huge favourites in a series against the Wild, who hold the league's second-worst shot attempt percentage of 47 percent. The Jets, on the other hand, have soared up the puck possession standings. They currently sit seventh in the league with a shot attempt percentage of nearly 52 percent.

But perhaps what's most interesting about this matchup is the fact that the two teams hold the two best home records in the league.

The Jets closed out a frantic March with an emphatic 3-1



DUSTIN KRAHN

victory against the Toronto Maple Leafs, with all four goals coming in the second period. Though the Jets dominated when they needed to in the second, the game was more notable for the way the Jets and Connor Hellebuyck really shut things down in the third period. Hellebuyck proved once again why he should be a finalist for the Vezina Trophy, awarded to the league's best goaltender each season. He stopped 28 of the 29 shots he faced to add onto his coming-out party record of 42-11-9. Most impressively, in Hellebuyck's 65 appearances this season he has only lost back-to-back games twice.

There was a calmness and coolness in the Jets game all night, almost as if they knew they would win if they played their game and

kept on top of the Leafs defensively. The Jets sit fourth in the league in defence, having allowed just 210 goals through 79 games. That's a huge improvement after being the league's fourth-worst defensive team last season.

Hellebuyck may have been the hero at the Air Canada Centre, but the rest of the month saw many different Jets take the spotlight.

For the first half of the month, the hero was obvious: it was none other than Patrik Laine. The 2016 second overall pick scored the second-most goals in March, with 12 goals, trailing only Connor McDavid, who had 13. With 43 goals on the season, Laine trails only Alexander Ovechkin of the Capitals by two goals for the league lead.

The second half of the month saw Kyle Connor show off the offensive potential he displayed at university. The 21-year-old Michigan native scored back-to-back game-winning goals in overtime against the Ducks and the Kings. Though he most likely won't win the Calder Trophy, awarded to the league's most impressive rookie, he most certainly gave voters something to think about as they get ready to head to the ballots. With 29 goals, Connor is currently tied for the rookie lead in goals with injured Canucks forward Brock Boeser.

As we creep closer to the end of the season, it's hard to put into perspective just how good the Jets have been in the 2017-18 season. The Jets surprised many across the league by becoming a top-five defensive team while also remaining a top-ten offensive team.

This article is too short to showcase all the amazing things being done on this team. Heck, I still have yet to talk about how outstanding Blake Wheeler has been. Forwards Bryan Little, Matthieu Perrault, and Nik Ehlers have also been neglected in these monthly articles because there's just too many other things to talk about. And let's not forget Paul Stastny, who put up 11 points in his first 15 games as a Jet.

Nonetheless, this is nothing but good news for a Jets team that has finally pieced it all together. After having missed the playoffs in six of the team's first seven years back home, it's nice to see the patient management style of general manager Kevin Cheveldayoff finally pay off.

Get ready as the Jets prepare to contend for the greatest trophy in all of sports: the Stanley Cup.

IN BRIEF



The Chiefs.

SHAWN BERCIER

The Good Times Roll for the Chiefs

By Evan Braun

editor@nivervillecitizen.com

The Chiefs have won the Good Times Hockey League for the fourth time in five years, triumphing over the Dark Knights in a three-game series. After two games, the series was split one win apiece. Unfortunately, the Dark Knights were unable to ice a team for the third game and were forced to forfeit the final.

The Chiefs were ranked in first place going into the playoffs with a record of 13 wins and two losses. In the first round of the playoff, the Chiefs knocked off the Kodiaks in two straight wins.

The team, which has been dominant in recent years, won the championship in 2014 and 2015, then again in 2017 and 2018.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.gthl.hockeyleaguestats.com

Niverville Ice Show Most Successful Yet

By Evan Braun

editor@nivervillecitizen.com

The Niverville Skating Club performed their annual ice show on Friday, March 9 in front of their largest crowd yet.

The event's theme was "Circus," with popcorn and cotton candy available to guests. Admission was based on donations, and the skating club reports that \$426 was raised in total.





Shannon Martin

MLA

shannonmartin.ca
info@shannonmartin.ca
(204) 736-3610

Proudly Serving the Morris Constituency



10 Week Spring Sessions

Dance, Yoga, Barre

REGISTER TODAY! EMAIL US FOR MORE INFO!



Artistic Directors:
Melanie Ducharme
Danielle Auld

prairiesouldance@gmail.com
204-392-5624
10 Cedar Drive, Niverville

Follow us on
f i t

RITCHOT REGIONAL CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Chamber News

RITCHOT
REGIONAL
CHAMBER of
COMMERCEEXECUTIVE: Marc Palud (President), Trina Brulé (Vice President),
Roger Brodeur (Treasurer), and Derek Roth (Secretary)BOARD MEMBERS: Mike Allison, Yvette Bernat, Stefan Koenig,
Paul La Rocque, Rob MacLeod, Larry Niebel, Roger Perron, and Lisa PlossMUNICIPALITÉ
RITCHOT
MUNICIPALITY
Country Skies. City Ties.
Sous le ciel de la campagne.LDN AUTO
SERVICESUMMER TIRE
INSTALLATION
\$30 WITH AN
OIL CHANGEComplete Auto and Light Truck Repairs
204-878-2394 www.ldnauto.ca *most vehicles

421 Main St. Ile des Chenes

ST. ADOLPHE PHARMACY

Caring Beyond Prescription

Improving Quality of Life by Customizing Individual Medical Needs

Massoud Horriat
BSc., Pharmacy457 Main St.
St. Adolphe, MB
R5A 1A2Phone: (204) 883-2314
Fax: (204) 883-2284
st.adolpheclinic@gmail.comAdvertise
With Us!For more information
please contact:
sales@nivervillecitizen.com

The Citizen

MISSING LINK
Auto & Trailer Sales

info@missinglinkautosales.com | www.missinglinkautosales.com

195 Pembina Trail
Ste-Agathe, MBJonathan
(204) 799-3762


RURAL BUSINESS FINANCE FORUM

APRIL 17, 2018
NETWORKING: 6:30PM
PRESENTATIONS BEGIN: 7PM
LUCKY LUC'S BAR & GRILL

279 CHEYENNE AVE. STE. AGATHE, MB R0G 1Y0

CHAMBER MEMBERS: \$FREE
 GUESTS & NON-MEMBERS: \$20
 (APPLY TOWARDS MEMBERSHIP WITHIN 30 DAYS)

Niverville
CREDIT UNIONRBC
Royal Bank
Banque Royale

bdc*

Community
Futures Triple R

CDEM

Updates from the Ritchot Chamber

Rural Business Finance Forum, April 17, 7:00 p.m. in Ste. Agathe

Chamber members and guests are looking forward to the first Ritchot Rural Business Finance Forum, to be hosted on April 17 at 7:00 p.m. at Lucky Luc's Bar & Grille in Ste. Agathe. The forum will feature a panel of local finance experts who will offer 15-minute presentations on how to access their finance solutions. The forum is designed to help business owners become aware of solutions and complete successful applications to get funding. The panelists include:

- Niverville Credit Union—appetizer sponsor
- Royal Bank Canada (Steinbach)—event sponsor
- BDC (Winnipeg West)—event sponsor
- Community Futures Triple R
- CDEM

Start-up and experienced business owners are invited to attend. The event is free to Chamber members and \$20 for future members. The Lucky Luc's menu will be open if you're hungry!

Preferred Chamber Partners

Our preferred affinity partners can help you get the insurance you need, make it easier to take customer payments, provide marketing tools for your business, and generally help you save on overall business costs. Check out a full list of member benefits here: <http://www.ritchotchamber.com/member-benefits>.

These programs are designed with an understanding of business owners' needs in mind, offering you both personal protection and resources as well as solutions to retain valuable rural employees.

Growing Strong

We hosted a new member orientation last month for four new members at Quantum Dance Academy in Île-des-Chênes.

Would you like to find out more about the benefits of becoming a Chamber member? Contact Fiona Robinson, Executive Director, at 204-881-2351 or email fiona@ritchotchamber.com.

www.ritchotchamber.com



Fuelling Your Community

Supporting growth and local causes in our hometown.




ALAIN ROBERT
President

Box 128
Ste-Agathe, MB
R0G 1Y0

alain@steagatheservice.com
PHONE: 204-882-2155
FAX: 204-882-2189

COMPLETE CAR
CARE SERVICE

www.steagatheservice.com

ADVENTURE power products



Your One Stop PowerSports Shop

1-797 QUEST BLVD. ILE DES CHENES

204-878-3194

www.adventurepowerproducts.com

LUCKY LUC'S

BAR & GRILL

Beverage Room
Vendor • Patio • VLT's
Dining Room • Catering
Air Conditioned Rooms

Hotel: (204) 433-7425 • Restaurant: (204) 433-7531 • 516 Jolys Ave. E. Box 269
Fax: (204) 433-7551 • lucky-lucs-bargrill@mts.net • Ste-Pierre-Jolys, MB R0A 1V0

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Your Local Window & Door Specialist



MIKE ALLISON
WINDOWS & DOORS

OFFICE: 204-878-DOOR (3667)
CELL: 204-995-8431
EMAIL: mike@allisonwindowsdoors.ca

www.allisonwindowsdoors.ca



Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan®

Jean Gaudry | CPCA | Consultant
Gaudry Financial Services

124-400 Des Meurons St., Winnipeg, MB R2H 3H3
P: 204.255.1095 F: 204.253.5418
E-mail: jean@gaudryfinancial.ca
www.chamberplan.ca

chamberplan.ca

Arts & Entertainment

History Enthusiast Co-Authors Mennonite Fiction Novel

By Brenda Sawatzky

✉ bsawatzky@nivervillecitizen.com

March 24 marked a date that Margaret Kyle of Niverville won't soon forget—the official launch of her book, *Landmark Roses*. Kyle was co-author and key contributor to the historical fiction novel, set in 1940s rural Manitoba. She was joined by author Nancy M. Bell and a host of family, friends, and book keepers at McNally Robinson in Winnipeg.

For Kyle's mother and siblings in attendance, the book holds special significance. It contains events and details borrowed from the autobiography of Peter S. Hiebert, Kyle's father.

Landmark Roses is one in a series of books created by BWL Publishers Inc. In response to a grant the Canadian company received from the federal government, they have published 12 books to celebrate Canada 150. Each book is set in one of Canada's provinces or territories and resonates with the theme of historical brides. Their goal is to represent the diverse backgrounds of the men and women who immigrated to Canada in search of a new life and new love.

The novel tells the story of Elsie Neufeld, a mother and grandmother, who has returned from Paraguay with her family and settled in a Mennonite community near Landmark, Manitoba.

"It's sort of my mom and dad's story, but it's not in their timeframe," says Kyle. "[Nancy decided] to make it early turn-of-the-century. But the experience is very similar."

Kyle and Bell were connected through BWL Publishing. Bell has published numerous books through the company and built a reputation with them as a respected writer. She



Margaret Kyle and Nancy M. Bell at their Winnipeg book launch.

✉ BRENDA SAWATZKY

wrote *Landmark Roses* under the pseudonym Marie Rafter, her middle and maiden names, since she'd previously authored the Ontario book of the same series under her official name.

For the Manitoba edition, BWL was specific: they wanted a Mennonite theme, a culture Bell knew little about. Former Niverville resident and daughter of the company's owner, Tammy Cartwright, was a longtime friend of Kyle's. She knew Kyle had a keen interest in Mennonite history and knew that Kyle's father had written an autobiography of his early years. The pair was introduced, and what followed was over 100 emails and a few one-on-one meetings leading to the book's completion last fall.

"This book was a little intense, because [the ethnic group] was all new to me and totally different than the Mennonites I knew about in Ontario," says Bell.

When Bell thought of Mennonites, she associated them with the Old

Order, or Amish Mennonites. What she learned through Kyle was that Manitoba Mennonites, even in the 1940s, looked and lived very differently. Kyle admits that even she was a little surprised at some of the things she discovered through her research.

"Whenever I had questions that I didn't know, I'd ask [my mom] and my oldest sister," says Kyle. "I would ask my mom, 'What was it like dating?' and it's not what you'd think. They played cards, they drank, they danced. It's not the perception that we have. Mennonite is so different for each person."

The information exchange began as Kyle sent portions of her father's autobiography to Bell. From there, Bell lay the foundation for her story. She noted events and details of Hiebert's past, using them to weave her tale with as much historical accuracy as she could glean, turning to other resources to verify dates and impacts of these events.

"The blizzard of 1947 is historical

fact," Bell says, indicating events she wrote into her story. "The Mennonites moving in the 1920s down to Chaco [Paraguay], and then, in the 1940s, the migration to Mexico. Going to the Eaton's store in Winnipeg. Margaret said [her parents] used to go to Eaton's to buy Easter clothes, so I worked that into the book. There was a statue there of Timothy Eaton and people used to rub his left shoe for luck, and that's in the book."

While the characters of Ike and Elsie Neufeld weren't based directly on Kyle's parents, Peter and Helena Hiebert became the archetype from which Bell would build the characters. Bell then wrote chapters of her book and sent them to Kyle for critique.

"I created this lady and her husband, and when I first wrote about Ike, I wrote something about him not being rugged in the conventional sense," says Bell. "The feedback I got from Margaret's mother was, 'Well, if he wasn't handsome I wouldn't have

looked at him.' So then I changed it and now he's handsome!"

In turn, Kyle sent back edits and suggestions regarding language, customs, food, faith, and attire.

"She had [portrayed] a young man as someone wearing suspenders and boots, and so I sent her a picture and said, 'This is what the young people [dressed like].' They looked like any other Canadian. You wouldn't have picked them out by their clothing."

Kyle and her family poured through the finest details. Shelling peas on Sunday, they told Bell, is something that would never have happened. Thanks to Kyle's family, Bell was able to include accurate details of harvest time, pig slaughters, and even many low German terms.

Upon the book's completion, Kyle felt an incredible sense of satisfaction.

"It was a good experience because I learned so much doing it," Kyle says. "Mennonites don't necessarily know a lot about their own culture. So this book allows the reader to get a piece of Mennonite history without having to be a historian."

Kyle has now been inspired to pursue another book she's been dreaming of: honouring her father's legacy by editing and publishing his autobiography. It was a book he wrote before his death, which he hoped would keep the family history alive for children and grandchildren to come. Her contribution to *Landmark Roses*, she believes, created a renewed respect for that heritage.

"Probably one of the reasons that I wanted to be a part of this," Kyle concludes, "was [about] taking pride in our culture."

Within the first week of its launch, *Landmark Roses* made the Winnipeg bestsellers list for paperback fiction.

**YOUR HOME
REQUIRES
PROTECTION
UNIQUE TO YOU**

**DO YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT PROTECTION?**



**COMPREHENSIVE HOME INSURANCE
PERSONAL LIABILITY
WATER/SEWER BACKUP PROTECTION
GUARANTEED REBUILDING COST**

www.bsimb.com/services/family-insurance

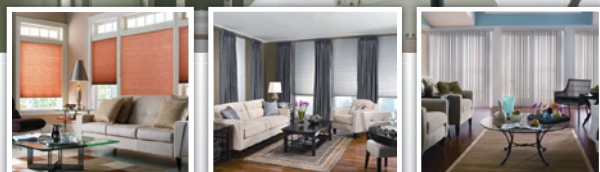
**GET A 2ND OPINION
CONTACT US TODAY!**



We sell more **MADE IN CANADA** custom blinds than any dealer



Custom Blinds & Draperies



• Cellular Shades • Drapery • Dual Shades •
• Roller Shades & Screens • Horizontals • Shutters •
• Motorization Specialists •

For **25 YEARS**, **Blind-Shiners** has been supplying customers with the finest in custom blinds and draperies.

We are specialists in:

- Residential • Commercial •
- Blind and Drapery Design • Motorization •
- Shutters • Cleaning and Repairs •
- Complete Interior Design Service •
- In-House Installation Technicians •

SERVING NIVERVILLE & SURROUNDING AREAS

204-231-3880

heidi@blindshiners.com

VIRTUAL TOUR AT www.blindshiners.com



Gerry Guenther, Todd Anderson, Dan Klippenstein, Burt Hiebert, Coralee Warkentin, Shauna Harms-Wiebe, and Vic Froese.

CHERYL STRUSS PHOTOGRAPHY

Soul Purpose Releases Second Album

By Jan Kendall St. Cyr

Soul Purpose, a Christian band from southeast Manitoba, is set to release their second album, *Come on Home*, on Saturday, April 7.

For the past 15 years, Soul Purpose has performed at various church events, Christmas banquets, fundraisers, Siloam Mission, and on the outdoor stages of local fairs and the K.R. Barkman Concert in the Park series. They say that they'll be performing at events and festivals across Manitoba and Saskatchewan over the spring and summer.

Band members include Gerry Guenther (drums), Vic Froese (electric/acoustic guitar), Dan Klippenstein (keyboard), Burt Hiebert (bass guitar), Coralee Warkentin

and Shauna Harms-Wiebe (vocals), and Todd Anderson (vocals/acoustic guitar).

Although the main style of their music is worship, Soul Purpose will often combine this with contemporary, gospel, and rock flavours. The first album, *Soul Purpose*, was released in 2007.

"Our creative process involves a band member bringing a song to practice and playing it for the rest of us," says vocalist Coralee Warkentin. "At that point, each one adds their own musical style, which gradually develops into an arrangement we all love. Our song choices reflect each individual's musical preference, but our focus is always to relay the message of God's enormous love and grace. This is the reason we sing! Our

'soul purpose' is to lift Him up! This has been our group motto from the beginning, and so it is always our hope that those who see us perform will be encouraged and blessed by the music and the message they hear."

Come on Home contains 12 songs, including three originals. The title track, "Come on Home," was written by Dan Klippenstein. "At the Cross" and "For All You've Done" were both written by Todd Anderson.

The album was produced by Evan St. Cyr and Gerry St. Cyr and recorded at Arcade Studios in Niverville.

"Our experience at Arcade Studios was a very enjoyable process," Coralee added. "We are really pleased with the quality of the finished

product."

Soul Purpose is excited to share their new album on April 7 at the Pat Porter Centre, 10 Chrysler Gate in Steinbach. Doors will open at 6:15 p.m., with the concert starting at 7:00. Admission is free and comes with a door prize entry, as well as some extra tickets for a raffle. CDs will be sold for \$15.

Come on Home will also be available at Hulls Christian Bookstore in Steinbach after the release. The band hopes to sell their music on iTunes in the near future.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ www.facebook.com/soul.purpose.manitoba

HEAVY TRUCK, TRAILER & EQUIPMENT SALES



Box 458
Niverville, MB.
ROA 1E0

PHONE: 1-204-388-4509

FAX: 1-204-388-6283

EMAIL: nandatrucking@hotmail.com

REPAIRS & PARTS ON ALL MAKES & MODELS

Now Available!

Country Chic Paint is the best choice for repainting any piece of furniture or home decor. This clay paint is self-priming on most pieces, is eco-friendly and will leave a beautiful chalky finish.

Now available at **ARK Ceramics & Gifts** for all your DIY projects!

ARK Ceramics & Gifts 214 Main Street Landmark, Mb.
Please call for more info **204-355-9710**
www.instagram.com/ark.ceramics.gifts www.facebook.com/arkceramics

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Board of Directors for Niverville Heritage Holdings Inc. are looking to grow a diverse board from all sectors of the community and surrounding areas including new & growing families. All are encouraged to apply.

An independent Nomination Committee has been established to guide the selection process of qualified candidates for recommendation for 2-3 available board positions. The board positions are exciting and challenging as they deal with the complexities of operating a multifaceted, not for profit social enterprise campus with a staff of over 225 team members.

We are looking for individuals with strengths in Health Care, Human Resources, Marketing and Business and Fund Development or Information and Communication Technologies

This is a volunteer position with no remuneration

If you have questions, or you are interested in serving in this capacity or would like to recommend an individual for consideration please email andynhi2017@gmail.com. Thank you



Hiking For Health In Hespeler Park

Want to join women's hiking group for fitness & fun? Start with me in April. It's for free!

Call or email Doreen:
204-557-8310 | doreen@uniserve.com



THE MUNICIPALITY OF RITCHOT

IS PRESENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR 2018 GREEN TEAM

APPLICANTS MUST BE 16 – 24 YEARS OF AGE & PREFERABLY ENROLLED IN A POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PROGRAM.

WORK PERIOD: To start April 23, 2018
HOURS OF WORK: Monday to Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- Work involves cutting grass, garbage pick-up, planting & watering flowers, cleaning and maintaining community parks, boulevards, sidewalks, drainage ditches, painting, etc.
- Prior experience with gas powered equipment a definite asset. We are searching for a green team who is enthusiastic, enjoys working outdoors, can work independently and works well with other team members.
- Resumes may be brought or sent to:
Ritchot Municipal Office
352 Main Street
St. Adolphe MB R5A 1B9
between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.,
Or emailed to: publicworks@ritchot.com by April 13, 2018, 2 p.m.
- Please be advised that only those applicants who are to be interviewed will be contacted.
- For further information, please contact the Public Works Department at 204-883-2142.

Country Skies. City Ties.
Sous le ciel de la campagne.



LA MUNICIPALITÉ DE RITCHOT

ACCEPTE ACTUELLEMENT DES DEMANDES POUR L'ÉQUIPE VERTE

LES CANDIDATS DOIVENT ÊTRE ÂGÉS ENTRE 16 ET 24 ANS ET INSCRIT(E) DANS UN PROGRAMME D'ÉTUDE POSTE-SECONDAIRE.

PÉRIODE DE TRAVAIL : À compter du 23 avril 2018 HEURES DE TRAVAIL : Du lundi au vendredi, de 8 h à 16h30

- Les tâches comprennent les suivantes : la tonte du gazon, le peinturage, l'enlèvement des ordures, le nettoyage et l'entretien des parcs communautaires, des accotements et des terre-pleins, des trottoirs, des affiches, des fossés de drainage, arroses.
- L'expérience de travail avec des machines alimentées à l'essence est un atout.
- Vous pouvez soumettre votre curriculum vitae au Bureau Municipale de Ritchot 352, rue Principale, St. Adolphe, MB R5A 1B9 entre 8 h 30 et 16 h 30. Vous pouvez également le l'envoyer par courriel à l'adresse suivante : publicworks@ritchot.com. La date limite de présentation des C.V. est le 13 avril 2018, avant 14 h.
- Veuillez noter que seuls les candidats sélectionnés pour passer une entrevue seront contactés.
- Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements, veuillez communiquer avec Services Des Travaux Publiques au 204-883-2142.

Country Skies. City Ties.
Sous le ciel de la campagne.

PERIMETER CONCRETE LTD.
307 MAIN STREET, NIVERVILLE, MB
204-388-4635

MEL'S SEPTIC SERVICES
SINCE 1989
Year round service
Serving Southeast Manitoba
24 hour Emergency Services
Residential and Commercial
204-388-4201 call or text

EXCEL CARPET CARE
Gil Leclerc
PHONE: 204-771-0415
• Carpet Cleaning
• Upholstery Cleaning
• Mattress Cleaning & Sanitization
• Commercial & Residential

• Residential Electrical Renovations •
• Upgrades & Repairs •
• Licensed/Insured •
SERVICING NIVERVILLE & SURROUNDING TOWNS
JÓN BARDAL 204-918-7082
Journeyman Electrician

DACO Piling
40 Years of Innovation
www.dacopiling.com
Serving: Saskatchewan Manitoba Ontario
Pipe Piles, Screw Piles, Sheet Piles & Rock Drilling
Damon Friesen Neil Friesen
P: 204-392-5122 F: 204-388-4384
damon@getdaco.com Box 26 Niverville, MB R0A 1E0

email: mloepky@castleteam.ca
office: 204.474.1277
cell: 204.391.4676
fax: 204.474.1401
4 - 580 Pembina Hwy.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3M 2M5
MIKE LOEPPKY, B. Comm. (Hons.)
Mortgage Specialist
www.castlemortgagegroup.ca

204.388.5055 • Unit B - 290 Main Street, Niverville
We carry clean and organic products!
done hair, skin & nails



NIVERVILLE PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

DATE: TUESDAY APRIL 10TH
TIME: DOORS OPEN AT 7:00PM
(SPACES FILL FIRST COME FIRST SERVE)

WHERE: PRESCHOOL CLASSROOM IN
NIVERVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SW
DOORS)

For more information ncpschoolreg@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE



PRICE REDUCED FROM \$333,000 TO \$323,000

This amazing 1610sq/ft bungalow home with a lot size of 66 x 236.6 will pleasantly surprise you. The living room, dining room and kitchen are all open area. The main floor has 4 bedrooms with one 4 piece and one 2 piece bathroom. The basement has 1 bedroom with an egress window, one 3 piece bathroom, a large rec/theatre room and a gym with a 9 foot ceiling. The mechanical room houses the Hide-a-Hose central vacuum system by VacuFlo, washer, dryer, water softener and hot water tank. There is a single attached garage and the concrete driveway would easily accommodate 4 additional vehicles. The garage has its own central vacuum system.

www.NivervilleHouse4Sale.com
Phone: (431) 777-7357 MLS# 1803265

Graceland Designs.ca

Consultant Richard A. Harder
Since 1994
Planning - Design - Engineering
Ph: 388-6454 Toll Free: 1-800-537-8495
Box 37, Tourond, MB R0A 2G0
Custom Residential & Commercial - Building Plans & Blueprinting
Homes - Cottages - Additions - Sunrooms

CONTRACT PAINTING SERVICES
204-955-5991
joe.contractpainting@gmail.com
• INTERIOR • EXTERIOR • PAINTING •
• PLASTERING • ARTISTIC MURALS •

Richard Kirwan
204.392.5665
richard@mightyducts.ca
www.mightyducts.ca
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL DUCT CLEANING

Gan's Kitchen
CHINESE & CANADIAN FOOD EXPERIENCE
154 MAIN STREET, NIVERVILLE 204-388-6904

SAVE \$5.00

ON SELECT ENERGY STAR® CERTIFIED INTEGRATED LED FIXTURES
OFFER IN EFFECT FROM APRIL 5, 2018 TO APRIL 30, 2018

LED Slim Lights

- Install easily into drywall, ceiling tiles, soffit, shower stalls etc.
- Available in 4" & 6" sizes in either 3K, 4K or 5K colour temperatures.



Item #	Product Description	REGULAR RETAIL	PROMO RETAIL	AFTER \$5 REBATE
SLIM4-3KWH	9W, 3000K, 500LM LED SLIM 4"	\$24.99	\$11.99	\$6.99
SLIM4-4KWH	9W, 4000K, 500LM LED SLIM 4"	\$24.99	\$11.99	\$6.99
SLIM4-5KWH	9W, 5000K, 500LM LED SLIM 4"	\$24.99	\$17.99	\$12.99
SLIM6-3KWH	12W, 3000K, 700LM LED SLIM 6"	\$28.99	\$18.99	\$13.99
SLIM4-4KWH	12W, 4000K, 700LM LED SLIM 6"	\$28.99	\$18.99	\$13.99
SLIM4-5KWH	12W, 5000K, 700LM LED SLIM 6"	\$28.99	\$18.99	\$13.99

INSTANT REBATE APPLIED AFTER TAXES.



3K LED FLUSHMOUNTS

SIZE	REGULAR	PROMO
4"	\$15.99	\$10.99
6"	\$18.99	\$13.99
8"	\$23.99	\$18.99
12"	\$29.99	\$24.99



INSTA TRIM - 2pk

SIZE	REGULAR	PROMO
4"	\$25.99	\$20.99
5/6"	\$25.99	\$20.99



262 Main Street, Niverville, MB | 204-388-4727
www.wmdyck.com



Terms and Conditions - Rebates will be provided at the till while quantities last. Limit of 10 items per customer for single-pack products, limit of 5 items per customer for multi-pack products.