

Sou'wester

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Local teacher-librarian stands above the rest



Sarah Guillemard
FORT RICHMOND MLA
CONSTITUENCY
REPORT

October is Canadian Library Month, an annual celebration of libraries, library workers, and their services, as declared by the Canadian Federation of Library Associations.

It is also International School Library Month, with the 2020 theme being *Finding Your Way to Good Health and Well Being*. Participants are encouraged to think about the connection between books, reading, school libraries, good health and well being.

How fitting, then, that this month we celebrate one of Fort Richmond's teacher-librarians from Bairdmore School, who has received multiple awards in 2019 and 2020.

Alison Bodner received the 2019 Manitoba School Library Association's outstanding teacher-librarian of the year award. She also she received the 2020 Angela Thacker Memorial Award, which honours teacher-librarians nationwide who have made contributions to the profession through publications, productions, or professional development activities.

Described as a mentor and role model by some and "selfless in her determination to use her position as teacher-librarian to the greater good of all students and staff" by JoAnn Gibson, a consultant for Pembina Trails School Division, Alison personifies our community's commitment to helping each other.



Supplied photo

Fort Richmond MLA Sarah Guillemard was pleased to honour Bairdmore School teacher-librarian both in person and in the Manitoba Legislative Assembly.

I was pleased to honour Alison during this month's legislative session. Please view my celebration of this community hero at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEKmOHkxv9w

Do you know of someone making a difference who works or lives in Fort Richmond? Please reach out to my constituency office at 204-221-8881 or email contact@sarahguillemard.com to nominate them for a community hero award.

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On Oct. 16, I was happy to announce our government is spending \$16.6 million on a number of park improvement projects. These enhancements will include increasing the number of beaches where mobility mats provide accessible connections to water, as well as funding for infrastructure and waste management. These upgrades will serve our

communities for years to come.

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As we try to get in some end-of-season outdoor time during a pandemic, one celebration we are navigating through is Halloween. Many residents of Fort Richmond are trying new ways to enjoy trick-or-treating safely this year, such as building candy distribution pipes or tying bags of treats to tree branches.

Some provincial recommendations include providing contactless candy distribution at a distance, washing hands frequently, wearing a mask, and being aware of the local pandemic response system levels in order to consider safe alternative activities.

Please visit the Government of Manitoba web site specific to fall holidays at www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/holidays

Trouble hearing? Get audiological assessment



Carolyn Braid
COMMUNITY
CORRESPONDENT

CRESCENTWOOD

If you or a loved one is frequently asking others to speak more slowly, loudly and clearly; withdrawing from conversations; or avoiding social settings, you or they may be suffering from hearing loss.

Kristy Tarasoff, owner and hearing instrument specialist at Ear Architects Hearing Care (3412 Roblin Blvd.) said that people with hearing loss will often avoid public or group settings and isolate themselves from others in order to hide their hearing loss.

"Many people are afraid of the stigma associated with hearing aids," she said. "People need to know that hearing is for everyone,

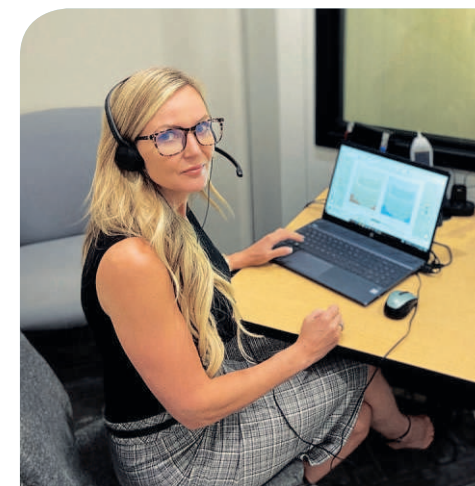
and so are hearing aids. Individuals of all ages and from all walks of life can benefit from hearing aids. My niece is 17 years old and has worn hearing aids since the age of two."

The first step in determining if someone has hearing loss is an audiological assessment, which measures a person's ability to hear different sounds, pitches or frequencies.

Once people are fitted with hearing aids, the next challenge is ensuring they are worn every day.

"Hearing aids can not only improve quality of life but slow down the deterioration of hearing, and slow the onset of dementia," Kristy said. "Using a hearing aid is like exercise; when you wear them every day, you become in-tune to the world around you, garbled words become clearer, and the feeling of wearing them becomes familiar."

For more information, or to book an appointment visit eahearing.com, call 204-416-



Supplied photo

Kristy Tarasoff at Ear Architects Hearing Care.

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