

DO TH CANADIANS PROTEST TOO LITTLE? CULTURE ➔ PAGE 17

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG'S WEEKLY URBAN JOURNAL

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ISSUE
23
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COMPUTERS
VS.
HUMANS

NEWS ➔ PAGE 2

KONY
CONTROVERSY

COMMENTS ➔ PAGE 9

ASTRON-6's
FATHER'S DAY

ARRIVES AT LAST

ARTS ➔ PAGE 10

RED
MOON
ROAD

FIND THEIR CALLING

ARTS ➔ PAGE 11

Plus interviews with

HAYLEY GENE

ROB CROOKS

VIRIDIANS

ARTS ➔ PAGES 11-12



Adjustments in student aid
cause confusion at U of W

CAMPUS ↻ page 5

Spence Neighbourhood
Association **reaches out**

COMMENTS ↻ page 8

LOOKING FOR LISTINGS?

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY LISTINGS AND
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ↻ PAGE 7
MUSIC ↻ PAGE 12
FILM & LIT ↻ PAGE 14
GALLERIES & MUSEUMS ↻ PAGE 14 & 15
THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY ↻ PAGE 15
AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID ↻ PAGE 18

*COVER IMAGE

RED MOON ROAD

Photographed in an Osborne
Village antique store on
Monday, March 12, 2012

PHOTO BY DYLAN HEWLETT

See story on page 11

Paper menus to computer tablets

New device aims to change the way we order our food

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI
BEAT REPORTER

The future of restaurants may be square-shaped.

Restaurants across the United States are starting to use a touch-screen device, called the Presto, to bring mobile computing to the service industry.

The Presto is a small touch device that sits on the restaurant table that features pictures of available dishes. Customers can look at pictures of the food they want, send their order directly to the kitchen, and do everything from play trivia while they wait to checking out Google Maps to find out what else there is to do in the area.

The company, E la Carte, boasts that the Presto makes the hospitality experience "more convenient, social and fun for the guests, while being more profitable for the restaurant."

"In this technology-heavy world, people are very used to instant gratification," said Megan Pittsley, associate director of E la Carte.

"If their server isn't there to order a drink right when they want, that'll affect their tips. With the Presto, people can always feel satisfied, their order goes to the kitchen, and even if they're hungry they can play games while they wait."

E la Carte, founded in 2008, is the brainchild of Rajat Suri.

One night as an MIT student, Suri went out to dinner with friends, and, at the end of their meals, couldn't decide how to split the bill. Suri eventually dropped out of university to learn about the restaurant business, and soon came up with the idea that would become the Presto.

Around 100 restaurants use the Presto, Pittsley said. Those restau-



DYLAN HEWLETT

E la Carte boasts that its electronic menu, called Presto, makes the hospitality experience "more convenient, social and fun for guests."

rants report 85 per cent of their guests use the device, and see 16 per cent higher tips and nine times more email signups.

Plans for a downloadable app version of their software are in development, she said.

E la Carte charges around \$200-\$700 US to set up their system, depending on the number of tables. The company has many investors, including the creators of Dropbox, Farmville and Reddit.

Pittsley noted the company will be announcing a partnership with a major Canadian distributor, but

wouldn't divulge more details.

Lauren Parsons, a server at Prairie Ink Restaurant, says that restaurants can't replace the personal nature of the wait staff - and that people won't want to tip a machine.

"I don't think it will replace waiters and waitresses - people like having someone to talk to," Parsons said.

"I've seen (restaurants) use similar devices when I went to Europe. At a white-tablecloth place, it would remove the personal element. But servers live on how many tips they

get, and if they're just doing everything on this machine, there isn't really an incentive to tip higher for great service."

Victor Cui, a technology expert at the University of Winnipeg, thinks the technology won't kill the service industry.

"The device cuts down on labour costs by 26 per cent, which will mean that some servers will be out of a job," he said.

"But human interaction is still preferred in any situation. I don't think it'll ever replace the service staff."

STREETER

BY ETHAN CABEL

Q: HAVE YOU VOTED IN THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION GENERAL ELECTION? DO YOU PLAN TO VOTE? WHY OR WHY NOT?



Elizabeth Shearer, second-year student, environmental studies

"I definitely plan on voting. I think it's very important to engage in campus politics and help shape the direction of our university community."



Otutuama Akpewwe, second-year student, biochemistry

"I'm going to vote because I have friends running for certain positions. Plus, it is nice to see a change in areas with the candidates running on different platforms. A lot of them are doing new things for the students in our school, so I'll vote."



Marika White, second-year student, education

"I plan to vote. I think it's important. We pay a lot of money to come here so we might as well get our voice out."



Christian Martinez, third-year student, criminal justice

"I haven't voted and I'm not sure whether I will or not. I'm not sure if there is any tangible change that can happen through the election."



Kevin Smoley, first-year student, sciences

"I'm going to vote. I just think I should because it's my right."



Scott Snider, second-year, general arts

"I voted yesterday mainly because I didn't notice anything that the incumbents did so I thought I would vote for something new so that there's a chance the UWSA could do something."

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News

Organization calls for rental housing focus in federal budget

Federation of Canadian Municipalities report outlines subpar rental market conditions

CARSON HAMMOND
BEAT REPORTER

A recently released report by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has called for increased investment in rental housing markets across the country in the upcoming federal budget.

According to president Berry Vrbanovic, the FCM is an organization that represents Canada's cities and communities within the federal-municipal relationship in matters of policy and programs.

"We know that one-third of Canadians are renters, and we also know that over the past 15 years only about 10 per cent of new (housing) construction has occurred in the rental housing market," he explained.

According to Vrbanovic, this disproportion is largely due to low interest rates and a general focus on home-buying and condo-building over the last decade and a half.

"What we're suggesting is that all orders of government really need to work together to lower investment barriers to new rental housing," he said.

"We know that one-third of Canadians are renters, and we also know that over the past 15 years only about 10 per cent of new (housing) construction has occurred in the rental housing market."

- BERRY VRBANOVIC, PRESIDENT, FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES

The report calls on the federal government to intervene by providing low-interest loans to finance new rental construction, offering energy-efficiency incentives to lower rental costs and making changes to the tax system that would prevent the demolition of existing rental housing.

"Right now, some rental housing stock



DYLAN HEWLETT

One third of Canadians are renters, however, only about 10 per cent of new housing construction has occurred in the rental market, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities says.

gets demolished because single-family-owned properties or condos actually get taxed at a different rate," said Vrbanovic.

Vrbanovic explained that the FCM believes that the present time is ideal for federal investment in rental housing, as mortgage accessibility is expected to decrease in the coming years.

"(These predictions suggest that) people won't be able to purchase new homes or new condos as much anymore," he said. "Therefore, we'll need a solid supply of good-quality and affordable rental housing (to compensate)."

Beyond simply increasing rental housing stock, Vrbanovic also said that offering incentives to rental developers would provide increased employment opportunities for

those involved with construction, contributing to economic cyclicality.

"We're hopeful that on budget day we'll see (the federal government) make a commitment going forward in this regard," he added.

The media-communications staff of Denis Lebel, the federal Conservative government's minister of transport, infrastructure and communities, declined to provide a statement on the matter.

Gordon McIntyre, coordinator for the Winnipeg Rental Network, a non-profit online rental market database for tenants and renters, said the FCM's negative assessment of Canadian rental housing markets is correct - particularly with respect to Winnipeg's, which he described as "stagnant."

"We're losing rental housing stock - particularly affordable (rental) stock," he said. "It's becoming a crisis point for a lot of individuals and families."

McIntyre also supported the FCM's notion that rental housing markets will only be improved via federal intervention.

"Part of the big problem is that providing affordable housing is just not profitable business," he said. "It's extremely difficult to build anything and to keep it affordable. There needs to be incentives for the private sector."

Fortunately, renters in Winnipeg and across the country won't have to wait much longer to have their fates revealed. The federal government is set to announce its austerity budget on March 29.

Albert Street A-Zone Co-op successfully purchases property

Exchange District building now collectively owned by various grassroots ventures

CARSON HAMMOND
BEAT REPORTER

The Albert Street Autonomous Zone (A-Zone) Co-op has taken a landmark step towards completely living up to its name with its recent purchase of 91 Albert St., a property that has housed the co-op's various member groups since 1995.

For the uninitiated, it can be difficult to describe the A-Zone.

"I think the A-Zone means a lot of things to different people," said Doug Grant, an A-Zone co-op member and Natural Cycle Courier worker.

Part of what makes the A-Zone unique is that all of its members, which include organizations and businesses of all kinds, adhere to a socially progressive and grassroots-and-community-focused set of principles that provide a cohesive tone for the building's various operations.

Consequently, all members share an equal voice in matters of decision-making - so, don't expect to see any hierarchical or centralized leadership in place here.

"(The building purchase) is exciting and it's important," said Grant, though he also pointed out that the property's previous owner, Paul Burrows, was no tyrant. "He was great and he was one of the founding members of Mondragon (the A-Zone's resident coffee joint, bookstore and grocery store) - he envisioned this building."

"But having this collective ownership is even more in line with our beliefs," he added.

Grant stressed the importance of the local community's role in the A-Zone's property purchase.

"We had to raise a substantial amount of money to make the down payment on the building," he said, explaining that this initial capital came almost exclusively from countless fundraisers over the course of the past two years as well as individual donations.

"It reaffirmed that there is a lot of support for this building in the community."

Still, the purchasing process held numerous challenges for the A-Zone during its quest for equal ownership.

Mark Jenkins, an A-Zone co-op member and ParIT worker, explained some of the difficulties that the Albert Street collective encountered along the way, including issues with lenders and a last-minute tenant drop-out.

Necessary rent increases for all of the A-Zone's member groups has also placed increased financial stress upon some of the building's tenants, he said.

"It's almost like that sense of relief, that 'Oh, we did it' feeling, can't really be there because there's still so much work to do," he said.

Currently, the building houses a total of 15 different tenants, six of which - Mondragon, Winnipeg Copwatch, the Boreal Forest Network, Natural Cycle Courier, ParIT and the Rudolph Rocker Cultural Centre - comprise the A-Zone's official co-op members.

Though some of the building's smaller tenants lack the resources necessary to participate in the official collective, Grant explained "there's support from every tenant (for the overall A-Zone project)."



DYLAN HEWLETT

The Albert Street A-Zone Co-op recently purchased its 91 Albert St. building.

Although it's been a long road for one of the city's most eclectic addresses, it's unlikely that you'll come across an A-Zoner who will tell you that all of the hard work involved wasn't worth it.

Jenna Kessler, an A-Zone co-op member

and Mondragon worker, perhaps encapsulates the unique organization's infectious attitude best.

"It's a tangible expression of people's dream," she said. "It's pretty cool that it exists."

International News Briefs

Compiled by Eva Wasney

JALIL STOPS LIBYAN BID FOR AUTONOMY

LIBYA: Libyan political leader Mustafa Abdel Jalil has rejected a bid by the eastern part of the country for political and economic independence. Al Jazeera reports political leaders in Benghazi are pushing for autonomy for the eastern region to combat marginalization and inefficiency of government affairs, which are currently centered 12 hours away in Tripoli. Jalil has accused the bid of coming from supporters of Gadhafi's regime, who want to segregate the country and gain political power in the east. Jalil has also blamed foreign funding for supporting the bid, and ensures that force will be used to avoid separation if necessary.

VIRAL KONY VIDEO SPARKS DEBATE

UGANDA: A video focusing on alleged war criminal Joseph Kony, posted by the non-profit group Invisible Children has received 15 million views in just three days and has become a topic of debate. According to Al Jazeera, the organization is receiving flak for using the majority of fundraised money to make high quality videos and for not being financially transparent. The Invisible Children campaign is an initiative to have Kony, leader of the LRA in Uganda, arrested for his abduction and abuse of child soldiers. The U.S. government has deployed 100 troops to help local forces in Africa, and Invisible Children wants more to be done to capture Kony.

UN ENVOY WARNS AGAINST MILITARY ACTION IN SYRIA

SYRIA: Former UN secretary-general Kofi Annan has warned against using military intervention to quell the crisis in Syria, citing that the issues are political and must be resolved within the Syrian government. Annan is the Arab-UN envoy charged with bringing peace to Syria. His message is for Arab League countries in favour of using force to stop the violence, reports Al Jazeera. Foreign journalists allowed into the cities of Homs and Baba Amr for the first time since March 1 reported vast devastation and few remaining residents. The UN is sending \$105 million worth of food to 1.5 million Syrian people over three months.

IRAQ WAR BLAMED FOR RISING SUICIDE RATES IN U.S. ARMY

UNITED STATES: A study by the U.S. Army Public Health Command has found suicide rates in the army have increased since the U.S. launched the war on Iraq in 2003. According to the *Mail and Guardian*, 140 army personnel committed suicide in 2008, an unprecedented 80 per cent increase since 2004. The majority of those who died were young, white males in lower military ranks who had never been deployed, citing the importance of pre-combat stress counseling. As well, one-fifth of all soldiers had a mental-health-related doctor's visit in 2008, leading to a related rise in hospitalization for these issues.

NORWAY MASSACRE SUSPECT CHARGED, AWAITS TRIAL

NORWAY: Anders Behring Breivik has been charged with committing acts of terror and voluntary homicide for his twin attacks that killed 77 people in Norway last July, the *Mail and Guardian* reports. Breivik set off a car bomb in Oslo killing eight people then went to Uteoya Island dressed as a police officer and methodically killed 69 people attending a government operated summer camp. The attacks were racially charged. Before his trial begins on April 16, Breivik is being psychologically re-evaluated after he was diagnosed as criminally insane, which, if stands, would place him in a psychiatric ward instead of prison.

NDP LEADERSHIP SERIES

Martin Singh: Running to win

Pro-business New Democrat rules out co-operation with candidate Thomas Mulcair

ETHAN CABEL
NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

After raucous debate performances in Winnipeg and Montreal that precipitated a general warning from the federal NDP chief electoral officer, the Canadian Press speculated that 38-year-old underdog leadership candidate Martin Singh was acting as the covert attack dog for candidate Thomas Mulcair, member of Parliament for the Quebec riding of Outremont and the perceived NDP leadership front runner.

Singh adamantly denied that allegation in an interview with *The Uniter*, saying that he is "running to win" and wants to build voter confidence in the NDP's economic policies.

Singh possesses degrees in chemistry, chemical engineering and pharmacy from Dalhousie University as well as an MBA from St. Mary's University and is involved in several Nova Scotia and Ontario businesses. In addition to being the director of Precision Health Group, a company that runs five pharmacies and six care facilities, Singh also founded an ethical investment firm primarily designed for Sikh clients, in 2009. He has been an NDP member for 15 years and lives with his wife and three children in Nova Scotia.

The Uniter has been interviewing each of the seven federal NDP leadership candidates in the lead-up to the March 23-24 leadership convention, to be held in Toronto. Below is an abridged version of our conversation with Martin Singh.

***The Uniter:* What are the fundamental issues for the business community in Canada and what can the NDP do to address those issues?**

We need to make sure we have a more comprehensive policy than what is currently being articulated by the Conservative government. The Conservatives are uniquely focused on lower corporate taxes. Now, certainly corporate taxes are an issue we want to talk about in relation to the business community, but to talk about that alone is insufficient as a business policy.

You can very clearly point to examples where the corporate tax cuts don't work. One of those examples, when people are trying to start a new business, they might not have any profit for several years. Your corporate tax rate could be zero and it doesn't do you benefit. So what we're looking at doing is a more flexible policy. It talks about training, not just employee training but also employer training. Also, we're looking at different methods of business financing and tying mentorship programs to corporate taxes so we can get young people into the economy to break the cycle of 'can't get a job because you don't have experience, can't get experience because you don't have a job.'

Many of the candidates, as well as the party as a whole, are strongly affiliated with public and private sector unions. As someone who is coming to the NDP from a pro-business perspective, do you feel that the party needs to decrease some of its ties with labour or is that a valuable part of the party?

It's a very valuable part of the party and I don't expect that the relationship with labour would change under the leadership of any of the candidates. The fact that I'm in business still doesn't mean that I'm not in contact with labour movements. Three of my work sites are unionized and I have a very good relationship with all of the reps



SUPPLIED

NDP leadership candidate Martin Singh.

there. We've never had a lock-out and we've never had a strike, so I have no issue working with the labour movement. I think they're a very good contributor to the New Democratic Party.

You're in favour of a cap and trade system for dealing with climate change. Where do you stand on the tar sands and developing our fossil fuel resources for export to American and Asian markets?

I can speak from some personal experience on this. I worked for Syncrude on an eight month contract as a chemical engineer in their mining department in Fort McMurray so I have first hand knowledge of what goes on in the tar sands. I was doing environmental work there so I know the revenue and job creation possibilities that exist and I also know the environmental challenges that exist there, as well. What I'd like to see happen is sustainable development within the tar sands. In addition, I'd like to, as much as possible, have all the raw products made to finished products in Canadian territory so that we get the benefit of the jobs and not just the pollution that comes along with it.

The Canadian Press recently speculated

that you have been acting as Thomas Mulcair's attack dog at the debates and working in concert with him. Is that true and do you plan to throw your support behind him if it becomes clear that you will not win the leadership?

There is no relationship that exists between the two camps. I made this abundantly clear in the debate that was aired yesterday (Sunday, March 11). My debate strategies are entirely my own. I am running to win.

On that issue of your debate strategies, do you feel that the warning that the NDP electoral officer gave about unparliamentary language was directed at you and what is your response to that warning?

I think that issue was pretty much cleared up yesterday. I stand by my statements and I believe that they are factually correct and a matter of public record and we have not, as yet, received any penalty.

To read the unabridged transcript of this interview and those of five other candidates in the running, go to www.uniter.ca. Watch next week for our last interview, with leadership front runner Thomas Mulcair.

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Campus

Adjustments in student aid cause confusion at the university

Less money and different disbursement methods leave students scratching their heads

AMY GROENING
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

Changes in application processes and availability of student awards at the University of Winnipeg have left some students puzzled over what awards are still available to them.

Florent Thezard, an international student in his third year of athletic therapy, had received an international student bursary twice before. When he attempted to apply for it in the fall of 2011, he was told it was not available.

Due to a miscommunication, Thezard understood the bursary was no longer being offered to international students.

“The general scholarships are really intimidating. I just haven’t been daring enough to do it.”

- ADRIAN WERNER, FIFTH-YEAR GEOGRAPHY STUDENT

“My friend told me it was done, I double checked, got bummed out and tried to find other ways to get the money,” said Thezard.

Thezard had received a \$1,200 bursary one year, and \$500 the next semester.

Without that money, Thezard works more, spends less and makes do with different, cheaper editions of textbooks than the ones his courses actually assigned.

“I’m very grateful to have received (the bursary) for a couple years, but there is disappointment,” said Thezard.

Kam Holland, director of awards and financial aid, attributed Thezard’s confusion to changes in timing of bursary awards, decreased money in the student aid program, and lack of clarity in the application process.

While Holland was hired as director six months ago, she managed scholarships and awards at York University for nearly 15 years before this.

She is working to adjust aid application processes and award schedules to better suit



KAITLYN EMSLIE FARRELL

Without a bursary he had counted on, Florent Thezard has had to work more, spend less and make do with different, cheaper editions of textbooks than the ones his courses actually assigned.

students’ needs.

This year, Holland arranged for awards from the International Student Bursary Program to be given out in larger sums at the beginning of the fall semester only, instead of in smaller portions in both fall and winter semesters.

“We wanted to assist students with front-end expenses. It was all offered in the fall because that’s when tuition was due. That’s when they buy their books, when they need their first and last month’s rent,” said Holland.

Holland said fluctuations in the market have severely decreased the amount of money available for student aid.

The university generates scholarship money by investing endowments in the

stock market.

Before the stock market crashed in 2008, it was common to have a five per cent return on an endowment available for awards. Now, less than 3.5 per cent of the returns are available for awards, according to Holland.

In recent years, more awards have been created, but there is less money available per award given out, she said.

“It’s not like there’s less money available to students, but there’s less money per award available. What once was a \$5,000 award is now a \$3,500 award,” said Holland.

An overhaul of the awards website later this year will improve the ease of the awards application process, said Holland.

Adrian Werner, a fifth-year geography student, said the scholarship applications

process at the university seems daunting. He has been nominated for awards before, and is thankful he has never had to apply for one.

“The general scholarships are really intimidating. I just haven’t been daring enough to do it. Deadlines have been hard to find,” he said.

Improving access to bursaries and needs-based awards could ensure the university is accessible to all, Werner added.

“Even to have a low-income scholarship so you’re not hurting the people who really do need to go to university and deserve the access that everyone has ... might be a wiser funding structure,” he said.

With files from Ethan Cabel

PEOPLE WORTH READING ABOUT

Helping the Wesmen, one pizza at a time

New café keeps profits on campus, manager says

AMY GROENING
CAMPUS BEAT REPORTER

Darryl Reilly, general manager of the Duckworth Café and Eatery, has seen many changes come to the University of Winnipeg Wesmen since he first started attending games as an adolescent.

The Wesmen have been a part of Reilly’s life for many years; he attended Wesmen games and basketball camps as an adolescent, and his sister played four years of Wesmen basketball during her own university career.

“I had the task of trying to figure out a way of getting all these different businesses to come together in here and still have our own unique product.”

- DARRYL REILLY, GENERAL MANAGER, DUCKWORTH CAFÉ AND EATERY

“I’ve been around the university for my whole life,” said Reilly.

When Reilly began working at Soma Café and the Bill Wedlake Fitness Centre in 2008, the Wesmen had four different teams: men’s and women’s volleyball, and men’s and women’s basketball.

Now, the Wesmen have teams in curling, wrestling, baseball and soccer - and even



DYLAN HEWLETT

Darryl Reilly is no stranger to the Wesmen. Having attended basketball camp when he was younger, he worked at Soma Cafe and the Bill Wedlake Fitness Centre before being asked to manage the Duckworth Cafe and Eatery.

their own eatery to support their growing community of athletes.

“If you consider the amount of athletes that we as an organization have had to take care of, it’s quadrupled, probably. This is an old building, it needs a lot of upkeep,” said Reilly.

Reilly said all the profits from the Duck-

worth Café and Eatery are being reinvested back into the Wesmen and the student population as a whole.

“All the money that is made by the organization is put directly back in to it ... as opposed to these new businesses that keep popping up around campus,” said Reilly.

The eatery’s menu consists of many clas-

sic fast foods, such as pizza, sandwiches and hotdogs, but Reilly points out this is actually quite a unique venture.

When Reilly was hired on at the eatery, it was his job to combine food products from Robin’s Donuts, Salisbury House and Pizza Hotline - all major Wesmen sponsors - to create an original menu.

“I had the task of trying to figure out a way of getting all these different businesses to come together in here and still have our own unique product,” said Reilly.

The licensed eatery boasts personal-size Pizza Hotline pizzas, which are not available anywhere else in the city.

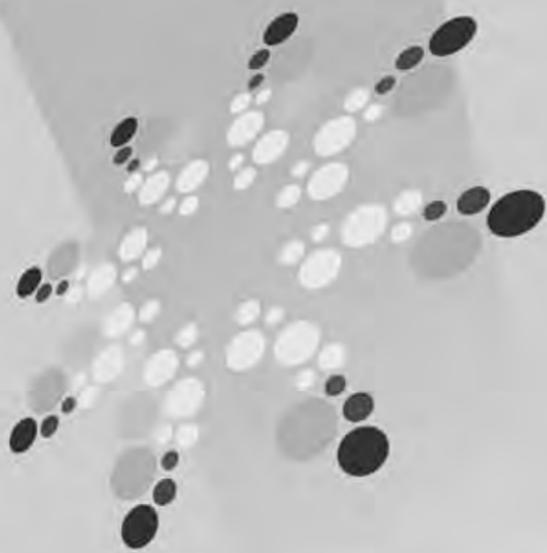
The special arrangement with the Wesmen sponsors helps to keep the product costs low - an aspect Reilly hopes will make the eatery a viable business venture.

Pizza Hotline provides par-baked pizza shells and pizza sauce at a low cost, and Salisbury House delivers goods fresh every morning.

“The Wesmen have a longstanding corporate arrangement with a lot of our sponsors. It’s what makes the Wesmen viable,” said Reilly.

Reilly is thankful for the support the eatery has received since it opened four months ago.

“That’s the one thing about this being Wesmen run - a lot of people realize it’s in everybody’s best interest that we do well. I don’t get a bonus if we sell a lot of pizzas; our wages stay the same. So people are willing to help out,” said Reilly.



UWSA

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Polls closing for UWSA election

Voter turn-out expected to increase with demographic shift, says elections commissioner



CHRISTOPHER CLACIO

"We have a really solid slate of candidates running," UWSA chief elections commissioner Andri Shchudlo says of the election that ends March 15.

ETHAN CABEL NEWS ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Voting for the University of Winnipeg Students' Association (UWSA) general election is ending on March 15 after a highly contested campaign, with three candidates seeking the top job of UWSA president, two candidates vying for vice president student services and three candidates facing off for vice president advocate, along with two contested directorships.

"We have a really solid slate of candidates running," said Andri Shchudlo, chief elections commissioner for the UWSA, adding that he hopes to increase voter turn-out from last year's election, which came in at just under 10 per cent of the student body.

Shchudlo added that, during the fall byelection, the elections commission saw a marked increase in the number of science students voting, which he considers a good sign that turn-out will increase from last year.

"For sure we'd like to get into the double digits. The record is 15 per cent ... that was a year where there was five candidates running for president. It'll be tough but we'd like to get somewhere near that level," he said, adding that the budget for the election is approximately \$5,500.

Despite extensive organization and polls in three of the main university buildings, Shchudlo confirmed March 12 that candidates have still experienced difficulty with putting up posters and other campaign materials in buildings other than the main campus, particularly in the Buhler Centre, where

space is at a premium.

"One of the issues for sure is that there's just not enough space, like in Buhler for sure there are no peg boards or anything provided," he said, adding that increasing candidate visibility in other buildings will be part of his recommendations in his final report to the UWSA board.

The election results were not known at press time. However, watch for online coverage this weekend and read news assignment editor Ethan Cabel's blog on the importance of voting at www.uniter.ca.

*Also, stay tuned for extensive results coverage, as well as an exploration of a controversial election proposal, in the March 22 issue of *The Uniter*.*

LISTINGS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Fort Garry Women's Resource Centre is hosting a GAMES NIGHT on Thursday, March 15 at 6 p.m. at 104-3100 Pembina Hwy. Call 204-477-1123 to register. This is a women-only event.

A one-day workshop on TRUTH & RECONCILIATION with PIET MEIRING, former commissioner of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, is taking place on Wednesday, March 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Canadian Mennonite University. For more information about how to register for the workshop, please visit www.csop.cmu.ca.

The 4th ANNUAL SPIRIT SEEKERS takes place March 17 to March 18 at the Fort Garry Hotel. Meditation, yoga, spirit guides, past life regression, tea leaf reading, Buddhism (U of M prof Brenda Cantelo) reincarnation and more! Contact www.muddywatertours.ca or 898-4678 for more info.

ROCKIN' RICHARD'S RECORD & CD SALE is on Sunday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Ave.

Congregation Etz Chayim will be presenting a joint program with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on VOICES OF SURVIVAL on March 20 at 7:30 p.m. at 123 Matheson Ave. The speakers will be Justice Murray Sinclair, chair of the commission, and Mr. Robbie Waisman, a Holocaust survivor associated with the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre. Mr. David Matas, a pre-eminent immigration and human rights lawyer, will serve as moderator. Contact info@etzchayim.ca for more information.

ON CAMPUS

FLORA TERAH: LIVED RIGHTS LECTURE is on March 15 at 6:30 p.m. in room 2M70. Flora Terah is an HIV/AIDS counsellor, a women's advocate and a 2012 parliamentary candidate for Kenya.

UWSA presents GRASS ROUTES: A SUSTAINABILITY FESTIVAL ends March 16. The festival includes, films, speakers, workshops, art and music. For a full programming schedule including descriptions, check out www.theuwsa.ca/event/grass-routes.

The International Students' Association and the UWSA present THE INTERNATIONAL DINNER on Friday, March 16 at 6 p.m. in Riddell Hall. The dinner will be followed by a dance party in the Bulman Centre at 10 p.m. Come and enjoy good food, good music and good vibes. For tickets and more info con-

tact irc@theuwsa.ca.

The UWSA Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday, March 21 from noon until 3 p.m. in the Bulman Students' Centre MPR.

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 STUDENTS' 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@uwinipeg.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 spenceighbourhood.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.

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.

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

IRCOM is seeking three more committed individuals to help out with our Newcomer Literacy Initiative (NLI) program from now until the end of the school year. Volunteer EAL classroom assistants with our NLI classes work with students under the direction of the NLI Teacher in one-on-one, small group and whole class settings. Volunteers generally help one day per week for two and half hours each shift. If you are interested in volunteering or want more information contact Erin at erina@irc.com.ca or 943-8765, ext 23.

The NEEDS (Newcomer Employment & Education Development Services) CENTRE is looking for VOLUNTEER MENTORS. It only takes six hours a month to make a difference in the life of a refugee youth new to Winnipeg. Mentors connect newcomer youth to the community and engage them in educational and recreational activities. For more information contact Steph Minor at steph@needsinc.ca or 204-940-1275.

STUDENTS OFFERING SUPPORT (SOS) is an international charitable organization that raises marks, money and roofs. SOS is looking for a set of exceptional university student leaders to launch a chapter on campus. If you are interested in gaining exposure to the world of social entrepreneurship please visit www.studentofferingsupport.ca.

A few more volunteers are needed to help with preparations for an AE911TRUTH presentation at the University of Winnipeg on March 31. Help is needed with promotions, event logistics, or whatever you're good at. Contact winnipeg.truth@gmail.com or visit winnipegfortruthandjustice.ca to help.

The Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library (MCML) is dedicated to the study, preservation and understanding of craft and the promotion of the work of craft artists. They are seeking a website manager. To apply contact curator@mcml.ca.

Campus News Briefs

Compiled by Clara Buelow

WESMEN PLAYERS, COACH CLEAN UP AWARDS

Two Wesmen women's volleyball team members and their coach received awards at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport Association (CIS) women's volleyball championship banquet in Hamilton, Ont. Ozana Nikolic, an 18-year-old biology student and left side on the starting lineup, won the rookie of the year award after a phenomenal season earned her a place on Canada West's second all-star team. Lauren Sears, the team captain and fifth-year middle, was named the First Team All-Canadian after a finishing in the top 10 in multiple Canada West statistics. Coach Diane Scott was named coach of the year.

U OF W ALUMNI AND A PULITZER-WINNING PLAY AT MTC

A handful of U of W alumni are part of a Pulitzer Prize-winning play now playing at the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre. *August: Osage County* by Tracy Letts is a critically acclaimed dark comedy located in the heart of America and about a dysfunctional family, dealing with addiction, personal difficulties and a death. Martha Henry will be playing the role of the matriarch accompanied by U of W alumni Julia Arkos, Melanie Dean, Samantha Hill, Steven Ratzlaff and Cory Wojcik. Director Ann Hodges is also a U of W grad. For the Oklahoma draw, Shannon Vickers, a voice professor at U of W, has been coaching the cast. For times, prices and more information visit www.mtc.mb.ca.

SOMA CAFÉ MOVING

The Soma Café will be moving to the first floor of Lockhart Hall. The café will take over the space that is currently housing Café Bodhi. Since opening in the Duckworth Centre in 2008, Soma has been a place for students and faculty to grab fair trade coffee and homemade snacks. However, the financial viability of Soma has been a contentious issue in the UWSA, losing money every year since opening. By relocating to a more central area the café will be easily accessible and will have one less competitor by replacing Café Bodhi. The UWSA and the university are still working out details of the move. Check the UWSA website for updates.

U OF W FINANCE AND ECONOMICS STUDENTS SET HIGH STANDARD

A group of U of W business students recently competed in a global competition in Calgary. Darrell Menzies, Michael Kurtas, Kyle Tran, Tsai Wei Li and Ravneet Grewal traveled to Calgary to compete in the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Research Challenge. The global competition tests the analytic, valuation, report writing and presentation skills of university students. Each university has a team of three to five students who analyze the same company, write an equity research report, and present their findings before a panel of industry experts and CFA professionals. The U of W group was one of six teams out of 11 that completed the challenge.

INAUGURAL BURSARY AWARDED

The University of Winnipeg has awarded its inaugural Waapshki Pinaysee Inini White Thunderbird Man bursary to Shauna Fontaine. Fontaine, a third-year student double majoring in indigenous studies and history, is a single mother of three who serves on the Aboriginal Student Council/University of Winnipeg Students' Association. The bursary, worth \$2,000, is awarded to a Sagkeeng First Nation full-time student pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies. Fontaine decided to go back to school after working as a manager in a footwear store, according to a university release. Fontaine plans to earn her master's in Indigenous Governance and a PhD in history. She wants to teach at a university one day. Sagkeeng is located 120 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg.

Comments

Proposed transit fare increase takes a hike

The problem of paying for rapid transit



ANDREW PODOLECKI
VOLUNTEER

Six to zero.

Applause from the galleries marked the end of the Sam Katz regime in city hall.

For the past eight years, business in city hall operated under the "What Sam Katz wants, he gets, no questions asked."

City hall was run by a mayor who surrounded himself by yes-men and did not listen to the general complaints of the citizens.

City hall was run by a mayor who surrounded himself by yes-men and did not listen to the general complaints of the citizens

When candidates criticized him, he won the public's heart by assuring citizens that he wouldn't raise property taxes, unlike the opposition.

For eight years it worked, and he used it to win re-election in 2006 and 2010. But this past week, people Katz and Justin Swandel thought were their political allies said no.

Katz thought the 20-cent transit fare hike would pass easily and without disruption, to stick it to the province and put the blame on the province for not giving a good deal on rapid transit - a tactic he has employed before.

Despite the province's constant stand of providing one-third of the costs of phase two of rapid transit, that deal continues to stand and the province has said it won't back away

- they are just waiting for city hall to come aboard.

Seeing this development of the public works committee voting six to zero rescinding the transit fare hike is a huge victory in many realms.

The mayor first said it was needed to fund rapid transit, but never made any formal commitment to it.

He also stated that it would provide \$8 million a year, while Winnipeg Transit later estimated it would bring in \$3.56 million for 2012 and \$6 million in future years - well short of Katz's goal.

But this was a battle Katz was going to lose anyway, regardless of the vote on the Public Works Committee and the Executive Policy Committee.

Premier Selinger had signed a letter to the mayor saying he would not allow a 20-cent fare hike.

A rarity for the province - they used their constitutional powers to overrule the City of Winnipeg. It was a good call on the province's part.

Rapid transit will benefit everyone in this city as it will spur growth in numerous ways, but there are more appropriate ways to pay for it.

We could follow British Columbia's example: residents see a \$3 transit levy fee on their hydro bills every month. The \$3 a month goes to a fund that any municipality can use to fund transit and rapid transit projects.

In a span of 15 years, the Lower Mainland of B.C. has been able to construct three rapid transit lines, the Millennium Line, the Canada Line, and the now under construction Evergreen Line.

The Lower Mainland also had to deal with numerous municipalities and councils,



DANIEL CRUMP

but they got it done with much success.

Yet here in Winnipeg many believe the south-west line won't be completed until 2031, while others believe it will never happen.

As long as this city council continues to govern the way it does I, too, am inclined to believe it will never happen.

Of course, there are still individuals who continue to believe that since they won't use rapid transit, they shouldn't have to pay for it.

Funny, I was not saying that when they agreed to the plan to widen Kenaston Blvd - a project that will cost the city of Winnipeg

millions of dollars.

Rescinding the transit fare-hike is a major victory for bus commuters and motorists wishing to park the car to save some money from the pumps. But the task of getting four rapid transit lines completed by 2031 is still a mythical dream at city hall.

As the city cannot figure out a way to pay for it, stating that tax hikes are not an option, it may never happen.

Call me cynical, but this city hall has not given me much faith that they'll do it.

Andrew Podolecki is a second-year politics student.

Spence Neighbourhood Association reaches out New cultural outreach program launches next month



JAMIL MAHMOOD
VOLUNTEER

For many youth who grow up in the Spence Neighbourhood, poverty is more than a social construct - it is their reality.

Growing up with no food in the fridge, parents struggling to pay bills, managing multiple jobs, growing up around addictions and the devastation that resulted from the residential school system is what some youth deal with on a daily basis.

Although this is pretty grim, what many do not see is the resiliency young people in our community develop - what they deal with on a daily basis would be too much for a strong stable adult to deal with, yet they continue to want to grow and learn and make change.

For the past four years, Spence Neighbourhood Association (SNA) has been running a youth outreach program. The program connects with 50 of the most at risk youth in our community and provides them with a positive adult mentor and outreach worker.

The youth outreach program uses an approach called the wraparound approach. It is a holistic approach to supporting at-risk youth; instead of addressing one problem or issue in a young person's life, you look at all of the positives and negatives in their life.

Outreach workers work one-on-one with the youth to develop a plan for making change or "success," then we bring together all the people in the youth's life that play a role - social workers, probation officers, families, schools etc. - and ensure all the services and supports are working together on a plan that was developed by and works for the young person.

Over the four years of the project we were able to support and divert at least 150 youth from the youth centre and gangs.

After an in-depth evaluation, we have re-

examined the program and made a shift in the focus from keeping kids from getting incarcerated, to helping youth build connections to their culture, to building a sense of identity and self-esteem.

This shift, paired with our outreach and wraparound approach is leading to the start of an exciting new program.

In April 2012, the SNA will be launching a new youth cultural outreach program. The program will continue to target the most at-risk youth in the community, but will have a focus on building connections with their culture.

The program will be open to all cultures, and outreach workers will be connecting with cultural mentors to support the youth with developing a connection to whatever culture they feel most drawn to.

Many youth grow up without a sense of who they are, and how they fit in their community or city. Over the next three years, we will change this reality by providing a venue of opportunities where confident and healthy young people can develop.

Having worked with youth in the Spence Neighbourhood for the past seven years, I know most young people just need a chance and the support of a positive person in their life to make the changes they need to succeed.

We need to stop ignoring the social problems in our city and pretend they can be solved by locking people away.

It is prevention and intervention programs like these that are necessary to make a change in the life situation for so many of the young people in Winnipeg.

This program will not change poverty in our city, but it will give intensive support to 50 young people a year by giving them an opportunity for change they would not normally have.

Jamil Mahmood is the Spence Neighbourhood Association's executive director.



Truth and Reconciliation
Commission of Canada



Etz Chayim

PRESENT

Voices of Survival

- HEAR ABOUT INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS
- HEAR FROM A HOLOCAUST CHILD SURVIVOR OF BUCHENWALD

TUESDAY MARCH 20, 2012 7:30 P.M.

SPEAKERS



"Resiliency of the Human Spirit"

ROBBIE WAISMAN
Holocaust survivor, retired Businessman and Director and Outreach Speaker for the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre



"They Call Themselves 'Survivors' "

JUSTICE MURRAY SINCLAIR
Manitoba's first Aboriginal Judge, currently of the Court of Queen's Bench and Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

MODERATOR



DAVID MATAS
Immigration, Refugee and Human Rights Lawyer, Sr. Counsel to B'nai Brith, a Director of Rights and Democracy (a federal agency) and author of several books on human rights.

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The pros and cons of Kony 2012



STEVE CURRIE
VOLUNTEER

In 1985, the world's trendiest part-time activists advertised and effected an awareness campaign, LiveAid, garnered massive public support, incurred a critical intellectual backlash, peaked and fell into history.

From beginning to end the process took about a year.

In this brave new age of social networking its modern counterpart - KONY 2012 - accomplished the same over the course of 48 hours.

Progress of a kind.

Should we fund and advocate for armed force, led by the West, to put down a multinational, terrorist organization?

I won't waste words describing the video - it's already more famous than LOLcats and most of you can probably spare 30 minutes of Internet time to watch it.

The critical response to the film has ranged from the superficial to the substantive.

I agree wholly with the former camp, the director/founder is hipsterdom personified, and the "interview" with his six-year-old son is nauseatingly saccharine.

However, the latter camp objects to the film's message, motives and intent.

Here is where I take issue.

Much has been made over Invisible Children, their corporate structure, their investment in the Ugandan army and their sanguinary mission to bring Joseph Kony to justice.

It's true that the film's director brings home a cool \$90,000 a year. However, this last campaign has raised millions of dollars within days of its release, and dominated the social media from YouTube to Twitter, so one could argue that he's worth it.

While all released figures show that the group only sends 32 per cent of their take back to central Africa, they clearly identify



AYAME ULRICH

and advertise their mission as one of awareness and profile raising, which is where the bulk of their money indeed goes.

Their investment in the Ugandan army is more troublesome.

By all accounts there is a culture of looting, exploitation and rape occurring on the frontlines of this army's activities, both in their expeditionary work in the Central Afri-

can Republic (Kony's likely current hiding ground) and their supposed protective work of the internally displaced refugee camps in Northern Uganda.

While there is some truth that it takes a thief to catch a thief, one should hardly look to that strategy when hunting child rapists.

That being said, even the most damning reports fail to demonstrate moral equiva-

lency between the government army and the LRA.

While the video undoubtedly glosses over government atrocities and takes the upper bound of most estimates of the rebels' crimes, even the international criminal court, who investigated the Ugandan army, considers the crimes of the LRA to be of "dramatically higher gravity."

So lastly, there lies the objections to the mission itself.

Should we fund and advocate for armed force, led by the West, to put down a multinational, terrorist organization? For many, this reeks of neocolonialism, and the references to the White Man's Burden have been flying thick and fast.

It is important to note that the United States is not a (ratified) signatory to the International Criminal Court, they are under no compulsion to attempt to take Kony alive, as signatory members are.

This is worrisome, as is the failure of the 2009 U.S.-led offensive against the rebels, which led to violent reprisals.

The committed troops that the video brags about amount to no more than 100 training specialists, not even enough to keep up with the Ugandan army attrition rates.

Clearly when the video claims to be asking for continued support, it also is asking for increased support - increased by several orders of magnitude.

There is certainly a lingering imperialism in sending marines to resolve by bloodshed a war in Acholiland with roots anywhere from 20 to 200 years old.

But should that sense of Western guilt be enough to dissuade us?

If so, we would be listening more closely to the nagging voice of vague discomfort than to the screams of thousands of mutilated, raped and enslaved boys, girls, men and women, many of whom (though not, admittedly, the clergy) are begging for our help.

Steve Currie realizes that this issue is too popular and widespread to be represented in 600 words. He welcomes comments and counter-arguments on his blog, <http://alotoftinyrobots.blogspot.com>.

Missing the mark

Most low-income families in Winnipeg not meeting the Acceptable Living Level



NICK TERNETTE
VOLUNTEER

In mid-February, Winnipeg Harvest and the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg released its Acceptable Living Level (ALL) report for 2012.

The 95-page document outlines a budget of basic needs for Winnipeg families and what they cost. Those needs include food, clothing and transportation.

It is important to note that the 2012 ALL report is the fourth of its kind since 1997.

What this report demonstrates, as the others did, is that low-income parents in Winnipeg - whether they are working or on welfare - do not have enough money to adequately feed, shelter and clothe themselves and their children.

This report also demonstrates that current welfare rates, even when federal child benefits are taken into account, fall far short of 2012 acceptable living levels (\$38,000 for a family of three and \$50,000 for a family of four).

It is no surprise, then, that two parents working full-time at minimum wage (\$10.50 per hour) have incomes far below the 2012 acceptable living level.

The ALL report represents an effort to inform and educate the public on the realities of hunger and poverty in Manitoba from those who are living that reality.

The ALL report's purpose is to determine how much disposable income is needed in the marketplace to buy a basket of goods and services that can sustain an acceptable living level.

The report suggests that every Manitoban has a right to an acceptable living level.

We have been brought up in the tradition that people who work hard will be rewarded, and yet, as we know, many parents who work hard at their minimum wage jobs cannot feed themselves and their children.

In fact, many of those parents turn to Winnipeg Harvest for food.

The report indicates that people on Employment and Income Assistance use a portion of their food budgets to pay for the rising costs of shelter.

In fact, half of Winnipeg Harvest clients are EIA recipients, one-fourth are on pensions and other fixed incomes, and 10 per cent report no income whatsoever.

The ALL report challenges Manitoba leaders and citizens to respond to the central issue - how can Manitoba ensure an acceptable living level for all of its citizens?

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA) suggests one mechanism in their report *The View From Here: How A Living Wage Can Reduce Poverty In Manitoba*.

The report notes that huge social dividends are yielded when employers pay their employees enough money to buy necessities. In fact, for over a decade, as a result of union pressure, civic governments in many cities in the U.S. and in Hamilton, Ont., are providing living wages for their employees.

Why can't the provincial government and the private sector do the same here?

The other method of dealing with poverty would be the establishment of a Guaranteed Annual Income (GAI).

Winnipeg Harvest has endorsed the concept of a GAI to the Senate Committee of the federal government. The Senate's report, *In From The Margins: A Call For Action On Poverty, Housing and Homelessness* recommended that the federal government con-



MELISSA BERGEN

sider implementing a GAI for all Canadians.

One of the programs implemented by Premier Ed Schreyer during the 1970s was the Minimum Income Project, also known as Mincome.

According to research done into the GAI by Professor Evelyn Forget of the University of Manitoba, the people of Dauphin were enrolled in the Mincome Project from 1974 to 1978 with the following results: primary wage earners did not quit their jobs; new mothers gave themselves maternity leave before it was available through Employment Insurance; Grade 12 enrolment rates increased sharply; and hospitalization for accidental injuries and mental illness decreased dramatically.

In fact, Forget suggests that money saved

on healthcare costs alone would more than justify spending on the GAI.

Even Senator Art Eggleton, co-chair of the Senate Committee that released the report, suggested that investing in a GAI would pay off in lower policing costs as well as lower healthcare costs.

By guaranteeing an acceptable living level for the people of Manitoba (and/or a GAI), our citizens and leaders would indeed be building a more inclusive and generous Canada.

Nick Ternette is a community and political activist, freelance writer and broadcaster. He is a member of the Public Education Committee of Winnipeg Harvest and lives at McFector's Hall at the University of Winnipeg.

Arts & Culture

Happy Father's Day

Local filmmaking collective turns fake trailer into feature length movie

NICHOLAS FRIESEN
ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

In 2010, local indie film production team Astron-6 inked a deal with B-movie crusaders Troma Entertainment to fund and distribute *Father's Day*, a violent revengesploitation comedy about paternal love gone awry.

Produced by Matt Kennedy, Conor Sweeney, Adam Brooks, Jeremy Gillespie and Steven Kostanski, the fake trailer on which the film is based caught the attention of Troma's Lloyd Kaufman, and the rest is movie history.

Well, not yet.

Before the ink could dry, Astron-6 began splitting up across Canada. Kennedy took a teaching gig in Vancouver, Gillespie split for Toronto to work on Len Wiseman's *Total Recall* remake, while Kostanski was consumed by work on *Wrong Turn 4*.

"My dad eventually showed up and basically brainwashed this guy into apologizing to us for calling the police."

- CONOR SWEENEY, ASTRON-6

"It's been very off and on all year," says Kennedy, 26. "We would shoot most of the time when I was back or Steve was back, so it'd be months where we would do nothing and Adam would work on rough-cutting the movie."

With a micro budget, *Father's Day* was shot sporadically in Winnipeg and Kenora, Ont., beginning in August 2010 and wrapping up in May 2011.

After successful screenings at numerous film festivals across North America, Winnipeg audiences can see the film when it opens at Cinematheque on Friday, March 16 at 10 p.m.

"We'd shoot for 21 hours a day," remembers Sweeney, also 26. "This movie's been our life now for over a year."

Shot mostly on a Canon 7D, the flick follows Ahab (Brooks), a cycloptic vigilante on a vengeful killing spree. Other characters include male prostitute Twink (Sweeney), Father John Sullivan (Kennedy), more than a few strippers (A6 regular Amy Groening and actual strippers), God and the Devil (Kaufman in dual roles) and Mackenzie Murdoch as Chris Fuchman, the evil dad rapist.

The flick is filled to the brim with nudity, four-letter words and more grotesque violence than you can shake a severed limb at – which begs the question, is there anything Astron-6 won't do?

"There's no limit to anything we'll do, as long as it's fun with some humour behind it," Kennedy explains. "Troma did suggest a lot of comedy that we drew the line at."

"Fart jokes make me cringe," Sweeney adds. "I liked *Hobo with a Shotgun* (another film based on a fake trailer), but it did have a mean-spiritedness to it that was hard to stomach."

Astron-6 usually enlists a loyal group of onscreen regulars – Sweeney's sister Meredith appeared in numerous shorts, as well as

Father's Day – but to fill out the many roles a feature film demands, the group had to venture outside its usual repertoire.

"We put up ads on Kijiji and said we're making a Troma movie, but we can't pay you," Sweeney says. "Guy Maddin basically got us most of our other (principal actors) in the movie."

"We've found that there are a lot of talented artists out there in Winnipeg," Kennedy adds. "They're having fun exploring their characters instead of just asking, 'Where do I stand?'"

While the collective had no problem asking new collaborators to join the Astron-6 fold, asking permission to film at a few locations was another story.

"We almost got arrested for shooting without a permit in Kenora," Sweeney says. "It was at the end of a full day, we were losing light and we knew we had to crash this jeep. As we were finishing the scene this guy pulled up and blocked us into the area and revealed that he had called the police."

"My dad eventually showed up and basically brainwashed this guy into apologizing to us for calling the police."

Based on the local cult success of Astron-6's pop-culture-pillaging short films, the collective has earned its fair share of copycat fanboys/girls in the University of Winnipeg film department.

"What a nightmare," Sweeney groans.

"I'm flattered," Kennedy counters. "But if they get famous, or at least make money – which we're not doing – before us, then I'll be really upset."

Father's Day plays at Cinematheque Friday, March 16 (10 p.m.); Saturday, March 17 (9 p.m.); Wednesday, March 21 and Thursday, March 22 (9 p.m.); Friday, March 23 (9:30 p.m.); and Saturday, March 24 at 9 p.m. On March 16, there will be an opening night Q&A with Adam Brooks and Jeremy Gillespie. Visit www.thefathersdaymovie.com.

Editor's note: This article originally appeared in the June 2, 2011 issue of The Uniter, when it was looking as though the film Father's Day would be released before the end of 2011.

WHAT - OR WHO - IS ASTRON-6?

Astron-6 is a local filmmaking collective formed in 2007 by five men who met at the Winnipeg Short Film Massacre. (The sixth member of the collective is you, the viewer.)

The collective includes:

- ⇒ Matthew Kennedy, a comedian and actor
- ⇒ Conor Sweeney, a comedian, actor and film student
- ⇒ Adam Brooks, a painter and filmmaker
- ⇒ Jeremy Gillespie, a graphic designer and musician
- ⇒ Steven Kostanski, a filmmaker, animator and special effects artist

For trailers, short films and more info, visit www.astron-6.com.



COURTESY ASTRON-6

Adam Brooks plays one-eyed vigilante Ahab and Amy Groening plays his sister, Chelsea, in the locally-shot feature *Father's Day*.

WHAT CRITICS ARE SAYING ABOUT FATHER'S DAY

"The most daring, dirty and demented thrill ride of the year."

- RUE MORGUE

"...destined to become a midnight movie classic."

- FANGORIA

"The team's immersion in the models of their youth results in a spot-on re-creation,

occasionally surreal, and frequently very funny."

- LA WEEKLY

"Father's Day is over the top, tasteless, senseless and completely hilarious. ... From the nauseating beginning to the bombastic and bloody end, Father's Day should not be missed."

- AIN'T IT COOL NEWS



COURTESY ASTRON-6

Broken, beat and scarred: Local filmmaking collective Astron-6 is (from left) Matthew Kennedy, Conor Sweeney, Adam Brooks, Jeremy Gillespie and Steven Kostanski.

Red Moon Road: Campfires, collaboration and house concerts

AARON EPP
MANAGING EDITOR

Daniel Jordan has been playing gigs in Winnipeg for numerous years, but he feels like he's just getting his music career started.

Two days before his 27th birthday next week, the multi-instrumentalist and singer - who earned a music degree as a jazz drummer from the University of Manitoba, served as founder and bandleader for the Retro Rhythm Review, has performed original music as Jonny Moonbeam, and who has worked as a freelance side-man for Romi Mayes and The Liptonians - will play with his band Red Moon Road at the West End Cultural Centre to celebrate the release of their debut, self-titled full-length album.

Jordan's bandmates in the project are fellow multi-instrumentalist Daniel Peloquin-Hopfner (Entre Parentheses, Fire and Smoke) and vocalist Sheena Rattai (SHEENA, The Solutions) themselves both Winnipeg music scene vets at the ages of 25 and 26, respectively.

"All of us are from such different musical backgrounds, none of which are what we're doing now, which is what I think makes (Red Moon Road) unique," Jordan says.

He and Peloquin-Hopfner formed the roots act in 2009 after participating in the same folk festival jam session, where each tried to one-up the other with his musical prowess.

The band completed its line-up with the addition of Rattai last summer and entered the studio in November 2011 with producer Murray Pulver (Doc Walker, Crash Test Dummies) and recording engineer Don Benedictson (The Wyrd Sisters, Fred Penner).

Much of the material was written by Jordan, but he is quick to point out the vital role his bandmates played in making the songs what they are.

"The songs wouldn't sound the same if Daniel (Peloquin-Hopfner) and Sheena were not there," he says, pointing to album opener *Do or Die*, which Rattai sings lead vocals on, as an example.

"It's the greatest thing to write a song and then have a real singer singing it," Jordan says.

He's no slouch himself when it comes to vocals, as people will find out when they listen to the album.



SUPPLIED

Lost in the woods: Red Moon Road's music is inspired by the lake, campfires and outdoor living. "What I think makes a good song is something you can play with your friends out in the bush," says Daniel Jordan (left), pictured with bandmates Sheena Rattai (centre) and Daniel Peloquin-Hopfner (right). "When I'm camping, those are the kinds of songs that I'm playing."

The band says the material on the disc was inspired by the lake, campfires and outdoor living. Peloquin-Hopfner grew up on a farm, and Jordan's family owns a cabin on an island in Lake of the Woods.

"Frankly, what I think makes a good song is something you can play with your friends out in the bush," Jordan says. "When I'm camping, those are the kinds of songs that I'm playing."

The band recently completed a Home Routes house concert tour, and are looking forward to playing similar gigs in the future.

While they appreciate the time they spent playing bars around Winnipeg in other bands, and they don't rule out doing the same in the future, they appreciate the attentive audiences that come with playing folk music in a house or folk festival setting.

"If I could do house concerts and folk festivals for the rest of my life, I would," Jordan says.

The band's plans after the album release show are to tour and possibly record another album before the end of the year. Peloquin-Hopfner's dream is to one day play on The

Vinyl Cafe.

Jordan agrees.

"That's when I know I'll have made it," he says.

⇒ See Red Moon Road live at the West End Cultural Centre on Saturday, March 17

⇒ Bog River and Neon Donkey will also perform

⇒ Doors at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

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

⇒ Visit www.redmoonroad.com

Local singer Hayley Gene shares music for a good cause

DEREK LOEWEN
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Hayley Gene was born to perform.

Since her first musical theatre performances at the ripe ol' age of five, she has been putting her talents on display for the world to see.

Now at 26, Gene still loves performing and is convinced that she was made for the stage.

"I guess it comes from being in a very artistic family. My father (Fred Penner) is a musician and my mother (Odette Heyn-Penner) is a dancer and choreographer," she says. "I wasn't forced into it or anything, but I was increasingly drawn to anything that was theatrical or performance based."

At 19 she moved to Toronto to study journalism at Ryerson University.

Living in both Winnipeg and Toronto for some time, she contemplates how the two music scenes compare.

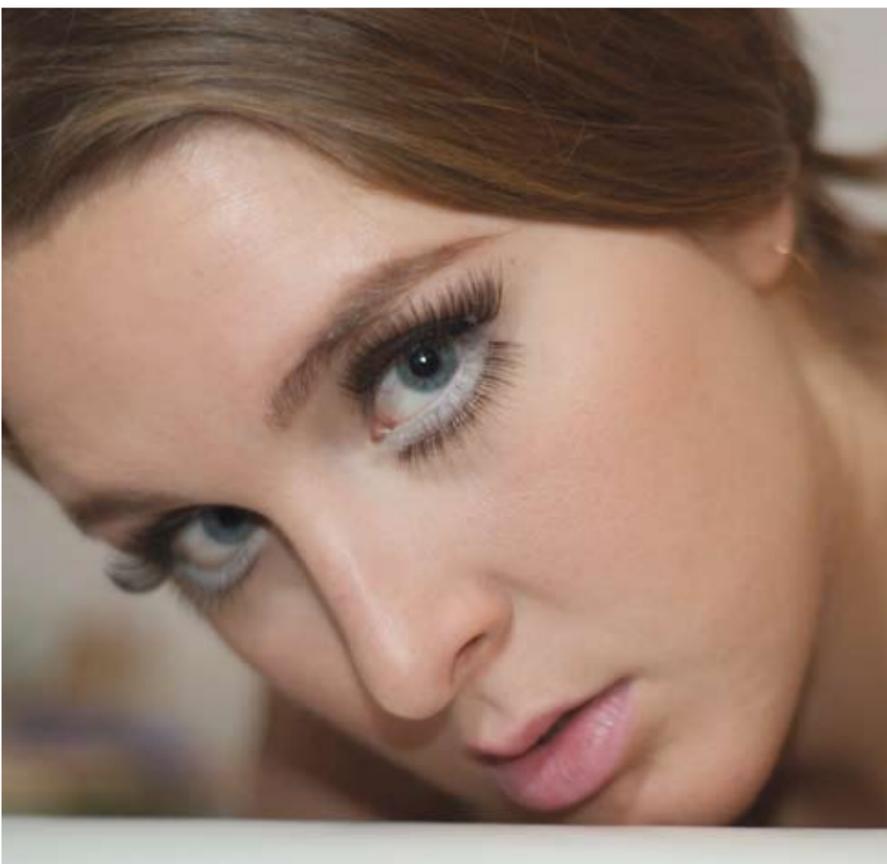
"Mine might be a skewed version because I was only 19 when I moved to Toronto. I only started going out then," she says. "I am very fortunate to come from Winnipeg's very strong music community where everyone supports each other."

After meeting James McLeod at the Eggplant Collective in Toronto, the two formed the electronic pop duo TUZO.

In 2011 they shared their sugar-coated sound at the famous NXNE festival which is held yearly in Toronto.

"The music is different but it's interesting," says Gene. "It's very Top-40esque."

Gene's musical output is beginning to change drastically from electronic to acous-



SUPPLIED

Hayley Gene will sing for her supper and the suppers of others in the Choose Your Charity concert series.

tic.

Having never released an album with TUZO or under her own name, Gene is glad she has waited this long before seriously plan-

ning a record.

"There will definitely be a record released within the year," she says. "I've become much stronger as a songwriter because I've waited

so long to release an album. I made an EP at 15 but it's weird thinking about it now because I was so young."

Local musician James Struthers met Gene over Christmas and the two have been writing songs together ever since.

It was Struthers who conceived the idea of a music showcase that would give back to the community.

The Choose Your Own Charity concert series comprises eight local artists who give concert proceeds to a charity of their choice.

"It serves to promote and grow the local music scene but also to encourage each and every one of us to use our talents and abilities to help others," Struthers said in a CBC interview.

Gene's charity of choice is W.I.S.H Inc., a not-for-profit organization that creates safe on-site housing for women who have been affected by domestic violence.

Local musicians Flo, Don Amero and Keri Latimer are other artists who are connected with the concert series.

The inclusion of Gene in the series is a testament to her immense talent, but also of her music's human aspect.

"It comes from staying open and ready to receive other people's experiences," she says. "Just like writing songs, whenever people bring different ideas into the room it is easy to grow as a musician and as a person."

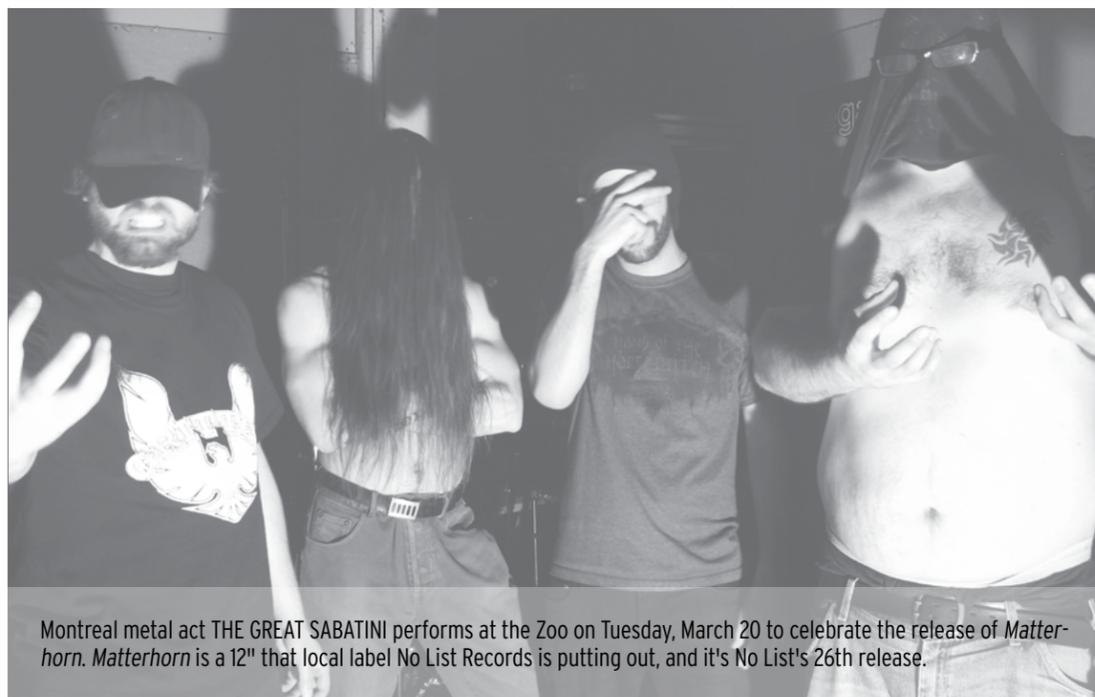
⇒ See Hayley Gene perform at the Winnipeg Free Press Café on Thursday, March 15

⇒ Doors at 7 p.m.

⇒ Tickets are \$15 at the door, or \$10 if you bring a food item for Winnipeg Harvest

⇒ Visit www.myspace.com/hayleygene

MUSIC LISTINGS



Montreal metal act THE GREAT SABATINI performs at the Zoo on Tuesday, March 20 to celebrate the release of *Matterhorn*. *Matterhorn* is a 12" that local label No List Records is putting out, and it's No List's 26th release.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

Hip-hop renaissance man ROB CROOKS releases his new EP *Hearts* at the Lo Pub with NESTOR WYNRUSH and TWO ROCKS OF STONE. See story below.

Roots-rock act NEW COUNTRY REHAB plays the Park Theatre.

WILLIAM PRINCE a.k.a. BIG WILL plays Pop Soda's Coffeehouse and Gallery.

SCOTT NOLAN plays the Standard every Thursday.

SEAN BROWN performs at Shannon's.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Folk-punker ANDREW JACKSON JIHAD plays the Lo Pub.

Start St. Paddy's early with THE LEGION OF LIQUOR and KIDS AND HEROES at the Zoo.

ANUSPHEAR and POTATOES blow eardrums at

the Cavern.

Check out epic instrumental rock with VIRIDIANS, ELECTRO QUARTERSTAFF and THE CALCULUS AFFAIR at 318 Ross Ave.

The annual ECOELECTICA fundraiser is at the Pyramid featuring JOHNNY AND THE RANDOMS, PERSE, THE MANIC SHAKES, BOG RIVER and DJ ROB VILAR.

It's CLUSTERPLUCK! at the Park with over 20 of Winnipeg's most fervent acoustic musicians together playing blues, ragtime, bluegrass, Spanish, traditional and contemporary folk songs.

SELF INTEREST, ATOMIC DON AND THE BLACK SUNRISE, POP CRIMES and PAUL ALLEN punk-rock your ass off at Negative Space.

Funk act MAS HEADSPACE play Shannon's.

READYMIX returns to Ozzy's with a 90s dance party.

The MOONBEAM JAM is at the King's Head Pub.

JENNY BERKEL hosts the Folk Exchange's open mic night.

The Choose Your Charity Concert Series continues at the Winnipeg Free Press News Café with HAYLEY GENE. See story on page 11.

If you're in the mood for jazz the WALLE LARSON TRIO performs at Aqua Books.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

Local folkies RED MOON ROAD's long-awaited debut album premieres at the WECC with BOG RIVER. See story on page 11.

THE RIPPERZ rip it up with ACRES OF LIONS and DANGER CAT at the Lo Pub.

THE ENGLISH MOCASSINS morph into the IRISH MOCASSINS for St. Paddy's at the Cavern.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day right at the ol' Shannon's Irish Pub with BANSHEES WAIL and THE

DUST RHINOS.

There's a St. Patrick's Party at the Zoo with SPLIT LIP GRIN, WHEN PLANETS ALIGN, EL DIABLO and O.C.D.

The St. Patrick's Day AFTER DARK PARTY is at Ozzy's.

Pop Soda's hosts THE FORTUNATE ISLES, SIDNEY YORK and VIOLENT KIN.

St. Paddy's at the Times Change(d) features DEBRA LYN NEUFELD, GORD KIDDER and THE WIND-UPS.

Celebrate All Snakes Day at the Standard with THE REPUBLIC OF CHAMPIONS and ROCK LAKE. GRIPPIN' GRAIN is back at the Pyramid.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Tough Cookie SAMANTHA SAVAGE SMITH is finally coming to town with local franco-folk act MARIJOSEE opening at the WECC.

DARCY TOEWS performs at Pop Soda's.

B.C. metal act QUARTERED plays Ozzy's.

BIG DAVE MCLEAN does his weekly jam at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

MONDAY, MARCH 19

The JD EDWARDS BAND rocks the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

THE MACLEAN BROTHERS plays the Royal George on Regent.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Juno-nominated folk act THE ONCE plays the Park Theatre. See story below.

The should-be-Juno-nominated MAGNIFICENT 7'S play the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club.

It's soul night at the Cavern with DR. HOTBOT-TOM & THE SOUL RX.

Blues-rock act HEAD OF THE HERD plays Pop Soda's.

Montreal metal act THE GREAT SABATINI performs at the Zoo to celebrate the release of *Matterhorn*, a 12" being released by Winnipeg's No List Records.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

NEW MUSIC WEDNESDAYS continue at Ozzy's

this week featuring THE UNBELIEVABLE BARGAINS.

TIM BUTLER plays the Blues at the Bella, 53 Maryland.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Local indie-rock act THE HOOTS CD release is at the Lo Pub with THE BOKONONISTS and VAMPPIRES on Thursday, March 22.

Ex-Can front man DAMO SUZUKI will be at the West End Cultural Centre March 22.

Before heading west on tour, THE NOBLE THIEFS play one more local gig at the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club on Thursday, March 22.

After months of waiting THE RED RIVER RAMPAGE is finally happening on Friday, March 23 at the Burton Cummings Theatre featuring PROPAGANDHI, DREADNAUT, ASADO and more.

Rockabilly legend BIG JOHN BATES plays the Pyramid on Tuesday, March 27 with MURDER BY DEATH and NORTHCOTE.

Folk Fest favourite THE CAT EMPIRE plays the Garrick Centre on Wednesday, April 4.

JOEL PLASKETT and FRANK TURNER play the Garrick Centre on Saturday, April 21.

SOCIAL DISTORTION play the Burt on Monday, April 23.

GREAT LAKE SWIMMERS are back at the WECC on Friday, May 4.

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. It's free. It's easy.

**MORE MUSIC THIS WEEK****ROB CROOKS**

Rob Crooks is a man who is good with his hands. From his hand-cut construction paper posters for his *Hearts* EP release party, to his beats, Crooks does it digital-ly.

This is Crooks' first solo release under his birth name. The disc, which is all sampled from vinyl and sequenced live (no laptops for Crooks), is different than his previous projects, and particularly unique to the music he writes for Magnum KI.

"Why now?" Crooks ponders. "I guess I just had these songs that were kind of different and kind of weird, and I just felt like, instead of letting them just go to waste, like I've done with so many songs in the past, I felt like I was really proud of these songs and I really wanted people to hear them."

The MC doesn't feel he can be pigeon-holed.

"I feel like I don't need to be part of any genre, or I don't necessarily fit into any one box. I can just make songs and they don't have to fit any sort of mould."

Crooks uses the term "post-rap" to describe the EP.

"I kind of hate that term, but at the same time, it might be used to describe what I'm doing. Despite the way it's made, which is not so far from how traditional hip-hop is made, it's got a really indie rock feel."

The *Hearts* EP release party happens at Lo Pub Thursday, March 15. Doors at 9 pm. The night also features Nestor Wynrush and Two Rocks of Stone. Admission is \$5 - \$10 gets you in, plus a copy of the EP.

Visit www.robcrooks.com.

- KAELEIGH AYRE

**VIRIDIANS**

No longer amused.

When two musicians left local ambient instrumental band Amuse in 2010, remaining members Zach Allard (guitar), Neil Exell (bass) and Joseph Hopfner (drums) recruited guitarist Shane Patience and began writing new material. They also added vocals (Allard and Hopfner both take turns at the mic) and changed their name to Viridians.

"We're really trying to create something that's totally new," Allard says. "It's a lot more challenging technically (than Amuse was). I guess (Viridians) draws from metal and from prog rock, but it's not really aggressive in any way - it's still very melody-based. Everybody can enjoy it - it doesn't take a lot out of you to listen to."

The band will release its first CD next month. They tracked the drums for the five-song, 35-minute disc at jazz guitarist Larry Roy's studio, and then Allard and Hopfner recorded the rest of the instruments themselves in various basements and jam spaces.

The title of the CD, *Again, Dangerous Visions*, is a nod to Amuse.

"The album was originally supposed to be called just *Visions*, but *Again, Dangerous Visions* was kind of our flagship song (as Amuse) that a lot of people know. It was kind of our anthem, I guess you could say. So we thought it would be a nice tongue-in-cheek nod to what we were doing before."

See Viridians live this Friday, March 16 at Frame Arts Warehouse (318 Ross Ave.) with Electro Quarterstaff and The Calculus Affair. Doors open at 8:30 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. Admission is \$7.

The band also plays Ozzy's on Wednesday, March 28, and releases its album on Thursday, April 12 at the Lo Pub with Calabi-Yau and Mahogany Frog.

Visit <http://viridians.bandcamp.com>.

- AARON EPP

**THE ONCE**

It's not quite rags to riches, but in Canada, it doesn't get much better.

The members of Newfoundland trio The Once started out their artistic careers as actors at Trinity's Rising Tide Theatre Company, and eventually morphed into the sparse bluegrass trio that has two albums and a 2012 Juno nomination.

"The chemistry was there from the start," band member Andrew Dale told the *Weekend Telegram*. "If we had to make an effort to make music work between the three of us it probably wouldn't have gone this far, but because there was chemistry right from the start and things just clicked, we got a charge and just wanted to keep going."

Dale is joined in The Once by Phil Churchill and Geraldine Hollett, who in 2009 released their self-titled debut. It features new versions of old standards as well as fresh takes on a few recent pop classics penned by the likes of Tom Waits and Leonard Cohen.

That disc garnered them several East Coast Music and Canadian Folk Music awards, and got them signed to Borealis Records.

Last fall, The Once quietly released *Row Upon Row of the People They Know* to an unassuming audience that would quickly eat it up. There's sugary sweet sounds and one Queen cover that will surely make its way onto many a wedding's dancefloor (*You're My Best Friend*).

"We love *A Night at the Opera*," Hollett said during a radio interview with The East Coast Kitchen Party. "We actually sang that song for a wedding, a couple of friends of ours got married, one of them engineered both of our albums. We gotta do something different - we can't be Queen. We're not Queen!"

Catch The Once at the Park Theatre on Tuesday, March 20. Visit www.theonce.ca.

- NICHOLAS FRIESEN



Treats and schmoozin'

Twenty-nine Manitoba bands set to showcase at Canadian Music Week, SXSW this March

JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI
VOLUNTEER STAFF

Over two-dozen Manitoba-based bands are slated to play two upcoming music festivals - South by Southwest (SXSW) in Austin, Texas and Canadian Music Week (CMW) in Toronto.

Nine hometown favourites, including Royal Canoe and Les Jupes, will venture south of the border for SXSW and 20 of the province's finest will be heading to CMW.

Among the CMW performers are Imaginary Cities and Del Barber.

Winnipegger Jean-Guy Roy's indie-rock quartet Federal Lights is making its CMW debut this year and Roy relishes that opportunity.

"It's heavy duty schmooze, but it's a pretty fun environment in which to do it."

- SARA STASIUK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MANITOBA MUSIC

"Anytime that you can get out of the province and play for a potential audience that really has no idea who you are, it's always a little more exciting and a little more nerve wracking," says Roy.

Cannon Bros's Alannah Walker and Cole Woods are road-tripping from Winnipeg to Austin to play the closing slot of the Manitoba Music showcase March 15 at SXSW.

Asked how they're preparing in the lead-up to the show, Woods jokes he's been making lots of cut-off shorts and applying sunscreen.

"It's going to be super awesome even to be in Austin," says Walker. "It's exciting that a lot of Manitoba bands are getting more attention it seems."

With 900 bands on the ballot for CMW and more than 2,000 geared up to play SXSW, our local talent will definitely have to make an impact to get noticed.

The team at Manitoba Music hopes to be as helpful as possible during this process. An excellent resource for artists and other industry members alike, the skills and experience



SUPPLIED

Local pop band Imaginary Cities performs at the 2011 South by Southwest. This year, the quintet is one of a handful of Winnipeg bands performing at the acclaimed music festival in Austin, Texas.

of the staff at this not-for-profit organization are invaluable.

Sara Stasiuk, Manitoba Music's executive director, lists export readiness training, one-on-one consultations and goal setting as some focus areas for the performers before festivals.

"We kind of try and be an extension of their team," Stasiuk explains. "We try and help them attract the people that they want to see them play live, get them into the room and introduce them to the bands."

Myriad networking possibilities await at these annual events, both for acts looking to

find representation and execs looking for the "next big thing" in music.

"It's heavy duty schmooze, but it's a pretty fun environment in which to do it," Stasiuk says.

Having worked with Manitoba Music for 10 years, Stasiuk has made many contacts within the industry. However, making good connections amongst her pre-existing contacts can be tricky.

"The better we know the individuals, the better we are at recommending the individuals that might be a fit, but often it's just a crapshoot," she says.

The recipe for success certainly involves luck, though talent and perseverance are what's predominantly needed.

"First and foremost, the songs have to be there," Stasiuk says. "The right people need to hear your music, but you need to know who the right people are."

And don't forget to have some personality.

"If you just shove a flyer in someone's face and say 'We're playing at 8 o'clock at Club X,' they won't feel any real reason to go," Stasiuk says. "Often if people like you as a human, they'll come see your band."

Rock 'n' roll animal

Friends remember recently deceased Winnipeg musician Anthony Bueno

NICHOLAS FRIESEN
ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

If you ever caught punk quartet The Squareheads during its short tenure as Winnipeg's most dangerous band, you walked away from the show with one thing on your mind:

"That front man was fucking amazing."

Anthony Bueno was fucking amazing, and the 34-year-old vocalist (who was also a big film and wrestling enthusiast) carried with him an unpredictable and heartwarming spirit.

Known to go off like a cannon as often as he was to call you just to say "Hi," everyone's favourite man about town sadly passed away earlier this month due to complications with diabetes at the age of 34.

"Whenever I went to a Squareheads show, I knew I'd be entertained," said Jimmy Shand, drummer for Kato Destroy and one-time Squarehead. "His onstage persona wasn't just 'onstage,' it translated to real life. He could be a handful, but his heart was in the right place all the time."

"The funniest was he mentioned starting an 'All-Filipino' rock band, and asked if I wanted to be the drummer, because only a few people would 'get it' (me being half-Filipino); I never knew if he was serious about it or not."

After Bueno's death, friends quickly set up a Facebook group dedicated to Bueno's memory.

"First local rock show I ever saw in the city was The Squareheads with Hot Live



CORY PENNER

Anthony Bueno and the Squareheads live at the Royal Albert Arms in the good ol' days.

Guys and The Quiffs at The Albert," Grandview transplant/Winnipeg music writer Jared Story posted on the group's wall. "Talk about setting the bar high."

Photographer Karen Asher posted a memory of running into Bueno a few months ago and having an emotional heart to heart conversation.

"I told him that I hadn't been feeling so hot, and Anthony didn't let a couple of weeks pass without calling to check in," Asher remembers. "On the surface, Anthony may have looked a bit rough around the edges, but he was a truly kind and beautiful soul."

"I've always been more of a quiet kind of guy, but being around Anthony's boisterous

personality always made me feel like I was something more and just as much a part of his never-ending party," Bueno's longtime friend, Dan Feriolo, said via Facebook.

The two bonded over wrestling magazines at Tec Voc High School.

"He brought me places I would have never seen otherwise and introduced me to amazing friends that I would have otherwise never met. Together we shared a love of wrestling, trashy movies, music, food, friends, creativity, humour, etc."

Quinzy front man and former Hot Live Guys bassist Sandy Taronno observed many a Squareheads gig.

"During the mayhem, it was impossible to

avert your gaze from the man, and for safety's sake, it was best not to," Taronno wrote in a recent blog post. "Stocky, side-burned and crazy-eyed like hell. A monstrous toddler mid-tantrum, stomping around the stage, tossing beer bottles hither and thither, bellowing like a raptor, he oozed and dripped and spat charisma. It would get on you."

To say that Bueno will be sorely missed is an understatement.

"Bueno was truly a saint," longtime friend April Barlow said via Facebook. "Indeed, (he was) the King of Winnipeg. A king who would gather up all of his subjects, lend them some comics and say 'You're alright' to each one."

FILM



THE DESERT OF FORBIDDEN ART is showing at Cinematheque from March 14 until March 22 at 7 p.m. Co-directors Amanda Pope and Tchavdar Georgiev spent six years uncovering the story of an obsessed art collector named Igor Savitsky who spent years amassing a treasure trove of banned avant-garde Russian artworks now worth millions, rescuing them from under beds and in dusty old closets. The film will be introduced by Myroslav Shkandrij on Thursday, March 15. For more info and a full schedule go to www.winnipegfilmgroup.com

Winnipeg filmmaking collective ASTRON-6 has teamed up with splatter kings TROMA-6 to present FATHER'S DAY on Friday, March 16 at 10 p.m. Winner of Best Feature and Audience Award at the 2011 Toronto After Dark Festival, *Father's Day* is an offside thrill ride about a cannibalistic, dad-defiling psychopath and the one-eyed, well-armed vigilante desperate to stop him. There will be opening night Q & A on Friday, March 16 with Adam Brooks and Jeremy Gillespie. The film shows nightly until Saturday, March 24. For more info and a full schedule go to www.winnipegfilmgroup.com. See story on page 10.

The Gimli Film Festival is now accepting submissions for the 2012 festival. Go to <http://www.gimlifilm.com/call-for-submissions/> to submit.

LITERATURE

RICHARD MARCEAU's book launch for A QUEBEC JEW: FROM BLOC QUEBECOIS TO JEWISH ACTIVIST is on Thursday, March 15 at 7 p.m. in the Atrium at McNally Robinson. Tearing down stereotypes about Jews, Richard Marceau tells us about himself, using his own story to convey Jewish history and culture.



IRSHAD MANJI is in conversation in support of her work ALLAH, LIBERTY AND LOVE: THE COURAGE TO RECONCILE FAITH AND FREEDOM on Wednesday March 21 at 7 p.m. at McNally Robinson. Irshad Manji teaches moral courage at New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. A *Globe and Mail* columnist, she is also a scholar with the European Foundation for Democracy. Irshad is joined in conversation this evening by Marilou McPhedran, head of the University of Winnipeg Global College and an international human rights lawyer.

DEBORAH STIENSTRA's book launch for ABOUT CANADA: DISABILITY RIGHTS is on Thursday, March 22 at 7 p.m. at McNally Robinson. Through a close examination of employment, education, transportation, telecommunications and healthcare, *About Canada: Disability Rights* explores the landscape of disability rights in Canada and finds that, while important advances have been made, Canadians with disabilities still experience significant barriers in obtaining their human rights. Deborah Stienstra is a professor in disability studies at the University of Manitoba.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

NOWSCAPES, paintings and photographs by ALERRY LAVITT, shows at the Gas Station Arts Centre until March 23.

PLUG IN ICA presents A MOON OR A BUTTON, LIKE-MINDED and AND ALL WATCHED OVER BY MACHINES OF LOVING GRACE. All three exhibitions show until Sunday, March 25.

Semai Gallery presents COLLECTIVE AMNESIA by JOSH KERSCHTIEN until March 31 at 264 McDermot Ave.

Wayne Arthur Gallery presents NEW WORKS IN BLUE AND GREEN, mixed-media art by Jean Wiens continues until Tuesday, April 3 at 186 Provencher Blvd.

VISUAL ART PREVIEWS

Martha Street living

Manitoba Printmakers' Association gets back to basics with *New Work*

KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

Great things are happening down on Martha Street.

Housed at 11 Martha St., the Manitoba Printmakers' Association is currently showcasing a selection of works created over the past year at the beautiful studio in the theatre district.

Aptly named *New Work*, the exhibition features 20 pieces by local artists and members of the association and studio, both amateur and professional. Coordinated by professional programming coordinator Suzie Smith, the works were chosen by a selection committee, and feature a wide range of mediums and techniques.

"There's screen printing, mono print, lithography, digital printing, linocut and combinations of all those different techniques as well," Smith says.

"It's basically celebrating the work that's been done at the studio over the past year," she adds regarding the show's overarching theme. "There's a range of different stuff, it's a total mix, but I think it goes together."

The exhibit opened on March 2. Smith says the event was a great success.

"It was the first time we had tagged on to the First Fridays (the monthly "first of the month" Exchange gallery and café event series), and so we marketed ourselves as the first stop for First Fridays.

"(There was a) great turn out, and I think people in the community were excited to see so many local people's work all up at once."

All of the works are very striking, hanging on the stark white walls in the brightly lit space.

The collection includes works by Scott Bensiinaabandan, an Anishinabe artist based in Winnipeg and Toronto who works in photography, printmaking and video, among other media.

It also features works by Lisa Wood, Richard Dyck, Robert Pasternak and, new to the scene, Lisa Jorgensen.

Jorgensen, 25, is a recent graduate of the fine arts program at the University of Manitoba. She enjoys working on graphic novels, and her work that is featured in the exhibition is a screen-printed graphic novel featuring the character of Sabrina in an original story.

"Screen printing a graphic novel is a big pro-



MIRIAM RUDOLPH

"Red River Trail," a hand-coloured etching by local artist Miriam Rudolph, is part of the *New Work* exhibit at Martha Street Studios.

cess," Jorgensen says. "It involves a lot of time and energy, but it's worth all the work in the end. That's when you can hold it in your hands and say, 'I made all of this with my bare hands!' It's infinitely more satisfying than printing it with an offset printer.

"When you commit to your craft you have to accept the challenges and hard work that comes with it. It's like running a marathon. I definitely plan on printing more in the future."

Jorgensen began classes at Martha Street Studio a few years ago, and says she loved the studio from the beginning.

"The atmosphere is relaxed and the creative people who come in and out are amazing. The

staff has always been wonderful to me. They make you feel welcome and encouraged when you're there. I have grown so much as an artist since I started going there, and have met some truly talented and driven individuals."

Jorgensen hopes to compile a large body of work over the next year at the studio so that she can hold her own show within the space.

New Work runs until April 6, Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 11 Martha St. Admission is free. Visit www.printmakers.mb.ca or call 204-779-6253 for more information.

Leah Decter: Expressing ideas and engaging her audience

JUSTIN LUSCHINSKI
BEAT REPORTER

Leah Decter is giving an artist talk this week, and she certainly has a lot of work and accomplishments to reflect on.

The Winnipeg-based multi-media artist has been practising her art since 1990. Her exhibits have appeared across North America and around the world in the UK, Australia and Europe. She's won numerous grants and awards such as the Manitoba Arts Council Student Bursary Award.

Now she is speaking at Ace Art in their "Artist Talk" series, to reflect on developments in her practice over the past decade, as well as how she's been successful for so many years.

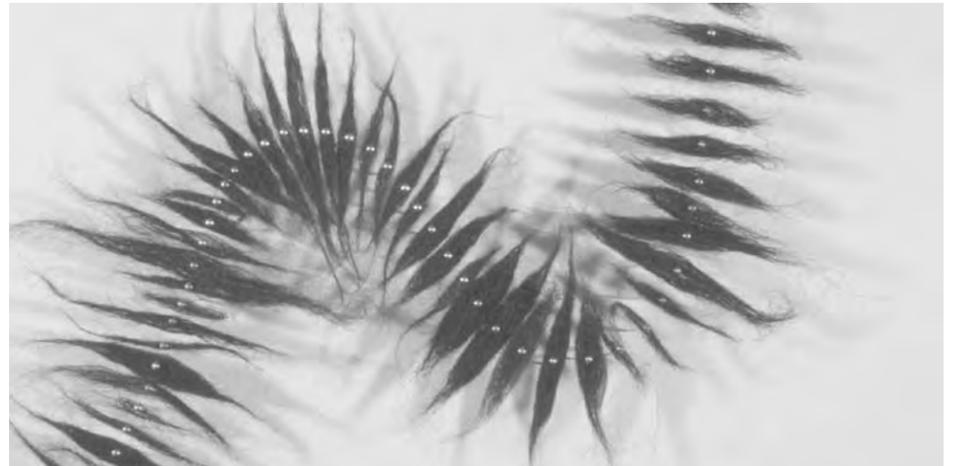
Decter says that she's been an artist for as long as she could remember.

"I have always made things," she says. "I started to become serious about art when I went to art school. There was never a time where I didn't create in some way. Since then, I've had an active art practice for over 15 years."

Decter feels that there are many ways to reach people. In her lecture, she will be talking about the "thematic and conceptual elements" of her work and her approach, by highlighting a selection of pieces from 2005.

"I choose my media based on what will best express the ideas I am working with and what will be most effective in engaging an audience in the way that I want to engage them. People all accept stimuli in different ways, and not every medium works for every person."

Decter believes social issues are integral to her work.



LEAH DECTER

"Untitled (Wig)" by Leah Decter.

"My work is often based in explorations of social and political issues that intersect with my experience. As part of an integrative research practice my art production is an important part of how I think through complex issues. From the perspective of a viewer or audience, art has a unique capacity to highlight issues by conveying their complexity and provoking thought rather than providing answers."

Decter, along with Jamie Isaac, started the "(Official Denial) Trade Value In Progress" project. It was created to respond to Stephen Harper's comments at a G20 Summit, where he stated that "we also have no history of colonialism."

The project used his comment to start a dialogue with aboriginal and non-aboriginal peo-

ple, coming together as a textile piece made up of Hudson Bay blankets. People can send in responses to Harper's statement, provide a venue to exhibit the blanket, or even contribute to the blanket themselves.

But Decter has decided to focus her upcoming talk on her entire career, rather than the textile.

"I've decided to stop talking about it. Since I started it, I've been doing talks about it almost non-stop. For this engagement, they told me to talk about my work around my whole career, so I decided to leave it be."

Leah Decter will give an artist talk at Ace Art on Thursday, March 15 at 7 p.m. Visit www.aceart.org and www.leahdecter.com.

THEATRE PREVIEWS

An extraordinary, emotionally charged masterwork

Winnipeg Jewish Theatre tackles award-winning *Angels in America*MATTHEW TENBRUGGENCATE
VOLUNTEER STAFF

WORKING WITH ANGELS

Angels in America can't be called "just another play." It would be like calling Arcade Fire's *Neon Bible* a decent LP, or saying *Mad Men* is an OK period piece.

The sprawling, emotionally charged masterwork by American playwright Tony Kushner ranges from New York to Heaven to Antarctica as a cast of gay men, Mormons, angels and hallucinations intersect during the AIDS crisis and Reagan administration of late 1980s America.

It stretches over two parts - *Millennium Approaches* and *Perestroika*. It's won the Pulitzer and Tony awards. Its HBO miniseries adaptation (featuring Meryl Streep, Al Pacino and Emma Thompson) was also showered with Emmys and Golden Globes.

So don't be surprised that the cast and crew working on Winnipeg Jewish Theatre's run of *Angels* - the first part opening on March 21, the second in the fall - are being touched in different ways by the play.

That's what happens when you work with angels.

THE FLESH

The day before our interview, Michael Rubinfeld rehearsed anal sex.

"It was fine. It was just a scene," he says. "He wasn't really giving me anal sex - it might have been a different story if he actually penetrated me."

The former Winnipegger is playing Louis Ironson in *Angels*. Ironson abandons his AIDS-infected lover early in the play, eventually hooking up with the deeply closeted (and married) Mormon lawyer Joe Pitt.

Their encounters are edgy, to put it mildly. "Actually, it was kind of fun," Rubinfeld continues. "I like the feeling of being uncomfortable in rehearsal - myself and others around me. It makes me feel, oddly, more comfortable. It's a fun social experiment to see people giggly and curious. And everyone was super giddy, it's such a tense scene."

The actor points to other productions of *Angels* now running in New York and Philadelphia as signs of a renewed interest in the play and a reaction against resurging conservative politics in North America.

"It's speaking to so many relevant conversations. It was written in the mid-90s but if you change around a few names, the western world is still having so many of the same conversations."

"It's just a great fucking play."

THE HEART

"I've heard the part of Prior described as one of those Everest parts," says Ryan Miller, speak-



DYLAN HEWLETT

In WJT's *Angels in America*, Michael Rubinfeld plays a man who hooks up with a deeply closeted (and married) Mormon lawyer.

ing about his role. "It doesn't scare me when people say 'I'm so looking forward to seeing this play,' but when they say 'Oh! That's a big part,' it sort of snaps me back into reality and makes me ask if I'm capable of doing this."

Miller is making his professional stage debut with WJT as Prior Walter, the AIDS infected, prophetically gifted character *Angels* revolves around.

A core member of local sketch comedy troupe Hot Thespian Action, Miller admits to being intimidated by both the part and his more accomplished fellow actors. He draws on powerful personal experiences, however, to rise to the challenge of being *Angels*' moral centre.

"Not that I have AIDS and my lover is leaving me, but I always relate my situation in the play to when my dad passed away from cancer. It was very quick, it was very sudden. So it feels like similar storylines, you know?" he says.

"The way Prior deteriorates very quickly into just shitting blood and he's dying in front of the audience's eyes - we watched my dad deteriorate right in front of our eyes. It happened so quickly and it was just so earth shattering. So I'm able to relate to my character that way. Not that I've gone through a horrible disease of my own, but I've watched it."

THE SOUL

"When I programmed this play, I was still married," says Michael Nathanson, artistic producer of WJT. "I find myself separated from my wife currently - and my children - so *Angels* connects on an extraordinarily primal level for me right now. About the pain involved in relationships."

Nathanson came on board as WJT's Artistic Producer in 2006, in time to see his two-hander *Talk* produced that fall (and go on to be nominated for the Governor General's Award). Since then, he's programmed seasons combining new work, Canadian premieres and classics.

Angels in America, with its large cast and fantastical plot, might be his most challenging choice yet.

"It's this amazingly vital, heartfelt, human exploration of our need for other people. And it's impossible to listen to this play, let alone watch it, and not come away moved and changed."

Angels in America: Millennium Approaches runs Wednesday, March 21 to Sunday, April 1 at Winnipeg Jewish Theatre (Asper Community Campus, Berney Theatre - 123 Doncaster St.). Details and tickets are available at www.wjt.ca.

MTC serves up verbal fencing match in *God of Carnage*KAELEIGH AYRE
ARTS REPORTER

Yasmina Reza's *God of Carnage* begins innocently enough.

A playground incident causes two sets of parents to meet to discuss how they should go forward with their boys. However, with the heated topic of opinions on parenting the issue of the night, things slowly devolve from keeping up appearances to full-out war between the couples.

Reza's Tony and Olivier award-winning verbal battle is being presented by the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre March 15 to April 7 at the John Hirsch Mainstage.

Originally presented in French in 2006, the 90-minute play was translated into English and premiered in 2008. Made up of four players, the original British and American casts featured big names, including Ralph Fiennes, Janet McTeer, Jeff Daniels, Hope Davis, James Gandolfini, and Marcia Gay Harden, respectively.

It was also adapted into Roman Polanski's *Carnage* last year starring Kate Winslet.

Directed by Miles Potter, the couples for the

MTC production are comprised of actors Oliver Becker, Shauna Black, John Cassini and Vickie Papavs.

Cassini plays Alan Raleigh, the father of the aggressor, who knocks the Novaks' boy's teeth out with a stick following an argument.

"I've been enjoying the play immensely," Cassini says over the phone from his hotel room. "It's a challenging play. One of the things that attracted me to this play, mostly, was how verbal it was. I was really excited to delve into the amount of text, and the way that these guys function - they really use words as their weapons. We're working really hard at making that come alive, and Miles (the director) is really great at guiding us."

The action of the play is contained entirely in the living room of one of the family's apartment.

"It's the equivalent of a fencing match, but with words. And of course, all hell breaks loose. That's what happens when parents try to tell other parents how to parent their own children. It's never a good idea."

Originally from Toronto, Cassini splits his time between Vancouver and Los Angeles. He has an extensive resumé with credits on both

the stage and the screen, but no role could prepare him for *God of Carnage* quite like his daily role as a father.

"I have two boys, so I know well of this," he says. "One of the things that also attracted me is that I do have kids, and I do understand that you can be very civil and try to be very respectful about situations, but when someone does discuss your kid or tries to step in and judge your child, something happens. It's in your DNA. Your back goes up. There's a lot of fuel there, and it's very organic in the script."

While Cassini has experienced this situation from the point of view of the parent of the victim, he has no problem coming to the defence of his scripted child.

"Alan does come from a different place than I am as a person, but I can see his side, and that's why I think the play is so wonderfully written."

"Regardless of who you are, maybe what side you lean to naturally (politically), it's written well enough where you can see the validity in what the other person is saying."

God of Carnage plays from Thursday, March 15 to Saturday, April 7 at the John Hirsch Mainstage. Visit www.mtc.mb.ca for more information.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

UNTITLED by MARIGOLD SANTOS shows at Aceartinc., 290 McDermot, until April 5.

Gallery 1C03 and Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre present I LIKE TO BELIEVE I AM TELLING THE TRUTH by CHRIS REID until April 14.

Platform Centre presents SUSPICIOUS FUTURES, select video work by SUSAN BRITTON, until April 21 at 121-100 Arthur St.

MIGRATING LANDSCAPES: THE NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE COMPETITION regional winners will be showing at the Winnipeg Art Gallery until April 29.



The WAG is showing AMERICAN CHRONICLES: THE ART OF NORMAN ROCKWELL until May 20.

OUR CANADA by MARY VALENTINE and DAVID OWEN LUCAS shows at the Buhler Gallery at the St. Boniface Hospital until Sunday, May 20.

The Manitoba Museum presents CIRCUS! SCIENCE UNDER THE BIG TOP. The exhibition 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.

THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

Fringe hit COUNTRIES SHAPED LIKE STARS plays until Saturday, March 17 at 8 p.m. at Studio 320, 70 Albert St. Meet Gwendolyn Magnificent and Bartholomew Spectacular - a duo whose love story is best heard through a tin can telephone. With water glasses, whirly winds, a mandolin and performer-operated lighting, they create the images and sounds of a landscape forever altered by regret. Go to www.winnipegfringe.com for more information.

Ukrainian-American Comedian DANIEL KINNO will probably feel right at home in Winnipeg. He performs at Rumor's nightly until March 17.

The WSO presents BROADWAY VOICES featuring LAKISHA JONES (2007 American Idol finalist) and DOUG LABRECQUE performing alongside Broadway star and Tony Award-nominated CHRISTIANE NOLL on March 16 and March 17 at 8 p.m. and March 18 at 2 p.m. at the Centennial Concert Hall.



British comedian DANNY BHOY will be at the Burton Cummings Theatre on Tuesday, March 20.

Winnipeg Jewish Theatre presents ANGELS IN AMERICA, based on the hit play and miniseries. The show plays nightly at 8 p.m. from Wednesday, March 21 until April 1 at 123 Doncaster Street call 204-477-7478 for tickets or more information.

AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY, the Pulitzer Prize-winning tragic comedy about one dysfunctional family, is showing at the Tom Hendry Warehouse until March 24 for more information go to www.mtc.mb.ca.

GOD OF CARNAGE is showing at the John Hirsch Mainstage until April 7. In Yasmina Reza's Tony and Olivier award-winning comedy, two couples start out with good intentions when they meet to discuss a playground scrap between their children. However, the façade of politeness and social niceties soon fades away, revealing a nastier and possibly more human side. It's a suburban knock 'em down, drag 'em out battle with espresso and clafoutis.

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

Shaw TV's WEEK THUS FAR tapes in front of live studio audience at The King's Head every Monday at 7:30 p.m.

DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER

An evening with Margo Goodhand



THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2012
7:30pm to 9:00pm

University of Winnipeg, Convocation Hall
515 Portage Avenue, 2nd Floor Wesley Hall
(Castle Bldg.)

RECEPTION AT 6:30PM IN THE
FACULTY CLUB, 4TH FLOOR WESLEY HALL

\$25 for Professionals

\$10 for Students

Tickets available at infobooth

All proceeds to UW Scholarships & Bursaries

Sponsored by the UW Alumni Association & The Uniter

THE **UNITER**

CULTURE TODAY

Party like it's prohibition

Making wine and beer at home can cut your social lubricant costs significantly



MATTHEW SAWATZKY

Nathan Koop, president of the Winnipeg Brew Bombers homebrew club, stands in his workshop. People often think brewing their own wine and beer is more difficult than it actually is, says Steven de Groot, manager at Moonshiners Unlimited.

AARON SNIDER
CULTURE REPORTER

If you've ever spoken to someone from Europe, or even from Quebec, you're probably aware that Manitobans pay a relatively huge amount of money for the same brands of beer and wine.

But a little ingenuity can fix that inequity.

For a small investment of time, energy and patience, you can drink yourself silly for a fraction of the cost.

"I don't think I've ever had someone come back and say that their first batch was totally messed up."

- STEVEN DE GROOT, MANAGER, MOONSHINERS UNLIMITED

Brewing wine and beer in the comfort of your own home might sound like a terrible idea to the uninitiated, but it's actually pretty straightforward.

"People seem to think that it's going to be more difficult than it really is," says Steven de Groot, manager at Moonshiners Unlimited. "Once I explain the process to them, they feel much more comfortable."

De Groot says that many of his first-time customers ask him how many batches it will take before they can expect to produce a quality product. He tells them that if they follow the instructions, there's little opportunity for things to go terribly wrong.

"I don't think I've ever had someone come back and say that their first batch was totally messed up," he says.

You don't have to convert your basement into a lab, either.

"Most people generally have a desk or just a corner in their basement to store the stuff," de Groot says.

Probably the most unnerving part of the process is the waiting. A batch of beer or wine can take anywhere from four to six weeks to complete, depending on the kit.

While this may sound like a recipe for eternal hardship and toil, de Groot estimates that the hands-on work required for the process is somewhere around an hour and a half for wine or a bit less for beer. A large part of this is sanitizing used bottles, which is a great way to keep costs low.

But what are these low costs, you ask? After an initial investment of \$70 to \$80 on all the necessary equipment, wine kits go from around \$45 all the way to \$115. Beer kits are even cheaper at \$21 to \$27.

All kits, whether beer or wine, produce 23 litres. That's the equivalent of 37 standard bottles of wine or 66 bottles of beer.

All these numbers mean wine for loonies and toonies and beer for mere quarters.

De Groot says that a \$1.50 bottle of home-made wine is roughly equivalent to the lower range of wine found at most stores for \$8-\$10. The \$4 stuff is off the charts.

"You might not be able to find anything that nice at the MLCC," de Groot says. "But you'd be spending at least \$25 or \$30 dollars on that type of wine."

If those price differences seem absurd, you're not alone in thinking so.

"I really have no idea as to how they can possibly charge that much, to be honest," de Groot says. "It just seems completely ludicrous."

"The equipment plus the wine is cheaper than buying equivalent wine at the Liquor Mart."



CHECK OUT THE UNITER ON FACEBOOK
WWW.TINYURL.COM/THEUNITER

CULTURE TODAY

I "liked" it on Facebook, what else do you want from me?

What does it take to get Canadians protesting in the streets?

AARON SNIDER
CULTURE REPORTER

The federal government is looking to cut costs and tighten the national belt.

Some people have even mentioned that dirty word, *austerity*.

It all brings to mind an image of the Athenian skyline, obscured by tear gas, smoke and thousands of raised fists.

But will Canadians take to the streets like so many others? Will riot police deploy to Winnipeg streets to battle the crowds? It doesn't seem likely.

The Manitoba Legislature, probably the most active venue for public protest gatherings in Winnipeg, isn't exactly booked solid.

When people gather to show their collective distaste for government policy, the numbers are pretty humble by Greek standards.

A gathering last September to protest the Federal crime bill C-10 drew around 300 people. The Canadian Federation of Student's February 1 Day of Action rally against rising post-secondary tuition fees drew roughly 350 students and supporters.

These numbers are a far cry from the estimated 30,000 to 50,000 students involved in tuition rise protests in London in November 2010 or the 25,000 to 60,000 Russian demonstrators who gathered in Moscow in December to call for new parliamentary elections.

Perhaps Winnipeg is not the most ideal Canadian comparison.

G20 protests in Toronto in June 2010 drew an estimated 10,000 demonstrators. Police action during that weekend also went down as the largest mass arrest in Canadian history.

"In the case of the G20, I believe that the protests themselves were poorly planned and badly orchestrated, but this was primarily a result of the immense police brutality and crackdown on any dissent in the city in the days and months before," says Chris Webb, a York University graduate student who participated in the G20 demonstrations.

Despite a less-than-perfect execution, Webb still says that protest is necessary.

"I think history teaches us very clearly that in order to create lasting and progressive



TRAVIS ROSS/ UNITER ARCHIVES

Canadians took to the streets last year when the Occupy movement swept across North America, but some wonder why people today don't protest more often.

change that benefits poor and working people, we need to voice our opposition relentlessly," says Webb. "The alternative is simply too horrifying."

"Sometimes marches and rallies don't seem to make any difference, and petitions unravel as soon as we deliver them," says Mary McCandless, chair of the Winnipeg chapter of the Council of Canadians, a citizens' organization that promotes progressive policies on social and economic issues. "Until we get to look back years later when all those tiny threads form one big splash of world-changing colour."

"Other times - well, maybe the world didn't change after all. And maybe that's all right, because that seemingly insignificant action helped prepare the ground for the next generation."

"Is protest necessary? Always," says Webb. "Is it always effective? No."

If protest is so necessary, why don't Canadians do more of it? McCandless says it is a function of a cultural aversion to conflict rather than widespread apathy.

"As a nation, we are still likely to be more polite and less visibly passionate about

almost anything," McCandless says. "We are circumspect in our behaviour, anxious to avoid causing offence and eager to explain away conflict as a misunderstanding."

Canadians seem to be fans of the slow and steady, letting things happen at a manageable pace without rocking the boat too much.

"In general, I think Canadian political culture is such that it places value in institutions and institutional change," says Webb. "But I think this could change."

Both Webb and McCandless note that the change may have already begun.

A combination of government scandals and increased access to information and discussion about these scandals are making more Canadians get involved.

"The crime bill, Bill C-30, the robocall scandal, the expensive and unnecessary F-35 fighter jets - Canadians are finding out about a lot of things thanks to the Internet, alternative news, citizen journalism and organizations like LeadNow," says McCandless.

Until recently, media was a major impediment to Canadian protest action, says Trevor Semotok, another member of the Council of Canadians Winnipeg chapter.

"Canadians protest less as a function of poor mass media," Semotok says. "Greece and the U.K. have a functional press for non-corporate news, whereas our media equates voter suppression with dirty tricks."

But scandals aside, Webb says that when more fundamental aspects of Canadian society begin to be threatened, people might be forced to get involved.

"Canada has a fairly robust welfare state, but I think this is changing under Harper and I hope we see a groundswell of opposition to further cuts and austerity," Webb says.

McCandless agrees.

Canadians might be too polite sometimes, but there are limits.

"Real protest will come slowly as we begin to accept that today's Canada is significantly different from the one we would like to see," she says.

"Today in Toronto I see a lot of immigrant communities organizing and getting politically involved," Webb says. "Recently there has been a lot of organizing and protests against Rob Ford's cuts, which has been heartening."

FOOD REVIEW

Something different

New restaurant at the U of W will impress you enough to want to return

NICHOLAS FRIESEN
ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

Elements
599 Portage Ave.

I have a little giggle every time I walk into Elements, the restaurant located in the gorgeous University of Winnipeg science building - and that giggle is because of the name.

Yes, there is a giant periodic table of elements emblazoned on the side of this building, making it one of Winnipeg's most recognizable landmarks.

I'd visited the restaurant before, but only for drinks and snacks, never for a meal. Having been to Elements in the late afternoon and early evening I was usually one of the few people there, so I was pleasantly surprised to see it near capacity over the lunch break.

My friend had procured a table located around the corner from the entrance (at which, during arguably the windiest day of the year, we weren't at all affected by the cold).

I didn't see much of our server for a while, but when she appeared she was attentive and polite.

With a rotating menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner, Elements offers a wide variety of dishes, with nothing terribly "average."

This is both a blessing and a curse.

On one hand, it definitely sets it apart from a lot of average, over-salted restaurants in town (chains or otherwise) that offer the same boring old sandwiches and wraps, while on the other it has virtually no "basic" meal to start out an uninhibited newcomer with a nervous stomach.

I opted for the whitefish club sandwich while my friend had the pad peanut, consisting of egg noodles, cabbage, carrots, bean sprouts, peanuts, cilantro and green onions.

I was envious of his meal - when my sandwich arrived it had no top on it, making it quite difficult to eat.

Opting to use a knife and fork, I wasn't able to fully enjoy this "sandwich," having to cut it into parts.

The combination of whitefish, back bacon, tomatoes, lettuce, tartar sauce and Elements' homemade mustard was quite nice, but my salad was about as bland as roughage gets.

I was hoping for the warm spinach salad I had heard raves about, but other patrons had beat me to the punch, as they had run out of spinach that day.

Not being one that consumes carbonated or caffeinated beverages, I usually stick with water, and as usual, I was left with an incredibly small water glass. It's one thing to put out tiny water glasses and refill them, but I had to ask after watching coffee be refilled twice.



ALICIA JOBSE

The whitefish club sandwich at Elements is quite nice.

I wasn't all that impressed by my first meal at Elements.

Still, I'd like to return to the restaurant and give it a second chance, as the classy lit-

tle place is doing something different.

Visit www.facebook.com/elementstherestaurant.

AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

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.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG AWARDS:

<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awards>

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

The General Bursaries for students with financial need are still being assessed. The deadline to apply was Jan. 30, 2012. Those that applied will receive notification of the results through their webmail account in early March.

The Graduate & Professional Studies Expenses Bursary is now available for application for students in their final

year of an honours or B.Ed. program who are applying to pursue post-undergraduate studies. These awards are given out on a first-come, first-served basis and will be available for application until the funds are exhausted. Application forms are available on our website: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awd-bursaries>.

MANITOBA STUDENT AID PROGRAM (MSAP):

Applications to Manitoba Student Aid for the Fall/Winter 2011-12 or Winter term only sessions are no longer being accepted. Spring/Summer session application will be

available in late March. For more information on the program, visit: www.manitobastudentaid.ca.

EXTERNAL AWARDS:

The university is often notified by companies and organizations about awards they have for students in post-secondary education. Here are a few awards that are available right now:

THE DALTON CAMP AWARD

Deadline: March 15, 2012

Established by Friends of Canadian Broadcasting in 2002, the Dalton Camp Award honours the memory of the late Dalton Camp, a distinguished commentator on Canadian public affairs. The award will go to the winner of an essay competition on the link between democracy and the media in Canada. In 2012, there will be one award consisting of a \$5,000 prize as well as a bronze cast medal by the late Canadian sculptress Dora de Pédery-Hunt. Up to four finalists will also be recognized and awarded a prize of \$1,000 each.

Visit www.friends.ca/dca.

BUSINESS COUNCIL OF MANITOBA ABORIGINAL EDUCATION AWARDS

Deadline: March 30, 2012

If you are of aboriginal ancestry, you are eligible to apply for a Business Council of Manitoba Education Award if you meet the following criteria: you are a citizen of Canada and permanent resident of Manitoba, having resided in Manitoba for the last 12 months; you plan to attend a Manitoba public post-secondary institution in any discipline (trades, business, general studies, science, etc.) in the 2012-2013 academic year; you plan to maintain full-time status (at least a 60 per cent course load); and you are in need of financial assistance.

The Business Council offers awards to assist with the cost of tuition, books and supplies during the academic year. Each award is up to a maximum of \$3,000 for university. All applicants are eligible to reapply each year of their studies for a maximum of three years.

Recipients of the awards may be considered for summer and/or part-time employment with one of the Business Council's member companies.

Visit www.businesscouncil.mb.ca for more information and to download an application form.

CAPI ADVANCING A NATIONAL DIALOGUE AWARD

Deadline: March 30, 2012

The Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI) is an independent, non-partisan policy forum that addresses mid- to long-term policy issues of significance to the agri-food sector. CAPI has identified three major themes on which to focus its work: food and wellness, sustainability and viability.

The Institute is focused on stimulating a national dialogue on agriculture and agri-food issues by addressing the policies that will enable Canada's agri-food sector to thrive in the domestic and global agri-food marketplace. CAPI's objective includes developing policy ideas that provide future options for the framework agreement developed by federal, provincial and territorial governments, known as Growing Forward.

Advancing a National Dialogue seeks out fresh ideas from graduate students for policies or models that will enhance Canada's competitiveness in the emerging agriculture and agri-food world. This initiative has been made possible through the support of Farm Credit Canada (FCC).

One award of \$10,000 CA (non-renewable) and two awards of \$5,000 CAD are available to candidates studying at the graduate level.

Visit https://juno.aucc.ca/wes/capi_e.html.

L'ORÉAL CANADA FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FELLOWSHIPS

Deadline: April 2, 2012

With the Support of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, L'Oréal Canada will give two fellowships of \$20,000 CAD each to female post-doctoral researchers in the field of life sciences. The fellowships offered alternate each year between the fields of life sciences and engineering/pure and applied sciences. This fellowship is a part of the For Women in Science Program, which recognizes the importance of the contributions of women in the progress of science. Applications will be reviewed by a panel of scientists, including representatives from the Canadian Commission for UNESCO and L'Oréal Canada. Candidates must conduct their research at a Canadian host institution or organization.

Visit <https://juno.aucc.ca/wes/hes.aspx?pg=934&oth=0005342012&lg=1>.

SEVEN OAKS GENERAL HOSPITAL BURSARY

Deadline: April 25, 2012

For healthcare or fitness professionals pursuing a second degree, post-graduate studies, or technical training related to a career in health promotion and wellness, including studies related to lifestyle behaviour change, nutrition, health promotion, disease prevention, chronic disease management and research. There are two \$500 bursaries available to successful candidates.

Awards will be paid to the educational institution towards their tuition.

Visit <http://www.sogh.winnipeg.mb.ca/> and click "Employment."

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Deadline: June 30, 2012

Each year, the National Union of Public and General Employees (NUPGE) offers four scholarships that reflect its pursuit of equal opportunity for all workers. They are open to the children of the National Union's 340,000 members who are starting a post-secondary education.

Visit <http://www.nupge.ca/scholarships>.

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95.9 FM CKUW CAMPUS/COMMUNITY RADIO TOP 10 CD - ALBUMS

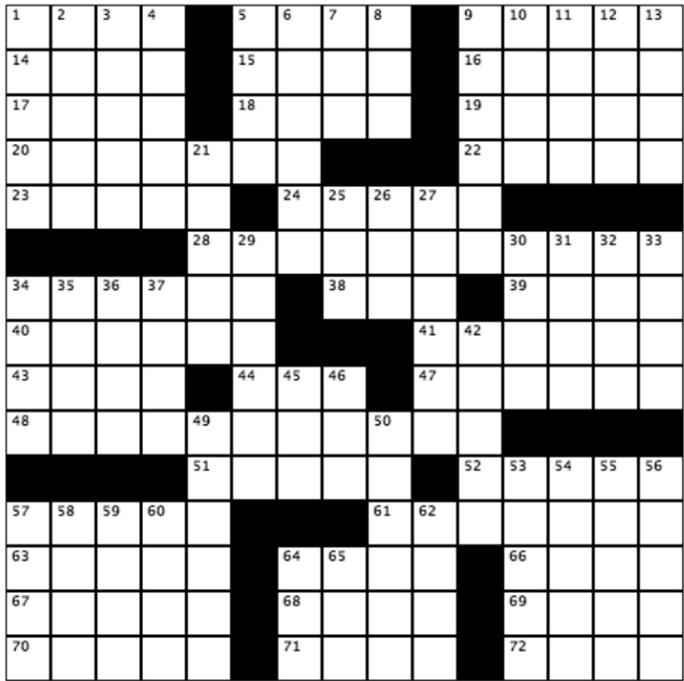
March 5-11, 2012

! = Local content * = Canadian Content

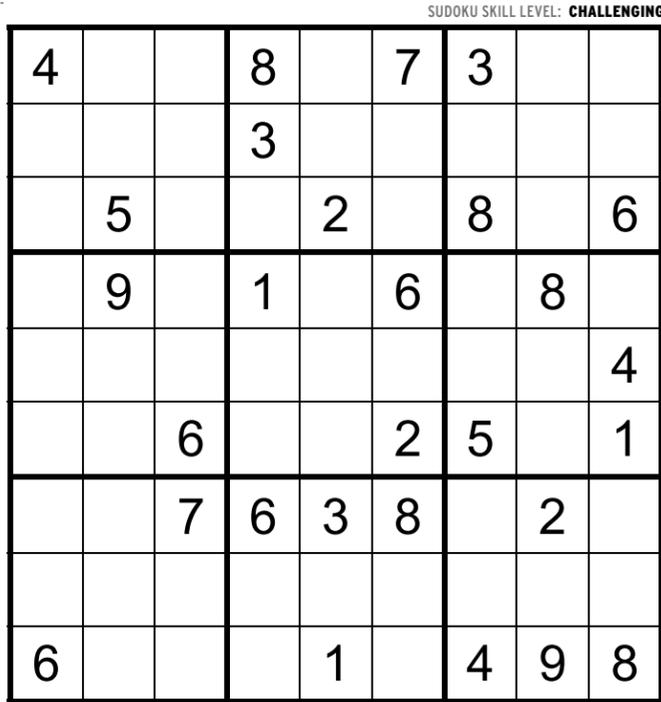
TW	Artist	Recording	Label
1	!Vibrating Beds	Sing the Blues	Transistor 66
2	!Rob Crooks	Hearts	Marathon Of Dope
3	!John K.Samson	Provincial	Anti-
4	!Greg Arcade	Creature Of the Night	Self-Released
5	Bjork	Biophilia	Nonesuch
6	!The Noble Thiefs	Beyond The 11th Deck	Pipe & Hat
7	!Mariachi Ghost	Machete	Self-Released
8	*Rae Spoon	I Cant Keep All Of Our Secrets	Saved By Radio
9	*B A Johnston	Hi Dudes	Mammoth Cave
10	!This Hisses	Surf Noir	Transistor 66

Crossword Puzzle & Sudoku 23

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



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SUDOKU SKILL LEVEL: CHALLENGING

WWW.PDFPAD.COM/SUDOKU

Across

- 1- "Jurassic Park" actress
- 5- Pan's opposite
- 9- Hold responsible
- 14- "Hard ___!" (sailor's yell)
- 15- Trompe l'___
- 16- Every sixty minutes
- 17- Actor Lugosi
- 18- Dedicated to the ___ Love
- 19- Sam, e.g.
- 20- Shake
- 22- Inventor Nikola
- 23- Greek goddess of fortune
- 24- Capital of Ghana
- 28- Radiant
- 34- Achieve
- 38- Hung. neighbor

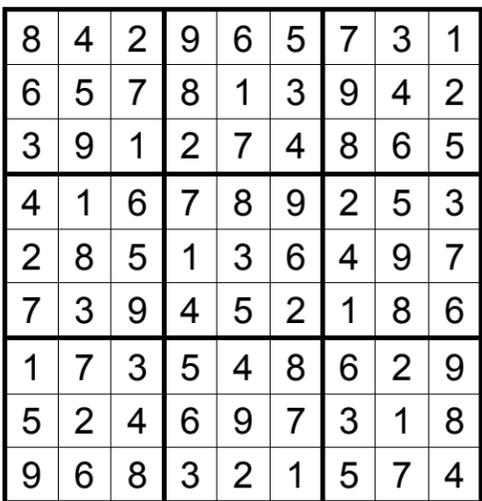
- 39- End in ___ (draw)
- 40- Kind of wire
- 41- Breathe in
- 43- "Night" author Wiesel
- 44- Early bird?
- 47- Cured, in a way
- 48- Literature, philosophy, and history, e.g.
- 51- Uneven
- 52- Small hand drum
- 57- Inventor Howe
- 61- Cargo
- 63- ___ Domingo
- 64- Strong as ___
- 66- ___-European
- 67- Seal
- 68- Female child

Down

- 69- Future tulip
- 70- Declaim
- 71- Kitchen addition
- 72- Aha!
- 1- Sponge gently
- 2- Adonai's, Thanatopsis, or In Memoriam
- 3- Museum piece
- 4- Not o'er
- 5- Dig like a pig
- 6- Trojan War hero
- 7- Compete
- 8- Actor Wallach
- 9- Kingdom in the Himalayas
- 10- Single

- 11- Parentheses, essentially
- 12- Public walk
- 13- Zeno's home
- 21- Eagle's home
- 25- No. cruncher
- 26- Actor Gulager
- 27- Oppose
- 29- Make beloved
- 30- "James and the Giant Peach" author
- 31- Coup d'___
- 32- Egypt's river
- 33- Ticked (off)
- 34- Biblical brother
- 35- Anklebones
- 36- Chicago paper, for short
- 37- Busy as ___
- 42- Beastly
- 45- Day-___
- 46- Beetle juice?
- 49- Fix, as a shoe
- 50- Loud noise
- 53- "The dog ate my homework," e.g.
- 54- Additional pay
- 55- Big dipper
- 56- Maker of Photoshop
- 57- Canadian gas brand
- 58- Den
- 59- Swenson of "Benson"
- 60- Arguing;
- 62- Car bar
- 64- Bio bit
- 65- It may be picked

Solutions to puzzles from the March 8, 2012 issue.



VISIT US ONLINE AT
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An Open Relationship

WITH MELANIE DAHLING

Emotions beyond emoticons

"I'll be civil, but I still hate her."
My friend had invited the girl who broke his heart to a party at his house. How stupid of him. Why did he continue to invite this person back into his life when she had hurt him so profoundly?

I routinely look at my friend's problems and boil them down to their simplest point, offering up a solution that is simple, easy and mess free.

What I've always found perplexing (beside the fact that they don't do what I say) is that I've never been able to do the same for myself.

While I can see what something I'm going through may look like on the outside, I have a whole mess of memories and emotions chasing each other around on the inside.

I used to say that these sloppy annoying feelings were "clouding my judgment," but maybe they exist to add color and dimension to what would otherwise be a series of lines. Those lines, while easy to interpret, don't add up to a whole hell of a lot on their own.

Technology allows for so many things to be easier, more convenient. Yet as we get closer to perfection more people suffer from mood disorders and our miracle pills aren't working. Maybe we just aren't built for this.

I think "it's complicated" has got to be the least popular yet most accurate of the relationship status options on Facebook.

Picasso said that "every act of creation is first of all an act of destruction," and falling in love is basically shattering the ego, then presenting your smashed up heart to someone, hoping that they aren't holding a sledgehammer behind their back.

Let's go back to my friend at his house party.

It was that night that he had his "this person isn't right for me" epiphany after a year of psychological warfare.

He needed to come to that decision on his own and, who knows? Maybe in some parallel universe maybe I was wrong and she'd have come to that party ready to confess her undying affection.

Watching a friend feel something can be difficult and we often want to rescue them, usually because we're projecting our own pain onto a situation that's isn't any of our business.

If someone is in a toxic relationship, the most we can do is show concern and step aside. Some things are meant to be dealt with in a slower, more ceremonious manner and only the parties directly involved know the whole story.

As kids we spent hours making mistakes - we got dizzy and messy on purpose.

We wanted to be firefighters, astronauts and ballerinas.

Somewhere down the line we traded a craving for what was exciting for unoriginal sitcoms, sex without love and some bullshit cookie style flake that's supposed to be an Oreo.

Let yourself and your friends feel feelings, won't you? You never know what could happen and maybe it's worth getting a little smashed up for.

Dating questions? Life advice? Complaints about budget-brand cookies crumbling before you open the bag? Email melanie_dahling@hotmail.com.

OPEN 10:30AM - 4PM
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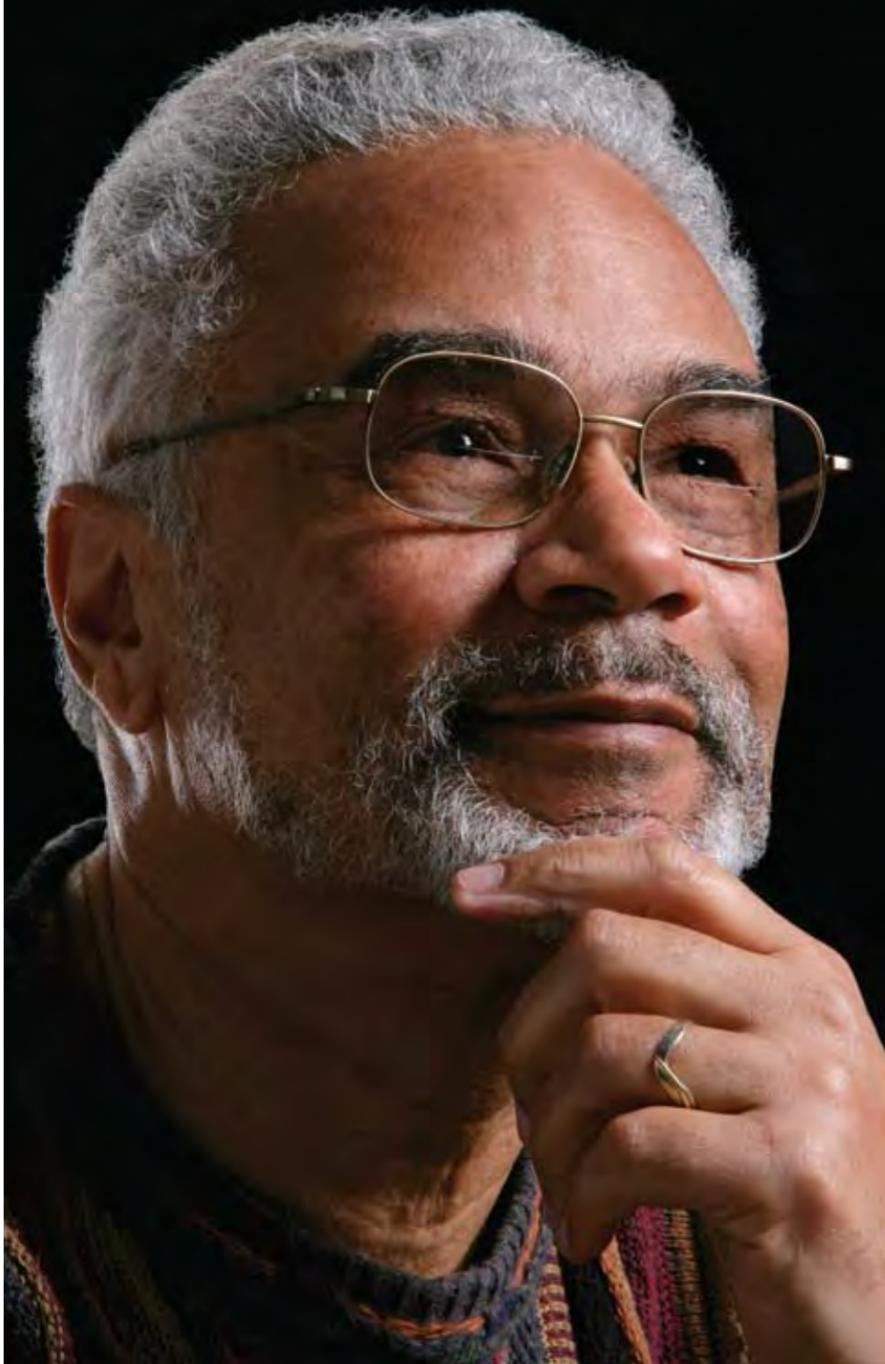
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DR. CLAYBORNE CARSON

Dr. Carson is an internationally renowned historian and writer and a Martin Luther King Jr. scholar. He is the custodian of all of Dr. King's original papers and speeches at Stanford University.

Stanford University historian Dr. Clayborne Carson has devoted most of his professional life to the study of Martin Luther King Jr., and the movements King inspired. A gifted writer and deeply engaging speaker, Dr. Carson's collected knowledge reflects not only his research on King but also his undergraduate civil rights and antiwar activism, which led him to appreciate the importance of grassroots political activity as well as visionary leadership in the African-American freedom struggle.

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Nina

"I like good quality clothes in earthy, feminine colours."

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.

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