

# Price

THE VILLAGE

VOLUME 4 NO. 2 • AUGUST 2016



NEW ACQUISITIONS <sup>PG4</sup>

2016 OVERALL SPONSORS <sup>PG8</sup>



Agreement #40033605

**PUBLISHED BY**

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**PRINTED BY**

Derksen Printers

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**CHARITY NUMBER**

10363-393-RR0001

**AGREEMENT NUMBER**

40033605

**HOURS**

May, June & September  
Monday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
July & August  
Monday - Saturday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sunday: noon - 6 p.m.  
\* October - April  
Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

\* Outdoor buildings are closed

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\* Family is defined as parents and their children under 18.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Annual Individual Membership** (Season-long admission)	\$40.00
Annual Family* Membership** (Season-long admission)	\$80.00
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# WHAT'S UP AT MHV?

BY BARRY DYCK

Our summer tourist season has passed its mid-point and much has happened at Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV). Once again we have a fine team of staff and volunteers to carry out our programs in five short but busy months of activities.

Our theme, *Beyond Tradition: The Lives of Mennonite Women*, has garnered considerable attention, including that of the Advanced Photography class at the Steinbach Regional Secondary School. Again this year, the class has produced an exhibit that uses our theme as the basis for their work. The recent Saengerfest at Pioneer Days also used our theme in selecting music for the occasion. From August through early October we will be hosting Ray Dirk's art exhibit, *Along the Road to Freedom*, stories of courageous Mennonite women who led their families out of Russia after the Russian Revolution.

Much time and effort has been spent on our Foundations for a Strong Future initiative. Individuals, corporations, foundations and governments have begun to step up to the table and our campaign is

progressing well. We hope the momentum will continue. Several of the projects funded by this initiative are already underway.

Our festival events have been challenged by weather, competing programs, and proximity to weekends. Last year we had just over 5000 guests on Canada Day whereas this year we had only 3700. The admission was free and the weather was equally beautiful both years. The only difference was the fact that last year Canada Day fell on a Wednesday and this year on a Friday. We suspect many people spent this year's long weekend at the cottage or camping.

With 17 heritage structures, all made of wood, there is no end to the maintenance and restoration work required annually. This year we are addressing the Waldheim House, the Old Colony Worship House and the Windmill. Surely there will be another batch of buildings to address next year.

These are some of the key things keeping us occupied. Pay us a visit to learn more about MHV activities.



# FOUNDATIONS FOR A STRONG FUTURE

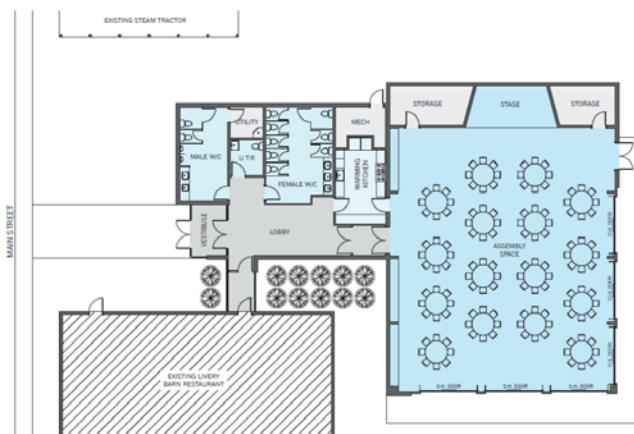
BY BARRY DYCK

For several years we tried to figure out how to find funding for a number of large and significant projects here at Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV). We wanted to build a building to replace a tent that was a poor investment and that was very vulnerable to damage in violent weather. Our Village Centre was approaching the age where the furnaces and air conditioners needed to be replaced due to age. The oldest house in our village, our iconic windmill, and numerous other structures were in serious need of restoration. We still had some debt that needed to be repaid and we wanted to enhance our endowment fund.

Last year the stars and planets started to align as some key individuals began embracing our vision for these projects. Both good advice and financial commitments helped us launch our Foundations for a Strong Future initiative. In the last ten months we have received grant commitments from governments and foundations as well as pledges and cheques from many individuals and corporations.

Last year at this time we had a \$100,000 bequest that the board had allocated to the Summer Pavilion (the building to replace the tent), a \$100,000 commitment in funding to restore the Waldheim House through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, and a corporate commitment of \$80,000 also for the Waldheim house project. These funds were the seeds for a vision to raise \$3,000,000 to fund all the projects noted above and today we are pleased to report that we have received cash and pledges of \$1,780,000.

We are very thankful for the strong support we've seen for the Foundations initiative and we hope that support will continue to grow as more people catch the vision. Our website at [www.mhv.ca](http://www.mhv.ca) contains more detail about the campaign, an opportunity to make an immediate donation, and a pledge sheet that can be completed and sent to us. A museum can only flourish when supported strongly by its constituency.



Footprint of the upcoming Summer Pavilion.



The planned look of the new Summer Pavillion.



# ALONG THE ROAD TO FREEDOM

BY ANDREA DYCK & ALEXANDRA KROEGER



Artist Ray Dirks and Eckhard Goerz, right, at the *Along the Road to Freedom* exhibit opening, August 9, 2016.

On August 9, we celebrated the opening of a temporary exhibit at Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV) called *Along the Road to Freedom*. The exhibit, which has never been shown in its entirety in southeast Manitoba, comes from the Mennonite Heritage Centre Gallery in Winnipeg and will be on display in the Gerhard Ens Gallery until October 10, 2016.



Pastor Shadrack Mutabazi sharing his experiences as a refugee during the opening for *Along the Road to Freedom*, August 9, 2016.

The opening featured a number of presentations: MHV's Curator, Andrea Dyck, provided historical context to the experiences of Mennonites leaving the Soviet Union in the 1920s and 1940s; Eckhard Goerz, a member of the exhibit's planning committee and who was born during the Great Trek (1943-1945), read a poem about his mother's experiences being a ref-

ugee fleeing the Soviet Union during that time. We were privileged to have Pastor Shadrack Mutabazi of Shalom Christian Outreach, who came to Winnipeg with his family as refugees from Congo in 2010, speak about his experiences being a recently-arrived refugee in Canada. Artist Ray Dirks concluded the formal part of the evening with a presentation about the background of the exhibit and his inspirations for the paintings.

Featuring twenty-six paintings by Ray Dirks, *Along the Road to Freedom* pays tribute to the women who led their families out of Russia in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution and in the midst of World War Two, often in the absence of their fathers, husbands, and brothers, who had been conscripted, killed, or arrested.

Each painting from this exhibit creates a memory mosaic of the woman it features. Alongside the paintings are artefacts from the MHV collection showcasing objects that Mennonite immigrants from the 1920s and 1940s brought along to Canada. Some of the items on display, like the case full of immigration documents, were necessary for travel, while others, like the Heese dress or Helena Unruh's childhood bed, had sentimental value and were too precious for their owners to leave behind in the Soviet Union.

The exhibit opening, featuring stories from Mennonites and non-Mennonites alike, demonstrated that fleeing violence, settling in a new country, and finding freedom from unimaginably difficult pasts through faith, letting go and not seeking revenge but working for peace and extending forgiveness, are not just stories that belong either to the past or only to Mennonites. These themes play a large role in the *Along the Road to Freedom* exhibit and they continue to be vitally relevant in our world today. The paintings and artefacts ask us all – not just Mennonites of European heritage – to remember and honour the stories of the women, strong or frail, certain or unsure, forging ahead or struggling to survive, who are responsible for us living good lives at peace, far from lands and times of uncertainty and fear.



If you missed *Beyond Tradition: The Lives of Mennonite Women*, MHV's exhibit earlier this year, don't worry! It will re-open on October 24 and will run until Spring 2017.

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# NEW ACQUISITIONS

BY ALEXANDRA KROEGER

Six years ago, we received the safe belonging to the Chortitzer Waisenamt, formerly based in Randolph, Manitoba (previously the village of Chortitz). This summer, we were privileged to receive some items associated with the safe. When the Waisenamt ceased operation in 2005, its archives went to the Chortitzer Mennonite Conference (now the Christian Mennonite Church, or CMC) based in Steinbach. The CMC has been organizing and cataloguing these papers in preparation for their move to the Mennonite Heritage Centre in Winnipeg, and have donated artefacts associated with the Waisenamt safe, including file boxes that used to hold Waisenamt correspondence and a pre-1919 Mennonite teacher's manual, to the MHV collection.

nonite private school on his property in Osterwick, Manitoba.

When Mennonites came to Manitoba in the 1870s, they were promised that they would have control over their children's education. This meant a Mennonite teacher (almost always male) would teach reading, writing, and arithmetic, and include religious instruction, all in German. However, at this time there was no formal instruction for Mennonite teachers beyond the education they themselves had received. So math manuals like these were compiled and hand-written as references for teachers so that they could pass on the lessons to their students. This particular manual has, among other things, notes on currency conversion, word problems, examples of fractions and interest calculations. Since most teachers did not have lengthy careers as teachers – it was not a very lucrative profession – they would pass the manuals along to their successors, who would add their own notes to the material. This manual might have made it into C. T. Friesen's hands after the School Attendance Act of 1916 enforced stricter standards on Manitoba schools and made education in the English language compulsory.



The Chortitzer Waisenamt safe, donated by Dick and Nettie Enns in 2010.

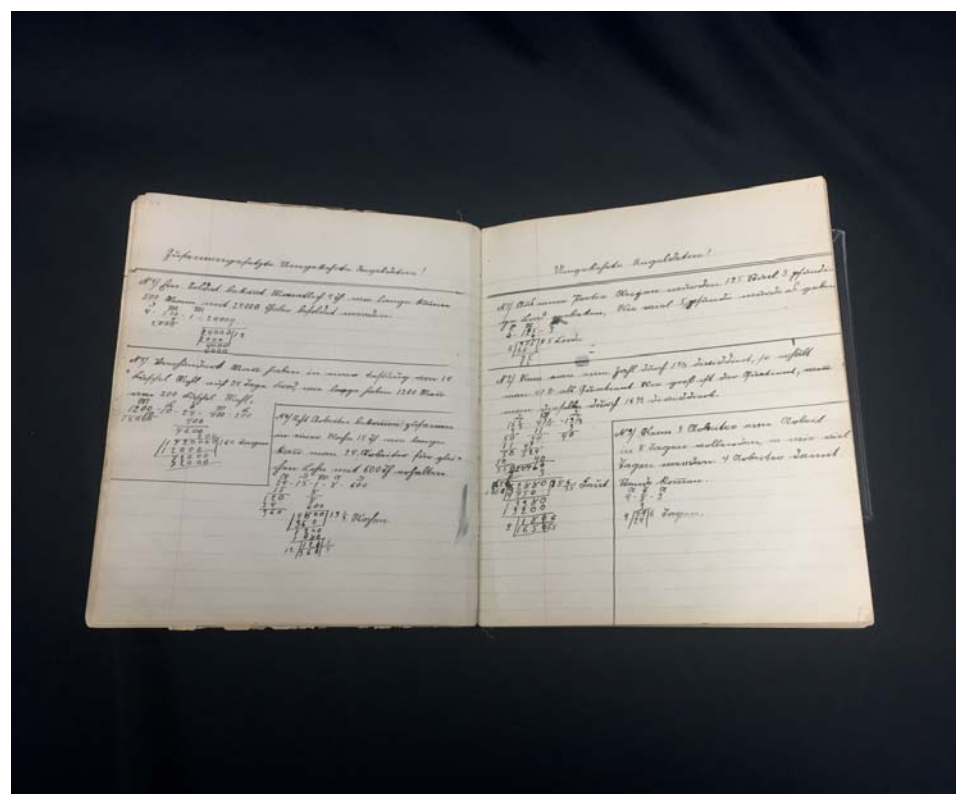


Papers relating to the Chortitzer Waisenamt safe, donated by the Christian Mennonite Church in 2016.

The Mennonite Waisenamt (translated literally, the name means "Orphans' Bureau") was an organization created in 1792 in Prussia to fulfill Mennonite inheritance practices and laws and to ensure that widows and orphans were financially provided for, upon the death of a spouse or parents, and could also be used as a bank. This tradition was carried over from Prussia to Russia, and again from Russia to Canada when some 3,000 Mennonites moved to Manitoba in the 1870s. The Chortitzer Waisenamt, along with Swiss-German Mennonites from Ontario, helped finance this journey.

The curatorial department at MHV is honoured to be the caretakers of artefacts like these that shed light on unique parts of the history of Russian-descendant Mennonites. If you have an artefact with a story about Mennonite history to tell, and you would like to donate it to the museum's collection, please contact the main office at 204-326-9661. Someone from the curatorial department would be happy to meet with you to discuss the artefact.

The Waisenamt needed somewhere secure and fire-proof to hold money and important documents, so they imported a safe from Toronto sometime in the 1880s. The organization must have had an impeccable filing system, for when the CMC volunteers were sorting through the documents earlier this year they found the original manufacturer's instructions for cleaning the lock and changing the combination for this safe. The instruction booklet, along with file boxes that were used to store the Waisenamt's correspondence, has been donated to MHV and provides excellent contextual information for the safe in the museum's collection.



Pre-1919 Mennonite math teacher's manual, donated by the Christian Mennonite Church in 2016.

The final item in the CMC donation is a pre-1919 teacher's manual. Although we do not know who owned it, judging by where it was found, it probably came from the Chortitz church area (south of Winkler). According to one of the volunteers going through the Waisenamt records, the manual might have entered the records through C. T. Friesen, head of the Waisenamt in the early 20th century, who had a Men-





# PROJECTS UPDATE

BY BARRY DYCK

I find it interesting that people, governments, foundations and corporations are much more inclined to fund projects than day-to-day operations. It seems there is nothing very engaging about paying for energy bills, taxes, insurance, salaries and the usual expenses involved in operating a business. Building projects, restoration projects, exhibits and other one-time investments usually attract interest before too long.

We have both. Our operating budget is fairly consistent and needs to be funded annually whereas our projects can vary considerably from year to year. Some of our current projects include:

- The Summer Pavilion (the building to replace our tent.) We are planning to begin construction in late September, at the end of our season. Just under \$600,000 of funding has been designated to the project by the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund, The Winnipeg Foundation, the Rural Municipality of Hanover and a private bequest. Our budget is \$1,000,000.
- The Waldheim House needs to have log walls repaired both inside and outside, and a new thatched roof installed. \$215,000 of the required \$300,000 has been designated to the project by the Canada 150 Infrastructure Fund, The Steinbach Credit Union, The Thomas Sill Foundation and the RM of Hanover. The biggest challenge with this project is to find skilled crafts-people who have the time to do the work.
- The Old Colony Worship House has had decayed siding boards replaced and has received a new coat of paint. A grant from Community Places will provide \$3,600 of the \$13,800 required.
- Three heating/air conditioning units have been replaced in the village centre to the tune of \$121,000. We plan to replace our makeup air unit next year and the remaining three roof top furnaces in 2018. The total cost of this project is expected to be \$300,000.
- The windmill will have repairs done to the sails at a cost of about \$25,000. \$6,400 of that project cost will come from Community Places, an agency of the Manitoba Government.
- Our Village Centre is in need of equipment to improve both our wireless phone and internet services. The cost of this

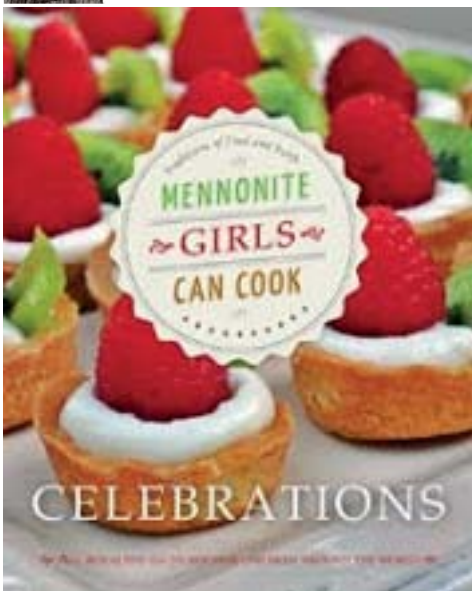
modest project is approximately \$5,000 and so far no funds have been allocated to it.

The Foundations for a Strong Future campaign has accumulated undesignated funds which will be allocated to various of the above projects to meet the full funding requirements. This is a uniquely busy time with respect to projects and we are thankful for the generosity of our constituency.



# VILLAGE BOOKS & GIFTS

BY JO-ANN FRIESEN



Mennonite Girls Can Cook: Celebrations

Guests from as far away as Cuba choose MHV as one of their primary destinations and have expressed how the informative displays and artifacts the Village has to offer have enlightened them about the Russian-Mennonite journey and settlement. As well, they are very impressed with the variety of books and souvenirs available in the gift shop.

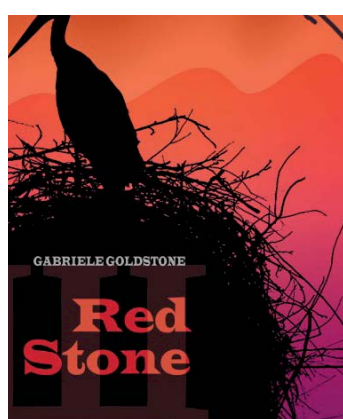
Reception works tirelessly to provide excellent customer service to our many guests and answer unique questions like "why did women sit on one side of the church and men on the other?" or "how

did they live in the Semlin in the winter?" Also, "do you know where I can get my dogs hair cut?" Our Receptionists are knowledgeable and friendly.

We are proud to carry titles that embrace our history, tell our story and sometimes bring a little controversy. Our quality books continue to captivate shoppers from around the world. Village Books & Gifts (VBG) strives to be intentional with what graces our shelves by continuing to improve the selection / quality of gifts and souvenirs we sell.

One of our newest books titled *Red Stone* is about Katya and her family.

Katya knows all about Stalin's big plans;



Red Stone

she learned of them in school. But those plans mean little to her until the secret police arrest Papa and seize their family farm. With Mama and her younger siblings, Katya is crammed into a train headed for a forced labor camp in Siberia. Torn from everything she has ever known, Katya faces cold and hunger, and the ever-present threat of lost hope. As she clings to a single red stone from the fields she grew up in, she questions life. Where is Papa? Will she ever see him again? And what will become of Katya's family? "Based on a true story, *Red Stone* explores the trauma and heartbreaks suffered by many families in Russia during the 1930s when Stalin seized individual property and villainized property owners as kulaks."

Puzzles, puzzles and more puzzles. You are invited to discover our brand new puzzle mountain where you will find unique, hard-to-find puzzles for the brainteaser enthusiast. From heritage sites to vintage landscapes, there are so many to choose from.

Why not stock up on our latest feature, *Celebrations* the second cookbook by Mennonite Girls Can Cook. It is currently at a special price, why not purchase several copies for birthday gifts as well as finish some of your Christmas shopping early.



Amish Spring - 500 Piece

Village Books and Gifts definitely appeals to a wide variety of folks who want to bring home something that's a little bit "Steinbach" and a little bit "Mennonite." We work hard to provide quality, unique, hard-to-find items. Please do remember we have the best and only selection of Menno Apparel in Southeastern Manitoba. It is a feast for the eyes and tickles the funny bone. Store hours for July and August are Monday to Saturday 9 am - 6 pm and Sunday 11:30 am - 6 pm. See you soon.



# 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BY ANNE TOEWS

## SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 5, 2016  
**Fall On The Farm**

Experience harvest work, steam powered threshing, a variety of pioneer demonstrations, hog butchering, music and entertainment, and lots of hearty food.

Thursday, September 22, 2016  
**Volunteer Appreciation**

If you have volunteered at MHV this year, you are invited to attend. No formal invitations will be mailed or emailed.

## SEPTEMBER

Monday, September 29, 2016  
**MHV Auxiliary Fundraising Dinner**

## OCTOBER

Saturday, October 1, 2016  
**Village grounds and Livery Barn Restaurant closed for the season.**

Monday, October 10, 2016  
**Closed for Thanksgiving**

## NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 26, 2016  
**Christmas at Village Books & Gifts**

## DECEMBER

December 24, 2016 - January 9, 2017  
**Christmas / New Year's**  
Closed for the holidays.

[www.MHV.ca](http://www.MHV.ca)  
Call today for more details!  
204-326-9661



# PIONEER DAY CAMP - JULY 2016

BY JAYCIA KOOP



This year's first session of Pioneer Day Camp at Mennonite Heritage Village (MHV) was a great success! The camp ran July 11-15 for 5-8 year olds. Each day, all participants were able to dress up in costumes that we have here at the museum: dresses, overalls, aprons, bonnets and hats. They loved it!

The first day, the kids got a tour of the village. They learned all about "Pioneer Life" as we journeyed from the *Semlin* to the housebarn, with stops at the schoolhouse, windmill, and Old Colony Church.

"Life in the Village" day involved the kids going to work in the blacksmith shop, and learning about making flour at the windmill. They also got to visit the private school, where they practiced math and writing on slate boards. Each child was able to help make a cup-and-ball game, which is a simple handmade game that was common for pioneer children.

"Life at Home" day consisted of learning to bake *Schnetje* biscuits, playing a washboard laundry relay game, helping out with farm chores, and then enjoying our freshly baked *Schnetje* with strawberry-rhubarb jam in the summer kitchen!

On "Transportation" day, the children experienced a variety of different transportation modes. Some were old-fashioned, such as the horse-drawn wagon and old fire engine, and some were more modern rides, such as the barrel-train ride! The kids were thrilled to be able to sit on all the old tractors and trucks!

One of my favorite activities of the week was the creation of quilt journals. Quilting patterns can represent different meanings or tell a story, and we thought this would be a great way for the kids to reflect on their week and have something to show their parents at the end. Each child was given a large piece of cardstock, divided into sections. Before the end of each day, the kids got time to journal a highlight of their day or something they learned. Some wrote a short line with a drawn picture, while others wrote full paragraphs of all their fun. We used scraps of patterned paper to make quilt-like patches as a flap over their journal sections. We had been taking pictures during the various activities throughout the week, and I got a bunch of those developed so they could be added to the quilt journals to help the kids tell their stories and share their experience.

and piecing together their quilt stories. And by the end of the week, all the patches were complete and they looked amazing!

On the final day, the kids were able to showcase a craft and share a highlight of their week with the parents. We ended off the day with rides for everyone on the horse-drawn wagon and the barrel train. It was a wonderful way to end a wonderful week! And now we look forward to our next Pioneer Day Camp session.



I was excited for this activity - but wasn't sure if the kids would be as thrilled about it. They LOVED it! It was so neat to see them get excited about writing



# MHV AUXILIARY

BY LINDA SCHROEDER

The MHV Auxiliary is a group of volunteers who see themselves as ambassadors for MHV. Most of the events we plan are involved with fundraising activities with all proceeds going to projects at the museum.

As you stroll through the grounds and gardens you will notice new shrubs on the east side of the auditorium. The Auxiliary together with the Steinbach and Area Garden Club purchased and planted the beautiful shrubs. We have also provided the flowers and bedding plants that the Garden club planted and has continued to care for.

One of the first events of spring is our annual fundraising fasp. The MHV theme for the year, "Beyond Tradition, The Lives of Mennonite Women" has sparked some creative fundraising ideas. The fasp on May 29, featured two local authors, Mary Ann Loewen and Eleanor Hildebrand Chornoboy. The stories were inspirational and motivational as stories of mothers and sons were told as well as stories of early pioneer women who went beyond traditional careers.

Several events have been planned for this fall. On September 29, we are delighted to feature a fundraising dinner with our very special guest, The Honourable Janice C. Filmon, C.M., O.M. Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba. Tickets will be going on sale shortly and only a limited number will be sold. Ticket prices are \$75, or a table for 8 for \$600. Tax deductible receipts will be issued for a portion of your ticket. You can call Linda Schroeder, 326-2558 for more info or speak to any of the auxiliary members about pur-

chasing tickets.

The Village Quilters have completed the new raffle quilt and will be putting it on display immediately after the 2016 raffle is completed on Monday. Tickets will be on sale after that as well. Also in the planning stages is a quilt show in October. Please watch for further details.



The winner of our 2016 quilt raffle draw was Elsie Janzen of Steinbach



# PAR FOR THE COURSE

BY PATRICIA WEST



This summer has been a very interesting and busy time. Being the Development Coordinator for MHV definitely has its ups and downs, but thanks to this wonderful community and amazing staff and volunteers, the good far outweighs the bad.

MHV has a number of fundraising events that you may or may not be familiar with. Tractor Trek is a joint venture with Eden Foundation and consists of approximately 50 drivers with their vintage restored tractors driving from MHV along a back road route to Richer and back to the museum. My role on the day of the Trek

is navigator. Unfortunately I'm not really the best navigator, but we only made one wrong turn and were able to get back on track quickly. Besides that we only had one flat tire along the way. Definitely not a bad day.

Summer in the City runs for the entire Father's Day weekend and draws huge numbers of people. It is a lot of work but, it's also so much fun to see the entire community out celebrating Steinbach. The sights, tastes and sounds can be a bit overwhelming, but those of you with a waffle addiction seemed to find us either by smell, memory, or by the sight of our newest addition, Waldheim the Waffle. He made many friends over the weekend, and even got to try out cheerleading and the bean bag toss.

Our most recent event, the Heritage Classic Golf Tournament, took place on August 10th at Quarry Oaks again. We are absolutely thrilled that this has grown drastically from last years' attendance. We even had Blue Bomber alumnus Brett MacNeil golf, which was great. He's such a nice guy! Congratulations to DJ Reimer, Nikko Loewen, Ed Proch and Mike Proch from Crown Nissan on their win. We will see you guys again next year.

Thank you to all of our sponsors, volunteers, trekkers, waffle addicts and golfers for your incredible support of MHV. Your interest in what we do here means a lot. We hope that you will join us again next year as we strive to make all of our events bigger and better.

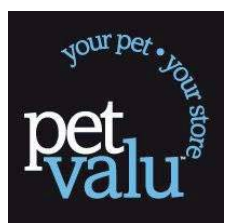




# 2016 OVERALL SPONSORS



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