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THE OUTLOOK INC. ALL PRAIRIE VIEW COMMUNITIES



Volume 12, Issue 8 June 28 2023

BIRTLE GIRL CELEBRATES SPINEAVERSARY

MONDAY CLOSED TUESDAY 1:15 PM - 3:15 PM WEDNESDAY 3:00 PM - 7:00PM 3:00 PM - 5:00PM 1:15 PM - 3:15 PM THURSDAY 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM SATURDAY SUNDAY CLOSED

Kali Howe had spine surgery on June 20th 2022. She had two rods and pins put on her spine. It takes a year to have a full recovery from spinal surgery so Kali said when she reached her year we were having a party. We had our party down at Birtle beach June 20th 2023 to celebrate and give us a chance to thank evervone.

Kali

December 2021 is when I first started getting back pain. I would have back pain all day everyday no matter what I did so I told my mom and she just thought it was because I laid in my bed on my phone all the time until one day she took me to the doctor and they realized my back was twisted and didn't look right so I got sent to get x-rays and that's when I found out my spine was curved and I had a "bad case or scoliosis" I got a referral to a specialist and we waited and waited for an appointment. I started going to physio in shoal lake and she would use a tense medicine but it only worked for a bit but once I got into the car it would start to hurt again. I got an appointment at the health science center in Winnipeg with doctor Goytan on May 18th and had more x-rays and it was between a brace and surgery but my back was curved too much a brace wouldn't work, they said I had to have surgery. They said my surgery would be in the fall. A couple of weeks after my appointment we got a call saying they reassessed my Xrays and they needed to do the surgery now and scheduled it for June 20th and needed to come in before the surgery two more times for appointments. I finished school early, I wasn't able to go on my field trip or finish baseball. We went to Winnipeg the night

before my surgery and went to the red river x to have one day of fun since I wasn't going to be able to do much all summer. We got to our hotel 11pm and couldn't eat after midnight and all the food



places near were closed so we got mac n cheese from a vending machine I ate and went to bed because I had to be up at 5 and be at the hospital because my surgery was at 7 am. we got to the hospital I got changed and measured myself and I was about 4'11. I go into a room with a bed and these nurses come in and start poking stuff in my hands and squeezing stuff my hand all I can remember was them telling me to push the medicine in the syringe in then everything went black and I woke up with nurses surrounding me it was over at about 3pm and then I go out and see my mom. we go into the elevator and go to my room the first room I stayed in was split in half with one patient on one side then the other patient on the other with a nurse in the middle 24 hours. when we first got to the room the nurses had to pick me up using the sheet I was on and put it on the bed, it hurt so bad and I just went to bed. The nurses had to move my positions and I just could not get comfortable, every time I moved it hurt. The next afternoon was

(Continued on page 2)

Weather Outlook

Wed June 28 **Risk of Strong Thunder Storms** Thurs June 29 23



Fri. June 30 Sunny









(Continued from page 1)

when I had to get up and walk which was the hardest part, it was the worst pain in my life they lifted me up and I felt so much taller we measured me and i was like 5'2, I grew about 3 inches over night and because of my surgery I will probably not grow any taller. I was so tired the nurses pretty much carried me the whole walk then I went back to bed. I had a button to press every 15 minutes to put medicine in me for the pain, I had a slow release medication going right into my back and medicine trough my IV and tubes coming out my back to drain fluid. After a couple days in the post op 24 hour care room I was moved into a big room that was only for me with a bed, a couch a tv and a bathroom and a button to call for a nurse, which I used a lot. I spent about 10 days in the hospital and all I did was eat ice and popsicles. I lost a bunch of weight, walking was getting easier but when I would get up i would feel like i was gonna pass out because I hardly ate in a week. They would bring me food and my mom tried shoving it down my throat. we were only supposed to stay a week but ended up staying 10 days because my drainage tube had to be left in longer than expected which slowed down the process off slowly stopping the medication and we were waiting on the dr to give us medicine to go home with, we never ended up getting it we just went home because I was not using the pain medicine anymore. I barley did anything for the whole summer I just laid in my bed. my back is still numb because all the nerves in my back were cut. I don't get any back pain anymore the only thing is my shoulders are uneven and one pops out so it's uncomfortable to sit and my backs still numb and I can barley bend my back other then that I don't regret getting it even though it does limit a lot of things for me.

Tracey

I just want to thank everyone for their kind donations.

Ashley Bell Martin Fleury Linda Lawrence Julie Huberdeau

Allison Gibson Jan Riley
Tia Fouillard Wendy Brookes
Kari Laferriere Lisa Tellier
Shannon Emerick Jaime Lee

Jennifer Ranger Ang and Bill Bowley
Dan and Josie Simard Eleanor and Dale
Tammy Fleury Chantalle Simard
Arlene and Larry Kolody
Linda and Clifford Seaton Birtle lions club

Staff, students and their family of Birtle Colligate for putting on a fundraiser BBQ and collecting donations

Kali's class for the gift and video chats in the hospital

Staff of BCI for the candy bouquet that was delivered to the hospital Gay Stewart for visiting us at the hospital and bringing Kali a big balloon Laura and James Brookes for the gift

Twin valley coop for a gift card for gas

Betty Anne Cottingham for buying Kali ice cream after we returned home

Judy Duke for the heartfelt card and letter from Calgary

Val Dlugan for taking us out for lunch and the gifts

Dr Goytan and the spine team at the health science Center

All the staff at children's hospital

Candice at physiotherapy for providing physio before and after surgery Jordan's principal for helping cover physio costs

My mom Verna Roney and dad Gary Howe for helping with Tyson while I was away on my trips to Winnipeg and my mom for driving back and



forth daily to stay with Tyson and feed him.

Tyson for all the help. I worked mornings and he worked afternoons so someone could be home to help Kali during her recovery

All my co workers at the hospital for their support and filling in for me while I took time off and worked half days

Everyone for their calls, messages and checking in on us to see if their was anything we needed

Everyone that supported our Canada day BBQ fundraiser at the beach And last, but not least my niece Taylor Hartley for staying with me while Kali was in her surgery, sitting and sleeping over with kali at the hospital and just for being with us for every trip and appointment.

I hope I'm not missing anyone and apologize if I am. Everyone's support big or small was truly Appreciated and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Everything just happened to fast, we didn't even have time to prepare for it all. Donations went a long way towards the many trips to Winnipeg in the past year, my stay in Winnipeg while Kali was in the hospital, travelling to physiotherapy twice a week. We will return to Winnipeg one more time in September and if all is well we will not have to go back for three years.

Thanks to everyone that came out to celebrate Kali's one year spineaversary.

We made it! One year!



THE GIFT OF JOYFUL MESSES!

It's no secret–kids are creative. Whenever you take a person who is experiencing something new, like kids in life, you get astute observations and perspectives that can be both humorous and profound. This is why my grade 4&5 math class has been a special moment of sparkle every day of my 2022-2023 school year, and this is why I am so passionate about running the Birtle Cente for the Arts camp for the second year.

Last year, when I was picking the brain of Kristina, my highly creative childhood best friend who is an Early Childhood Educator living in Toronto, about what crafts would be good at my first running of the summer arts camp, she sent me her favourite playdough recipe. I'm sure you all have your favouite, but this has quickly become my go-to with Eva, found on the Big Bins for Little Hands website:

- 2 cups of flour
- 1/2 cup of salt
- 1 cup of hot water (possibly a 1/2 cup more)
- 2 tablespoon of cooking oil
- 2 tablespoons of cream of tartar

food coloring

When Kristina and I started talking about how I could use this I was flooded with ways of how I could make some sculpture projects out of it, or science exploration about combining colours. Kristina was encouraging, but suggested that I just get the kids to mix up the playdough themselves, and see what happens.

I was struck by the idea, but also kinda scared of it. I imagined 12 kiddos and 24 cups of flour swirling around The Centre, as the board member volunteers, who literally built the building we were now covering, watched in horror.

But

I slowly warmed to the idea as I made a few test batches, convincing myself that it would be ok, and that the board members had seen a lot messier things than flour in that front studio. They are a board that gets messy and gets things done!

And so, the day for making our own playdough came. And it was





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a huge success. learned or Kids remembered how to measure ingredients accurately. They mixed it up, and got the feeling of the right amount of water in their dough. They made messes with their hands, and the older ones even thought of wavs to do this



with kids they would be babysitting in the near future. It was a wonderful memory for me.

And now we're standing on the threshold of another year of arts camp - I've decided to run 2 sessions, for kids from K - Grade 4, and then from Grade 5-8. We have two high school volunteers this year to help, and I couldn't be more excited. I can't wait to see how the kids make the activities we prepare, and make them even better than we could imagine.

There are still spots available - you can register by going to https://birtlearts.ca/current-classes



Over the past few years Country Markets have been hosted at Birtle Centre for the Arts in July and August on Wednesdays on a biweekly basis. These markets provided an opportunity to purchase fresh produce, preserves, baking and the wares of a number of creative vendors as well as a bbq lunch. The BCA board has come to the decision that we will not be hosting the markets for the summer of 2023. It is our hope that there is another group in the community who will carry on this venture.

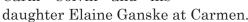
If you are interested in taking on the markets, please contact the Birtle Miniota CDC at cdc@myprairieview.ca. Birtle Centre for the Arts will be happy to provide information to anyone considering taking on the markets. Questions can be emailed to info@birtlearts.ca or call Shirley at 204-847-0675.

ISABELLA NEWS - By Linda Clark

June 1 2023 Word has been received of the death of Mick Collins who was living at Rotary Villas in Brandon on May 26th. Mick and his brother Mel farmed at Isabella in the 70's and 80's and as well their mother lived with her sons and became a part of our community. Mick was active in our curling club. Our Isabella community expresses our sympathy to Mick's niece Leanne Haggarty, and nephews Larry, Cam and Wayne Switzer and all their families. A graveside service will be held at Darlingford on June 7th

June 12 2023 The Isabella community hosted their first fundraiser on June 11th since the pandemic and it felt good to be back working as a community. A great crowd came from many surrounding communities as far away as Souris and Brandon to enjoy roast beef with us.

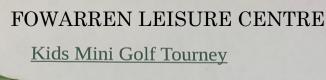
Hazel Wall and Linda Clark attended the funeral for Mick Collins at Darlingford. They then visited Hazel's uncle Carm Colvin and his



June 20 2023 Grant Still from Calgary and Donna Jacobs from New Zealand visited in the area with the Still families. Grant and Donna are the children of the late Don Still.

The Isabella museum committee is gearing up for their annual day and cold plate supper for July. The museum is ready for visitors.

The Birtle and district breakfast group in Brandon meet on the first Tues. of every month for breakfast. Breakfast is at Smitty"s on the north hill at 9:00 am. Every one is welcome.



Saturday, July 8th, 10 am. Entry fee 10\$ Includes 18 holes play

Lunch:

Hot dog, beverage & Ice cream

PRIZES

1st Sleeve of Golf balls & 5 Golf passes
 2nd - 2 Golf balls & 3 Golf passes
 3rd - 1 Golf ball and 2 Golf passes

Participant Prizes

Plus continued free golf for the participants for the afternoon!





HOOPER'S LAKE 2023 Swimming Lessons



- August 7-11, 2023 Monday to Friday
 - Intensive lessons, 2 lessons per day

Please send registration info to –

"Hooper's Lake Campground & Recreation" Facebook page
or contact Jackie Mathison 204-720-6470

Registration forms can be sent out prior to or will be available and filled out August 7th.

BIRTLE NEWS - By Jan Fleury

June 5 2023

Sympathy of the Birtle community is expressed to the family and friends of former resident and business owner, Betty Graham. Betty passed away at the Wawanesa PCH on May 31st at the age of 82. She was predeceased by her husband Alf and will be missed by her children Scott and Tara (Trent) and five grand-children and extended family members.

Kurt and Deena Amy attended the graduation ceremony for their daughter Tatum who graduated from Mount Royal University in Calgary last week. Tatum is working for Kids Sport for the summer in Calgary and has signed a one year contract with the Buffalo Beauts for the next hockey season. Good luck in this new adventure.

Kevin and Joanne Hickman, Butch Bartram and Andy Brydon attended the Manitoba Fire Chiefs Conference in Steinbach last weekend.

Bev Lee attended the Red River Métis Conference in Winnipeg last weekend.

Pat Bray was in Saskatoon on Mother's Day weekend and was treated to floor seats at the Shania Twain concert which she attended with her daughter Debbie and granddaughter Amy Shewfelt. The concert began with Shania amongst the audience and was very close to Pat.

Word has been received of the passing of former Birtle resident Helen Haney at the age of 104. She was living in Winnipeg the last few years in Personal Care to be closer to her family.

Murray and Bill Randall drove out to Birtle from Winnipeg last weekend and visited the Birtle Cemetery.

Sheila Bazlik of Regina is visiting with her mother Olga Melnyk for a few days and taking Olga to some appointments.

Iris Bamford celebrated her 90th Birthday on June 1st. On Friday evening she hosted a bbq for her family, Jean and Peter Ashcroft, Donna Bamford and Rick Jones, Keith and Joy Bamford, Lorraine Davidson and Emery, and Terry Bamford and his wife Terri Mosher. On Saturday they held a quilt show at the Birtle Drop-in Centre where a group of friends and neighbours gathered to express birthday wishes, enjoy birthday cake and view the wonderful display of Iris' quilts that she had made over the years. Saturday evening a family dinner was held at Arbuckle's in Binscarth with her sister Beverley and niece Teresa and Peter, grandson Brad and wife Kelly and great-grandson Evan all of Winnipeg, granddaughter Megan Ashcroft of Ft. Qu'Appelle, SK and friends Gladys and Phil Huberdeau joining them. Iris is grateful for a fun time spent with family over three days and is thankful for family and friends over 90 years.

June 13 2023

Sympathy is expressed to the family or Carolyn (Brereton) Hepples of Winnipeg who passed away on June 2 at age 69. Carolyn is the daughter of the late Henry and Alice Brereton and grew up on the farm east of Birtle.

Elmer and Donnee Stewart of Edmonton have been visiting with friends and family this past week. They enjoyed fishing at Lake of the Prairies, golfing in Birtle and reacquainting with Elmer's school friends.

While the rain is much needed in some areas, there was a cloud burst north of town that saw 5 inches fall in less than an hour leaving fields very wet. Hopefully the crops didn't suffer too badly.

June 20 2023

Bev Lee recently spent two weeks in Strathmore, AB visiting with her daughter Melanie Archi-



bald and family. She attended her grandson, Jesse James', graduation while there.

Karen (Barteaux) and Dwayne of Carstairs, AB and Connie (Barteaux) and Glen of Strathmore, AB recently visited with family and friends in Winnipeg and Birtle.

Gary and Eileen Dimond flew to Vancouver Island and spent time visiting with Eileen's brother in Victoria. They also visited with Gary's cousin in Nanaimo who turned 100 in May. They report a great two weeks of holiday time.

Sympathy of the community is extended to the family and friends of Mildred Billaney who passed away on June 15th at the age of 92. She was predeceased by her husband Albert and will be missed by her daughter Brenda and husband Ron Samchuk.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families impacted by the horrible crash last week by Carberry, MB that claimed the lives of 15 people and left 10 in hospital.

Vera Salmon and her family enjoyed a visit from a couple of long time family friends from Minnesota this past weekend.

Congratulations to all the grads from Birtle Collegiate who will be celebrating on Tuesday, June 27th. Best wishes for a great grad and enjoy the next chapter of your life in whatever direction you choose to venture.

June 27 2023

Wanda and Jeff Howard and their daughter Shelby Howard have returned from their annual fishing trip up north at Iskwasum. They report great fishing with Jeff catching a pickerel that was just shy of a master angler. After arriving back home, Shelby returned to Brandon and her sister Allison Howard from Morden came for a visit with Jeff and Wanda.

Susanne and Ron Burdett and Bonnie and David Andrews have welcomed a new granddaughter, Rose Katherine Andrews. Jennifer and Bobby Andrews and big brother Francis are excited to welcome their new baby. These proud grandparents have both paid a visit to Alberta to greet Rose. Bonnie and David have also been visiting in Vancouver with their daughter Tanya Andrews and attended the graduation of their grandson, Jude.

I (Jan) had a visit from my grandson, Brody Urbanovich, on Sunday and we enjoyed a round of golf. He is currently on days off from his job working for Cando Rail in Churchill, MB. He is enjoying seeing all the sights up north including the Beluga whales but no polar bear sightings yet.

Pam Coates and Lance Dimond visited with their parents, Gary and Eileen Dimond, on Father's Day weekend. Gary was very happy to have his children home to celebrate with him.

Happy Canada Day! Have a safe and happy celebration!

News Release - Manitoba

CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY FOR EXPANDED CANCERCARE SITE IN RUSSELL

Construction is now underway on an expanded CancerCare Manitoba program space at Russell Health Centre that will improve access to chemotherapy in Russell and the surrounding region, Health Minister Audrey Gordon announced today.

"The new Community Cancer Care Centre will ensure more people in Russell and the surrounding region will be able to access the care they need, closer to home," said Gordon. "Our government is healing health care and is pleased to support this community-driven project and we commend the efforts of everyone who worked to make this project a reality."

The Expanding Community Cancer Care (ECCC) committee includes membership from the communities of Angusville, Beulah, Binscarth, Birtle, Foxwarren, Inglis, Langenburg, Sask., Roblin, Rossburn, Russell, St. Lazare, Shellmouth, Silverton, Solsgirth and Waywayseecappo that has collectively raised \$1.8 million toward construction and equipment costs related to the expansion. The total project cost is estimated at \$2.5 million. Last spring, the Manitoba government confirmed its commitment of \$700,000 to support the remaining costs of this project.

"After more than eight years of fundraising for a new chemotherapy unit at the Russell Health Centre, we are delighted that our long-awaited project is now happening," said Gloria Tibbatts, co-chair, ECCC committee. "Our dream is now a reality that will benefit many. We would like to thank the people from all around our region who have supported us. The power of community and of our donors has made this possible."

Once complete, the project will add another 2,300 sq.-ft. to the health centre's existing CancerCare Manitoba chemotherapy treatment space and include:

- replacement of the existing nursing station and medication storage area;
- creation of a dedicated patient washroom, nourishment area, and a small waiting area;
- improved patient privacy; and space for future expansion of treatment areas, if needed.

"CancerCare Manitoba is committed to providing high-quality, evidence-based care to all Manitobans where they live," said Dr. Sri Navaratnam, president and CEO, CancerCare Manitoba. "This includes cancer prevention and early detection, cancer treatment, and patient support through our Hope and Healing Program. Providing this care locally can only be achieved by working together with our health partners, government and local communities. This expansion is a testament to this collaboration and the ongoing and generous support this community has provided to make this possible."

Prairie Mountain Health has collaborated with health partners and stakeholders to plan for the necessary building planning, construction costs and associated timelines for this important capital project. The regional health authority will contribute annual operating costs for the expansion, including staffing and supplies.

"We are very grateful to the Expanding Community Cancer Care committee for their vision, hard work and dedication in fundraising for this cancer unit expansion," said Brian Schoonbaert, chief executive officer, Prairie Mountain Health. "This is a true example of success when people and communities come together and contribute to such a worthy project. Cancer is a journey, and this new addition will better serve patients travelling for care in a more comfortable setting. We thank patients and the general public for their patience as we go through the construction phase and look forward to the opening of this new addition."

Construction is expected to be completed in December, the minister said.





STRONG SUPPORT FOR PALLIATIVE CARE FUNDRAISER

The Birtle & Area Palliative Care Committee held their ninth Ladies Night Out fundraiser on April 29, 2023. With Covid restrictions the event was not able to take place the past 4 years. The first Ladies Night was in 2014. Each year we sell approximately 160 tickets for the event for the Ladies. With strong support from the Birtle Area & surrounding communities once again ,the event was a huge success, raising approximately \$11,000.00. Funds are used for up-dating the furnishings in the family room, patient's room, and helping the other departments, at the facility, purchasing items for them as well. The committee will use the funds also towards the salary of our part-time coordinator of Volunteers. A \$1,000.00 donation was given to us from Birtle Value Shop, \$500.00 from the MNU Members, as well as \$1000.00 private donation and a \$150.00 private donation. We are so thankful for the huge support we receive from every-one for our most valuable program.



The evening would not be possible without all of the help from all of the most valuable volunteers. It is a huge undertaking to have a successful evening like this. Setting up and taking down the hall decorations, the flower decorations for the table settings, the models, Tracey Myhill, Junction 16, for partnering with us again this year. All of the food prep, the kitchen help, setting up the tables with the prizes, selling tickets, tending bar, the music sound system, Raymond Smith, the photo booth set up by Elly Soatas, something new this year. Setting up & taking down the stairs for the models, The raffle tables abounded with so many beautiful prizes donated by businesses and individuals.

The tables are set up with the silver and pink theme. Making the Ladies feel special for the evening.

Thank you again for all of the continued support. Sincerely Birtle & Area Palliative Care Team



SENIORS IN THE PARK

BIRTLE LIONS CLUB

Invites all Local Seniors (55+)
To Lunch and Entertainment at
The Birtle Riverside Park



Thursday July 13 11:30 to 2:00pm

Bring your own lawn chair and plan to join us for a light lunch, fellowship and music by "Remembering the Good Old Days" Band. (Rain Date - July 14)







Sponsored by The Birtle Lions Club

BIRTLE CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS

SATURDAY JULY 1 2023



8:00-11:00am	BREAKFAST SMORG @ Birtle Riverside Golf Course
9:00 - 1:00	VENDORS Welcome - Contact Brenda 204-596-3654. Must bring your own table, chairs etc. Set up close to Golf Course. Be sure to stop in to see what everyone has for sale! Plans are to have Wild Berry Jelly, Pottery, Handmade soaps, Knitting, etc. More always welcomed!
10:30-1:00	BOCCE BALL DEMO & GAMES - By Tennis Courts. Fun for the whole Family. Free! Sponsored by Valley Rec.
12:00 - 7:00	POOL OPENS - Lifeguards on Duty (except for scheduled breaks)
1:00 - 3:00	TATTOOS & STENCILS & Kids MINI PUT Course by Valley Rec By pool
1:00 - 3:30	YOUTH FISHING DERBY (15 & under) @ Birtle Riverside Park. Bring your own Tackle. Prizes. Sponsored by Snake Creek Wildlife Association.
1:30	JR. FIREFIGHTING CHALLENGE @ Birtle Riverside Park Sponsored by Birtle Fire Department
4:00	SHOOT THE RAPIDS BOAT RACES @ Fish Ladder Birtle Riverside Park. Boats <u>must</u> be Homemade with a Canada Day Theme & must be 25cm-50cm. All ages welcome.
4:30-5:00	KIDS SAND BUILDING CONTEST @ the Beach. Sign up at the Beach. Free! Sponsored by Valley Rec.
5:00	CAKE & ICE TEA FREE @ Birtle Beach Area. Sponsored By Twin Valley Co-op
5:00	BARBECUE HOT DOGS AND DRINKS - For Sale @ Beach Area. Bring some cash.
DUSK	FIREWORKS - @ Birtle Beach Area. Sponsored By Prairie View Municipality and the Birtle Fire Department



Restaurants Open July 1st. 83 N Main 9AM - 7PM Riverside Golf Course 8 AM - 10 PM Marks Cafe

Visit the Birtle Tourist Booth 10:00-7:00 Take a hike on the River Walkway!



Dirt bikers compete at Miniota Devil's Drop

Miniota Devil's Drop held their enduro race on the first weekend in June.

Anne Davison June 16, 2023 3:10 PM

Manitoba Dirt Riders Inc. (MDR) holds races across the province with hundreds of riders participating. Miniota Devil's Drop held their enduro race on the first weekend in June utilizing the awesome terrain of the Assiniboine Valley, southeast of Miniota.



Enduro races are single track timed races made up of multiple downhill stages, uphill runs and obstacles. In contrast, motocross events take place on short, closed circuits that have been purpose-built for dirt bikes. Mark Cosgrove's Madesa track near Virden is one of those.

Miniota Devil's Drop racers ride in the open countryside on existing trails cordoned off for the race. Instead of completing multiple short laps, riders might race point-to-point or complete fewer, longer laps. These races run between 30 minutes for the young, to two hours for pros.

A work party with some 40 volunteers helped to prep the track for the weekend. Aaron Ashcroft from Birtle coordinated the weekend of racing. He explains, "We cut our own trails to create our tracks." Ashcroft says this year, Miniota Devil's Drop held their biggest race so far with 172 riders Saturday and on Sunday, 207.

It's a sport for all ages. In the Manitoba club, the youngest member is 5, the oldest is 63. "There was a little guy showed up with training wheels," said Ashcroft.

MDR is going on 15 years since the idea first took hold. Local enthusiasts started the organization and obtained land for courses. Chris Jebb and Marshall Askew made contacts with Ted Morton and Dallas Louttit - and Miniota and Melita venues were secured.

In April of 2009, MDR had its first AGM. Keith Lillie, Pat Wickett, Greg Heinrichs, Zoey Jebb and Brent MacDonald made up the first Board. The first race, in June at Melita, saw 48 racers participate. Miniota was run in September, and then the race went back to Melita in mid-October, "in the snow" according to history on the MDR webpage http://www.manitobadirtriders.com/.

In 2010 the Miniota track was further developed. It was 2012 when the first event at Oak Lake and Morden courses opened. Ron Routledge pioneered the scoring trailer concept with the Moto Tally system and it was considered a game changer.

In 2016, the Manitoba Cup was born. Riders come from across Manitoba, and some from Saskatchewan and North Dakota.

New courses have been added over the years. This year the race sheet consists of the April race that ran in Fischer Branch, and recently Miniota Devil's Drop on June 3-4; then Melita Sandy Oaks on June 17-18; Oak Lake Dirt Drag on August 19-20; Brandon course on Sept. 16-17 and finishing up with the Cypress Snakes and Ladders River Run on Sept. 30 – Oct. 1.

"Each race tries to have kind of a theme. I guess that's why it's so special having the valley hills," says Ashcroft. Hence the name Devil's Drop.

Manitoba Dirt Riders is dedicated to ensuring sustained off-road riding in a family-based atmosphere.



New riders, barrel racers get in on the action at Miniota rodeo

Buckaroos and Barrels - Horsin' Around has become an annual Miniota event featuring kids' events and some top barrel racers

Submitted by Jaylene Stone to Empire Advance

Buckaroos and Barrels - Horsin' Around in the Miniota Valley takes place just south of Miniota, first held in 2019 and the second time in 2022. On May 27, we held our third event with 110 participants ranging from our smallest Buckaroos at 2, to our adult Open Barrel Racers.

The beginning of the day was geared toward our up and coming cowboys and cowgirls. They participated in four events: musical tires, sack race, pole bending and barrel racing. Each participant received a prize bag of goodies and the top times in each age division were given a prize for pole

bending and barrel racing.

During the afternoon, we had some of the top barrel racers from Manitoba and Saskatchewan compete for \$10,000 in a 4D split. Times were tight, it came down to the last run of the day to



decide who was going home with gas money.

Little Kitchen on the Prairie was onsite to keep our bellies full. An event like this could never happen without the generous support of our sponsors, community, parents and competitors!



Prizes For Best Decorated Boat





Help Wanted
Birtle Elementary School is looking for someone to maintain our flower beds over the summer months. Please call the school if you can help out.

204-842-2827





Birtle Food Store Positions

Do you enjoy working with the public?

Are you interested in learning new skills?

Do you want to be part of a GREAT Team?

If you answered YES to these questions, visit our website TODAY to view our current job postings!

www.twinvalleyco-op.crs

Our Birtle Food Store currently has two postings available in the Fresh Department:

- Produce—Full-time
- Bakery/Deli—2 Part-time positions

Who you are:

- Possess a positive, customer service-oriented personality
- Able to work various shifts
- Energetic, creative with ability to multi-task
- Retail experience is preferred but will offer training and further development.

Our Team Members receive :

- · Competitive salaries
- Comprehensive benefits package
- Employer-contributed pension plan
- And so much more!

We embrace diversity and inclusion, and we're working to create a workplace that is as diverse as the communities we serve. We support and provide an environment that allows all to bring their whole selves to work.

Apply by email to Human Resources Manager at hr@twinvalley.crs

Deadline: Position Open until filled

We thank all who apply but only those chosen for an interview will be contacted.



LOCALLY INVESTED

COMMUNITY-MINDED

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Birtle Lab will be open Wednesdays 8:30 – 3:00 July 12, July 19 and July 26

MINIOTA HAPPENING Strom the desk of Linda Clark

June 6 2023

Congratulations to Foster Couvier, Aidan Lewis, Ty McKenzie, Jaxon Lelond, Dylan Couvier and Maddox Couvier along with coach Trevor Lewis who were a part of the Birtle Collegiate Falcons baseball team on their showing at provincials held at Glenboro. They won their first game against Stonewall, then a loss to Glenboro. They then won the tiebreaker in their pool advancing them on to play Steinbach which resulted in a loss in the quarter finals. Congratulations to Foster who was named player of the game in the Friday morning game. Way to go BCI Falcons!

Wayne Poppel and Valerie Carton travelled to Lloydminster to visit Brandon and Kathryn Pollard and family. They attended the funeral service of Brandon's sister Whitney Boa on May 16th. They also visited with Laura Poppel and Travis Peters at Calgary.

Linda Clark flew to Ottawa to visit Kevin and Julie Halipchuk and family. While there she attended the Grade 4-6 musical "Beauty and the Beast" which her granddaughter Carley was a cast member in.

The Manitoba Dirtbiking Races were held at the Miniota site on the south side of the Valley this past weekend, June 3rd and 4th, with bikers coming from many miles around.

Becky Gardham graduated this past week from Lakeland College at Vermillion AB with a diploma in Crop Technology. She was the recipient of the Presidents Circle Award for all round involvement in the college. Rodney, Lauree, Hailey and Curtis attended her graduation. Becky has accepted her first position with the Twin Valley Agro team at Miniota. Congratulations Becky on your graduation, award and new position!

Be sure to let me know of your summer visitors and/or your travels. What a summer heat wave we are experiencing!!! Rain continues to go all around us as I write this on Tuesday morning.

"What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness." Jean-Jacques Rousseau

June 12 2023

Enid Haines travelled to Peace River AB to spend a week with her daughter-in-law Barb Haines and her grandsons Lee and Jesse.

Mikaela Young graduated from the University of Ottawa with an honours Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology this past week. Nick, Tracy and Jessica Young attended Mikaela's graduation ceremonies and stayed with the Steven Young family at Wakefield Quebec. Steven, Amber, Ashby and Violet Young joined them for a celebratory supper. Congratulations Mikaela!

Cindy Howard, Cranbrook BC and Terry Howard, Saskatoon SK have been home visiting with their mom Betty Howard at Elkview Lodge at Elkhorn.

Home to attend the funeral for Edwin and Hazel Wadham and visiting with John and Noreen Stowe and family were Gilbert and Esther Wadham and Kevin Lockhart, Airdrie AB; Ken Wadham, Charlottetown PEI and his son Travis Wadham, Calgary AB; Glen and Maureen Wadham, Jerri Wadham, Brett and Emmett Armitage; Bobbi, Tyler and Jett Anderson; Ryan, Megan, Gabriel, Annabell and Vannessa Wadham, Prince Albert SK,; Steven and Catherine Stowe, Calgary; Erin, McKenzie and Abby Stowe and Ron Caswell, Rocanville, SK; Tyler Stowe and Dayna Cooper and their daughter Bailee, Moosomin; and Randy Stowe and Alex Foreman, Moose Jaw SK; Jessy and Cheyenne Mytopher, Pense SK and Cash Mytopher, Foxwarren. Other extended family came from Calgary, Lethbridge and Leduc AB; Moose Jaw, Yorkton, Grande Prairie, Prince Albert, Wapella and Yellow Grass SK; Virden, Kenton, Elkhorn, Brandon and Solsgirth.

The Miniota United church congregation held their annual service to celebrate the grads of 2023. Coffee, juice and cookies followed to enjoy fellowship with the grads and their families.

A very busy day at the Miniota Golf Course on June 10th for their Spring tournament. 26 teams of 4 for a total of 104 golfers enjoyed the day with teams of ladies, men's and mixed. Some of the winning teams: Men's Lowest Score: Travis Sheane's team; Women's Low-

est Score: Sharon McKenzie's team; Mixed Lowest: Jamie Brown's team; Men's Most Honest Team: North Mountain Welding; Women's Most Honest: Gwen Clarke's team; Mixed Most Honest: Dylan Bonchuk's team. Competitions in closest to the string, longest putt and closest to the hole also netted winners. A Putting Competition sponsored by the Daycare saw first place to Graham Freeham and second to Keenan Lewis. As



well there was a 50/50 draw, golf ball draw and a Chinese auction with winners receiving some great prizes. Burgers were barbecued by Fusion Credit Union staff throughout the day and a beef and pork cold plate supper was enjoyed by all to end the day.

A short story shared with the graduates on Sunday. I asked a wise man, "Tell me sir, in which field could I make a great career?" He said with a smile, "Be a good human being. There is a lot of opportunity in this area, and very little competition." Author Unknown. June 20 2023

Miniota community friends extend sympathy to Roy Draper and his family on the death of his wife, Lynda. Our thoughts are with you all.

Our community also extends our sympathy to Danny Fenty on the death of his friend Leona Gerard, and as well as to Leona's family and her daughter.

Miniota Grade 5-8 students and staff attended the divisional track meet at Shoal Lake on June 14th. A successful day for many of our athletes.

The Miniota School held their K-4 track meet on June 16th with cowboys and cowgirls everywhere for their theme Wild West Days. The morning saw students competing in individual events with the grade 5-8 students running the events, and in the afternoon K-8 students participated in group events such as relays and tug-o-war. A barbecue was held at noon, and the daycare kids and staff were on hand for cinnamon buns and lemonade sales. A large turnout of parents and grandparents were on hand to cheer on the students.

A graveside service for Al McKenzie was held on June 16th. Fellowship and refreshments were held in the Miniota Rink waiting room where community were pleased to meet Al's children Paige and Carter McKenzie, Brandon as well as Al's siblings Lauree Hampton, Brandon and Bill and Sandra McKenzie, Birtle along with extended family members.

The Miniota Elkhorn C-Hawks held a fundraiser golf tournament on Saturday at the Miniota Golf Course.

We extend sympathy to Roy and Dale Laite and their family on the death of their sister-in-law Linda Laite at Grand Falls-Windsor NL. Congratulations to Sharon Ellerington and Gregg Hillis who were married on June 17th on the lawn at the farm home of Sharon's mother, Betty Ann Ellerington. Guests attending from a distance were Steve and Lisa Lindane, Texas; Brian and Maria Millgrove, Ontario; from Saskatoon Pam Lemky and friend, Tyler Legacy, Megan MacDonald, her children Maddie and Ada, friend Kyle and Colin MacDonald and Linda and Les Shields; from Winnipeg Wendy and Jeff Ryder, Jeff Hampshirite, Detlef Makein and friend Donna, Heidi and Nate; Shauna and Chris Adams and family, Regina; Jennifer Hanlin, Edmonton and Rebecca Copiat, Vancouver.

Glen and Margaret Still had their nephew Grant Still, Calgary and niece Donna Jacobs, New Zealand visit them this past Sunday. Glenda Still and Glen Humphries, Souris and Robert and Brenda

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Still also joined in the visit.

Linda Clark and family members attended the graduation of Ryley Pizzey, daughter of Cherilynn and Kirt Pizzey from the Virden Collegiate on June 22nd.

Bob and Donna Gardham attended the convocation of their grand-daughter Morgan Van De Kerckhove on June 23rd in Regina. Morgan has graduated as a Dental Assistant from Sask Poly Tech, and has found employment for her first position in Brandon. Congratulations Morgan!

The Miniota Minor Baseball committee has made improvements to the baseball fields with a portable fence which allows U18 ball to be played in our community. As well the Miniota Community Centre is gearing up for the anniversary celebrations of the Miniota Shirt Sleeve Classic to be held in July and the curling rink waiting room has seen some special painting gracing the walls! Well done folks! "Do something wonderful. People might imitate it." Albert Schweitzer

June 27 2023

Nick and Laura Tremblay are the proud parents of Brielle Edith Anne born on June 17. Brielle is also welcomed by grandparents Blaine and Tracey Peel, Brandon and Donnie and Lynne Tremblay, St. Lazare and by great grandparents Murray and Bev Peel, Brandon, Harold Ladyka, Virden, Denis Tremblay and Denis and Claudette Simard, St. Lazare. Congratulations to you all!

Khloe Brown, a member of the U15 Hamiota Red Sox softball team, came home a league champion this past weekend. As well, Claire Regnier, Hadley Bryant, and Adrianna Cousins along with their coach Michelle Bryant of the U13 Hamiota Red Sox team attained League champion status at Hamiota. Congratulations!

The Miniota community extends deepest sympathy to Harold Spring

and his family on the death of his wife Lynda. Our thoughts are with you all.

Linda Clark enjoyed a visit from Sylvia Hanlin, Lake of the Prairies for a couple of days, while she was here to give the buffalo rock a facelift. Day 1 Sylvia scraped, brushed and put on a primer coating and day 2 saw Sylvia bringing this buffalo to life. Job well done Sylvia! Your time and talents are so appreciated by all the locals and tourists who come to view this special rock at the Miniota Golf Course.

Kevin and Kay Lelond attended the graduation of their grandson, Ethan Gertz, son of Nancy and Richard Gertz from the Virden Collegiate on June 22nd. As well their grandson, John Lelond, son of Tom and Leanne Lelond, graduated from the Hamiota Collegiate this week. Congratulations to Ethan and John and their parents and grandparents!

Our congratulations and best wishes go with our 2023 Miniota Graduates from the Birtle Collegiate on June 27th. Graduating are Emily Bryant, Monelle Bryant, Heidi Clark, Dylan Couvier, Foster Couvier, Danni Judd, Riley Sheane and Brooke Thompson. Congratulations also to the proud parents, grandparents and family members.

The Miniota School held their closing exercises on June 29th. Best wishes go with members of the Grade 8 graduating class as they head to Birtle Collegiate this coming fall. Graduating members are Logan Armitage, Nolan Armitage, Kai Armstrong-Wall, Kiya Berens, Carson Brown, Khloe Brown, Rain Gies, Liam Lelond and Sophie Priestley. Best wishes to you all for a successful high school endeavour!

Wishing all students, staff and families a wonderful relaxing summer! Stay safe and well.

May our readers near and far enjoy a very Happy Canada Day!

"There is always Light, if only we are brave enough to see it. There is always Light, if only we are brave enough to be it." Amanda Gorman, Poet, from 'The Hill We Climb'.







Birtle Centre for the Arts

-Creating Community -

Art Camps are coming to Birtle Centre for the Arts. 2 age groups...Kindergarten to grade 4 and grade 4-grade 8. See the poster for more info. Limited spots available. Tons of fun!! Follow the link to sign up $\,\underline{\text{http://birtlearts.ca/current-classes/}}$

The much anticipated Garden tour of the Birtle area will be held rain or shine on July 22 from 10-4 pm. If you are a gardener or just want to revel in the beauty of these spaces then this is the event for you. Pick up your self guided map at Birtle Centre for the Arts (671 Main St. in Birtle) for \$10.

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Birtle & Miniota Landfills will be closed on Saturday, July 1st 2023

Municipal Offices in Birtle & Miniota will be closed on Monday, July 3rd.

We apologize for any inconvenience.

happy Canada day!

MANITOBA GOVERNMENT CREATES \$12.6-MILLION HEARING AID GRANT PROGRAM FOR SENIORS WITH HEARING LOSS

The Manitoba government is creating a new \$12.6-million grant program that will assist eligible older Manitobans experiencing hearing loss to cover the expense of testing, fitting and purchasing new hearing aids, Seniors and Long-term Care Minister Scott Johnston announced

"Our government recognizes hearing loss as priority concern for seniors and with this grant more Manitoba seniors who require hearing aids will have the financial means to access them regardless of income level," said Johnston. "Hearing aids provide valuable benefits to improve quality of life in a number of important ways such as fully participating with family, friends and co-workers, while also avoiding the isolation that can be associated with hearing loss."

According to Department of Health statistics, nearly 4,000 seniors over the age of 65 reported hearing loss during a physician visit in 2021 and roughly 25 per cent of seniors have hearing loss at a level that would benefit from hearing aid use.

The hearing aid grant of up to \$2,000 is available to all Manitobans who meet the following eligibility criteria:

- age 65 or over;
- family income below \$80,000 in the previous year;
- have documented hearing loss; and
- have been prescribed hearing aids by an audiologist or otolaryngologist.

"For those who are hearing impaired something as simple as a hearing aid can make all the difference in quality of life," said Susan Sader, executive director, Good Neighbours Active Living Centre. "The Manitoba government is to be commended for listening to Manitobans who struggle with hearing loss and for providing a program that will help many stay active and engaged in the community."

Untreated hearing loss is linked with decreased word recognition, difficulty communicating, increased risk of falls, social isolation, cognitive decline and dementia.

"We have received many heartbreaking emails and phone calls from seniors or their caregivers asking for help because they need hearing aids but could not afford them," said Jo-anne Jones, president, Canadian Hard of Hearing Association Manitoba Chapter. "This new grant is a great step in ensuring many more Manitoba seniors will have the hearing aids they need and better healthier lifestyles as a result."

The Manitoba government will begin accepting applications later

this spring. The new program aligns with strategic priorities including financial security and safe, inclusive and accessible communities, which are highlighted in Manitoba, A Great Place to Age: Provincial Seniors

Strategy. To read the strategy, visit https://gov.mb.ca/seniors/docs/

seniors strategy 2023.pdf.



Registration fee: \$100/child for the week



GREAT SOUVENIR TO GIVE!!

These beautiful magnets from various locations throughout Prairie View Municipality are for sale through the Birtle Miniota CDC. \$2 each or \$3 if you would like us to mail them out to you. Available at RM Offices or give us a call 204-842-3602.







IMPORTANT NOTICE!

IF YOU REQUIRE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT SERVICES

PLEASE SCAN QR CODE for nearest OPEN PMH Emergency Department



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VISIT: prairiemountainhealth.ca and click on

Emergency Department Schedule on front page



FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

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For other **non-urgent** concerns **CALL** Health Links at 1-888-315-9257







684 Main Street Birtle CDC Building **Drop Box available. Please call ahead.**

To make an appointment, please contact our Hamiota office at 204-764-2544

Tina Collier CPA, CGA, CMMA in attendance 204-813-4198

allianceaccounting.ca

Weekly Outlook Submission Deadline MONDAY's at

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