

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

THE **UNITER**

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13
VOLUME 66

Welcome to Winnipeg

The challenges and joys
of being an international student

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Is there enough diversity on city council?

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News

Manitoba municipalities seek women candidates

City council doesn't reflect demographics

ANNE THOMAS
BEAT REPORTER

More must be done to educate and spark political interest and participation among Canada's visible minorities, a new report out of Ryerson University recommends.

Released earlier this month, report author Myer Siemiatycki noted that in Toronto, where visible minorities make up 40 per cent of the population, only seven per cent are represented on city council.

In Winnipeg, city council has better statistics for non-aboriginal visible minorities - making up 16.8 per cent of Winnipeg's population, and 13 per cent of city council (two of 15 councillors).

But other demographic groups are not well represented.

“Visible minorities want to see themselves reflected in the society in which they live, be it in their letter carrier, in their teacher or in their city councillor.”

- DEVI SHARMA, CITY COUNCILLOR, OLD KILDONAN

Only 20 per cent of councillors are women, reflecting less than half of the actual population. And Winnipeg's aboriginal residents, at 10 per cent of the population, are not represented at all.

Councillor Devi Sharma (Old Kildonan) said, for a mother, managing civic and family responsibilities is a fine balance. She does it with strong support from her partner, family and community.

Strong positive role models are a powerful motivator for women, and she takes pride in her opportunity to inspire more young women to get involved politically, she said.

“Visible minorities want to see themselves reflected in the society in which they live, be



SUPPLIED

City Coun. Devi Sharma (Old Kildonan) says new Canadians often come from homelands where democratic participation was not allowed, and are less likely to get involved in politics once in Canada.

in their letter carrier, in their teacher or in their city councillor,” she said.

Exposing youth to democratic and electoral processes can encourage later participation in politics, she said. This is particularly important for new Canadians who come from homelands where democratic participation was not allowed.

“My own interest was piqued by working for a city councillor earlier in my own career,” Sharma added.

Last year, the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) Task Force on Women in Municipal Government identified 12 barriers to participation, including lack of support with family responsibilities, the perception of an “old boy's club” unwelcoming to women, lower community profiles and lower financial means.

The task force recommended stirring up women's interest in running for the 2014 election through community workshops

about how municipal government affects everyday life.

Lynne Bereza, AMM communications coordinator, said meet and greet sessions will be held in Winnipeg, Brandon, and eastern and western Manitoba, starting in February. Women currently in elected office will facilitate the sessions as role models and mentors.

Shaneen Robinson, who ran in the last civic election, doesn't think a shortage of candidates is the real problem.

“Anyone who wants to run can make it happen, but is our society ready to elect a person like me?” she asked.

Robinson believes someone needs to get elected to speak for the more than 200 missing or murdered members of her own demographic - young aboriginal women.

Besides empowering less advantaged people to vote, she said what is needed is better education to clear up misconceptions between different groups. And everyone, including aboriginal people, should be learning a lot more about aboriginal history and culture, she said.

Rosa Walker, president of the Indigenous Leadership Development Institute (ILDI), said the aboriginal population is too small to get candidates elected. Although aboriginal people are aware of city politics, they don't feel represented, and don't participate in mainstream politics, she said.

“I understand why people feel like they don't have a voice, and don't go out and vote. It's like the chicken and the egg thing, you know. It's really kind of sad,” she said.

The ILDI's Aboriginal Women Leaders program encourages women to seek opportunities including running in elections both on and off reserve.

Walker said ILDI tries to get people engaged with one another, talking about challenges, and inspiring others to work with them, pointing to newly minted MLA Kevin Chief in the North End.

“He created a movement through engagement and volunteerism. And I think that's what we need to do,” she said.

Questioning Canadian sovereignty

How one organization vies to sever the nation's ties to our hereditary monarch

HARRISON SAMPHIR
VOLUNTEER

Canadian public opinion in recent decades has come to question the nation's status as a constitutional monarchy with an unelected, hereditary head of state.

This reality, one firmly rooted in Canada's colonial past, has led some to wonder, what is next? Will the nation continue to maintain its ties to the British monarchy, or adopt the principles of a republic and enact sweeping Constitutional reform?

“It's always been Canada that has led the Commonwealth in areas of asserting national independence.”

- TOM FREDA, DIRECTOR, CITIZENS FOR A CANADIAN REPUBLIC

Citizens for a Canadian Republic is a non-profit organization based in Toronto committed to enhancing this aforementioned public opinion, while giving voice to an alternative perspective that may shape the future of Canadian politics.

“Traditionally, it's always been Canada that has led the Commonwealth in areas of asserting national independence, and I strongly feel that (we) deserved to be as active in head of state reform,” said director Tom Freda.

As the representative organization in Canada's republican movement, Freda said Citizens for a Canadian Republic is committed

to raising awareness and promoting discussion of the advantages of amending the Constitution, and instating a Canadian head of state independent of the British monarchy.

“Today, indicating a common cause and purpose, CCR is also a partner in a Commonwealth-wide network called Common Cause, linking the republican movements of Britain, Australia and New Zealand,” he said.

The movement, however, is not simply contingent upon ideological support.

According to Freda, the monarchy limits Canada's democratic institutions.

“In a parliamentary republic, we could have a true constitutional referee, ... not an offshore, figurehead monarch, thus keeping the political whims of the head of government in check.”

While Freda acknowledges that Canada may be “10, maybe even 20 years” away from any urgency in regards to constitutional reform, “the best time for (the) debate is now, so that all options and republican models can get the scrutiny they deserve.”

While the impetus for this social movement is seemingly in place, there are other considerations and counterpoints, too.

To University of Winnipeg politics professor Joan Grace, “there is no (current) national appetite for this kind of dramatic and substantial institutional change in Canada.”

“We are of course in troubled time economically, the debate about Canada transforming from a constitutional monarchy to a republic just isn't on the minds of most Canadians or public officials,” she said.

That being said, the discussion of abolishing the monarchy could serve as the vehicle



KAITLYN EMSLIE FARRELL

Down with the Queen? Citizens for a Canadian Republic believes Canada should separate from the British monarchy and have its own head of state.

for aligning Canadians closer to the institutions of democratic practice, Grace said.

“It could also increase political knowledge amongst Canadians, and even engender a stronger sense of civic literacy and civic duty.”

Freda and Grace agree that a healthy consequence of a formal amending process, if it should occur in the near future, would be to re-evaluate - or rather, interrogate - the role of

the Monarchy and the evidently figurehead positions of the Lieutenant Governor and Governor General.

“Most often we think about a republic as a system of government by all of the people, but which operates as a representative democracy,” Grace said.

“Citizens elect, through competitive and fair elections, individuals to represent them in a legislative assembly,” Grace said.

This is your brain on meth

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LOOKING FOR LISTINGS?

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COVER IMAGE

CLASS ACT

International students from the University of Winnipeg pose for a picture in the Bulman Students' Centre Multi-Purpose Room on campus on Monday, Nov. 21, 2011.

Between 1,000 and 1,200 international students study at the U of W each year. See story on page 10.

PHOTO BY DYLAN HEWLETT

STREETER

BY OLENA KOZEL

Q: WINNIPEG'S CITY COUNCIL RECENTLY APPROVED A 25-CENT TRANSIT FARE INCREASE TO HELP PAY FOR RAPID TRANSIT. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?



Jason Syvixay, public relations advocate, Downtown Biz

"Increasing our transit fees will have a negative impact on ridership, especially for those of whom transportation poses a financial barrier and challenge. Our governments can find a more fair and sensible way to complete our rapid transit without directly punishing its users."



Eric Mattson, business student

"If the new rapid system is effective and quick, then a fare increase is only fair."



Heather Brown, business student

"I think that it is an inconvenience. If they are not going to fix the transit system we have at this given time, it does not seem fair to increase the fare. They should be trying to get more people to want to take the bus."



Dylan Jones-Drewniak, arts student and downtown resident

"It is not necessary to charge public transit riders higher fares when the money needed for rapid transit could and should be found elsewhere."



Dominique Demers, community member

"I think that it is kind of unfair for people who do not have access to the rapid transit system, they should have found the funding before building. It would have avoided all of the unnecessary controversy."



Daniel Gurevich, student

"The service has been getting worse as the fare increases. I see no justification for an increase in transit fare when Winnipeg remains, and will continue to be, a car-centric city if Winnipeg transit does not take proactive measures to increase ridership."

LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WORLD AIDS DAY will feature a fundraising concert with KIM THIESSEN and DARRYL NEUSTAEDTER BARG on Friday, Nov. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at Home Street Mennonite Church, 318 Home St. For more information, please visit manitoba.mcc.org

MEC SNOWFEST is on Saturday, Nov. 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Mountain Equipment Co-op, 303 Portage Ave. MEC Snowfest is a celebration of all things snowsports related. Bring your travel mug for some free hot chocolate and be prepared for great prize draws. Phone 204-943-4202 for more info.

The Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre is offering an INTRODUCTION TO WEN-DO SELF DEFENSE INFORMATION SESSION on Monday, Nov. 28 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at 1150A Waverley St. Please note this is not a class. Space is limited. Pre-registration is required by calling 204-477-1123. This is a women-only event. No childcare is available.

As part of the acclaimed OUTRAGE TO ACTION WORKSHOP SERIES, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL presents WOMEN & GIRLS ARE NOT DISPOSABLE: PROMOTING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS on Wednesday, Nov. 30, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 3M63 at the University of Winnipeg. Members of the public, old friends and new members are all welcome to attend the series of workshops about human rights. To register, please contact Lee at 204-960-6286. Space is limited.

SILPIT ARTISTS' 13th ANNUAL ART SHOW AND SALE is on Friday Dec. 2, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 3, from noon to 4 p.m. at 70 Arthur St. at McDermot Ave. The show features paintings, prints, ceramics, glass, jewellery and cards by 16 artists.

The 8th ANNUAL HOLIDAZE CRAFT SHOW AND SALE is on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Exchange Community Church, 75 Albert St. The show features the work of 24 of Winnipeg's fine artists and craftspeople. Check out www.theholidaycraftshow.yolasite.com for more information.

CRAFTY MINIONS ART SHOW AND SALE is on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Aqua Books, 274 Garry St.

Want to learn how to get savvy with a soundboard? The Winnipeg Folk Festival is offering a SOUND 101 WORKSHOP with instructor Chris Freeman on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Folk Exchange, 103-211 Bannatyne Ave. In this workshop you will learn the basic components of a small PA system, how to help create a sound that will be heard by an audience, and several ideas that will help to create sound at least as good over the

PA as it is on stage. Those who are musicians can bring instruments. The workshop is \$25 or \$20 for MISC members and WFF volunteers.

Nominations are now open for the 2012 PROTECTING OUR EARTH AWARDS. These environmental awards are presented annually by Manitoba Eco-Network to individuals and groups in recognition of achievements in protecting and stewarding Manitoba's environment. The nomination deadline is Dec. 14. Contact 204-947-6511 or email info@mbeconetwork.org.

ON CAMPUS

THE UNITER SPEAKER SERIES presents philosopher and author JOSEPH HEATH on Thursday, Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gratté Hall. On the eve of Buy Nothing Day 2011, Heath will deliver a lecture titled THE MYTH OF THE REBEL CONSUMER. The lecture is based in part on *The Rebel Sell: Why the Culture Can't Be Jammed*, the 2004 book he co-authored with Andrew Potter. Everyone is welcome to attend and admission is free. Visit www.uniter.ca/speakers-series.

UN Women Winnipeg Chapter and The Global College present FROM PEACE IN THE HOME TO PEACE IN THE WORLD: CHALLENGE MILITARISM AND END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN on Tuesday, Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. in Room 2M70.

THE U OF W INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM and the DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY present world-renowned ethnographer, writer, photographer, filmmaker and the U of W's visiting professor DR. WADE DAVIS to deliver his lecture INTO THE SILENCE on Nov. 30, from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Convocation Hall.

The UWSA RE-STORE will be on campus from Monday, Nov. 28 to Friday, Dec. 2 in the Bulman Students' Centre Foyer. Find used desks, shelves, chairs, tables, filing cabinets, and more from the University of Winnipeg's storage closet. Everything is \$2 and everything must go! All proceeds go to the UWSA Foodbank.

THE UWSA presents FREE YOGA every Wednesday during the free period until Dec. 14. Bring your own mat, or buy one from the Petrified Sole Used Bookstore.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The UWSA Bike Lab is open! Pop by between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday to Friday, to say hello or get involved. Email bikelab@theuwsa.ca for more information, or join the Facebook group at www.facebook.com/uwsabikelab.

The UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION WOMYN'S CENTRE provides a space where womyn can build community

with other womyn. To volunteer phone 204-786-9788 or email womynsctr@theuwsa.ca.

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

To volunteer for PEER SUPPORT email uofwpeersupport@gmail.com, or grab an application from their office (ORM13) or from the UWSA.

To volunteer for UWSA FOODBANK email foodbank@theuwsa.ca, or grab an application from the UWSA.

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

CKUW 95.9 FM is seeking volunteers for the music and news departments, and as hosts for programs. Email ckuw@uwinnipeg.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 spenceneighbourhood.org or call 204-783-5000 for more information.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY is looking to assemble an experienced team of volunteers to assist with the salvaging and safe removal of a wide variety of donated items. For more information please call Greg at 204-223-5160 or email gmllett@habitat.mb.ca.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF MANITOBA needs volunteers to deliver JA business programs to classrooms throughout Winnipeg. Through your time, you will give young Manitobans work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills that will encourage them to stay in school and guide them through life. Call Kristin at 204-956-6088 to volunteer.

THE SALVATION ARMY on Logan Avenue needs KITCHEN HELPERS to assist in the preparation and serving of meals at their children's program on Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please call Breanne at 204-946-9490 or email youthworker@mymts.net.

THE ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF MANITOBA is looking for VOLUNTEER CANVASSERS to knock on doors and request donations during Alzheimer Awareness Month this January. If you can spare an hour or two canvassing a street in your neighbourhood, please call 204-943-6622 to sign up or visit www.alzheimer.mb.ca for more information.

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Beware of debt reduction schemes, agency warns

May make debt problems worse

ANNE THOMAS
BEAT REPORTER

Some debt reduction businesses may be promising more than they can deliver, according to the Manitoba Consumer Protection Office.

On Nov. 7, the provincial government consumer watchdog issued a warning urging Manitobans to be wary of promises that their debts can be cut by up to 60 per cent.

Dealing with these businesses could end up digging people deeper into debt, a press release warned.

Although debt-related services have been around for a long time, the new warning concerns a newer model of debt management that has sprung up over the past year or two, Jan Forster, director of the Consumer Protection Office, said.

Forster says she has been hearing more and more complaints to her office and concerns within the debt management community.

"We wanted to make sure that consumers fully understand how the model works, and then they can make informed choices about whether or not this type of service is best for them," Forster said.

In the debt settlement model, people sign a contract, pay significant up-front fees, and then the agency tells them to stop paying their creditors and start saving funds in a separate account. Once they've saved enough, the agency will go to creditors and try to negotiate to reduce the amount owing.

Ken Jones of E Z Debt Relief, a company offering to cut debt by up to 60 per cent, said debt reduction companies can't put people further into debt.

"Absolutely not," he said. "Because the whole process of debt settlement is reducing the debt from the initial balance."

Forster points out that debt settlement contracts actually state that there are no guarantees. And some creditors may refuse



DAVID SEBURN/UNITER ARCHIVES

Promises by debt reduction businesses to cut your debt by 60 per cent may sound enticing, but you should be wary of them, says the Manitoba Consumer Protection Office.

to work with the agencies.

"Also, the fact that you stopped paying your minimum monthly payment to your creditors means that your credit score is going to be negatively impacted, and collection agencies and your creditors are still going to be calling you," Forster said.

Jones denied credit ratings could be damaged through this approach.

"That doesn't actually happen. The money is secure in an account under their name. So the money is not going anywhere," he said.

The Winnipeg Credit Counselling Society is one of many non-profit organizations offering help for those overwhelmed by debt.

President Scott Hannah said the organization looks at all options, as opposed to the one-size-fits-all approach of debt settlement companies.

Some people at an early stage of financial

trouble just need help establishing a budget, without making it so restrictive that it incites rebellion. Others may be able to consolidate their debts through their bank or credit union, he said.

For those who owe too much to get help from their bank, Hannah's organization can negotiate with creditors to stop charging interest and get the debt to a manageable level.

The difference, Hannah said, is that because of well-established relationships, their acceptance rate with creditors is over 99 per cent.

"The acceptance rate of these debt settlement companies is less than five per cent," Hannah said.

For help finding financial counseling support, contact the Consumer Protection Office at 204-945-3800 or email consumers@gov.mb.ca.

Learning to learn

Researchers and educators discuss the future of Canadian education

CHRIS HUNTER
BEAT REPORTER

Closing permanently this spring, the Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) has released its final report, outlining recommendations for better Canadian education.

The CCL, a private organization dedicated to researching the state of learning in Canada, had its funding cut in 2010 by the federal government.

"The CCL is obliged to close in the spring because of the withdrawal of all federal funding," Paul Capon, president and CEO of CCL, wrote in an email. "Without that funding, we cannot maintain the quality and scope we had."

The CCL uses the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) to weigh the academic ability of students across Canada. By comparing Canada's PISA scores with other country's, CCL can determine where Canadian education is lacking.

Ryan Wiens, a teacher from College Churchill High School, believes it is important to examine the root causes of successful PISA scores.

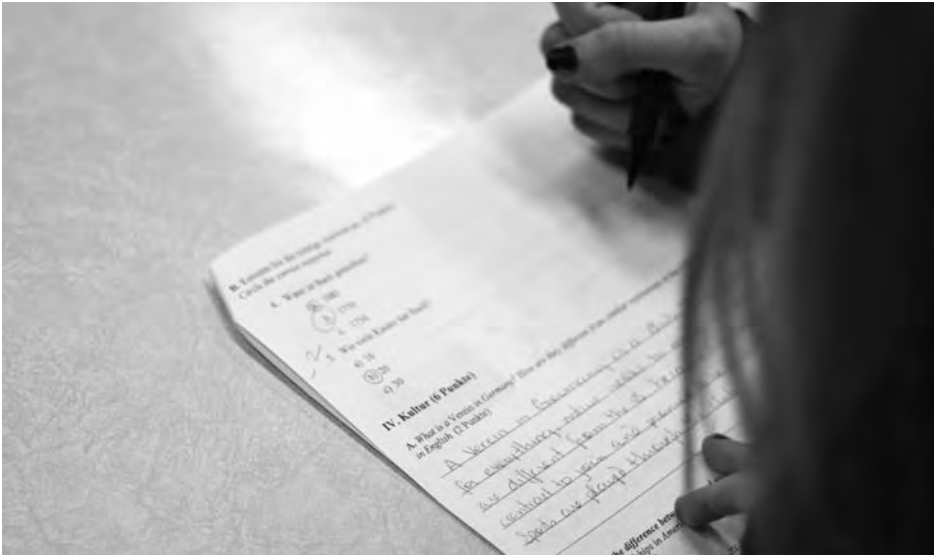
"On one hand, we are using PISA tests to say Canada is not being competitive, but on the other hand we don't explore why other countries do well on the test," he said. "Finland is one of the best countries on the test and we don't ask ourselves why."

Besides spending less time in classrooms than students in any other developed country, Finnish students don't begin formal schooling until the age of seven, Wiens added.

"Why aren't we trying to figure out why kids can start so late in school, spend so little time in school and do so much better on these tests than everyone else?" he said.

Wiens speculates cultural norms in Finland may play a large role in this difference.

"Reading at home in Finland is a highly valued social norm, whereas in Canada you



STEPHEN KURZ

Canada must invest in a national education strategy to determine how effective the education system currently is, the Canadian Council on Learning recommends in its final report.

go to an elementary school and have certain children that were never read to at home," he said. "Also, teachers are valued members of society and systems are set up to take care of parents."

As outlined in the CCL's final report, Capon believes the solution to Canada's slipping scores sits in the need for national education goals. From early childhood schooling to post secondary education, a national strategy must be developed for determining how effective schools are.

This can be done through a ministry of education, adds Capon.

"Canada is the only country in which the central government lacks a ministry of education," he said. "This is one reason for our failure to develop any national goals or strategy."

Paul Burbank, a policy intern for the council on post-secondary education, believes nation-wide commitment to developing post-secondary education programs

would be beneficial.

"Most experts will tell you we have a post-secondary sector, not a system," he said. "Schools are all doing their own thing, they are not working together, they are individually pursuing what will get them more financial resources."

However, Wiens believes a nationalized curriculum would be ineffective.

"A nationalized curriculum in a place like Canada seems a little absurd," he said. "We have such a huge diversity across the country - how are you supposed to assume the reality of being a good citizen in Newfoundland is the same as other places?"

For Burbank, the end of CCL means the end of a resource for education research.

"It's one less place where someone like myself could get reliable evidence on the state of learning," he said. "That's not to say there are other places where you can get information, but the loss of an independent voice is always problematic."

Local News Briefs

Compiled by Matt Preprost



WATER FOR RESERVES COMING

The Conservative government is backing a Liberal motion that will see northern Manitoba reserves receive clean, running water by spring 2012. According to a July report, nearly 40 per cent of water and sewer plants on reserves are so troubled they pose risks to human health, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported. "We are all in agreement the current situation is unacceptable," said Aboriginal Affairs Minister John Duncan. Liberal Leader Bob Rae introduced the motion. However, it will cost \$690 million over the next decade to bring sanitation standards up to speed on Manitoba reserves.

AILING SEWAGE PLANT RETURNS TO NORMAL

Bacteria levels at the South End Water Pollution Control Centre are back to normal, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reports. On Oct. 7, the city reported bacteria that consume and treat organic waste had inexplicably died off. That caused the plant to release 50 million to 60 million litres of partially treated sewage into the Red River every day, leading to elevated levels of E. coli and ammonia in the river. City engineers said recent test samples of discharge from the plant contained three to nine parts of E. coli bacteria per 100 millilitres, which is below the E. coli concentrations in the Red River itself, and a sign levels have returned to normal.

POLICE ROLL OUT YET ANOTHER CRIME PLAN

The Winnipeg Police Service says it will reduce violent crimes to specific targets by 2014, the *Canadian Press* reports. Last week, police chief Keith McCaskill said the service is aiming to reduce assaults by nine per cent and sexual assaults and robberies by three per cent by 2014. To do so, the strategy promises more officers on foot patrol, a new database to help police track violent criminals and an operational review of the force to ensure that resources are directed where they are needed most. Most of the new foot patrols will be focused on the downtown and other high-crime areas, McCaskill said. Winnipeg has experienced a record-setting 35 homicides this year.

WINNIPEG TO TRANSIT USERS: PAY UP FOR RAPID TRANSIT

Winnipeg will become the first city in Canada to increase bus fare rates to fund rapid transit development, the *Winnipeg Free Press* reported last week. On Nov. 16, city council voted on a last-minute motion to add 20 cents to a planned five-cent transit fare hike in 2012. The increase is to cover part of the cost of extending the city's first rapid transit line to Bison Drive near the University of Manitoba. The move means regular fare will increase by five cents on Jan. 1 and another 20 cents on June 1. The plan has caused much controversy with critics charging the move unfairly targets people of lesser means who rely on transit, including new immigrants, seniors and single mothers. However, the province must also sign off on the plan, as it determines the level of subsidy to Winnipeg Transit, the *Winnipeg Free Press* said.

International News Briefs

Compiled by Eva Wasney

U.S. GROUP OFFERED ASYLUM TO GADHAFI

WASHINGTON: It has been uncovered that an organization going by the moniker The American Action Group had offered to rescue former president Muammar Gadhafi, during the recent Libyan uprising. *The New York Times* reported that a Washington terrorism expert, a veteran C.I.A. officer, a Republican operative and a Kansas City lawyer had offered to make the former president their client in exchange for a minimum payment of \$10 million. The group claimed they weren't trying to be lobbyists for Gadhafi, and their efforts were to prevent a bloodbath by relocating Gadhafi and his family to a secret hideout.

BRAZIL'S EMERGING POWER CAUSING CONFLICT WITH NEIGHBOURS

BOLIVIA: Indigenous protestors have marched 325 miles across the country to condemn Bolivian president Evo Morales's agreement with a Brazilian highway construction initiative. In 2008, Construtora OAS, a Brazilian construction firm, had won a \$415 million contract to build a highway through Bolivia, reported *The New York Times*. Morales has since halted the highway project, but Brazil's continuous efforts for expansion and resource accumulation are under fire from other neighbouring countries as well. In recent years Brazil has become an economic powerhouse that boasts a national bank with stronger lending power than the World Bank.

MAN CHARGED WITH ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON OBAMA

WASHINGTON: Oscar Ortega-Hernandez has been charged with attempting to assassinate U.S. president Barack Obama or

members of his staff. Al Jazeera reported two bullets from a semi-automatic rifle had hit the exterior of the White House last week. Ortega-Hernandez was connected to the incident after police found items related to the shooting in an abandoned car near the scene. The incident occurred on a Friday, but was not investigated until the following Tuesday when bullet holes were found. Still, Ortega-Hernandez was found and arrested by secret service agents at a motel in Pennsylvania after a citizen reported a suspicious person circling the area.

NEW YORK COULD BE SUBMERGED IN NEXT DECADE

NEW YORK: A recent report by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority says climate change will put a third of New York City underwater by the mid-2020s, *The New York Times* reported. Rising sea levels, due to polar ice melting, and severe storms will cause massive flooding in low lying areas across the entire state, much of which is inhabited by more than half a million people. The report is intended to help the government get people out of harm's way and to help city planners factor climate change into long-term infrastructure changes.

FEARS OF CIVIL WAR RISE IN SYRIA AS CONFLICT CONTINUES

LEBANON: Recent attacks on government buildings by the rebel Free Syrian Army, as well as rising internal and international tensions, has led to fears of an impending civil war in the country. *The New York Times* reported that rebel groups are on the rise as more troops desert the Syrian Army to fight against the current government regime. Syria's international allies have condemned the country for continuing to use violence to control protests, which has killed thousands of people. Lack of international assistance has also been scrutinized, leading some to believe the conflict is of less concern because Syria does not have significant natural resources, such as oil.

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Comments

It's not true!

Conspiracy theories have evolved, but still challenge our knowledge



TREVOR GRAUMANN
COMMENTS EDITOR

The conspiracy theorists of old talked about aliens and JFK, the pressing issues of the time. But today's conspiracy theorists have branched out and expanded their knowledge base, taking on diverse issues from theoretical physics to fast food.

The motivation for the theories is essentially the same as the old days, but I think there are some notable differences between conspiracy theorists then and now.

First off, the range of conspiracy theories that have become popular knowledge is so wide that many of us, strictly speaking, may be called conspiracy theorists.

Bear in mind that in the old days, you either thought aliens were nonsense, or you hid naked on the side of the highway in hope that the mother ship would descend upon you.

Now there's an extensive middle ground between these two extremes.

But this middle ground - the people who don't necessarily believe heavily in every subversive idea, but who nonetheless are curious - is certainly not who I'm talking about.

I'm talking about those people who can explain the systems of the world for you in five minutes, simply by summarizing *Zeitgeist*.

They will refute your every rebuttal, or at least ignore it.

This is the thing about today's conspiracy theorists: they've watched films that explain the world in its entirety, and so feel that nothing else matters.

I think believing in this stuff promotes a depressing existence. How can you dive into life meaningfully when you believe that everything you or anyone feels is the product of a mass system that has programmed our every emotion?

When it comes to the arts, these theories are also damaging, and sometimes make arguments that are irrelevant anyway.

A great example of this is the recent movie about the works of Shakespeare, *Anonymous*, which appears to treat a theory from the 19th century as if it's something new.



ARANDA ADAMS

In fact, the film promotes one of the many theories surrounding the authorship of the Shakespearean plays, but the story is always either that there was no William Shakespeare, or that if there was he was only an actor and not a writer of plays.

My point is that I don't see why this matters. Literary theory has long since moved away from studying the author anyway, and the focus has turned to the work itself.

Hardcore conspiracy theorists have reduced the great works of the ages to products of mind control, and thereby created a means with which to disengage from the works themselves. That's why some people don't read anything but alternative news sources.

You may call me naïve, but I believe there has been human achievement.

In fact, I believe that part of the force that drives these conspiracy theories is the extreme to which our achievements have gone.

Throughout the history of humankind, back to the ancient Greeks at least, people

have dreamed of flight - a goal we achieved about a century ago.

Our ancient ancestors dreamed of flying, but they could never have imagined the Internet, or smartphones.

In this sense, humankind in the Western world is in its post-classical era, detached from what came before it. Magic has happened, genius has changed the world - and now what?

We move incrementally along the same path: phones that are slightly better, Internet that's slightly faster.

But nothing *truly* inspiring abounds. This generational hopelessness is at the core of many conspiracy theorists' motivation, I believe.

That may be *their* focus, but for the rest of us life goes on in the matrix, and we are blissfully unaware.

Trevor Graumann is the The Uniter's comments editor.

A tough situation

Domestic violence is an issue that requires more attention



MICHAEL ANTHONY WELCH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

"I encourage you to join us in a province-wide effort to raise awareness about domestic violence and the resources available to families affected by this issue. ... We all have an important role to play in preventing domestic violence in our families and in our community."

So reads a letter to the public signed by the Provincial Minister of Family Services and Consumer Affairs Gord Mackintosh on the occasion of Domestic Violence Prevention Month. The letter points to a government website that outlines the critical importance of escaping an abusive situation and getting help.

On the site, a red and black logo reads: "Domestic Violence: Without help, abusive situations only get worse."

It is generally assumed that human rights and protection of women and children in abusive relationships can and are being satisfactorily addressed and resolved by State authorities.

Indeed, there are those who think our society may have gone overboard in its efforts to attend to concerns about the rights of women and children faced with abuse.

It might surprise a lot of Manitobans, as it did me when I first started hearing about it from a friend a couple of years ago, that the existing child protection services are not only failing to protect the young from domestic abuse, but in the case of joint custody

arrangements, may even be exacerbating it.

Consider the following scenario: a child comes to the mother complaining of abuse by the father. The mother then reports the abuse to the General Child and Family Services Authority (CFS). After an extensive investigation, CFS is unable to substantiate the abuse allegations made by the child. In effect, it is CFS's word against that of the child.

The agency's assessment notwithstanding, the mother believes the child and in a desperate attempt to escape the cycle of abuse, files for separation from the father.

Under the Divorce Act, joint 50-50 custody is mandated. Family Court is the main arbiter when it comes to these sorts of decisions and breaching custody orders can cost a parent all access to the child.

Now consider that during a visitation with the mother, the child pleads with her not to be sent back to the father because of fear for his or her safety. The mother then does not force the child to go back to the father against his or her will.

Consequently, the mother is found in breach of a Court of Queen's Bench order and loses all custody of the child to the alleged abuser who is then accorded full custody.

A common defence for parents accused of abuse is something called Parental Alienation Syndrome. The idea being that a child, due to a number of factors, is indoctrinated by a parent into belittling or spurning the other parent.

This psychological malady, coined by Richard Gardner, has not been substantiated

in peer-reviewed literature.

No professional organization, including the American Psychiatric Association and the American Medical Association recognizes this syndrome, nor is it listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) or the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems of the World Health Organization (WHO).

Yet Family Court routinely makes use of this "disorder" to discredit the testimonies of children who express fear or even blatant accusations of abuse by a parent.

The Leadership Council on Child Abuse and Interpersonal Violence is an organization made up of experts from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds whose mission is to promote the ethical application of psychological science to human welfare.

Their website contains a compilation of a scholarly articles on this glitch in the system that an abuser and in fact a predator could potentially exploit.

With activists exhausting their righteous indignation at SlutWalks and "Down with Judge Dewar" rallies, perhaps women and child advocates may want to take some time addressing this concern that holds the welfare of thousands of vulnerable children in the balance.

Michael Anthony Welch is News Director of CKUW and co-host of ALERT Radio. Universal Children's Day is Nov. 20, and International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women is Nov. 25.

Taking a detour

Darren Aronofsky does meth



ERIKA MILLER
VOLUNTEER

Darren Aronofsky is a man who endeavours to create art that will leave an indelible mark on your film psyche.

Most recently, he made your skin crawl when Natalie Portman sprouted feathers from her back in *Black Swan*, so it's a natural progression that he would lend a hand in making violently accurate anti-meth ads for the Meth Project.

Widely known for his intensely psychedelic and uncomfortable films, the Meth Project ads are not the first time the writer/director has grappled with this particular subject matter.

His 2000 film *Requiem for a Dream*, adapted from the Hubert Selby, Jr. novel of the same name, depicted a cast of characters devoured by their own rapid descent into heroin and amphetamine addictions.

Aronofsky has an unmistakable talent to draw out the rawest performances from the actors he works with, and in combination with his unconventional cinematic vision and skill, he cooks up films that challenge the basic conceptions of filmmaking for mainstream audiences.

This is apparent even in his work with young actors in the Meth Project ads; watching a teenage girl struggle with her mother as she tries to tourniquet her slit wrists will ripple goosebumps up your arms.

The set of four anti-meth ads directed by Aronofsky are quite possibly the sharpest needles of the bunch in the set of advertisements deterring teens from the dangers of methamphetamine use.

His deliberate depiction of his all-American characters embroiled in the depths of psychosis, despair, self-harm and suicide send a sickening rush through your veins. With only 30 seconds to make you gasp, he assaults your senses with a series of images that can only be described as nightmarish.

A dark-haired girl with bruised eyes stares desperately at you as her gentle voiceover asks, "Can you really lose it on meth?" before she screams like a feral animal and violently struggles against nurses holding her down on a gurney in the ER.

Another ad has a boy stripping in a seedy motel room asking the viewer if meth can really change who you are. The boy's question echoes in your own head after watching, like some haunting hallucination - can these commercials really change who you could become?

According to research in the state of Montana where the Meth Project was originally launched, the answer is yes.

The incidence of teen meth use has declined an astounding 63 percent in Montana alone since the graphic campaign was unveiled in 2005.

The project was subsequently expanded to other states and those states have also benefited substantially from the exposure to the terrifying public service announcements.

The Meth Project was the brainchild of businessman Thomas M. Siebel, conceived in response to the growing methamphetamine use and addiction epidemic in the United States.

While there has been a significant response to the campaign since its outset, Darren Aronofsky's fame and skill have brought an influx of renewed interest and importance to a project that doesn't get nearly as much critical acclaim as AMC's *Breaking Bad*.

Thankfully in the real world, critical acclaim is less important than statistical significance.

Erika Miller is a student at the University of Manitoba. Nov. 30 is National Meth Awareness Day in the United States.

Arts & Culture

These Muckies are made for fashion

Julie Pedersen's footwear popular with Kristin Cavallari and Katy Perry, to name a few



Keep ultra warm and even more fashionable with the boots the celebs wear - all designed locally by Julie Pederson.

JOHN VAN LAAR
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Manitoban Julie Pedersen knows a thing or two about fashion. A graduate of a private Vancouver fashion school, model, designer and former actor, Pedersen has created her own line of distinct women's footwear. Returning from Vancouver, the artist wanted to buy some winter boots. "I could not find anything that was funky

and cool," she says. So what was a woman with fashion sense to do? Pedersen took the initiative and with her fashion expertise she designed her own chic style of footwear, "Muckies." "When you are bundled up in the winter it kinda says who you are without having to say anything." Muckies, naturally inspired by Mukluks, take an urban twist. "Mukluks are great for cold and dry climates (and) Muckies are designed more for

our slushy, wet type weather," she says. Pedersen creates 90 per cent of the boot herself, going with current fashion trends. "This year there are a whole bunch of different colours (I'm going to) introduce." Taking a craftsperson's approach, each Muckie is handmade. "I treat the outside and I hand paint the suede and make them more resistant," she says. "The fur is layered, so it's reinforced - it will not shed. I also use boning in the boots so they are going to stay tall on you."

There are three different boot lengths and all are given a subtle rubber sole, "so it doesn't take away from the design," she says. With a faux fur inner lining each pair is very comfortable. Incorporating a thermal layer between the boot and the sole ensures warmth and comfort so you don't feel every stone. Word of mouth is the best form of promotion and that's precisely how news spread about Muckies. Additionally, Pedersen invested time and resources into her inspiration by setting up a small booth at the One of a Kind show in Toronto. "That's where it turned for me, that's where it sort of launched. The first year was incredible, we sold out of merchandise on the third day of the 11-day show."

Each of her creations reflect the style of

each individual. Accepting clients on an appointment-only basis, Pedersen is then able to tailor each pair to the individual. Most aficionados who own a pair, such as Anna Paquin (*True Blood*), Meaghan Waller (*Canada's Next Top Model*) and Kristin Cavallari (*The Hills*), have indulged in more than one style. "Muckies are a little addictive (with) so many options," she says. "Some people have three or four pairs." Clientele also has the option of purchasing pre-made Muckies on the shelf. Aside from Muckies, Pedersen also designs "spats," which bring "new life to old heels." Pederson's spats have been incredibly popular with some of today's music stars, including Katy Perry and Britney Spears, who wore their spats at their recent Winnipeg gigs. Always creating and always innovating, Pedersen has tapped into an element of fashion that is a uniquely Canadian product with international attention. "Muckies are all over the world," she says. "I have shipped to L.A., Florida, Iceland. Europe is really showing tremendous interest."

As the snow falls in Winnipeg, she couldn't have picked a better place.

Visit www.juliepedersen.com.



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Breaking the buzz

Austra's Katie Stelmanis on critical acclaim, her classical roots and why she's not a witch

AARON SNIDER
CULTURE REPORTER

Since the release of Toronto-based trio Austra's debut record, *Feel It Break*, back in May, the band has been lauded by the likes of NME and Pitchfork, and has been short-listed for the Polaris Music Prize.

It gets difficult to keep in mind just how new this all is for everyone involved. Austra front woman Katie Stelmanis, who is joined in the band by Maya Postepski and Dorian Wolf, says that it wasn't that long ago she was playing to 30 people a show as a solo artist.

"To be honest, 300 people doesn't feel that intimate to us," she says. "To play a show to 350, 400, 500 people feels like a massive crowd. So we're still riding on the glory of that at the moment."

The band's co-nominees and Polaris winners, Arcade Fire, have been selling out large venues for years now and Stelmanis says that the two bands could share a prestigious short-list really speaks to an authentic musical philosophy for the award.

"There's a lot of musical integrity that goes along with the Polaris Prize. The list of recipients are very impressive," she says. "To be nominated for that was a huge honour for us. It was a big deal."

"To play a show to 350, 400, 500 people feels like a massive crowd. So we're still riding on the glory of that at the moment."

- KATIE STELMANIS, AUSTRALIA

Speaking with Stelmanis, it quickly becomes clear how Austra got to where it is now.

The classically trained pianist and opera singer credits her musical upbringing with not only the way she makes music, but the way she and the other members operate as a band.

"It's where I came from," Stelmanis says.

"It's how I learned music and how I learned to understand music. It also really affects the way I write music.

"It also just affects the way we work as a band," she says. "We're really diligent about practicing and we're really diligent about working."

And for all those electronic music fans out there, here's a hint of how close a call it really was.

Stelmanis originally wanted to write orchestral music, and found the easiest way was to use electronic samples and a MIDI controller. Keep in mind she had never listened to electronic or dance music in any serious way before this.

"I kind of just naturally fell into that world just by getting really accustomed to the samples I was using and falling in love with the synthetic sound," Stelmanis says.

Skip forward several years and the synthesized orchestrations of *Lose It* and *Beat and the Pulse* take on a whole new meaning.

However, there's another aspect of the music that has also been getting a lot of attention.

The words "gothic" and "witches" appear repeatedly in reviews of *Feel It Break*. Stelmanis acknowledges the darker side of her music, but questions the manner critics use to express it.

"Calling us witches is kind of offensive," says Stelmanis. "I know a lot of female artists get called witches now and it's becoming overly trending and it has a bad connotation, in a way."

But then Stelmanis is wary of reviews in general.

"We just try not to pay attention to anything that anybody is saying. I think it can have a really dangerous effect."

⇒ See Austra perform on Thursday, Nov. 24 at the West End Cultural Centre

⇒ Tasseomancy and Young Galaxy will also perform

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

⇒ Advance tickets are \$12 at the WECC, Music Trader, Ticketmaster or the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store, or \$15 at the door

⇒ Visit www.austramusic.com



SUPPLIED

Canadian New Wave band Austra was nominated for the 2011 Polaris Prize.

Turn on, tune in, drop out... and find the others

Andy Sheppard's music and videos are more in sync than a '90s boy band

JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Veteran jazz/folk artist Andy Sheppard has ventured into video making to create *Find the Others*, an innovative project connecting music and film.

An impressive roster of collaborators appear on the band's self-titled, recently released debut, including fellow Toronto act Snowblink, Bjork's remix guru Olivier Alary and Italian actress/director Isabella Rossellini.

"We build in all sorts of space so that we can improvise and take the song off into different directions. We don't want to play the same show every night."

- ANDY SHEPPARD

Though the band's pseudonym could easily have stemmed from the constant collaborations on its inaugural album, it's actually a nod to a famed quote by '60s-era drug advocate Timothy Leary: "Turn on, tune in, drop out."

After a reporter at a press conference asked what people should do after following those steps, Leary responded, "Find the others."

Find the Others isn't so much an homage to Leary as it is to the quintessential human nature of bonding with like-minded individ-



SUPPLIED

Follow Timothy Leary's advice - or at the very least, check out *Find the Others* at the Park Theatre on Thursday, Dec. 1.

uals.

"Whether we like a sports team, or we want to be in a church, or we play music or like social media, we're trying to gather peo-

ple around us that feel the same way," says Sheppard, over the phone from Victoria. "It's a real human kind of behaviour."

Sheppard's meticulous creative process in

synchronizing his lo-fi, electronic songs with video projections is unique.

"A lot of artists have visuals and lights with their shows, this (video aspect) is actually part of the song. It follows the song or we follow the video, so it kind of becomes, in some cases, like experiencing the live soundtrack to a movie."

Drummer Mark Mariash accompanies Sheppard, who plays guitar. The two-man band is on the road this winter for a cross-Canada tour.

Adapting to their intricate performance model seems to be going smoothly.

"I have a looper on the floor, and I'm sort of triggering the loops, and that sets the video off," explains Sheppard. "We build in all sorts of space so that we can improvise and take the song off into different directions. We don't want to play the same show every night."

Winnipeggers can witness this intriguing mixed-media collage on Thursday, Dec. 1 when *Find the Others* stops by the Park Theatre. Sheppard is surprisingly psyched about the upcoming tour date in Winnipeg mid-winter.

"I lived there for almost three years (when) I used to host a radio show on CBC," he discloses. "I miss it. I have a lot of good friends there. I'm looking forward to getting back."

⇒ See *Find The Others* live at the Park Theatre on Thursday, Dec. 1

⇒ DJ Mama Cutsworth is also on the bill

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

⇒ Tickets available at the Park Theatre or www.ticketbreak.com

⇒ Visit www.findtheothers.com

■ SPECIAL FEATURE

BRAVE IN A NEW WORLD

Being an international student can be stressful, financially difficult and potentially alienating. So why do so many students study here?

BY AMY GROENING

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DYLAN HEWLETT

They come from every conceivable part of the world, from Iran to China, Germany to Saudi Arabia.

They can be fresh out of high school or already have a degree or two under their belts.

They may know one or two people in Canada, but more often than not they arrive alone, to a foreign city, new culture, strange food and cold climate.

Their tuition costs more than twice what Canadians pay, and with adjustments to teaching styles and language barriers, they often have to work twice as hard to get their degrees.

They are international students, and hundreds of them come to the University of Winnipeg every year.

Fatemah Al Helal came to Canada after she won a scholarship for academic excellence through the Saudi Arabian government's King Abdullah Scholarship Program. Through this program, the government purchased an English Language Program (ELP) for her in Winnipeg.

"I didn't know where is Winnipeg," Al Helal laughs. "I was looking at the map, trying to see where it's located."

Al Helal planned on finishing her master's degree in food and nutrition at the University of Manitoba, but found she could not get in to the program. She is now in her first year of a sociology degree at the U of W.

"International students always stay international students here. They want to make Canadian friends, but they're shy. They're thinking, should I talk to them, or should they talk to me first."

- ZHI YANG LI, PSYCHOLOGY STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

After successfully completing the ELP, Al Helal enrolled in university classes. She soon realized how difficult taking university classes in a foreign language could be.

"I remember my first class at the University of Manitoba, I was sitting in the room and I don't have any clue what the professor is saying. I was so upset," says Al Helal.

Al Helal says her life has gone through some big changes in the three years she has been in Winnipeg; she has become accustomed to a much more independent lifestyle, and has made many Canadian friends.

"It was so hard at the beginning, when it comes to clothes, talking to people. I needed more time to not feel shy around guys. It was a whole new level of me," she says.

Financial difficulties

Al Helal says she never could have come to the university without her scholarship. Now, her scholarship has run out, and she needs to find a job to support herself on top of the hours she spends in school.

"It's crazy. For sure it's worth it, but my life would be easier if it was cheaper," says Al Helal.

A year's tuition for arts or education costs \$10,000 for international students. A bachelor of science is \$11,500 per year. Living costs are estimated at \$10,302 per year. Add student fees and the mandatory \$420 international student health plan, and it can cost around \$21,000 per year for an international student to study in Canada.

Ehsan Nemati, a third-year business student, is more accepting of the tuition fees.

"I complain at the beginning, but after a while, I figure out, nobody forced me to come here. I choose it, so now I have no complaints about it," Nemati says.

Nemati, who is originally from Iran, is a full-time student, balancing classes and a part-time job. However, he says, financial worries are lessened by the fact that his father can send him money when he needs it.

Before Nemati came to Canada, he studied industrial engineering in Malaysia. He decided to earn his master's in Canada. After spending eight months in the ELP, he found he couldn't get into the master's program as he had hoped, and chose business instead.



↑ **Fatemah Al Helal,**
28, Saudi Arabia

Al Helal came to Canada in 2008, after completing her bachelor's degree in food and nutrition in Saudi Arabia. Because she was awarded a scholarship from her government, she was assigned a placement in Winnipeg. She is now in her first year of a sociology degree at the University of Winnipeg.

Al Helal says as a Saudi Arabian woman, adjusting to the independence of Canadian life was difficult.

"I remember the first time I have to travel alone. I couldn't sleep at night, I didn't know what to do, just thinking, 'What if something happens?' But I appreciate every moment, just being in Canada, going out. Walking in the street was my pleasure-moment, just to see people and talk to them, making new friends."

Riri Nishiwaki,
19, Japan

Nishiwaki came from Japan to study English and business in Winnipeg in September. She is two years into a four-year economics degree in Japan. Her university required her to come to Winnipeg to study English.

"I heard that Canadian English is really clear and beautiful, it's in the middle of American and British English. I wanted to learn clear English," Nishiwaki says.

Nishiwaki knew a bit of English in Japan, but taking a class entirely in English is still strange for her. In addition to this, the weather is much colder.

Nishiwaki will return to Japan in December to complete her degree.



Zhi Yang Li,
23, China

Li came from China with a high school education in 2008. He was interested in studying psychology, and had heard that the University of Winnipeg had a good program. After completing a year in the U of W English Language Program, he started taking courses at the University of Winnipeg.

Li says gaining the confidence to bridge the language barrier and make Canadian friends is a huge challenge for international students.

“When international students are in school, if they don’t make friends, it’s so hard to study. They don’t have friends to ask questions, to discuss the test, stuff like that,” Li says.

Li hopes in the future there will be more university events that bring international and Canadian students together.

Farid Stanekzai,
25, Afghanistan

Farid Stanekzai is a 25-year-old University of Winnipeg graduate from Kabul, Afghanistan. Having graduated with a degree in economics and politics, Stanekzai is now pursuing a master’s degree in international public policy at Wilfrid Laurier University.

After a friend proclaimed U of W to be among the friendliest of schools in Canada, Stanekzai applied and was accepted. Though Stanekzai found his experience to be largely pleasant, he notes that learning to write papers in the English language was difficult.

“When you’re new to a country, you still think in your native language,” he said. “So, when you write essays you have to translate your thoughts on paper into English.”

The challenges of “fitting in”

Nemati says it is easy to socialize with other international students in Canada. Coming from Malaysia, which he describes as a multicultural hub, interacting with people from other cultures was not new. However, Canadians were less accessible to him, he says.

“I do have good Canadian friends, but honestly, for me, it’s somehow easier to find a friend from other countries than a Canadian,” he says.

Zhi Yang Li, who came from China in 2008 and is now studying psychology, says Canadian students often don’t notice the shy newcomers in their classrooms.

“International students always stay international students here,” Li says. “They want to make Canadian friends, but they’re shy. They’re thinking, should I talk to them, or should they talk to me first.”

The food, language, socializing and teaching styles were difficult to adjust to, Li says.

“It takes double the work,” she says, comparing an international student’s challenges to that of a Canadian student.

Li hopes in the future international students can team up with other student groups to have multicultural events to encourage the groups to better socialize with one another.

Carey Roess, a full-time instructor for the ELP, says some newcomers fear they will lose their own cultural identities here. Graduates from the program often come back to help new students, and demonstrate that they can integrate into Canadian life without losing their culture.

According to Roess, many international students are unsure of how to ask questions or get the help they need.

“(They) are less likely to seek help, professional help especially, even going to the doctor. It’s not a system they’re used to living in,” Roess says.

According to Roess, the ELP moved from the Exchange District to the Rice Building two-and-a-half years ago. Since then, she has seen international students getting more involved in student groups, and feeling more like they are part of the university.

Julie Sakuto, co-ordinator of student life at the ELP, helps to make students’ transition to Canadian culture as smooth as possible.

“It can be stressful for them: fitting in, being embarrassed about how they’re communicating,” Sakuto says.

In order to help with the students’ social adjustments, there are organized activities every Friday. The students go to hockey games, learn to carve pumpkins and roast marshmallows - experiences Sakuto says are foreign to many of the students.

The ins and outs of international student recruitment

Jason Brennan, director of recruitment, says between 1,000 and 1,200 international students attend U of W each year. These numbers include exchange students, undergraduates and graduate students.

According to Brennan, the university strives for diversity. However, he says that currently, approximately 40 per cent of recruited students come from China.

Students are recruited in various ways. Until September, the university was employing all sorts of different representative agencies in many different countries, he says.

“The varying levels of quality amongst representatives and techniques employed by those companies made it very difficult to have a consistent message,” Brennan says.

Brennan says many of the representative companies also charged prospective students fees to provide basic information about the school.

Nemati can attest to this. While his recruitment officer in Malaysia offered services free of charge, he says a friend of his went to a recruitment centre that asked close to \$1,000 for assistance in the application process.

Brennan says the university started using a Canada-based representative company called Higher Edge in September. The company runs Canadian University Application Centres in 15 different countries, including Chile to China.

Higher Edge represents six Canadian universities, and helps future students through the application process for free. Brennan says this makes it much easier for the U of W to get accurate information to students.

While international student tuition is much higher than Canadian tuition at U of W, it is lower than in other parts of Canada. A fact sheet put out by the Canadian Federation of Students in 2009 listed average international student tuition fees at \$15,500.

Brennan says international students pay a higher tuition because the Canadian government does not subsidize fees for non-Canadian students.

“Basically, we’re asking international students to pay the full cost of their tuitions,” says Brennan.

Global citizens

Al Helal, who survived culture shock at the beginning of her journey as an international student, is now learning to navigate her new place as a global citizen.

Revisiting her homeland is complicated now, she says.

“It’s hard to accept the things I was accepting in the past. You learn something new, and at the end you need to go back to your old habits,” says Al Helal.

After two years in Canada, Al Helal chose to stop wearing her hijab. She says she made her decision after extensive research on the issue.

“This was a big change for me, but I am more comfortable now. Some women who wear the hijab really like it, it just depends on the person,” she says.

While Al Helal says she hasn’t been treated differently in Canada since she stopped wearing the hijab, it was difficult for many of her friends and family in Saudi Arabia to accept her choice.

For her, this is just part of her educational journey. When she graduates, she hopes to get a job as a professor, or become involved in a non-governmental organization.

“I would travel anywhere in the world just to help people and understand their needs,” says Al Helal.

“Travel is a part of education.”

MUSIC LISTINGS



TASSEOMANCY

THURSDAY, NOV. 24

📍Toronto electro-pop artists AUSTRA play the West End Cultural Centre with TASSEOMANCY and YOUNG GALAXY.

SCOOTS MCTAVISH plays Shannon's Irish Pub.

Local rock act SALINAS plays the Lo Pub.

SITDOWNTRACY'S THIRD ANNUAL MOUSTACHE PARTY fundraiser in support of prostate cancer research is at the Pyramid with THE BOKONONISTS and ROB VILAR.

Sax player JANICE FINLAY's CD release show is at the Canadian Mennonite University, 500 Shaftsbury Blvd.

FRIDAY, NOV. 25

SOUL STATION plays Shannon's Irish Pub.

Local rock acts FLOOR 13 and RED SEED play The Cavern.

Ex-Miracle Fortress performers ADAM AND THE AMETHYSTS play Mondragon.

Roots rock poet C.R. AVERY plays the West End Cultural Centre with bluesman WIL.

TRAIN OF THOUGHT TOUR 2011 hits Winnipeg with hip-hop-pers GHETTOSOCKS, MUNESHINE, TIMBUKTU and JEFF SPEC at the Lo Pub.

Breakspoll award winner KRAFTY KUTS AND THE FUNK HUNTERS bring the bass at Wheelies, 1010 Logan.

THE BENDERENOS, EL DIABLO and TEMPLE CREEK plays the Zoo.

Highway 75 Blues & Sports Bar hosts DEBRA LYN NEUFELD.

SATURDAY, NOV. 26

THE HATCHER/BRIGGS BAND play both kinds of music at the Pyramid Cabaret.

Local folk artists FIRE & SMOKE's EP release is at Pop Soda's Coffeehouse & Gallery with TROUBLE & STRIFE.

Local roots-rocker SCOTT NOLAN plays the Folk Exchange, 211 Bannatyne.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL WOMEN IN BLUES MANITOBA SHOWCASE is on Saturday, Nov. 26 at Dylan O' Connor's, 2609 Portage Ave. The night features ANGEL CALNEK, KATHY KENNEDY, CLAIRE BESTLAND, WENDY BURDON, DONNA MAC, ISABEL ANDERSON and SHELLEY-LYNNE HARDINGE.

Selkirk's HEAT RAT MAGNETS, THE EARDRUMS and THIS HOLE CITY play the West End Cultral Centre.

VAMPIRES, CHORUS OF VS and SO HOLY HEADCASE play The Cavern.

DJ CABERNET and MOD MARTY spin at the Yellow Dog Tavern for SHINDIG.

Another great MANITOBA MUSIC SHOWCASE featuring the CANNON BROS., FEDERAL LIGHTS, ISMAILA ALFA and MITTEN CLAPS is at the Lo Pub.

SUNDAY, NOV. 27

All THE KING'S MEN play their weekly gig at the King's Head Pub.

BIG DAVE MCLEAN'S blues jam is at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

TIM ELIAS, MARCEL DESILETS and BOBBY STAHR play Aqua Books.

MONDAY, NOV. 28

NATHAN ROGERS plays Shannon's Irish Pub.

MICHELANGELO plays the King's Head Pub.

TUESDAY, NOV. 29

Stoner-rock gods KYUSS are playing the Garrick Centre with THE SWORD and MONSTRO.

DROP THE NEEDLE is a monthly party series that combines handmade DIY crafting with music curated by guest DJ MAMA CUTSWORTH at the Lo Pub.

Metal in the Park! KORPIKLANNI, ARKONA, POKADOT CADAVER and FORGED IN FIRE all play the Park Theatre.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30

CLAIRE MORRISON, RIO BARE, LYZIE BURT, HALEY CARR and KRISTEN BERKEL play songs from the PATTI SMITH SONG-BOOK at Aqua Books.

MOVEMBER PUB NIGHT with ALEXANDER MCCOWAN is at the Park Theatre.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TALKING HEADS REIMAGINED is four jazz musicians and vocalist revisiting the works of the Talking Heads on Thursday, Dec. 1 at Aqua Books.

The soulful Winnipeg expat MAIKO WATSON performs at the West End Cultural Centre on Friday, Dec. 2.

Stop talking in your sleep and see GORDON LIGHTFOOT in concert at the MTS Centre on Dec. 2.

Canadian hip-hop artist K-OS plays the Pyramid on Saturday, Dec. 3.

Toronto-based DIRTY MAGS will be performing on Dec. 3 at Pyramid Cabaret.

BOTH LEGS BROKEN are filming a video and they want you to come! It's at the Cavern on Dec. 3.

GHOSTFACE KILLAH rips it up at Republik Nightclub on Sunday, Dec. 4.

PRINCE! That's right, the funky pop god known again to the world as PRINCE is set to play the MTS Centre on Thursday, Dec. 8. OW!

The mission if you choose to accept it is to come to a swinging spy party at the Pyramid. SPY VS SPY features THE HISSES, THE ELECTRICS and THE ROCKDORAS on Friday, Dec. 9.

THE JP HOE HOE HOE HOLIDAY SHOW with special guests, members of CHIC GAMINE, is at the Park Theatre on Dec. 9

and 10.

THE NOBLE THIEFS release *Beyond The 11th Deck* with MISE EN SCENE and THE SHAKE on Saturday, Dec. 10 at the Pyramid Cabaret.

For those who like their jazz way out there, the 2011-2011 Nu Sounds Series kicks off with THE BERT JOHNSON QUINTET featuring T'Al PU on Sunday, Dec. 11 at the Park Theatre.

THE AMAZING KRESKIN attempts to read our thoughts and blow our minds on Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the WECC.

Rolling Stone coverboys THE SHEEPDOGS play the Garrick Centre on Wednesday, Dec.14.

You'll be Imfao when LMFAO plays the MTS Centre on Wednesday, Dec. 14.

MAGNIFICENT 7S' long-awaited album release is finally happening on Thursday, Dec.15 at the WECC.

There will be many empty Standards following THE EMPTY STANDARDS CD release party at the Park on Thursday, Dec. 15.

FRED PENNER does another rowdy show for adults that just want to be kids on Friday, Dec. 16 at the WECC.

A fundraiser to save the RAINBOW TROUT MUSIC FESTIVAL is happening on Friday, Dec. 16 at the Lo Pub featuring SMOKY TIGER and the MANITOBANDITS

SONS OF YORK present their video for *Feel How You Wanna* at Pop Soda's Coffee House & Gallery on Saturday, Dec. 17 at 9 p.m. with a show to follow.

OCCUPY XMAS with ZOPPA and ASHLEIGH GRAY in support of the Dream Room Project and the occupiers is on Dec. 24 at the Estudio Luna Galeria.

CHAD VANGAALEN plays the WECC on Jan. 13, 2012, provided that Old Man Winter doesn't screw it up again.

Ex-Can front man DAMO SUZUKI is coming to the WECC, but you'll have to wait until March 22.

**Want to see your event in
The Uniter?**

E-mail your listing to listings@uniter.ca. The deadline for all listings is Tuesday.

The Uniter is published every Thursday, so send your listings 9 days prior to the issue you want your listing to appear in.

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AUSTRA

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Willing and able, even after 20 years

Alberta singer-songwriter Wil feels as confident as ever touring his fourth disc

DEREK LOEWEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Wil Mimnaugh cut his teeth like most artists - or maybe unlike most artists. The native Albertan began his professional music career playing bar shows five nights a week in Calgary. This was in 1992, before he began writing his own songs.

"I didn't play the music bars needed me to play," Mimnaugh, 41, says over the phone from the road. "Radiohead did *Creep* and I was like 'I'm going to do that.' I didn't really care what it was, I just tried it."

"There are douche bags at any level (of the recording industry), but there are also people who have your back at every level."

-WIL

During this time Wil grew as a confident artist - one with inspiring musicianship and intelligent lyrics. The process was a very pragmatic one though.

"I slowly covered less while writing more and had the confidence to believe in my songs," he says. "Everyone pops that cherry at one point when you're an artist."

Even with the newfound confidence, it took Wil a prolonged period to start recording his songs. His first release, *Both Hands* didn't hit shelves until 2001.

"I remember in the early days, my manager and friend Dan (McManus) saying, 'Write a record' and I'm like 'Fuck that,



SHAUN ROBINSON

Wil practically owns the streets of his hometown, Calgary.

do you have any idea what that takes?" he laughs.

Heart of Mine is Wil's fourth release, and his strongest effort to date. Recorded with the help of his drummer/engineer Jason Cook at Infiniti Studios in Victoria, the

13-day recording process was void of over-analysis and over-production.

The final result is what *Lethbridge Alberta Beat* editor Richard Amery calls "a solid, upbeat effort that goes down smooth."

The album won't be released through a

major record label like some of Wil's other releases.

Having spent some time on a major label, Wil has an enlightening perspective on the subject.

"There were a handful of people there that I can call my friends," he says. "I can say they cared about my best interests."

Wil doesn't make a distinction between indie labels and major labels because he realizes they are both trying to accomplish the same thing, but in different ways.

"There are a lot of horrific stories about labels, there are also a lot of horrific stories about how your best friend borrowed money then slept with your wife," he says. "There are douche bags at any level, but there are also people who have your back at every level."

This is an exciting time for Wil because he is using music for different mediums. He was a part of Travel Alberta's latest campaign and does other work for commercials.

Other than being a musician, Wil also works as a mechanic at a local bike shop.

"If I put up my music up against everything that was thrown my way I would lose focus," he says. "I get away from being a musician so I can come back and be better at it."

⇒ See Wil at the West End Cultural Centre on Friday, Nov. 25

⇒ C.R. Avery will also perform

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

⇒ Tickets are \$14 at WECC, Music Trader, Ticketmaster or the Winnipeg Folk Festival Music Store, or \$18 at the door

⇒ Visit www.ibreakstrings.com

MORE MUSIC THIS WEEK



JANICE FINLAY

A staple of Winnipeg's jazz scene, flute/clarinet/saxophone pro Janice Finlay is finally following up her debut record from 10 years ago with *Anywhere But Here*. Featuring mostly instrumental and original compositions, Finlay's disc also features a stirring and personal piece sung by Erin Propp, *Remember Me*, about a relative with Alzheimer's.

Fleshing out the disc are guest appearances from Jodi Proznick (acoustic bass), Ron Halldorson (guitar), and Quincy Davis (drums), who, along with pianist Don Thompson, will be joining Finlay at her CD release show.

Having backed more artists than you can say you've met, including Mel Tormé, Kenny Rogers, The Temptations and kids' heroes Sharon, Lois and Bram, Finlay is also a hero in her own right.

Between teaching, directing The Janice Finlay Jazz Orchestra and The Swing Cats, and performing in Jazz on Tap at the Winnipeg Jazz Fest, she has also performed in pit orchestras throughout Western Canada, in such shows as *Hairspray* (Rainbow Stage) and *A Chorus Line* (Saskatoon and Calgary).

Check out what promises to be the biggest night in jazz this year on Thursday, Nov. 24 at the Canadian Mennonite University's Laudamus Auditorium (500 Shaftsbury Blvd.). Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m.

Student tickets are \$16 in advance and \$20 at the door, while adult tickets are \$17.50 in advance and \$22 at the door. Tickets are available at www.ticketweb.ca or McNally Robinson.

- NICHOLAS FRIESE



JERRY SEREDA

"It is important to realize that each artist is different in image, style, sound and marketability."

Local cowboy Jerry Sereda says this not only as a general rule, but also as an unofficial personal outlook.

Almost a decade into his musical career, Sereda started his success with the release of his debut album *Campground Cowboy* back in 2009; Sereda takes it back even further, though, when it comes to what, or more appropriately *who*, inspired him to really follow his country music dream.

"When I first started singing, all I would sing is Garth Brooks songs because I loved his lyrics," Sereda explains. "I also loved his amazing show and his stage presence, which inspired my current live show where I try to bring the same energy and excitement."

While two singles from his debut album reached the top of the National Aboriginal Top 40 Countdown as well as scoring a nomination for Best Country CD at the Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards continued the inspired momentum, we can't leave the previously mentioned live show out.

In the past three years alone, Jerry has played shows and festivals across his home country as well as opening slots for the likes of Dierks Bentley, Johnny Reid, Shane Yellowbird and Jason Blaine down in the States.

Sereda releases his newest album, *Turn The Country On*, at Cowboys Nightclub on Friday, Nov. 25. With huge success already including a single appearing on Billboard and a video in regular rotation on CMT Canada, the show is sure to be packed so grab your tickets for \$15 (including a copy of the album) in advance at the club or for \$5 at the door without CD.

- PAMELA ROZ



PAUL DEGURSE QUINTET

When Paul DeGurse's father first showed him avant-garde American pop band Talking Heads' classic 1984 concert film *Stop Making Sense*, the local jazz pianist hated it.

"A few years later, I ended up checking it out again and I thought, man, this is so cool," the 21-year-old says. "Ever since then I've been very much into the Talking Heads, specifically that DVD--the whole theatricality of the performance and the intensity that went into those songs."

Now, DeGurse, a fourth-year student in the jazz studies program at the University of Manitoba, has arranged 10 songs from *Stop Making Sense* for jazz quintet.

DeGurse will perform the songs on Thursday, Dec. 1 at Aqua Books along with Erin Propp (vocals), Neil Watson (saxophone), Mike Cann (bass) and Lucas Sader (percussion).

The set includes well-known Talking Heads songs like *Once in a Lifetime*, *Burning Down the House* and *Psycho Killer*.

"I like that it's catchy, I like that they weren't afraid to experiment with different styles and different rhythms," DeGurse says of the Talking Heads' appeal. "Of course, for *Stop Making Sense*, they hired more than a few funk musicians--musicians who played with George Clinton and P-Funk. So they weren't afraid to augment their sound with auxiliary musicians, and it ends up giving the album a very cool sound."

"They were a brave band--a band that took chances on their music."

Take a chance on DeGurse and his quintet Dec. 1 at Aqua Books. Admission is \$10 and the music starts at 8 p.m.

Visit www.myspace.com/pauldegurse.

- AARON EPP

VISIT UNITER.CA/LISTINGS FOR MORE OF WHAT'S HAPPENING

FILM

The INTERRUPTERS is showing at the Cinematheque from Thursday, Nov. 24 until Thursday Dec. 1 at 7 p.m.

The Centre for the Advancement of the Steady State Economy and the U of W Sustainability Initiative present GROWTHBUSTERS: HOOKED ON GROWTH on Friday, Nov. 25 at 7 p.m. at Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall at the U of W. Admission is free.

CANNES LION INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING AWARDS, the best commercials from across the globe, are being screened at the Winnipeg Art Gallery from Nov. 29 to Dec. 28 in the Muriel Richardson Auditorium. The winning ads come from a multitude of cultures that are sure to make an impression. Go to www.wag.ca for info.

PLATFORM presents UNTITLED by JIM HODGES, CARLOS MARQUES DA CRUZ and ENCKE KINGAT at the Platform Gallery on Friday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. *Untitled* is a 60-minute non-linear montage of archival and pop footage recalling the passionate activism sparked by the early years of the AIDS crisis.

LITERATURE

Attention local writers! Prairie Fire Press and McNally Robinson Booksellers are presenting the 2011 ANNUAL WRITING CONTEST, with awards for poetry, short fiction, creative non-fiction and more. For full contest rules check out www.prairiefire.ca, or contact Prairie Fire Press at 204-943-9066, or prfire@prairiefire.ca. The deadline is Nov. 30.

Writer and documentary filmmaker LARRY KROTZ is launching his most recent work, THE UNCERTAIN BUSINESS OF DOING GOOD: OUTSIDERS IN AFRICA, on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. at McNally Robinson.

FIONA JOY GREEN launches her book PRACTICING FEMINIST MOTHERING on Sunday, Dec. 4 at 12:30 p.m. at McNally Robinson.

JUNTO LIBRARY 10TH ANNUAL DINNER AND SPELLING BEE is on Sunday, Dec. 11 at Mon-dragon. Dinner is at 5 p.m. and the spelling bee is at 7 p.m.

Aqua Books is hosting the venerable poetry series SPEAKING CROW. The Crow is on every Tuesday and starts at 7 p.m. with a featured writer and is followed by two open mic sets and short breaks in between.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS



❶ Graffiti Gallery presents the LEGENDS OF THE STACHE exhibition. Artwork featuring the iconic symbol of distinction and stature will be on display on Thursday, Nov. 24 at 7 p.m. at Graffiti Gallery, 109 Higgins Ave. Admission is \$3 or a donation of a non-perishable food item. All profits raised are to benefit the Movember Prostate Cancer campaign.

ORDINARY ACTS shows at aceartinc., 290 McDermot Ave. on Thursday, Nov. 24 and Friday, Nov. 25 at 8 p.m. Ordinary Acts explores our isolated experiences and our interconnectedness. To be alive connotes our attachment to the natural, organic world and life's mysteries as revealed in the most ordinary of acts.

EWA TARSIA AND FOLLOW THE GREEN DOT ROAD is showing from Nov. 25 until Dec. 21 at the Semai Gallery, 264 McDermot Ave.

The Urban Shaman presents CROSSROADS by ROLANDE SOULIERE. The exhibition goes until Saturday, Nov. 26.

Negative Space presents BODY RUINS, a solo exhibition of prints, drawings and sculpture by ANDREA ROBERTS. Body Ruins is a collection of drawings, prints and sculpture that look at vulnerability, futility and failure of the gendered body within capitalism. The exhibition shows until Nov. 26 at Negative Space, 253 Princess St.

DA VINCI: THE GENIUS exhibition has been extended until Nov. 27. The exhibition is located at Portage and Donald, across the street from the MTS Centre.

SPIRIT SPAWNINGS by JAN KUSHNIER is showing at the cre8ery, 125 Adelaide St., until Tuesday, Nov. 29.

TRICKLE DOWN is showing at the Mennonite Heritage Centre Gallery, 600 Shaftsbury Blvd., until Nov. 30.

The Wayne Arthur Gallery, 186 Provencher Blvd., presents FRIENDS INSPIRED... AGAIN, pottery and paintings by TANIS BANNISTER and MONIKA HANSEN. Showing until Wednesday, Nov. 30.

UMFM 101.5 fm, CKUW 95.9 fm and BE: CULTURED presents DOWNTOWN UNDERGROUND in support of Call*Response. Winnipeg's cultural community unites to present a unique exhibition in support of Call*Response and Kids Help Phone on

Death came a-knockin'

Local underground venue the Death Trap closes its doors

ADAM PETRASH
VOLUNTEER STAFF

An Albert Street music venue shut down last month after eight months of operation.

Lack of community support, a string of cancellations and monthly increases in rent are the reasons why The Death Trap has closed says Matt Holden, who operated the venue with two friends, including Mischa Dector.

Although the venue is no more, Holden will continue to promote shows, as he has done for the past six years.

“The dream is still alive - you can’t kill an idea,” he says. “The passion I had (for the Death Trap) is still alive. If I can keep it alive somewhere else I will - I have no intention of stopping.”

“When we first started this so many people told us it wouldn’t last longer than a month ... (but) we ran for eight months steadily.”

- MATT HOLDEN, INDEPENDENT PROMOTER

Still, he holds fond memories of the venue at 93 Albert St., below the Fyxx.

“Just imagine a big rectangular, dank, unfinished basement and that’s pretty much what the Death Trap was,” he says with a laugh.

“We never tried to dress it up as anything more than that. It really was a place that catered to certain kinds of music and not so much others, so people either loved it or they hated it. It was a feeling of being at home rather than being a guest in someone else’s bar.”

But décor and musical tastes aside, the principles of the venue were different, too.

“A big part of why we were doing it was to give the power back to the people who were actually booking the bands rather than having a



MEAGAN MURPHY

Cross Rage perform at the Death Trap, the venue at 93 Albert St. that closed recently.

bar manager telling you what you can and can’t do,” he continues.

Holden doesn’t speak remorsefully or begrudgingly about the venue’s closing.

“When we first started this so many people told us it wouldn’t last longer than a month ... (but) we ran for eight months steadily.”

Eight months that consisted of many fond memories, but none quite as poignant as those first few shows.

Freezing their toes off for the arts

RWB takes the Concert Hour Ballet series up north

KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

For many children, especially those in Manitoba’s northern towns, exposure to ballet and the world of dance is not an opportunity that is presented very often. With the help of Investors Group and RBC Royal Bank, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School Professional Division is able to take the art form up north with their Concert Hour Ballet series.

The Concert Hour Ballet program was conceived by David Moroni, the founding director of the Professional Division, over 30 years ago.

The tour creates the opportunity for the RWB to develop relationships with the community and bring ballet to children who may not otherwise be exposed to it.

The program also allows the senior students of the Professional Division to share their love of dance with others while experiencing the touring aspect that comes with being a part of a company professionally.

“It’s definitely really exciting,” says senior Professional Division student Jaimi Deleau. “I’ve never gone on a tour before. It’s going to be a new experience for me.”

Deleau, 17, has been dancing since she was four years old, and has spent the last seven years at the RWB School. As a Level 7 student in the Professional Division, she will be graduating from the program after this year.

“The movement is so unique,” she says. “You can become overcome by it. Performing it is the best feeling in the world.”

The young dancer is also a Grade 12 student at the University of Winnipeg Collegiate, which has an integrated program with the RWB School, ensuring that the young dancers receive a quality education alongside their rigorous dance schedule.

Deleau is open to any opportunity that is presented to her following her double gradua-



SUPPLIED

Don't let the white bodysuits fool you--this is normal lunch time entertainment with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

tion.

“I hope to join the aspirant program here. It’s (an) intro into the company. After that I hope to audition and get into a company.”

The students have been preparing for the tour, in which Deleau will perform several roles, since September. During the performance she will be demonstrating a ballet class as well as performing two roles in *Sleeping Beauty*: the Lilac Fairy and the White Cat in the Puss in Boots pas de

deux (a duet).

A unique aspect of the tour is the involvement of the students setting up the flooring and lighting at each venue, which allows them a glimpse into the backstage world.

The tour began Monday, Nov. 21, with the RWB spending a week in Winnipeg One schools. From there the students will be heading out to Portage la Prairie before heading north to pay visits to Thompson and The Pas.

FILM REVIEW

Dark coming-of-age film *Submarine* is off-beat and likeable



SUPPLIED

Craig Roberts as Oliver Tate in *Submarine*.

KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

Submarine

Directed by Richard Ayoade, 2010
97 minutes
Plays at Cinematheque, Nov. 25, Nov. 26, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at 9:30 p.m.
★★★★☆

The teen years are a confusing and awkward time for most of us, and 15-year-old Oliver Tate’s adolescent experience is no exception, as he catalogues and narrates his life in director Richard Ayoade’s 2010 film *Submarine*.

“My mother is worried I have mental problems,” Oliver (Craig Roberts) notes at one point in the film. “I found a book about teenage paranoid delusions during a routine search of my parents’ bedroom.” Oliver is a precocious teen, trying to find his place in the world. Not especially popular, Oliver’s goal is to be noticed, especially by the badass beauty in his class named Jordana Bevan (Yasmin Paige). The opening to *Submarine* is a fantasy sequence in which his desired reactions to his untimely death from the members of his small Welsh community play out, until he surprises the students at his school with his resurrection.

Oliver has a grand imagination, and he plays out his memories in Super 8 film. Oliver wins Jordana’s affections following a cruel bout of bullying. Things are looking up for Oliver until one of his mother’s former lovers, Graham (Paddy Considine), moves in with his cheesy painted van across the street from the Tates. Oliver’s parents are hilarious, played deadpan by actors Noah Taylor and Sally Hawkins. It is clear that not only are they bored in their marriage, they are just boring. Graham’s reappearance in Jill Tate’s life brings out the girl in her, but it ends in a particularly awkward-but-funny indiscretion in the privacy of the painted van.

For fans of off-beat films, it should not be a tough decision to watch this film

Now Oliver’s focus has to switch from being the best boyfriend and losing his virginity, to keeping his parents’ marriage intact. *Submarine* follows in the footsteps of other dark coming-of-age films such as *Thumbsucker* and Noah Baumbach’s *The Squid and the Whale*, a film that also details teens dealing with their parent’s rocky relationship. The story is entirely character driven, and Oliver is a likeable kid. There are some genuinely funny moments. The film is also interesting visually, with some beautiful coastal shots and an entertaining use of slow and still motion during the bullying sequence. The editing makes for a collage of a film, like Oliver’s memories. In the end, Oliver must make some difficult decisions regarding his life, but for fans of off-beat films, it should not be a tough decision to watch this film.

Sex, drugs and pantyhose
Boundary-pushing, Tony-winning musical at the Tom Hendry Warehouse



SUPPLIED

Samantha Hill and Jeremy Walmsley star in *Spring Awakening*.

KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

The issue-packed and controversial *Spring Awakening* makes its Winnipeg debut thanks to Winnipeg Studio Theatre. Directed by Kayla Gordon, who is also an instructor at the University of Winnipeg’s Asper Centre for Theatre and Film, the rock musical (soliloquies are done as alternative rock numbers on microphone) features a talented cast of local up-and-comers, including several former U of W students. The 1892 play by German playwright Frank Wedekind, from which the musical draws inspiration, was often banned as it was perceived to be “pornographic” in its criticism of the sexually oppressive culture that was present in Germany at the turn of the century. While the seven-time Tony award-winning musical may be tamer, Connie Manfredi, cast member and U of W graduate, says it still aims to expose the same hard-hitting issues as its source material. *Spring Awakening* depicts the coming of age and sexual awakening of a group of German teens in the late 19th century.

The story focuses on 14-year-old Wendla Bergmann (Samantha Hill), who feels betrayed by the adults in her life for not providing her with the necessary information for becoming a woman. Wendla falls in love with Melchior (Jeremy Walmsley) and they proceed to “do forbidden things.” The play’s subtitle is *A Children’s Tragedy*, so you know it does not bode well for these kids. While sex and pregnancy are definitely at the forefront of the musical, so too are the issues of homosexuality, suicide and physical, sexual and verbal abuse that teens still face to this day. “Decade to decade, century to century, there’s always going to be that struggle growing up,” Hill, 24, says of the timelessness of the show. “That intense love that you feel, that every issue is so important, I think that’s why this piece still translates today.” The cast hopes that through the exposure of these issues, the dialogue between teens and their parents that is lacking in *Spring Awakening* will be sparked between audience members. “So many crappy things are thrown at you that it leaves you wanting to talk about them,” says ensemble member and U of W graduate Tatiana Carnevalis. “Each generation wants to

make an improvement for the next generation. There is hope for the children involved.” However, Manfredi, 22, stresses that audiences should not feel like they are going to a taping of *Degrassi*. “It’s not an after-school special. Not everyone has issues, but there is enough for the audience to relate to,” she says. “(The audience) is never belittled - it is not preachy. You feel touched in a way that you wouldn’t expect from a rock opera.” While the story is dark and the future is bleak for its lovers, the prairie-born cast of *Spring Awakening* is having a blast performing in it. “I really like the story. The musical, and the original play, are very beautifully tragic. (To paraphrase an original Broadway cast member), it’s very rare as a performer that you get to be in a show that is so much fun and so meaningful at the same time,” Carnevalis says.

Winnipeg Studio Theatre presents Spring Awakening at the Tom Hendry Theatre at the MTC Warehouse, 140 Rupert Ave. until Dec. 4. Tickets are \$20, or \$15 for students and are available by phone at 204-942-6537 or online at www.mtc.mb.ca/ust. Visit www.winnipegstudiotheatre.com for more information.

Thursday, Dec. 1 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 2 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Absurd Machine Studios, 72 Princess St. Check out new artwork from local photographers, painters and mixed-media artists, plus live painting, live music, and food and beverages.

Gallery 1C03 at the University of Winnipeg, is presenting THE EPHEMERALS: TRENDING. The Ephemerals are an all-female collective of aboriginal artists and curators. With TRENDING the collective aims to examine the trend of indigenous-influenced clothing and accessories, encouraging a critical reading of fashion and highlighting the need for a deeper awareness of its cultural implications. The installation shows in the Anthropology Museum, fourth floor, Centennial Hall until Dec. 3. Check out theephemerals.wordpress.com for more information.

ALWAYS MOVING FORWARD: CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN PHOTOGRAPHY FROM THE WEDGE COLLECTION is showing at the Platform Gallery, 121-100 Arthur St., until Dec. 10.

Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art is presenting HER RAIN by Canadian artist LANI MAESTRO. Using minimal and simple visual language, Maestro’s work addresses the complexities of human nature and dignity in the conditions of the social, cultural and political realities we experience in everyday life. The exhibition shows until Jan. 8, 2012.

The Manitoba Museum presents CIRCUS! SCIENCE UNDER THE BIG TOP. The exhibit demystifies the daring and death-defying feats of the greatest show on earth, and puts you in the centre of the action. The exhibition runs until April 9, 2012.

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

Presented by Resonator Theatrical, REVOLVER 101 is showing on Thursday, Nov. 24, at 7 p.m. on the third floor of 91 Albert St. REVOLVER 101 is a play with some gun play, or is it a play about a gun?

The University of Winnipeg’s department of theatre and film opens its 2011/12 theatre season with Frank Langella’s CYRANO on Nov. 24 and Nov. 25 at 8 p.m. at the Gas Station Arts Centre, 445 River Ave. Admission is free, but reservations are recommended. Call 204-786-9152.

SPRING AWAKENING is showing from Nov. 24 to Dec. 4 at the Tom Hendry Warehouse, 140 Rupert Ave. Music by Duncan Sheik, *Spring Awakening* is the winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

For those who want the real deal with a modern twist, the John Hirsch Theatre at the MTC Mainstage is showing ROMEO AND JULIET from Nov. 24 until Dec. 17. Call 204-942-6537 or consult www.mtc.mb.ca.

The U of W IMPROV NIGHT is on Wednesday, Nov. 30 at Pop Soda’s Coffeehouse & Gallery.

A dramatic reading of Charles Dickens’s A CHRISTMAS CAROL will take place on Friday, Dec. 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Crescent Fort Rouge United Church, 525 Wardlaw Ave. Join readers Marilyn Maki, Judy Wasylcyia-Leis, Paul Hesse, Clark Saunders and Marcy Markusa as they read the classic Dickens tale of greed and redemption. Carolers will perform seasonal favourites.

A JUDY GARLAND CHRISTMAS shows at the Centennial Concert Hall, 555 Main St. on Dec. 9 and Dec. 10 at 8 p.m.

MAGNIFICAT is the theme of the Winnipeg Philharmonic Choir’s traditional Christmas celebration. The holiday concert is on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. at Bethel Mennonite Church. Four uplifting Magnificats by Vivaldi, Pergolesi, Pärt and Stanford are featured in the first half, with the second half of the concert including well-known Christmas music built around the theme of Mary.

THE AMATEUR BURLESQUE SHOW is on Sunday, Dec. 11 at 6 p.m. at the Prairie Theatre Exchange. Come see Winnipeg’s leading burlesque artist and comedian HEATHER WITHERDEN.



Comedy duo JAY AND SILENT BOB are at the Burton Cummings Theatre on Dec. 11 at 8 p.m.

The ST. CHAD’S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL is on Friday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. at St. Chad’s Anglican Church, 3390 Portage Ave.

MESSIAH shows at the Centennial Concert Hall, 555 Main St. on Dec. 17 at 8 p.m.

THE NUTCRACKER shows at the Centennial Concert Hall on Dec. 21, Dec. 23, Dec. 27 and Dec. 28 at 7 p.m.

COMEDY OPEN MIC NIGHTS in the Peg are Sundays at The Cavern with JOHN B. DUFF, Tuesdays at the King’s Head Pub and Mondragon and Thursdays at the Standard Tavern.

Shaw TV’s WEEK THUS FAR tapes in front of live studio audience at Finn’s Pub at the Forks every Monday at 7:30 p.m.

The power of the 'stache

Movember captures the hearts, minds and upper lips of men everywhere



SUPPLIED

Local rock band SitDownTracy is celebrating Movember with its annual moustache party on Thursday, Nov. 24 at the Pyramid.

AARON SNIDER
CULTURE REPORTER

You've probably seen them around. They've colonized your boyfriends', your brothers' and your fathers' faces. They're ridiculous and they're for a good cause. They're moustaches, and pretty soon they'll all be gone.

Movember is at once a month-long facial hair festival and a marvel of modern public health marketing. Started in Australia in 2003 as a way to raise awareness and money for prostate cancer research, Movember truly became an international phenomenon in 2007, the year that it became an official entity in Canada and quickly started to expand.

But the moustache was already here. Local band SitDownTracy hosts an annual moustache party, and as bassist Aaron Zeghers recalls it, the band had already recognized the social allure and the marketing potential

behind the 'stache before its members had even heard of Movember.

"We just had this moustache party because we thought it would be fun and funny and a unique way to get people out," Zeghers says. "It was in November of that year (2009) that was the first time that we heard about Movember being an actual thing."

Ahead of the curve as they were, SitDownTracy realized that they could continue to capitalize on moustaches while also contributing to a cause that supports men's health.

"So we decided to do another moustache party just six months after we did the first one," says Zeghers.

So SitDownTracy signed up with the Canadian Movember Foundation and set up an official Movember event. The foundation sent them some promotion resources and prizes to give away at the party and a Winnipeg institution was born.

Now in its third year, SitDownTracy's annual Movember show is proof that mous-

taches work to bring people together.

But the statistics also prove that moustaches are money magnets. In 2009, Movember Canada raised \$7.8 million and by 2010 the total global funds raised since 2003 were nearly equivalent to \$75 million in Canadian currency.

It's fascinating to see such big numbers, but what it all comes down to is the upper lip of each man that participates. Zeghers relishes in the preparation and the execution.

"I had the goatee going on and the moustache combo," Zeghers says of his pre-Movember facial hair. "Kind of Spanish inquisition-style."

While the official rules dictate that all participants (known as Mo Bros) should begin the month with completely shaved faces, Zeghers wants to get the most acute humiliation out of Movember that he can.

"My personal feeling on the subject is that it is more embarrassing to have a full grown moustache for the entire month instead of

starting from the ground up," he says.

So with the arrival of November the goatee departed and the campaign began. Each of the four guys in SitDownTracy also register separately so that they can raise pledges for their moustaches.

But besides the charity aspect of Movember, Zeghers says it also provides an opportunity for the moustache-shy to give it a go.

"Doing it for Movember is a good excuse for people to try a moustache for a month and then shave it off and not have to be totally embarrassed or self-conscious," Zeghers says.

The two-pronged awareness and fundraising approach that Movember takes towards men's health means that even those people who aren't taking pledges can be part of the movement.

"I think awareness is just as important as the fund raising," says Aaron Frost, a teaching assistant in the Theatre and Film Department at the University of Winnipeg.

"I think if I can still grow a moustache people see that and assume that I'm taking part," says Frost, who is not actively raising money. "I think if you look like you're taking part that's half the battle."

"Hopefully the idea that people get is that it's perfectly normal to go out and get a finger up the bum," says Frost, who admits that Movember has reminded him that he needs to get his prostate checked.

With the stellar combination of hilarious fashion choices and the positive message that is Movember, it's not surprising that the naysayers are few and far between.

"Some of the girls aren't huge fans of moustaches," says Frost. "But I think everyone takes it with a pretty light heart."

Alexandra Winters, whose boyfriend Neil is a registered Mo Bro, completely supports his decision to grow a 'stache.

"Once people understand the cause, I think that's important," she says.

"I feel like breast cancer has a lot more awareness surrounding it than other forms of cancer," she says. "It's good that whoever had this idea pushed it and that it's catching on."

"Considering all the awkward things that girls do with their faces, a moustache is pretty innocuous for a man," Winters says.

SitDownTracy's Third Annual Moustache Party, hosted by The Real Santiago & Dunbar, is at the Pyramid Cabaret (176 Fort St.) on Thursday, Nov. 24. The Bokononists and DJ Rob Vilar will also perform. Admission is \$10 at the door. Prizes will be awarded for best male and female moustache.

WINNIPEG

STUDIO

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SPRING AWAKENING

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STEVEN SATER
MUSIC BY
DUNCAN SHEIK
BASED ON THE PLAY BY
FRANK WEDEKIND

DIRECTOR - KAYLA GORDON
MUSIC DIRECTOR - ANDREW ST. HILAIRE
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Corydon-area bakery gets it right

Rediscover your sweet tooth at Lilac Bakery

JOSHUA SALAMANDYK
VOLUNTEER

Lilac Bakery
920 Grosvenor Ave.

Opened in 2008 and nestled away from the busy Corydon Avenue strip, this take-out bakery certainly knows how to do it right.

With a focus on whole, pure ingredients, your sweet tooth is waiting to be re-discovered.

Owner Chris Atkinson explains that the roots of the shop truly come from the family.

“My head baker is my mom, and she bakes mostly everything in the store. Everything is made from scratch, with our main goal being to provide real, raw ingredients in all of our baking.”

Atkinson also explains that the recipes have been handed down from generation to generation, and that’s what keeps the customer coming back.

Among the plethora of goodies, the eye can’t help but wander to the “slices” shelf of the display. With over 25 slices to choose from, one is sure to find satisfaction here.

The Dream Cake is a revamp on the classic fruit cake - filled with rich cherries, walnuts and coconut, it sits atop a flaky shortbread. It’s much more moist and soft than its classic counterpart, and hits the spot for that Christmas craving anytime of the year.

No bakery is complete without the classic brownie - this extremely rich and delicate confection couldn’t be more perfect. With every sinfully delicious bite, the dark cocoa icing perfectly complements the fudge cake, with the odd walnut to make it complete.

The stand-out is the amazing Lemon Slice, a truly delicious blend of tangy fresh lemon, that goes great with the classic shortbread base.

If cookies are more your taste, then don’t miss the chocolate chip. Each bite of this



JOSH SALAMANDYK

The Lilac Bakery hosts the sweetest treats you're likely to eat.

chewy, not-too-sweet classic craves a glass of cold milk.

Also baked fresh daily are the Imperial Cookies. Traditional flaky shortbread squishes fresh tasting raspberry jelly for a divine treat. They are the perfect size - and are topped with a dollop of icing and a candied pearl.

The bakery has a large assortment of cupcakes, from the traditional vanilla to more interesting flavours including chocolate chip cheesecake.

One of the most popular, the red velvet, is a must-eat. This moist, classic red-coloured cake with a hint of chocolate perfectly complements the right amount of delicious, smooth cream cheese icing.

Handcrafted butter tarts are also a wonderful treat, though a bit different. This tricky-to-make pastry has an interesting, more savoury and chewy texture to it that somehow doesn’t complement the extremely sweet interior. It’s different - though worth a try.

In this heavily commercialized industry of baked goods, the Lilac Bakery certainly outshines its competitors by using the pure ingredients just like mom did.

The service was great, and the interior was fresh and modern.

Items vary in price from \$1.50 to \$7. Visit 920 Grosvenor Ave. or www.lilacbakery.com for more information.

wag

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DID YOU KNOW UWINNIPEG OPERATES TWO
PROGRAMS FOR YOU - FREE!

SAFEWALK (786.9272)

The SafeWalk program is operated by the University of Winnipeg Students’ Association (UWSA) in collaboration with Security Services.

To request a SafeWalk escort, stop at the Security Desk (located just inside the main doors of Centennial Hall) and identify your need.

SafeWalk will provide you with an escort to your car or bus stop within a one-block radius of the University.

SAFEWALK OPERATES DURING FALL AND WINTER SESSIONS:

Monday to Thursday - 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Friday - 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm

The Downtown BIZ patrol will also walk with you anywhere in the downtown area. This is a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week service (except for Sunday mornings from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.) Call 958-7233.

SAFERIDE (786.9272)

The SafeRide program is operated by the University’s Campus Security.

To request a SafeRide, stop at the Security Desk (located just inside the main doors of Centennial Hall) and identify your need.

SafeRide will be provided within the patrol area boundaries: William Avenue to the north, Assiniboine Avenue to the south, Sherbrook Street to the west and Main Street to the east.

SafeRide operates during Fall and Winter sessions, in conjunction with the security patrol: **Daily until 11:00 pm**



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

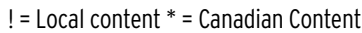
The Awards and Financial Aid staff of the University of Winnipeg provides the student body with current information on award opportunities. This information is updated weekly.

Students have been advised by letter if they have outstanding balances on their accounts. Registration

Deadline: Nov. 30, 2011

Up to three Frank Knox Memorial Fellowships will be awarded to students from Canada for graduate study at Harvard University in the academic year 2011-2012.

Contact Heather Menzies at 204-475-2526 or email hgm16@mts.net.



TW	Artist	Recording	Label
1	William Shatner	Seeking Major Tom	Cleopatra
2	!This Hisses	Surf Noir	Transistor 66
3	!Magnificent 7's	All Kinds Of Mean	Transistor 66
4	Tom Waits	Bad As Me	Anti-
5	Wilco	The Whole Love	Anti-
6	!Oh My Darling	Sweet Nostalgia	Self-Released
7	*Miesha & The Spanks / The Sphinxs	Miesha & The Spanks / The Sphinxs Split EP	Self-Released
8	*The Pack A.D.	Unpersons	Mint
9	!Trio Bembe	Oh My Soul	Self-Released
10	!Greg Macpherson	Disintegration Blues	Disintegration

PICK UP A COPY OF *THE UNITER* EACH WEEK AT THESE FINE ESTABLISHMENTS:

TWITTER:
WWW.TWITTER.COM/THEUNITER

ARTSPACE BUILDING	YELLOW DOG TAVERN
MONDRAGON	WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE
INTO THE MUSIC	UNIVERSITE DE ST. BONIFACE
FOLK FESTIVAL MUSIC STORE	TIMES CHANGE(D) HIGH &
PITA PIT (BANNATYNE)	LONESOME CLUB
RED RIVER COLLEGE	GLOBE CINEMA
(PRINCESS STREET CAMPUS)	WINNIPEG ART GALLERY
THE FYXX (ALBERT,	SAFeway (RIVER @ OSBORNE)
BROADWAY)	MOVIE VILLAGE
THE KING'S HEAD	GAS STATION THEATRE
THE LINEUP	TOAD IN THE HOLE
WINNIPEG FREE PRESS CAFE	THE ZOO
THE UNDERGROUND CAFE	M McNALLY ROBINSON
PLUG IN ICA	COUSINS DELI
STELLA'S (BUHLER CENTRE,	THE NOOK
SHERBROOK AND OSBORNE)	UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA
HI HOSTEL/LO PUB	(UNIVERSITY CENTRE)

Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku 13

Solutions to this week's sudoku and crossword in next week's issue.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20							21		22			23		
	24					25		26		27				
				28			29		30			31	32	33
34	35	36		37			38							
39			40			41				42				
43				44	45				46	47		48		
49							50				51			
			52			53		54				55	56	
57	58	59		60			61		62					63
64			65			66		67						
68						69					70			
71						72					73			

BESTCROSSWORDS.COM

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

SUDOKU SKILL LEVEL: EASY

WWW.PDFPAD.COM/SUDOKU

Across

- 1- Diplomacy
- 5- "The Thin Man" dog
- 9- Forbidden
- 14- Advil target
- 15- Simpleton
- 16- In ____ (unborn)
- 17- Secession
- 19- Have dinner at home
- 20- Period of the year
- 21- Cookbook amts.
- 23- Turkish honorific
- 24- Stable
- 26- Lays down the lawn

- 28- Yacht
- 30- Nothing
- 34- Songbird
- 37- Hermaphroditic
- 39- Iowa State city
- 41- Frozen Wasser
- 42- Soft drink nut
- 43- Privy
- 48- At a great distance
- 49- Black eye
- 50- Shred
- 52- Active one
- 54- One or the other
- 57- ____ roll

- 60- Enlist again
- 62- Eye membrane
- 64- Like old jeans
- 66- Literally
- 68- Grenoble's river
- 69- 007's alma mater
- 70- Bell-shaped lily
- 71- Stun gun
- 72- Fill completely
- 73- Sea birds

Down

- 1- Bar bills
- 2- Green ____ is the place to be

- 3- Defraud
- 4- Tantalizes
- 5- Forsake
- 6- Farm female
- 7- Exactly
- 8- Bottomless pit
- 9- Third day of the week
- 10- Loss leader?
- 11- Second letter of the Greek alphabet
- 12- Not a dup.
- 13- A Chaplin
- 18- Australian marsupial
- 22- Early video game

- 25- Warble

- 27- Beyond help

- 29- Earlier

- 31- Blunder

- 32- Dance that tells a story

- 33- Boris Godunov, for one

- 34- Mouth bones

- 35- Eastern nanny

- 36- Abominable Snowman

- 38- Actor Davis

- 40- Dispatch

- 44- Bring back into stock

- 45- Algonquian language

- 46- Effeminate

- 47- Aristotle, to Alexander the Great

- 51- Unit in a sentence

- 53- Governs

- 55- Computer key

- 56- Prevail

- 57- Think nothing ____

- 58- American space agency

- 59- Citrus coolers

- 61- Falafel holder

- 63- Author Oz

- 65- Able was I ____ I saw Elba

- 67- Little one

Solutions to puzzles from the November 17, 2011 issue.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
B	O	L	T		S	E	L	L		S	S	R
A	L	A	R		T	R	E	Y	S	A	L	A
L	I	M	E		A	N	T	R	E	P	A	R
M	O	P	P	E	T	S		A	R	R	I	V
				23	A	L	I	T		R	E	A
25	26	27				28	29			30	31	32
A	G	O	N	I	C		S	I	C	A	B	R
33	L	E	D	G	E		L	I	L	T		35
36	U	N	D			37	M	O	X	I	E	38
39	M	I	E	N		40		O	N	T	O	42
44	S	C	R	O	U	N	G	Y		46	S	E
				47	R	T	S			48	S	A
49	50	51			52		53	P	L	E	A	54
57	E	L	I	A			58	E	C	L	A	T
61	N	E	L	L		62	R	H	O	D	E	63
64	D	E	I			65	O	W	E	D		66

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



How awesome would it be to remember everything?

As I get older, I find it harder and harder to remember crap.

Growing up, I always assumed that when old people said their memories weren't what they used to be it just meant that they were stupid and weak.

I knew that could never happen to me; my mind would always be an indestructible fortress of information retention.

Now, however, as my memory starts to slowly fade, I find myself actually wondering if I even *did* think that stuff when I was growing up.

Nowadays, I can rarely remember what I had for breakfast on any given day, or what colour gotch I'm wearing. Even as I write this I had to check, because I had no clue (they're grey, by the way - boxer briefs).

The reason this has sort of got me in a mini-tizzy is that I've gotten up to some pretty awesome shit in my life so far, and it would be a shame if my aging brain were to flush those memories away like so many stinky little turds, down the skid-marked bowl of oblivion.

Although, now that I really think about this, most of my best memories are forgotten by the next morning because I am such a raging alcoholic.

Take this past weekend, for example.

I had the best time ever! I think. I don't remember anything I did or anyone I spoke to, but I woke up Sunday morning with a real sense of accomplishment. I mean, I could really tell that I had an epic weekend. I'm sure it was *amazing!*

This kind of stuff makes me wish that someone would invent a pill that made you remember everything that happens, no matter how shit-faced you get.

I'm pretty sure this isn't outside the realm of pharmaceutical possibilities. I mean, come on - if they can give boners to seniors or make people in their 20s suck on soothers, they can certainly find a way to make drunken memories stick.

I even heard recently that Russian scientists have developed a pill to be taken in conjunction with alcohol that makes you drunker for longer (funny, I thought they already had that and that it was called "any pill").

If these crazy Russians (and of course they *would* be Russians) can invent a pill that makes you drunker, then hopefully one day soon someone will invent a pill that lets us all remember our drunken exploits as clearly as if we'd done all that crazy stuff while stone sober, during church on a Sunday morning.

I think the only thing standing in the way of what would probably be the most amazing pharmaceutical invention since sliced bread (which, strictly speaking wasn't so much a pharmaceutical invention at all), would have to be the big alcohol companies.

This is because if we could remember even half the shit we did while drunk, none of us would ever drink again.

Ever.

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.



Mark

"I find something that's clean and doesn't smell bad."

DYLAN HEWLETT



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG | CANADA

MDP

MASTER'S IN
DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT

PRESENTS

Dr. Wade
Davis

November 30-December 1

LECTURE

Into The Silence

Dr. Wade Davis, world renowned ethnographer, writer, photographer, filmmaker, National Geographic's Explorer-in-Residence, The University of Winnipeg's Visiting Professor and Senior Fellow in the Master's in Development Practice (MDP) – Indigenous Development program will speak about his recent book entitled *Into the Silence: The Great War, Mallory, and the Conquest of Everest*.

Nov. 30, 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

**The University of Winnipeg
Convocation Hall**

BOOK LAUNCH

Into The Silence: The Great War, Mallory, and the Conquest of Everest

Wade Davis will present and sign copies of his new book *Into the Silence: The Great War, Mallory, and the Conquest of Everest*.

Beautifully written and rich with detail, *Into the Silence* is a classic account of exploration and endurance, and a timeless portrait of an extraordinary generation of adventurers, soldiers, and mountaineers the likes of which we will never see again.

Nov. 30, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**The AnX
The University of Winnipeg
Bookstore**

LECTURE

The Wayfinders: Why Ancient Wisdom Matters in the Modern World

His work has mainly been devoted to and focused on Indigenous peoples around the world from Colombia to Borneo. Dr. Davis will present on his powerful book *The Wayfinders: Why Ancient Wisdom Matters in the Modern World*.

The Wayfinders was part of the 2009 CBC Massey Lectures.

Dec. 1, 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**The University of Winnipeg
Convocation Hall**



Scan QR code to view video

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