

THE

# UNITER

FREE.WEEKLY.  
VOLUME 71 // ISSUE 24 // MAR 16

## THE TRUE DRAMA OF **ANIMAL RESCUE**



A close-up photograph of a cat's face, focusing on its large, expressive yellow eyes and white fur around its nose and mouth. The cat has dark, textured fur on its forehead and ears. The background is blurred, showing more of the cat's face and body.

HUMANS IN THIS COMMUNITY  
FACE MANY DIFFICULTIES

SLUSHY SPRING  
FASHION P7

UNDERGRADS  
GET PUBLISHED P15

UBER'S NOT  
THE ANSWER P17



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WINNIPEG

# INSPIRATIONAL MENTOR

Tanya is the longtime head coach of the UWinnipeg Wesmen women's basketball program. An award-winning former athlete, she mentors and inspires young women to succeed on the court and give back to the community. Tanya was inducted into the Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame in 2003 and has been recognized for her many volunteer activities focused on coaching and developing young women.

**TANYA MCKAY**  
Mentor / Alumna

[UWINNIPERG.CA/IMPACT](http://UWINNIPERG.CA/IMPACT)

**50**

## \* ON THE COVER

It takes a lot of work behind the scenes to get cute cats like this one ready for adoption. Read more on page 9.

# CINEMATHEQUE



Damien Ferland (left) is the guest programmer for Alliance Française's French Film Festival, and Anaïs Biernat (right) works with Alliance Française. Read more on page 5.

PHOTO BY CALLIE MORRIS

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Submissions of articles, letters, graphics and photos are encouraged, however all new contributors (with the exception of letters to the editor) must attend a 45-minute volunteer orientation workshop to ensure that the volunteer understands all of the publication's basic guidelines. Volunteer workshops take place Wednesdays from 12:30-1:20 in room ORM14. Please email [volunteer@uniter.ca](mailto:volunteer@uniter.ca) for more details. Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. The Uniter reserves the right to refuse to print material submitted by volunteers. The Uniter will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.

# KITTENS AND CORN BEER AND WEED, OH MY!

Certain story topics may seem frivolous or unserious at first glance. But our job at *The Uniter* is to look beyond the superficial and to inform readers about the deeper meaning and wider impacts of the stories we tell, while also enjoying the work we put into telling them.

A cover feature about animal rescue might seem like it's a straightforward feel-good story, but there are also more challenging experiences that those working in rescue have to navigate. There's a lot of heart-wrenching work that goes on behind the scenes before those cute whiskered critters are in good enough shape to find their forever homes.

And other stories may sound, at first, like novelty. Researchers at the University of Winnipeg are working to develop a gluten-free beer made from corn, which could provide a surprising solution to a problem not all beer drinkers (or brewers) have considered.

The legalization of marijuana is often sensationalized, but the actual implementation would require widespread changes. A group of businesses is getting together to discuss some of the practicalities that could come up with legalization. What would dispensaries look like from a commercial perspective?

When we're developing these pieces, from the initial pitch through the editing process, we make sure we're telling a story that's compelling and well-researched. And if we can have some fun while also covering all those bases, that's even better.

- Anastasia Chipelski

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# WHOSE HOUSE?

KRISTEN AND  
DWAYNE'S HOUSE



PHOTOS BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

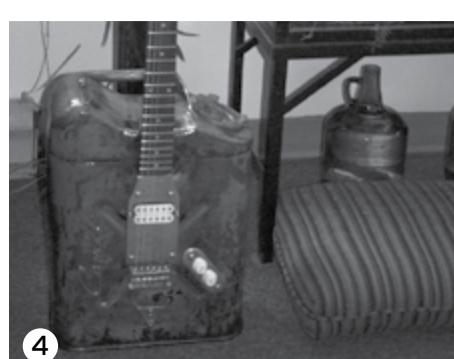
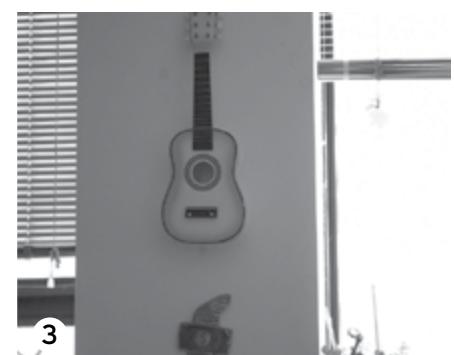
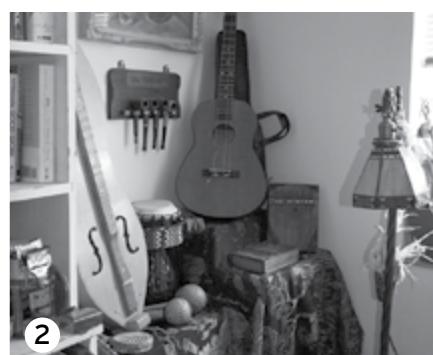
FEATURES REPORTER

Kristen Andrews and Dwayne Dueck have lived in various collective housing arrangements since moving to Winnipeg from Morden, Man. in 1988. The two-some says that since moving into their Exchange District housing co-op four years ago, they've found a new, special kind of solace.

"I've lived in and out of collective houses and co-op mansions and weird squats most of the time I've been in Winnipeg," says Andrews, who runs Ragpickers Anti-Fashion Emporium. "But these last four years have been the first time I feel like I have a grown-up place."

Andrews and Dueck have found the newfound personal space a boon to their professional lives as well. In addition to Ragpickers, Andrews works as a community activist, bass clarinetist in The Flaming Trolleys and a slew of other community gigs. Dueck works as a singer-songwriter and also plays with various blues and country acts in the city, including the Patrick Alexandre Trio and Big Dave McLean's Blues Jam, and is instantly recognizable as the doorman at Times Change(d).

"Dwayne does most of his songwriting and rehearsals here," Andrews says, "and I work partly out of my home. This building is a converted sewing factory, and we have lots of space. We're really lucky to have affordable housing co-ops like this in Manitoba. It's not a thing in other provinces."



## 1) OWL SCULPTURES

KA: "These are whalebone structures that come from up north, where we've both done lots of work. These are from Nunavut. People find these whale bones and turn them into owls. I like the juxtaposition of putting them with the greenery, because these come from places where there are no trees."

## 2) INSTRUMENTS

KA: "On the left is a bass dulcimer. There's a bunch of little ukuleles around, as well as the thumb pianos and talking drum. I'm also a drum instructor. I do this thing called Sacred Beats at Knox United Church, where we teach drumming. So most of my drums live over there."

## 3) WALL OF WINNIPEG ART

KA: "The money flying away is Jordan van Sewell. The little pink guitar Dwayne and I found in our first winter in the city. We were hanging out on a date and found this lying broken in one of the tunnels in The Exchange. This collection is sort of the Winnipeg musician's love-hate relationship with the city."

## 4) GAS CAN GUITAR

DD: "My brother built that for me. He's a mechanic and doesn't know anything about guitars, but he built that thing, man! It's pretty neat. It actually plays. I've used it onstage with Big Dave McLean a couple times. It actually sounds really good, though it's really heavy, so it's not always practical."

## 5) BOOKS

KA: "The big shelf is primarily research stuff. I've got a lot of stuff on wild food harvesting. I'm also an assistant instructor at Mary Jane's Cooking School, and food advocacy is very important to me. There's also the fiction shelf and my little collection of antique books. I particularly love these old 1950s science fiction books with dual covers. I've had *Kemlo and the Martian Ghosts* since I was a kid."

## 6) PROPELLER BLADE

KA: "This is one half of the propeller that my grandfather flew in the Second World War. He and the other pilot he flew with each took half."

# FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL RETURNS FOR A THIRD YEAR

L'Amour et la Violence at Cinematheque

AMIToj SINGH

VOLUNTEER

Pour ceux qui apprécie le cinéma, an interesting festival is returning to Winnipeg.

Alliance Française's French Film Festival will give Winnipeggers the opportunity to see a diverse selection of foreign feature-length movies and local short films.

"It is a very important event in the cultural scene in the few years it has existed. Obviously, it is still growing, so we are still figuring out how far it can go and how successful it can be," Anaïs Biernat, Alliance Française project manager, says.

This year, they are continuing their collaboration with Cinematheque to present the festival.

"The idea is to bring something to Winnipeg that people might not always have access to," Biernat says. "This year, we decided to have a broader approach and a more local approach as well."

The theme is L'Amour et la Violence (Love and Violence). Films range from

classic to contemporary, with each screening showcasing a short film by a local filmmaker, followed by a full-length feature. All of the movies have English subtitles.

"French filmmaking takes risks," Damien Ferland, the guest programmer returning for this year's festival, says.

For Ferland, it is important to show the diversity of French cinema, as well as themes people may not be used to.

"We wanted to go with a darker theme this year," he says. "I always find myself having discussions with people after I see a movie at Cinematheque. I like encouraging that. I like the idea of becoming a different person after you leave the theatre."

One of several local contributors is Danielle Sturk. Her film *Mouvement* is playing in the festival. It is a contemporary dance film inspired by choreography of the same name by the late Rachel Brown. *Mouvement* has no spoken lan-



PHOTO BY CALLIE MORRIS

Guest programmer Damien Ferland (left) with Anaïs Bernat of Alliance Française.

guage, but Sturk says it still fits within the program.

"I'm a feminist francophone artist. That is the lens that I look through," Sturk says. "It really is a core piece of (my) identity that's been questioned and oppressed in our society and, unfortunately, it still comes up."

Highlighting the importance of events like this, Sturk remembers a time when being French in Manitoba was much more problematic.

"When I grew up, there were still bomb threats to the SFM (Société franco-manitobaine) building in the '80s."

Sturk is happy to see that pieces like hers have the opportunity to reach a wider audience.

"I think it's a fantastic thing, obviously," she says. "Local films, short films don't get much screening. Canadian films don't get much screening."



The festival runs from March 22 to 25 at Cinematheque at 100 Arthur St. Tickets are \$10 for non-members, \$8 for students and seniors and \$6 for members. Visit afmanitoba.ca or winnipeg-filmgroup.com for details.

## ARTS AND CULTURE BRIEFS

MEG CRANE // ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

@MECCRANE

### Tina Keeper named Woman of the Year

Winnipeg actor Tina Keeper is gaining recognition for her activism. The Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA) named her their 2017 Woman of the Year, a distinction given to women who use their passion to support other women in the industry. Keeper played RCMP officer Michelle Kenidi in the TV series *North of 60*.

### Apprenticeship program for women directors

The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television announced its new apprenticeship program for female directors. It is meant to help women who are entering or are mid-career in, television and digital media identify and achieve career and project goals, hone directing skills and network. An open casting call will be held in May to recruit participants. Learn more at academy.ca.

### City Specific

*City Specific*, a short documentary series profiling Winnipeg personalities, released a documentary about Nova Dance Collective. It focuses on the hard work and determination by the dancers that led to them getting a grant from Manitoba Arts Council for two of their pieces. Watch the film, *City Specific: Nova Dance Collective*, on Vimeo.

### Spirit Seekers 2017

Spirit Seekers - a conference which includes workshops, lectures and a metaphysical market - is taking place March 18 to 19 at the Fort Garry Hotel. The weekend's events are meant to give people a place to reboot their mind, body and soul. This year's psychic fair will include 15 readers, including tarot and flame. Attendance is free, but workshops cost extra.

### Song sales to Red Cross

Winnipeg musician Kevin Roy released a music video for his song "The Mighty River," from his debut album, *Heartworn Highways*. The video uses footage from the 1950 Manitoba flood, compiled from Archives of Manitoba. He will be donating all sales from this song to the Canadian Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. Find the video at youtube.com/kevinroymusic.

### Little Opera Company's St. Patrick's Day

Little Opera Company is offering an elegant alternative to typical St. Patrick's Day festivities with Opera Pairings. The fundraiser will be an evening of wine, food and opera pairings, with an Irish twist. Wine connoisseur Tess Cordeiro will lead the evening, and Little Opera Company will feature a selection of Winnipeg's best singers performing Irish folk songs. Tickets are \$65 through littleopera.ca.

# CKUW TOP 30

March 6 - 12, 2017

TW = This Week // LW = Last Week // ! = Local content // \* = Canadian Content



| TW | LW | C | ARTIST                               | ALBUM   | LABEL                      |
|----|----|---|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1  | 1  | ! | Personality Crisis                   | Personality Crisis                            | Sounds Escaping            |
| 2  | 2  | ! | Stretch Marks                        | Who And What - The Complete Studio Recordings | Sounds Escaping            |
| 3  | 8  | ! | Begonia                              | Lady In Mind                                  | Self-Released              |
| 4  | 3  | * | Whitney Rose                         | South Texas Suite                             | Six Shooter                |
| 5  | 6  | * | Austra                               | Future Politics                               | Domino                     |
| 6  | RE | ! | JD And The Sunshine Band             | Soaking Up The Rays                           | Transistor 66              |
| 7  | 4  | ! | Moon Tan                             | The Faceless Knight                           | Self-Released              |
| 8  | 18 | ! | Steve Kirby's Oceanic Jazz Orchestra | All Over The Map                              | Head In The Sand           |
| 9  | NE | ! | Civvie                               | Inheritance                                   | Self-Released              |
| 10 | 9  | ! | Futurekids                           | Like Like                                     | Self-Released              |
| 11 | 16 | * | Homesake                             | Fresh Air                                     | Royal Mountain / Sinderlyn |
| 12 | 7  | * | Japandroids                          | Near To The Wild Heart Of Life                | Arts & Crafts              |
| 13 | RE | * | Tanya Tagaq                          | Retribution                                   | Six Shooter                |
| 14 | RE | * | Century Palm                         | Meet You                                      | Deranged                   |
| 15 | 17 | * | The Luyas                            | Human Voicing                                 | Paper Bag Records          |
| 16 | RE | ! | Johnny Sizzle                        | Recovery                                      | Awkward Reasons Inc.       |
| 17 | RE | ! | Duotang                              | New Occupation                                | Stomp                      |
| 18 | RE | ! | John K. Samson                       | Winter Wheat                                  | Anti-                      |
| 19 | NE |   | Mary Ocher                           | The West Against The People                   | Klangbad                   |
| 20 | 27 | ! | Viewing Party                        | On.   | Birthday Tapes             |
| 21 | NE |   | Methyl Ethel                         | Everything Is Forgotten                       | Dot Dash / 4ad             |
| 22 | NE |   | Hanni El Khatib                      | Savage Times                                  | Innovative Leisure         |
| 23 | NE |   | Flaming Lips                         | Oczy Miody                                    | Warner                     |
| 24 | NE |   | Xiu Xiu                              | Forget  | Polyvinyl                  |
| 25 | NE |   | Pissed Jeans                         | Why Love Now                                  | Sub Pop                    |
| 26 | RE |   | London O'Connor                      | Circle Triangle                               | True Panther Sounds        |
| 27 | NE | * | The Real McKenzies                   | Two Devils Will Talk                          | Stomp / Fat Wreck Chords   |
| 28 | 12 |   | Ty Segall                            | Ty Segall                                     | Drag City                  |
| 29 | NE | * | Fred Eaglesmith                      | Standard                                      | Self-Released              |
| 30 | NE | * | Sex With Strangers                   | Discourse                                     | Northern Light             |



SUPPLIED PHOTO

## CAFETERIA II

THOMAS PASHKO

@THOMASPASHKO

FEATURES REPORTER

Elvira Finnigan and Lisa Wood  
Runs at Gallery 1Co3 until April 8

In March of 2016, artists Elvira Finnigan and Lisa Wood transformed the University of Winnipeg's Gallery 1Co3 into a temporary dining hall. The duo recorded university staff and students' meals using time-lapse photography and preserved their meals through less conventional chemical processes. Using the materials gathered from that initial luncheon, Finnigan and Wood have produced a variety of unconventional works of art in their follow-up exhibit, *Cafeteria II*.

Food is often explored in art, but it's rarer to see the act of eating explored so thoroughly as a work's sole focus. The artists explore this theme through their own respective media, with Wood using the visual and Finnigan the tactile, the physical. The two work in tandem to craft a layered representation of what it is to eat.

Wood's most prominent works are a series of hanging paintings focused on the diners themselves. Mouths open in conversation or in the act of taking a bite, the works comment on the communal aspect of eating, particularly in a cafeteria setting.

There's a distinct difference between dining at home or a restaurant and eating in a cafeteria or commissary. Wood is interested in that specificity. Interestingly, there's little attention paid to the food. Wood is more interested in how setting, company and other extra-culinary factors influence a meal.

In fact, the word "meal" could be a bit generous. Unlike more formal settings, there's a perceived disposability to cafeteria eating that both artists present. Wood's distracted diners, mired in the mundanity of daily routine, seem even less interested in the food than the artist. None seem to relish their food. Painted on transparent mylar film, they have a ghost-like quality, as impermanent and transient as their food.

Finnigan explores similar themes, though with a different media and a different focus. Instead of diners, she examines the detritus left behind from the meals. Using a salt brine, Finnigan has preserved dirty tabletops, food leftovers and discarded cutlery. Any cafeteria eater who has neglected to bus their own table will recognize the scummy rings left behind by glasses and plates, the napkins or the delinquent french fry.

But by preserving the ignored remnants of a meal – be they orange peels, dirty plates or tea bags – Finnigan puts in sharp focus how much we leave behind. It's easy to think of eating purely as an act of consumption and thus, subtraction. Seemingly contradictory to that understanding is the reality that we create as we consume, that waste makes the act of dining as much about addition as subtraction.

By reframing something as routine as a cafeteria lunch in this troubling way, Finnigan raises questions about other types of consumption. What other seemingly innocuous daily tasks leave a similar trail of detritus in their wake? The exhaust from the bus ride home, the runoff water from a shower or the hair swirling down the drain after a morning shave suddenly take on unsettling connotations. It creates discomfort through self-awareness, reminding the viewer that to exist is to create waste and that seemingly insignificant daily feats are, in some way, permanent.



### Ferraro *Losing Sleep*

Cameron House

In their debut album *Losing Sleep*, released under Cameron House Records, brotherly rock trio Ferraro came onto the scene with a uniquely authentic sound that reminds listeners of what makes music from the era of five-cent bottles of Coca-Cola worth loving.

With the tone of this album revolving around the snap and innocent charm of rock 'n' roll from the late 1950s, Ferraro unearths the undeniable resonance of the first rock bands to challenge, what was then, a tame normalcy.

*Losing Sleep* is a sustained display of the impact early rock had in the construction of the band's sound and identity. By pouring their artistic ability into the timeless mold of '60s pop-rock, Ferraro effortlessly embodies the value of a well-placed harmony, guitar solo and instrumental breakdown. Treading in the waters of emulating the exceptionality of the hip-shaking rock of yesteryear, Ferraro's own stylistic ability still finds a way to shine through this audible montage of their inspirations.

In what can best be described as a tactful hybrid of Buddy Holly and Billy Idol, Ferraro brings to light the genius of pure, original rock 'n' roll. With signature tracks "On the Ropes," "Old Hollywood," and "On the Road," this album reminds listeners that the snappy licks of '60s rock are timeless.

With an average track time coming in a hair over three minutes, Ferraro arms their songs with the brevity many artists from the era of their inspiration adhered to. No song overstays its welcome; every song leaves the audience wanting more.

*Losing Sleep* should be in the collection of anyone who claims to have a true affinity for "real music." Its original rock 'n' roll inspirations combined with its modern (but not overwhelming) guitar licks and solos make it the sort of rock album appreciated by avid enthusiasts of all generations.

This appreciation of the roots of rock 'n' roll provides the audience with a trip down memory lane to a time they themselves have never seen. Ferraro offers a dose of nostalgic rock flavour that makes a listener wish they had the gall to run a shameless handful of pomade through their hair and dawn a leather jacket, if only for the 30 minutes this album keeps them company.

-Matt Harrison

### Speaking in public is scary...

We can help at the  
U of W Toastmasters Club!  
Mondays, room 3C29,  
12:20 to 1:20 pm.  
Contact Wayne at  
[wstanton@shaw.ca](mailto:wstanton@shaw.ca)  
to find out more!

# DRESSING FOR WINNIPEG'S TRANSITIONAL WEATHER

Expect the unexpected this spring

MELANIE DAHLING  @SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

It can be difficult to know how to dress for transitional weather, but a few stylish locals have ideas for surviving nature's mood swings.

Tess Furtado, merchandise manager-in-training at Out of the Blue in Osborne Village, says she often has to explain Winnipeg's particular weather to her family members who live out of town.

"I say we have to dress for the cold, cold winter, and we have a little bit of a rainy season, more the past couple of years, and then we have these beautiful, tropical summers," she says.

For Furtado, that variety is reflected in her closet.

"Sometimes I feel bad, because my wardrobe is pretty big, but then I think about it, and we have quite a few seasons that we have to stock up for."

Owner and operator of tonychestnut clothing design Jill Sawatzky starts spring fashion from the ground up.

In terms of feet and legs – which have to face slush, puddles and slipperiness – she says it's all about the boots.

"I personally prefer to stick with leather boots instead of rubber boots, as I find them more comfortable if you're wearing them for a full day indoors. But seriously, you gotta wear boots," Sawatzky says.

Doc Martens are an appropriate height, she says. Beyond that, she might wear high socks or leg warmers to protect her legs from unexpected splashes.

Furtado recommends layering to keep cozy and comfortable.

"Personally, I'm a layer-lady," Furtado says. "I dress in layers, and then I just slowly pull them off as needed."



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

Furtado figures it's better to be too hot and have a layer to take off than be too cold and have no protection.

She finds bamboo fabric works well for a base piece.

"We actually have a whole line of bamboo basics, which are great because they're all one size, and you can kind of layer them on top of one another," she says.

Bamboo keeps Furtado comfortable under sweaters and scarves.

"It has moisture-wicking properties," she says. "When you sweat or when it's damp outside, it wicks the moisture outwards from your body instead of getting really damp and sticky."

EMK clothing, another locally grown brand, carries a few items that work well with the layering concept.

Lindsay Goulet, sales associate at EMK,

has been wearing warm, lined leggings with a multifunctional poncho from the shop.

"It's like a one-size-fits-all, super cozy knit poncho," she says.

Goulet chooses a poncho, because she says it can look dressy or casual.

Scarves are Sawatzky's go-to finishing piece.

"Never underestimate the importance of a good scarf. In my opinion, the bigger the better," she says. "I like a scarf that can double as a lap blanket or an over-the-shoulder shawl when you're sitting somewhere and you can't warm up."

Sawatzky likes the bundled-up look and says layers make a person's look more nuanced.

Plus, she says, no one will know if your base layer is also your pyjamas.

## NEW SPA TARGETS MEN

Blacksmith Parlour makes foot health welcoming to all

MARLO GLASS

VOLUNTEER  @MARLOGEE

Though spas have historically been looked upon as places where women are pampered, men are now also reaping their health benefits.

Many spas offer services for everyone, but few seek to specifically attract men.

Steven Zacharuk realized this when he was working as a civil engineer by day and mechanic by night.

"I would go to work, and my hands would be black," Zacharuk says. When he couldn't find anywhere in Manitoba or Canada where specifically men were encouraged to feel comfortable receiving spa treatments, he decided to open one.

Blacksmith Parlour's slogan is "Nails for males," and they aim to provide spa treatments and services to those who may not feel comfortable in a traditional spa setting, Zacharuk says.

Blacksmith Parlour provides hand treatments and foot treatments, distancing itself from traditional spa terminology that men may be unfamiliar with.

"Some guys might not know the difference between a manicure and a pedicure,



PHOTO BY CALLIE MORRIS

Steven Zacharuk of Blacksmith Parlour refers to services as treatments rather than using traditional spa terminology.

so we call them treatments," Zacharuk says.

The goal is to make clients feel comfortable and at ease. Personal TVs with headphones, comfy leather chairs and alcoholic beverages are offered to clientele, "like you're sitting in your living room," Zacharuk says.

Though treatments are tailored towards men, people of all genders are welcome to Blacksmith Parlour.

To those who say spa treatments are only for women, Zacharuk says, "Don't knock it until you try it."

He also says treatments, like those his spa offers, carry important health benefits that shouldn't be overlooked.

"Maintaining good foot health is a huge health benefit, especially as you get older," Zacharuk says.

Lilibeth Clabria, a nurse specializing in foot care, agrees that regular pedicures can reduce age-related health complications, because failing to take care of your feet can cause debilitating pain later in life.

Clabria's elderly patients suffer from ailments, such as peripheral vascular diseases, vein problems, diabetes and poor circulation.

Some receive foot and leg treatments to relax muscle and nerve tension. Clabria suggests men go to salons to get their nails cut properly, in order to prevent foot problems – such as ingrown toenails – down the road.

Clabria says regular foot treatments also provide stress-relieving benefits.

"In our everyday life, we work and work. It's important to be pampered."

Zacharuk says many initial appointments are booked for men by their girlfriend, wife or a family member, but men are quick to return after they recognize the health and wellness benefits of the treatments.

Jerry Baluta, a Blacksmith Parlour client, had received treatments from other spas in the past but was drawn to the space that specifically targeted men.

"It's nice to be able to watch sports and have a nice tequila while I'm having my feet and hands done," Baluta says. "It's something that guys don't regularly do, but it's comfortable, and it feels good."

## GETTING CREATIVE WITH WINNIPEG VENUES

New events in familiar, but unconventional, spaces

MELANIE DAHLING @SUGARDAHLING

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER

When it comes to events, Winnipeg is home to many beautiful spaces, and some locals are finding innovative ways to showcase them.

As an event planner, it's Allison Girardin's job to scout locations her clients will love.

"I think people are just accustomed to going for the same old thing," she says. "I always encourage my clients to be open to ideas."

Girardin finds that having too many specific expectations on the venue can really close people off to some great options.

In Winnipeg, where there aren't as many event spaces as in larger cities, she says event planners have to be innovative.

"If my client wants to get married this year at the Fort Garry ... it's not happening. They get booked up like two years in advance," she says. "I have to think about

like 'Hmm, I wonder if the Pantages Playhouse is open.'"

Meanwhile, Cory Wojcik is taking his original play *Joe Job* out of traditional theatre venues and into a more immersive space.

The show will make its debut at Fools + Horses for the 2017 Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival.

Wojcik is currently writing the play based on his own ideas and improv with the cast. It follows a teacher who quits his job to work in a coffee shop and ends up working with one of his ex-students.

"The original idea was to have this character delivering pizzas," he says.

Kendra Magnus-Johnston, part-owner of the café, told Wojcik she was interested in turning Fools + Horses into a Fringe venue. Wojcik adjusted his concept to suit the coffee shop.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Jordan Leigh-Miller curates a space at Nott Autocorp on Waverly Street, pairing artwork with luxury cars.

"From the audience perspective, it's like walking onto a film set," he says. "It's really cool 'cause we're going to use the stuff in there too ... Hopefully we can serve a coffee in the middle of the show to some lucky person."

With the true-to-life setting, it is Wojcik's goal to create an intimate atmosphere.

"I hope the audiences will feel this sort of people-watching experience. Like, you know, when you're at coffee shops and you sort of people watch, as intrusive as that sounds," he says.

And art is making its way into unconventional spaces all over Winnipeg.

Nott Autocorp on Waverly Street has become the first combined luxury car dealership and art gallery in Canada.

Jordan Leigh-Miller was approached in mid-October by the company and became the curator for their art gallery.

As for what will sell to a luxury car customer, Leigh-Miller is still figuring that out.

"Some of the work that I had picked by my favourite artists, it was overly conceptual, so it was hard for people who are not normally art gallery-goers to view the art without kind of wondering 'Oh, what am I going to be buying here?'" she says.

This time around, Leigh-Miller chose landscapes and cityscapes at a lower price point than she had originally chosen.

Though the space may seem unconventional, Leigh-Miller says, with art, all it takes is the right person to see it, regardless of venue.

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Tortoise shell cats are almost always female. If a tortoise shell cat is male, it is because they are a rare genetic mutation that causes two separate sets of DNA to exist in the same body. This mutation is known as chimerism.

## THE TRUE DRAMA OF ANIMAL RESCUE

WORDS BY MEG CRANE

 @MEGCRANE

PHOTOS BY DANIEL CRUMP

 @DANNYBOYCRUMP

Many dive into the animal rescue community in Manitoba expecting it to be filled with big-hearted people, then find the humans involved are not treated well at all.

Robin Smyth was one of these people, and she's had to take a step back from animal rescue. As a vegan, she wants to protect and help all animals in need, but she doesn't want to have to do that at the expense of her own happiness.

**COVER FEATURE continues // NEXT PAGE** 

Continued from previous page.

## A VOLUNTEER'S EXPERIENCE

Smyth says she started off by volunteering for a rescue a few years ago, but left for another rescue after a year, because she didn't feel her time was valued.

"This last episode I had was with a local rescue where I offered to foster, and the dog had a contagious mite. And they placed it in my home without being vetted, and they promised they would vet the puppy before they dropped it off. But they didn't," Smyth says.

It turned out to be sarcoptic mange, which set Smyth back more than \$100 when her dog caught it.

"(The director) fought back so hard against me, saying, 'I'm not doing anything to help you out. It's not my fault,'" Smyth says.

The director even made fun of Smyth for wearing gloves when handling the puppy, as the vet had recommended she do to protect her own pets, she says.

"I felt totally disrespected when I expressed concern that my dog, whose health I take so seriously, contracted this mite. I was just so upset, and she was just not nice about it. It's such a turnoff. Why would you want to volunteer for people when they treat you like that?" Smyth says.

With another rescue, a 90-pound chocolate Lab who her own dog was ter-

rified of was dropped off for her to foster. The rescue later admitted they should have given her a different dog for her first foster experience.

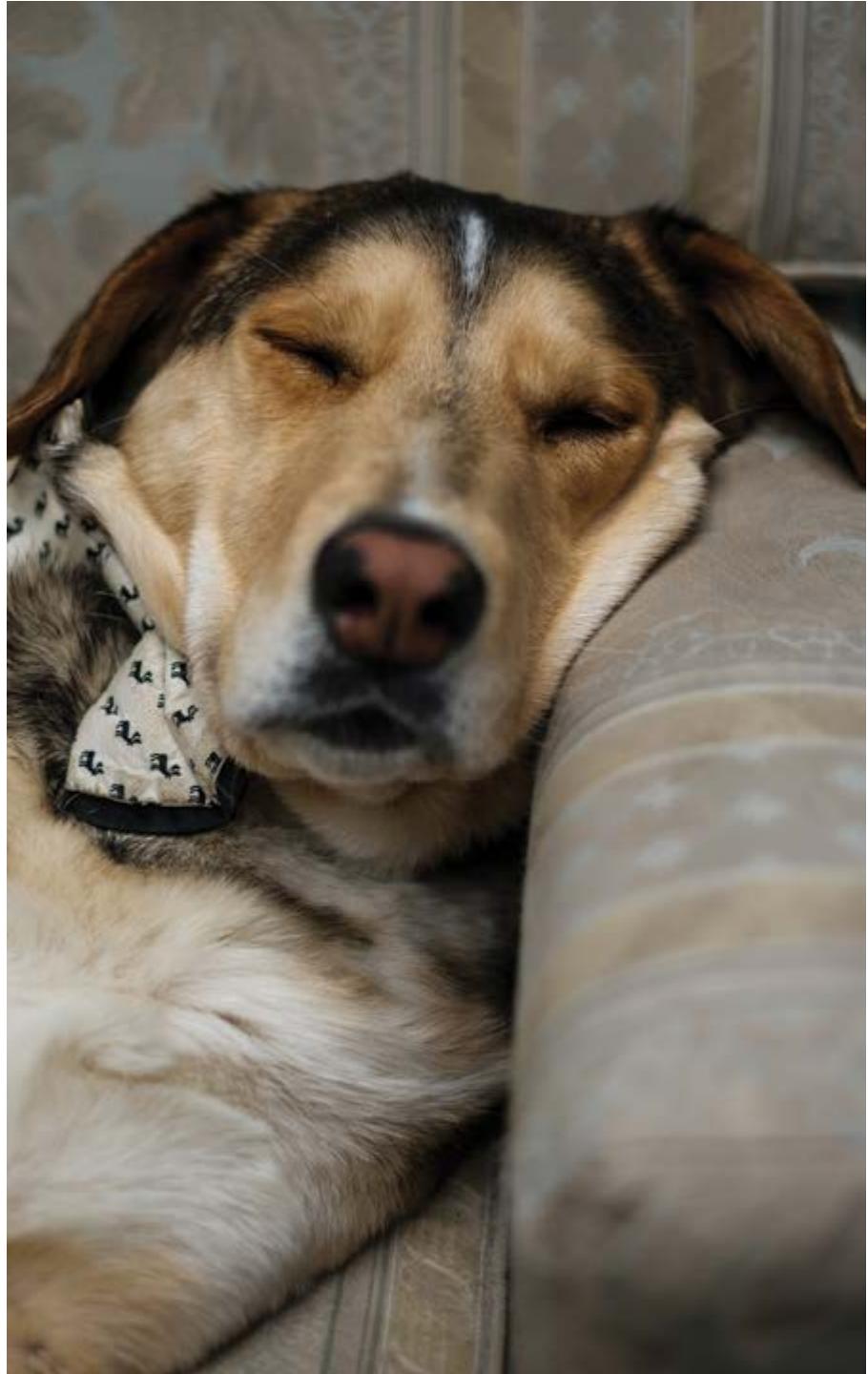
"I was like, 'Well, why did you then?'" Smyth says. "I know lots of people who foster successfully and love it, but I don't deal with every rescue, because not all the directors are nice people."

Since the mange experience, Smyth just shares rescues' social media posts and events on her personal pages, but she doesn't want to be involved in doing the actual work.

"It's like any other aspect of life. Just because someone is a rescuer doesn't necessarily make them a good or nice person," Smyth says.

She got clique-y vibes, heard vindictive comments from rescuers and noticed a lack of respect for people's time in all the rescues she worked with, and she thinks that might have to do with what people in rescue witness.

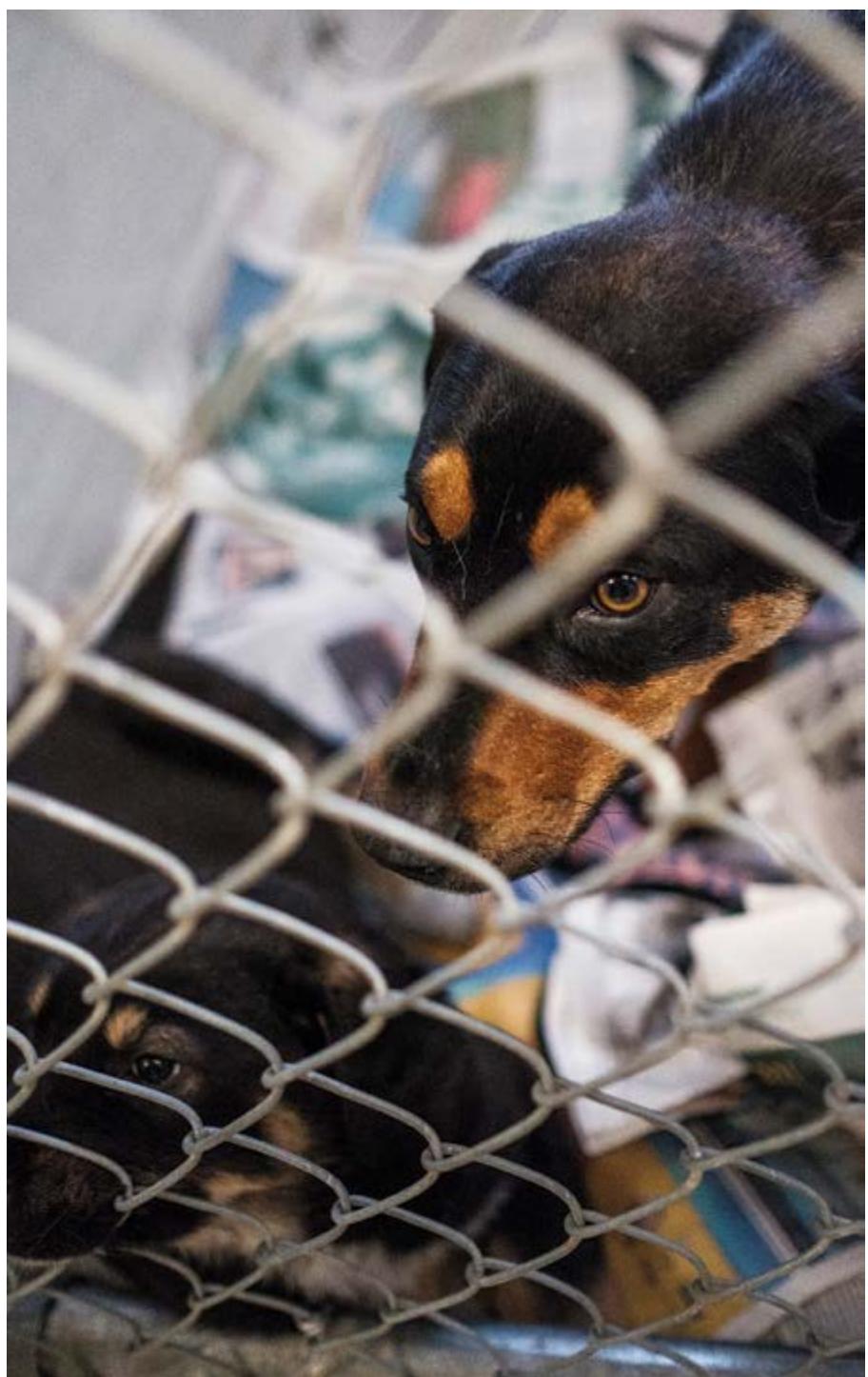
"Behind the scenes in rescues, you're seeing cases where animals are deliberately being starved or they're being unattended or abused. You see a lot. No matter how big your heart is, you really have to build up your heart around it to endure that aspect of rescue," Smyth says.



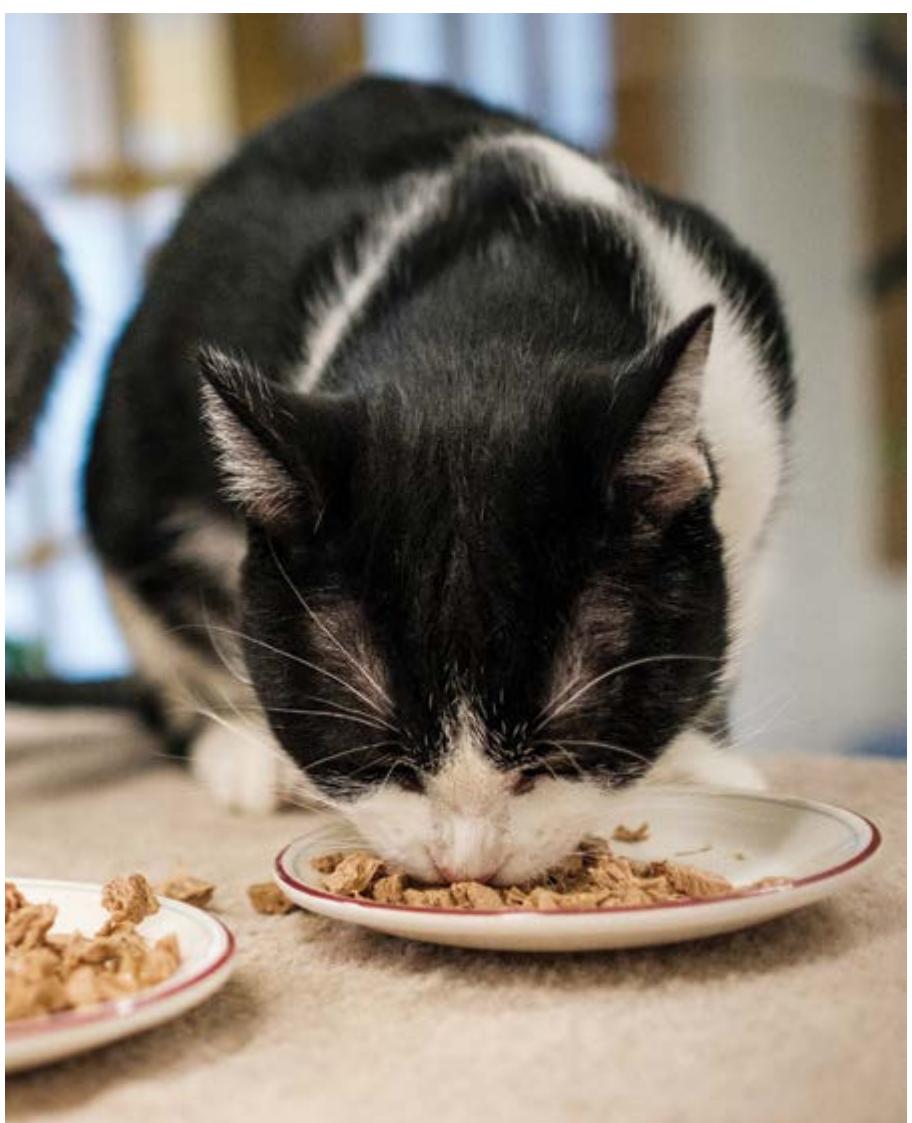
D'Arnold, a husky cross, is the shelter dog at D'Arcy's A.R.C. and helps out with fundraisers and events.



D'Arcy Johnston opened D'Arcy's A.R.C. 17 years ago. Napping on the right is D'Arnold, the resident shelter dog.



This mother and her pups, were brought were brought in to the shelter recently and need more care before they can be adopted.



This cat is older but still considered quite social. These older critters are allowed to interact with other felines and have access to the cat runs.



At both D'Arcy's A.R.C. and Manitoba Mutts, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved as a volunteer or an animal foster family or by sending much-needed donations.

Learn more at [darcysarc.ca](http://darcysarc.ca) and [manitobamutts.org](http://manitobamutts.org).

## FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A SHELTER

D'Arcy Johnston opened D'Arcy's Animal Rescue Centre (A.R.C.) 17 years ago, so he's seen a lot of the bad. He tries to hide that from the public in the back of his shelter, but volunteers quickly get a look at the worst.

"Up front, you see all the good things, the happy animals that are up for adoption," Johnston says.

"Then you go to the back and you see the animals that just arrived, the ones that were hit by cars, the ones that are having seizures, the ones that people have dumped at our front door, the ones that the province has gone into a drug house and the police have raided the house and all the animals have come to the shelter to detox."

The shelter has had volunteers who only lasted a week then quit after a cat's frostbitten ear fell off in their hand or after they found a box of frozen kittens at the back door at 6 a.m.

Johnston says it's satisfying to see an animal go from crisis to having a loving home, but the difficulties rescue workers have to deal with goes beyond the animal abuse they witness.

"We're the 'f-ing bad guys.' We're called many, many names. Ask any of my staff or volunteers that answer the phone. We get told to f-off every day," Johnston says.

The shelter cannot accept every animal – such as pets who need to be re-homed because the children they were adopted for aren't taking care of them, or because someone is moving into a pet-free home – and Johnston says many people don't understand why and lash out at them.

"It's kind of sad that it has to come to that when we're trying to help them and we're trying to steer them to other shelters that might be able to help them with their situation if we can't," Johnston says.

He has an insurance package for staff that includes coverage of a therapist session each month, and he holds debriefing sessions after particularly upsetting situations arise at the shelter.

"I encourage the staff, and ourselves here, if you hold everything in, you're going to explode," Johnston says.

He says many rescues in Winnipeg aren't run well, which makes his job as the owner of a shelter harder.

Johnston says there are more shelters in Manitoba compared to other provinces, because, without regulations, it's cheap to run a rescue here.

"It gives people like us a bad name. Maybe that's why my donations last year went down, because people gave to other places that were in the media and were more needy. Places that go to the media saying, 'Oh, we need help. We're going to close our doors if we don't get so much money. La, la, la,'" Johnston says. "Then nothing changes, so six months later, they're asking for money again, and six months later, they're asking for money again. So, to me, that's telling me you don't have a proper plan in place."

Johnston says the overpopulation problem has remained stagnant since he first got involved, despite an increasing number of rescues in the province. He would encourage anyone who wants to help to volunteer their time at an existing rescue or shelter, rather than opening a new one.

He says if there were more rules and regulations around animal rescue and more co-operation between the rescues, the overpopulation issue would get under control. Although, he says it's not realistic for everyone to work together, because there are so many personalities in rescue and because many people have strong opinions about the best way to do rescue.

## WHAT ONE RESCUE SEES

Rebecca Norman started Manitoba Mutts in 2011, because there wasn't an all-breed rescue in the province at that time.

"It's definitely been a little crazy. Manitoba is really lacking a regulatory body for rescues, and I think that's the biggest problem in Manitoba," Norman says. She thinks another part of the issue is the lack of breeding laws and the stringent laws on spaying and neutering dogs in rural communities.

"If we could have the gold card, it would be to have Agriculture Manitoba guard a regulatory body for rescues. Also, put back into place breeding licences, so people aren't just allowed to breed their animals like crazy. And I would like the Manitoba Veterinary Society to remove the radius rules around spay and neuter, so there isn't such a dog overpopulation problem in Manitoba," Norman says.

Without this "gold card," Norman says a lot of people who have no history in business or in vetting practice are opening rescues, which adds to the drama in the community.

"You see lots of discrepancies and arguments between rescues, because there are people that really don't know what they're doing," Norman says.

As someone who runs a rescue, she's personally had many bad experiences with other rescues.

"You have to be very careful who you work with when you're trying to establish any sort of a business, because, just like any business, you want to have a positive kind of feeling around your business," Norman says. "We have a couple rescues in the city that are good at making sure the animals are looked after and vetted, but they have no customer service skills, and that's not really good for the public either."

She says it's not always possible to control your own rescue's image, because other organizations can give them all a bad name.

"A lot of the other smaller rescues don't know how to be accountable with their money and go into debt," Norman says, noting this makes it more difficult for other rescues to work with vets who have previously been burned.

"There have been rescues that have dumped dogs in all sorts of foster homes and boarding kennels, so we get contacted from that pretty regularly with people not knowing what to do with their animals," Norman says.

She thinks rescues attract people who have been hurt in some way in the past who want to be able to help animals, but they're not equipped to handle it, which can lead to hoarding situations where the animals aren't really being rescued.

To anyone who wants to help, Norman says do your research to find an existing rescue with a good reputation. Vets are good people to help point these out, as are staff at the Winnipeg Humane Society.

Ask lots of questions before actually getting involved just to get a feel for the rescue, Norman says. For people who don't know what to ask, she says just go for something general like finding out what the vetting practices or customer service protocols are. And try to get the responses from the organization's director.

"You get a real good feel for the whole body if the director is able to respond to your questions in a quick and kind manner," Norman says.

Manitoba's rescue community is full of passionate people, but the overpopulation problem isn't getting better. As far as Johnston is concerned, something has to change if there is going to be any resolution.



While it might seem like animal rescue work is full of happy scenes and cute critters, there are a lot of gritty realities volunteers and staff deal with as well.

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## MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

WITH TIM RUNTZ



### BIKE BROS DON'T HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS

Monday's rain had hardened into rutted slabs and the wind was gusting to 70 km/h as I rode north between passing vehicles and the season's crud against the curb.

I'd spent the morning staring at a screen to make my brain go, but that hadn't done the trick. Outside, with the fresh air and the effort of staying upright, I finally felt the trickle of dopamine a few days overdue.

Cycling in traffic has always been cathartic for me. It's a chance to turn off my brain and fall into a sort of subconscious, effortless focus. In the best of weather, I chase the flow of green lights through a shuffle of bored drivers. In the worst of storms, I assert my right to be on the road.

It might have something to do with temperament, but I suspect that feeling of ease is at least as much culturally conditioned.

I worked in a bike shop for a few years with an all-male and presumed-to-be-

straight staff. Ads with women draped over bikes hung in the back, and non-male customers probably had reason to feel out of place.

"Casual sexism is a serious problem in the bike scene as a whole," Andrea Bennett wrote of "cycling's insular bro culture" in *Maisonneuve*.

Shops tend to hire from the ranks of those who already hang around, so it's no surprise they continue to be masculine spaces where many women feel uncomfortable.

"Shrink it and pink it" has long been the industry's unspoken mandate for designing women's gear. The women's version of the Tour de France was cancelled this year due to "scheduling conflicts."

Even when the misogyny isn't explicit, there's an underlying vibe that the archetypal cyclist is able-bodied and masculine.

My car-free life has been affirmed to no end in lefty circles. I can show up to a meeting sweaty and disheveled, helmet in hand, and not have my aptitude or professionalism questioned. I might even gain some cultural cred.

Without a doubt, there are badass cyclists in Winnipeg who aren't dudes, and there are bike scenes that create welcoming and safe spaces. Initiatives like the Bike Dump's Women and Queer Night are important correctives to an otherwise often abrasive culture.

But maybe the hardcore, motivated, traffic-and-weather-defying bike bro shouldn't be the benchmark against which potential cyclists are measured.



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

I've heard plenty of (white, male) cyclists argue that everyone should be on a bike. After all, cars are evil, right?

But shaming those without the inclination or ability to ride to work affirms a sort of individualism where the world becomes a better place when we all pull ourselves up by the bootstraps.

Mainstream commuter culture needs to see a shift away from "It's not that hard, just get out there and do it," to something more compassionate and understanding. Getting to work safely and sustainably shouldn't require risk and adrenaline.

Instead of insisting or implying that potential cyclists become more hardcore, efforts should be directed toward advocating for improved public infrastructure, reducing barriers to access and resisting hyper-masculinism.

Many of us who identify as cyclists need an occasional reminder that a safer, more sustainable city doesn't need to be contingent on everyone else becoming more like us.

*Tim Runtz is the comments editor at The Uniter. His regular column, Middle of Nowhere, explores the culture and politics of places around Winnipeg.*

## CITY

### ON THE (SILVER) ALERT

New provincial system would share more info about missing elderly and vulnerable people

TALULA SCHLEGEL

NEWS REPORTER



A new bill has been brought forward that aims to change the Missing Persons Act by providing the public with more information about certain missing people.

"The Silver Alert Act, like the Amber Alert, creates the ability to release an urgent public notification when the criteria for a missing person with a cognitive impairment is (at) risk," Len Isleifson, MLA for Brandon East, says.

Specifically, the Silver Alert Act would give information about those who are elderly or who have a cognitive impairment, such as Alzheimer's disease, dementia, autism or Down syndrome.

"The bill provides the police with the legal ability to disseminate personal health information (if) they reasonably believe the information will assist in recovering the individual," Isleifson says. "The information is limited to the minimum amount necessary to accomplish the purpose."

Isleifson brought forward Bill 214 and says the Missing Persons Act currently

doesn't deal with those who are vulnerable. The proposed changes include a clause stating that police "may enter into an arrangement or agreement with one or more broadcasters" to send out an alert. This form of alert was created to ensure that individuals' vulnerabilities are taken into account when notifying the public that they've gone missing.

"If all community residents can be aware and watchful for people who have become lost or disoriented and offer help, it should enable a person with dementia to be safely returned to their home (and) family as soon as possible," Norma J. Kirkby, program director for the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba, says.

Kirkby says people with dementia may experience disorientation about time and place, potentially making them unable to identify where they are, even if they are somewhere familiar.

"People with dementia, because they do not understand the risk they are at,



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

will, instead of seeking help, continue in one direction, sometimes going into treed areas (that are) abandoned or out buildings," Kirkby says. "Due to fear they may not respond to people who may be calling (or) searching for them."

She says any action that will help locate someone who has dementia and return them home is imperative.

"The longer a person with dementia is lost, the greater the chance that there will be a poor outcome – potentially death," she says.

Isleifson says the idea for this act came from an experience he had working in the department of pre-hospital emergency service at Prairie Mountain Health, his job 21 years prior to being elected.

"In winter of 2015, RCMP notified me of a missing person in a rural area of the

province in case he arrived at one of our ERs," Isleifson says. "Unfortunately, he never arrived in an ER and was found deceased elsewhere. This event is fresh in my mind, and I wonder if a public notification would have assisted in (possibly) locating this person sooner."

Kirkby encourages the public to stay informed about these individual's vulnerabilities and alert to missing persons who may need their help.

"We hope that the public becomes more aware of the importance of being alert and watchful for people who may appear lost," Kirkby says. "We also hope that the public will offer assistance when they see someone who seems confused – as their help could save a life."

# LEGALIZATION IN THE 'PEG

Chamber of Commerce hosts luncheon about what legalization will look like here

TALULA SCHLEGEI

NEWS REPORTER  @TALULACORA

"When Legalization comes to Winnipeg" is the title of the luncheon hosted by The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce on March 17.

It is being held to inform businesses and community members on how they should respond to the push for legalization of marijuana by the federal government.

"It's about making sure we're ready for the day legalization is upon us," Loren Remillard, president and CEO of The Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, says. "We can either put our heads in the sand and pretend it's not coming, or we can use this window of time to prepare."

The event is bringing Jeannine Machon, member of the Colorado Cannabis Chamber of Commerce who influenced Colora-

do's laws when they transitioned to legalization, to talk about the benefits and costs of it.

"As a business community, we felt it necessary to do our due diligence, learning from the experience of other jurisdictions that have gone down this road, so we can be prepared for the business opportunity and the social impacts," Remillard says.

He adds that the focus is not just on the sale of marijuana for inhalation, but also on other aspects, such as edible marijuana products and the value it could add to agricultural practices.

"We've had a wide range of businesses and people expressing interest – those who do workplace safety and health, educators and industries you wouldn't necessarily connect with the issue."

He hopes Winnipeg learns from the experts they're bringing in and understands what economic opportunities legalization presents in a Manitoban context. So far, they've received varying responses from the public.

"It's run the gamut. Certainly we've had people concerned with the ethics and social impacts of legalizing a drug," Remillard says. "(Part) of the way to address that is to deliver objective facts. We hope this event will be the perfect vehicle for people to get a firsthand account of the legalization process."

Though economic viability of legalization is important, those who use marijuana for medicinal purposes have different incentives for the push towards legalization.



PHOTO BY DANIEL CRUMP

The local business community is holding a luncheon to better prepare for the legalization of marijuana.

"The dispensary situation in Winnipeg is rather distressing for people who would benefit from access to various strains (of weed) that are available for a myriad of chronic illnesses," Barb Altman says.

Altman is allergic to standard pain medications that include opioid therapy and instead uses medical marijuana for two chronic conditions that require pain relief. She used to live in Winnipeg but moved to British Columbia, where legal weed is more accessible.

"I can't even begin to fathom how negatively the current restrictions in Winnipeg would affect me," she says. "Smoking, vaping and/or ingesting different strains of high-grade dispensary weed is the only

thing I can use for pain (which doesn't) cause significant kidney, liver and gastrointestinal damage."

When it comes to resistance of legalization, Altman says she believes the "war on weed" is a waste of money and resources, and that Canada would benefit from restructuring existing legislation.

"My ultimate hope is the legalization of recreational weed across the board," Altman says. "If you eliminate the black market, the criminal element is removed, making it safer to buy ... safer to smoke, as the risk of getting tainted weed is far less likely and will free up law enforcement to fight violent crime."

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## NEWS BRIEFS

ALANA TRACHENKO // CITY EDITOR  @ALANA\_WPG

### Community input

The City of Winnipeg is calling for the community's input on redevelopment at Valour Community Centre - Orioles site (448 Burnell St.) on Tuesday, March 21 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The centre is one of Winnipeg's oldest recreation facilities and has had a number of upgrades in recent years. This project will look at improving the front entrance area of the site to make it more inviting.

### Manitobans are pro pot

A recent poll found that 59 per cent of Manitobans are in favour of legalizing marijuana, the most out of any other province. Nationally, 63 per cent of Canadians support a marijuana-specific tax, 59 per cent believe that legalization would increase marijuana use by minors, 67 per cent believe legalization would result in more people driving under the influence, and 17 per cent of non-users say they would consider consuming marijuana if legal.

### On shore lunch

Gallery 1C03 is hosting an artist talk by Lisa Myers on Friday, March 24 in 1L08 at 11:30 a.m. Myers is currently working on a project titled *Shore Lunch*, which combines the artist's memories of enjoying nature with her mother and her interest in how society interacts with and uses elements of wilderness for sustenance. Learn more at the free event.

### Human rights film festival

The MARL (Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties) Human Rights Film Festival takes place at University of Winnipeg's (U of W) Eckhardt Grammaté Hall on Saturday, April 1 at 2 p.m. The inclusive event corresponds with the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which is on March 21. Drama, art house, animation and documentary films can be viewed by donation.

### Giving some with a click

A new app is making donating to small charities a no-brainer. Givesome ([givesome.com](http://givesome.com)) is a "platform that curates and aggregates charities and presents users with a selection of small-scale projects that they can donate to," according to media and content strategist and U of W alum Nicholas Taylor. Several Winnipeg charities, including Winnipeg Harvest and Habitat for Humanity, have already partnered with the project.

### Fools + Horses at the Forks

A favourite downtown coffee shop is setting up a second location at The Forks. Fools + Horses hopes to open in The Forks Market in summer 2017 to provide visitors with a new choice for beverages. The kiosk will be located opposite to The Common and will serve Pilot coffee and Bronuts donuts. Construction has begun on the project.



# STUDENT JOURNAL A VOICE FOR UNDERGRADS

*Crossings* showcases top U of W arts essays

ALANA TRACHENKO

CITY EDITOR

@ALANA\_WPG

A new University of Winnipeg (U of W) publication has successfully released their first edition.

*Crossings* is an interdisciplinary arts, humanities and social sciences journal that showcases the work of U of W students. The first edition was made up largely of undergrads, with a total of 17 pieces, while two pieces from master's students were selected.

Contributor Adrienne Tessier says being published as an undergrad is a valuable experience.

"The entire impetus to the project was allowing students to have academic experience for their CV," Tessier says. She is a fourth-year political science student and the current UWSA arts director, as well as a member of the *Crossings* editorial board.

"We learned how to receive academic critique, what the process for publication

looks like and why someone would go through that," Tessier says. "It's also really important that the U of W is (primarily) an undergrad institution, and because of that, we were able to have opportunities that normally would only be open to graduate students."

The journal's chief editor Jane Barter, associate professor in religion and culture, says it also gives students the opportunity to get familiar with a process that professors are continuously expected to take part in.

"Only one-third of our job is teaching," Barter says. "Another third is research, so the process of connecting teaching with research is really important to faculty members, and I think sometimes students aren't as familiar with that process.

"Secondly, for students who are going on to grad studies, this gives them the



Jane Barter, associate professor in religion and culture and chief editor of *Crossings*.

PHOTO BY ALANA TRACHENKO

opportunity to get their foot in the door for publication. When they're applying for grad schools, it looks good to have their name in print in a peer-reviewed journal."

With no theme for its first issue, *Crossings* essays range a variety of topics in the arts, such as subjects ranging from the ethics of using research done by Nazi doctors during the Holocaust to Arab rap music. Tessier says it was great to read things her peers from other departments have written.

"It was cool to share that research interest with my fellow students," she says. "It's a unique experience. Going forward, this is something we would be doing if wanted to advance ... and it gives us an opportunity to engage with our fellow students about what we're passionate about."

Barter and Tessier agree it's also important to highlight students' work and essays

from classes, giving them a life and audience beyond that final mark.

*Crossings* is currently accepting submissions for its second issue on the theme of Canada 150.

"It will be reflections upon Canada as a nation and also as a concept," Barter says. "We really invite critical kinds of conversations about the Canadian project, so this would be a great place for decolonizing kinds of essays or Indigenous essays about violence in our history."

Students must be enrolled at the U of W to submit, and research papers must be written from an arts, humanities or social science perspective, though majoring in these faculties currently is not required.

For more information, visit [uwinnipeg.ca/arts/news/2015/11/celebrating-student-research-excellence-crossings.html](http://uwinnipeg.ca/arts/news/2015/11/celebrating-student-research-excellence-crossings.html).



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

## PROFILE - JANE LOTHIAN MURRAY PROFESSOR IN THE FACULTY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

LIBBY GIESBRECHT

VOLUNTEER

"I always count by (my son) Mac," professor Jane Lothian Murray says when asked how long she has been teaching at the University of Winnipeg (U of W).

It's been nearly 20 years since both the birth of her son and her arrival at the U of W, and Lothian Murray still teaches with a spirit that one who meets her could only describe as joyful.

"Originally, I started university with the intention of practising law," Lothian Murray recalls. "I studied two years, wrote my LSAT and got in."

Deciding against law school after extensive research into the profession, she soon turned her attention to criminology. She earned both of her degrees – a BA in criminology and a master's degree in sociology – from the University of Manitoba (U of M).

"I'm a little bit of a different creature in academia," Lothian Murray says.

As an instructor, her job is exclusively to teach and is not subject to the academic adage of "publish or perish." This has allowed Lothian Murray time to spend further investigating topics of interest to her, including new areas of sociology, such as interpersonal violence, as well as environmental sociology, which she has been able to

incorporate into her popular introductory sociology textbook *Sociology in our Times*.

Lothian Murray's enthusiasm for the subjects she teaches is palpable, and last year she was honoured with the Clifford J. Robson Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence.

**WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE AS A PROFESSOR?:** PowerPoint, because what's happening increasingly is that it's a disincentive to active learning. So I'm finding more and more that unless it's on PowerPoint, (students) don't write (information) down ... My other one is don't send me an email asking me something that's on the (course) outline. I will not be happy!

**WHAT WAS YOUR WORST GRADE IN UNIVERSITY?:** I didn't have very many. That sounds obnoxious ... It was a B+.

**IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?:** I would create the cure for degenerative neurological disorders. I wish for that one a lot. There isn't any degenerative brain disorder actually that I know of that's treatable.

**WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU HAVE LEARNED FROM YOUR STUDENTS?:** Optimism and passion for life.



PHOTOS BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Dr. Jamie Galka is an instructor in chemistry who brews beer at home, and he's part of a project exploring the possibility of a corn-based, gluten-free beer.

## A GLUTEN-FREE KERNEL OF HOPE

U of W profs develop a beer made from corn

ALANA TRACHENKO

CITY EDITOR  @ALANA\_WPG

Gluten-free beer currently has a long way to go, according to University of Winnipeg (U of W) instructor in chemistry Dr. Jamie Galka.

But he and associate professor of biology Dr. Paul Holloway are on the case. The pair have teamed up to research the viability of a corn-based, 100 per cent gluten-free malted beverage. It's most like beer, so that's what they're calling it, but it's also in a class of its own.

"Gluten-free beers are terrible," Galka says with a laugh. At home, Galka has been brewing up homemade beer for many years, so when Holloway approached him with the research project, he was on board right away.

"Barley provides the enzymes for starch, and for some reason, no one's looked into that with corn," Holloway says. "Are there similar enzymes in corn? If there are, you can make the corn do the work and produce a corn beer, so what we found is that yes, you can do it."

He explains that a seed is full of starch but, in its raw form, that starch is not food for yeast. Malting barley converts that starch into simple, digestible sugars, and they've found that corn malts in a similar way.

It's great news for folks with gluten allergies and sensitivities, but Galka hopes their corny beer will be something customers will choose for its flavour.

"It's like a light pilsner, lager style, easy drinking, kind of a lawn mower beer," he says. "We don't want to sell it as gluten-free. We want to sell it on its taste."

With so many local breweries opening up in Winnipeg, their research is relevant on a local scale, especially since corn production is huge in Manitoba.

"One in every 100 jobs in Canada has something to do with beer," Galka says. "It's about a \$6-billion profit annually from sales and making of beer."

The good news for breweries here is that making beer with corn is not a more complicated or expensive process than making it with barley.

"We've tried to duplicate the beer process, not getting away from that,"



Making beer with corn should be no more complicated for breweries than using traditional ingredients.

Holloway says. "They don't need any new equipment."

The equipment used, however, would have to be cleaned between batches to make the product totally gluten-free.

The project's first phase was funded by the Manitoba Corn Growers Association for a total of \$12,000. The funds allowed the pair to hire a summer student and produce their first couple of batches. Several other U of W students have gotten involved as

well, eager to work on something beer-related, but also gaining lab experience while working on an applied goal.

"It's real science behind it, basic science," Galka says. "Humans have been doing this for 6,000+ years."

It will be another few years before corny beer hits the shelves, the pair says. There is more work and research to be done in refining the taste, look and balance of the beverage.



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## UBER NOT A SILVER BULLET FOR WINNIPEG'S TAXICAB ISSUES

Reforms of the industry a better approach

DYLON MARTIN

VOLUNTEER STAFF

Many Winnipeggers are dissatisfied with the local taxicab industry and feel Uber and other similar companies are the answer.

Mayor Brian Bowman touched on this theme in his Feb. 24 State of the City Address.

"When I listen to Winnipeggers, they're telling me we need to find a way to introduce ridesharing services like Uber. So I hear you, and I agree," Bowman told speech attendees.

Enthusiasm among some residents for companies like Uber makes some sense, as there are serious problems with the taxicab system in Winnipeg.

A review of the system in Winnipeg, conducted by business consulting firm MNP for the Taxicab Board (the organization which regulates the Winnipeg taxicab industry), identified concerns of availability and safety, based on a survey of cab users.

Only 26 per cent of respondents felt there were enough taxis to meet demand. Winnipeg is average in the ratio of cabs to people compared to Canadian cities in winter, the busiest taxi season.

More alarming, however, are the safety concerns.

Only 45 per cent of Indigenous women felt safe in taxicabs according to the MNP survey, while interviews conducted by the consulting firm also reveal many Indigenous women say they have faced inappropriate behavior and harassment from drivers.

Information *Winnipeg Metro* obtained through a freedom of information request and published in January show that since 2013, there have been 39 reported cases where cab drivers were accused of indecent acts, sexual assault or suspicious activity.

Despite these issues, however, it is doubtful Uber is the answer.



ILLUSTRATION BY JUSTIN LADA

Apples-to-apples safety comparisons between transportation network companies (TNCs) like Uber and conventional cab companies are hard to find. Nevertheless, an analysis of reported sexual assaults in TNCs and cabs in Austin, Texas found five against Uber drivers, two against Lyft drivers (another TNC) and three against cab drivers between April and August of 2015. This suggests TNCs are not particularly safer than cabs.

Whether Uber can even serve as a long-term alternative to cabs is doubtful.

An analysis of leaked investor reports for the entire Uber company by US-based transportation industry consultant Hubert Horan showed that in 2015, fares only covered 41 per cent of the cost of rides. Uber reported global losses of \$1.27 billion in the first half of 2016. Uber's low fares may end up just being a temporary undercutting measure to dominate local markets.

The MNP review recommends allowing TNCs into the Winnipeg market, so long as they follow similar safety and licensing standards as taxicabs. This recommenda-

tion from the review *may* be workable, if you add workplace protections standard cab companies have to abide by for fairness. Efforts to reform the cab industry, however, hold more promise.

Increasing the supply of licensed cabs would be the most direct route to solving supply issues, as is recommended in the review.

The Social Planning Council of Winnipeg and the Southern Chiefs Organization have been in discussion with representatives of the Winnipeg cab industry on ways to improve safety. A key theme that emerges is requiring cultural competency training. Given that Indigenous women particularly feel unsafe in cabs and survey interviews by MNP suggest Indigenous cab users experience discrimination and stereotyping by their drivers, this approach holds promise.

Recommendations in the MNP review, like streamlining the Taxicab Board complaints process and better monitoring of video data from cabs could help address safety issues.

## GENDERED ENTERTAINMENT NEEDS TO GO

Sexist stereotypes are still common in media

JACK LOTZ

VOLUNTEER

There's a system of sexism in how entertainment companies advertise based on gender stereotypes. This happens prominently among game companies and on TV, especially in media targeted at youth.

Many game companies view their audience as teen males. However, multiple studies published the past five years report that the average gamer is around the age of 30, and that there's a less than 10 per cent difference in the ratio of male to female gamers.

PopCap released a study in 2011 in which they claim that the average gamer is a 42-year-old woman. Despite a diverse audience, companies continue to market games based on sex and violence. Though there's a place for these themes in popular media as something that many people enjoy, consumers need to demand better from the industry.

More games should feature minorities and strong female characters who aren't portrayed as sexual objects.

Tomb Raider's Lara Croft was originally created to be a character who is smart and strong – a female Indiana Jones. Although

she was meant to have sex appeal, that was not meant to be her main trait. However, the marketing for the games focused on her as a sex object.

The reboots of her series improved on this issue, and the character is treated better, but game companies are still sexually objectifying female characters.

Meanwhile, male characters are often portrayed as nothing more than a masculine power fantasy, though this issue is less discussed.

Companies that produce cartoons are infamous for creating shows targeted to only one gender, based on stereotypes of gender roles.

Some cartoons, such as *Teen Titans*, have been cancelled after being popular with the "wrong" gender. Although it's only speculation that it was cancelled due to being popular with girls, it has been replaced by the much-hated show *Teen Titans Go!*

The new show aimed at young children instead of teens takes well-developed characters and turns them into flat stereotypes. A character like Robin should be a role



Though more women are joining the gaming scene, well-developed female characters are still rare.

model but instead acts sexist. DC comics has sparked controversy before for its treatment of female characters like Harley Quinn. One of the strongest characters from *Teen Titans*, Raven, never got her own series until recently.

These are parts of a larger problem, intentional or not. Media companies end up creating sexist shows, because they target specific groups, even though this can be a negative practice.

Consumers need to be more vocal about wanting entertainment that doesn't have stereotyped gender roles. We need to be sending a message to writers, and the com-

panies they work for, that we want better from them.

Parents especially should be saying that they don't want companies saying what their children should like as a girl or a boy, especially when it's been proven that any kind of entertainment is never popular with only one gender. Entertainment companies should be trying to prevent sexist practices that are still common.

*Jack is a film and creative writing student at the University of Winnipeg.*

# DIVERSIONS



## THIS WEEK'S PUZZLE

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## SOLUTION TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE

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**STUDENT CENTRAL**

**Tax Receipts**

T2202a tuition tax receipts for 2016 are now posted on WebAdvisor.

**Spring Term (U2016S)**

The Spring Term Timetable has been posted for undergraduate courses between May - August. Go to [www.uwinnipeg.ca](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca), click on "Student" and then "Timetable."

Tiered Registration Times will be emailed to Webmail accounts in early March. Tiered registration begins March 20th.

**Changes to SC's Hours**

Friday March 24 Student Central will be open 9:00 am - 4:15 pm.

**STUDENT RECORDS**

**2017 Spring Term Registration**

Look for your registration start date and time at the end of February. Check your UW Webmail email account, or log into WebAdvisor and click "View My Registration Time."

Your registration start date and time is the earliest you can register. Registration times are assigned based upon credits earned and GPA as of December 2016.

For more information please visit: [uwinnipeg.ca/registration](http://uwinnipeg.ca/registration).

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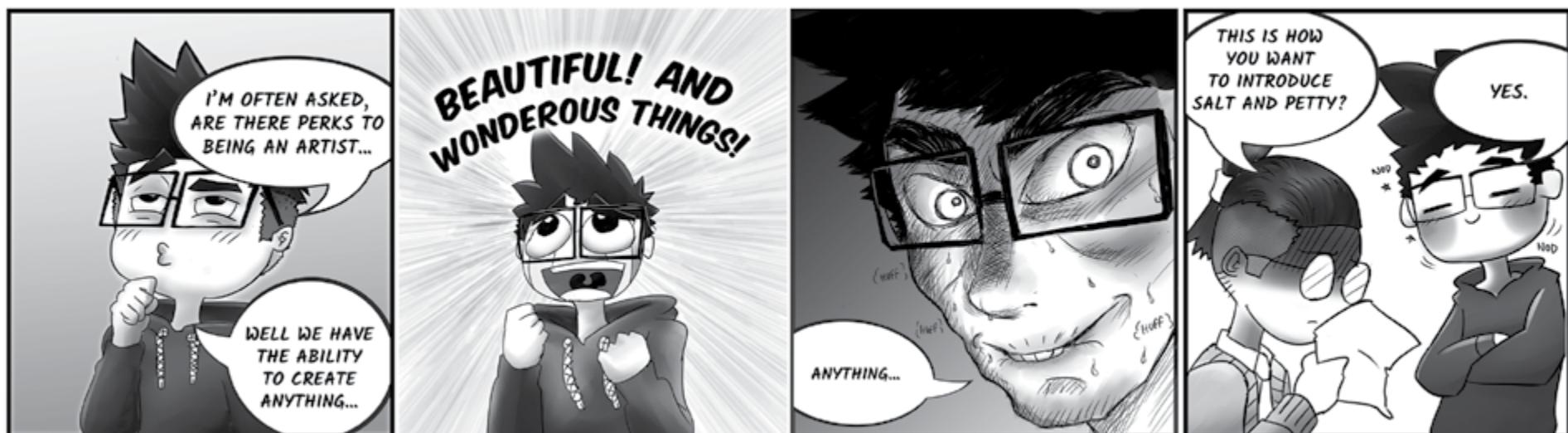


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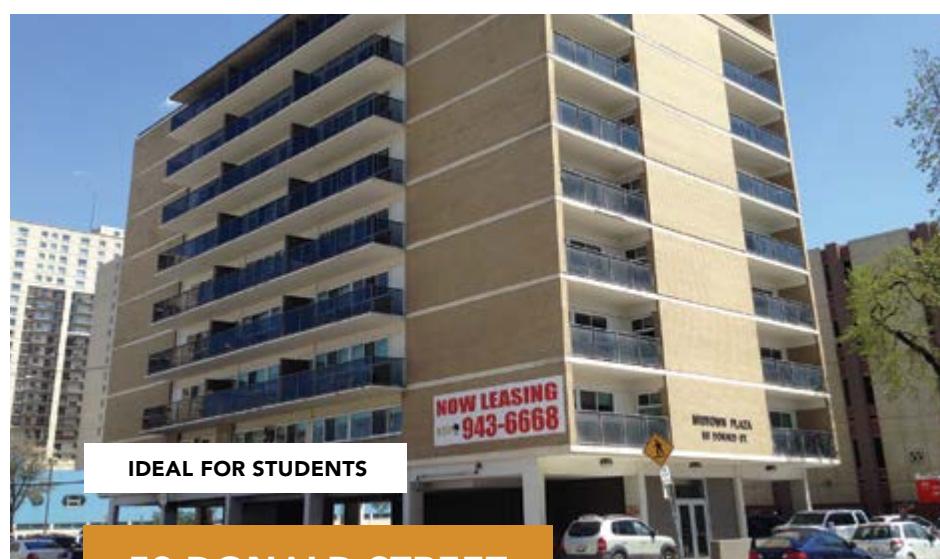
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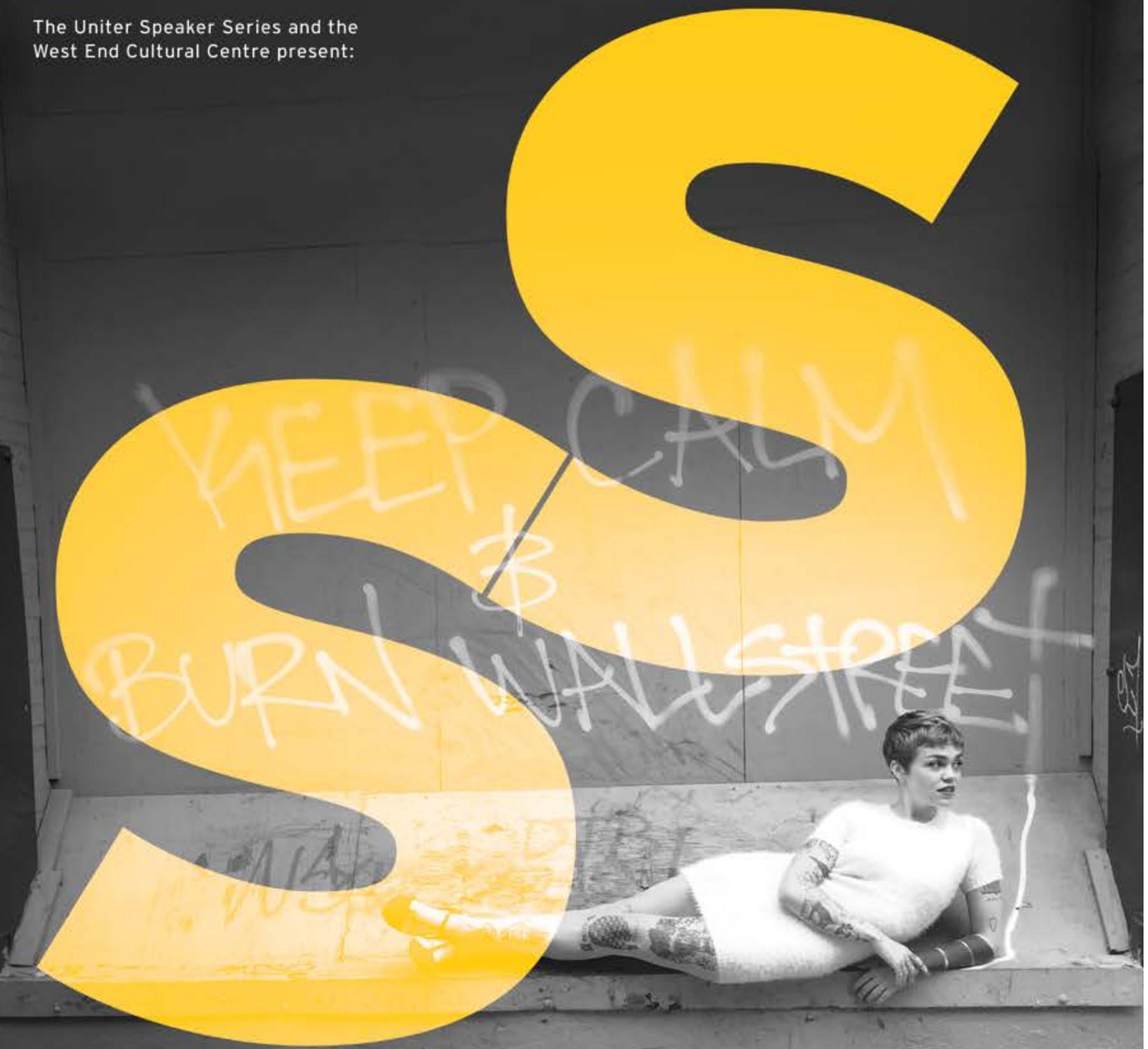


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