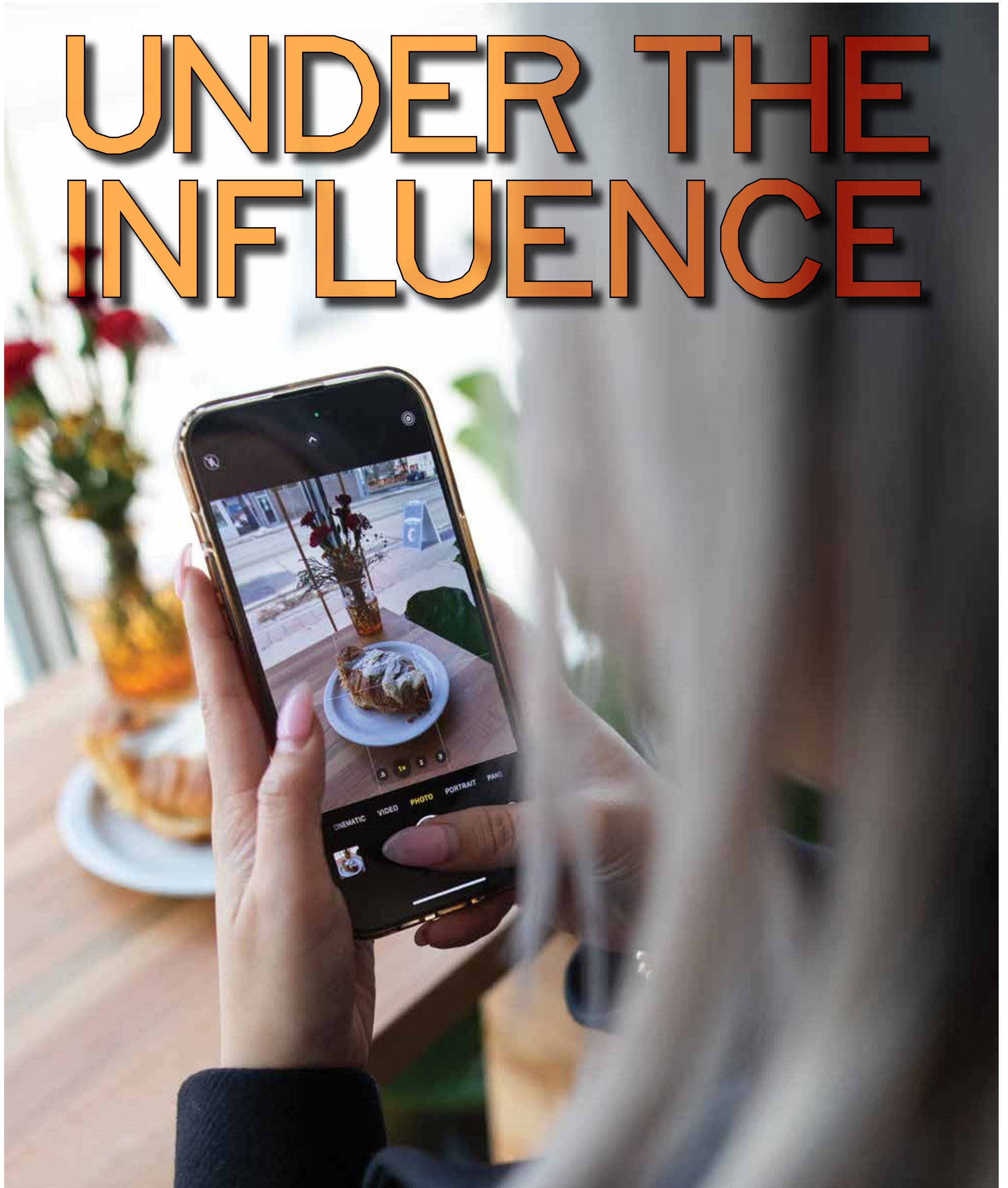


THE **U**NITER

INDOOR SKATING FOR ALL—P4 | WESMEN GOALKEEPER NAMED ALL-STAR—P11 | NOT MOVING TO VANCOUVER—P13



UNDER THE INFLUENCE

UNVEILING THE LOCAL IMPACT OF SOCIAL-MEDIA INFLUENCERS

THE C WORD

THOMAS PASHKO
MANAGING EDITOR



On Wednesday, Nov. 15, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was sharply rebuked by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Netanyahu's rage wasn't inspired by Trudeau speaking negatively about the Israeli PM. He didn't even take the basic step of calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

Trudeau, in response to the horrific images of bloodshed in Gaza, merely said that Israel should "exercise maximum restraint."

"The world is watching, on TV, on social media. We're hearing the testimonies of doctors, family members, survivors, kids who have lost their parents," Trudeau said at a B.C. press conference. "The world is witnessing this killing of women, of children, of babies. This has to stop."

What I can't wrap my head around is why Trudeau *isn't* willing to call for a ceasefire. He's spent the past month stopping short of using the word, including the now-infamous Nov. 3 "Freudian slip" when he called for a "cease - er, humanitarian pause."

Maybe he is afraid of upsetting Netanyahu. But even these tepid statements have still earned rebukes from the Israeli PM. So why continue to backpedal?

Hamas' horrific Oct. 7 attack on Israeli civilians was a catastrophe, a massacre. But Israel's response in Gaza has been, as anyone with eyes can see, a month-long barrage of war crimes. According to the *Washington Post*, more than 11,000 Gazans have been killed. That's one in every 200 people.

Canada's government can't continue to support the indiscriminate murder of innocent civilians by Netanyahu's far-right authoritarian government. It's time for Trudeau to call for a ceasefire and a humanitarian solution to the senseless carnage.

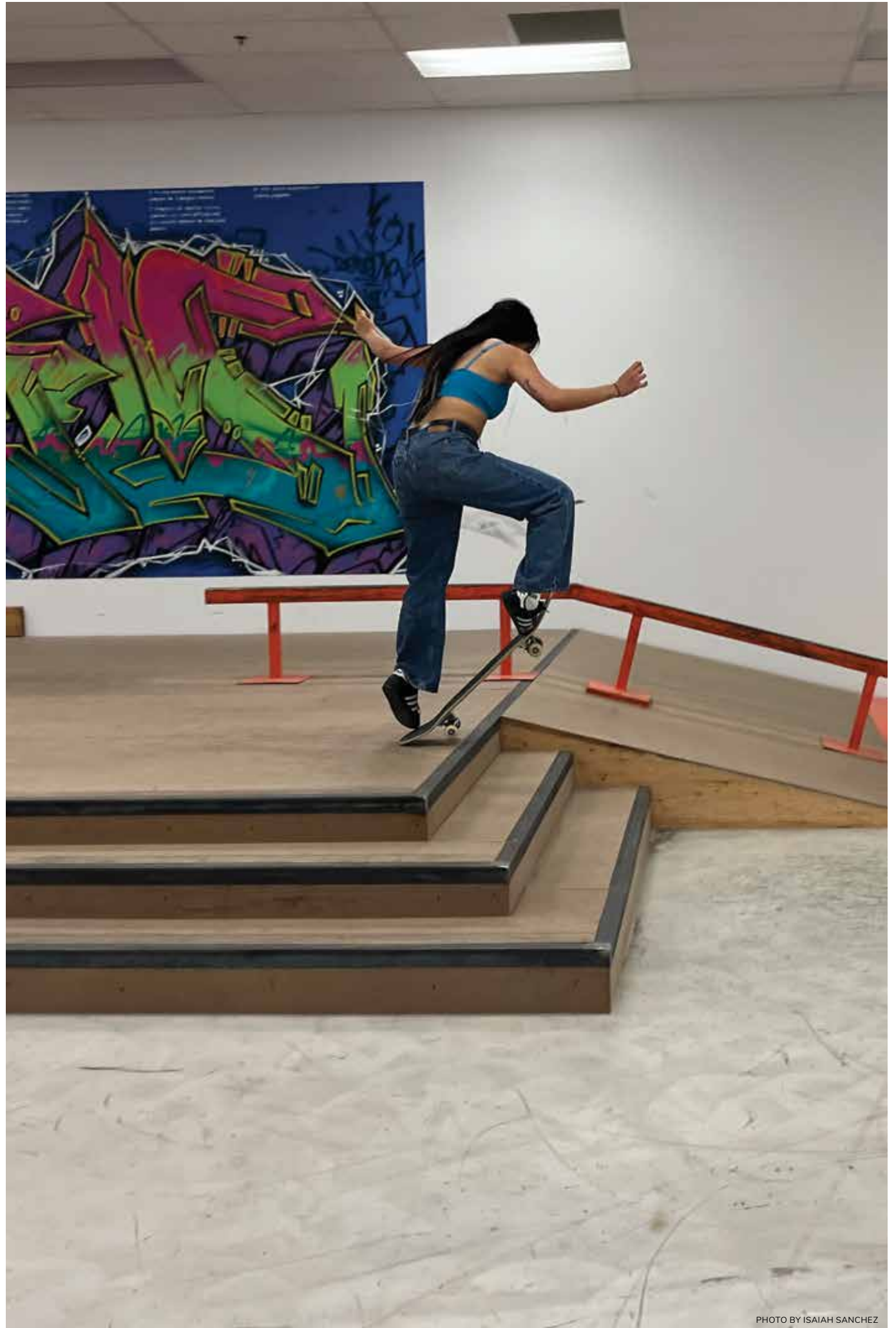


PHOTO BY ISAIAH SANCHEZ

Winnipeg finally has an indoor skatepark open to people regardless of age, gender identity or orientation. Read more on page 4.

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Submissions of articles, letters, graphics and photos are encouraged, however, all new contributors (with the exception of letters to the editor) must attend a 45-minute volunteer orientation workshop to ensure that the volunteer understands all of the publication's basic guidelines.

In-person volunteer orientations will be commencing shortly. For more information, please email volunteer@uniter.ca

Deadline for advertisements is noon Friday, six days prior to publication. *The Uniter* reserves the right to refuse to print material submitted by volunteers. *The Uniter* will not print submissions that are homophobic, misogynistic, transphobic, ableist, racist or libellous. We also reserve the right to edit for length/style.



SUPPLIED PHOTO

Filmmaker and actor John Paizs in a scene from his 1985 classic *Crime Wave*

ORIGIN STORIES: JOHN PAIZS

‘Still obscure as hell’

THOMAS PASHKO | MANAGING EDITOR | THOMPASHKO

For years, John Paizs has been a cult figure among cult figures. The filmmaker, a key creator in the early days of the Winnipeg Film Group, created work that was subversive, funny and visually inventive. His trio of half-hour shorts, *The Three Worlds of Nick* (1981 to '84), and his first feature, *Crime Wave* (1985), are cutting-edge works of underground '80s cinema. They've also been, until recently, really difficult to actually see.

But with the release of a high-definition remaster of *Crime Wave* on Apple TV and *Nick's* 2017 DVD release, Paizs' work is finding a deserved new audience among film fans. He was even invited to participate in the prestigious Sight and Sound Directors' Poll in 2022. Paizs says the renewed interest in his work is "equal parts surprising and great."

"I just spent 20 years (as director in residence) at the Canadian Film Centre (CFC) where in *all that time* I'd say easily under *ten* of the students had actually known of me and my work prior to coming there," Paizs says in an email to *The Uniter*. "This, at the top film school in Canada! Bottom line, I'm still obscure as

all hell, and probably always will be."

Paizs was born in Winnipeg in 1957 to Hungarian refugee parents and grew up in a two-storey frame house on Lansdowne Avenue in the North End with both parents, an older sister and occasional boarders renting the upstairs bedrooms.

A quiet kid with an eye for creativity, his mother encouraged him by saving paper grocery bags and milk cartons for arts and crafts. While in preschool, he fashioned the milk cartons into miniature buildings, creating an elaborate city featuring a working drawbridge.

The renters upstairs were also an influence. "One young fellow ... showed me one day how to draw a flying saucer, a '50s-style one like right out of *Earth vs. the Flying Saucers*, which of course was too cool," he says.

"(One of the boarders) moved away and left behind a cache of '50s and early '60s pulp paperbacks, you know, with the lurid covers. These we kept on a shelf under the basement steps ... I remember standing there poring over them as a somewhat older kid, eyeing the sensationalistic scenes vividly rendered there on the covers. That art style and those

scenes really imprinted themselves onto me. And many years later, this early fascination for them, for that aesthetic, would resurface in my film *Crime Wave*."

Paizs' love of drawing led to him making short animated films using his father's 8mm home-movie camera. As a teen, he was "seriously into animation, and I went from high school to working as an animator at Kenn Perkins Animation, a local animation studio in Winnipeg." He switched to live-action filmmaking while at the University of Manitoba's School of Art and "over the next six or so years I made my body of independent films."

Those early indie films were scrappy affairs, labours of love where Paizs wore many hats, including star, director, cinematographer and editor. He says that DIY process was fruitful but created problems, too.

"One thing that amazes me, looking back now, is how apparently utterly oblivious I was to the multitudinous potential slings and arrows of outrageous fortune that my creative process seemed purpose-built to rain down upon my creative output ... I virtually never rewrote, revised, recut or asked for feedback. Case in point: *Crime Wave's* world premiere at Toronto's Festival of Festivals was also in effect its first and only test screening!

"And, how did I get away with it, this mad methodology in movie-making of mine? Well, I didn't actually. I ended up reshooting an entire new last twenty minutes for *Crime Wave* following the premiere."

But almost immediately, *Crime Wave* became a hard-to-find gem. The film's distributor declined to release it theat-

rically, which left Paizs in a contractual dispute and a career rut. However, he got a new start directing episodic television via *The Kids in the Hall* in 1991.

"Bruce McCulloch just happened to catch (*Crime Wave*) on pay TV and next thing I knew I was being flown from Winnipeg to Toronto to meet the Kids and to discuss directing for them." This led to other TV work, including episodes of *John Woo's Once a Thief* and '90s Can-Con kids' classics like *The Adventures of Shirley Holmes* and *Maniac Mansion*.

Following his second feature, 1998's *Top of the Food Chain* starring Campbell Scott (*Big Night, Singles*) and Tom Everett Scott (*That Thing You Do!, 13 Reasons Why*), Paizs began his 20-year tenure at CFC. When CFC (and the rest of the world) closed its doors during the COVID-19 pandemic, Paizs returned to Winnipeg to spend time with his elderly parents.

Now that his work has become more easily accessible (all of his shorts are now available to rent for between \$1 and \$4 each on indie Canadian streaming platform Vucavu), Paizs is enjoying the unexpected bump in viewership – and he's still working in film.

"Since arriving back in Winnipeg, I was offered the terrific opportunity to work on a feature doc on Ukrainian-Canadian artist and writer William Kurelek," he says. "It's a passion project of multi-award-winning director-writer-producer Halya Kuchmij and is being produced by Merit Motion Pictures of Winnipeg, with shooting to commence next year. Telefilm is backing the project, and I'm delighted to be onboard."

ARTS BRIEFS

CIERRA BETTENS | ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR | FICTIONALCIERRA CIERRABETTENS

Sell your goods at Folk Fest

The Winnipeg Folk Festival is now accepting vendor applications for its Hand-Made Village for the 2024 festival until Jan. 18, 2024. Applicants are strongly encouraged to send samples of their work to the jury. To learn more and to apply, visit bit.ly/3SJ9zFI.

Artist talk: Kim Kitchen

On Nov. 20 at noon, join Arts Accessibility Network Manitoba for a virtual artist talk with Kim Kitchen. Kitchen is a multidisciplinary artist whose exhibition *Her Voice the Waves Like Silk* is currently featured at the AANM Gallery. To register for the Zoom talk, email programming@aanm.com with your name and accessibility needs.

Support your local circus

On Nov. 17, enjoy a bespoke beverage and lively entertainment while supporting circus arts at Circus & Cocktails, a fundraiser for Prairie Circus Arts. Aerial, contortion, hula hoops, handstands, pole, comedy and more are promised at the gala, which begins at 8 p.m. at Prairie Circus Arts' 195 Collegiate St. facility. Tickets are \$25 at the door.

The Waltz @ PTE

In August 1993, two second-generation Filipino Canadian teenagers meet at a cabin in Saskatchewan, not knowing their family histories intersect. Running from now until Nov. 29 at Prairie Theatre Exchange, *The Waltz* by Marie Beath Badian is a heartwarming Filipino-Canadian rom-com. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit bit.ly/47BOAJ9.

Made in the Middle Craft Market

Head down to the Norwood Community Centre (87 Walmer St.) on Saturday, Nov. 25 for the Made in the Middle Craft Market, presented by the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library. A \$5 entry fee at the door lets you browse and buy from dozens of local artisans. The market runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Dark Ice @ the WAG

Premiering Nov. 18, the Winnipeg Art Gallery's forthcoming exhibit examines the drastic impacts of climate change on ecosystems and communities in the North. *Dark Ice* was conceived by artists Leslie Reid (Ottawa) and Robert Kautuk (Kangiqtuqaapik, Clyde River, Nunavut) and features photographs, paintings and videos capturing climate-change narratives from northern communities. Visit wag.ca for more information and hours of operation.



PHOTO BY ISIAH SANCHEZ

Pitikwé Skatepark recently opened in the old Staples space in Portage Place.

WITH LIBERTY AND KICKFLIPS FOR ALL

Pitikwé Skatepark in Portage Place welcomes everyone

MATTHEW TEKLEMARIAM | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | @MATTEKLEMARIAM

Winnipeg skaters have recently found themselves at a sort of moral crossroads. Over the past few years, local skateboarders have accused The Edge Skatepark, located in the Youth for Christ (YFC) Activity Centre on King Street, of discriminatory hiring practices and other non-inclusive measures.

In January 2021, *The Uniter* reported that YFC's employment contract contained language specifically excluding 2SLGBTQ+ individuals. The Edge, which remains open and was once Winnipeg's only indoor skate park, also prohibits skaters over the age of 17. "Obviously, we all know they're a bit of a discriminatory organization, and a lot of my

friends were not welcome," Lyndsey Wallis says.

Wallis is the lead of the events and fundraising committee for the Manitoba Skateboarding Coalition (MSC), a recently registered non-profit organization.

When she joined the MSC in November 2022, Wallis and the group were dissatisfied with the state of indoor skating in a city with inhospitable, let alone skateable, weather for most of the year. Without any government grants or headline-crashing philanthropic donations, they took action, and the resulting brainstorm led to what is now Pitikwé Skatepark.

"We wanted to create a place where every-

body was welcome, everybody felt comfortable," Wallis says.

The newly opened park, located inside Portage Place, aims to be a place where all skateboarders, roller-skaters and scooterers are welcome.

"Pitikwé means 'come in,' and we welcome anyone to our door. You don't even have to skate. You can just come in and watch or hang out," Philip Rosario, a volunteer and Pitikwé board member, says. "I think it will make downtown feel more alive as well. It's all volunteer-based, not-for-profit."

Wallis and Rosario cite the support of local businesses, generous donors and the community in general for the funds put up for the construction, along with a successful GoFundMe campaign. Pitikwé was built without government grants or financial aid. The support the team received for the project was a welcome surprise.

"Working with the City, it's going to be a multi-year process. That's still the big dream here. We'd love the City to take over," Wallis says.

After a connection suggested the former Staples building as a staging ground following the vacancy of The Rolling Stones' Unzipped Expo, the Pitikwé team knew they

had struck geographical gold.

"We thought it was perfect. It's central and a place that needs to be activated again. It was really cool to see everyone hear this idea and say 'This is what the city needs, and we're going to help you do it,'" Wallis says.

Well aware of the uncertain future of Portage Place, including new Premier Wab Kinew's promise for major renovations, the people who put Pitikwé together are just happy to be there.

"We don't have the mindset that this is going to be a permanent thing. This is just a pilot project, and if it works out well, we'll see what happens in the next chapter," Wallis says.

For Wallis, the promise of inclusive skating for the immediate future is more than enough.

"This gets me feeling a little bit emotional ... watching all my friends come in and seeing them light up, it made all the stress and all of the crap that we had to deal with all worth it," she says.

"You might be scared, but just know that the people around you want you there. They want you there more than anything."

'WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR STORIES'

OurToba creates space for underrepresented filmmakers to share their work

SUZANNE PRINGLE | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | @BLAQUE_SQUIRREL

Kathleen Gallagher, a Winnipeg-based actor, producer and screenwriter, understands the challenges women face in her industry. As president of the OurToba Film Network, she is creating a space for women, non-binary and gender-diverse filmmakers in Manitoba to meet, create and gain skills.

"It is still a bit of a boys club," Gallagher says of the film industry. She cites a lack of confidence as a potential barrier for filmmakers who don't identify as male.

"I didn't even really see myself as a filmmaker until I was in my 30s, and I think there (are) a lot of boys who, as kids, played around with cameras and angles ... who considered themselves filmmakers at age 12."

Inspiration for OurToba came to Gallagher partially through Women in Film and Television (WIFT) Toronto, a not-for-profit, member-driven organization supporting women in screen-based media. While her plans to found WIFT Prairie fell through, she channeled their vision to bolster similar initiatives in Winnipeg.

Gallagher's involvement in the Womxn's Film & Video Network at the Winnipeg Film Group influenced its eventual transition into

OurToba in 2022.

"It became 'OurToba' just to have a more inclusive name to reflect the community," she says. Gallagher became the OurToba president in 2022 and officially incorporated in 2023.

"I saw this opportunity to grow OurToba and do the things I wanted to with WIFT ... but a little bit more grassroots, a bit more approachable."

Through OurToba's member network and events, Gallagher wants women, non-binary and gender-diverse filmmakers to step forward and claim their space.

"We want to hear your stories," she says.

Natalia Longley, an OurToba member and actor, has gained confidence as a filmmaker through co-producing projects through the group. She views OurToba events, such as the Cold Reading Event – where writers watch actors read their screenplays before an audience – as catalysts for bringing the broader film community together.

"It's all very kind of splintered," Longley says, referring to the disparate relationship between local actors and writers. She is excited for the future of OurToba.

"It's that kind of missing piece in Winni-



PHOTO BY KEELEY BRAUNSTEIN-BLACK

Kathleen Gallagher, president of the OurToba Film Network

peg," she says. "Things can really happen if you've got the right people around you."

OurToba receives support and funding through partnerships with OnScreen Manitoba, Film Training Manitoba, ACTRA Manitoba, Winnipeg Arts Council, Winnipeg Film Group and the Manitoba Legal Clinic for the Arts (MLCA).

Lisa Haydey, a law student at the University of Manitoba, is a screenwriter on the board of directors at OurToba. Haydey offers free legal advice through MLCA to industry creatives and organizations, including OurToba.

"I think (Kathleen) has a lot of really exciting ideas about how to expand our reach and

provide more support for new filmmakers," Haydey says.

Through the OurToba network, Haydey fostered solid friendships with people who have helped each other realize their films.

"That would not have been possible without this group," she says.

OurToba has not yet created an "official" membership program, but "it's in the works," Gallagher says.

Curious creatives can visit ourtobafilmnetwork.com for posted events and volunteer opportunities, or to donate through PayPal via bit.ly/478Crvm.



FUNNY PAGES

Plays at Cinematheque on Nov. 29

★★★★☆

MATTHEW TEKLEMARIAM | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | @MATTEKLEMARIAM

Wait, don't turn the page! This isn't your run-of-the-mill comic-book movie.

Featured as part of the Dave Barber Cinematheque's Staff Picks series, *Funny Pages* is the directorial debut of Owen Kline, the latest progeny of Hollywood royalty (Kevin Kline and Phoebe Cates) to be given the reigns of an independent production. Futile discussion of nepotism and meritocracy aside, Kline delivers a beleaguered, world-weary picture that betrays his age. I'm sure his parents are proud.

Funny Pages stars Daniel Zolghadri as 18-year-old Robert Bleichner, a petulant aspiring underground comix artist with no shortage of talent but pretensions beyond

anyone's scope of abilities.

After a strange encounter with a beloved art teacher ends in tragedy, Robert decides to strike out on his own, forgoing his final semester of high school for abject squalor in a boiler room "apartment" in Trenton, N.J. Along the way, he shares screen space with a motley assortment of cartoonish characters, like copycat lackey Miles (Miles Emanuel) and unstable former artist/reluctant mentor Wallace (Matthew Maher).

The dark swerve that begins the story, like a gruesome splash page in a horror comic, is a shocking and effective way to establish the film's off-kilter mode of black-as-soot comedy. I suppose this is technical-

ly coming-of-age, as it's often billed, but expect growth and self-discovery more akin to *The Graduate* than, say, *The Breakfast Club* (read: not much).

It's unapologetically vulgar, goading viewers into reacting and daring its indelibly churlish imagery to linger beyond its 86-minute runtime. The grotesque nature seems to be an ode to the underground comix scene that produced such holy texts as the "Tijuana bibles" (just look it up, SafeSearch off) and the bibliography of the venerable Robert Crumb.

"This is ... disturbing," Wallace remarks as he peruses Robert's portfolio, erect nipples and bone splinters seemingly protruding from the page. Special kudos to casting director Adam Caldwell for the extras and eccentrics populating the picture who would fit neatly between the pages of such aforementioned works.

To its credit, it's not nihilistic as a means of rebellion. It's just genuinely funny gallops humour. The breezy pacing coupled with a delightfully whimsical score undercuts just enough of the cynicism to let audiences laugh along.

It's reminiscent of recent Cinematheque

offering *I Like Movies*, especially in its know-nothing, know-it-all, vitamin D-deficient protagonist. Except *Funny Pages* is totally uninterested in cloying attempts at nostalgia and half-baked moral resolution. Robert's circumstances are too pathetic for sympathy, leaving ridicule the easiest way to engage with the movie.

It plays like a counterpoint to the paeans and "love letters" to Hollywood that have abounded since that industry gained consciousness. The comix scene is faithfully depicted here: grimy, miserable and hopelessly insular.

Those well-versed in the sequential arts will get a kick out of the comic-store banter, though. Where else will viewers see characters debate the artistic merit of Carl Barks' Donald Duck comics with such fervor?

The movie ends on a note that's simultaneously explosive and a bummer. It's the kind of deft balance that's harder than it looks to balance. I found myself wishing for the continuing adventures of these mal-adjusted figures. They almost make New Jersey look interesting. At least they have comic books.

THEY MADE BELIEVERS OUT OF MANITOBA

Royal Canoe dedicates album anniversary to local collaborators

SUZANNE PRINGLE | ARTS AND CULTURE REPORTER | @BLAQUE_SQUIRREL

Ten years after the release of their sophomore album, *Today We're Believers*, Royal Canoe will reunite at the Park Theatre to bring their lineup of euphoric, groovy fan favourites back to the local stage.

Following their first "unofficial" album, *Co-op Mode*, *Believers* is a true co-creation of their current members and Royal Canoe's breakthrough record that solidified their sound and reputation.

These multi-instrumentalist musicians (Matt Peters, Matt Schellenberg, Brendan Berg, Michael Jordan, Derek Allard and Bucky Drieger) have been a Manitoba music force since cutting their teeth on projects that include The Waking Eyes, Liptonians, Tele and The Pets.

Matt Schellenberg (keyboardist, songwriter, singer) cites *Today We're Believers* as one of their best-received records, with sold-out shows fueling a successful 10-year touring career and inspiring creative projects and collaborations along the way.

Their upcoming show at the Park Theatre symbolically brings the band full circle to the venue where they first performed. Citing support from provincial funding sources like Manitoba Film and Music and love from Winnipeg fans and the creative community, Schellenberg credits Manitoba as being, "an amazing collaborator on everything we've done."

He feels that within the community at large, and the artistic community specifically, "everyone's success is communal success." Sharing this birthday with the people who supported them from the beginning makes the Park show particularly special.

Stephen Carroll, director of music programs at Manitoba Film and Music, has followed the band members' careers over the past 23 years.

"I think, in a way, this sophomore record is where they galvanized their thinking and came together as a collective in a way that hadn't happened before," he says. "It gave them a template to go forwards with, to show how far they could take their music, which, in my mind, is as far as they wanted to go."

John Paul Peters, producer and co-owner of Private Ear Studios, has produced Royal Canoe's records since *Co-op Mode*, and the band considers him one of their main collaborators.

"There wouldn't be a Royal Canoe without him," Schellenberg says.

"Any time you create something that elevates itself, you 'normalize' creating stuff that's a little bit different in that indie experimental genre," Peters says, reflecting on Royal Canoe's trailblazing influence on the music community. "It makes it 'okay' for you to explore those directions, too."



Winnipeg indie rock troupe Royal Canoe is celebrating the tenth anniversary of their breakthrough album, *Today We're Believers*.

"That's generally where Royal Canoe tends to shine," Schellenberg says. "When we're like, 'Let's never be comfortable. Let's just take something on and make sure it's always just about to go off the rails,' and hopefully (it) doesn't."

Carroll credits the band with bringing international attention to the creativity that exists in Winnipeg.

"I'm very thankful that they are here and continue to do the work they do and enrich

our lives here as Winnipeggers, pushing boundaries as artists and doing extraordinary work."

Royal Canoe's *Today We're Believers* 10th anniversary show plays at the Park Theatre on Nov. 22 and 23. Tickets to the Nov. 22 show are still available and can be purchased via bit.ly/3SWQlGU.

WINNIPEG GETS A LITTLE GREENER

Breweries, U of W aim for more sustainable operation

JURA MCILRAITH | CITY REPORTER |   JURA_IS_MY_NAME

Craft-beer production uses and creates a lot of carbon dioxide (CO₂), but a new carbon-recapture system could help local breweries reduce their greenhouse-gas emissions.

Little Brown Jug (LBJ) is the second craft brewery in Canada to install CiCi, a carbon recapture system from Earthly Labs in Austin, Texas. Blindman Brewing in Lacombe, Alta. started recapturing its CO₂ in 2021.

The \$150,000 system will help LBJ decrease its environmental impact and cut down on operation costs.

“There’s something really appealing about trying to turn our waste into something usable,” Rob McWhinney, head of LBJ brewery operations, says. “It’s a nice way for us to be a little bit more sustainable as a company, both in cost and actual emissions.”

LBJ uses between 2,000 and 5,000 kilograms of carbon dioxide each month. They hope to save a quarter to a third of that based on the initial results since CiCi was first used in mid-September.

The brewery currently trucks the liquid carbon in from Brandon or from Alberta if there are issues in local production, although LBJ would like to become less dependent on these sources.

“We’re really susceptible to any disruptions,” McWhinney says. “Having an on-site source of CO₂ is also really appealing for us, because we’re a little bit more insulated. We have a little bit more of a backup if anything goes wrong.”

CiCi in brewing action

Carbon is used in every step of beer production. It’s used to carbonate and keep the alcohol fresh. During fermentation, yeast also converts sugars into the gas.

Typically, breweries dump the excess. LBJ will now be able to divert between 20 and 30 per cent of its carbon used during fermentation.

With CiCi, carbon dioxide is fed through the instrument, and sensors detect when the CO₂ level is high enough and the oxygen level is low enough. It then filters the carbon through a trap to remove any organic material used in fermentation, followed by a drying agent to extract water.

Finally, the purified CO₂ moves through a compressor and chiller to liquify it so it can be stored and reused.

Not all organic impurities can be removed, so the CO₂ doesn’t come out completely flavourless, limiting what it can be used for.

LBJ accessed money from the Conservation and Climate Change Fund and plans to share knowledge about CiCi with other local breweries.

“Climate change is an existential threat, and we all need to work together to reduce Manitoba’s carbon emissions and create a more sustainable future,” Tracy Schmidt, the minister for the environment and climate change, says in an email statement.

McWhinney says they want to show how the system works and why it might be a good fit for other craft-beer brewers. They will be showcasing the new tech at an upcoming open house.

Companies and institutions set examples for others

While small projects tackling greenhouse-gas emissions may not have large impacts, Dr. Ryan Bullock says they provide valuable examples of what can be done.

Bullock is a professor of environmental studies and sciences at the University of Winnipeg (U of W). He says companies like LBJ and institutions like the U of W that choose environmentally friendly practices can influence others in the city.

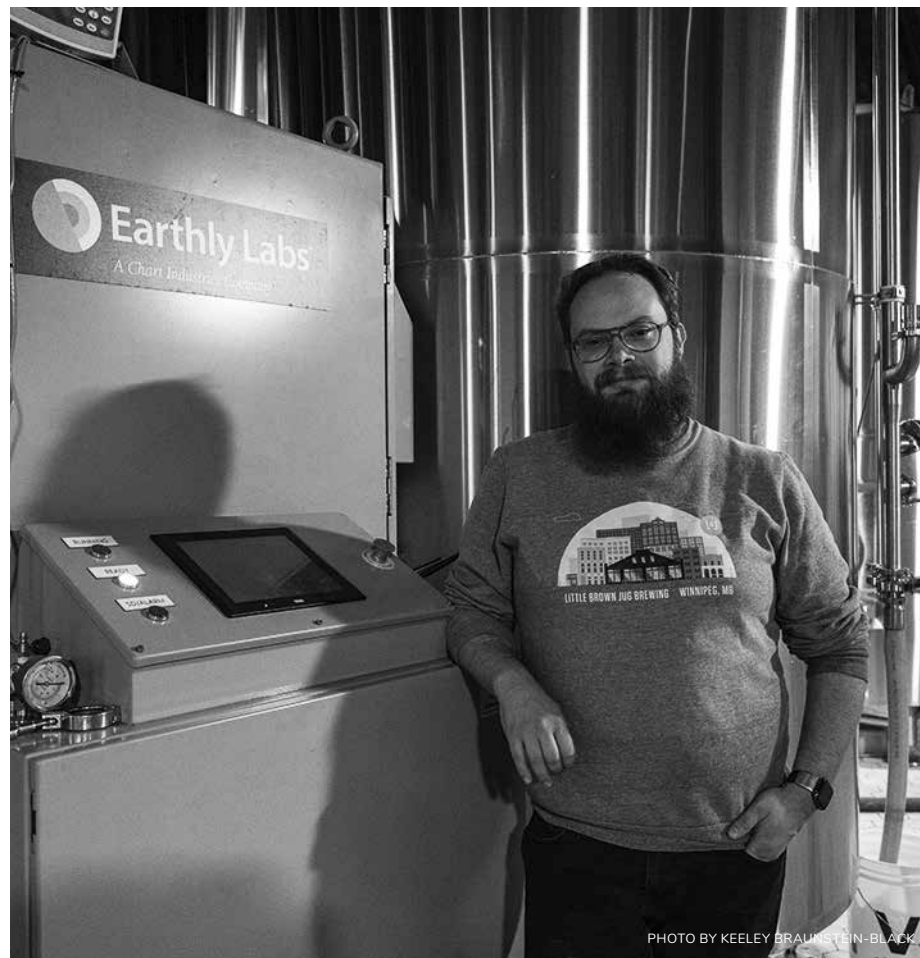
Many people are disconnected from how they use natural resources and get caught up in juggling everything going on in their lives.

“You’re drawing on ecosystems that you are largely removed from, although you’re connected to them,” Bullock says. “It’s hard for the day-to-day citizen who’s busily working along through their life to recognize what seem to be faraway impacts, if they recognize a connection at all.”

At the U of W, the Campus Sustainability Office collaborates with students, faculty and staff to meet local and global responsibilities to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.

One of the office’s 2017 Sustainability Strategy’s goals was to exceed Canada’s commitments following the Paris Accord, an international treaty to tackle climate change. The agreement came into effect in November 2016.

“Universities produce knowledge and the ideas that move society forward. Universities produce the leaders of tomorrow,” Joseph Wasylcia-Leis, the campus sustainability co-



Head of brewery operations Rob McWhinney with the new CiCi carbon-recapture system at Little Brown Jug Brewery

ordinator, says. “That is an opportunity for us to send people out into the world from our institution with a deeper understanding of sustainability.”

As a large institution, the U of W has a responsibility to account for and reduce their environmental footprint, Wasylcia-Leis says. He mentions that they also have a responsibility to educate students about ways to live more sustainably.

Many resources Winnipeggers rely on come from outside city limits, like drinking water that flows 137 km through a pipeline from Shoal Lake.

“There’s a tendency to think about natural resources and Indigenous issues as things that are kind of outside the city,” Bullock says. “Cities are built on resources taken from areas typically beyond their limits. These resources historically were stolen from other peoples’ territories.”

The future of brewing and climate action

Only a few craft-beer breweries existed a decade ago. Fort Garry Brewing became the province’s first microbrewery in 1995. Now, 33 breweries are active in Manitoba.

Organizations like LBJ are trying to lead the brewery industry and make environmentally practices the norm, Bullock says.

As conversations about the climate crisis continue, he says it’s time to ask the next generation what the solution should look like.

“It’s not just saying, ‘Oh, we need to listen to our young people.’ It’s more than that,” Bullock says. “They are telling us we need to change, and they are begging for change and fighting for it.”

He believes the majority of questions and answers around climate action should focus on youth.

“They need to be supported, listened to, encouraged, and we need to use them as champions more, as well, even though they can’t drink Little Brown Jug beer until they’re 18,” Bullock says.

“That’s where most of the change is going to come from.”

LBJ is holding an open house in the evening of Nov. 21. Anyone can stop by and check out the equipment. Details are available at @littlebrownjugbrewing on Facebook and Instagram and @ljb brewing on Twitter.

CITY BRIEFS

TESSA ADAMSKI | CITY EDITOR |  TESSA_ADAMSKI  TESSA.ADAMSKI

Winnipeg rally for ceasefire in Gaza Strip

Approximately 400 Palestinian supporters rallied for a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip on the steps of the Manitoba Legislative Building on Sunday, Nov. 12. The Hamas-run health ministry in Gaza estimates that more than 11,000 Palestinians have been killed, two-thirds of whom are women and children. Approximately 1,200 Israelis have been killed since the initial attack on Oct. 7.

Off to the Grey Cup

The Winnipeg Blue Bombers are headed to their fourth consecutive Canadian Football League Grey Cup championship after winning against the B.C. Lions 24-13 on Saturday, Nov. 11. More than 30,000 fans packed the IG Field stadium, marking its fifth-straight sellout. The Bombers will face the Montreal Alouettes on Sunday, Nov. 19, which will be the first time these two teams have played each other at the Grey Cup final.

Nygaard convicted of sexual assaults

Peter Nygaard was convicted of four counts of sexual assault by a Toronto jury on Sunday, Nov. 12. He was acquitted of a fifth sexual assault and one charge of forcible confinement. Nygaard also faces one count of sexual assault and one count of forcible confinement in Winnipeg and Québec, and a class-action lawsuit that is on hold in New York, which involves 57 women. Nygaard founded Nygaard International, which was a Canadian women’s clothing brand based in Winnipeg.

No quick fix for vandalized city bus shelters

According to Winnipeg Transit data, 294 of 880 bus shelters have been vandalized in 2023, excluding shelters that have had glass broken more than once. A total of 361 bus shelters were vandalized in 2022. As of last week, 115 shelters were reportedly missing glass, encouraging Winnipeg Transit to consider running a pilot project testing shatterproof glass. This alternative would cost two to four times more money than buying regular glass.

Video-chat service Omegle shuts down

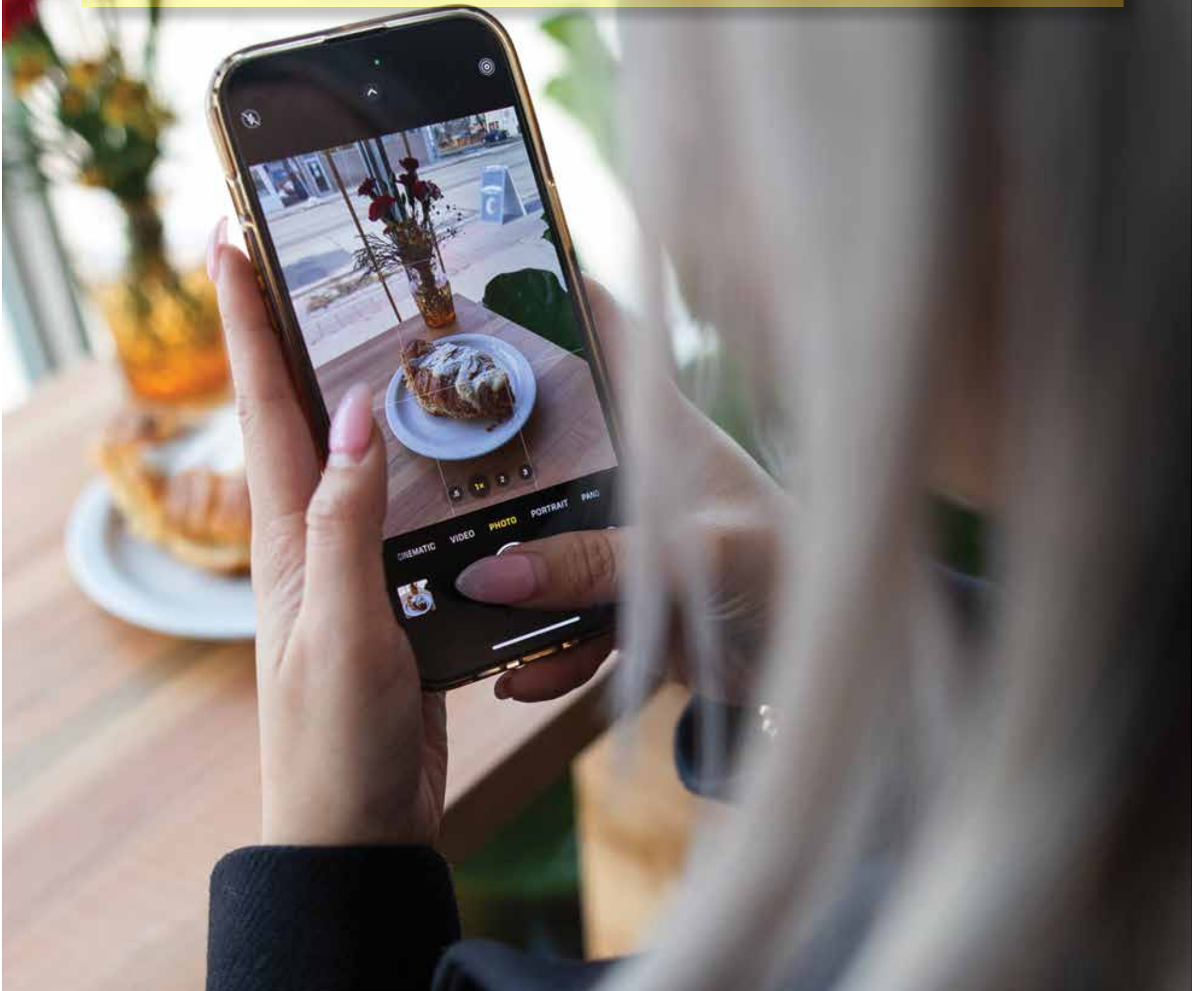
Omegle, a video-chat service that randomly pairs users with strangers, has shut down following a 2021 civil lawsuit filed by an American woman who was sexually abused as an 11-year-old in 2014. In December 2021, a Brandon man pleaded guilty to distributing child pornography and was sentenced to eight-and-a-half years in prison. The \$22 million civil lawsuit aimed to hold the online service accountable for connecting minors with adults asking them to perform sexual acts.

Repairing Fort Gibraltar ahead of festival

A part of Fort Gibraltar’s walkway in St. Boniface collapsed during a school field trip in May, sending 17 children to the hospital. Festival du Voyageur organizers have been working to safely restructure the historic site prior to the winter festival in February. The province has provided a one-time \$50,000 grant to help replace the wooden walls, including temporary fencing that will be used as a backdrop for art installations before the full renovations are completed. Workers expect the demolition will be wrapped up by Dec. 1.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Unveiling the local impact of social-media influencers



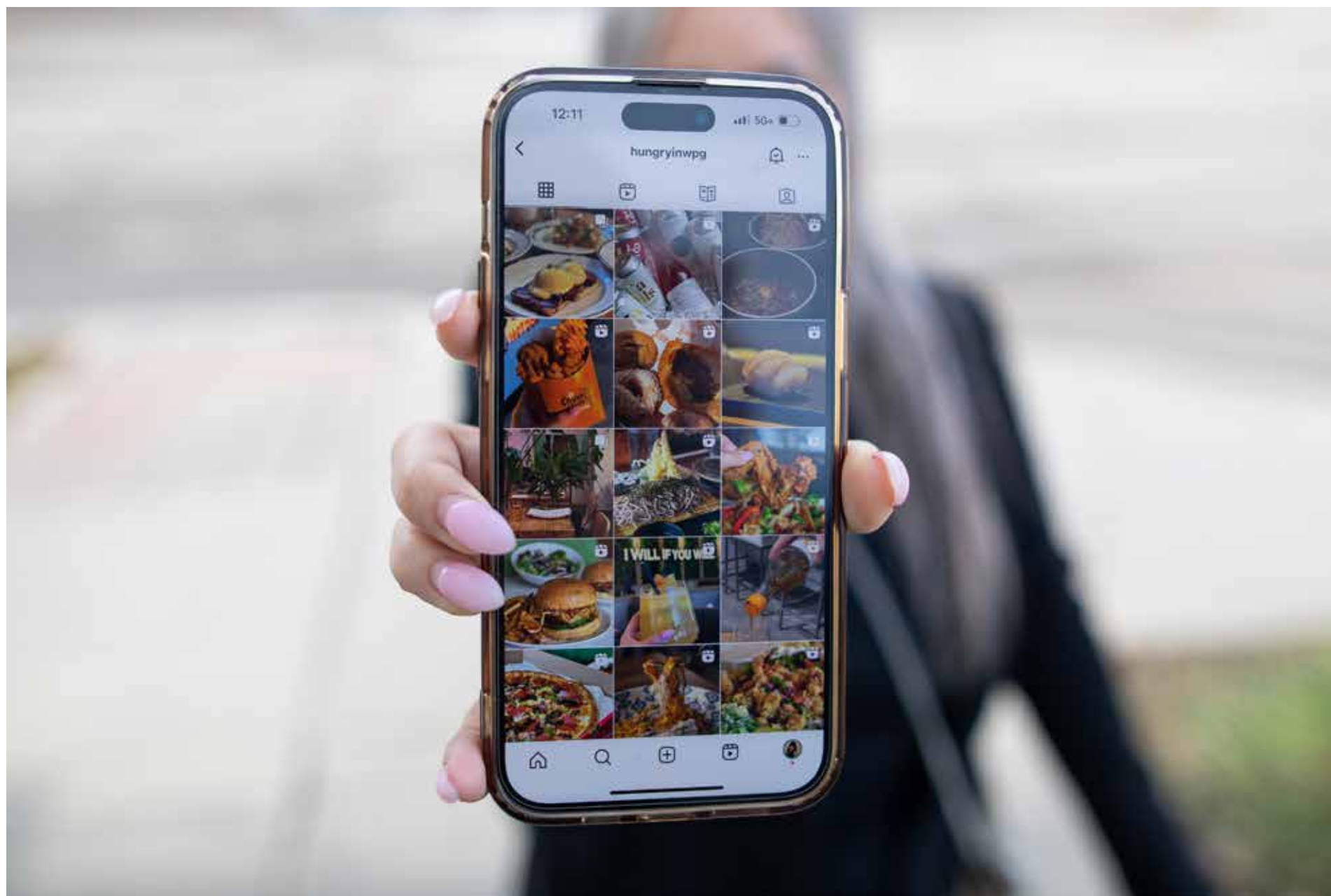
Vivian Ma is an Instagrammer who loves to share Winnipeg's food scene with her followers.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, social media has become flooded with influencers on platforms like TikTok and Instagram. These influencers, despite not being traditional celebrities, impact people's choices.

Winnipeg is no exception to this in-

fluencer wave, with local businesses teaming up with influencers to reach a broader audience. As the world is still recovering from the social and economic upheaval of the pandemic, businesses are adapting to find new ways to reach customers.

According to Tourism Winnipeg, Winnipeg has more than 1,100 restaurants, suggesting strong competition in the food sector. To set themselves apart, local restaurants and eateries collaborate with influencers to gain more visibility.



Vivian Ma was inspired by her sister to get into the world of Instagram food blogging.

New partnerships

Vicky Nguyen, the co-owner of Little Saigon Restaurant, has embraced this trend, seeing a significant boost in engagement with their restaurant.

Nguyen, who took charge of the William Avenue restaurant this year with her husband, says they only recently started working with content creators. However, she also owns a meal-prep company and has worked with influencers before.

“I learned a little bit about how social-media marketing works,” she says. Nguyen says there’s been a huge boost in engagement for the restaurant since they shifted to working with content creators.

“When you invest in a service, like a bottle of wine for a special occasion or a travel package, you’re essentially taking a leap of faith. So it makes sense why people look to specific influencers for guidance.”

“I do feel like the influencers get our food out there to their audience,” she says. “Also, I already follow most of them, so I know exactly where to look from a business standpoint. I know who their audience is, so I know who to target or

reach out to.”

Nguyen points to a generational gap when it comes to whether influencer marketing is an accepted promotional tactic in Winnipeg. “I think the younger generation knows about it and takes it seriously,” she says. “For people like my parents, I don’t know where they would start if it weren’t for us telling them.”

Nguyen says more local businesses should recognize the practical effects of influencer marketing.

“I think more people should get on it, and I’ve seen a lot of people are beginning to catch on,” she says. “Especially in the food industry, there are those who recognize the impact of influencers and actively engage in it. I’ve seen their companies grow massively as a result.”

Lam An, an assistant marketing professor at the University of Winnipeg, suggests the surge in collaborations between businesses and influencers accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic.

An says local businesses tend to gravitate more toward content creators in the service industry, such as restaurants and travel experiences, as opposed to other sectors.

This preference poses a challenge for other sectors, like cosmetics, making it a bit more of an uphill climb for local influencers to work with local brands outside of these services.

“Unlike items you can touch, feel and try before purchasing, services – such as food experiences at restaurants – pose a more considerable risk for customers,” he says.

“When you invest in a service, like a bottle of wine for a special occasion or a travel package, you’re essentially taking a leap of faith. So it makes sense why people look to specific influencers for guidance.”

Local influence

Winnipeg-based content creator Vivian Ma has carved out a niche with her In-



A screen capture from the Instagram of Mad Social Agency, a digital marketing business run by Madison Thompson

stagram account @HungryInWpg. The account has amassed 28,000 followers, along with 22,000 on TikTok. Her content showcases the diverse food scene in Winnipeg, from pastries to authentic Filipino cuisine.

Ma’s introduction into the world of con-

tent creation was inspired by her sister, who noticed her penchant for posting food pictures on Facebook. “My sister said one day, ‘Why don’t you make an Instagram?’ I thought it was too late to do it, but I started because I listened to her,” Ma says.

@HungryInWpg launched in October 2018, marking the beginning of Ma's culinary adventures. She says what started as a fun page has now transformed into a significant side hustle, seamlessly integrated with her full-time corporate job.

“I think it would be great to have more businesses in Winnipeg open to working with content creators/influencers ... It might take time, but I think (businesses and content creators) can leverage each other to work into a mutually beneficial agreement.”

Ma recently noticed a considerable increase in followers, which she attributes to the pandemic. “It started growing really fast,” she says.

Today, Ma works with local restaurants that consistently reach out to her for promotions. She says she tries to create content by eating out at least once a week.

In Winnipeg's marketing community, Ma encourages local influencers to work together more closely, creating a stronger and more united presence. “I also think Winnipeg businesses should be more open to working with influencers, especially in this era of digital marketing,” she says.

While some influencers like Ma have businesses reaching out to them directly, others rely heavily on self-marketing to connect with businesses willing to collaborate.

Breanne Calvert, a content creator and self-described disability lifestyle documentarian dedicated to promoting body positivity, has cultivated a loyal following of nearly 22,000 Instagram accounts. Calvert promotes herself through proactive self-marketing, frequently reaching out to local businesses for collaborations.

After a modest start in 2012, Calvert's page underwent a transformative phase during a period of medical leave. “I had 1,000 followers for a really long time, and it wasn't until I took medical leave that I really started growing the page,” she says.

Calvert says she adopts a succinct and direct strategy when marketing herself to local businesses.

“I send a general email out, and I just say, ‘Hey, I saw that you were advertising. I see that you're trying to expand your reach, and I might be able to help you out with that,’” she says. “Some responses are pretty receptive. Others are kind of really standoffish.”

Despite the challenges, she says she maintains a collaboration success rate of around 50 per cent.

Calvert says she envisions a more open-minded approach in Winnipeg toward content creators collaborating with local businesses, fostering a larger, more inclusive market.

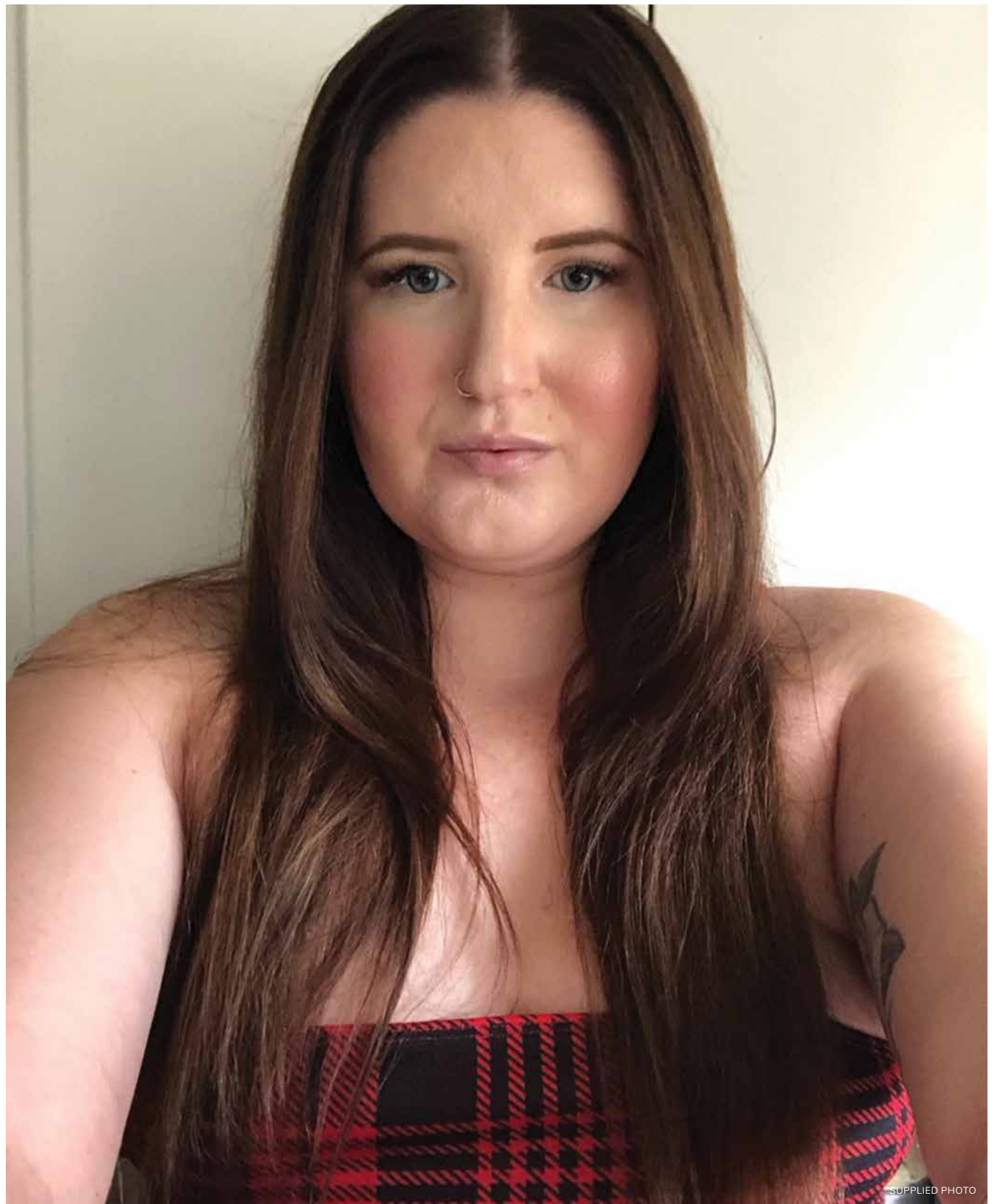
“I think it would be great to have more businesses in Winnipeg open to working with content creators/influencers,” she says. “It might take time, but I think (businesses and content creators) can leverage each other to work into a mutually beneficial agreement.”

Navigating the marketing evolution

While influencer marketing is still a growing phenomenon in Winnipeg, some businesses instead opt for direct collaboration with marketing agencies.

Maddie Thompson, the owner of Mad Social Agency, says they partner with local businesses to run their social media.

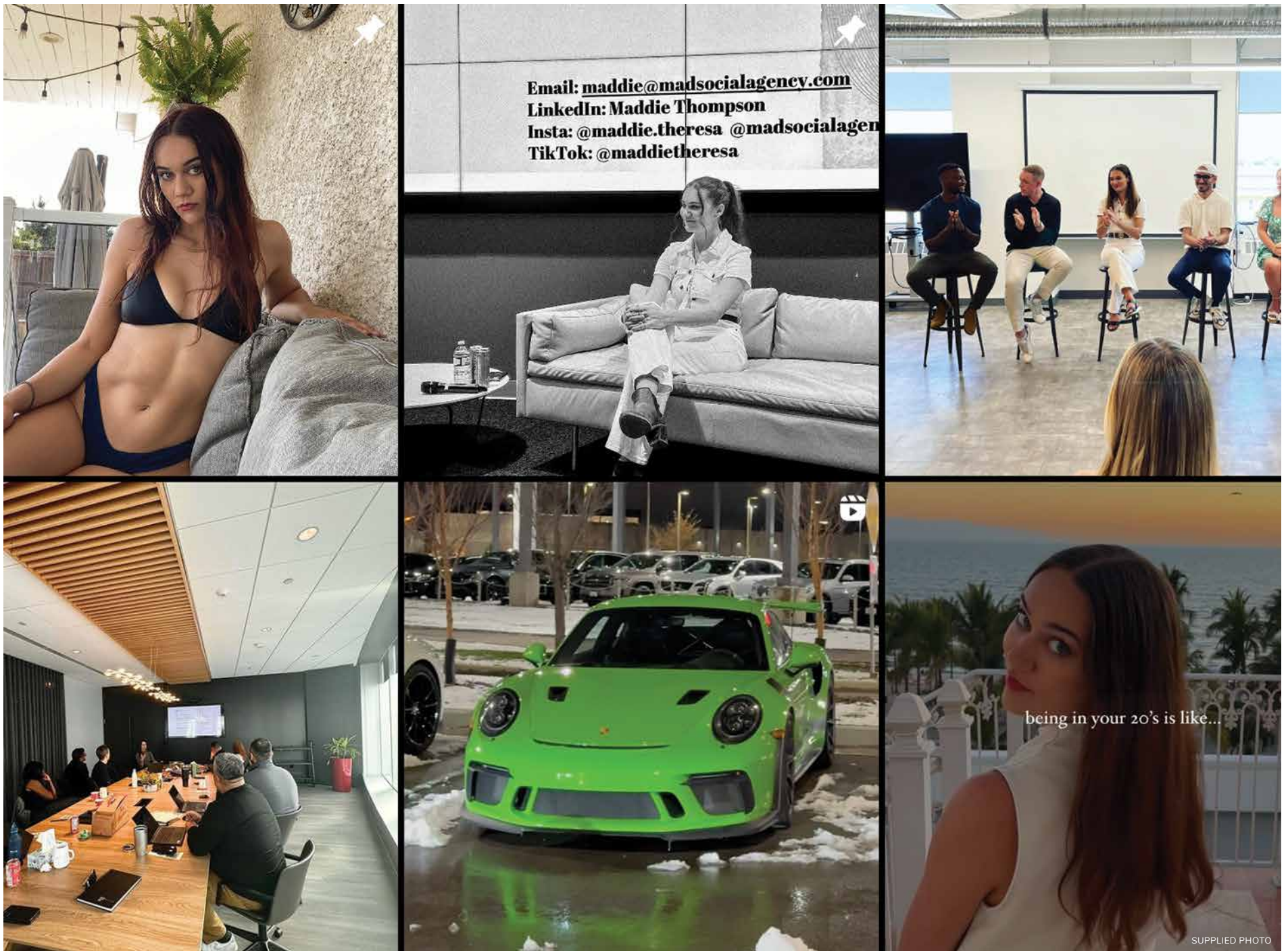
“We primarily work with businesses, and we do a lot of UGC, user-generated content, where we're using either our own team members or other people in the community to create videos



Breanne Calvert is a content creator and self-described disability lifestyle documentarian.



Maddie Thompson is a digital marketer who runs Mad Social Agency.



A screenshot from digital marketer Maddie Thompson's personal Instagram

for products," she says.

One of their clients is Darling Bar, a recently established cocktail bar on McDermot Avenue, for which they manage Instagram and Facebook accounts. The Instagram page primarily highlights Winnipeg's nightlife, featuring images of beverages and people having a great time, focused on the enjoyment of their customers.

A recent study by EnTribe, a company that focuses on user-generated content, found that people are getting tired of influencer marketing, preferring content created by regular customers.

In their survey of about 800 people aged 18 to 60, 84 per cent said they trust brands more when they use content from regular customers, while only 12 per cent trust products endorsed by influencers.

The research also found that 85 per cent of consumers think influencers are paid to say nice things about companies, which makes them seem biased. This could explain why some businesses work with marketing agencies to create content instead of using influencers.

Dhruvi Shah, a 21-year-old University of Manitoba student who avidly follows various influencers on Instagram and TikTok, says the inspiration she draws from food and fitness influencers shapes her choices and preferences.

"I only started following more influencers during the pandemic because I was locked in and bored," she says. "I have unfollowed a few of them recently, especially when they become really famous ... Sometimes it feels fake, like they're trying to keep up with the lifestyle."

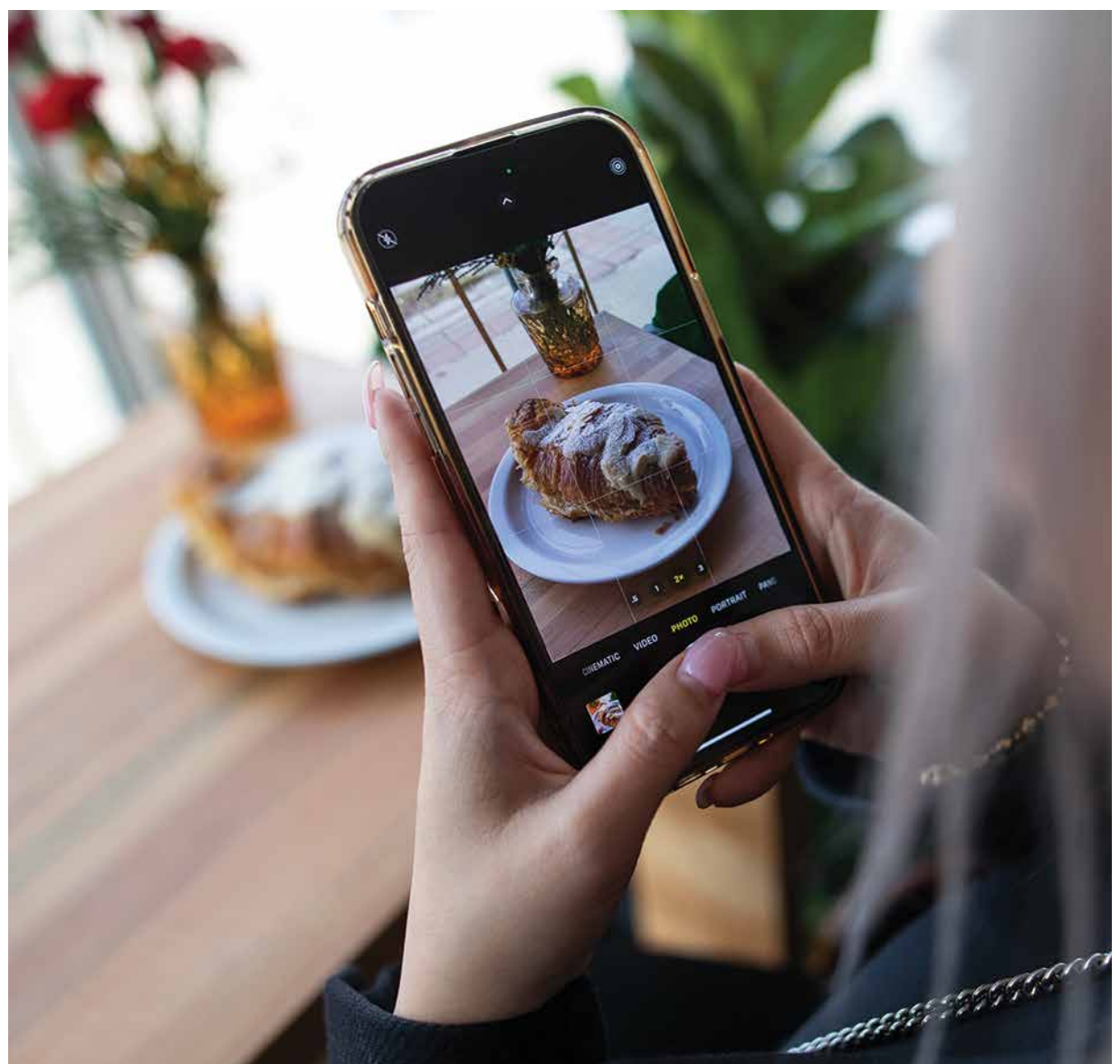
Shah says she follows influencers who come across as genuine and authentic. She believes that the more real they seem, the more she trusts their viewpoints and recommendations.

Ma tries to keep her HungryInWpg account authentic by carefully balancing her content. "I feel it's important to support local restaurants. Not everything I do has to be paid content. I think it's important to balance it out," she says.

Additionally, she says she's been expanding her horizons by exploring and reviewing other restaurants, primarily for her own enjoyment.

Thompson says businesses are increasingly realizing that digital marketing isn't just a choice. It's a necessity.

"There (are) a lot more businesses realizing that it's not an optional thing. If you don't hop on it now, you're going to get behind," she says. "There is a huge market for influencers here. Businesses always want to promote their products through real, authentic people."



"I feel it's important to support local restaurants. Not everything I do has to be paid content. I think it's important to balance it out." -Vivian Ma



GALLERY 1C03 FINDS ITS 'LEGS'

Collaborative video installation explores grief, embodiment and shower caps

MIEKE RUTH VAN INEVELD | CAMPUS REPORTER | X MIEKERUTH

Humility can be hard to find. In a culture where women's empowerment filters through individualism, presented in terms of "badass," "girlboss" and the "she-conomy" — one might struggle to draw the line between "owning it" and self-obsession, between humility and self-effacement.

Then again, life is also full of powerfully and immediately humbling experiences, like grief, aging or standing at the shore of a huge lake: moments of confrontation with endings.

Christine Fellows, Chantel Mierau and Jennifer Still's collaborative exhibition *legs* dwells on those experiences. Gallery 1C03 in the University of Winnipeg will house the local artists' video installation, which is based on Still's elegiac poem of the same name, until Feb. 16, 2024.

"It's humbling to feel your limits," Still says. "I think that was the whole point of the poem, to feel oneself catch oneself in whatever way that is."

Still wrote *legs* at her family's cabin on the shore where Traverse Bay and Lake Winnipeg meet while grieving the loss of her mother.

She says the poem is a reflection of her time spent swimming at the cabin, going for walks and remembering her mom through the clothing she wore and "the ways we moved through the world together."

The video installation is a "translation of the poem, but through complete embodiment," she says. The three collaborators filmed the project at Still's family cabin and

in Pine Falls, which is 120 kilometres north of Winnipeg.

Still says travelling together brought a sense of adventure to the project and an appreciation for things that didn't go according to plan, like a clothesline holding leg forms breaking and sending them crashing to the ground.

"We can have this whole unfolding idea of the way things will go and then ... this happened again and again, where we realized that us setting up, us prepping for the scene was the scene," she says.

Fellows agrees. "This project is all about the unexpected," she says in an email to *The Uniter*.

While Still's poem is the core of the film, she says Fellows and Mierau were instrumental in helping her "relinquish" the poem to a new medium.

Mierau's work with costuming and textiles is front and centre in the film's imagery, which includes bright-pink shower caps and pantyhose-clad legs of inhuman length.

For Still, Mierau's contributions have evoked a sense of the "mystical, magical and whimsical" and a deeper connection with the generations of women who've expressed themselves through textiles before her. In preparation for the exhibition, she is making "neon-pink spandex ruffles" to attach to the gallery's chairs.

Fellows brought her immense understanding of musicality to bear in her work with Still on the recorded reading of *legs* that



SUPPLIED PHOTO

An image from *legs*, the new video installation at Gallery 1C03

narrates the film.

"I listened for opportunities for (Still) to underline or suspend moments, to lean in and embody the text, to find urgency or tenderness or pause or play," Fellows says. "But really, she found it all on her own, and I was just there to say, 'Yes! You found it!'"

Still encourages other writers to take inspiration from musicians in embracing collaboration.

"(Fellows and Mierau have) really helped me locate the poem both inside me and outside of me," she says. "I highly recommend writers to reach out and allow for interpre-

tations of their work and to be a part of that experience."

The opening reception for *legs*, hosted by Gallery 1C03 on Nov. 23 at 4 p.m. also marks the film's Canadian premiere. It was previously screened at the ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival in Berlin, where it won the Ritter Sport Film Award.

Gallery 1C03 is the official art gallery of the University of Winnipeg. It can be found in Centennial Hall across from the Info Booth. Admission is free.

WESMEN GOALKEEPER NAMED CANADA WEST SECOND-TEAM ALL-STAR

Priebe broke division record for saves in a season

MIEKE RUTH VAN INEVELD | CAMPUS REPORTER | X MIEKERUTH

Wesmen women's soccer goalkeeper Madison Priebe is now an all-star. The University of Winnipeg sophomore was recently named a Canada West second-team all-star after a record-breaking 2023 season.

Priebe made 141 saves across 12 games this season, smashing the decade-old conference record of 128. She is the second player in Wesmen women's soccer history to be named to a conference all-star team.

This was only Priebe's second year on the team, but she's already carved out a place as a leader and mentor for her teammates. She was chosen as one of two team captains after being named the Wesmen soccer player of the year as a freshman.

"Coming into playing as a Wesmen, I was hoping to be able to prove that I can compete at this level," Priebe says.

"As I continue to develop as a player, I'm setting my goals higher. I'm exploring options of what it would look like to go and play pro, and that's something that I've kind of set my sights on."

Head coach Amy Anderson says Priebe's determination, character and athleticism are key in setting her apart as a player and teammate.

"She's a step ahead," Anderson says. "She works on her own, and she's gifted coming

into the position, so that combined with her hard work has brought her where she is now."

Priebe says one of her biggest assets as a goalkeeper is her mentality. She credits a large part of her season to the work she's done with Wesmen sport psychologist Cal Botterill on fine-tuning her mental game.

"I've had the opportunity to develop (strong mental abilities) over these past couple years as a Wesmen, to stay calm under pressure and to just embrace the challenge that it can be," she says.

Priebe also works hard in the off-season to develop her decision-making and accuracy when passing the ball back to her teammates. She says refining these distribution skills is a key step for anyone who wants to be a "top-tier goalkeeper."

Veteran Wesmen defender Sydney Arnold says she "feels very confident" during games knowing Priebe is behind her.

Defenders rely on their goalkeepers to call out information about where to look for incoming plays. Priebe often weaves encouragement into the instructions she gives, which Arnold says reflects her caring personality.

"She's definitely the sweetest person outside of soccer as well," Arnold says. "I would



DAVE LARKINS/WESMEN ATHLETICS (SUPPLIED)

Wesmen women's soccer goalkeeper Madison Priebe is now a Canada West second-team all-star.

be confident to go to her not only as a captain about soccer problems, but I would also feel completely confident to go to her with my personal issues, just because she was so sweet and genuine."

Priebe is forthcoming about how much help she's had along the way. She says she's especially thankful for Wesmen coaches Lydia Balsillie and Jeff Seney, both of whom

she worked with before joining the team.

Priebe encourages younger athletes to set big goals for themselves and work hard to achieve them.

"Keep believing in yourself and just keep pushing, because opportunities will come," she says. "Don't ever give up, even if it's not looking your way."



SYNERGY IN SCIENCE

Mary Adedayo, assistant professor of applied computer science

THANDI VERA | FEATURES REPORTER | @THANDIVERA

Mary Adedayo is an assistant professor of applied computer science at the University of Winnipeg. Growing up in Ibadan, a small town two hours from Lagos, Nigeria, Adedayo gained a keen sense for understanding and analyzing the world from her family.

"I grew up with three boys who were always finicky and trying out things, and my dad was always doing the same thing (as an engineer)."

She completed her undergraduate studies at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta in Nigeria before receiving a full scholarship to complete a postgraduate diploma in mathematical science from the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences in Cape Town, South Africa.

While in South Africa, she also completed her master's degree and PhD in computer science. She moved to Winnipeg with her spouse and first child in 2016.

Despite initially going into university for civil engineering, Adedayo developed a love for mathematics and computer science.

"I feel there's a lot of synergy between mathematics and computer science," Adedayo says. "I often hear from people that it's almost impossible to be a computer scientist without knowing some mathematics."

Much of Adedayo's research revolves around digital forensics, databases and cy-

bersecurity. She didn't initially expect to work in this field, but her desire to see justice prevail intersected seamlessly with her research.

"I have a passion for seeing justice and making sure people are safe," Adedayo says.

Adedayo gets the most excitement and fulfillment from teaching when she can see students' smiles as they finally understand concepts.

"I've been in classes where I've seen students literally come to the class scared, thinking 'I don't even know if I can take this course,' and then by the end of the term or even in the middle of the term, you can see their attitude change, and they think 'I can actually do this. It's not that hard.'"

What was the worst grade you've gotten in a class?

"It must be a C, because it was a lab course. My degree was mathematics and computer science, but I had to pick biology and physics, and all of those courses had labs, and I didn't like them."

What is something that you've learned from your students?

"I've understood that people are differ-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

ent and that you can't necessarily use the same yardstick to look at people."

What do you do in your spare time?

"I play with my kids, sing when I have the time, and I like to read outside computer science when I can."

What was your dream job as a child?

"I've always wanted to be in academics. I probably didn't think of anything I would do with it, but it's always been my dream since I was 10 years old."



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Student Services

MONEY TALKS

The next session "Academic Proficiency scholarships" (Nov. 21) will focus on the criteria to be eligible for the scholarships that are available for the students doing well in their academics, i.e. scoring a GPA above 4.0.

"End of term refunds" (Nov. 28) will be about the refund process, how it's done and in which cases a student can request a refund through the Awards Office.

Money Talks are held Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Pre-registration is required – go to the Awards website: uwinnipeg.ca/awards

WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS

The Webinar Wednesdays series continues with "Wise Mind" (Nov. 15), which explores the state of mind that balances both thinking and feeling.

Learning how to access "Wise Mind" can help you manage stress, deal with challenging situations and improve overall well-being.

All Webinar Wednesdays will be held 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Pre-registration is required –

go to uwinnipeg.ca/webinar-wednesdays

CAREER CHATS ON INSTAGRAM

Career Chats are live sessions on Instagram that feature advice from an employer or career-related expert.

Upcoming topics:

- Experiential Learning (Thurs., Nov. 23)
- Preparing for the Career Fair (Thurs., Dec. 7)

Hosted by Career Services, these live sessions take place every other Thursday at 11:00 a.m. on UWinnipeg Instagram.

ASK AN ADVISOR

This is your opportunity to find out more about different services at the University in live sessions on UWinnipeg Instagram. The next topic:

- Study Abroad (Nov. 30)

Hosted by Academic and Career Services, these live sessions take place every other Thursday at 11:00 a.m. on UWinnipeg Instagram.

WORK-STUDY PROGRAM

The Work-Study Program can

help you meet your expenses during the academic year. The program offers valuable life and work experience with flexible hours that fit around your school schedule.

The deadline to apply to the program is **Dec. 4, 2023**.

If you are interested, please apply to the "Work-Study Program" program as soon as possible to have the best selection of positions.

Go to the Awards website: uwinnipeg.ca/awards

STUDY ABROAD – SUMMER PROGRAMS

The deadline is fast approaching to apply for exchange programs next summer in Demark and South Korea.

This is an ideal opportunity to study abroad, as funding is currently available through the Government of Canada's Global Skills Opportunity Program that could cover 40% to 90% of the costs of your exchange.

The deadline to apply is **Dec. 15, 2023**. Find out more at uwinnipeg.ca/study-abroad

FALL EXAMS

The Fall (December) Exam sched-

ule is now available at uwinnipeg.ca/exam-schedules

The evaluation period is from Dec. 7 – 20.

THE WELLNESS HUB

Check out the Wellness Hub, a digital platform on the UWinnipeg website, with links to:

- crisis and counselling services
- informational websites about mental health
- tools to track how you are feeling and learn coping skills
- connections to specialized resources

You choose which links to access each time you enter the Wellness Hub.

Visit the hub any time: uwinnipeg.ca/wellnesshub

TUTORING SERVICES

Need help with your courses?

Tutoring services are offered by many academic departments, student services, as well as at the tutoring centres on campus.

For a list, please go to "Tutoring Services & Mentor Programs" on the advising website: uwinnipeg.ca/advising



COMMENTS

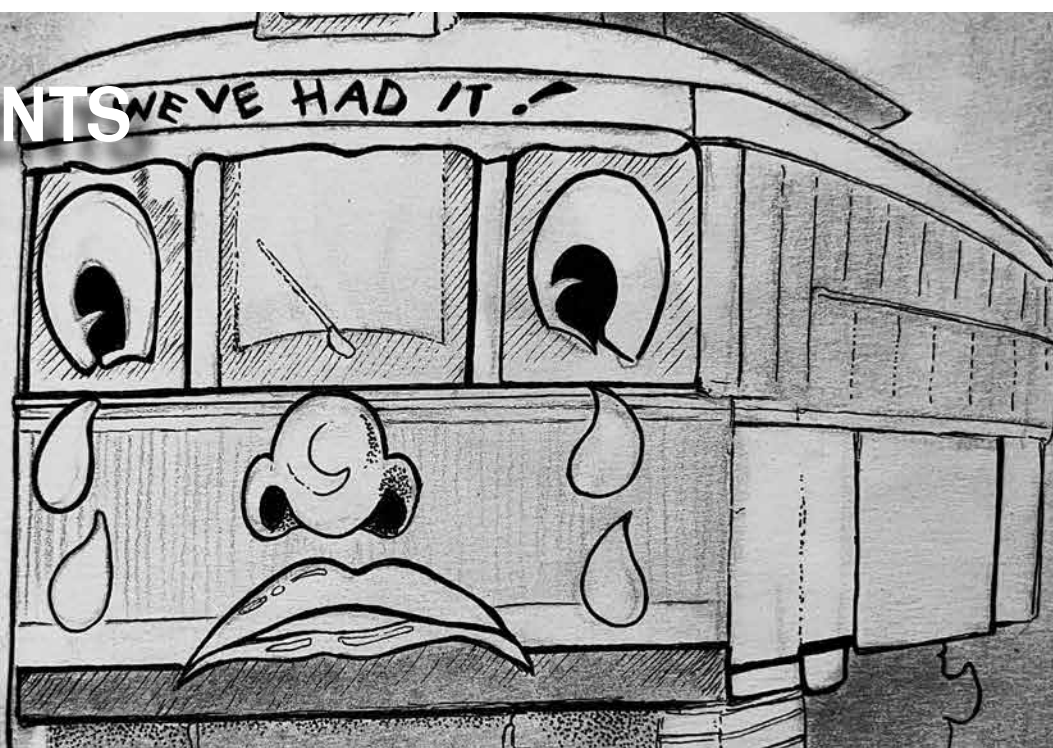


ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK

A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF WINNIPEG

The 1906 streetcar strike

SCOTT PRICE | COLUMNIST

A black-and-white photo of a crowd of strikers overturning a streetcar has become one of the most endearing images of the 1919 General Strike. When the event was memorialized with a statue on Winnipeg's main street, it became one of the signature images associated with the city.

But why a streetcar? Was this a random act of vandalism? That question can be answered by looking at the company that owned and operated streetcars in Winnipeg and the 1906 streetcar strike.

Like most cities in the early 20th century, Winnipeg's streetcar system was dominated by a private monopoly, the Winnipeg Electric Company (WEC).

The WEC achieved its first franchise for

streetcars in 1892 and had a monopoly on gas, electric and public transit in Winnipeg by 1900. With its monopoly power, the company proved incredibly lucrative with earnings increasing 30 per cent a year through the early 1900s.

The WEC's power resulted in price-gouging so bad that even Winnipeg's commercial elites were unhappy. In order to protect their bottom lines, Winnipeg's elite pushed the city to create Winnipeg Hydro to compete with the WEC. Winnipeg Hydro opened its first plants in 1911.

Winnipeg's working class also had significant grievances with the WEC. Fares were seen as being too high for an inadequate level of services while wages for streetcar operators

was low. All of this boiled over during the streetcar strike in 1906.

Winnipeg's first streetcar strike began March 30, 1906 over low wages and horrible working conditions. Drivers were exposed to the elements, and the braking system required brute force to stop a streetcar. Wages and working conditions were the primary concern for the workers, but palpable anger around the WEC fueled a wider boycott campaign and widespread vandalism.

The vandalism started almost immediately. Streetcars were toppled by crowds of people, their cables cut, their windows smashed. With the vandalism also came threats of violence against the scabs operating the streetcars, with some of these operators being chased by crowds.

Much of the property damage and violence came from strike sympathizers rather than strikers, which demonstrates the underlying anger many felt towards the WEC.

In the North End, streetcars were empty or service was stopped altogether. The slogan of the boycott was "we walk." Many trudged through muddy and snowy Winnipeg sidewalks to show solidarity with the strikers.

At the request of WEC, the provincial magistrate swore in "special police officers"

and strike breakers, recruited from a private security force, to operate the streetcars and protect WEC property. These strike-breakers made the situation worse by beating both strikers and strike sympathizers.

As the violence escalated, mayor Thomas Sharpe called in troops from the Royal Canadian Mounted Rifles to quell the unrest. Even then, crowds of people still destroyed streetcars in full view of the troops. It wasn't until Sharpe ordered the troops to load their weapons that the crowd stopped.

The parallels of the 1906 streetcar strike and the 1919 General Strike are many: widespread class anger and solidarity, monopoly capitalist price gouging and the use of force to repress strikes.

These parallels demonstrate that how cities were constructed and who benefited – as well as issues like collective bargaining, working conditions and union recognition – majorly influenced workers in Winnipeg.

Connecting the dots between the streetcar strike and the General Strike provides the colour to fill in that famous black-and-white photo.

Scott Price is a labour historian and program director at CKUW 95.9 FM.

STOPPING HERE

Choosing to call somewhere home

PATRICK HARNEY | COMMENTS EDITOR

In her book *On Fire*, Naomi Klein describes a conversation with farmer-poet Wendell Berry. In their discussion, Klein asks Berry for advice "for rootless people like me and my friends, who disappear into our screens and always seem to be shopping for the perfect community where we should put our roots down."

Berry replied, "Stop somewhere and begin the thousand-year process of knowing that place."

Klein's conversation with Berry raises an integral question for many young people: how to gain an attachment to a place against the constant pull of greater opportunities.

Throughout the book, Klein discusses the importance of rootedness and knowing a place in the process of defending it. She argues that people have to feel a sense of attachment to where they call home to rally together for a brighter future.

This discussion has a lot of weight for many Winnipeggers. Between July 1 of 2021 and 2022, Winnipeg experienced a net loss of 7,140 people to interprovincial migration, according to Statistics Canada.

For decades, urban decline has challenged young Winnipeggers. Deindustrialization and the decline of wheat markets have eliminated some opportunities since the 1970s. Additionally, Winnipeg has never had the stature of Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver to replace these industries with a contemporary financial economy.

Growing up in Winnipeg, I felt the constant pull to get out of the city. The seeming vacancy of opportunity left me feeling like there were no career opportunities outside of education, healthcare or public

administration.

Having access to the privileges that allowed me to dream of elsewhere, I always saw Winnipeg as quicksand sucking people in. I felt a constant need to run away.

If I wanted to work in the arts, be surrounded by culture or interact with the cutting edge that the world has to offer, I had to leave Winnipeg.

For a variety of reasons, I chose to remain, but I always felt like I was wasting my time in a lesser place.

Reading Berry's reply to Klein ignited something in me. I realized the value of ending the fight, ceasing to run and, instead, stopping somewhere.

Once embracing, or succumbing to, the city's pull, I began the process of setting down roots.

For me, rootedness took the form of learning and listening: learning about the history that came to make this place and listening to the contemporary life that surrounds me.

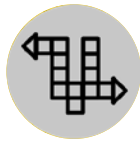
By taking stock of what has happened and what is happening, I could appreciate what was around me, the various lives being lived, the ideas being formed and the futures being made.

I would not say the journey is over. I haven't figured it out, and the reality of urban stagnation in Winnipeg stays in the back of my mind. But stopping here creates its own set of opportunities to build community, relationships and a sense of place.

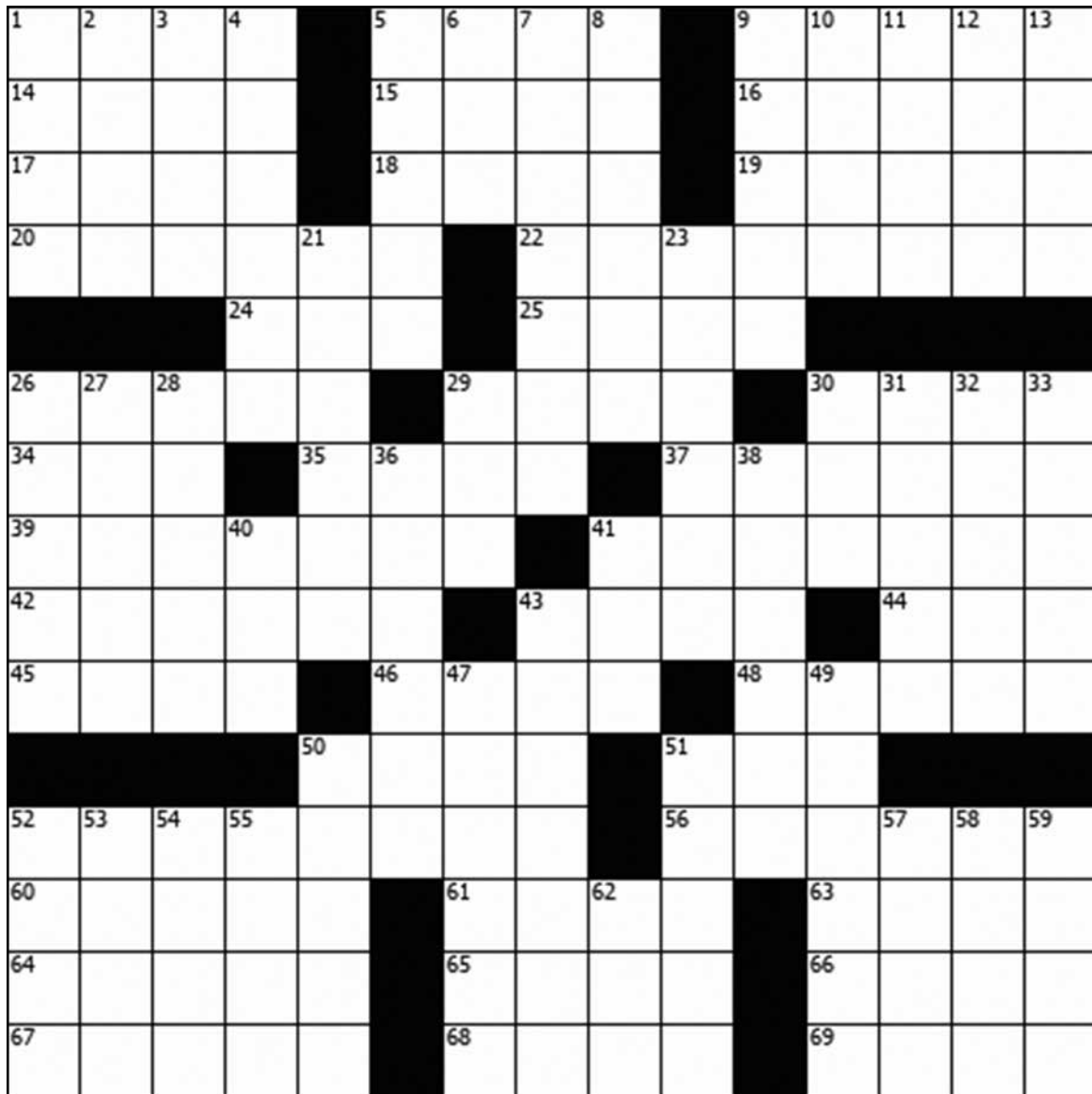
Patrick Harney is the comments editor at *The Uniter*. He's slowly coming around to being known as a "Prairie boy."



ILLUSTRATION BY GABRIELLE FUNK



DIVERSIONS



ONLINECROSSWORDS.NET

ACROSS

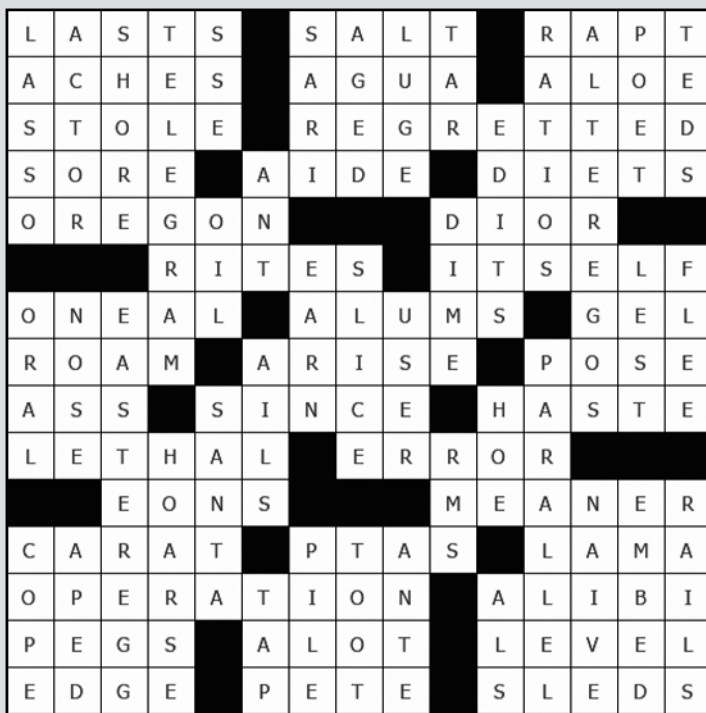
- 1. LOOK NARROWLY
- 5. INITIAL BET
- 9. YOUNG INSECT
- 14. CAR PART
- 15. STANDARD
- 16. GOODBYE (FR.)
- 17. PART OF DJ
- 18. HARD CANDY
- 19. LUSTROUS FABRIC
- 20. ROCK BAND ____ DAN
- 22. SALVE
- 24. ____ MOINES, IOWA
- 25. EXPERTS
- 26. GLENS
- 29. SUGAR SOURCE
- 30. BROADCASTS
- 34. GONE BY
- 35. OLD WOUND
- 37. SMALL HOUND
- 39. WITHDRAW
- 41. TAPIOCA SOURCE
- 42. TOTAL
- 43. YOUNG MEN
- 44. EIGHTH MO.
- 45. CEASE
- 46. ____ BELT
- 48. ROAST HOST
- 50. RAVE'S PARTNER
- 51. COMPASS PT.
- 52. UNDIES
- 56. CANADA'S CAPITAL
- 60. THOUGHTS
- 61. GRATING
- 63. HISTORIC TIMES
- 64. SKIING HILL
- 65. DEFENSE SPRAY
- 66. VENTURE
- 67. DOGMA
- 68. PUB POTABLES
- 69. TREE JUICES

DOWN

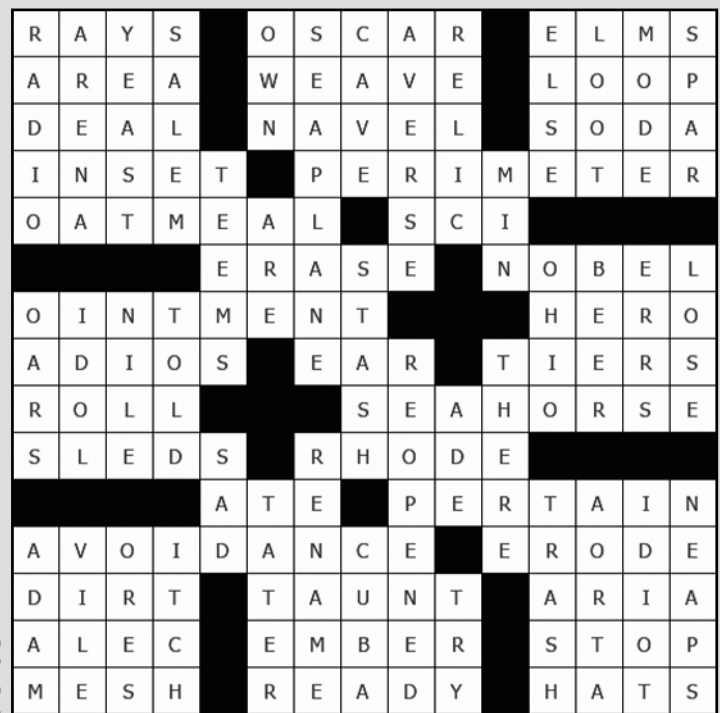
- 1. TABLETS
- 2. OUTLET
- 3. BESIDES
- 4. MOVE BACK
- 5. WARHOL AND WILLIAMS
- 6. ALSO NOT
- 7. STATE POLICE OFFICER
- 8. "THE ____ STRIKES BACK"
- 9. CONTINUES
- 10. EDEN DWELLER
- 11. CEREMONIAL ACT
- 12. ORE BEDS
- 13. UNCLE'S WIFE
- 21. INFERIOR
- 23. PRETTY GOOD (2 WDS.)
- 26. CHALLENGES
- 27. TRAVEL ____
- 28. GAME OF CHANCE
- 29. VAMPIRE ____
- 30. BRAYING BEAST
- 31. SINGER ____ HAYES
- 32. MUSICAL SHOW
- 33. PHASE
- 36. ____ SALAD
- 38. AGREE
- 40. PULL APART
- 41. JAGUAR, E.G.
- 43. AT THE SIDE
- 47. MYSTERY
- 49. PARKING TIMERS
- 50. BOWLER'S BUTTON
- 51. LYMPH ____
- 52. ROSTER
- 53. MOTIONLESS
- 54. CITY LIGHT
- 55. RUBBERNECK
- 57. OPERA HIGHLIGHT
- 58. SOCIAL INSECT
- 59. REQUESTS
- 62. RINK SURFACE

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

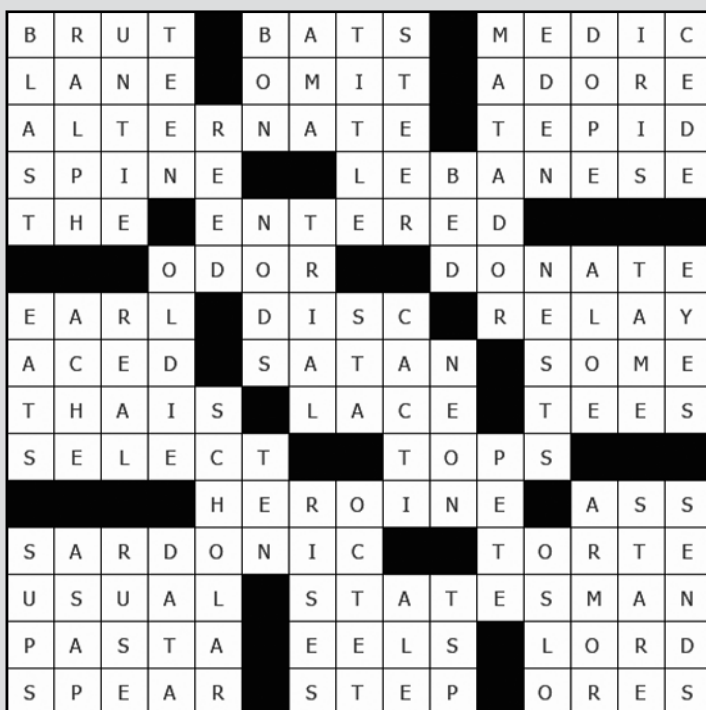
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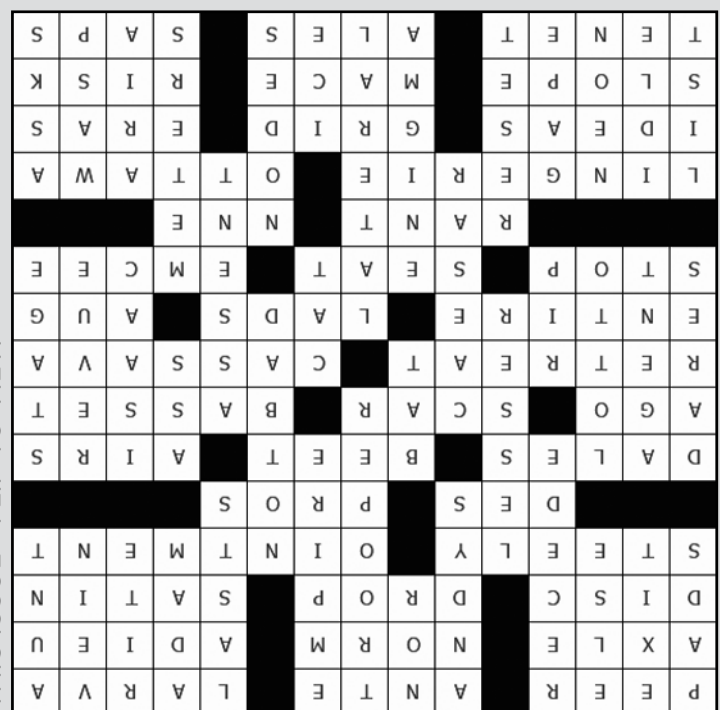
78-08



78-09



THIS ISSUE - FLIP TO VIEW



HOROSCOPES

Welcome the new moon in Scorpio!

Action planet Mars harmonizes with dreamy Neptune on Friday, November 17, at 3:35 AM, softening the edges.

15

SOURCE: CAFEASTROLOGY.COM



ARIES

Your desire to feel safe and secure in your personal life is powerful today, Aries. With a Mars-Neptune aspect influencing the day, you're a little more subdued. Intimate matters are warm, comfortable, and natural. You may be focusing on finding some measure of peace with the past or exploring more profound needs, desires, and feelings. Your mood is hopeful, lenient, and accepting. With this transit in play today, you're inclined to slow down and flow along with your life rather than push yourself. Fortunately, you can find inspiration in hidden places or your imagination. This is a time for believing in your plans and having faith in your ability to bring your dreams to reality.



TAURUS

There is an open-minded, cooperative feel to the day, Taurus. There can be some inclination, however, to gloss over or adjust previously held beliefs and morals. Your powers of persuasion are pretty strong right now. People seem more accepting and generous, and pressures tend to ease. It can feel especially good to understand someone and for them to truly "get" you as well. Others can thoroughly enjoy your company today, as you are not coming on too strong. Your giving nature can be quite appreciated now, and you're in good form creatively. A friend may facilitate a positive connection with someone, or you bond more closely with a friend or partner, especially as you give one another the freedom to be yourselves. You may be putting a little more faith in a dream, and given to fantasize or pursue some of your more unusual desires. Your mood is exploratory and playful, and you're coming across well.



GEMINI

Today's transits are excellent for overcoming overthinking and worrying, Gemini. Today and tomorrow, you see these things as a waste of psychic energy and time, and you recognize the benefits of relaxing activities or even vigorous ones that help you release stress. You might happen upon a new idea or program related to work or health that truly benefits you. It could be a time for a reputation boost. You're gravitating towards endeavors that help refresh your spirit now. Problems are easy to resolve, not by dwelling on them, but by pulling back and allowing the creative process to happen before returning to take care of them. This is also a great time to help, support, or provide a service for others. There's a slower, protective, and steady quality to the day that can suit your purposes quite well.



CANCER

Your ability to get along well with others leads to success today, Cancer. Making negotiations, compromises, and agreements can figure strongly. People tend to be supportive of you, and you of them. You come across with easy charm and grace as you flow along comfortably to the rhythms around you. Helpful interactions with friends or lovers can be healing, effectively lifting your spirits, and theirs. Shared goals and visions are appreciated, and imperfections in yourself and others are either ignored or, if they are recognized, seem rather endearing! You could be drawn to someone who exudes strength or who easily and readily takes the lead. You feel a little freer to express yourself. Sometimes, it's healthier to let something go and move on, and today this can be obvious. A bit of news arrives that's touching and inspirational. Spirited connections might be made.



LEO

Conflicts may naturally resolve today, Leo, or things smooth over. Releasing resentment or negativity through body work, massage, or other calming activities can be most worthwhile now. Slowing down can help you advance. Whether you're giving support or receiving it, taking action on emotional matters can feel good. You require a spiritual or creative escape. With Mars and Neptune harmonizing, you can be especially attracted to those things that boost your spirit and make you feel vital, and the healing arts can be particularly of interest right now. Family relationships can be soothing today, and you may feel that you're getting the right kind of support, or giving it!



VIRGO

Your senses heighten today, Virgo, and you can find yourself in a romantic and creative mood. Inspiration comes more readily when you're in this state. A Mars-Neptune influence comes into play today, and sharing ideas, ideals, and spiritual goals with someone can be rewarding, perhaps even a bonding experience. Your own needs and desires may come to the surface. You're connecting with those desires you don't always acknowledge or identify with. For some, partnerships thrive now as you can experience a strong, intuitive connection. Sometimes, we need to surrender to the unknown by letting go of the desire to control our lives, and today can be good for building up your faith in this way. Someone may help release you from a pressure or worry, or you might enjoy helping someone out in a similar fashion. This is an excellent time to express your ideas or assert yourself in persuasive, charming ways.



LIBRA

Releasing recent tensions about money or time management is powerful today, Libra, and can even indirectly lead to a wonderful idea for solving problems in these areas. The natural arts can appeal and soothe greatly. Earthy activities, photography, pottery, and similar can invigorate you--anything that gives form to some of your feelings can benefit. A partner or significant person in your life can be more understanding, accepting, or possibly romantic. There is a "live and let live" energy now that allows you to let go of negative thought patterns. You might discover something about your line of work and how to make it more suitable to your mission in life. You're tapping into your needs for fantasy, dreams, and the magical and imaginative side of life. Even with business or practical matters, including money and work, you're inclined to use a natural, organic, and intuitive approach.



SCORPIO

You express your affections in especially unique ways now, Scorpio, and others are seeing you in a special light. You're very willing to negotiate, compromise, and maintain a comfortable level of harmony. Your wisdom is evident to people today. It's a good time to strengthen relationships, not so much through words but through actions. Showing your appreciation with actions comes naturally now, and can be very effective. More confidence in a special someone feels good and reflects back to you positively. Both competitive and cooperative activities can do well now. Even with Mars in your sign encouraging you to get moving, its trine to Neptune suggests it's best to take things naturally, slowly, and patiently at the moment. Energy levels tend to be even and smooth. Release pressures to control your day and others! Others are drawn to you magnetically.



SAGITTARIUS

You could feel a little withdrawn today, Sagittarius, and happy to release negative feelings. Dreams, whether they occur while sleeping or awake, are rich; your intuition elevates to entirely new levels. If you can manage it, let your imagination run wild and focus healing energy inward. It's a time to clear the decks for future action. You are also tuning in to the right cues on practical levels now. A family or money problem may iron itself out with a little help from your ability to approach a dilemma patiently. Your attention turns to inner joy and private matters. Still, an air of mystery surrounds you, and you're not about to speak about matters you are still trying to wrap your own mind around. Others will have to wait! This is a time for processing things, understanding your motivations, getting in touch with hidden desires, acting on compassion, and exercising patience.



CAPRICORN

The Moon heads into your sign today, Capricorn, stirring your need to acknowledge your feelings. Emotional needs are more pronounced now, but there's also a focus on your connections. While this is a somewhat impulsive transit, you'll find things work more in your favor if you exercise patience, wind down, and enjoy the moment. You have no time for conflict today! The usual goals or desires that motivate you tend to fall into the background long enough to reveal your more spiritual or neglected emotional areas. You are looking for inspiration, and something communicated in your networks can be just the ticket. Conversations can be inspiring as well, and friendly gestures quite magical. Communicating your intentions is exceptionally natural right now, which is refreshing as there can be little worse than having to explain yourself at every turn.



AQUARIUS

Your hunches or ideas today can be very much worth your attention, Aquarius, with the Moon's move into your soul sector and Mars heading into harmony with Neptune. Even though it seems counter-productive, sometimes slowing down helps us move forward as we put a halt to overthinking, and this can be the case now. People seem more willing to listen rather than make quick judgments. This atmosphere is ideal for you. Find ways to unwind and enjoy easier, more intuitive conversations. Alternatively, if you are looking for answers to nagging personal problems, you may find the necessary resources with a little effort. It's a good day for generous offers with rivals, promotions, or other forms of advancement. There is a rather natural business sense with you today. Nevertheless, you are likely to feel a strong urge to make a brief but refreshing retreat today and tomorrow, just to gather your energy. Indulge yourself in this manner, as time taken for yourself now will only serve to improve your relations with others and with your more worldly affairs later.



PISCES

You can feel right in your element today, Pisces, with Mars in harmony with Neptune in your sign. The Moon heads into your social sector, as well. Take advantage of this energy, reduce stress, and let go of unreasonable pressures, even if it means disengaging yourself from tense feelings or thoughts and removing yourself from unpleasant environments. Fortunately, people appreciate and enjoy your point of view and unique perspective, and you may be moved to reach out and support or help someone in need. Take note of ideas coming to you naturally today, as they can be especially creative and imaginative. It feels natural to relate to others in the way that suits you best -- with understanding and fairness. Effective communications are not all about scoring intellectual points, and transits favor the human element involved. This is a day for tapping into needs that you may miss when going about your usual routine.



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