

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE

UNITER

JANUARY 24, 2013 | VOLUME 67 ISSUE 17

STRING THEORY

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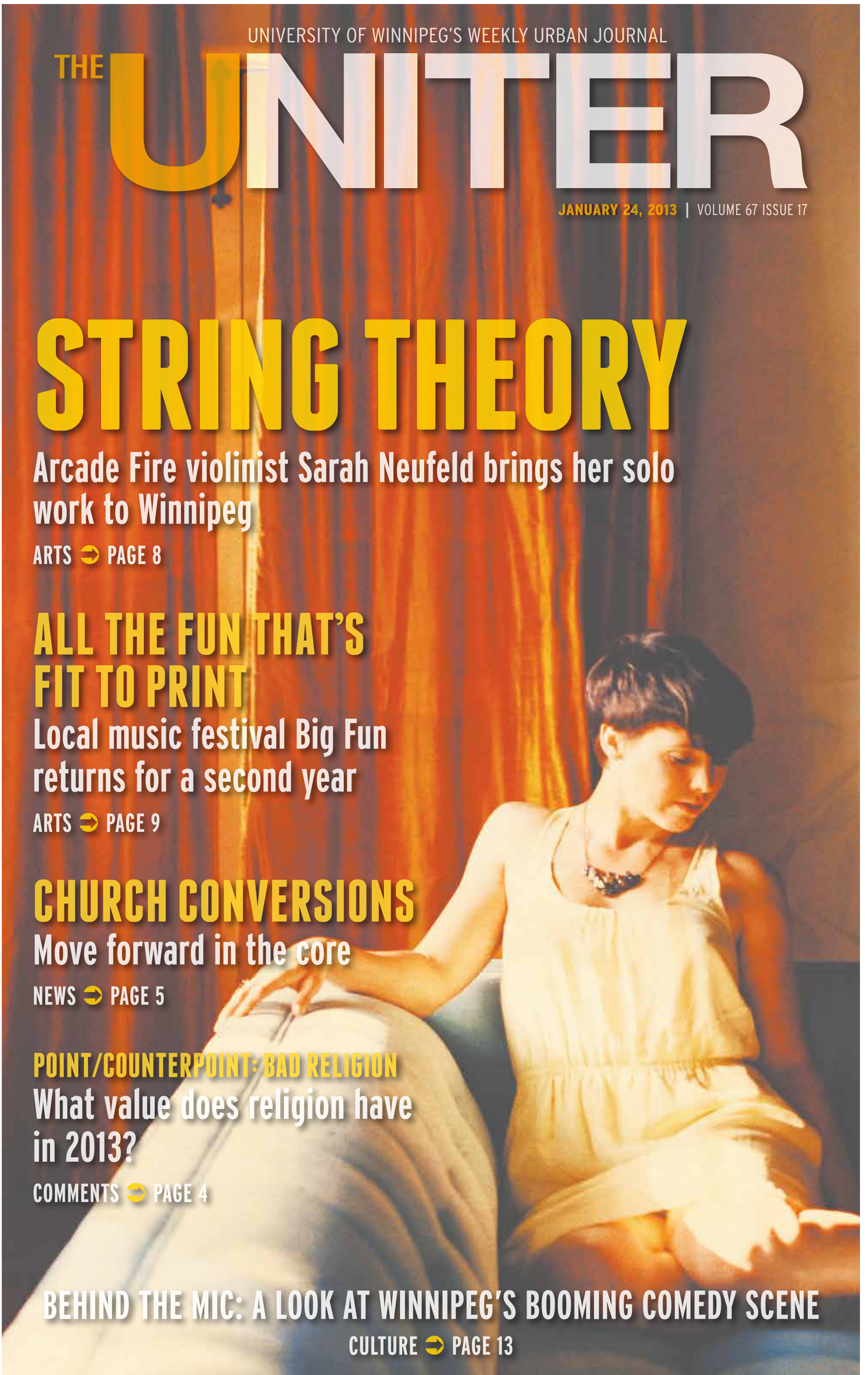
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SARAH NEUFELD

Sarah Neufeld, violinist for acclaimed Canadian band Arcade Fire, performs in Winnipeg this week as part of the New Music Festival's Pop Nuit series.

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Photo courtesy of Sarah Neufeld

Uncertain campus development sparks concerns from Spence community

Residents reluctant to support new RecPlex, related projects

JORDAN POWER
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

As the University of Winnipeg continues construction on a pair of expansion projects on the west side of campus, community organizations and residents are raising concerns about the potential loss of housing in the neighbourhood.

Jamil Mahmood, executive director of the Spence Neighbourhood Association, told *The Uniter* he expects at least one house on Langside Street, being used by PCL Construction Company, to be torn down to make room for the UNITED Health & RecPlex, a multi-purpose recreational complex the university began constructing last fall.

"Hopefully, we don't lose any more housing," said Mahmood.

The university purchased 373 Langside St., a vacant house, which it wants to tear down as part of its planned green corridor to the Furbby-Langside campus. The house still stands despite rumours of its impending demolition.

And although no homes in the area have yet been demolished, the SNA has engaged the university in discussions to ensure there remains adequate housing in the area, Mahmood said.

"Hopefully, we don't lose any more housing."

- JAMIL MAHMOOD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

Mahmood said the discussions, which ended nearly a month ago, resulted in the university agreeing to consider its impact on housing in the area before proceeding.

Jeremy Read, senior executive officer at the university, is confident that the university is doing its due diligence to minimize the expansion's impact on housing in the surrounding community.

"We are committed to bringing forward viable options to the university and surrounding community for input sometime in the next cou-



KEVIN LEGGE

To bulldoze or not to bulldoze? Whether or not the vacant house at 373 Langside will be torn down to make way for the U of W's planned green corridor remains to be seen.

ple months," he wrote in an email statement.

The university is exploring options of rerouting the Spence Street bus loop in a way that minimizes the university's impact on housing, Read added.

He did not confirm whether or not the project would result in the demolition of 373 Lang-

side.

However, the bus loop's relocation, necessitated by construction of the university's RecPlex, is another point of concern raised by area residents.

Craig Fraser has lived on Langside for almost a decade and is concerned residents of the area have not yet been considered in the planning of the new loop.

"The major issue I have is that they decided to make the bus loop without consulting the community," he said.

"As somebody living on this street, I had absolutely no say."

According to Mahmood, the university told the SNA they would conduct a survey to gather community input on construction of the loop, but have not yet done so.

He believes residents in the area are hesitant to support the RecPlex because they are worried it, like the Duckworth Centre, won't live up to its promises of community benefit.

"The Duckworth Centre was supposed to be a community facility, then, in two years, there was no more community access," said Mahmood.

Although the university indicates inner-city residents will have access to the facility through a "collaborative community charter," Mahmood is skeptical.

"We saw the charter and it was not as strong as we would have wanted it to be," said Mahmood.

"They watered it down a lot from what was originally proposed."

The SNA has proposed a number of revisions to the charter, but had not yet received a response from the university as of last week.

STREETER

BY JORDAN POWER

Q: DO YOU ATTEND ANY RELIGIOUS SERVICES, CEREMONIES, ETC.? WHY OR WHY NOT?



Alexandra Enns, third-year student, Rhetoric, Writing and Communications

"No. I used to go when I was younger, but not anymore."



Christian McDonald, employee, MLCC

"Never. I've never had a good reason to go. It's never made sense to me."



Brittany Thiessen, fifth-year student, Honors Acting

"Yes, I go to church. I feel better when I do. I think the practice of ritual is something humans enjoy."



Ariel Nash, fourth-year student, Rhetoric, Writing and Communications

"My family was raised as Jehovah's Witnesses, but I haven't been in seven years."

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BAD RELIGION:

Dogmatic thinking needs to be eradicated



ETHAN CABEL
NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

When I met with Steve Swan to discuss writing for *The Uniter*, we sat staring out the large windows at a downtown Second Cup largely perplexed, attempting to whittle down what, exactly, we wished to say about religion - a subject that consistently captivates people, but also consistently bores them.

Our conversation went smoothly enough. We discussed my Catholic upbringing, his non-religious background and what drove us in two wildly different directions in regards to faith, specifically the Christian faith.

But what struck me was our mutual disdain for violence and our desire to escape the ideological prejudices that so often fuel and give expression to such discord.

Hence, we figured out that while Swan's answer to bad religion was a more authentic Christianity, my answer was much different.

I respect Swan's Christianity because it exemplifies the variegated complexity inherent in many spiritual traditions, rather than the brutish thinking at the heart of history's many roaming gangs - from the Irish Republican Army to the Crusaders of the Medieval Catholic Church and Al Qaeda - who claim to have God on their side.

I believe that religion has been, and will continue to be, an integral part of society. It isn't going anywhere. And at times, like in the case of the "good news" Christianity that Swan advocates or even the social gospel that gave rise to J.S. Woodsworth and the Canadian Commonwealth Federation (CCF), it can be a valuable part of society.

But at the heart of virtually all religions there rests a dogmatism that almost inevitably leads to the type of conflict seen throughout the modern world, and throughout human history.

It is the opposition to that dogmatic thinking, rather than opposition to religion itself, that requires constant vigilance. And that vigilant skepticism will lead to a better world.

For years before his death, the great atheist journalist Christopher Hitchens would repeat a variation of Ronald Reagan's mantra, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!" by invoking American founding father - and main inspiration for the first amendment, ensuring a constitutional separation of Church and State in America - Thomas Jefferson.

Near the end of many television interviews, Hitchens would proudly and patriotically intone in his nasally English drawl, "Mr. Jefferson, build up that wall," referring to the wall separating church and state.

For Hitchens, many of the world's greatest problems were attributable to faith-based governance, from Iran to the Islamic monarchy that grips Saudi Arabia.

But the scourge of violence that strips human beings of their fundamental rights and freedoms doesn't just reside in traditionally religious - or theocratic - states, and Hitchens conceded this point.

Great evil can also be perpetrated by

expressly secular governments or secular societies, so long as those societies possess the ideological dogmatism (and corresponding barbarism) necessary to justify atrocity.

Joseph Stalin's Soviet Union, Mao Tse Tung's China and Kim Jong Il's North Korea were all expressly secular states. All of them committed unspeakable atrocities - and in the case of China and North Korea, continue to do so - not in the name of religion, but because of a dogmatism similar to much religious thinking.

It is difficult at times to comprehend the kitschy North Korean state propaganda so often mocked by our mainstream media exists because of - and is reinforced by - an Orwellian state surveillance system meant to prosecute and stomp out dissenters in the most inhuman ways possible.

All in the name of a dogmatic secular socialism that conceives state founder Kim Il Sung as the "eternal president" and his Juche philosophy of self-reliance as de facto gospel. This same dogmatism keeps North Korea in a state of perpetual economic dependence, mass starvation and political self-delusion.

This self-destructive dogmatism is inseparable from the radical Catholicism and political terrorism that prompted the IRA to claim hundreds of Irish civilian casualties in a paramilitary campaign from 1969 to 1997. The aim, of course, was an Irish republic separate from the United Kingdom and grounded in Irish Catholicism.

And are these ideas so much different from a misguided sense of superiority that your faith constitutes the only true path to salvation? Or that there is only one God and that all faiths claiming otherwise are inherently false?

It is crucially important that this single-minded view of the world is eroded through a vigilant skepticism and moral code that corresponds with a democratically achieved rule of law. That skepticism can be practiced by secularists like me, and intelligent religious people like Swan alike.

But a purer faith, if it connotes a more virulent dogmatism, is not the answer.

Ethan Cabel is the news assignment editor at The Uniter and a politics student at the University of Winnipeg.

BAD RELIGION:

A more authentic Christian faith can save us



STEVE SWAN
VOLUNTEER

I'd never want to defend religion in general. Religion closes minds, dehumanizes populations, promotes condemnation of others and even inspires genocide.

From a privileged 21st century standpoint, religion in general hasn't been kind to the human race. And the answer to bad religion, many think, must be no religion.

I spent my first 23 years as an atheist because of bad religion. Then I became a Christian and I'm now a pastor at an independent congregation, The King's Fellowship, near Osborne Village.

No one was more surprised than I was.

I believe that religion in general is a destructive force in the world. When I look at the world, I see the same bad religion that everybody else does.

The difference is that now I believe the answer to bad religion is not no religion, but good religion.

What, then, is the best alternative to bad religion? And what is good religion?

Every reasonable person wants less violence and more respect in this world.

The Hindu, the Humanist and the Muslim are all my friends as long as they wish to live in peace. Many believers of all faiths, not just Christianity, live peaceably and promote the good of all. For

every murderous zealot there may be 100,000 religious people who accept and respect their neighbours.

But even peaceable religions, which constitute the vast majority, can be merely a milder form of bad religion.

Religions set ideals, make rules, declare what is true and moral, and give good advice about life. Good advice, when followed, can inspire great pride in those who think they have followed well.

But, conversely, it can inspire guilt when one falls short.

A more peaceful religion, even one with good ethical standards, can still be bad religion. It can create unrest in the heart even if it keeps civil unrest to a minimum.

Of course, Christians are not immune to this kind of subtler bad religion. Commonly, Jesus is thought of as an example, but if that's all he is, then he sure is a tough act to follow.

In short, most religions operate on moral or spiritual achievement. But true Christianity is different.

I believe that religion in general is a destructive force in the world. When I look at the world, I see the same bad religion that everybody else does.

What changed me from an atheist to a Christian was realizing that authentic Christianity was neither violent bad religion nor seemingly benevolent good advice. Instead, it is *good news*; good news about a possible relationship with God through no accomplishment of our own.

An authentic, pure Christianity is both good religion and good news because it doesn't promote violence or inspire superiority or keep you in constant guilt.

Instead, it humbles all of us by telling us that, no matter our efforts, we cannot achieve the good standard God wants. It invites us to accept what Jesus does for us (and in our place) rather than what we can do on our own.

At 23, I realized I couldn't even live up to my own standards, let alone God's. I didn't need advice on how to live but rather some good news that Jesus is not just an example but a rescuer.

He rescues from the hold that wrong ways of living have on us, and also from trusting in our own perceived goodness. He rescues from both pride and guilt.

Maybe most importantly, he rescues from bad religion.

Steve Swan is a Christian pastor for an independent congregation, The King's Fellowship, located at 190 Osborne St. North. He lives in Winnipeg with his wife and family.

News

Church conversions move forward in the core

Shifting landscape of organized religion reflected in re-appropriations of traditional structures



KEVIN LEGGE



KEVIN LEGGE

CARSON HAMMOND
BEAT REPORTER

While St. Matthew's Anglican Church might look like a bastion of unwavering tradition from its exterior, on the inside, it, like numerous other churches in Winnipeg, is undergoing a dramatic change.

The century-old building, which houses five small congregations at St. Matthews and Maryland, is in the process of converting the majority of its 12,500-square-foot space into 25 affordable rental housing units and a neighbourhood resource centre as part of its WestEnd Commons project.

Although the building will retain a dedicated worship space for its existing functions, renters will not be required to have any affiliation with the church when the redevelopment is completed early next year.

The conversion, the first project of a secular, non-profit housing initiative founded by two of the building's congregations, reflects a key shift in the geography of organized religion in the city.

"It was either going to close or be renewed," says Cathy Campbell, a priest in the building's largest congregation of 75 members and vice-chair of its housing initiative.

Stopping at least once to cough on the airborne by-products of renovation, Campbell explains the building, originally designed to hold 1,200 people, suffered a decline in attendance in the years following the Second World War when many families migrated from the inner city to the suburbs.

While the space remains a hub of activity, the massive building fits a bit too loosely with its surroundings, Campbell says.

"We just knew we could be doing more with it to make a positive impact on the community."

Of the many Winnipeg church conversions that have taken place in recent years - including St. Helen's Anglican on Church Avenue (now condos), St. John's Church on Main Street (also condos) and the First Scandinavian Mission Church on Logan Avenue (now office spaces) - the vast majority are located in less affluent neighbourhoods within or close to the core area.

"There are lots of other old churches (in the core area) that need to consider their futures," says Campbell.

"Is what we're doing here a model that will allow heritage buildings to be maintained? I

really hope so."

According to James Weisgerber, Archbishop of Winnipeg for the Roman Catholic Church, declining attendance rates don't seem to be threatening any of the denomination's local parishes, suburban or otherwise.

"Overall, our churches are full," Weisgerber says, noting new immigrant communities in particular are filling inner-city pews like never before.

However, prospects are less certain in the next few decades.

"The greatest proportions (of church members) certainly are gray-haired and white-haired," says Weisgerber, adding that, in some parishes, there is a noticeable lack of teens and young adults.

While the question as to how religious communities will be affected by the eventual passing of the baby boomer generation remains unanswered, local developers are already finding creative uses for the churches that do get left behind.

Roman Panchyshyn, who owns Osborne Village music apparel emporium Wild Planet, is one such re-appropriator.

Panchyshyn, who moved from his original location downtown to the former Church of Christ at Confusion Corner four years ago, is aware of the irony inherent to his use of the space.

"It's still kind of a worship centre," he laughs. "Just swap out Jesus for rock stars."

As expected, eyebrows were raised at the purchase.

"We had some former patrons of the church saying it was inappropriate having the ultimate rock shop in its former space," says Panchyshyn, who's kept certain elements of the building's church aesthetic, like its stained-glass windows, intact.

"But outside of that, there really wasn't much of an issue."

Other examples abound.

Everything from a licensed music venue (the West End Cultural Centre colourfully repurposed a former church building) to a retirement community (Cathedrale Manor in St. Boniface is a redeveloped convent) can be found among the city's previous conversion efforts.

Studio 511, a 46-unit condominium complex currently under construction in Osborne Village, takes advantage of the former First Church of Christ Scientist Church at 511 River Ave., built in 1910.



CARSON HAMMOND

Osborne Village music apparel emporium Wild Planet (top left) is housed in a former church building, while St. Matthew's Anglican Church (top right) is converting the majority of its space into housing units. Exchange Community Church (above) rents space in its five-story building to artists and retailers.

More than half of the now four-story structure's suites (all floors had to be added by the project's developer) have already been sold.

According to Herb Enns, a professor of architecture at the University of Manitoba, church conversions tend to present unique design challenges to those who take them on.

"Often these renovations are kind of 'cover-up,'" says Enns. "The last thing you want (living or working in a former religious structure) is to have this constant sense that you're living in a church if you're someone who's not affiliated with it."

Then again, the uniqueness of dwelling in a former church as opposed to a more conventional space might be illusory.

"Very few of us live in spaces constituted directly with us in mind," says Enns. "You're constantly shaped by the ambitions, dreams and skills of others."

Winnipeg's apparent church conversion trend, however, is anything but a one-way street.

With its neon window sign looking out

onto the corner of Albert Street and McDermot Avenue, the Exchange Community Church, which owns and gathers in a five-story former commercial building it also rents to artists and retailers, fits seamlessly into the urban landscape.

It's this type of community integration parish pastor Doug Wiebe says is fundamental to the church's vision.

"We love the artists. We regard artists as the prophets of culture," he says. "They tell us what's going on in the world today."

As such, the loft studios are available to artists of all types and beliefs at an affordable rate, and their work is featured during the first half of each Sunday service regardless of political, social or religious agenda.

The church's approach to community engagement, which forgoes active attempts to gain converts in favor of a passive community hub role, seems to embody a distinctly 21st-century approach to organized religion.

"Our vision is simply to serve the community," says Wiebe. "And an important part of that is actually being a part of it."

International News Briefs

Compiled by Staff

WORLD'S RICH HAVE THE MONEY TO END POVERTY FOUR TIMES OVER

LONDON: It would take only 100 of the world's richest people to end the world's poverty, according to a new report released by Oxfam. According to Oxfam, the net income of the world's 100 richest billionaires is \$240 billion - enough to end poverty four times over, according to an Al Jazeera article on the report. Oxfam, based in London, released its report to coincide with the World Economic Forum, slated to begin in Davos next week. Oxfam is calling on world leaders to commit reducing inequality to 1990 levels. The world's richest one per cent have seen their incomes rise by 60 per cent in the last 20 years, the report states. "Extreme wealth and income is not only unethical it is also economically inefficient, politically corrosive, socially divisive and environmentally destructive," Oxfam said in its report.

AUSTRIANS WANT CONSCRIPTION

AUSTRIA: Austrians have voted to retain the country's current system of military conscription, Al Jazeera reports. In a referendum historic to the country held Jan. 20, about 60 per cent of the country voted to keep conscription, which sees about 22,000 men drafted into six months of military service each year. Austrians favoured conscription over a volunteer-only army. The country's social democrats, led by Chancellor Werner Faymann, supported abandoning conscription leading up to this year's elections. The country's conservative People's Party, along with the far-right Freedom Party, supported maintaining conscription. Since the Cold War ended, European countries have been moving away from conscription, including France in 1996 and, most recently, Germany in 2011, Al Jazeera notes.

FIVE DEAD IN NEW MEXICO SLAYING

NEW MEXICO: A teenager is facing charges after allegedly murdering five people, including three children, with a military-style assault rifle in New Mexico, Al Jazeera reports. On Jan. 20, New Mexico police say they found an adult male and female, along with two young girls and boy, shot to death in an Albuquerque home. Multiple weapons were found at the scene, including an assault rifle believed to have been used in the slayings, according to the report. The teen is facing two counts of murder and three counts of child abuse resulting in death. The slayings come months after 20 school children and six adults were shot to death in a Connecticut school. U.S. President Barack Obama has proposed a ban on some military-style assault rifles.

POLICE ROUNDED UP ON ORGANIZED CRIME CHARGES

MEXICO: More than 150 police officers in northern Mexico have been detained over alleged ties to organized crime, Al Jazeera reports. Durango state prosecutors say they have evidence showing 158 local police officers in the cities of Gomez Palacio and Lerdo were sharing and protecting information with drug traffickers for at least three years. Some of the officers are believed to have been working for the Sinaloa cartel, which controls trafficking in the state of Durango, according to the report. Soldiers and state police will patrol the cities, prosecutors say. According to the report, homicides in Durango have more than doubled in the past two years in an ongoing turf war between the Sinaloa and Zetas cartels. Since 2006, more than 70,000 have been killed from drug-related violence as Mexico continues its war against the cartels.

Campus

Local News Briefs

Compiled by Staff



FEDS TO APPEAL KAPYONG DECISION

The federal government is again appealing a recent court decision that ruled it must consult with First Nations before selling the controversial Kapyong Barracks, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reports. The government believes a federal court judge erred in his "analysis of the Duty to Consult," Treaty One First Nations on the sale of the land, Department of Defence spokeswoman Kathleen Guillot said. Last month, a federal court judge ordered the government to consult with Treaty One First Nations, who say a 1997 agreement should have given them the right of first refusal on the sale of surplus federal land. The government put the land up for sale in 2007, three years after the Princess Patricia Light Infantry Unit left the 160-acre barracks for Shilo. The

government filed its appeal on Jan. 18 and no date has been set for the appeal.

LAKE WINNIPEG RESEARCHERS RECEIVE \$600K

The provincial government recently announced it will direct \$600,000 in funding to researchers working to clean up Lake Winnipeg, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reports. Among the projects receiving funding: the Lake Winnipeg Research Consortium (\$150,000); Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (\$130,000); Red River Basin Commission (\$100,000); Lake Friendly (\$75,000); the University of Manitoba's Watershed Systems Research Centre (\$74,000); the Manitoba Environmental Industries Association (\$15,000); and \$35,000 to researchers at the universities of Winnipeg and Manitoba. Each group is working to reduce the amount of algae-producing nutrients in the lake, according to Water Stewardship Minister Gord Mackintosh. Algae blooms suck oxygen out of the water and threaten fish populations.

PAPA GEORGE'S TALKS BREAK DOWN

Negotiations over a deal to fill the old Papa George's restaurant in Osborne Village have fallen through, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reports. According to the report, realtors were "close" to finalizing a deal with a large inter-

national restaurant chain. The chain is not named in the report. However, Tim Hortons and McDonald's have been rumoured to be interested in the space, the report says. It's unclear why the deal fell through. "Whoever is going to go in there is going to have to have some deep pockets," Graeme Rowsell, head of G. T. Rowsell Realty Leasing Co., told the *Free Press*. Papa George's closed last October after 35 years in business.

MANITOBA DEAD LAST IN AFTER HOURS CARE

A new report released by the Health Council of Canada places Manitoba dead last in the country when it comes to access to after hours medical care, the Canadian Press reports. The national survey found only 25 per cent of doctors in the province reported their patients having access to care on evenings and on weekends, according to the report. In Ontario, 67 per cent of doctors said they arranged after-hour care for their patients. However, the problem isn't isolated to Manitoba. Compared to other countries like Britain, Norway, New Zealand and the U.S., Canada ranked last when it comes to providing "rapid" access to doctors with same-day or next-day medical appointments, according to the report.

LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MATCH INTERNATIONAL MB invites you to its fundraising luncheon in recognition of INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK: I AM MAKING A DIFFERENCE on Feb. 3 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Kokeb Restaurant, 266 Edmonton St. The topic of this luncheon is *Rape as a Weapon of War*. The presenter will be Catherine Biaya. Tickets are \$40 and you will also receive a tax receipt for \$20. For tickets and info call or email Helen at 204-895-8108 or whittles@mts.net.

FEMREV COLLECTIVE is looking for artwork including drawings, paintings, photographs, stories and almost anything else that falls under the artwork category for a new zine they will be releasing. This art project is a call to respond against sexism, violence and hate that women experience across Canada, and elsewhere. While women are often pieced apart and objectified, this project will work to celebrate women as whole, bringing the pieces together. Email honouringwomenzine@gmail.com for more information and to hand in submissions. Submission deadline is Jan. 25.

THE FORT GARRY WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE presents OPEN CLOTHING ROOM. On Jan. 31 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. they invite you to #104-3100 Pembina Hwy to pick up some much needed clothing items. Their clothing room will be open for women to come down and pick out five items for free. Registration is not required. This is a women only event. Childcare is available upon request.

Join thousands of Winnipeggers at the first big party of 2013 and beat the winter blues. It's your chance to experience the tastes, sights and sounds of Louisiana without leaving town, and support a worthy cause at the same time. WINNIPEG MARDI GRAS takes place from Feb. 15 to Feb. 16 from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. nightly at the Winnipeg Convention Centre. This year they have teamed up with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and a portion of the ticket sales go directly to them.

THE FORT GARRY WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTRE will be hosting their fourth annual FAB FEM FUNDRAISER on Feb. 20 at the West End Cultural Centre. Local entertainment, great food and great company are on special for the evening supporting our local women's resources and giving thanks to FGWRC for 30 years of support.

MOOD DISORDERS ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA is increasing public awareness of mental illness, depression and mood disorders for families and in particular youth through its SKATE AND STRIDE EVENT. MDAM will be educating the public on mood disorders and how to get help. Skate and Stride takes place Feb. 23 at the Forks from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The GROWING LOCAL CONFERENCE, a Manitoba food security event, brings together consumers, farmers, traditional harvesters and everyone in between, for two inspired days of learning and sharing on March 1 and March 2 at the Marlborough Hotel. Growing Local includes a great lineup of workshops, discussions and displays on food skills, health, sustainable agriculture, indigenous and northern issues and food justice. A limited number of conference subsidies are available. For more information or to register, call 204-943-0822 or visit www.foodmattersmanitoba.ca.

ON CAMPUS

The next University of Winnipeg Philosophy Students' Association event is on Thursday, Jan. 24 at 5:30 p.m. It will be a talk by DAMIAN MELAMEDOFF called SEMANTIC MINIMALISM AND STRANGE PROPERTIES in room 4CM13.

THE MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY invites you to apply for their internship program. The application

deadline is Feb. 14. Open to six Manitoba students in a degree program in any discipline at a Manitoba university and to permanent Manitoba residents studying outside the province. Gain first-hand experience in the legislative process and work with Members of the Legislative Assembly and their caucuses in policy research. Students must have graduated by September 2013.

THE EMPLOYEE AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM is available to all regular University of Winnipeg employees. As part of this program, Shepell-fgi offers a wide range of seminars on a variety of physical, emotional and general well-being topics. All seminars are lunch 'n' learn format, 60 minutes in length, with a facilitator on site. Human Resources at the U of W would like your feedback on which seminars you would be most interested in attending. Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/hr-benefits-education for more details.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Currently, 20,000 Canadians are diagnosed with dementia and the ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF MANITOBA is looking for volunteers to help with canvassing, data entry and answering the phones for their helpline. If you are interested in helping out this month please contact Trudy at 204-943-6622 or email tmattley@alzheimers.mb.ca.

The N.E.E.D.S. Center (Newcomers Employment & Education Development Services) is currently looking for volunteer mentors. Mentors connect newcomer youth to the community and engage them in educational and recreational activities. Hours are flexible and a commitment of six hours per month for one year is necessary. For more information contact mentorship facilitator Steph Minor at steph@needsinc.ca or 204-940-1268.

THE SILOAM MISSION offers hot meals, clothing, emergency shelter, holistic health care, employment and life-skill training to the homeless. Volunteer opportunities include food services, clothing, entertainment, events, health care and administrative. Visit www.siloam.ca for more details about the types of volunteering opportunities they have to offer.

The UWSA and U of W'S CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE are planning the details of this year's sustainability festival. Will you contribute? THE GRASS ROUTES SUSTAINABILITY FESTIVAL is an opportunity for us to collaborate with partners beyond our departments on issues of sustainability, to think creatively about how to celebrate the talent and creativity at U of W, and to experience a shared sense of campus community. Email sustainability@uwinnipeg.ca or call 204-789-1478 for more details on how you can help.

Do you want to meet a new friend and learn about a new culture? Do you have an hour to spare each week? If so, consider becoming a language partner as a part of the University of Winnipeg's LANGUAGE PARTNER PROGRAM. Contact Julie McKirdy at 204-982-1151 or visit www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/elp-partner for more information.

THE WRENCH, a non-profit organization that strives to make bikes and knowledge of bicycle repair and maintenance accessible to the public, is looking for bike mechanics and all-around bike enthusiasts. No experience required. Contact the WRENCH at programs@thewrench.ca or 204-296-3389.

WAYFINDERS is an in-school and after-school mentorship program that provides high school students, who come from diverse backgrounds and reside in the Maples, with the supports and encouragement needed to graduate high school, and make a successful transition to post-secondary training or education. Wayfinders is looking for individuals who would like to use their

educational and/or professional training to tutor high school students in social studies, history, math, physics, geography and other high school subjects. If interested, please contact Awit Marcelino at 204-801-7136 or awit.marcelino@7oaks.org.

THE PLUG IN ICA is looking for enthusiastic and reliable volunteers to help in a number of areas of our operations. Volunteers gain valuable experience and meet artists and other interesting people. Email michelle@plugin.org for more information.

THE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OF MANITOBA (IRCOM) is seeking committed individuals to help out with our Newcomer Literacy Initiative (NLI) program. The NLI is a program that offers English as an Additional Language (EAL) classes and childcare to newcomer families living at IRCOM and in the broader neighbourhood. Volunteers generally help us one day per week for 2.5 hours each shift. NLI Volunteers are expected to be fluent in English, open to learning about different cultures and very supportive of adult learners. Volunteers should also be patient, open-minded and flexible.

If you are interested in volunteering, contact Wade Parke at wadep@ircom.ca or give him a call at 204-943-8765, extension 23.

To volunteer for the UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION fill out an application on their website, www.theuwsa.ca, or grab an application from their office in the Bulman Centre.

To volunteer for the UWSA FOOD BANK, email foodbank@theuwsa.ca, or grab an application from the UWSA office in the Bulman Centre.

THE UNITER, the weekly rag you are holding right now, is looking for contributors. See your words or your photos and drawings on the page. Email Aaron at editor@uniter.ca.

THE WEST BROADWAY YOUTH OUTREACH CENTRE is always looking for more volunteers to help with a variety of programs including sports, tutoring and other programs to benefit inner-city youth. Call 204-774-0451 or stop by 222 Furby St. to offer your skills.

THE SPENCE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION is looking for volunteers to help with their programming. Interested volunteers can download a volunteer application form at www.spenceneighbourhood.org or call 204-783-5000 for more information.

RUPERT'S LAND CAREGIVER SERVICES RING-A-RIDE PROGRAM needs drivers to take clients residing in South West Winnipeg to appointments, shopping and social outings. Compensation for gasoline and parking is provided. For more information please call 204-452-9491 or email rlcs_vol@mts.net.



Comments

City budget a welcome disappointment

Three ways the budget is a mixed bag



ETHAN CABEL
NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

On Jan. 9, city council's executive policy committee - led by Mayor Sam Katz and finance chairman Russ Wyatt - tabled the city's preliminary operating and capital budgets; two spending blueprints that outline the cost of city services and capital expenditures.

Unsurprisingly, the two budgets were met with the usual combination of righteous indignation and scorn, with Wyatt and Katz attempting to justify their spending decisions based on revenue problems and other issues.

Overall, though, the budget is a mixed bag of positive and negative spending that attempts to undo past damage and cobble together a modest public policy legacy out of the mayor's disparate flops.

In the following three ways, the 2013 operating and capital budgets constitute a welcome disappointment:

1) THE MAYOR IS IN "LEGACY MODE"

Given that Sam Katz is entering his ninth year as Winnipeg's mayor, he is beginning to noticeably contemplate his overall legacy.

The Duddy Enterprises shell company embarrassment and the fire hall land swap debacle are unlikely to factor into those calculations in that they reveal a dark underbelly at city hall that has yet to be fully unearthed.

Instead, it appears the mayor is re-focusing his priorities toward infrastructure and transportation.

The long overdue \$1.1 million investment in the second leg of the Southwest Rapid Transitway; the \$10 million dedicated to ease traffic congestion in the Polo Park area; and the decision to put aside one per cent of the 3.87 per cent property tax hike to road and bridge repair will go a long way toward living up to that reputation.

These developments are bolstered by the successful Osborne Street bridge overhaul and the reconstruction of the Disraeli Free-



JADE MARCUS / UNITER ARCHIVES

way, among other past investments.

2) DOING DAMAGE CONTROL ON TRANSIT, RECREATION

Last year, the mayor and his inner circle made two colossal policy flubs.

First, the \$7 million investment in a waterpark and hotel on a large swath of city land (known as Parcel Four, near Katz's Winnipeg Goldeyes ballpark) went nowhere after myriad architectural and other concerns precipitated the political defeat of the project.

Second, a proposed 20 cent transit fare hike to help pay for the second leg of the Southwest Transitway failed to pass a provincial smell test and was rejected.

Investing \$7 million of dubious waterpark cash in various recreation projects, including rebuilding the East Elmwood Community Centre, as well as the \$1.1 million transit investment mentioned above and the ongoing negotiations around an annual university bus pass, have gone a long way toward mol-

lifying Winnipeggers with a healthy dose of financial (and political) damage control.

3) WARD DECISION HURTS REAL REPRESENTATION

A healthy debate has been taking place in Winnipeg over how city council can better represent constituents.

Due to the small number of wards (and, hence, city councillors), the average councillor represents measurably more people than an average provincial MLA.

City administration recommended that ward boundaries be redrawn to accommodate the addition of another ward, and another council seat, which would make city hall more reflective of a growing population.

A new ward would cost roughly \$175,000 annually. A rather modest expense considering Winnipeg's population is likely to increase by 174,000 people in the next 20 years.

The bizarre decision to add \$40,000 to the discretionary ward allowance of all 15 city

councillors - a total expenditure of \$600,000 that will likely remain part of the budget in perpetuity - while cancelling the addition of a new ward, constitutes a rather severe PR boondoggle.

The city has opted for potentially wasteful spending over more substantive democratic representation. That being said, the decision to reintroduce a team of advisers to the mayor and executive policy committee (they were dismissed during a 2008 re-organization) at a cost of \$722,000, will likely bring policy coherence back to Main Street.

The 2013 operating and capital budgets, featuring another property tax hike exceeding three per cent, are unlikely to make anyone particularly happy. But they are equally unlikely to make anyone seethe with anger the way they seethed over last year's legion policy embarrassments.

In that way, the city's spending blueprint is a welcome change, albeit a disappointing one.

Health gap between rich and poor widening

Poorest Manitoba populations struggle with serious health issues



NICK TERNETTE
VOLUNTEER STAFF

The gap in health between the richest and poorest Manitobans has grown significantly in the last 20 years.

According to the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Medicine Community Health Sciences summary of a report by the Manitoba Centre for Health Policy entitled *Growing Gaps in Wealth and Health for Manitobans*, health differences are not solely due to people's lifestyles but also due to their work and living conditions.

Therefore, there is an unequal distribution of disease and early death.

Researchers have attempted to use preventative health care across the board to determine whether the gap between rich and poor has changed over the past two decades. If this gap has increased, it could mean that changes are needed in health policies in the future.

There is no doubt in my mind that policies need to be changed.

We know that the poor have fallen behind economically, but you might be surprised how far behind their income has fallen both rurally and in urban centres.

The gap in household income has more than doubled in the past 20 years.

In 1986, the wealthiest rural households in Manitoba earned \$21,790 more than the poorest households.

Two decades later, those same households earn \$47,005 more than the poorest households.

In many cases, the growing gap in income has resulted in abysmally growing health gaps.

Large gaps and serious health issues within the poorest populations in Manitoba demand our attention, especially with regards to tuberculosis.

For example, in rural Manitoba, 58 per cent of recent hospitalizations for tuberculosis occurred in 20 per cent of people in the lowest income group.

Large gaps and serious health issues within the poorest populations in Manitoba demand our attention, especially with regards to tuberculosis.

This suggests that if there was no inequity, only 20 per cent would have been from the lowest income group.

Furthermore, there is a widening gap in rural and urban Manitoba with regards to

premature death, diabetes, heart disease and fewer pap tests done.

For all of these indicators, people in the lowest income group make up one-third and sometimes up to 40 per cent of those with these problems - even though this group represents only one-fifth of the population of Manitoba.

Premature death is often used as an indicator of overall health.

While people are generally living longer, there is little improvement for people in the lowest income group.

Large inequities are also reported for deaths from suicide in ages 10 years and over from the lowest income group.

While there have been considerable improvements in preventing death in children from this group under the age of 10 years, 38 per cent of these deaths occurred in 24 per cent of children.

With regards to diabetes, the number of adult Manitobans living with diabetes has risen from 4.2 per cent to 8.2 per cent in the past decade.

But, again, it has affected those in the lowest income level the most.

So, why are the statistics for poor health so staggering for those with the lowest income?

Many are not working and are living on a

fixed income, leaving them with little money to buy nutritious food that would contribute to better health.

As well, many are living in substandard housing because they cannot afford better housing due to their economic situation.

Overall, these circumstances often lead to depression and, therefore, poor physical health.

It is clear that the gap in healthcare in Manitoba is far too wide between those who have money and those who are poor.

We need to address this issue now before the gap gets out of hand.

However, one would assume that providing programs for people who are the poorest would have the greatest improvement to their health - but that is debatable.

Creating a program that singles out a particular group can be isolating for those in that group, and the program often fails.

I think it's important to maintain programs that aim to improve everybody's health so that everyone benefits from the healthcare system.

Nick Ternette is a community and political activist, freelance writer and broadcaster. He lives in the University of Winnipeg's McFector's Hall.

Arts

Sarah Neufeld's string theory

Arcade Fire violinist brings her solo work to Winnipeg as part of the New Music Festival's Pop Nuit concert series

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

As people around the world eagerly anticipate the new album from critically-acclaimed Montreal indie rock band Arcade Fire, Winnipeg music fans will have the opportunity to see the group's violinist, Sarah Neufeld, in concert this week.

Neufeld will perform her solo instrumental material at the West End Cultural Centre on Wednesday, Jan. 30 as part of Pop Nuit, a concert series that is part of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra's New Music Festival.

"Performing solo is always terribly exhilarating," the 33-year-old says by email from New York. "People can expect to see me, playing violin, alone. I encourage eye-closing and letting the mind wander."

Originally from Vancouver Island, B.C., Neufeld began playing the violin at the age of three. She moved to Montreal in 1998 to study music and joined Arcade Fire five years later. She is also a member of instrumental post-rock ensemble Bell Orchestre.

While she calls Montreal home, Neufeld visits New York often. She co-owns Moksha Yoga NYC, the city's first branch of the hot-yoga chain Moksha.

The New York Times reported this past May that renovating Moksha Yoga NYC's West Village studio brought Neufeld back to music.

"I would come home covered in sawdust and stress and play violin," Neufeld told the *Times*. "People asked me to tour and without thinking about it too much I said yes. Now I want to make a record."

Just days prior to answering *The Uniter's* questions, Neufeld returned from Berlin where she recorded her solo album with her friend, engineer/producer/composer Nils Frahm.

"We did all sorts of field recordings and also worked in a gorgeous old classical recording studio," Neufeld says. "It was a fantastic experience and I'm pretty excited to put it out."

She composed the body of work mainly in 2012.

"I've had these solo violin ideas incubating for a while. Normally I incorporate everything in collaborations. It's really interesting to isolate an instrument and to push its (or my) boundaries."

In an interview with Straight.com, Neufeld described some of her solo material as "hard-driving, rhythmic stuff" as well as more lyrical pieces, which the writer suggested could sound like Philip Glass on a Cape Breton

vacation. Neufeld didn't disagree with that assessment.

"I've always had a lot of more contemporary classical influences, and I love Gypsy fiddle, and I love all the fiddle styles from around the world, but I've never had a home in any of them," she told Straight.com. "I just get inspired by the rawness and the rhythms and all that, but my melodic sensibilities are more rooted in pop music."

While she declines to reveal its release date, Neufeld does tell *The Uniter* that creating the album has been her most satisfying - and intense - solo music experience yet.

"It's so different than a collaborative recording experience," she says. "On one hand it's totally crazy-making (you, by yourself, all the time, pressure pressure!) and on the other, it's really rewarding."

⇒ See Sarah Neufeld perform at the West End Cultural Centre on Wednesday, Jan. 30

⇒ Jesse Krause of Flying Fox and the Hunter Gatherers will open the show with his new project, Geräuschbiest

⇒ Show starts at 9:30 p.m.

⇒ Advance tickets are available at Music Trader, Into the Music and the WSO Box Office for \$15

⇒ Visit www.newmusicfestival.ca

It's really interesting to isolate an instrument and to push its (or my) boundaries.

- SARAH NEUFELD

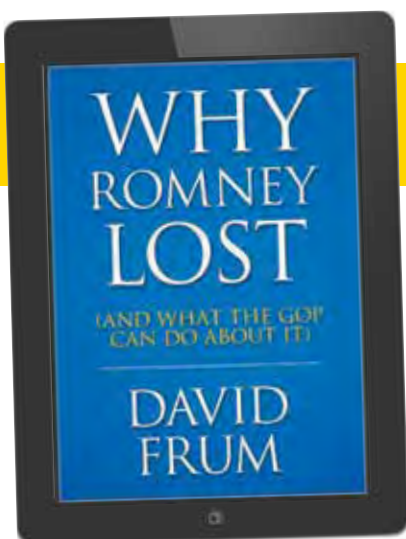
THE UNITER SPEAKERS SERIES PRESENTS

AN EVENING WITH DAVID FRUM

David Frum is a Canadian-American author, journalist and former speech writer for George W. Bush. His latest work is an e-book titled *Why Romney Lost*, and he published his first novel, *Patriots*, in April 2012. Frum is a contributing editor at *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast*, as well as a CNN contributor.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2013 // 7:30 P.M. CONVOCATION HALL
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FOR DETAILS, VISIT WWW.UNITER.CA/SPEAKERS-SERIES





'Long live Big Fun!'

Local music festival returns for a second year



DYLAN HEWLETT; JONAS HREBENIUK; SUPPLIED

The organizers of Big Fun (above) have put together a festival that includes performances by Winnipeg's Jenny Berkel (top) and Saskatoon's Jeans Boots (right).

JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI ARTS REPORTER

Huddled around a table in the warmth of Cousin's Deli, four friends are having a few pints and pondering the blur of a year they've had since creating arguably the best thing to hit the Winnipeg music scene in years: Big Fun.

For those out of the loop, Big Fun is a music festival that celebrates local acts, with genres spanning from hip hop to folk to rock and everything in between.

Performances are held at various venues throughout the city - this year from Thursday, Jan. 24 to Sunday, Jan. 27.

The creative quartet behind Big Fun - Stefan Braun, Lauren Swan, David Schellenberg, and Aaron Johnston - got the ball rolling in late August 2011 and haven't looked back since.

Braun's long-time goal prior to the inception of Big Fun was to create a Winnipeg music festival inspired by Pop Montreal.

"I volunteered for Pop Montreal for a couple years and I loved the place," Braun says. "We just needed somebody to give it a push, and I foolishly took that jump and rallied people together, and now we're doing something."

After taking a month off after last year's festival, the crew began planning anew in March 2012, holding weekly meetings, and brainstorming which bands and venues they'd like to see participate in 2013.

Their hard work and dedication have resulted in what is probably the truest reflection of a Winnipeg festival to date - a combination of home-grown music and art, with performances at unique venues around the city that run the gamut from the Young United Church to Gio's Nightclub.

All of this taking place in the dead of winter. You can't get much more Winnipeg than that.

"We went through the calendar year and realized there's something going on in almost every single month except for January,"

Braun says of the organizers' decision to host Big Fun during this blustery month. "I also kind of feel like there's no winter festivals really ... There's nothing that tells anybody to go out and face your fears, put on your scarf."

Bundling up will be key this year as venue hopping between shows is going to get trickier than last year. The 2012 edition of the festival took place almost exclusively in Exchange District venues.

This year, the organizers focused on hosting each day of the festival in a different neighbourhood.

"Say on a Friday, you're mostly going to be in Osborne Village, and Saturday you're going to be in the downtown region," Braun explains.

Hannah Godfrey, co-director of Ace Art Inc., a venue that's hosting a few Big Fun events this year, agrees on the value of celebrating the artistic community downtown.

"I think the organizers of Big Fun are doing a really essential thing of bringing a music festival into the Exchange District," she says.

"It's an area of town that's getting all this cultural quarter naming, but it's this kind of grassroots stuff - where people are actually making use of the space - that's actually bringing more people here."

More than 200 bands applied to play at the festival, 30 of which were accepted. Swan is hoping that Big Fun will build upon its inaugural success by expanding its audience this weekend.

"We've got 12 shows this year, and we've also got more free shows," she says. "We wanted to open up the doors to people who maybe can't afford it. There are lots of all-ages shows. Basically everybody can come in, see a part of the festival and participate."

CREATING A BUZZ

New to this year's festival are some out-of-town imports, such as Saskatchewan ramshackle rocker Jeanette Stewart, a.k.a. Jeans Boots.

Stewart likens Big Fun to the MOSO Festival in Saskatoon that she helps organize.

"It's about creating a lot of buzz in a city that doesn't necessarily have a huge scene. I think every city should have their own NXNE," Stewart says.

Stewart is excited to get reacquainted with old friends and to make some new ones.

"So much of the talent that's playing is actually bands I want to see and party with," she says. "Cannon Bros. will be my backup band."

"I've known them for a long time and we've talked about being a band called Jeans and Teens," Stewart adds with a laugh. "They're not really teens anymore I guess, but, well, they're still teens at heart. Watching them perform makes me grin."

The Big Fun crew is confident that unlike some other music festivals that disappear over the course of a few years, this startup is going to be around for a while.

"We're trying to stay relevant throughout the entire year, by putting on shows, by putting on fundraisers, and just trying to stay completely in the ear of everything that's going on in Winnipeg," Johnston says.

Sam Smith, the music programmer at another Big Fun locale, The Windsor, isn't worried about the festival going anywhere either.

"The tenacity of the organizers has brought this to life," he says. "As long as that remains we need not worry about the festival going away."

"As a venue guy, you tend to want to marry organizations like this one," he adds.

"Long live Big Fun!"

Big Fun takes place at various venues from Thursday, Jan. 24 to Sunday, Jan. 27. Festival passes are \$40 and are available at Into the Music, Music Trader and at www.ticket-workshop.com. For more information on Big Fun, follow @bigfunfestival on Twitter, visit www.bigfunfestival.com or www.bigfunfestival.bandcamp.com for free music downloads by festival performers.

BIG FUN FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JAN. 24

YOUNG UNITED CHURCH* 222 FURBY ST.

Cannon Bros. - 8:30 p.m.

Doug Hoyer - 9:30 p.m.

The Liptonians - 10:30 p.m.

THE WINDSOR 187 GARRY ST.

Free admission

Gourmet Scum - 11 p.m.

Kindest Cuts - 12 midnight

FRIDAY JAN. 25

THE BALLROOM* 218 ROSLYN RD.

Free admission

Lawrence Lee - 6:30 p.m.

Jenny Berkel - 7:15 p.m.

THE CAVERN 112 OSBORNE ST.

Loose Nuke - 10 p.m.

Dangercat - 12 midnight

GIO'S 155 SMITH ST.

DJ Co-op/DJ Hunnicut - 10 p.m.

Pip Skid - 11 p.m.

Cadence Weapon - 12 midnight

A.N.A.F CLUB 60 433 RIVER AVE.

Phlegm Fatale - 10:30 p.m.

The Mystics - 11:30 p.m.

The Angry Dragons - 12:30 a.m.

TBA

Jon Vaughn

Carrie Gates

Nathan Zahn

SATURDAY, JAN. 26

INTO THE MUSIC* 245 MCDERMOT AVE.

Free admission

Figure - 2 p.m.

Glass Random - 3 p.m.

A Waste Odyssey - 4 p.m.

ACEARTINC* 290 MCDERMOT AVE.

Free admission

Jeans Boots - 4:30 p.m.

Doug Hoyer - 5:15 p.m.

Special Guests - 5:50 p.m.

THE WINDSOR 187 GARRY ST.

Warsaw - 10:30 p.m.

Salinas - 11:30 p.m.

The Bokononists - 12:30 a.m.

GIO'S 155 SMITH ST.

Animal Teeth - 10 p.m.

Jeans Boots - 11 p.m.

The Ripperz - 12 midnight

SUNDAY, JAN. 27

WINNIPEG FREE PRESS CAFE* 237 MCDERMOT AVE.

Free admission

Claire Morrison - 11:30 a.m.

Yes We Mystic - 12:30 p.m.

Byrne Fiddler - 1:30 p.m.

* Represents an all ages event.

This is better

Vancouver-based singer-songwriter Hannah Georgas returns with a self-titled sophomore effort

JEN ZORATTI
VOLUNTEER

Hannah Georgas isn't short on confidence. It takes some guts, after all, to call your debut album *This Is Good*. It's kind of like naming a baby with bullies in mind; critics can be cruel.

Thing is, 2010's *This Is Good* wasn't just good - it was a masterful, career-making pop gem that was showered with glowing press accolades, longlisted for the prestigious Polaris Music Prize and earned Georgas two Juno nods for Best New Artist and Songwriter of the Year.

While we're reading into album names, the title of Georgas' 2012 follow-up, *Hannah Georgas*, is similarly perfect. It's an even more assured effort from the Vancouver-based singer/songwriter and, as Hannah puts it, "a re-introduction to where I'm at creatively and musically."

Musically, Georgas, 28, was interested in exploring electronic synths, particularly analogue, pre-EDM keyboards.

Who better to help her realize her vision than producer Graham Walsh of Toronto's Holy Fuck, one of the most revered acts in live-band electronica?

"I had heard wonderful things and he's the sweetest person," she says. "Whenever I'm in Toronto, Graham and his family are on the top on my list of people to see. It was fortunate we got along so well."

Georgas was also looking to block out time for intensive writing, something that relentless touring in support of *This Is Good* hadn't allowed.

"I wanted to grow with my writing and definitely do more in terms of my demoing process," she says from the van en route to a



On her new album, Hannah Georgas was interested in exploring electronic synths, particularly analogue, pre-EDM keyboards. She teamed up with producer Graham Walsh of Holy Fuck to help realize her vision.

gig in Edmonton, the second date in a North American headlining tour that stops in Winnipeg on Saturday, Jan. 26.

"I started playing around more on Garage Band and figuring things out for myself a bit more. I made an effort to write every single

day." And so, every day from January 2011 until that summer, she wrote.

Some songs were confessional and deeply personal; *Ode To Mom*, for example, is about Hannah's dad, who passed away a couple of

years ago. Others, such as *Shortie*, are pure, cotton-candy pop escapism.

Through those writing sessions, Georgas learned to be less hard on herself, and that sometimes songs take time.

"I learned that it's a process," she says. "I used to write very quickly, and I'd be able to write a song in a day. With this, I'd sit down at my instrument and it was like, 'This isn't coming.' When you write a song you love, you want to play it all the time because you've found something amazing. When that doesn't happen, or when it doesn't stick, it's frustrating."

It makes sense, then, that she'd come out on the other side with a confident album that exudes both maturity and wisdom beyond her years; Hannah owns her growth. And, as anyone who saw her open for Mother Mother at the Burton Cummings Theatre last month knows, she's also exuding that bolstered confidence onstage - a point she's previously attributed to spending four months on the road supporting Kathleen Edwards as both an opening act and a member of her backing band.

While she's looking forward to supporting *Hannah Georgas* on her own steam, she's already feeling the pull of those quiet moments out of the stage lights.

"You get so focused on all the other parts of putting out an album - touring it and promoting it. Sometimes I get frustrated and just want to get home and write," she says with a laugh.

- ⇒ Hannah Georgas plays The Park Theatre on Saturday, Jan. 26 at 8 p.m.
- ⇒ Vancouver noise-poppers The Belle Game will open the show
- ⇒ Tickets are \$20.50 after fees at Ticketmaster
- ⇒ Visit www.hannahgeorgas.com



Jason

"I like to focus on value and warmth. I like dark and tailored."

FASHION STREETER

The Uniter Fashion Streeter is an ongoing documentation of creative fashion in Winnipeg inspired by the Helsinki fashion blog www.hel-looks.com. Each issue will feature a new look from our city's streets and bars in an attempt to encourage individual expression and celebrate that you are really, really good looking.

DYLAN HEWLETT



LE **CONSEIL JEUNESSE PROVINCIAL** PRÉSENTE



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Coffee with French Press

Getting to know Winnipeg singer/songwriter Chantel Emond

KATRINE DENISET
VOLUNTEER

When Chantel Emond - better known by her stage name French Press - finished her shift at a Winnipeg coffee shop, she ran to the back to grab herself a cup of black coffee and came back to sit down with a nervous smile.

However, the 29-year-old singer-song-writer doesn't lack experience.

She studied jazz in Toronto at Humber College throughout the mid-2000s, played with acclaimed band The O'Darling, and spent much of 2010 singing in venues around Thailand and Morocco, sporting unflattering outfits chosen by her band.

“I’ve never doubted myself musically, but as a writer I’ve doubted myself many times.”

- CHANTAL EMOND



SUPPLIED

Local singer-songwriter Chantel Emond, a.k.a. French Press, digs Elliott Smith, a hot cup of joe and a good conversation.

“Travelling was a getaway from my every-day life. It made me open to different realities and it was a great way to build up my ideas,” Emond says. “I also discovered I didn’t want to sing jazz covers anymore. I had more to express.”

The Wolseley resident doesn’t regret coming back home to Winnipeg to launch her career.

“You don’t want to work when you’re away. You get inspired, then you come back home to work.”

Though French Press has already achieved some buzz, recently being named one of CBC Scene’s top 10 artists to watch this year, Emond has only been playing locally under the moniker since last June.

“My goal was to grow up as an artist in a smaller community. I mean, I’m new and I’m already moving ahead so quickly.”

Since she is new, she’s still working on defining herself as an artist, having recently switched from keys to guitar in a live setting.

Although she grew up listening to the Beach Boys and Patsy Cline (and admitted she’s often been compared to Regina Spektor), French Press found a new source of inspiration.

“I’m very excited about Elliott Smith’s music.”

On the topic of the late Portland songwriter, she muses on a related project she’s discussed with long-time friend and Enjoy Your Pumas/Cephalopods member, Josh

Benoit.

“We’re planning on doing some sort of tribute night to Elliott Smith, where we’d cover a bunch of his songs. But first we need to find out if Winnipeggers even like him and if they’d show up at the event.”

The group setting of her former band allowed for some shoulders to lean on, but the seven-piece orchestral pop collective spent more time battling to have each of their voices heard, and caused The O’Darling, a group the *Globe and Mail* called one of the “top 10 unclaimed treasures of 2009,” to implode.

Despite having all this experience, Emond admits she still deals with anxiety before her shows.

“An hour before I play, I get so nervous. Last weekend I played at a house concert and I was overwhelmed by the number of people who came. I got the clammiest hands I’ve ever had.”

Nerves aside, Emond is still open to easy going collaboration, having just collaborated with local poet Jennifer Still last month.

“You really need to be willing to learn from the people who have been doing it for years and years.”

- ⇒ French Press performs at the Folk Exchange on Friday, Jan. 25 at 8 p.m.
- ⇒ Tickets are \$12 at the door
- ⇒ Visit www.facebook.com/frenchpressmusic

MUSIC LISTINGS

THURSDAY, JAN. 24

BIG FUN kicks off their annual festival at Young United Church with THE LIPTONIANS, DOUG HOYER and CANNON BROS.

BIG FUN continues at the Windsor with GOURMET SCUM and KINDEST CUTS.

FRIDAY, JAN. 25

PENTAPUSS with CAPITOLINE ESCAPE and LESS THAN GONE are at the Zoo.

BAD COUNTRY plays the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

BIG FUN presents JENNY BERKEL and LAWRENCE LEE at the Ballroom, 218 Roslyn Rd. at 6:30 p.m.

Head over to A.N.A.F Club 60 on River for the ANGRY DRAGONS, THE MYSTICS and PHLEGM FATALE as a part of BIG FUN.

FRENCH PRESS plays the Folk Exchange.

WHISKEY TALKS plays the Windsor.

TRIO BEMBE and RAMBLIN DAN FRECHETTE play the Park Theatre as part of the Nu Sounds Series.

DANGER CAT, CLIPWING, LOOSE NUKE and VINCENT PRICELESS want your bones at the Cavern as a part of BIG FUN.

DON ROSS, the man with the magic fingers, tickles the West End Cultural Centre.

LINDSEY WHITE plays the Loft Gastro Pub.

The UWSA and BIG FUN present CADENCE WEAPON with guests DJ CO-OP and HUNNICUTT and PIP SKID at Gio’s.

SATURDAY, JAN. 26

BIG FUN and Gio’s present THE RIPPERZS, JEANS BOOTS and ANIMAL TEETH at Gio’s.

FIGURE, GLASS RANDOM and A WASTE ODYSSEY are at Into The Music starting at 2 p.m. as a part of BIG FUN.

JEANS BOOTS and DOUG HOYER are

at Aceartinc starting at 4:30 p.m. as a part of BIG FUN.

BIG FUN presents WARSAW, SALINAS, and THE BOKONONISTS at the Windsor.

RED MOON ROAD plays the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

JENNY BERKEL, KAYLA LUKY and JD EDWARDS play together at the Millennium Library.

THE TRAGICALLY HIP play the MTS CENTRE.

Head down to the Graffiti Art Gallery for VESELY COUTURE and FIELD.

HANNAH GEORGAS plays the Park Theatre.

OH MY DARLING invite you to join them for the release of their latest album, *Venez Danser*, with FIRE & SMOKE at the West End Cultural Centre.

SUNDAY, JAN. 27

THE F-HOLES with ANDREW NEVILLE, JEREMY HAMM and JESS REIMER play the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

BIG FUN will be wrapping it all up at the Free Press Café with CLAIRE MORRISON, YES WE MYSTIC and BYRNE FIDDLER.

Music on the ice at the Forks with DJ CO-OP and HUNNICUT.

MONDAY, JAN. 28

Karaoke at the Rose ‘n’ Bee.

Karaoke at Club 200.

TUESDAY, JAN. 29

TIM BUTLER has the Tuesday blues every Tuesday at the Windsor.

Karaoke at the Rose ‘n’ Bee.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 30

FROM GIANTS with EAGLE LAKE OWLS and WHEN THE BOY WAKES are at the Park Theatre.

SARAH NEUFELD and JESSE KRAUSE are at the West End Cultural Centre as part of Pop Nuit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

GIRTH is at the Windsor for Draft Night on Jan. 31.

The Windsor presents an early Super-bowl Party with LEGIONS OF LIQUOR on Feb. 1.

KIPP KOCAY plays at University Centre at the U of M on Feb 1. Presented by UMFM.

Manitoba Music is having their showcase at the Windsor with SALINAS, MISE EN SCENE, FLYING FOX & THE HUNTER GATHERERS and FRENCH PRESS.

On Feb. 2 head down to Frame Arts Warehouse for ATOMIC DON AND THE BLACK SUNRISE with ANIMAL LOVER, SALT LICK and FLESH LIGHT.

SARAH CRIPPS plays the Folk Exchange Feb. 7.

WHITEHORSE and DEL BARBER play the Burton Cummings Theatre Feb. 8.

The West End Cultural Centre is pleased to announce AN EVENING WITH MARTYN JOSEF on Feb. 19.

SARAH SLEAN and IAN KELLY are at the West End Cultural Centre Feb. 21.

The West End Cultural Centre and Big Fun Productions present TRUST with ERAAS and KINDEST CUTS at the WECC on Feb. 28.

On Mar. 23 RON SEXSMITH and MADISON VIOLET play the Burton Cummings Theatre.

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Culture

FOOD

Shawarma Khan touches down in Winnipeg

Former Blue Bomber Obby Khan opens Middle Eastern eatery in Exchange District

MICHELLE GAZZE
VOLUNTEER

Shawarma Khan, the long-awaited shawarma restaurant of Canadian Football League offensive lineman Obby Khan, officially opened its 225 McDermot Ave. location this past Monday, Jan. 21.

The buzz about Khan opening a shawarma spot first started in April 2012 when the former Blue Bomber announced his plans to retire and open a restaurant in Winnipeg.

After a short stint in retirement, Khan signed with the Calgary Stampeders, but still resides in Winnipeg.

“I wanted to introduce healthy, fresh and flavourful Middle Eastern food to mainstream Winnipeg,” Khan says.

Khan had been thinking about a master plan for two years and acquired the help of two chefs, one who hails from Tunisia and another who is a high school buddy and culinary graduate, to help him make his dream a reality.

Why shawarma?

“Simple, it’s delicious and there is nowhere in Winnipeg to get a good shawarma,” Khan says.

If you’re unsure of what shawarma is, let’s break it down.

Shawarma is a Middle Eastern dish made of marinated meat (typically chicken, beef or lamb) that is slowly cooked on a vertical rotisserie.

Similar to a Greek gyro, the meat is thinly



DYLAN HEWLETT

Obby Khan is passionate about two things: Protecting quarterbacks and serving up top-quality shawarma.

shaved off, wrapped in a pita and accompanied by fresh, unique toppings like pickled turnips and tasty sauces like hummus, tahini or garlic sauce.

Shawarma has become a fast food staple for university students and late-night club-goers in Montreal and Toronto, but has yet to gain much popularity in Winnipeg, with only Shawarma Time and Baraka Bakery serving

up shawarma.

“They are mom and pop shops,” Khan says, referring to his shawarma competitors. “I’m doing something different. I want this place to be delicious, fast and modern.”

Emphasis on “modern.” Located in the heart of the Exchange District, the restaurant’s bright, contemporary and trendy décor separates it from the city’s other shawarma

options.

Khan designed the entire layout himself and enlisted the help of S3 Interior Design Inc. to help execute his vision.

Still, the menu is the main attraction.

In addition to chicken, beef and lamb shawarma, Shawarma Khan offers vegetarian options like the falafel platter and tabbouleh (salad).

All platters are accompanied by rice, garlic potatoes, hummus, pita bread and choice of salad.

Khan is passionate about serving halal meat in his restaurant.

Halal is an Arabic word that means “permissible” according to Islamic law.

In terms of halal meat, there are certain preparation guidelines, one being that the animal must have been fed a natural diet that did not contain any animal by-products.

“As a practicing Muslim, I wanted to open a spot that I was proud of both religiously and ethically,” Khan says. “Our meat is locally sourced, free range and hormone free.”

In the next couple years, Khan plans to open four more locations across the city, two of which he hopes will be located in the Bombers new home, Investors Group Field.

“The city of Winnipeg has been great to me and I plan on bringing something new and diverse to this city that I hope people will enjoy,” Khan says.

Visit www.shawarmakhan.com and follow @ShawarmaKhanWPG on Twitter for restaurant specials and updates.

THE WEB

Another blow to the Yellow Pages

SkipTheDishes.ca presents a new phone call-free way to order food

JARED STORY
CULTURE EDITOR

Food delivery and take-out is just a couple clicks away at SkipTheDishes.ca.

The website, which currently services Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Red Deer and soon, Regina, eliminates the awkward phone call and subsequent waiting on hold.

Just type in your postal code and you’ll find a list of restaurants in your area, complete with prices, delivery times and fees and, of course, full menus. Input your order online and Skip the Dishes sends you a confirmation email with an estimated time for delivery or pickup.

“It makes it easier for people to find restaurants and order from them,” says Joshua Simair, 25, founder of Skip the Dishes.

“For the restaurant to take an order, it takes about 15 seconds. It comes right to them on a tablet device that we’ve programmed. They just click accept and provide the wait time. What takes a couple minutes on the phone is down to 15 seconds.

“Currently, we’re doing thousands of hits a day, which for a prairie IT company is really significant.”

Since launching in Saskatoon in early September, Skip the Dishes has signed over 100 restaurants on to its service - over 40 of those in Winnipeg - and those numbers are increasing daily.

Beyond its easy-to-use, mobile device compatible website, Skip the Dishes’ popularity can be attributed to the fact that it charges neither the restaurant nor the customer for its service, taking only a small commission based on order volume.



CAM SKRYPNYK

Josh Simair (from left), Joël Cyr and Justin Brown of SkipTheDishes.ca stand with Element’s chef Aron Epp.

In other words, it’s win-win-win.

“In addition to this free professional online marketing, it’s really levelling the playing field between the local guys and the Boston Pizzas and Dominos of the world,” Simair says.

Speaking of playing field, much of Skip the Dishes’ staff, which also includes Simair’s brothers Chris and Dan, is made up of former Saskatchewan Huskies and Manitoba Bisons track and field team members.

“We all knew each other from competing at track meets and we know how hard athletes work because we see their results on the

track,” says Simair, a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan.

“That hard work ethic is completely transferable to Skip the Dishes. It’s that understanding that a job needs to be done professionally.”

Elements, located in the University of Winnipeg’s Richardson College for the Environment and Science Complex, signed up with Skip the Dishes shortly after its Winnipeg launch in December.

Ben Kramer, executive chef at Diversity Food Services Inc., which includes Elements, says even though the restaurant hasn’t yet

seen a ton of orders through Skip the Dishes, he sees the potential.

“There have been other similar services in the past, which I’ve dabbled in, but Skip the Dishes is the first one I’ve seen that is actually cohesive,” Kramer says.

“It’s super user friendly, that’s the main thing. Similar services I’ve used in the past were so cumbersome, and in addition to not being functional, they took a big chunk of money. Not only is this the easiest service to work with, it’s the most fair to the consumer and restaurateur.”

CULTURE TODAY

Behind the mic

Despite the lack of clubs, stand-up comedy is booming in Winnipeg

JARED STORY
CULTURE EDITOR

Google “Winnipeg comedy clubs” and you’ll get one result: Rumor’s Restaurant and Comedy Club.

That’s not a bad thing.
Ask any touring comic who’s performed in the ‘Peg and they’ll tell you Rumor’s is one of the best - if not *the* best - comedy rooms in Canada.

Still, a single club doesn’t exactly scream, “Thriving local comedy scene.”

And yet, Winnipeg’s scene *is* thriving.
With the help of some willing establishments like the Rose n’ Bee Pub, the Cheer Bar & Grill, the King’s Head Pub and Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club, Winnipeg’s stand-up comedians have taken it upon themselves to get their humour heard.

“I think Winnipeg’s comedy scene is underrated because people think there’s not as many shows to do here, but our advantage is the few shows we have are really good ones,” says Mike Green, 25, a local comic and host of Comedy at the Rose n’ Bee, a weekly open mic night.

“I went to Toronto and saw some of their scene. There, a comic can do five shows a night, but four of those shows are absolute write-offs with just other comics in the crowd. Here, there’s actually a real audience that can give you a gauge on your material.

“Also, I think we have as many top tier comics as bigger cities. Actually, per capita, we might even be higher. Other cities may have a couple hundred guys trying comedy, but there are really only 10 to 20 top tier stand-ups. I think we have that many good guys in our city alone, guys that can get called to do paid shows and deliver.”

Not only can a good number of Winnipeg comics deliver, they’re delivering in different ways.

There’s Matt Nightingale, who crafts intelligent, drawn-out bits, with observations that are almost Brian Regan or Jerry Seinfeld-esque.

John B. Duff, who runs shows at the Cheer and the King’s Head, tells tales of his three bouts with cancer.

Then there’s aboriginal comic Paul Rabliaskas, who is a big ball of energy - think Chris Rock, but First Nations.

And with her Nigerian heritage, Aisha Alfa provides a different cultural perspective, and a female perspective, something every stand-up comedy scene could always use more of.

“The uniqueness of everyone’s act is something that stands (out) for me,” says Ryan Ash, 28, a regular host at Rumor’s and a staple on the local comedy circuit.

“In a lot of scenes you’ll see four guys



TYLER FUNK

Matt Nightingale is one of the comics in Winnipeg’s diverse, thriving comedy scene.

doing Mitch Hedberg or four guys doing Aziz Ansari. They write together so they all kind of sound like one another. Here, it seems like people have different approaches. It doesn’t seem like anyone is trying to sound like someone else or subconsciously slipping into that trap.”

The other trap stand-up comedians can fall into is the fiercely competitive nature of the comedic style.

Yet, despite the fact that there’s a limited number of showcase and paid opportunities in Winnipeg, there’s little animosity within the scene.

“I’d say for the most part it’s camaraderie,” Green says. “There are lots of guys that I enjoy writing with and I think for the most part, the comics respect each other. Obviously you have to think you’re the best if you want to be doing it and going hard at it, but we’re aware that on any given night, any one of us can be the one that stands out.”

One possible reason for the lack of in-fighting may be the fact that many of the comics started at roughly the same time, with two to four years of stage time under their belts.

Ash, originally from Edmonton, started doing stand-up six years ago, but sees that correlation.

“I think that everybody got to grow together and learn together. It’s almost like part comedy, part class,” Ash says.

That comedic camaraderie goes beyond stand-up.

For instance, at Comedy Loser, a monthly alternative comedy event at the King’s Head, stand-up is not allowed, but you will see stand-ups finding other ways to make people laugh.

“One thing that’s interesting that doesn’t

happen quite as much in other markets is the intersection of comedy genres,” says Al Rae, a veteran Winnipeg comic and artistic director of the Winnipeg Comedy Festival.

“For instance, you can see Lee White and Stephen Sim from (local improv duo) Crumbs doing stand-up and you’ll also see Crumbs doing improv on a show with stand-ups. Because it’s a smaller community there is some degree of cross-pollination between the comedy genres that you wouldn’t necessarily see in other cities. Sketch comics and stand-ups don’t tend to mix that much.”

While there are a variety of venues for stand-ups to perform in, every Winnipeg comedian’s goal, at least locally, is still Rumor’s.

It’s the epicentre of Winnipeg’s comedy scene.

In fact, the scene started because and in spite of the city’s only comedy club.

While running a great room, Rumor’s former owner, the late Ross Rumberg, wasn’t especially interested in developing local talent.

However, Tyler Schultz, Rumor’s current general manager, is.

In addition to the annual Winnipeg’s Funniest Person with a Day Job contest and monthly amateur nights, he offers guest spots to deserving local comics, and his host roster is more in touch with the local scene than previous rosters.

“Before I took over for Ross, the hosts weren’t allowed to go up anywhere else,” Schultz says. “There were some pretty strict restrictions on what they could do. I just had a different philosophy. I encourage the hosts to do the open mics and other shows, try out new material and when it’s polished, come back and use it at the club.”

Green, who won the Rumor’s 2009 Funniest Person contest, is grateful for the club’s contribution to the scene.

“Rumor’s provides a benchmark, a goal,” Green says. “It not only inspires guys to continue doing stand-up, but once they get in there and get the hang of it, it gives them a chance to work on their material in front of the primo crowd.”

For an in-depth look into the Winnipeg comedy scene, check out Sign Up & Stand Up, a new documentary by local filmmaker Tyson Caron. Now airing on MTS TV’s Stories From Home (formerly Winnipeg On Demand), the film follows four Winnipeg comics as they wade their way through the scene and the comedic craft. See a trailer at www.tinyurl.com/SUSUtrailer.

In addition to Rumor’s, there are plenty of places to see stand-up comedy in Winnipeg. Here’s your guide to guaranteed giggles.

- ⇒ Comedy at the Rose n’ Bee, Thursdays, 9 p.m., the Rose n’ Bee Pub - Comedy open mic hosted by Mike Green
- ⇒ Stand up & Cheer, Wednesdays, 9:30 p.m., the Cheer Bar & Grill - Stand-up comedy showcase hosted by Benjamin “Old Ball Coach” Walker
- ⇒ Comedy on the Corner, first Saturday of every month, 7 p.m., Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club - Stand-up comedy showcase hosted by Chantel Marostica
- ⇒ The Free Laughs Comedy Series, Tuesdays, 9 p.m., King’s Head Pub - Weekly comedy event alternating between stand-up, improv and alternative comedy shows
- ⇒ Performance Anxiety, Sundays, 7 p.m., Pulse Nightclub & Lounge - Stand-up comedy and open mic
- ⇒ Laughs at the Loft, Sundays, 8:30 p.m., the Loft Gastropub - Stand-up comedy showcase hosted by Jordan Welwood

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FILM

It has been seven years since the last installment of the *Up* series and it is time to catch up on their lives. From cab driver Tony to schoolmates Jackie, Lynn and Susan and the heartbreaking Neil, the film follows the individuals as they turn 56 and more life-changing decisions and surprising developments are revealed. Catch 56 UP at Cinematheque on Jan. 24 at 9:15 p.m. and Jan. 25 and 26 at 9 p.m.

STEPPING THROUGH HEAVEN: THE PERSONAL FILMS OF DANIELLE STURK is playing at Cinematheque on Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. Four of Sturk's films will be shown - all of which showcase creative vision and a strong sense of vulnerability.

On Jan. 26 at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, Inuit filmmaker ALETHEA ARNAQUQ-BARIL records her journey to learn about traditional Inuit women's face tattoos before getting tattooed herself. The screening takes place at 7 p.m. and will be followed by a Q&A with Arnaquq-Baril. Admission is free for delegates attending the Inuit art symposium. For all others it is included with gallery admission.

Cinematheque presents WE RISE ABOVE: SHORT FILMS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS on Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. This series will be curated by Alex Rogalski and will include the short films THE BOXING GIRLS OF KABUL and A MOTH IN SPRING.

Atreyu and Valcor are at it again, but this time on the big screen at Cinematheque on Feb. 3 at 2 p.m. THE NEVER-ENDING STORY is a childhood favourite that you and your kids will want to see again.

Cinematheque's EIGHTH ANNUAL SERIES OF FREE FILMS FOR CHILDREN happens every Sunday afternoon until March 3. Don't miss Freeze Frame and EDGE Gallery's hands-on animation workshops for kids of all ages on the same Sundays between 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.

LITERATURE

The Millennium Library presents WRITE YOUR LIFE STORY at the Osborne Library on Jan. 28. Get tips and exercises on how to begin writing and how to stay motivated. No experience needed, just a pen and paper and a desire to share your stories. Registration required as space is limited.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

A community engaged in the arts is safer, more creative and more livable. ACI Manitoba presents ARTISTS + COMMUNITY: BUILDING OUR NETWORKS on Jan. 24 a symposium that includes guided site tours of community arts practices, keynote addresses, panels and facilitated workshops that will provide inspiration and leadership for those people who are striving to bring more art into our communities.

Gurevich Fine Arts presents SMALL WORKS SHOW featuring 20 artists including CYRUS SMITH, JEN ADAMS, KEITH WOOD and KAE SASAKI. The show runs until Jan. 25.

THE STAFFORD COLLECTION OF INUIT SCULPTURE consists of 121 sculptures mainly from the 1980s to the 2000s. The exhibition is being held at the WAG until Jan. 25.

DRAWN AND PLASTERED is excited to announce a show of mythic proportions - Morgaine (or as you may know her - Morgan Le Fay), Mordred and his scheming aunt

Morgause, the Lady of the Lake and, of course, Arthur, Guinevere and Lancelot will show you their famous stories through poses at the Edge Gallery on Jan. 26 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Head down to MAKE / Coffee + Stuff at 751 Corydon Ave. for a look into the past with the FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE WAREHOUSE JOURNAL EXHIBITION. Visit, drink coffee and pick up the most recent or any back issue of the *Warehouse Journal* you like until Jan. 27.

Gallery 1C03 at the University of Winnipeg is pleased to present its first program of 2013, a self-titled solo exhibition by Anishinaabe artist FRANK SHEBAGEGET that runs until Feb. 16.

The Winnipeg Folk Festival and Gurevich Fine Art are pleased to present a special collection of iconic festival photography by internationally acclaimed photographer STEVE ACKERMAN. The exhibition, PEOPLE AND MUSIC, is a series of black and white portraits that celebrate the musicians and audience from the Winnipeg Folk Festival in 2011 and 2012. The exhibition runs from Feb. 8 until Feb. 22.

From Feb. 1 until March 8 head down to the Urban Shaman's main gallery for PETER MORIN CEREMONY EXPERIMENTS 1 THROUGH 8. Also at Urban Shaman is SKAWEN-NATI TRICIA FRAGNITO with TIME TRAVELLER EPISODE 01-06 in Marvin Francis Memorial Media Gallery.

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

THE MASTER PLAYWRIGHT FESTIVAL, running until Feb. 3, will celebrate the artistic impact of lyricist and composer STEPHEN SONDHEIM. Passes are now on sale at the MTC Box Office. For just \$80 festival-goers will have a chance to see 11 Sondheimfest productions by the Actors Fund of Canada. Visit www.masterplaywrightfest.com for full details.

Prairie Theatre Exchange proudly presents THE DISH-WASHERS by Morris Panych. This comedy for recessionary times runs until Feb. 10. For tickets call 204-942-5483 or visit our Box Office on the 3rd floor of Portage Place. Student ticket discounts available. For more info see www.pte.mb.ca.

An Elvis impersonator finding his long lost daughter, sibling rivalry, an absent father and a domineering mother - family conflict will be on display at the second annual SO YOU THINK YOU CAN ACT. On Feb. 20 at the Gas Station Arts Centre, the Sarasvati Productions fundraiser will entertain audiences with a selection of scenes by celebrated playwrights. The evening features local celebrities testing out their acting chops in front of a panel of judges and an audience. Funds raised go to support the transformation theatre produced by Sarasvati Productions, specifically the world premiere of *Jail Baby* in May 2013.

Join the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, Corrientes Argentine Pizzeria, Hermanos Restaurant & Wine Bar and the soon-to-be-open Carnaval Brazilian BBQ for DINNER AND A SHOW, an evening of theatre and a three-course meal in the South American flavoured dining rooms. Visit www.dinnerandashow.ca for full details and prices.

Head down to the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club for COMEDY ON THE CORNER every Saturday.

Check out the King's Head Pub for your weekly dose of comedy every Tuesday at 9 p.m.

STUDENT SERVICES

The Student Services staff of the University of Winnipeg provides the student body with current information and opportunities. This information is updated weekly.

STUDENT CENTRAL:

Fall grades are now available! Grades for undergraduate Fall 2012 term courses are now available on WebAdvisor under the "Transcript" section. The deadline to appeal final grades is March 6.

Rent a locker today! Need a place to store your winter coat and boots? Lockers are available in the basement of Manitoba Hall, at the Richardson College, and a few on the 4th floor of Centennial Hall. Lockers are \$20 per term, per person. Rent your locker by sending an email with your preferred location to studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca from your U of W email account, or visit Student Central in person.

TUITION TAX FORMS

Please be advised that your T2202A tax form (Tuition and Education Deduction Form) from the University of Winnipeg for the 2012 tax year will be available to you online through your WebAdvisor account by Feb. 28. T2202A forms will not be mailed out to students.

REMINDERS:

March 4: Last day to drop Winter Classes without academic penalty (no refund).

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID:

The following applications are available to download online. Once you complete it, submit it in the red drop box located on the first floor of Centennial Hall (Student Central):

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES EXPENSES BURSARY

For students in the final year of their undergraduate program who are applying for entry into a graduate or professional studies program with financial need.

GENERAL BURSARY

These bursaries are meant to provide additional support to those who have unmet financial need after they have accessed all financial resources available to them.

Both application forms are available online at <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awds-current-continuing>.

Solutions for last week's issue.



WE GOOFED!

The sudoku puzzle in last week's issue of *The Uniter* did not work. We apologize for the error.

This week's puzzle should be all good. Enjoy!



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TW	Artist	Recording	Label
1	*Bloodshot Bill	So Blue	Transistor 66
2	!Various	Songs In The Key Of Hope: The Derek Wheeler Story	No Label Collective
3	!Boats	Marblemouth	Self-Released
4	!Phelgm Fatale	Glam Crust Or Bust	Transistor 66
5	!Drums And Wires	Waiting On The Moon	Self-Released
6	Various Artists	Nuggets: Original Artyfacts from the First Psychedelic Era, 1965-1968	Rhino/Warner
7	Stars	The North	Soft Revolution/ATO
8	Cat Power	Sun	Matador
9	!Curtis Nowosad	The Skeptic And The Cynic	Self-Released
10	!Johnny Sizzle	Home Sweet Home	No Label Collective

Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku 17

Solutions to this week's puzzles in next week's issue.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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59	60	61				62		63						
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

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Across

- 1- Golf pegs, northern English river;
5- Very small quantity;
9- Having jaws;
14- I smell ___;
15- Puts on;
16- Strike ___;
17- Rosy;
19- Grannies;
20- ___ del Fuego;
21- Large cat;
23- Sharply;
25- Downcast;
26- Cushion;
29- Knock vigorously;
30- Kill with amps;
33- Brief romantic affair;
34- Logic;
35- Ballerina Pavlova;
38- Wreath of flowers;
40- Catch a view of;
41- Shone;

- 44- Squirrel stash;
47- Paving stone;
49- Blood letters;
52- Draft org.;
53- Stomach, Asian, or Hong Kong;
54- Teased;
56- Secluded valleys;
58- African fly;
59- Japanese porcelaine;
62- Organizations;
64- Jeter of the Yankees;
65- Yellow cheese coated with red wax;
66- CPR experts;
67- Thunderstruck;
68- Shipping deduction;
69- Tabula ___;

Down

- 1- Tooth deposit;
2- Beethoven's Third;

- 3- Relax;
4- Begin;
5- Perfectly;
6- "Hollywood Squares" win;
7- Hardware fastener;
8- Help;
9- Unidentified woman;
10- On ___ with;
11- Took the gold;
12- Conductor ___-Pekka Salonen;
13- ___ Moines;
18- Words to live by;
22- Teri of "Tootsie";
24- Shout;
26- Cat;
27- On;
28- Contradict;
31- Wedge;
32- Capital of Calvados, in NW France;
33- Metrical foot;
35- Basics;

- 36- Revivalists;
37- Apprehends;
39- Image;
42- Elfish;
43- Strike out;
45- Former;
46- Actress Wither-spoon;
48- Evening;
49- Nissan model;
50- Assaults;
51- Black Sea port;
55- Discourage;
56- Increased in size;
57- Fizzy drink;
59- A mean Amin;
60- More than one male;
61- Altar in the sky;
63- Train unit;

SUDOKU SKILL LEVEL: EASY

3		6			2	9		
	2		7					8
	4		6					2
6		2			3	1		
2		7		6	5	3	9	
1		5						
4		3		1	8	5	6	

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THE UNITER IS HIRING

The following position is based on an eight-week term running Monday, Feb. 11 to Friday, March 29, 2013. Staff members are expected to attend weekly staff meetings and actively engage in the development of their position throughout the course of their employment.

COMMENTS EDITOR

The comments editor coordinates a weekly two- to three-page section full of well-written and compelling arguments and opinions on a variety of current events and issues. The comments editor must be familiar with a wide variety of campus, local, national and international issues of relevance to *Uniter* readers. They ensure all commentary is fair and balanced, and edit all content. They work with the managing editor to develop a healthy dialogue between *The Uniter* and its readers.

For further information, call 204-786-9790

or email editor@uniter.ca. References and at least three writing samples must be attached to resumes.

Mail, or deliver resumes in person, to *The Uniter*, ORM14 Bulman Centre, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9, or email your application package to: editor@uniter.ca

Only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. Applications are encouraged from *all* interested parties.

Application deadline for this position is Friday, Feb. 1 at 12 noon.

THE UNITER



Are you interested in teaching:

Technical Vocational, Business Technology, or Industrial Arts?
(How about multimedia & ICT, drafting & robotics, or carpentry & machining?)

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Date: Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013
Time: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Place: A-137, Notre Dame Campus,
Red River College (2055 Notre Dame Ave.)

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