

## Worlds largest snow maze

By Loryn Willcocks



Have you ever wanted to get lost on purpose? Not emotionally, not spiritually - I'm talking physically - in the middle of a snow maze so big it made Guinness World Records raise an impressed eyebrow?

Welcome to Amaze in Corn - a fall corn maze turned into a winter wonderland, home of the world's largest snow maze and the only place where saying, "I have no idea where we are" is part of the family fun. It is only 54 miles north of the Pembina Border crossing.

First things first: dress like you're preparing for an Arctic expedition. This is not the time for a "cute winter outfit." This is the time for thermal tops and bottoms, ski pants, winter jacket, hat, neck warmer, waterproof mitts — the whole Michelin Man aesthetic. Bonus points for sunglasses, if the sun is shining and you'd like to see where you're dramatically wandering.

The maze itself can take 20 minutes to an hour, long enough for your children to say "I'm tired" approximately 50 times. The beauty of this maze is choice. You can bravely weave through every twist and turn and be determined to conquer it properly, or after the third snack break and a minor family debate about who chose the wrong path, you can gracefully exit through one of the side openings like the practical adult you are.

Pro tip: if you have a child whose legs mysteriously stop functioning after 15 minutes, bring a toboggan (that's Canadian for sled — pronounced tuh-BOG-uhn if you'd like to sound offi-

cial). You will look like a winter hero pulling them through the snow. Strollers, however, will stage a full protest. The terrain is bumpy, snowy, and not particularly wheel-friendly. Consider this your gym day.

Once you finally escape — triumphant, mildly winded, and possibly turned around — reward yourself. Warm up by the bonfire with hot chocolate. If parenting in a snow labyrinth has tested your resilience, visit the snow bar for a little liquid courage. You may need it before tackling the giant luge. Don't worry, they provide the sleds. You just provide bravery (and the ability to stand up afterward).

For the less thrill-seeking among us, Snow Mountain offers good, old-fashioned snowy fun without the dramatic descent. Once everyone's fingers have regained feeling and moods are restored, there are snow games to round out the day.

It's chaotic. It's cold. It's wonderfully Canadian. Honestly, there's something magical about willingly getting lost in the snow — especially when hot chocolate is waiting at the end.

The maze closes March 22, with the option to stay open dependent on the weather. The snow maze closes at -16.6 F ambient temperature. Check their website [cornmaze.ca](http://cornmaze.ca) for all details.

Now the real question - are you conquering every twist and turn or taking the first exit the moment someone says, "My legs don't work?"

*Loryn Willcocks was born and raised in Morden, Manitoba. Working at Simmons Media, Loryn has worn many hats but has found her calling in creating Canadian content and news. She stays busy by raising two very active kids who are involved in nearly every activity imaginable and giving back to the community through volunteering. Her children are living their best life, and she's along for the ride. When not working for Simmons or catering to her children, she is busy on the farm working with cattle, custom planting and chopping.*



The giant luge is an adrenaline rush. Submitted photo



The world's largest snow maze. Submitted photo



The snow maze from aerial view. Submitted photo

## Monster cookies and memories

By Sarah Overby

The smell of sweet cookies fills the entire school as the home economics/FACS class learns to prepare and bake all kinds of treats. This was once the daily scene for retired teacher Mavis Mikkelsen.

Mrs. Mavis Mikkelsen, or "Mrs. Mikk," was a beloved teacher in Langdon for many years. Although she has moved away, her famous monster cookie recipe and all of the memories remain.

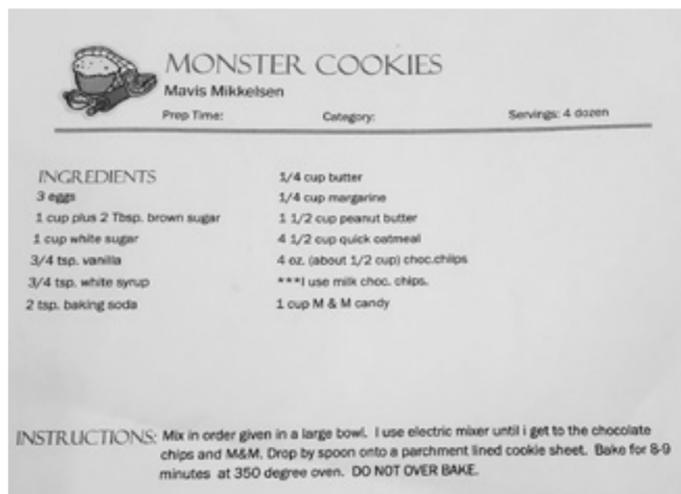
Mikkelsen taught in Langdon from 1979-2011. Over the years, many have reached out for her monster cookie recipe, so she recently posted it on Facebook.

She said, "It really isn't very different from other recipes. The biggest tip I give to people is to not over bake. They look a little under done when I take them out of the oven. I leave them on a pan for at least five minutes before cooling on a cookie rack. I also double this recipe, so it makes eight dozen."

Mikkelsen and her husband, Kerry, moved to Bismarck in 2018. As she reminisced about the Langdon teaching days, she said, "Teaching was such an awesome adventure...most days were great, a few may have been exhausting! I loved most days except maybe noon-duty days."

When Mikkelsen recently posted a photo of herself with a former student, Greg Lafrenz, from the 1980s, her Facebook photo was flooded with kind-hearted comments. Amber Soli, daughter of Greg Lafrenz commented, "We were so lucky to have two generations with you as a teacher. You will always have a special place in our hearts."

For Mikkelsen, these comments are not taken lightly. She stated, "The kids were always memorable and hold a



Mrs. Mikkelsen's famous monster cookie recipe. Submitted by Mavis Mikkelsen



Baking up sweet treats and fond memories. Former student, Greg Lafrenz, listened intently as Mrs. Mavis Mikkelsen taught home economics class in the 1980s. Submitted by Adam Lafrenz

special place in my life. I love when we meet up with former students and catch up with their new adventures. Class, activities, prom, monster cookies, mittens and - of course - notes and crossword puzzles are wonderful memories."

For so many students, Mrs. Mikk's

class was not only a place to learn life lessons, it was a class where memories were made, and sweet treats were a bonus.

"Teaching-what an awesome career choice. Thanks for the memories, LAHS!" said Mikkelsen.

## Cavalier County Cancer Crusaders update

By Kathy Muhs

With the arrival of March comes hope of spring being just around the corner and thoughts turn to the Cavalier County Cancer Crusaders' spring rummage sale. The sale will be at the American Legion Hall in Langdon, and dates for this annual event have been set for the end of April. Drop off dates are April 25, 26 and 27, and please note that we have added a third date for drop off. Last fall, we accidentally added Saturday in addition to Sunday and Monday for drop off, and that worked so well that we decided to continue with three days, as it gave the volunteers one more day to organize donations. The sale will begin Tuesday, April 28 and continue each day through May 2. The hours for drop off and the sale are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Volunteers are always welcome! All you have to do is show up at the American Legion hall, ask for Kathy, and you will find yourself involved and busy. Thank you to the many volunteers who continue to help year after year to make this large undertaking go smoothly.

Other events for Cavalier County Cancer Crusaders this year will be the raffle held this summer with the winner announced at Music Fest. The Crusaders will have the annual fall rummage sale in September. We will end the year with the Funds for Fighting campaign with matching funds up to \$10,000 by Langdon Implement, FM Bank and Christie Motors on donations made to the CCC from Nov. 1 to Dec. 15.

The goal of the Cancer Crusaders is to provide a quarterly donation to any resident of Cavalier County who is currently receiving care for a cancer

diagnosis. With about 40 recipients on our list, a large amount of money is needed to obtain this goal. The communities of our area have been simply amazing with the support they have given us. Every donation, large or small, helps so much, and it is so heart-warming to receive each donation. We would like to share our financial statement from 2025 so the public realizes the huge impact each donation makes. Recently, we received our largest donation to date from Alan Ormiston of Fairdale, N.D., and we want to thank him for his generosity. We once again were able to reach our goal in Funds for Fighting, sponsored by the Roy Family. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Roy Family for their ongoing support to the efforts of the Crusaders. These donations made for a wonderful way to wrap up the end of

the year. We continue to meet and exceed our goals set in 2017 when Cavalier County Cancer Crusaders became a non-profit for our community.

The organization has recently had some changes with Kristin Girodat and Katie Polansky as new directors. They replaced the late Adrian Olson and retiring Betty Coyle, and we are grateful for their service and dedication. Kathy Muhs has stepped down as president, and Jessica Tank will fill that position, with Kathy as vice president. Cavalier County Cancer Crusaders will hold their annual meeting on March 18 at 5:30 p.m. in the meeting room of the Cavalier County Library. The public is invited to attend. Please remember this organization is successful because of the generous community we live in. THANK YOU!

### Health Tip

Provided by Cavalier County Health District

If you choose to drink while celebrating St. Patrick's Day, do so responsibly and in moderation. Plan ahead for a sober ride or try alcohol-free options like mocktails for a fun way to celebrate without the after-effects. Your health and safety come first.



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