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CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS IN VIRDEN, ELKHORN AND KENTON



Virden Parade had the community lining the streets to see all the great floats this year.



The bands were playing at Victoria Park in Virden right after opening ceremonies and the free cake at the cake table was delicious!



What a fantastic fireworks show again. Way to go Virden!

PHOTOS BY JESSICA COUTLER

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY TIM OLFREY

Inside...



**VIRDEN GRAD
CLASS OF 2024**
P8 - 13



**BRAEDEN
LEWIS HEADED
TO UNIVERSITY**
P14

See more images from Canada Day on pages 6 and 7.

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Saskatoon woman cycles for mental health

Dulle takes action against Canada's mental health crisis.

By Anne Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Cycling across Canada, Jade's Ride for Mental Health stopped overnight in Virden on June 25. Jade Dulle of Saskatoon, Sask. is cycling from Pince Rupert, B.C. to St. John's, Newfoundland on a mission to make legislators aware of the dire need for changes in mental health assessment and treatment in Canada.

Taking the Yellow Head route through Jasper she'd seen 20 bears on her travels. On through the Prairies she's met with encouraging people, Kenton's Val Caldwell (also a mental health advocate) being just one such person.

As a teen, Dulle had visited emergency services 19 times, trying to hold onto reality while experiencing auditory and visual hallucinations, only to be told there was nothing the team there could do for her and a psychiatrist was a six-month wait away.

A decade later, at 28, with a Bachelor of Social Work obtained in 2022, Dulle is cycling across Canada gathering support for better treatments for psychiatric conditions.

"I was granted the gift of healing so that I could become a voice for change."

Dulle's story is unique since not one, but both her birth parents suffered from schizophrenia. Yet, psychiatric disorders are all too common; 5 million Canadians are living with mental illnesses and fully a third of them report unmet or partially unmet needs in three categories: medication, information and counselling.

With her biological par-

ents affected by schizophrenia, she was separated from her mum shortly after birth and was shuffled through foster homes until, at the age of two, an amazing family adopted her as their own.

Dulle says she was a good student and an athlete through her growing years. But in her late teens symptoms began to bother her, and she sought help.

Despite persistent pleas for help over the years, she'd been "repeatedly turned away, caught in the labyrinth of insufficient resources, inaccessible services, and overflowing psychiatric units."

"On Aug. 5, 2023, my journey took a pivotal turn as I was finally admitted to the hospital after enduring almost a decade of mental health struggles.

"Following my admission, a new chapter of hope began. After years of grappling with my mental health concerns, I received a diagnosis of PTSD and depression. However, the treatment was private, requiring me to bear the costs out of pocket.

"In the fall of 2023, I embarked on a transformative journey of psychotherapy and ketamine therapy. These experiences were nothing short of life-altering. Through my healing journey, I came to a profound realization: it's not that people don't want to get better; it's the scarcity of resources that obstruct their path to healing."

This spring, May 6, Dulle embarked on a cross-Canada journey (7,000 km) to advocate for a better mental health system.

"Empowered by my recovery, I found clarity in my life's purpose. I was granted the gift of healing so that I could become a voice for change."

She's advocating for legislation to create a Canadian standard of care to guide psychiatric health care in the provinces.

Calvin and Tracey Dulle, her parents, have been behind her effort, taking turns as her travelling team. Her extended family, and it's a large one, has also rallied behind her.

The travelling van is another story of blessing. Supportive of her idea, a Canadian veteran re-



PHOTO BY ANNE DAVISON

Jade Dulle is on an overnight stop at Virden Motel, July 25, in her Canada wide cycle for mental health reforms.

sponded to Dulle's search for a vehicle to use on her Canadian cycle. He told her he had healed in his van from PTSD and wanted to see others also heal. He'd turned a work van into living quarters.

"It's perfect," says Dulle.

This is her second and much longer ride. In 2017 she raised \$25,000 for the Canadian Mental Health Association - Saskatoon Branch cycling over 1,300 kms through Saskatchewan.

Among a number of other sponsors, her physical fitness trainer with Rise Strength Lab in Saskatoon stays in contact throughout her trip, providing mind, body and spirit support. Poppey Supplements sponsors her extensive nutritional regime and she's careful to maintain her electrolyte balance throughout the day.

That evening in Virden and not yet half-way across the continent, Dulle had gathered over 8,000 signatures toward her goal of 10,000, a number that will get the attention of politicians when she brings this cause to the House of Commons in Ottawa.

Jade's Ride for Mental Health is on Facebook.

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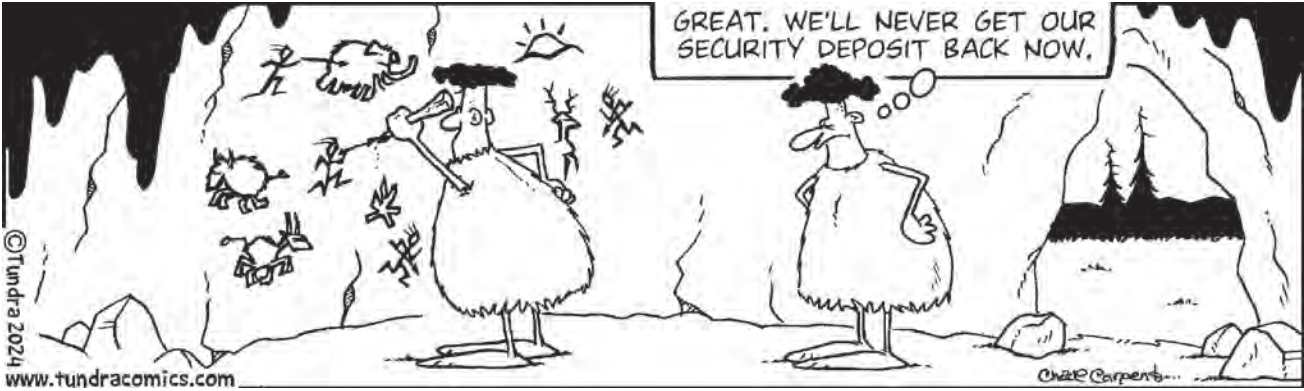
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Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



Some uncomfortable truths

Former US President Ronald Reagan said once, “The nine most feared words in the English language are, I’m here from the government and I’m here to help.”

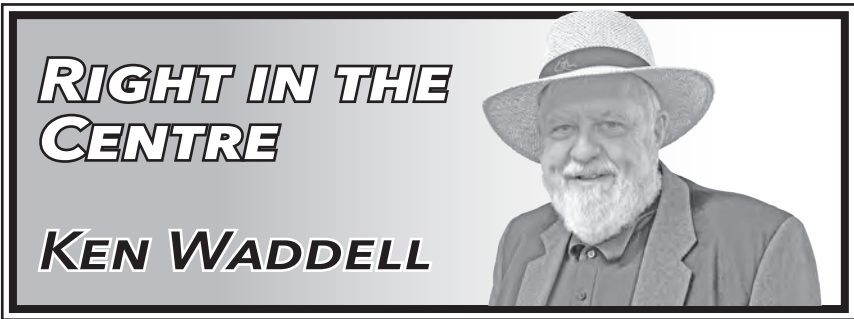
How true that is. Generally speaking, when governments get involved, they screw things up. The modern day economy is littered with examples. While well intentioned, most government initiatives are inefficient, expensive and misguided. But as a wise friend of mine pointed out after reading this column, big businesses screw up badly too. Big tobacco companies as an example.

Now, I don’t blame anybody for installing government funded solar panels but if they are so great, should they not fund themselves. I see them popping up all over and they are indeed tempting but they are expensive to say the least.

Electric cars are, in my opinion, one of the biggest scams ever foisted on our modern society. They are expensive, heavy and in some cases very dangerous. And on the “green” front, what do you do with the old batteries?

In a similar vein, has anybody figured out what to do with spent wind turbine blades? Not that I know of. They are not recyclable, they are buried in a landfill somewhere. And I read somewhere that it takes many weeks on a ship to get the blades to North America, then they are shipped by train and finally by truck to the wind farm site. I think somebody burned a lot of diesel making that all happen.

On the social front, there is a major wave of pushback against many of the social plans of the so-called Woke movement. I am all for human rights, for equal pay for equal work,



for non-discrimination in the work place. God help anyone who tries to use or abuse my staff, my friends or my family. That said, rules need to be for everyone, not for special groups. Forced diversity is splitting our country wide open and it will blow up sooner or later.

Recent elections in France and South America are showing a major swing in the pendulum and it is largely because groups and governments have rammed some really goofy ideas down peoples’ throats.

You can blame the universities if you like or Hollywood or the media, blame whoever you want, but goofy changes in our society can only really be blamed on ourselves. Some of our most conservative groups don’t even vote and somehow take foolish pride in that stance.

In addition, 40 per cent of all people don’t vote but 100 per cent whine and complain. That makes sense doesn’t it?

But back to conservative stands. The United States looks like they are about to elect Donald Trump as president. Trump has a list of negative things as long as your arm but he has one thing going for him. Trump “claims” to speak for the common people, the citizens which governments have hammered and hectorred and dismissed for decades. My wise

friend mentioned earlier also points out that Trump helped a lot of his rich friends too.

People want to be free in action, thought and word, they don’t want to be told what they have to do, what they have to think.

Trump has tapped into that vein of discontent and it appears that in spite of his age, his crazy ideas and his long list of faults that compared to the Democrats, he is the peoples’ choice.

The best thing that a government can do is less, but we are so far down the subsidy rabbit hole now that we may never get out.

And before anybody jumps on our family’s three newspapers and says. “Well, you take subsidies.” Yes, we do, but reluctantly. I have said publicly for many years that instead of subsidies, governments need to buy ads. Ads on TV, radio and newspapers, not subsidies.

But the problem is if the government bought ads, they would have to tell us what they are doing, and truth be told, governments don’t really want to tell the people what they are doing. That would be uncomfortable wouldn’t it?

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this column are the writer’s personal views and are not to be taken as being the view of the newspaper staff.



Road trip!

My Sister the Younger had the misfortune to break her arm some time ago, and so I have tried to slip over to Carman every couple of weeks and have lunch with her. One week I decided to use different routes coming and going: see something different, check on crops and moisture conditions. I followed Highway 16 down to Highway 1 and continued south to St Claude rather than go through Portage. I would certainly nominate that section of road for the award of most potholes per mile in the province, perhaps the nation! So I slowed down and appreciated the scenery. It was wet. And the closer I got to sandier land the more I noted drifting soil right around water filled sloughs and low spots. No need for the irrigation system to be working. Turning west at St Claude I envisioned the worst of the road conditions behind me. Nope. Construction. Pilot vehicle. Flag people. All the standard Manitoba summer road conditions. No problem, I had given myself adequate travel time, my sister wouldn’t be worrying. Again, very wet fields, some hay wrapped and some silage started. Turning south at Elm Creek I was close to target time. Dang, a couple of miles out all travel was directed off the highway, an incident had required a detour. Again, no problem, I know the area. Okay, now you have all the transports, B trains, on a country gravel road. Dust enough to choke you, and slow travel as the semis with their loads maneuvered tight corners and carefully met each other, no one really wanting to take the soft shoulder. As the majority of the traffic headed back to the highway I continued a mile further south before returning to the pavement. Again, knowing the area gave me that confidence. Without the traffic and the dust I could crop and water watch. I was only 15 minutes late.

So, to return home I decided to head north from Carman to Highway One and then on to Carberry and home. Here again, timing was everything. The rail crossing in Headingly was under repair, so ALL east bound traffic on Highway One was re-routed at Oakville, Highway 13, travelling south to Elm Creek before going east to Winnipeg. So take ALL the traffic off of a main artery and funnel it down a two-lane highway, and there was mile after mile of end to end vehicles: campers, U Hauls, big rigs and the impatient ones. It was mind numbing. I was ever so thankful to be meeting them rather than trying to merge with them. The turn at the Elm Creek corner was painful to witness...

After that it was clear sailing. A little bit of construction just after entering the Trans Canada, but the traffic was orderly and considerate. And again, the fields were wet. Early crops, especially the fall sown crops, look ok, there may be spots that will yellow yet, but right now they look pretty good. As a farmer’s daughter, and a long time farmer’s wife, I’d say we have had enough rain for now, and don’t need blistering heat. I already know which route I’ll choose next time.

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Tea for two and two for tea



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Submitted
By KATE CRAIG

In the Virden Pioneer Home Museum, there

are several artifacts related to tea. Tea has played a part in the history of the world, being a valued trading

item and luxury, and often considered to be a staple in the diet of many people.

It's difficult to com-

pletely determine when tea first became known as something people could drink. It's likely that the first plants that tea was made from originated in China, Tibet, and Northern India. When tea first started to be made, it was used solely for its medicinal properties, not just as a drink for people to enjoy. Tea first became popular in China during the Tang Dynasty, its popularity evident by the government's imposition of a tax on tea.

Tea first started to be imported by Europeans in the 17th century, although explorers often had it earlier, Marco Polo made reference to tea in his journals about his travel to the East. Tea didn't become a more common thing until Dutch merchants started shipping it around 1610, bringing in Japanese and Chinese tea through the Dutch East India Company. Tea quickly became popular throughout large European cit-

ies like Amsterdam, London, and Paris. However, tea had a high price, making it available mainly to Europe's royal classes and aristocracy. Drinking tea also allowed wealthy Europeans to take part in an Eastern tradition during the age of exploration and discovery.

Tea first arrived in America during the 1600's, also brought by the Dutch to New Amsterdam. When the English took over the new colony, it became New York. The tea trade between England the colony was strong, but the English heavily taxed the tea. Eventually, this led to the Boston Tea Party, where colonists dumped tea into the water after boarding the East India Company's trading boats.

Iced tea originated in 1904 at the World's Fair in St. Louis, Missouri. A tea merchant started selling hot brewed tea with ice in it due to the unusually hot temperatures, and it became a huge hit, as iced tea is

now extremely popular in the USA.

Tea caddies are containers used to store tea, made popular during the time when tea was extremely expensive. The earliest tea caddies made were of China porcelain, brought to Europe with the tea. Due to how expensive tea was, expert craftsmen were hired to design and build ornate tea caddies out of wood, brass, copper, and other metals. Tea caddies became a sort of symbol of wealth, designed ornately to fit in with other decorations in the household. Tea caddies also often had locks on them, made to protect the precious tea that they contained.

Tea has been an important resource throughout much of history, from being a precious rarity to being a daily drink consumed by people all over the world, tea certainly did its part in shaping its own little piece of history.



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The news from Miniota

Submitted
By LINDA CLARK

Congratulations to Brady Brown and Brittany Asselstine on the birth of their son, Miller Russell, on June 28 at Brandon. Miller is also welcomed by his big sister Hadlee, grandparents, great grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Travis Bryant, son of Brad Bryant and Trudy Bryant, and Aaron Janssen, were married on June 29 on the lawn of the groom's grandparents, Les and Marlene Bryant. Congratulations Travis and Aaron! Travis acknowledged the 60th wedding anniversary of his grandparents Les and Marlene through words and the cutting of an anniversary cake at the festivities held at the Miniota Community Centre. Congratulations Les and Marlene on this wonderful milestone!

Glen and Margaret Still are the proud great grandparents of a new grandchild, Rhone Eric Fillion born

on June 28 to their granddaughter Stephanie Tourond and Landon Fillion. Congratulations to the proud parents, big brothers Lyam and Levi, grandparents and great grandparents.

Several from our area enjoyed the music at Countryfest at Dauphin this past weekend. What a great lineup of musicians!

Arrow River hosted Canada Day celebrations beginning with ball, a cold plate supper in the hall, the duck race and capped the day off with great fireworks, organized by Bruce Mitchell and his crew. Winners of the duck race were: 1st Vickie Laite, 2nd Maryon Grant, and 3rd Bruce Mitchell.

Hope everyone enjoyed their Canada Day, however you chose to celebrate.

"For a community to be whole and healthy, it must be based on people's love and concern for each other." Millard Fuller

Westman RCMP Service Report for June 23 – June 29, 2024

Submitted
By WESTMAN RCMP

During this week Westman RCMP received a total of 63 calls for service. Of the 63, 12 were Traffic Related including 7 Moving Traffic – Speeding Violations, 4 Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property, and 5 Mischief files.

On June 25 RCMP were dispatched to a domestic assault that had taken place at a residence in Sioux Valley Dakota Nation. Police attended and learned that female had been assaulted by her boyfriend, who had since left the residence. After making multiple attempts to locate the suspect, a warrant has been issued for a 24-year old male in relation to this incident.

On June 27 during a routine traffic patrol on Highway 1 in the RM of Sifton, RCMP observed a vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed a speed of 148 km/hr in a 110 km/hr zone. A traffic stop was conducted and the driver was issued a Traffic Offence Notice for Speeding which carries a fine of \$548.

On June 28 during a routine traffic patrol on Highway 257 in the RM of Wallace-Woodworth, RCMP observed a vehicle travelling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed a speed of 140 km/hr in a 100 km/hr zone. A traffic stop was conducted and the driver was issued a Traffic Offence Notice for Speeding which carries a fine of \$573.

On June 29 RCMP initiated a traffic stop on in 3rd Avenue in the Town of Virden. Police spoke to a female driver who admitted to consuming alcohol the day prior. A breath sample was obtained at the scene, which resulted in a FAIL. As a result, the driver was arrested and charged with Operation while Impaired (Alcohol) of Motor Vehicle, and Operation while over 80mg% (Alcohol) of Motor Vehicle. A Breath Test was conducted with results of 100mg% and 90mg%. The 54-year old female was later released on an Appearance Notice and will appear in court later this summer.

To report a complaint or non-emergent incident to RCMP please call 204-748-2135. For general inquiries or administrative requests including criminal record checks please call the administration line at 204-748-2046. If you are reporting an emergency please call 911.

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CANADA DAY IN KENTON



PHOTOS BY JESSICA COULTER

Kenton Hall filled up for the second time on Canada Day for the Harding Ag Society supper. Extra tables had to be set to accommodate all the people.



The Harding Ag Society group were all too happy to serve a delicious meal to the masses.



The Kenton Kraftsmen served up an amazing Canada Day breakfast. Back: Moms Lisa Hodgins, Nicole Wilson, Anne McTavish; Middle: Candace Tolton (Mom), Robyn McNabb, Peyton Tolton, Carrie Hodgins, Harmony Wilson, Levi Tolton; Front: Kaiden McTavish, Gloria Wilson, Rowan Stevenson, Ellie Gregory.

KENTON CANADA DAY FOOD AND FUN

By Jessica Coulter
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Another fantastic fun day was had by all in Kenton on Canada Day. The 4-H Kenton Kraftsmen served up an amazingly tasty breakfast to fuel up everyone for the day.

Car Rally registration started at 10am. A total of forty-four questions were in this years scavenger hunt to win a gift card to Brierwood Creek Café and Grill.

Checkpoints were set along the route for Poker Derby cards to be pulled too. The hunt took the drivers in all directions. Checkpoints included Clacks Family Museum and Kenton Dam.

The patio for the legion was ready for everyone as they made it back from the scavenger hunt. After a drink or two, supper was served in the Kenton Hall. Slow cooked beef and ham roasts, with baked potatoes, beans and salads were served up by the Harding Ag society.

CANADA DAY IN ELKHORN



PHOTOS BY MARGARET JAMES

Shown here is the sawmill demonstration at the grounds of the Manitoba Antique Automobile Museum in Elkhorn on Canada Day. Lynn Tutthill and his team of volunteers demonstrated the work involved in cutting lumber in days gone by.



Members of the WaWa Shriners of Moosomin and Khartum Shrine of Brandon have a visit before the start of the Canada Day parade in Elkhorn. Both groups have been participants in the Elkhorn parade in the past and community members look forward to them attending.



Bouncy castles kept the young ones entertained at Canada Day festivities in Elkhorn. The bouncy castles were set up on the museum grounds.

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VCI Graduates celebrated with their community

By Anne Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

In a ceremony at Tundra Oil and Gas Place arena joy was in the air as the Virden Collegiate Institute Grade 12 graduates were honoured before their families and the community on Tuesday evening, June 25.

As handsome and beautiful as the graduates and their escorts were in formal attire on an evening that seemed like an exclamation point following years of preparation, the roar of the train passing through Virden seemed like a reminder that this beautiful moment in time was launching a next generation into their adult journey.

The day's events began with a morning ceremony where the tassel was turned on the grad cap, and students received their Grade 12 certificates, subject awards and over 45 scholarships.

Among the 65 graduates, 33 students did so with honours. Finn Abel, with top marks in chemistry, mathematics, calculus, and physics earned the Governor General's Bronze Medal with an average mark of some 96 per cent.

During the evening's Grand March ceremony, Carrie Tapp and Nathan Holovach were the Masters of Ceremonies.

Valedictorian Aleah Gonty spoke of their journey as a roller coaster ride. Graduate Dominique Lansing speaking for her class said to parents, "Your love has been our compass." Her mother Fran Lansing, a long-time nursery school teacher brought the parent's address from a perspective of years of involvement from the early days of their education.

Before the Class of 2024 paraded to music of the day such as, "Where'd All the Time Go" and "Long Live," Principal Mark Keown had parting words for the class and their families, relating his pride in them, pointing them forward. He said their teachers had "worked their butts off" to prepare them to graduate, to have the skills to go out into the world and be leaders and create more leaders.

He reminded the class that their opportunities at VCI included an "amazing amount of scholarships," provided by the surrounding communities, businesses and individuals.

After the march, it was time to dance. Grads with escorts, grads with friends or family members swayed to "Starting Over", "My Wish" and "You're Gonna Go Far."



PHOTO BY SHARLA GEORGE

VCI Grad March on June 25. The diplomas have been given, the dresses and suits are adorned. Time to dance the night away.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD

Finn Abel

MR. BRICK "FRIEND TO ALL"

Cade Scharff

MCINTOSH AWARD

*Fiona Garcia,
Mason Lamb,
Dominique Lansing,
Mavis Pederson,
Amy Wo*

July at the Station



FILE PHOTO

Submitted
By DAELYN FEFCHAK

Arts Mosaic is excited to share our July plans! Our hours are 11am - 6pm Tuesdays to Fridays and 10am - 2pm on Saturdays.

Exhibition

This month's exhibition is done by the Hamiota Art Club. Art: A Door way to the Imagination is the title of the group exhibition. The reception will take place on Friday, July 5 at 6:30PM. It will feature music by Dylan Southam,

a Brandon University music student from right here in Virden. Come and join us in welcoming these talented artists to the station!

Activities

We are excited to be hosting a variety events this July!

First will be a drama workshop. It will take place at 1PM on July 9 at the station. We'll play some icebreaker drama games, and then breaking into groups to practice a scene. We'll end the afternoon by choosing costumes for our scenes and performing for each other!

Next will be our children's dress-up tea party, taking place July 11 at 1PM at the Costume Closet. We'll be getting dressed up in outfits from the Costume Closet and enjoying tea and a craft in the station!

Our choir workshop will take place July 16 at 1PM. Led by Brandon University music student Daelyn Fefchak, we will learn a few choral pieces, with an emphasis on part independence and aural learning. We'll conclude the afternoon with a performance for the attendee's families.

Our beginner song writing workshop will be on Saturday, July 20 at 1PM. We will be working together as a group led by Daelyn Fefchak to create a song. On the way, attendees will learn tips and tricks on how to write effective lyrics, chord progressions, and melodies.

For all of these events, members will have early access to registration to secure their spot. If you'd like to become a member, please visit our website artsmosaic.ca or drop by the station to fill out your form.

Chess Club meets Fridays from 4pm-6pm at the station! If you're looking for a chess opponent, this is the place to go!

We're excited to announce July's community art project: thumbprint characters! We will have ink available for you to make a thumbprint on our large paper where

you can doodle on the print to create a cute character. We hope to see a large community of diverse thumbprint people by the end of the month!

The Mosaic Market has tons of lovely handmade items, such as pottery, tea, paintings, accessories, and so much more. Stop by if you're looking for a gift for a loved one or a treat for yourself!

The Costume Closet is open Mondays and Thursdays from 3pm-6pm. If you're in need of an outfit for an event, stop by and check out their massive library of clothing, accessories, and props, all available for rent!

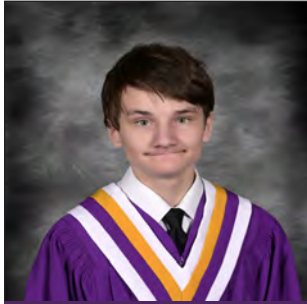
If you aren't already following our social media, make sure you check us out so you never miss an announcement! You can find us at Arts Mosaic on Facebook and @artsmosaic on Instagram.

VIRDEN COLLEGIATE 2024



FINN ABEL

Plans: Attend the University of Toronto to study Co-op Computer Science/Software Engineering. He hopes to work for a large tech company while still staying active playing by basketball.



ZAK ANDERSON

Plans: To pursue a job in construction or heavy duty equipment operation. He is excited to spend more time on his own, in the bush, chopping trees and hunting.



SKYLAR ANDRIES

Plans: To work for a year while exploring different career opportunities.



NATHAN ARCHAMBAULT

Plans: To take a gap year to work and travel to Italy or somewhere other than Canada. He wishes to just live life and have fun doing it.



COLETON BEATY

Plans: To go to university to earn a degree in either environmental biology or standard biology.



BREANNA BELHUMEUR

Plans: To attend Brandon University in the upcoming school year to attain her Bachelors of Science in Biology. She hopes to pursue a career in either the medical or laboratory field.



KENTE BROWN



BRYCE BRYANT

Plans: to continue playing hockey next year. He is set to attend Bemidji State University the following year where he will continue hockey and work towards degree in business management



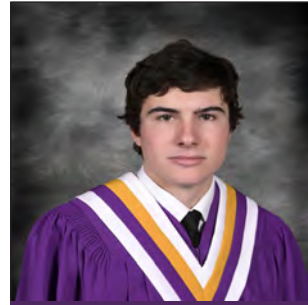
ALEX BUECHE

Plans: to take an electrician apprenticeship in Brandon for his level one. He is extremely excited to start his career in electrical!



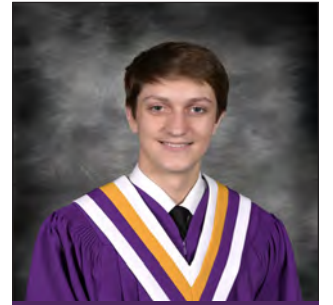
TYSON CLARKE

Plans: To attend the University of Alberta, in Edmonton to pursue a bachelor in kinesiology. He hopes to work as a physical therapist after university.



LARAMIE COLLEN

Plans: To attend Howard College in Big Spring, Texas on a rodeo scholarship. He will be competing on the rodeo team and studying agribusiness. He plans to continue his passion of roping.



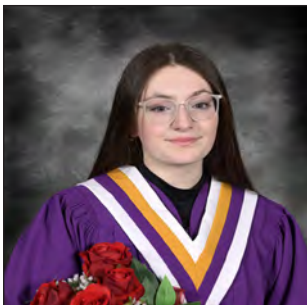
TIMOTHY COX

Plans: To work at the airport to get apprenticeship time to become an aircraft maintenance engineer. He will also probably continue helping his dad on the bee farm.



FRANCIS DELACRUZ

Plans: To go to Calgary in December to study barbering. Following grad he plans to continue working and saving money.



PAIGE DRYDEN

Plans: To attend Brandon University in the upcoming school year to attain her Bachelor of Arts, with a major in history and a minor in biology, and then achieve her teaching degree. She hopes to travel and teach across Canada.



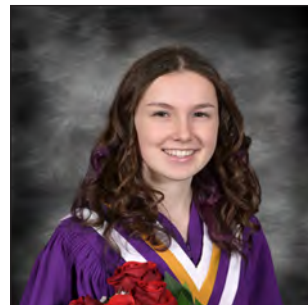
HOKSHI EASTMAN

Plans: To continue being a Machinery Operator while conquering the world and manifesting his dreams to reality. He looks forwards in traveling to new places and building businesses across Canada starting with his home community. The end goal is starting his own little family far from here.



KOEN ELLINGHAUS

Plans: To continue working after graduation before attending fire fighting college.



ARIANNA EWERT

Plans: To take a year or two off before attending college. She is excited to travel and explore future career opportunities.



DENVER FERNANDEZ

Plans: To attend post secondary to study accounting. He hopes someday he can explore the unknown around the world.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024

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2024
Class of

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Congratulations Grads of 2024

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VIRDEN COLLEGIATE 2024



RYDER FOUILLARD

Plans: To take a year for himself to work, save money, grow, and plan which path he would like to follow before going into post-secondary education in the upcoming future.



FIONA GARCIA

Plans: To attend Providence University College to study sciences in preparation for later studies in optometry and continue her passion in athletics and play for the Providence Pilots Women's basketball team.

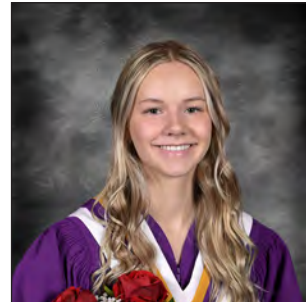


HELEN GENAILLE



JOEL GNUTEL

Plans: To go to ACC in Brandon for plumbing and to follow a career in that world. He will travel around different parts of Canada with a fishing rod in his hand.



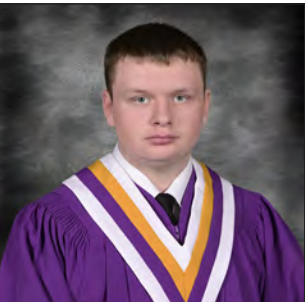
ALEAH GONTY

Plans: To attend UofM in the fall to take a year of sciences, prior to pursuing the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program at RRC the following year and to continue a healthy and active lifestyle throughout her schooling



VINCON GREENE

Plans: To become a fashion designer and taking fine arts somewhere in the US and soon enough everyone's gonna be wearing his brand. He also wants to adventure around the world get a work visa and work in different countries.



KADEN HALL

Plans: To work for a year, then go to college and become heavy duty equipment operator.



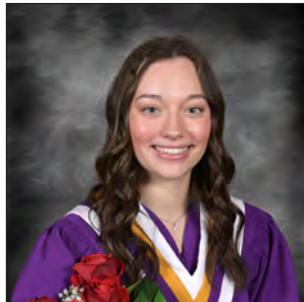
HOLDEN HAYWARD

Plans: To attend SAIT College in Calgary, where he will be taking business. He is excited to experience the city life.



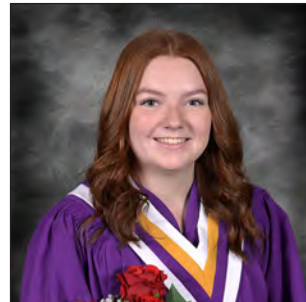
THANE HAYWARD

Plans: To go work for Go Hard for the next year and then plans to go to school for the year after.



JESSIE HENRY

Plans: To attend Minnesota State University-Moorhead to pursue her dream of playing NCAA softball and to study communication disorders to become a speech language pathologist in the future!



RICKI HILL

Plans: To attend Lakeland College in AB taking the Animal Health Technician Diploma. She plans to continue her education and take reproduction courses for horses and cattle.



ZANDER JANZEN

Plans: To work in the automotive field while also fueling his love for the culinary arts. He has plans on going to ACC to gain his Red Seal in mechanics.

“All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them” - Walt Disney

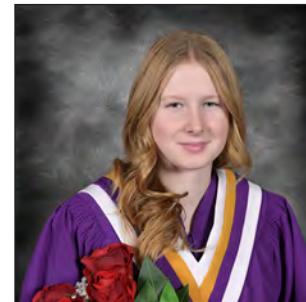
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GRADS OF 2024!

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 Breanna Belhumeur	 Paige Dryden	 Aleah Gonty
 Avery Ramsey	 Josie Waldner	 Finn Abel

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BRENNA JOHNSTON

Plans: To attend ACC in the upcoming fall pursuing a two year Agribusiness diploma. She hopes to be able to continue participating in the rodeo world and explore future career options in the Agricultural industry.



RILEY JORGENSEN

Plans: To attend Olds College in Alberta for his Agricultural Management diploma in the coming fall. He is expecting on returning to the Virden area after his schooling to find a career that he enjoys.

Congratulations
TO THE
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CLASS OF
2024
It's time to celebrate all the hard work that led to this momentous occasion

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Class of
2024

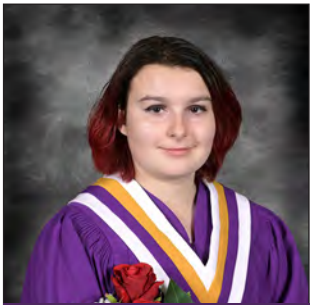
Congratulations on your accomplishments.
With best wishes for the future.



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VIRDEN COLLEGIATE 2024




CHARLIE KEAM

Plans: To work at the Co-op while she starts looking into college classes and to work out in the field. Her biggest goals are to be a heavy duty mechanic, and to work on semi-trucks.



SARAH KEOWN

Plans: To attend Vancouver Island University in Nanaimo BC to study a major in English and minor in marketing. Her dream is to open up a bookstore and live her life peacefully in a little house near the countryside and travel the world.




ADIN KNOX

Plans: To attend ACC to pursue culinary arts.



KENZIE KREUTZER

Plans: To get a job at one of the day cares after graduation. Kenzie looks forward to having more time to spend with family and friends.



MASON LAMB

Plans: To study at the University of Calgary to pursue an engineering degree. He plans on just trying to enjoy the university lifestyle while he tries to figure his future plans out afterwards.



HOLLY LANE

Plans: To attend the University of Manitoba to pursue a degree in law in hopes of eventually becoming a lawyer. She also wishes to continue to travel and play sports during her time studying.




SAWYER LANGEVIN

Plans: To continue to work and race horses.




DOMINIQUE LANSING

Plans: To attend Assiniboine Community College to study nursing. She hopes to become an LPN and continue travelling and exploring new places along the way.



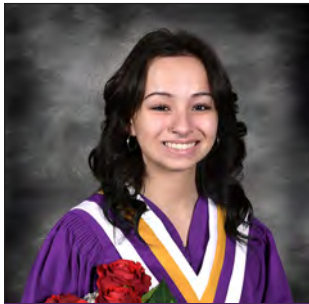
EAN LEVANDOSKY

Plans: To live a perfectly average life while in his spare time taking over the world from the shadows.



ETHAN MEAD

Plans: To go to school to become an automotive technician. He is wanting to work as a technician for a dealership.

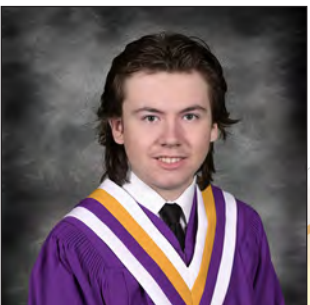


ANGELLE MENARD



MORGAN MILLER

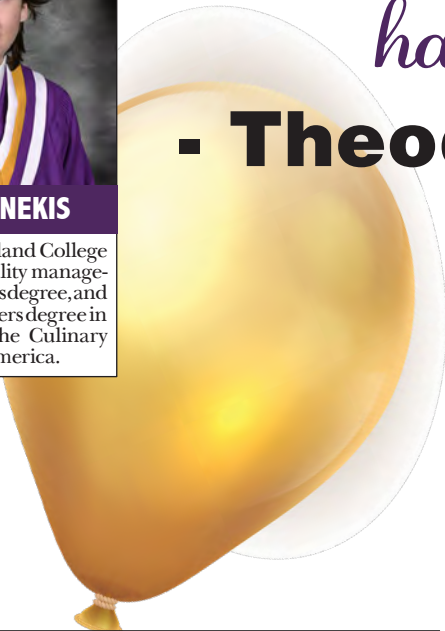
Plans: To be working for Funshine Daycare in Virden for a year to gain experience, and express her care to these children, before attending ACC to pursue her ECE degree.



DOM PAUPANEKIS

Plans: To attend Holland College to pursue his hospitality management and culinary arts degree, and later pursuing a masters degree in culinary arts with the Culinary Institute of North America.

“Believe you can and you’re halfway there.”
- Theodore Roosevelt



MNP

Congratulations, Class of 2024

On behalf of the entire MNP team, congratulations on reaching this major milestone. We can't wait to see what you do next!

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VIRDEN COLLEGIATE 2024




AINSLEY PEDERSON

Plans: To continuing herschooling at the University of Mb, pursuing a future career in film production and Fine Arts. She is excited to see what creative opportunities arise while living in Wpg.



JESSIE PODOBNI

Plans: To attend University of Regina for her Bachelor of Nursing in the fall. After she's finished she hopes to build a house on a small section of land near home, where she hopes to work as a nurse and raise a small herd of cattle with her husband and kids.




JOSEPH POUNDER

Plans: To continue working at Southland Repair after graduation. Eventually he hopes to go to college to become a heavy duty mechanic.



SAGE PRICE

Plans: To attend ACC in the fall to take construction electrician while also continuing to play some sort of hockey.




JAKE QUIZON

Plans: To go to college in ACC and study business administration. He looks forward to new experiences that come his way.




NATALIE RAMPTON

Plans: To attend Midland University in Nebraska, this fall to attain a degree in mathematics. She will be continuing her hockey career and playing goal for the Midland Warriors female hockey team.

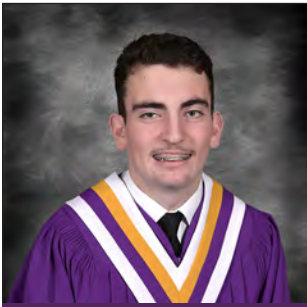


AVERY RAMSEY

Plans: To attend Brandon University next year to take her Bachelor of Science degree with hopes of pursuing a career in science. She also plans to continue playing volleyball.



MATTHE SANDERS



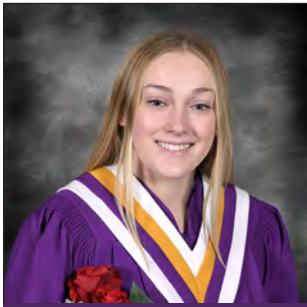
CADE SCHARFF

Plans: To come to VCI for one more year to help coach the VCI Bears Basketball team and to learn job skills before ventures out on his own and gets a job. He also wants to travel.



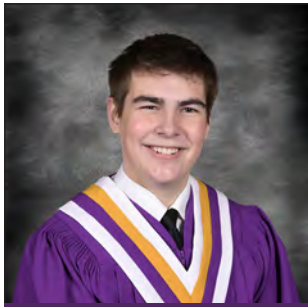
REIGN SPRING

Plans: To become a high school teacher, studying history and psychology.



PEYTON STUART

Plans: To attend Brandon University taking physical education and plans to further that education in Wpg for an end goal of becoming a Physical Therapist.



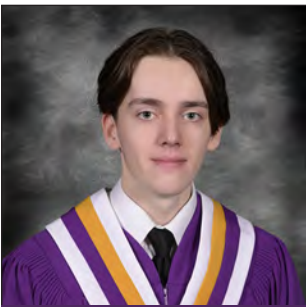
CODY THIESSEN

Plans: To continue working for Prairie Life Dental for the next few years, and he hopes to be involved in the community through music. His favourite high school memory is all the musicals.



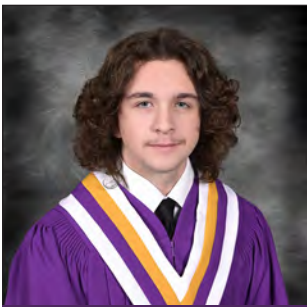
DARA THOMPSON

Plans: To attend Mount Royal University in Calgary, Alberta next year to get her Bachelor of Science Biology degree. She has received an athletic scholarship to play on the Women's hockey team while she gets her degree.



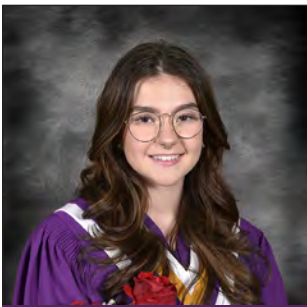
JOAQUIN VOGT

Plans: To continuing to work as an automotive mechanic. He hopes to one day travel the world.



JORDAN WALDNER

Plans: To move to BC, sling chain and make lots of money.



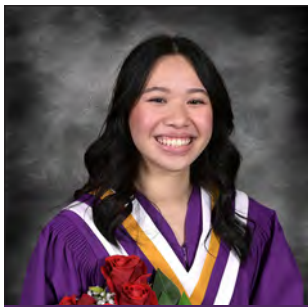
JOSIE WALDNER

Plans: To attend Brandon University to earn her Bachelors of Arts and Education and pursue a career in elementary school teaching (and hopefully find time to travel in between).



DARIAN WAMBIDEE HIGHEAGLE

Plans: To attend Brandon University and study English for a 4 year degree and then a 2 year degree in education.



AMY WU

Plans: To enter into Computer Science, in the upcoming fall at University of Manitoba. She wants to continue her art hobbies and do some traveling in 3 to 4 years.

CONGRATULATIONS!




Dominick and Vincon and the graduates of 2024

from Bruce & Staff at 

204-748-3200 • 175 Wellington Street West, Virden

CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNER
Peyton Stuart
AND THE
VCI CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATES

FROM MAYOR, COUNCIL
AND TOWN OF VIRDEN STAFF



Congratulations Graduates



CONGRATULATIONS to all our graduates from
Elkhorn School, Plainview Colony School,
Reston School & Virden Collegiate

From the Fort La Bosse School Division Board of Trustees and Senior Administration



VIRDEN COLLEGIATE 2024

ALEAH GONTY Hamiota District Health Centre Foundation Inc. Bursary Fund ~ Westman Communications Group Award of Excellence

ALEX BUECHE Golden Bears Hockey Continuing Education Scholarship

AMY WU Craig A. McIntosh Scholarship ~ Virden Lions Club Business Scholarship

ARIANNA EWERT VCI Staff Award ~ Virden Music & Arts Festival Visual Art Scholarship

EVERY RAMSEY VCI Staff Award ~ Virden Royal Purple Award

BREANNA BELHUMEUR Fort La Bosse School Division Award

BRENNA JOHNSON Dorothy Baillie Memorial Scholarship ~ Duane 'Skippy' Holland Memorial Scholarship Award Oak Lake and Area Foundation ~ Mr. C. E. Heapy Memorial Award

CODY THIESSEN Pat's Photography Scholarship ~ Virden Music & Arts Festival Choral Music Scholarship

COLTON BEATY Guild Insurance Group Award ~ Golden Bears Hockey Continuing Education Scholarship

DARA THOMPSON Kevin Wadham Memorial Scholarship ~ VCI Staff Award

DARIAN WAMBIDEE-HIGHEAGLE Golden Bears Indigenous Recognition Scholarship

DENVER FERNANDEZ ACE (Applied Commerce Education) Scholarship

DOMINICK PAUPANEKIS VCI Staff Award

DOMINIQUE LANSING Craig A. McIntosh Scholarship ~ Sunrise Credit Union Ltd. Scholarship

EAN LEVANDOSY VCI Safe Grad Award

ETHAN MEAD Virden Lions Club Power Mech Scholarship

FINN ABEL Bryan Wark Memorial Scholarship ~ VCI Staff Award

TIM COX Carlyle Jorgensen Scholarship

ZANDER JANSEN VCI Staff Award ~ Virden Music & Arts Festival Drama Scholarship

FIONA GARCIA Catholic Womens League Scholarship ~ Craig A. McIntosh Scholarship ~ Jean & Murray Thomas Memorial Scholarship Award Virden & Area Foundation ~ VCI Advisory Council Student Leadership (ACSL) Scholarship

HOKSHINA EASTMAN Golden Bears Indigenous Recognition Scholarship

HOLDEN HAYWARD Corex Resources Continuing Education Award ~ Golden Bears Hockey Continuing Education Scholarship

HOLLY LANE Ladies Auxiliary to Royal Canadian Legion Branch #8 Award ~ R.M. of Wallace-Woodworth Scholarship Ward 2 (Wallace) ~ Virden & Area Justice Committee Scholarship

JESSIE HENRY VCI Staff Award ~ Virden Lions Club Academic Scholarship

JESSIE PODOBNI Duane 'Skippy' Holland Memorial Scholarship Award Oak Lake and Area Foundation ~ Linda Hayward Memorial Scholarship ~ Oak Lake and Area Lions Club Scholarship

JOEL GNUTEL ERCO Worldwide Scholarship

JOSIE WALDNER Goulter Scholarship ~ Kola School ACSL ~ VCI Choir Scholarship

KADEN HALL T. K. Wakely Memorial Scholarship

MASON LAMB Craig A. McIntosh Scholarship

MAVIS PEDERSON Chown Centennial Entrance Scholarship ~ Craig A. McIntosh Scholarship

MORGAN MILLER VCI Staff Award

REIGN SPRING Laura Fefchak Memorial Scholarship ~ Lillian Donaldson Award

TYSON CLARK Golden Bears Hockey Continuing Education Scholarship ~ Virden and District Health Auxiliary Award

NATALIE RAMPTON Corex Resources Continuing Education Award ~ Duane 'Skippy' Holland Memorial Scholarship Award Oak Lake and Area Foundation ~ Oak Lake and Area Lions Club Scholarship ~ R.M. of Wallace-Woodworth Scholarship Ward 1 (Woodworth) ~ VCI Advisory Council Student Leadership (ACSL) Scholarship

NATHAN ARCHMABAULT VCI Safe Grad Award

PAIGE DRYDEN Miss I. M. Dryden Award ~ Royal Canadian Legion #8 Scholarship

PEYTON STUART Dr. John William Bradley Memorial Award ~ Royal Canadian Legion #8 Scholarship ~ Town of Virden Award

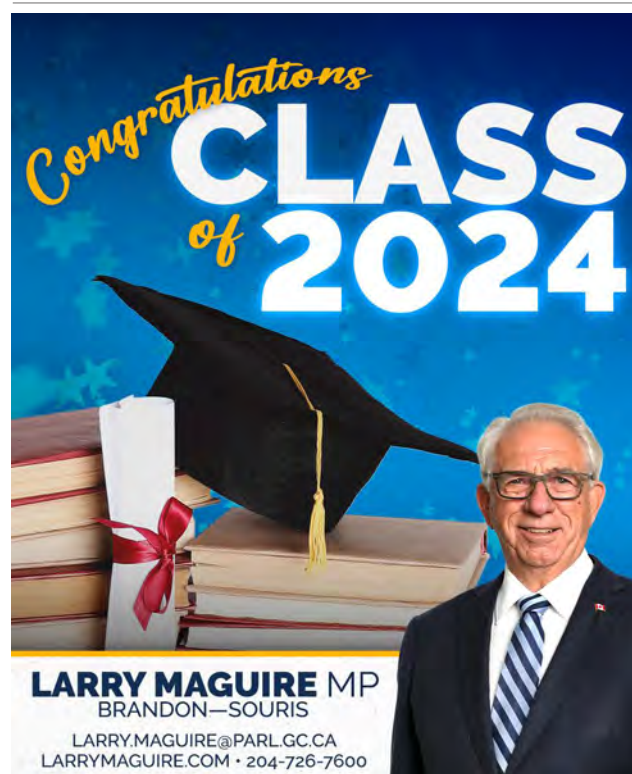
RICKI HILL Harding Community Club Annual Volunteer Bursary ~ Lenore Beef Club ~ Lenore Community Club Award ~ Manitoba 4-H Council Scholarship ~ Manitoba High School Rodeo Association ~ Woodworth Grazing Club ~ Woodworth Legion #118

RILEY JORGENSEN Ladies Auxiliary to Royal Canadian Legion Branch #8 Award ~ Ladies Committee Virden Agriculture Society Award ~ Valleyview Coop Academic/Merit Scholarship ~ Virden Curling Club Scholarship

SAGE PRICE ACC One to Watch Entrance Award ~ Dorothy Manser Award ~ ERCO Worldwide Scholarship ~ Golden Bears Hockey Continuing Education Scholarship

SARAH KEOWN Gunby Family Award ~ Jean & Murray Thomas Memorial Scholarship Award Virden & Area Foundation ~ VCI Band Scholarship ~ VCI Reach for the Top Award ~ VCI Student Council Annual Scholarship ~ Virden Music & Arts Festival Band Scholarship

SKYLAR ANDRIES VCI Staff Award



Congratulations
CLASS of 2024

LARRY MAGUIRE MP
BRANDON—SOURIS

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Congratulations

CLASS OF 2024

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LAW FIRM

Congratulations, Class of 2024!

Wishing you all the best as you embark on your next adventure!

Ashley T. Joyce, B.A., LL.B.
Partner
ajoyce@mhlaw.ca

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Phone: (204) 725-8769
Tues. / Thurs. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
virden@mhlaw.ca

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Brandon, MB R7A 4J4
Phone: (204) 725-8769
Fax : (204) 726-1948
brandon@mhlaw.ca

 mhlaw.ca f @mhlaw.ca @mhlaw.ca X @MHLaw.ca



CONGRATULATIONS
Class of 2024

It took a lot of hard work to reach this goal. You had to show up every day, whether you felt like it or not. I hope you feel great about what you've accomplished, and I hope you'll continue to be a person who shows up day in and day out for those things that are worthwhile and important in life.

Enjoy your special day!

Greg Nesbitt

MLA Riding Mountain

204-759-3313
1-844-877-7767

gregnesbittmla@mymts.net



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SPORTS

FASHOLA SUCCEEDS AT PROVINCIALS



Fola Fashola

SUBMITTED PHOTO

By Robin Wark
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Fola Fashola was motivated on the day of the finals in his two events at the 2024 Dairy Farmers of Manitoba High School Track & Field Championships.

“Waking up that Saturday morning, I knew I had two finals and that I wanted to bring back something to Virden, especially after missing my 100-metre semis due to lack of information. All that motivated me to try my absolute best in the remaining two events,” the Grade 10 Virden Collegiate Institute student-athlete said.

At the Winnipeg event, Fashola placed third in long jump in the junior varsity boys division. He leaped 5.94 metres. He also placed eighth in his category in the 200-metre dash in a time of 24.29 seconds.

“It was a very good learning experience,” Fashola said of the finals. “I went in knowing that I had as good a chance as anyone else but my main goals were to get faster, improve, and see the gap between me and first place in a way to broaden my view.”

Fashola’s success came with the backing of his family.

“My mom, Titilope Fashola drove me three hours to the venue and happily stayed the whole time to encourage me through everything,” he said. “Then my father, Zaheed Fashola, who even though he couldn’t be there in person due to work always made sure to ask how I am doing, give advice, and wish me luck.”

LEWIS WRAPS UP JUNIOR CAREER WITH HOMETOWN OIL CAPS

By Robin Wark
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

After creating many memories over four junior seasons, Virden’s Braeden Lewis is headed to Brock University.

The son of Dale and Tracy Lewis capped his junior career by suiting up with his hometown Virden Oil Capitals last winter in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League. His first full junior campaign was in a COVID-19 pandemic affected 2020-2021 season. Lewis split that season between the Oil Caps and the Western Hockey League’s Swift Current Broncos. The next two campaigns he suited up for the Broncos and won the team’s Leadership and Maturity award in both of those seasons. After five games with the Swift Current club last season, he was reassigned to the Oil Caps. What will he remember most about his junior days?

“I definitely made a ton of lifelong memories in the last four years playing junior hockey,” Lewis said. “I guess if I could narrow it down to specifics it’d be just going to the rink every day and being around the guys. My most memorable days were practice days just hanging around the rink whether it be in the room, lounge, or on the ice together.”

The Oil Caps were pleased to have the hometown product back in uniform last winter. He contributed to the squad in various ways. Lewis won the team’s Wallace District Fire Department Unsung Hero award. Oil Caps head coach Tyson Ramsey said the team appreciated all that he brought to it in a short period of time.

“Braeden just does



Braeden Lewis

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY OIL CAPITALS

everything well and is a very low maintenance player,” the coach said. “He comes to the rink every day and does his job and works hard. He has elite skills, can play a physical game if he needs to, is responsible on both sides of the puck and is a great leader for us on and off the ice. He wants his team and his teammates to succeed and goes above and beyond to get things done.”

The 6-foot, 180-pound Lewis led the Oil Capitals in points per game with 1.11. The forward scored 12 goals and accumulated 40 points in 36 games.

“I believe I was able to have success on the offensive side of the puck mainly due to the positions I was entrusted in by Tyson and our coaching staff,” Lewis said. “When playing in Swift Current, I was seen as a penalty killer

and a more so defensive forward. When I came back to Virden, I was put into more offensive roles which allowed me to find that side of my game that I’ve felt out of touch with in years past.”

The Virden product enjoyed being back playing in front of friends and family.

“Being in Swift Current for three years before they would only usually be able to watch me in Brandon,” Lewis said. “While playing in Virden, I had the opportunity to play every home game in front of the people closest to me.”

He greatly appreciated the support his family has provided over the years.

“They’ve been everything to me,” Lewis said. “I’m not in the position I am today without all of the sacrifices they’ve made for me. They mean the world to me

and it’s hard to put into words the amount of appreciation I have for my family.”

They, of course, will continue to support him when he heads east for the fall. Lewis chose St. Catharines’ Brock University because his main focus when deciding where to attend school was to find a new experience.

“Playing hockey in the Western Hockey League, I was able to see all over the western side of the country. Leaving the eastern side as a so called unseen area for me,” Lewis said. “The main draw to Brock was the area it is located and the new facilities they have for both the hockey team and students. I also have an ex-teammate (Broncos) who plays there, Rylan Thiessen. So, I was able to pick his brain and he made the decision that much easier.”

SPORTS

EXPOS, WOOD GET BIG WIN VERSUS COMETS

By Robin Wark
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

Although Canada Day was on July 1, the Elkhorn Expos likely did some celebrating early after a 23-8 victory over the Rivers Comets on June 27.

"The boys had a great game last night," Expos manager Mike Kyle said on June 28. "Everyone through the lineup had great at bats working the count for a walk or getting that timely hit that in games past we were close but last night it clicked, which allowed us to put up runs. So hopefully this is a sign of good things to come. It was good to see because the boys needed it."

In the offensive onslaught, the Expos collected 14 hits and took advantage of four Comets' errors. Nine different Elkhorn players batted in at least a run. Colby Walker led the way with six RBIs. The Expos drew 11 walks.

While the Elkhorn team's offence was stellar last week, the victory involved yet another strong performance from veteran hurler Tyler Wood. He struck out six while allowing five earned runs on 12 hits in a full seven innings of work.

"He has been a work horse for us," Kyle said. "The two wins we have have come off his stellar pitching. Against Virden, he went the nine innings for the win and (against Rivers) pitched the seven. His command and being able to navigate the game has helped us immensely not only those

two games but through the season thus far."

That was the Expos ace's fourth complete games this season. As of Sunday, Wood was third in the league in innings pitched at 33.99.

"He is able to go continuous innings in a game, which is something you don't see in today's baseball world," said Expos catcher Foxx McColl, who praised Wood's velocity and ability to locate his pitches.

The Expos play in Hamiota on Friday. They host the Wawanesa Brewers and Deloraine Royals on Sunday.

Reston Rockets

On June 28, the Rockets' contest versus the Deloraine Royals was postponed due to weather.

The Reston squad was to play the Oak River Dodgers on July 2 and the Brewers on July 4 after the Empire-Advance deadline. The Rockets host the Hamiota Red Sox on Sunday before the Boissevain Centennials come to town on Wednesday.

Virden Oilers

The Oilers fell at home on June 25 to the Hamiota Red Sox, 6-1. Their June 28 game against Oak River Dodgers was postponed.

On July 4, the Oilers hosted the Deloraine Royals after the Empire-Advance deadline. They host the Centennials and Brewers on Sunday before heading to Rivers on Tuesday.



PHOTO BY JESSICA COULTER

Elkhorn Expos #26 Steve Bonchuk throwing a pitch in the game against the Rivers Comets.

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A Letter Home

I received the following text June 26 from a friend in Calgary who has subscribed to the Empire Advance for many years :

“I just got my copy of the new, Waddell-owned, Virden Empire Advance. Thanks for taking it over and keeping it going....Virden needs it. You and Ken don't really understand the word “retirement” do you? Hope you two are doing well....obviously you are keeping busy.”

Yes we are busy and thankful.

We are re-populating the staff at the Virden Empire-Advance but Anne Davison, Robin Wark plus Jessica Coulter are key components as we move forward.

We really enjoyed being in the parade. Three cheers to the Wallace firefighters for best parade marshalling we've experienced.

I'll drop another note as time and space allow.

Signed,
Christine Lobel-Waddell



Christine Lobel-Waddell

VIRDEN



CENTRE OF IT ALL

Animal Control: 204-851-1810	Emergency After Hours: 204-851-5540	Facility Bookings: 204-748-2440	Town Office: 204-748-2440	Tundra Oil & Gas Place: 204-748-2736	Waste Disposal Grounds: 204-748-3422
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Summer Ice Available for Booking

\$210 + GST per hour

Non-refundable 50% deposit due at the time of booking.

Please contact Melody at the Town Office for more information.



Current Employment Opportunities

★ Utilities Foreman

For additional info, please visit
www.virden.ca/p/employment-opportunities
or email info@virden.ca



Dog and Cat Licenses

are available for purchase at the Town Office.

Town Office Summer Hours

The Town of Virden Office will be closed at 4:00 PM on Fridays until August 30.



Tax Prepayment Discounts

The Town of Virden offers tax prepayment discounts as outlined below to taxpayers wishing to pay an installment or installments on their 2024 property taxes. Those wishing to prepay may pay an amount or a series of amounts that in total does not exceed the amount of their 2023 property taxes. The discount rate is equivalent to an effective annual interest rate of 3%.

Month of Payment	Discount Rate	Savings on \$1,000.00
July	0.75%	\$7.50

Tax prepayments made in the months of August, September or October will be accepted at par.

Tax prepayments can be made by mailing a cheque with the **tax roll number** written on the reverse to the Town of Virden, Box 310, Virden, MB, R0M 2C0, e-transfer to clerk@virden.ca, via online banking, or by attending the Town Office in person during normal business hours.

For more information, please call 204-748-2440.

2024 Swimming Lesson registration is open

For more information, visit www.virden.ca or call the pool office at 204-748-2736 ext 3.



Virden Spray Park

Open daily from
10:00 AM-8:00 PM



2024 Summer Day Camp



Some spots are still available for this year's camp.
Check out www.virden.ca for registration details.

Upcoming Council Meetings:
Tuesday, July 16 & Tuesday, August 13

Please Note:
Town of Virden Council meetings begin at 7:00 PM



Dutch Elm Disease Program

Monitoring and surveys are underway by MB Forestry & Peatlands Branch.

- Inspectors will be viewing private and public properties.
- For more information, please call 204-748-2440, or the Tree Line at 204-945-7866

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Facility Operator

The Rural Municipality of Pipestone is now accepting applications for a full-time Facility Operator position in our Facilities Department

For further information regarding this position please visit www.rmofpipestone.com Employment Opportunities.

Applications will be accepted until Friday July 5th, 2024

Mailed to: Box 99, Reston, MB, R0M 1X0

Emailed to:

hpipestone@rmofpipestone.com

Or faxed to: 204-877-3999

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Public Works Administrative Clerk

The Rural Municipality of Pipestone is now accepting applications for a full-time Administration Clerk position in our Public Works Department.

For further information regarding this position please visit www.rmofpipestone.com Employment Opportunities.

Applications will be accepted until Friday July 5th, 2024

Mailed to: Box 99, Reston, MB, R0M 1X0

Emailed to:

hpipestone@rmofpipestone.com

Or faxed to: 204-877-3999

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.

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Manitoba Community Newspaper Association Province Wide Classifieds

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Obituary

IN LOVING MEMORY JIM FERRIS



On June 26, 2024, after an extended and courageous battle with cancer, Jim Ferris passed away at Elkwood Manor in Elkhorn Manitoba at the age of 80 years.

Jim spent his early years in Elkhorn, and then moved to Souris, Manitoba as a young man where he worked at a service station learning his trade as a mechanic. He moved to the Okanagan in his early 20s where he worked as a mechanic and at White Western Star. It was in BC that he met and married Susan Ripley, a union that would last 55 years until his passing, and during which they raised 6 children.

In 1975, Jim decided it was time to take his growing young family back to Manitoba and join his parents Edna and Bert to work on the mixed grain and cattle farm that they had built. Not long after returning however, Jim's father passed away, and in addition to taking care of his own family, Jim took on the responsibility for his mother and the farm.

Jim grew to be a very capable farmer. He was hard working, honest, really cared about his land and livestock, and could fix almost anything. He also had a creative side and wrote many letters and poems that spoke to his life and the world around him. He wasn't afraid to share his opinions, but he also preferred to stay out of the limelight. He was a family man who was proud of his children and their accomplishments, and who enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

Jim's illness made his final years very challenging, but through the pain of his progressing cancer and treatments he continued to work hard, helping friends and neighbours whenever they needed a hand.

Jim leaves to mourn his loving wife, Susan, sons Ron (Haihong), Gerry (Alex), Chris (Haifeng), Nick (Karisa), and daughters Tracy and Kayla. He will also be missed by his grandchildren Cindy, Andrea, Clare, Sadie, Edward, Phoenix, Braxton, Kolt and Kiarah, and by his sister Judy Coe and family, sister-in-law Marjorie Ripley, and brother-in-law Edward Ripley and family.

The family would like to thank the nursing staff at Elkwood Manor, who made Jim's last months as comfortable as possible, and whose smiling and gentle care gave both Jim and his family much comfort.

The funeral service will be held at Elkhorn Elks Hall Saturday July 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. with Marianne Olfrey officiating. Interment will be in Elkhorn Cemetery.

If friends so desire, donations may be made to the Elkwood Manor Ladies Auxiliary P.O. Box 172 Elkhorn, MB R0M 0N0, in memory of Jim.



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Good public relation skills are essential. Some computer skills required and further training will be provided on other aspects of the position.

The Office Manager will be responsible for:

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- Paper distribution one day per week when office will be closed during distribution time. A vehicle will be provided for paper distribution

Please submit resumes by email to Owner/publisher Ken Waddell at virdenempireadvance@outlook.com

In Memory

In loving memory of Elaine Margaret Studer

May 27, 1951 - July 6, 2019



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== CLASSIFIEDS ==

Help Wanted



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Job Description

The Rural Municipality of Wallace-Woodworth is seeking a motivated individual for the permanent full-time position of **Executive Assistant** at the Virden Municipal Office.

The Executive Assistant reports to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and will be responsible for providing direct administrative support to the CAO and Senior Management. The successful candidate will be performing various administrative duties related to the operation of the Municipality. This position is also responsible for providing information to Council members, staff, ratepayers, and external entities.

Duties and responsibilities

- Coordinate executive communications, including: taking calls; responding to emails; and interfacing with the public
- Maintain an organized filing system of paper and electronic documents
- Knowledge of general office procedures, including: preparing documents; updating; and gathering information
- Prepare agendas, resolutions, and minutes for Council and Committee Meetings
- Organize schedules of municipal functions and special events
- Provide position coverage for Administrative Assistant and/or LUD Managers when needed. Includes cash receipting, batch out, petty cash, direct deposits, and bank deposits; processing incoming and outgoing correspondences; providing assistance to the public
- Maintain and update the R.M. website, Facebook, and Twitter accounts
- Handle basic technical support and coordinate IT service requests
- Uphold a strict level of confidentiality
- All other duties as assigned

Skills and Qualifications

- One year of previous work experience in a similar capacity will be an asset
- High school graduate at minimum, other administrative courses will be an asset
- High degree of proficiency with computer applications - Microsoft Office products including Excel, Word, Outlook
- Must be self-motivated and capable of working without direct supervision
- Completion of the Certificate in Manitoba Municipal Administration will be considered an asset

A complete job description is available upon request. The successful candidate can expect a salary reflective of their experience and qualifications. The position will be eligible for a full benefits package after 6 months, including employer-paid Blue Cross insurance and a matched pension. Interested candidates should submit a resume with three professional references by:

E-mail: info@wallace-woodworth.com

Mail/Drop-off: R.M. of Wallace-Woodworth Municipal Office
154023 PR 257 Box 2200 (Corner of 83 Hwy & PR 257) Virden, Manitoba R0M 2C0

This posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is located.
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154023 PR 257 Box 2200 (Corner of 83 Hwy & PR 257)
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This posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is located.
This position commences as soon as possible.

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View the full job description:



Changes coming to
chemical container
recycling

By Dale Davison
EMPIRE-ADVANCE

At their regular meeting on June 25, the RM of Wallace-Woodworth council discussed changes to provincial regulations that will see the recycling of agricultural chemical containers move away from municipal facilities to be managed by the companies that sell these products. Cleanfarms, a non-profit environmental stewardship organization has been working to make these changes over the past three years and Wallace-Woodworth is one of the last municipalities to complete the transition. Council expressed concern over the new system and wondered if the changes would result in fewer containers being recycled.

GENERAL
BUSINESS

Wallace-Woodworth and Ellice-Archie will each contribute 50 per cent of the cost of a culvert project on road 72N on the boundary between the two municipalities.

Tutthill Construction will perform a culvert upgrade on road 174W which marks the provincial boundary with Saskatchewan.

Due to a grader breakdown council approved payment to Cochrane Stock Farms of \$30,397 for rental of a grader, and \$127,178 to Brandt Tractor for repair of the municipal 2028JD 772G grader.

KENTON LUD

The committee met on June 13 at the Kenton Council Chambers.

Coun. Diana MacDonald reported they discussed derelict and unsightly property in town.

A section of sidewalk is crumbling and residents have agreed that the sidewalk should be removed.

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure have installed two of the highway signs directing travelers to the campground with more planned.

There is a large hole in the pavement near the post office that needs repair.

The Lifeline response system that provides automated reporting of emergencies for seniors, such as if the wearer falls is transitioning to wireless operation. This could cause problems for Kenton users due to the limited cellular service in the community.

ELKHORN LUD

Coun. Denis Lachapelle reported from the LUD committee meeting that plans were progressing for the Canada Day celebration and the Manitoba Antique Automobile Museum (MAAM) event.

Road and sidewalk repairs are in progress and Ryder Kyle has been hired for a student position in town.

COUNCILLOR
REPORTS

Coun. Val Caldwell reported from Prairie Gateway Tourism (PGT) that there will be a best burger competition from July 22 to 28, with 12 restaurants participating. The PGT website is being updated and Caldwell says, "It's very user friendly, very appealing and I'm very impressed

with it. An excellent website." She noted that PGT had asked the Virden Indoor Rodeo committee for permission to have a booth on the concourse at TOGP during the event, but was denied. There will be a historic walking tour at 10 a.m. on July 26 starting at the CP station in Virden.

Coun. MacDonald reported that the Wallace District Fire Department received a grant of \$20,000 from the Virden Area Foundation.

Reeve Clayton Canart reported that construction of the third municipal water supply well in the Assiniboine valley is in progress. He suggested to the contractors that once that well is ready to be brought online there should be a delay in taking the existing wells offline to allow time to test the new system.

Coun. Mark Humphries reported from the Border Regional Library meeting where discussion continued regarding renovation plans for the Virden branch. The committee found that funds were not available to include all desired upgrades and a priority list was established to ensure that the most important components of the project will be completed first.

The McAuley branch has been moved to the former McAuley school.

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GOT NEWS?

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and the Class of 2024



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*Take pride in how far you have come and
have faith in how far you can go*





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