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# RIVERS BANNER

GAZETTE-REPORTER



Serving the Rivers, Rapid City, Forrest, Kenton and Oak River areas for 115 years

## Rivers high school track team takes to the field



Student: Sarah Krahn  
 Event: Medley Relay



Student: Michael Campbell  
 Event: Medley Relay



Student: Jase Wareham  
 Event: 4x400 meter Medley Relay



Student: Nicholas Lade  
 Event: 4x400 meter Medley Relay



Student: Andrew Hamm  
 handing Nicholas Lade  
 the baton in the 4x400  
 meter Medley Relay

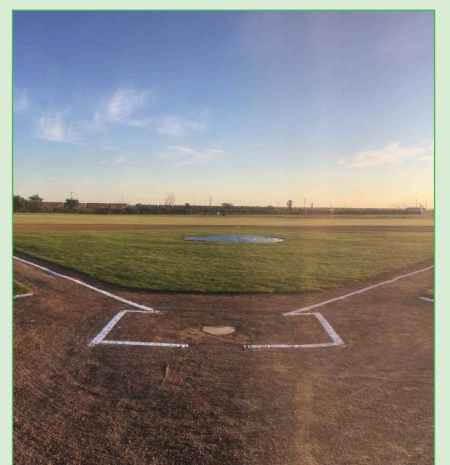


Student: Sean Hodkin  
 Event: Discus

## Inside...



**ELTON  
 GRADS  
 2023**  
*P5-8*



**CHEER ON  
 OUR LOCAL  
 BASEBALL  
 TEAMS**  
*P11*



# Manitoba Highway Cleanup Campaign



# MLA Cullen proud to support local organizations

Submitted  
RIVERS BANNER

MLA Cliff Cullen is pleased to announce funding for local community projects through the Building Sustainable Communities (BSC) as part of our government’s 2023 budget. Our PC government is pleased to fund local projects that will support economic growth and recovery throughout the province.

“The Building Sustainable Communities fund will provide \$424,602.00 to many local organizations, providing a much needed boost to our communities’ recovery both economically and socially,” said MLA Cullen. “I’m proud that our government has more than doubled the BSC fund, which makes funding for projects like these possible. We are committed to investing in our communities.”

The local community groups and projects that will be receiving funding include:

- Brandon Retriever Club - \$4,808 – Upgrade Retriever training grounds and fencing
- Forrest Special Projects Group - \$75,000 - Community Park
- RM of Whitehead - \$35,695 – Kemnay Hall Upgrades
- Cypress River Agricultural Society - \$10,752 – Ag Exhibit Building Upgrades
- Glenboro Agricultural Society - \$29,845 – Upgrades Community Hall
- Glenboro Golf & Country Club - \$37,000 - Club House upgrades
- Municipality of Souris-Glenwood - \$40,000 – Review & Update Development Plan
- Souris & Glenwood Bark Park - \$20,192 Souris Dog Park
- Souris & Glenwood Golf Club Inc - \$13,650 – Golf Course upgrades
- St Paul’s United Church – Souris - \$24,000 – Souris Multi Purpose Hall upgrades
- Riverdale Municipality - \$28,800 – Rivers Community Centre Upgrades
- Rivers & Area Game & Fish Association - \$13,200 – Gun Range upgrade Phase 3
- Sprucewoods Community Club Inc - \$37,255 – Community Centre Upgrades
- RM of Victoria - \$5,000 – Holland Beautification
- M.I.L.E.S. for Seniors Inc - \$2,625 – Equipment Upgrades

Since being introduced in 2019, the BSC program provides municipalities and non-profit organizations access to all-encompassing community grants. This year the total funding across Manitoba amounts to \$25 million. The BSC program has been highly successful since its inception, and this funding will allow for its operational success to continue.

# Chrome in the trees returns to the summer fair

Submitted  
RIVERS BANNER

Chrome in the Trees, one of the most popular attractions at the Manitoba Summer Fair over the years, is set to return next month.

The event, which is a presentation of Minute Muffler, Superior Auto and the Brandon Sun, will be held on the fifth and final day of the Fair, Sunday, June 11th from noon to 4pm in the Keystone Centre grounds.

The event was last hosted at the Fair in 2019 and will feature over 100 vehicles – from vintage to muscle cars and special interest vehicles. Motorcycles will also be welcome.

In conjunction with the Fair and with Chrome in the Trees, Cando Rail and Terminals will be hosting a special Sunday Breakfast Under the Dome from 8:30-11:30am. Admission to the breakfast will be \$8.00.

For more information on the event, interested car enthusiasts are encouraged to contact Jerry Erickson at 204-728-7991 or Grant Gillis a 204-726-4382.

Tickets to the Manitoba Summer Fair are on sale now at [www.provincialexhibition.com](http://www.provincialexhibition.com) or at either the Minnedosa or Brandon Heritage Co-op food stores. “Free” children’s tickets meanwhile are available online until Tuesday, June 6.

The 2023 Manitoba Summer Fair runs from Wednesday, June 7 to Sunday, June 11 and is a presentation of Heritage Co-op.



## -NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING-

Wednesday, June 7th  
Royal Canadian Legion Hall, 205 Woodworth Ave, Kenton  
7:00pm (doors open 6:30pm)  
Registration available at  
204-748-6700 ext 311  
[www.valleyviewco-op.crs](http://www.valleyviewco-op.crs)

## -AGENDA ITEMS TO INCLUDE-

- Audit/Financial Report
  - FCL Delegate Report
  - General Manager Report
  - Minutes from last meeting
  - Board Report
  - Appointment of Auditors
  - Election of Directors
  - Bylaw change 4.02
- Current Bylaw**  
4.10 Removal of Directors [Section 191(1)]  
Subject to the Act, the members, by ordinary resolution at a special meeting of members, may remove a director from office.
- Proposed**  
4.10 Removal of Directors [Section 191(1)]  
(a) Subject to the Act, the members, by ordinary resolution at a special meeting of members, may remove a director from office.  
(b) A director who breaches the Board’s Code of Conduct for directors, can be removed by ordinary resolution at a duly called meeting of the board.







Give me the child until he is seven; and I will show you the man.” So said the Greek philosopher Aristotle, who lived from 384-322 BC. Those words have been echoed by philosophers, educators, social scientists and others ever since. But are they true?

In a December 2017 article I found on the Healthline website, psychologist Dr. Juli Fraga wrote the following: “While the first seven years don’t determine a child’s happiness for life, the rapidly growing brain lays down a sturdy foundation for how they communicate and interact with the world by processing how they’re being responded to. By the time children reach first or second grade, they begin to separate from primary caregivers (also known as parents) by making friends of their own. They also start to long for peer acceptance and are better equipped to talk about their feelings.”

In other words, the first seven years of life are crucial to a child’s development. Many of the ideas, values and philosophies that determine how a child thinks, speaks and acts will be well embedded in his or her mind by that time. Aristotle may have put this truth into words, but he was not the first to reveal it

and tell people how to use it effectively. That honor falls to Moses, ancient Israel’s lawgiver. His gave his people the following instructions. First, they were to keep God’s laws. Second they were to teach them to their children and grandchildren. Third, they were to have written copies of the Law on their wrists and foreheads. Fourth, they were to write God’s laws on the doors of their houses and on their city gates. Fifth, they were to talk about them openly. And sixth, when their children asked why they followed certain customs and obeyed certain laws, they were to tell the stories of how these laws came into their possession.

In giving these instructions, Moses established a principle that is as valid today as it was when first given. God expects parents to teach their children how to love God and keep his commandments. And since young children learn by following the examples of those they trust, parents must consistently govern their lives by the principles of Scripture if they want their children to grow up to do the same. The best gift parents can give their children is to let children see how their parents love each other, respect each other, communicate with each other and work out their problems in a civilized manner. What your children see in you during their first seven years will lay the foundation on which you can build additional teaching when appropriate. You can’t ask for anything better.

Don’t expect your children to be perfect. Their parents aren’t perfect so the children will have some flaws as well. Physical growth is a life-long process. So is emotional and spiritual growth. Children will make mistakes. Give them the freedom to fail. Then show them how God forgives by forgiving them; and tell them about the lessons you learned when you were their age and made the same mistakes. Show them

how you use the Scriptures to help you discern what is right or wrong when making difficult decisions. Most of all, teach your children that there are three people who will never let them down. The first two are their parents; who will always be there for them, no matter what. The third person is the God who created them and who has promised that he will never leave them or forsake them.

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Bible Study - Thursdays 7:30 p.m.

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**Riverdale Municipality**  
**Is accepting proposals for DFA Site Restoration**  
Proposals clearly marked  
"DFA Site 73 Restoration"  
Will be received no later than 12:00 PM,  
Friday, June 16, 2023

Proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope at the following location: Riverdale Municipal Office, 670 – 2nd Avenue

Or by mail:

Riverdale Municipality  
Box 520  
Rivers MB  
R0K 1X0

General inquiries should be directed to:  
Craig Madden, Municipal Operations Manager  
Office Phone: 204-328-5300  
Cell Phone: 204-573-8629  
Email: dalyshop1@gmail.com  
For more information about this tender please visit the Municipal website

# From last weeks front page

N C A B I N E T F G L O H K V  
R K V A I E Q U I P M E N T M  
T C E J O R P Q R G E V X C U  
D A M H W Q G A B F J A H W R  
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I Y I B O S H X S A W J F S W  
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E R R H C R A K Z V D I K P Z  
W E F P G R E Q Z N W L Z W I  
B A L V D N M Q G E K A V R A  
X H B Q D W X B I L W Z U Z C  
J S G L S I T X G N O R T S G  
L T G X G N I C A R U I O O P

## Word Bank

1. weekend

5. strong

9. vote
2. goat

6. cabinet

10. framing
3. wearing

7. rodeo

11. racing
4. project

8. grads

12. equipment

# Tundra

By Chad Carpenter



## Thought dictators

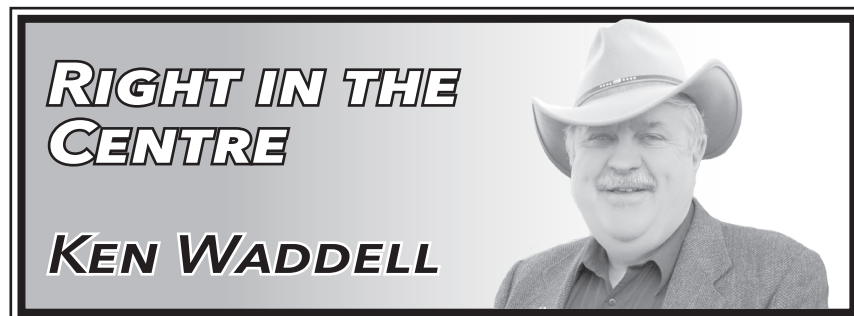
The world is polluted today with thought dictators and nobody likes them.

It doesn't matter what a person's beliefs are, they don't like to be told what they must think, what they must say and, perhaps more important, what they must not say.

Alberta's election was held Monday night and wasn't won by the party that the thought dictators predicted or wanted to win. The corporate media, academics and many pundits told Alberta they must vote NDP. After all the United Conservative Party had the audacity to say they don't agree with the Liberal-NDP propaganda. We must accept, perhaps even love the carbon tax in spite of the fact it has a lot more to do with tax than carbon. The Liberal/NDP coalition in Ottawa insists we must bow down at the climate change altar, put our lives on hold so more taxes can be squeezed out of every person, farm and business in the land. We must subsidize EV battery factories, subsidize electric cars even though they are basically useless in rural areas and dangerously impractical on the prairies. Some EVs can't even make it from Brandon to Winnipeg in cold weather.

But something happened on the way to the election polls. People said no way, we are not going to buy this bullplop. And, as people expressed that impolite expletive, they didn't care whose sensitivities might be offended by hearing the BS word.

Several CBC commentators, including a former Calgary mayor, dropped their impartiality facade to come to promote the academia/labour/NDP politically correct stance on everything from gas and oil to mining to electric cars to social issues. The people spoke but in a very



“What the thought dictators don't realize is that while people can do almost whatever they want, nobody is obliged to go along with ideas they don't like.”

quiet way. The UCP won a majority in spite of the thought dictators.

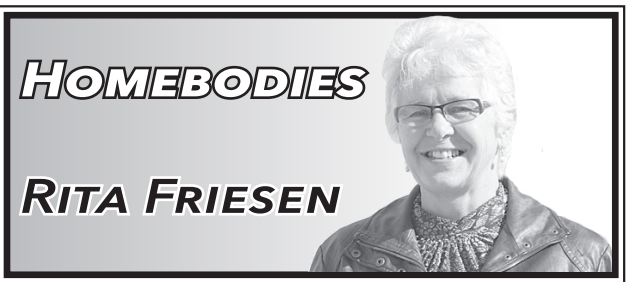
A quiet movement is sweeping across North America. For example, a beer company recently tried to boost its sales by riding on the coat-tails of fame related to a Tik-Tok content creator. This online celebrity is viewed by some as an advocate for the transgender community, though some within that same community disagree. (but that's another conversation for another time). Either way, some people didn't like that idea and sales in the United States dropped. A big store chain tried a similar idea and sales dropped. One report says that the two companies lost \$28 billion in stock value. I find that hard to believe but even if it is a half or a quarter of that amount, it's a huge financial rebuke. Investors expressed their view dramatically albeit quietly.

Most people believe that we should live and let live. Where the problems arise is when the thought dictators come sweeping in. People can do just about whatever they want and it's more evident than ever before

that “freedom of choice” is rampant. What the thought dictators don't realize is that while people can do almost whatever they want, nobody is obliged to go along with ideas they don't like. We are bombarded with ideas, thoughts and trends that we must adhere to or else we will be declared “bad” people. We will be shunned, ostracized and excluded. Whether it is an election or consumer preferences, the thought dictators can't control people and influence decisions nearly as much as they assume or desire.

That's a good thing and recent elections and consumer decisions are a source of encouragement. The thought dictators can beat their brains out trying to control us but it will not happen. We should be thankful for that.

*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 Banner & Press staff.*



## And now it's June?!

One of the better activities I have committed to has been the Kinsmen walking program, MayKin 2023. For a very modest fee, which enhances programs in our community, I challenged myself to walk about 5 kms every day. It has worked wonderfully well. Last year I attempted to compete with others and would get annoyed and discouraged! This year I applaud all those who walked literally hundreds of kms in May, identify with those who have simply done their best. There are about one hundred and seventy registered individuals in the program, and I may end up in the top thirty. The satisfaction has been in being a part of the change from almost winter/early spring, to summer. My standard route is down Railway to the Back Forty turn, circle the Back Forty, swing east of the cemetery, accompany the river to the seventy five stairs at the Touchwood Complex, and back home.

The arrival of the birds has always spoken to me. First the Canadian Geese veed the skies, their distinctive call causing me to pause and watch their flight. The robins returned, as did other song birds, and then- the swallows. My grandmother always told me I couldn't go barefoot until the swallows were back. And I still follow that adage.

I watched the pussy willow develop the white pods, watched those pods turn a fuzzy green and then become leaves. I noted the day the leaves on the oak trees were as large as a squirrel's ear, the sign that it is safe to plant your corn. Also an old adage. I snapped a photo of the first marsh marigolds, and then noted the wood violets and then the cowslips. Lately it has been the fragrance of the lilac bushes that slow my pace. The river raged for a week, always within its banks but in a frightful hurry. The chokecherry trees and the Saskatoon bushes greened and bloomed. Daily changes in the landscape made me more aware of my surroundings.

The being outside is good for my spirit. I slow, in thought and reflective. The warmth of the sun, the tug of the wind and the shift in the direction of the setting sun all remind me of my place in creation. Walked in the rain a few times with rain coat and boots, walked with a moderately heavy jacket, and walked with a sleeveless tee. All in a month of walking. I met other walkers, I stopped to chat with neighbours, I walked errands rather than taking the car. Not saying I wish this for a lifestyle but I do enjoy walking when time allows.

As many of us did, I felt the past winter was long. It was not unnaturally cold, it was not filled with unending storms, it did not start early, or end late. It was simply long. And so this challenge to myself to make a habit of walking for pleasure and purpose helped adjust my attitude. I feel better physically for the regular exercise and I feel better mentally for the regular exercise. The question now is- will I maintain the habit?

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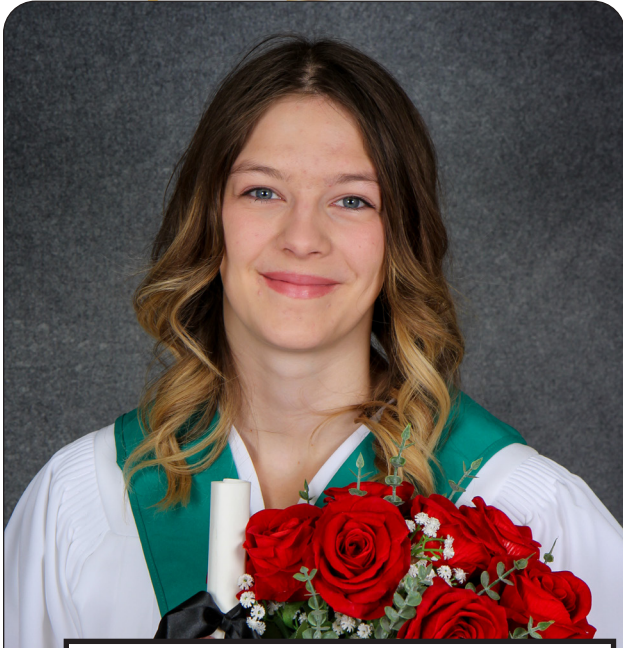


STAFF



# CONGRATULATIONS

## CLASS OF 2023



**JESSICA BAYES**

Rapid City, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: June 28, 2005  
Parents: Sandra, Bruce Bayes  
Sibling: Jordan, Colton Bayes  
Pets: Diego, Lulu, Chai (cats) Defer, Sparky (dogs) Chef (hamster)  
First Job: Babysitting  
Hobbies: Reading, dirt biking, camping, hanging with friends  
Introvert or Extrovert: Both. Mostly extrovert  
Who do you look up to: My parents/grandparents  
Favourite thing about your school: The staff are very kind, small class sizes gives you one on one time with teachers  
Favourite food: Chicken noodle soup/ chicken fingers  
Favourite song: Live Like you Were Dying  
Favourite artist: Tim McGraw  
Dream vacation spot: Alaska  
Favourite holiday: Easter  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Teacher, physiotherapist, vet  
Future Plans: Go to BU for 4 years. Go to U of M to become a physical therapist. Buy a house, have kids, retire, buy a bakery, sell baking and mugs



**MARLEY BURDENIUK**

Elton, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: June 25, 2005  
Parents: Darren and Christy  
Sibling: Cooper  
First Job: Lifeguard and Swim Instructor  
Hobbies: Baseball, Tennis, Weightlifting  
Introvert or Extrovert: Extrovert  
Favourite thing about your school: The workout room  
Favourite food: Burgers  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Architect  
Future Plans: University, then law school



**MATTHEW BORNKESSEL**

In the country, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: October 13, 2005  
Parents: Sabrina and Dennis Bornkessel  
Sibling: Jade Johnas and Sean Bornkessel  
Pets: Tarantulas  
First Job: Customer service representative  
Hobbies: Playing games  
Introvert or Extrovert: Extrovert  
Who do you look up to: Everyone, they are taller than me  
Favourite thing about your school: Friends and teachers.  
Favourite food: Spaghetti  
Favourite song: Pierce the Veil  
Favourite artist: Bulls in the Bronx  
Dream vacation spot: New Jersey  
Favourite holiday: Any day there is no school  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Dentist  
Future Plans: I am moving out when I graduate, and I am going to get a job that pays good money!



**PARIS BONE**

Elton, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Wishing This Year's Graduates  
**Great Happiness  
& Success**

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ccullenmla@mts.net



# CONGRATULATION



**KAYLA CAMPBELL**

Forrest, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: May 11, 2005  
Parents: Pam Campbell and Jason Campbell  
Sibling: One  
Pets: One  
First Job: Sportchek  
Hobbies: Being outside  
Introvert or Extrovert: Extrovert  
Who do you look up to: Megan Markle  
Favourite thing about your school: My friends  
Favourite food: Steak  
Dream vacation spot: Australia  
Favourite holiday: Christmas  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Nurse  
Future Plans: To become rich



**NASH CAMPBELL**

RM of Elton, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: July 7, 2005  
Parents: Ryan and Sarah  
Sibling: One  
Pets: Two cats, two dogs  
First Job: Cashier  
Hobbies: Skiing, camping, biking, being outside (in the summer)  
Introvert or Extrovert: Introvert  
Who do you look up to: Ryan Reynolds  
Favourite thing about your school: Making some new friends  
Favourite food: Pickles  
Dream vacation spot: Hawaii  
Favourite holiday: Christmas  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Astronomer  
Future Plans: I plan to pursue civil engineering in university next year



**BROOKLYN FRANKLIN**

Chater, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: September 9, 2005  
Parents: Michelle Franklin and Jarrod Franklin  
Sibling: Callie Franklin  
Pets: dog - Bauer; cat - Crosby  
First Job: Shoppers Drug Mart cashier/merchandiser  
Hobbies: Hockey and softball  
Introvert or Extrovert: Introvert  
Who do you look up to: My Auntie Jill  
Favourite thing about your school: It's a small school so you can be friends with everyone  
Favourite food: Chicken burgers  
Favourite artist: Morgan Wallen  
Dream vacation spot: Whistler, BC  
Favourite holiday: Christmas  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Teacher  
Future Plans: To attend Assiniboine Community College and play hockey with the ACC Cougars as well as softball for the U19 AAA Westman Magic

## To the Class of 2023

May you continue to find success as you go through life and may you remember this day as a cornerstone in your future.

Ray Redfern, Rob McGill  
and everyone at  
the Rivers office  
**204-328-5325**



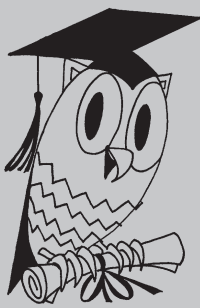
Serving the communities of  
Minnedosa, Brandon,  
Wawanesa, Erickson,  
Sandy Lake, Strathclair  
& Rivers



*Congratulations Graduates of 2023*



## LOOK HOO'S GRADUATING!



It's a group of outstanding young men and women. Who are these wise, smart and talented students? The Class of 2023!

**Congratulations, class!**  
**M&M Drilling  
Rivers Ltd.**

*Congratulations  
Class of 2023  
a year to  
from the*



(204) 481-1111  
MWMEEnviro.ca ~ adrienne



# IS CLASS OF 2023



**DYLAN GARBUTT**

By Forrest, MB  
Elton Collegiate

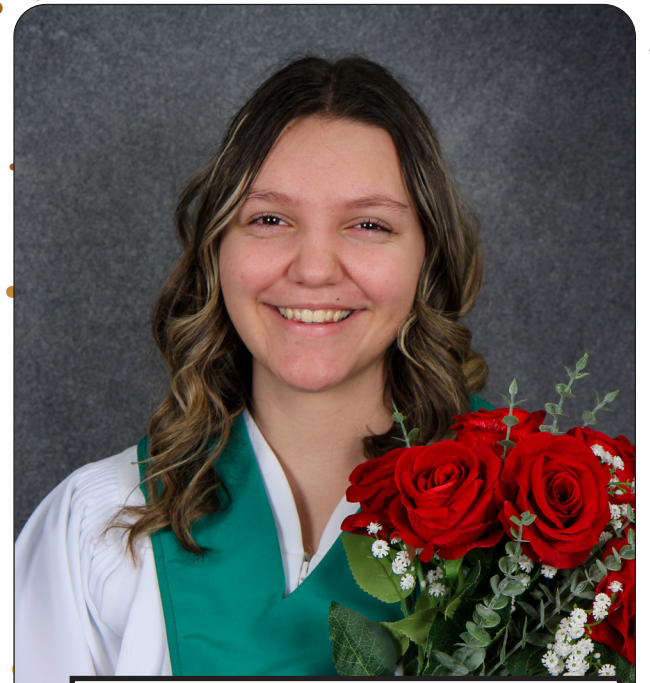
Birthday: August 25, 2005  
Parents: Barry and Nicole Garbutt  
Sibling: Ben, Ryder, and Noah  
Pets: Oakley, Annie, Doc and Fell  
First Job: At the Hot n' Frosty  
Hobbies: Guitar, volleyball, and working out  
Introvert or Extrovert: Bit of both  
Who do you look up to: A lot of people, mostly cause I'm short  
Favourite thing about your school: Small class sizes  
Favourite food: Lasagna  
Favourite artist: The Backseat Lovers  
Dream vacation spot: Swiss alps  
Favourite holiday: Ski trip in Banff  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Electrician  
Future Plans: To go to school and become an athletic therapist



**RYDER GARBUTT**

Outside of Forrest, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: August 25, 2005  
Parents: Barry and Nicole Garbutt  
Sibling: Ben, Dylan, and Noah  
Pets: Doc, Fel (cats) Oakley, Annie (dogs)  
First Job: 4ifeguard  
Hobbies: Piano, games  
Introvert or Extrovert: Introvert  
Who do you look up to: My older brothers  
Favourite thing about your school: Seeing friends  
Favourite food: Lasagna  
Favourite artist: NF  
Dream vacation spot: Peru  
Favourite holiday: Halloween  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Firefighter  
Future Plans: Attend university, and try to travel



**OLIVIA GRULKE**

Middle of nowhere, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: September 21  
Parents: Eric Grulke  
Sibling: Marcus Grulke, Ava Grulke, Brian Badcock  
Pets: Five  
First Job: Peavey Mart  
Hobbies: Listening to music  
Introvert or Extrovert: Both  
Who do you look up to: My grandpa  
Favourite thing about your school: Seeing friends  
Favourite food: Pasta  
Dream vacation spot: Cuba or Europe  
Favourite holiday: I feel the same about all holidays  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Police Officer  
Future Plans: Firefighter/Paramedic

## To the Graduates of 2023!

Congratulations on this accomplishment.  
We wish you all the best in the future.

From all of us at



RIVERS, MB

Phone 204-724-6870, Rivers, MB

ations to the  
of 2023  
remember!  
e team at  
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Congratulations on a job well done  
during this year!



# CONGRATULATIONS

## CLASS OF 2023



**SARILYN HOFER**

Forrest, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: October 29, 2005  
Parents: Chris Hofer & Tracy Hofer  
Sibling: Taron & Jayda  
Pets: Two hamsters and a dog  
First Job: Babysitting  
Hobbies: Sun tanning, hiking and swimming  
Introvert or Extrovert: Extrovert  
Who do you look up to: My parents  
Favourite thing about your school: Seeing my friends  
Favourite food: Steak and lobster  
Dream vacation spot: Bora Bora  
Favourite holiday: Christmas  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Vet  
Future Plans: Take a gap year to figure out what I'm truly passionate about



**WILLIAM HOWARD**

Rivers, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: August 26, 2005  
Parents: Jackie and Shane Howard  
Sibling: Faith and Sophia  
Pets: Otto, Flower, Luther, Kevin, Monica  
First Job: Daly Repair helper  
Hobbies: Cars  
Introvert or Extrovert: Extrovert  
Who do you look up to: My Dad  
Favourite thing about your school: The people I met  
Favourite food: Steak  
Favourite song: Amarillo by morning  
Favourite artist: George Strait  
Dream vacation spot: Cuba  
Favourite holiday: New Year  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Police Officer  
Future Plans: Become a police officer



**CHELSEA HUTCHINGS**

Cottenwood, MB  
Elton Collegiate

Birthday: September 14, 2005  
Parents: Debbie and Rob Hutchings  
Sibling: Shane and Reid Hutchings (brothers)  
Pets: Sparky(Dog), Winter(cat)  
First Job: Whitehouse bakery (bakery counter and serving)  
Hobbies: Swimming, reading, hanging out with friends  
Introvert or Extrovert: Extrovert  
Who do you look up to: My parents  
Favourite thing about your school: Everyone knows everyone  
Favourite food: Breakfast wrap  
Favourite artist: Zach Bryan  
Dream vacation spot: Malibu  
Favourite holiday: Christmas  
At 12, what did you want to grow up to be: Mechanic  
Future Plans: Graduate from Brandon University with a bachelors degree in science

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# Rivers Women's Institute is alive and well!

Submitted  
RIVERS BANNER

Rivers Women's Institute (WI) has picked up where it left off when the pandemic hit in March 2020. With the threat of COVID-19 during those years, we were not able to carry on as usual, but since the beginning of 2023, we have once again been welcoming guest speakers and visitors at our meetings. In March, Tara Smith (Health Educator with Prairie Mountain Health) spoke on the topic of Ageing Well: Living Longer and Happier. To age well, we must focus on four areas: physical activity, healthy eating, good sleep habits, and social connections. Tara also demonstrated some simple exercises that everyone can do to build their strength. In April, Marguerite Woytowich painted a picture, using words and photos, of what it is like for some of the people in Ukraine.

She has family members who reside in the village of Dubivtsi in western Ukraine. Although they do not live in the war-ravaged territory, they still deal with the horror of the war every day. In May, Gary Pomeroy, our local Pharmacist, gave a presentation on health supplements. He noted that while supplements, such as vitamins, are important for general health, the most important factor is a healthy and well-balanced diet. His talk elicited many questions, which Gary answered knowledgeably. All three of these speakers were intelligent and articulate. We are very thankful that we have such great resources in our community! At each of these meetings, WI members did what WI members are always eager to do: learn and laugh (and share lunch!).

You may have noticed a new bench situated in a pocket park between Honey House Bakery

and Rollingdale Enterprises on 2nd Avenue. This bench was purchased by WI to mark the 110th anniversary of the Town of Rivers. May it be a pleasant place for passersby to take a rest!

WI members have listened with interest to the plans being made for the 110th anniversary party. In the old days, we might have taken part by hosting a pie sale or a meal, but our energy for such an endeavour in 2023 is lacking! We have decided instead to sponsor a Decorated Bike Contest at the parade on Saturday, July 8. Prizes will be awarded for originality and effort in two age groups (8-12 years and seven years and under). We are encouraging participation by offering some good prize money for the youngsters: First - \$15, Second - \$10, and Third - \$5. Also, each participant will receive a bag of candy. Judging will take place at the parade marshalling

grounds prior to the parade start. Sounds like great fun!

WI members are looking forward to our annual June tour. On June 9, we are travelling to Brandon to tour the Daly House Museum, followed by lunch at Chez Angela at The Greenspot (followed by ice cream at Crow's General Store!). We are leaving from 336 on 3rd Avenue at 10 a.m. If you are not a WI member but would like travel with us, you are quite welcome! Call Dianne at 328-7690 or Jean at 328-7546.

Rivers WI will not meet in July or August, but our plans for the fall are already in place. On September 8, we will gather at Kiwanis Courts to hear a speaker from the Women's Shelter in Brandon. Attendees are asked to bring gifts for the women at the shelter (toiletries, feminine products, gift cards, back packs, laundry soap, etc.) Because WI has supported the

Women's Shelter for many years, members are anxious to hear about the shelter and its needs.

WI members frequently meet people who don't know anything about Women's Institute and other people who have misconceptions about the organization. WI has been active in the Rivers community since 1949 (and before that, from 1917 - 1942). Our mandate is threefold. First of all, the WI provides a supportive and caring social network. We know that online connections are not enough for social well being. Secondly, the group does what it can to help in the community. Our role is not as large as it was years ago, but we still try to do our part, such as delivering Meals on Wheels. The third purpose is to provide educational programs. We are proud of our history and our continuing work For Home and Country.

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# Rivers Comets had two more games this past week



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Submitted

By JOCELYN BEEVER

The Rivers Comets were defeated on Friday May 26 by Hamiota Red Sox, 6 – 4.

On May 29, the Comets played Boissevain and couldn't generate enough runs for the win, scoring 3 and stranding 8. Ryan Shaw doubled. Jace Wareham had a couple of singles, Layton Veitch, Gerald Kuculyn and Shayne Wiebe each singled. Scott Beever took the



loss, going the full 7 innings.

The Comets hit the road on Wednesday, May 31 travelling to Reston to take on the Rockets.

# Oak River Dodgers have started their season



By Jessica Coulter

RIVERS BANNER

The Oak River Dodgers have played two games this season and they have two wins!

Both games took place on the road. On Wednesday, May 24, they played the Reston Rockets winning with 3 runs to 0. On Monday, May 29, they went to Virden to defeat the Oilers with 7 runs to 4.

The Dodgers will play their first home game on Sunday, June 4 at 6pm against the Boissevain Centennials.

# Cacti are all succulents but are all succulents' cacti?

Submitted

RIVERS BANNER

Succulents are plants that have the capacity to store water when it is available and then utilize that water when it is not plentiful. They are plants that are adapted to arid climates or soil conditions that are not rich in nutrients. They may store water in their leaves, stems, roots or other underground storage organs like tuberous roots, corms, bulbs or rhizomes. They may also adapt to severe conditions with other growth adaptations.

Succulent plants will often appear different from other plants as they are often fleshy in appearance. The shape and arrangement of its leaves determines the type of succulent. They may have a waxy, hairy or shiny outer surface that helps them reduce water loss. Their root systems are often very close to the surface of the ground allowing them to capitalize on small water sources such as dew. They are usually compact, cushion-like, columnar or spherical and will often have ribs that enable rapid increases in volume during wet seasons. If it is a cactus, the type of cactus the plant is will be determined by its stems. Cactus stems are typically fluted, ribbed or pleated and all cacti will form a modified nodule called an areole, but succulents will not form areoles.



Interestingly, known succulents are succulents, but are cacti. All cacti have leaf structures but only spines. The distinguishing factor between succulents with spines and cacti with spines is the grouping of those spines. As mentioned above, modified buds or areoles identify cacti as a family that is distinct from other succulents. These areoles appear to be small bumps out of which the spines will grow. The areoles are actually specialized branches of the cacti. Originally they were aborted branch buds with spines that had evolved as vestigial leaves. It is from these areoles that branches and even flowers will grow. The saguaro cactus will grow entire new branches from areoles. The areoles are arranged in regular patterns that are specific to the species. The barrel cactus will have areoles arranged along the ribs of the cactus, while the Christmas cactus only has areoles grouped on the tips and sides of the stems.

Whether you are growing a cactus or other succulent in your home, the care is often fairly similar. Most will appreciate a warm, dry and sunny area in the home.



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# Professional Bull Riding Elite Cup Series Event in Brandon

Submitted  
RIVERS BANNER

In front of a near capacity crowd Saturday night in Brandon, Manitoba, Aaron Roy (Yellow Grass, Saskatchewan) delivered a flawless 2-for-2 performance to win the PBR (Professional Bull Riders) Mazergroup Chute Out, the third stop of the 2023 season for the elite Canadian Cup Series, presented by Wrangler at The Keystone Centre.

Less than 24 hours after earning his first victory of the season, dominating the Touring Pro Division event in nearby Winnipeg, Roy climbed aboard Emerald Inn (X6 Ranch Bucking Cattle/B2 Braithwaite Ranches) in Round 1 inside Westoba Place at The Keystone Centre.

In what proved to be a perfect pairing, three-time PBR Canada Champion Roy dominated the bull en route to the whistle, marked 85.5 points, the second-best score of the round.

Roy then selected The Remedy (X6 Ranch Bucking Cattle/B2 Braithwaite Ranches) as his championship round opponent.



PHOTOS BY JESSICA COULTER



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Remaining in what seemed to be perfect time with the animal athlete, Roy was initially called for a buckoff past the 7.6-second mark, however, quickly challenged the call.

Upon review, Roy was deemed to have made the requisite 8, marked a victory-clinching 89 points.

Courtesy of the win, Roy garnered a crucial 116 national points. Chasing his unprecedented fourth national title this November, Roy is now within 105 points of No. 1 Jared Parsonage. Three-Time PBR Canada Champion Aaron Roy Wins Elite Cup Series Event in Brandon, Manitoba to Catapult to No. 3 in 2023 Title Battle

Jared Parsonage remained No. 1 following the conclusion of the Brandon event, where he finished eighth, making history in the process.

Returning to the top of the event leaderboard, Jordan Hansen (Amisk, Alberta) was second, taking home 91 national points.

The 29-year-old surged from No. 31 to No. 9 in the national standings, and is now within 188 points of No. 1 Parsonage.

Third was William Barrows (Foremost, Alberta).

As the final rider to cover both of his draws, Barrows rode Red Coat (X6 Ranch Bucking Cattle/Legend Rodeo Stock) for 84.5 points in Round 1, and Positively Bangin (Outlaw Buckers Rodeo Corp.) for 85.5 points in the championship round.

Marking the 22-year-old's career-best finish on the elite Cup Series, Barrows earned 67.5 national points. He climbed 16 positions in the Canadian standings, rising from No. 29 to No. 13.

### Top 3 PBR Canada Cup Series

(Round 1-Round 2-Event Aggregate-Event Points)

1. Aaron Roy, 85.5-89.5-174.50-116 Points.
2. Jordan Hansen, 83.5-89.5-173.00-91 Points.
3. William Barrows, 84.5-85.5-170.00-67.5 Points.

### Top 3 2023 PBR Canada National Standings

(Place, Rider, Events, Wins, Top 5's, Points, Total Winnings)

1. Jared Parsonage, 4, 2, 3, 291.00, \$19,845.83
2. Nick Tetz, 5, 1, 2, 189.00, \$11,515.36
3. Aaron Roy, 8, 2, 4, 186.00, \$14,710.16

The 2023 PBR Canada Sup Series, presented by Wrangler, will next travel to London, Ontario, and Budweiser Gardens for the PBR London Classic on Wednesday, May 31. Action will get underway at 7 p.m. EDT.



PHOTOS BY JESSICA COULTER

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