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² The Express Weekly News Thursday, July 13, 2023 Alec Baldwin golden at the Special Olympics World Games

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli's Alec Baldwin earned three medals (two gold, one bronze) last month at the Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, Germany, and received an outpouring of praise from the local community.

Alec competed in track, relay and the running long jump at the games, which were held June 17-25, and earned a medal in each event.

He said he "was excited and very happy" to receive two gold medals and that it was his first time competing at the world games.

"I'm doing great because I earned [medals] in three events," said Alec, who has autism and is well known in Gimli for his annual community dog party and his outstanding artwork. "I earned two gold medals. One for 800 metres and when my time was two minutes and 18 seconds. And another gold medal for running long jump. That's when I made my personal best. I ran for 25 metres [then jumped]."

Alec and three of his Canadian teammates scooped up the bronze medal in the 400-metre relay event, completing it in 54 seconds. Alec ran in third position, handing the baton to the last runner.

He said he wants to improve that personal best time.



Alec with his sister Nicola, who attended the games in Berlin to cheer him on.

"If I don't get a personal best time, everything is OK," he said. "We proved ourselves to run quicker [in the relay event] and we had speed in a flash."

The Special Olympics World Games had about 7,000 athletes from 190 countries competing in 26 sports that included track and field, cycling, equestrian, artistic and rhythmic gymnastics, judo, powerlifting, sailing, swimming and basketball. The



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EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED Alec Baldwin with his parents at the Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, Germany.

games are the world's largest inclusive sporting event, allowing athletes with intellectual challenges to compete together and achieve recognition for their dedication to athletic training.

Alec said the Special Olympics games help promote inclusivity and generate conversations around people with intellectual challenges. TSN even interviewed him at the games for German TV.

"It's a great phenomenon when we talk together and start conversations and asking questions. It was awesome," he said.

Alec's mom, Tanis Benson, said the response from people in Gimli to Alec's performance at the games was overwhelming.

"He had such a great response from

people locally on Facebook. He's got so many people who like him. It's just amazing," said Benson, who attended the games with her husband and daughter. "I did Facebook live for the opening and closing ceremonies and after he won his medals, and we had hundreds of people congratulating him and telling him they were so proud of him for representing Gimli and Canada."

The RM of Gimli and Canada Day organizers invited Alec to participate in the parade through town on July 1. Alec dressed in his Team Canada uniform and wore his medals.

Alec qualified for the Special Olympics international games in Berlin by competing against other athletes from Manitoba. He ended up tied for

Continued on page 3



> GOLDEN, FROM PG. 2

points (he placed first in the 800 metres and second in the running long jump) with another athlete. His selection for Team Canada came down to a random draw made by computer.

Alec is already a seasoned pro at distance running, but it was the first time he trained for and competed in the running long jump.

"He had to learn how to perform the running long jump," said Benson. "Alec is with Interlake Athletics in Selkirk and his coach, Lena Kublick, helped him train for the long jump. She had to measure the distance he should run to get the best jump because it's different for each athlete. He started from 25 metres, had to count 16 steps and then jump. He didn't get enough practice with this to really feel confident, but he still pulled it off at the games."

Benson said they also got him a personal trainer, Tina Perkins, who gave him different exercises to work on his jumping power. He trained six days a week and included strength training and yoga. He also did one long run each week to maintain his endurance and used the treadmill to increase his speed.

The family's chiropractor, Dr. Roch, also stepped up at the very last minute — the day before Alec flew to Berlin — to help him be at his physical best. "When he did the 800-metre event in Berlin, you could see the smile starting when he was close to the finish line," said Benson.

Alec, who sings and plays piano, was invited to sing *O Canada* at a Family and Friends Reception at the Canadian embassy in Germany.

"He loves to perform. He and the gymnastics athlete were also interviewed for a documentary on the Canadian athletes," said Benson.

Alec has qualified for the Special Olympics national winter games in Calgary next year, she said, and he'll be competing with the provincial team in the snowshoeing 800- and 1,600-metre events.

Special Olympics Manitoba offers a Draft an Athlete program to help cover the costs (about \$2,000 per athlete) associated with sending an athlete to the national games. If individuals, businesses or organizations wish to sponsor Alec's attendance at the Calgary Special Olympics games, they can visit www.specialolympics.mb.ca for more information.



Alec's medal haul.

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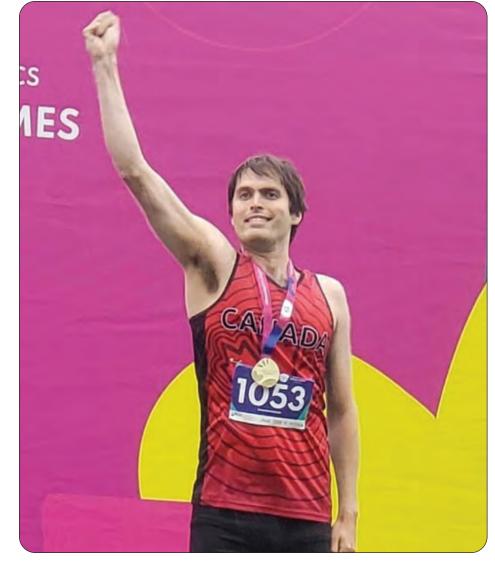
A successful overseas recruitment mission is bringing more nurses and health care aides to live and work in Manitoba.

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Alec won two gold medals and one bronze medal.



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4 The Express Weekly News Thursday, July 13, 2023 The End of an Era: Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market Closing



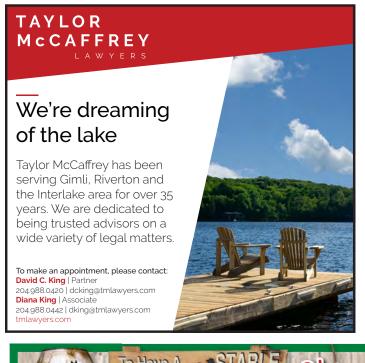
Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market will be closing once everything has been sold.

By Becca Myskiw

Just off of Highway 7 on the way to Gunton are hundreds — maybe thousands — of hidden treasures of every kind.

Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market sits almost at the corner of Highway 7 and Road 89N. You can't miss it with the tens of antique vehicles sitting outside leading you to the shop. Upon entering the antique store, a big black and white cat will come to greet you and ask for pets. If you stop petting Buddy, he'll lift his right paw to your leg to let you know he wasn't done yet, and you'll start petting him again.

Though you just stepped inside, you're surrounded by knickknacks, dishes and art. To your left is an open door leading to more goods and to your right is the till, where Verna and Jim Poole's coffee sits, getting cold. The two



owners are likely with a customer, each somewhere in one of the few buildings that make up the shop. Jim will be telling his customer, someone who comes to the store often, the backstory of an item in his hand and Verna will be helping someone bring their items to the front.

When Buddy's had enough of your pets, you'll be free to go explore the rest of the store and he'll lay on the front carpet, waiting for his next friend to come in. In the front part of Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market, you'll find dishware of every colour — roseand green-coloured bowls with the matching plates. You'll find toy cars of every size and make, old cans of car oil with the oil still

sloshing around inside, china dolls in pristine condition, tin signs for anything you can think of, and a few pottery pieces in a glass case.

The pottery is Verna's doing. When she first retired 14 years ago, she took up art, one of her mediums being pottery, and her one-of-a-kind pieces sit in the store for you to buy, placed next to other fine breakable antiques.

But the shop wasn't always what it is today. It started as an army surplus business when it was built 65 years ago. Jim Poole was 18 and fresh out of high school when he and his dad opened what's now Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market. His dad was in the building demolition business with Jim's uncle and, as they had other family members in the retail business, Jim and his dad thought opening a store of their own would be a good idea. When Jim was 25, he bought out his dad of the place and the entire business became his.

"As time went by, we couldn't get enough military surplus, so we started buying secondhand furniture and we





EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Jim Poole studies a vintage E.G. Booz (1840) "Old Cabin" shaped whiskey bottle. E.G. Booz's Old Cabin Whiskey was made for Edmund G. Booz by the Whitney Glass Works of Glassboro, N.J., around 1860. It is thought that the 1840 date refers to the age of the whiskey in the bottle. At his death, Booz had 25 coloured plates with the matching glasses $% \left({\left({n + 1} \right)^2 } \right)^2 = 0$ coloured plates with the matching glasses cases of Cabin Whiskey in stock, valued at \$6 a case or fifty cents per bottle.

got into that business," said Jim.

That was the business of selling furniture, which quickly turned from used furniture to used and new. Soon after that, Jim started buying vehicles to restore, and was then also in the business of buying and selling vehicles. At one point, the lot had a dozen army jeeps Jim was restoring to sell.

The vehicle selling business snowballed into something bigger. Jim began buying vehicles from Manitoba Public Insurance for parts for his other projects, leading him into the Autopac-accredited autobody repair business.

"It really wasn't working out selling army surplus and selling used vehicles and selling new furniture," said Jim.

So he and Verna went to Teulon and bought the building next to the pharmacy to sell their furniture out of. While they were getting the building ready for business, the then-mayor suggested they buy land on the main street and sell from there. So the Pooles did just that, and the current Bargain Shop in town is their original building. From it, they sold new furniture and clothing as they saw the need for it in town.

Action plan announced to protect water resources for generations to come

Clean, protected water sources vital to economic growth, stronger communities

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba government is releasing its initial water strategy action plan — a focused guide to specific actions to ensure sustainability of the province's valuable water resources for current and future generations of Manitobans, Environment and Climate Minister Kevin Klein and Agriculture Minister Derek Johnson announced last week.

"As a province home to 100,000 lakes, the actions outlined in the initial water strategy action plan will guide a strong path forward to protect our precious freshwater and way of life in Manitoba," said Klein. "We are fortunate to live in a province with an abundance of the world's most valuable resource, and our government is committed to managing this resource responsibly and effectively."

In November 2022, the Manitoba government released a new comprehensive water management strategy. The first strategy of its kind in nearly 20 years will set the direction for Manitoba's water future, providing a framework to conserve and protect the environment, enhance resiliency, improve water quality and availability, and enhance engagement and Indigenous inclusion in water management while fostering economic development opportunities. The Manitoba government recognizes that additional direct and collaborative work with Indigenous Peoples in water management and stewardship is essential, alongside other key partners.

"Manitoba Association of Watersheds would like to commend the Manitoba government for its efforts to work collaboratively with Manitoba communities in the development of the provincial water strategy and the water strategy action plan," said Garry Wasylowski, board chair, Manitoba Association of Watersheds. "The commitment from the Manitoba government to provide funds that directly support the excellent work of



watershed districts will have a positive impact on watershed health and the province's resiliency to climate change."

The initial action plan builds on the water strategy framework, outlining new water-related projects, programming and initiatives that the Manitoba government will continue to advance over the next several years. The action plan identifies 72 actions, representing an investment of over \$990 million over the next five years including:

- \$763.5 million in capital investment in provincially owned waterrelated infrastructure through the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure's 2023 Multi-year Infrastructure Investment Strategy, which includes \$600 million for the Lake St. Martin channel;

- \$221 million for programming under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership over the next five years, cost shared 60 per cent federally and 40 per cent provincially;

- \$4 million in enhanced resources for the Manitoba Water Services Board;

- \$1.64 million for enhanced drinking water safety; and

- \$1.47 million in new funding within the Department of Environment and Climate for water strategy implementation, including \$600,000 for watershed districts.

"Our government inherited an environment where Lake Winnipeg was deemed the most polluted lake in Canada in 2013," said Johnson. "The



previous approach was irresponsible. In contrast, this action plan allows agricultural producers to continue being good stewards of the land while playing an important role in Manitoba's overall economy."

In partnership with stakeholders and organizational experts, the Manitoba government's action plan will transform the water management strategy framework's focus areas and strategic objectives into concrete actions.

"Manitoba farmers fully endorse a collaborative provincial water management strategy and action plan involving all levels of government and the agricultural sector," said Jill Verwey, president, Keystone Agricultural Producers. "This plan will act as a guide as we move forward sustainably and take action to protect our water, while continuing to sup-

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port the farming industry— a key driver of Manitoba's economy." The document will be updated

regularly to reflect work completed and to provide clarity on next steps and future initiatives,

the ministers noted, adding that to increase transparency and accountability and to ensure continued collaboration, the Manitoba government will form a stakeholder advisory panel to help guide ongoing implementation of the water strategy and action plan.

To read the initial water action plan, visit https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/ pubs/water/water_action_plan2023. pdf.



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Now that summer is here, animal encounters might be more common during camping and cabin adventures.

Submitted by IERHA

It's important to be aware that rabies can be transmitted from animals to humans. The viral infection is most commonly transmitted through the saliva of an infected animal to fresh broken skin or a mucous membrane in the eye, nose or mouth.

Rabies attacks the nervous system, eventually affecting the brain, and it's usually fatal once symptoms appear.

According to the Provincial Rabies Management Program, three positive animal cases were confirmed in Manitoba from January to March 2023. In 2022, there were a total of 15 confirmed animal cases. However, there have been no reported human cases of rabies on record in Manitoba.

In Manitoba, skunks, bats and Arctic foxes in the north are the most common animals to transmit and become infected with rabies. All mammals can transmit rabies, including domestic pets like cats and dogs. However, there is no risk of rabies transmission for mice and squirrels that look and behave normally.

Even if an animal bite or scratch is an accident, it still needs to be reported to a health-care provider. When an animal bite or scratch occurs, Public Health conducts a no-blame followup meant to reduce rabies risk to humans. They don't take pets away from their homes.

"While the rabies virus is dangerous, post-exposure rabies treatments are highly effective at preventing rabies disease in people," said Joshua Aquin, public health physician with Manitoba Health. "Even if the animal exposure happened several days ago, it's not too late to get assessed by a

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health-care provider and find out if you need treatment."

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What you should know about rabies

If an animal bites or scratches you, immediately clean the wound with soap and water. If possible, take note of the animal owner's name and phone number. Visit your healthcare provider, a Quick Care Clinic or walk-in clinic to get your wound assessed. If it's a serious injury, go to the emergency department. Your healthcare provider will fill out an animal exposure form and send it to Public Health. If you haven't had a tetanus vaccine in the past five years, you might need to get one.

If you're not planning to get medical attention, call Health Links toll-free at 1-888-315-9257 to report the animal encounter. To report a domestic animal exposed to or injured by an animal suspected of having rabies where no human exposure has occurred, contact Manitoba Agriculture at 204-470-1108.

Public Health discourages destroying an animal that was involved in an animal encounter. If you choose to euthanize the animal, do not damage the animal's head or put yourself at risk. You should contact Public Health before destroying a pet that was involved in a bite or scratch situation. Public Health will follow up on the encounter, whether it was with a pet, a stray or a wild animal. They will contact the person exposed to the animal, as well as the animal owner to ask about the vaccination status and health of the animal. Public Health might ask the owner to observe and humanely isolate cats or dogs for 10 days. The quarantine period ensures pets are healthy, even if their rabies vaccinations are up to date since the vaccines are not 100 per cent effective.

When a healthy-looking dog, cat or ferret has rabies, they are only contagious to others for up to 10 days before they will become severely ill. However, some other animals have a longer quarantine period such as wildlife and livestock.

1-204-407-6099 patricia@expressweeklynews ca

On Day 10, Public Health will contact the cat or dog owner to ask about its health. If the animal is healthy, then the rabies risk from that encounter is zero. No further public health followup is required at that point.

If the animal has died, testing might be undertaken. If the test is positive for rabies or if the animal cannot be found, Public Health will discuss with the person exposed if post-exposure treatment is needed through a series of vaccinations. If it was an unknown animal, attempts will be made to find and capture the animal for quarantine. Bites from wild animals have a higher risk for exposure to rabies. If the animal can't be captured and tested, Public Health might recommend post-exposure treatment.

In an effort to avoid rabies, vaccinate your pets and don't let them roam free outdoors, especially at night. If your pet was in contact with a wild animal, do not touch your pet with bare skin. Wear work gloves when comforting pets or checking injuries.

You should also avoid wild animals don't feed them or leave your pets' food bowls outside. It's important to teach kids to never approach an unfamiliar animal.

If you find a bat, alive or dead, don't touch it. If the bat is in your house, open windows to let it escape. If you find a bat in your bedroom, call Health Links toll-free at 1-888-315-9257 for advice since you might have been bitten while sleeping.

For more information about rabies, visit the Manitoba Health website at https://www.gov.mb.ca/health/ publichealth/diseases/rabies.

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get NEWS > VIEWS > CIMLI > ARBORG > HIGHWAY 6 > SURROUNDING AREAS Mammatus clouds are ominous and beautiful

Earthsky

Mammatus clouds are pouch-like protrusions hanging from the undersides of clouds. You'll usually find them under thunderstorm anvil clouds. But you might see them under other types of clouds as well. They're composed primarily of ices, and groups of them can extend hundreds of miles in any direction. But they're fleeting, remaining visible in your local sky for perhaps 10 or 15 minutes at a time.

People associate these cloud pouches with severe weather. And it's true; they typically appear around, before or after a storm.

In fact, most clouds are formed by rising air. But mammatus clouds are interesting in part because they're formed by sinking air. And you sometimes hear people say that mammatus clouds continue extending downward and can even form tornadoes, but that's not true.

They appear ominous. And they do signify storms. But, in a way that's so common in nature, their dangerous aspect goes hand-in-hand with a magnificent beauty.

Letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklynews.ca Active Trails the Rail Trail, the Trans Cana

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Active Trails Advisory Committee welcomes activity

The RM Active Trails Advisory Committee (ATAC) has had a busy spring and summer facilitating weekly walks/hikes/cycling to familiarize residents and visitors with potential and existing trails to actively explore the area and experience nature. We appreciate that *The Express Weekly News* has published articles about these activities, which have proven to be extremely popular for all ages. In the recent article June 29, 2023, there were a couple of items that should be clarified.

There are penalties set in the RM of Gimli Bylaw #18-0022 governing Active Trails, which states that motorized vehicles are prohibited and violators may be "subject to fines up to \$500 and seizure of vehicle." There are signs posted in various locations with this information. The Gimli Rail Trail and Autumnwood Berm Trail, as examples, welcome all active (people-powered) use of the trails.

Concerning the permitted uses of

the Rail Trail, the Trans Canada Trail gifting agreement to the RM clearly states that "The Trail should accommodate at least two and ideally all three of the five core uses endorsed by Trans Canada Trails: hiking, cycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling when there is sufficient snow cover." The RM is free to choose whatever activities, within this list, it deems appropriate.

Our advisory committee has presented a number of ideas to the RM for dealing with conflicting use issues, including formally designating and improving a trail used by ORVs on Highway 8 (east side of the ditch) so the Gimli Rail Trail can remain a nature corridor for active users as intended by the gifting agreement.

Anyone having concerns about users on the Rail Trail may submit the incident on the RM website/APP under "E-Service Request."

We ask people to check the Gimli Active Trails FB and IG posts for the locations of the upcoming Active Trails events, held Saturday mornings at 10:30. Everyone welcome.

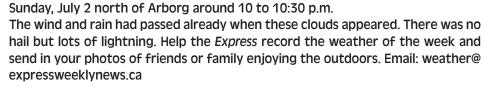
- Yours truly, RM of Gimli Active Trails Advisory Committee

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Personal care homes coming to the Interlake

By Jennifer McFee

Several personal care homes are coming to the Interlake area, including one in Stonewall.

On Friday, July 7, the provincial government announced that it would invest \$15 million towards the planning and design for six personal care homes (PCHs) with a total of about 670 beds.

One facility will be located in Stonewall with approximately 144 beds, as well as others in Arborg (60 beds), Lac du Bonnet (95 beds), Oakbank (96 beds), Winnipeg's Bridgewater area (143 beds) and Winnipeg's Portage Avenue (140 beds). The government chose these sites as areas with the highest needs.

"All six projects will be designed with a village or campus model integrated into other uses, depending on the needs as identified by their communities," said Scott Johnston, minister for Seniors and Long-term Care, during the announcement event at Niverville Heritage Centre.

"The village component will be

Community Support Service

AA Meetings in Ashern Open Meeting Time: 6-7pm Fridays Starting Friday March 3rd. Location: #11 2nd Ave North -Pioneer Manor (beside the main door entrance of Pioneer Manor) Contact AAMBCO@mts.net

AA Eriksdale

Eriksdale United Church building #7 Main Street, Erikesdale (side door) **Meetings are Mondays**

at 6:30 p.m.

AA Winnipeg Beach

Lady of the Lake RC Church Corner of Hwy. 9 and Lake Ave., Winnipeg Beach

Meetings are Saturdays between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact Ann J 204-389-3417

Gimli Group AA

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd Industrial Park

Fri & Sun Mtgs at 7:30 pm Womens Mtgs Thurs at 10:30 am

Al-Anon Gimli and Winnipeg Beach

Join us at 17B North Colonization Road, next to New Horizon building... Gimli at 7:00 pm Wednesday evenings for an hour of support, strength, guidance and Hope. Contact 204-389-4777. *All ages welcome.* unique to each respective PCH, and I will look forward to both physical and virtual components as most feasible for the community."

In addition, the provincial government will pilot a community supportive living program that will create a total of 288 spaces over two phases. The first phase of the pilot will be centred in the communities of Ashern/ Eriksdale, Selkirk, Swan River and Emerson-Franklin with a total of 105 spaces.

"It includes three different tiers of care to meet the varying degrees of chronic and complex needs for eligible older Manitobans, including those with dementia, to prevent premature PCH placement," Johnston said.

"In this new 'housing with supports' model, there will be 24-7 on-site staff for personal care home supports to meet scheduled and unscheduled care needs for residents, including nursing for residents that require more care."

There will also be onsite therapy and recreational supports, as well as access to other health-care professionals, he added.

"As much as possible, these spaces will be created in innovative campusof-care or village models that purposely incorporates social interaction, functionality and intergenerational contact while continuing to maintain affordability and safety for our seniors," he said.

To access these spaces, individuals will need to have their health needs assessed by the regional health authority and designated health professionals, Johnston noted.

"Clients will rent their suite and pay for a service package that includes meals, laundry and light housekeeping. There will be provincially standardized accommodation and service package rates and new subsidy assistance for those that are eligible to make it more affordable," he said.

"After the launch, there will be an evaluation and decisions regarding expansion to additional communities, which will be determined as per the pilot program."

In late 2017, the Town of Stonewall submitted a formal request to a response from the provincial government to outline how capital for a personal care home could be arranged.

Leading up to the document submission, the town received support for the proposal from partner municipalities.

However, the Town of Teulon and RM of Rockwood withdrew their support for the project earlier this year. Now the project involves the Town of Stonewall along with the RMs of Rosser, St. Laurent and Woodlands.

Stonewall Mayor Sandra Smith shared her sentiments about the longawaited personal care home coming to the area.

"When we received confirmation from the government that our proposal was being selected for further development, we were ecstatic," she said.

"This has been an intense but excit-

ing time for all involved. Over the last several months, we have been working collaboratively within our communities and alongside the IERHA, the team at Shared Health capital, the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care and a dedicated architectural team and other specialists to help us get to this point."

Looking ahead, there is much excitement as the project comes to fruition.

"Our plan has been submitted and we are looking forward to receiving the government's approval to move ahead with construction of the PCH," Smith said.

"On behalf of our council, we would like to extend our gratitude to the leadership shown by reeves Chartrand, Mulligan and Oliver and their respective councils for recognizing that although the PCH is being built in Stonewall, it will benefit all of us in the region. We look forward to our continued partnership."

The Town of Stonewall has acquired nearly 20 acres of land near the intersection of 4th Street East and 3rd Avenue South. About five acres would be used for the personal care home, while the remaining 15 acres is set aside for an age-in-place campus, as well as possible office space and commercial opportunities.

The town is currently accepting proposals from firms that would be prepared to design, develop and build this development.

> CLOSING, FROM PG. 4

But all good things must come to an end. When Verna got breast cancer, the couple shut down their store in town to lessen her workload, and Jim focused on the salvage and automotive business. Soon enough, that too changed, and the Pooles found themselves selling antiques.

"Our house is full of antiques," said Jim. "There's nothing but antiques — even us. But you can only collect so much and then you've got to sell some of it."

The Pooles have been avid antique collectors their entire lives. When their house became too full of their treasures, they knew it was time to start selling them, and they've been able to continue collecting and selling until now. They like selling what they do because they know it's good quality.

"Anybody today that buys a new

piece of furniture, it's basically sawdust and glue with a veneer on it," he said. "This stuff (pointing to a wooden chair for sale in the store) is solid wood. A hundred years from now, if you look after it, it'll still be good as new."

Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market was run by a friend of Jim and Verna's until his recent passing, which left the couple to work the store themselves every Friday and Saturday. Coming out of retirement is not something the couple wants to do. So the hidden gem that is Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market is closing once everything in the store has been sold.

Through that door to the left in the front room is a sports field-sized room with antique fridges, an old popcorn machine, automotive parts and magazines, windows in their frames, old tools, VHS tapes, cassette tapes, CDs, vinyl records and everything in between. After scooching past the tens of people in the store at any time, you'll make your way to another door at the back of the room leading to another hall of finds. Through there, you'll find old dolls, more dishware of the finest kind, bottles upon bottles from milk, pop and beer, lamp shades of all colours, a world map, clothing, more tin signs and photos that scream "history." That room leads you back to the front of the store where you'll once again find Jim and Verna, happily waiting to help you with the collectibles you're sure to take home.

"Where are we going to go Christmas shopping now?" one woman says at the till to Verna. You'll wonder the same thing.

Poole's Place Antique & Flea Market is open every Friday and Saturday at 10 a.m. until they close. Jim said the doors will shut permanently when everything is sold, but that doesn't include the many tin signs around the place, which aren't actually for sale right now. Those will be auctioned off this fall — you can grab yours then.

Airstream trailer reunion coming to Teulon

By Emma McGill

The Airstream Club has been running for 68 years and began in Nova Scotia as the Wally Byam Caravan Club, inspired by the works of the creator and founder of Airstream.

Chris Wells of Warren was president of the Peace Garden unit about five years ago and became president once again this year. The unit is made up of about 15 airstream owners from North Dakota, South Dakota and Manitoba. Starting July 20, Wells will be hosting a three-day rally at Green Acres Park Campground with Gord Picken, Eric Jensen and John Fikkert hailing from Winnipeg, Shoal Lake and Falcon Beach.

"There's a lot of Airstream owners in the province who don't know about this," said Wells, concerned with spreading information about these events that bring people together, create a sense of community among owners and travellers, and are overall a source of a good time. "There's a diverse group of owners with a lot of different backgrounds."

The group tries to hold rallies in smaller communities, though one of the common problems for the organizers of these rallies is finding a campground where 15 sites are available for a weekend — but the unit found the perfect spot in Green Acres, and they're ready to immerse themselves in Teulon's community and everything it has to offer.

The Airstream trailer is known for its rounded, polished aluminium shape. Their creator, Will Byam, began building them in his backyard in Los Angeles in the 1920s, and the trailers gained popularity along with the idea of leisure travel after



Teulon is hosting the Airstream Club rally and a number of units will roll into town on July 20 and their owners welcome the public to drop by the Teulon campground over the weekend.

the Second World War. There are many Airstream parks located throughout the United States, places for proud owners and fans to participate in the community created around these trailers, just like the rallies.

The surrounding public are very welcome to drop by the Teulon campground to have a look and a visit with Airstream owners.

"We love people dropping by to have a look," shared Wells. "Airstreams were used by NASA to house astronauts when they returned from the moon and were kept in quarantine. They also had a modified Airstream Excella motorhome to transport astronauts from the operations centre at Kennedy Space Centre to the launch pad."

One of the Airstreams that will arrive in Teulon for the rally is a 1949 trailer from Texas that has been completely restored.

The Peace Garden/North Dakota unit will visit other local spaces in Manitoba along their way, including Oak Hammock Marsh and Stonewall's Quarry Park.

Arborg siblings raise more than \$300 for Manitoba Animal Alliance

By Becca Myskiw

A pair of siblings recently raised over \$300 for the Manitoba Animal Alliance (MAA).

Seven-year-old Nataliya Semenek and five-yearold Max Semenek had a fundraiser selling popsicles, freezies and homemade dog treats on June 24 while their parents held a garage sale. The two children set up a table in the garage out of the blazing sun and waited for people to come and buy their goods.

Nataliya and Max live in Arborg and have two pets of their own — one dog and one cat. Their dad, Randy Semenek, said every pet they've had has been from a rescue, their current ones no exception, being from Manitoba Underdogs and the Winnipeg Humane Society. Their pets are part of the Semenek family.

"We've just always talked about how important it is to support shelters and to help them," said Randy.

He said Nataliya has always been enamoured with animals — so much so that her dream is to run a dog hotel when she's older. For one of her birthdays during the pandemic, Nataliya asked for gifts for the animals in shelters rather than for herself.

"We're so proud of them," said Randy. "They're very generous and kind kids."

This year was the second time the siblings held a fundraiser for MAA. Randy said they initially chose them to fundraise for because they were in need of help when they were busy rescuing large numbers of dogs from remote communities. The need for support is never gone with rescues, and MAA appreciated the Semenek children's help the first time that the two decided to raise money for them again.

MAA was established in 2013. It's a volunteer-run organization that reaches across the province providing veterinary care and animal care to communities without. Every adoptable pet that comes to MAA has access to the comforts of a foster home until they find their forever home.

The first time they held the fundraiser, Nataliya and Max raised \$300 for MAA. Their goal this year was to surpass that — and they did, raising a total of \$316.25. Dog treats were \$3 for a bag of five or six, popsicles were \$2, and a freezie was \$1.

"They were super thrilled," said Randy. "Overall, it went really well. They exceeded what they wanted to do."

Randy said they did it on the same day as their garage sale so the children would get more people coming by. MAA also posted about the fundraiser on their social media and, because of that, one family stopped by on their way to Grindstone Provincial Park just to donate to the cause. Other people would buy one thing and give \$10 or just hand the children a donation without taking a treat.

"They really love their animals so they're happy to be able to help other cats and dogs," he said.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY DONNA GISLASON Seven-year-old Nataliya Semenek and her five-year-old brother Max Semenek raised \$316.25 for Manitoba Animal Alliance.

Lundar opens accessible place to splash and play

By Emma McGill

Lundar, a close-knit farming community in the heart of the Interlake, has taken a giant leap towards inclusivity and fun with the expansion of their Olympic-size pool.

This exciting development comes hand-in-hand with the introduction of an accessible splash pad, providing children of all abilities with a safe space to cool off and make lasting memories.

Led by dedicated pool board members, one of them being Heidi Sweetland, this ambitious project was fuelled by a shared vision — to ensure that every child in Lundar could experience the joy of water play. Recognizing the need for greater accessibility, the pool board embarked on years of fundraising efforts through various events like duck races, galas, barbecues, raffles and more.

"I believe the splash pad is going to encourage kids to come to the pool and have a place to cool off," said Sweetland. Their hard work paid off when they secured grants from organizations such as Access Credit Union and received generous sponsorships. The grand opening on Canada Day was met with great enthusiasm as over 100 people gathered to celebrate this momentous occasion. With free entry to both the splash pad and pool for the day along with a mouthwatering barbecue and silent auction, it truly was a day filled with laughter and excitement.

The Lundar swimming pool has been an integral part of the community for over four decades. However, some members began realizing that certain individuals faced challenges entering its premises due to physical limitations or age restrictions. In response to this realization emerged their brilliant idea — a splash pad that would cater specifically to those who couldn't access traditional pools easily.

This accessible oasis is set to encourage children who may have otherwise



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY KRISTINA JOHNSON

It was a fun and sunny Canada Day for those who attended the free day of swimming at the Lundar pool and opening of the new splash pad.

felt excluded from water-based activities at the pool area itself. By creating an environment where kids can comfortably interact with water features tailored just for them, it becomes not only about splashing around but also building confidence around aquatic environments.

The Lundar pool offers swimming lessons, including Bronze Star, Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross courses, which are required to become a lifeguard. The board wants to encourage teenagers to achieve these levels and look into becoming a lifeguard.

There are also regular lessons coming up in August, and anyone can swim any time the pool is open with a membership. See the Lundar Swimming Pool Facebook page for more information.



Pool board members at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the splash pad.



A cheque of \$10,000 was presented by Access Credit Union to help maintain the splash pad for the community of Lundar.



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Manitoba San

Gypsumville School gets Indigenous-Inspired mural

By Becca Myskiw

Visitors to Gypsumville School will now be greeted by a colourful mural.

Where there once was a beige wall, there's now a mural. Blues, indigos, yellows and oranges meet greens, greys and blacks across the wall to create a stunning picture that honours the Indigenous Peoples of Canada.

The mural depicts a sunset or sunrise over a river. In the sky are the seven sacred teachings, and the land in the bottom left reflects Treaty 5 — woods growing by water. In the middle of it all is the quote 'As long as the sun shines, the grass grows and the rivers flow.'

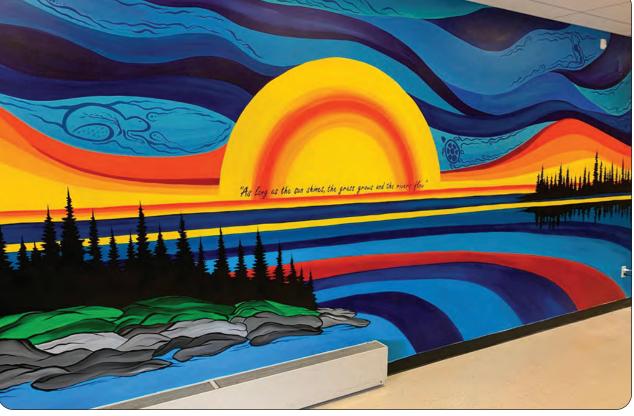
Shawn Oswald, then-principal of the school, said this mural has been in the back of his mind for years. This past school year, they were able to pull money together for it, so that's exactly what they did.

"We wanted to create an exciting, welcoming, warm area for people coming into the school," he said. "The mural reminds me of the local area so much.'

Oswald knew he wanted the mural to represent the land Gypsumville School students learn on. He wanted to honour Treaty 5, where they are and the seven sacred teachings because 95 per cent of the school's students are Indigenous.

"We're working towards reconciliation," said Oswald. "There's still so much that needs to be done, but this is a start."

The school called on Shawna Boulette Grapentin to do the mural. She's an Indigenous artist now living in Rainy River, Ont., who grew up going to school in the Frontier School Division. She's done



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Frontier School student alumnus Indigenous artist Shawna Boulette Grapentin painted a stunning 16-foot by nine-foot mural to welcome students and staff at Gypsumville School. The mural represents Treaty 5, the land and the seven sacred teachings.

paintings with Gypsumville School students in the of the mural, and the staff picked their favourite past, and Oswald knew she'd create something — the one now on the wall. On Monday, June 5, beautiful.

Come April, she gave the school a few mockups

Continued on page 12

The difference dental implants made for Lynne BY ELISHA VANDOR eryone wants to know is, what is the accuracy, and stability. All three

"I'll be able to eat again" exclaimed Lynne as she felt her lower denture snap into 3 lower dental implants for the first time; "oh, and they're so natural-looking too!" With built up emotion, Lynne hugged and thanked Denturist Brock saying, "it was worth it".

We wish you could hear the SNAP as Lynne pushed down on her lower denture securing it into her three dental implants like snapping together a button tightly. For us, it's the successful sound of a tight-fitting lower denture, but for Lynne it's the sound of freedom. Freedom from struggling with a loose lower denture. She says, "to go from not being able to eat anything but soup and yogurt, being embarrassed and holding up my hand in front of my mouth to now being able to eat normally again and smile at people, it's been an excellent, excellent experience and I would suggest having it done to anybody." So, the big question ev-

says, "I was petrified. I wasn't sure if was going to work properly. Now, feeling the way they fit properly and being able to take them in and out, it's been worth it. If the person can afford it, then definitely get it, even if it's 2-3 posts like I was able to get done. It feels natural, it really does."

A dental implant should feel natural! After all, the purpose of the dental implant is the same as a tooth root - anchoring the teeth for chewing purposes. Without an anchor, the ship floats away... the same can be said for a lower denture (specifically). Trying to chew with force and accuracy with a lower denture will not be as successful without it being snapped into at least two dental implants. Natural teeth can bite using consultations are free of charge! As a substantial amount of force and mulch food with ease because of the teeth's stability being rooted into the jawbone. The difference with dental implants is an anchored denture providing greater chewing force,

dental implant procedure like? Lynne combined will provide you with the ability to successfully and easily eat with a denture. As Lynne so excitedly said to us that she's trying out steak for the first time in a while because she's now confident in her chewing again like she once was with natural teeth.

> For Lynne, the total amount of time it took to have the denture snapping into the dental implants from the time of the procedure was 3.5 months. In contrast, some dental implant procedures allow for the teeth to be secured onto the dental implants the same day. The wait period or no waiting period is dependant on the procedure, which can be discussed with our Denturists Brock and Matthew. Our Lynne says, "I always felt like it was family working with me here, you were excellent that way. To know I can eat properly again and smile, it feels natural. You all have been excellent."

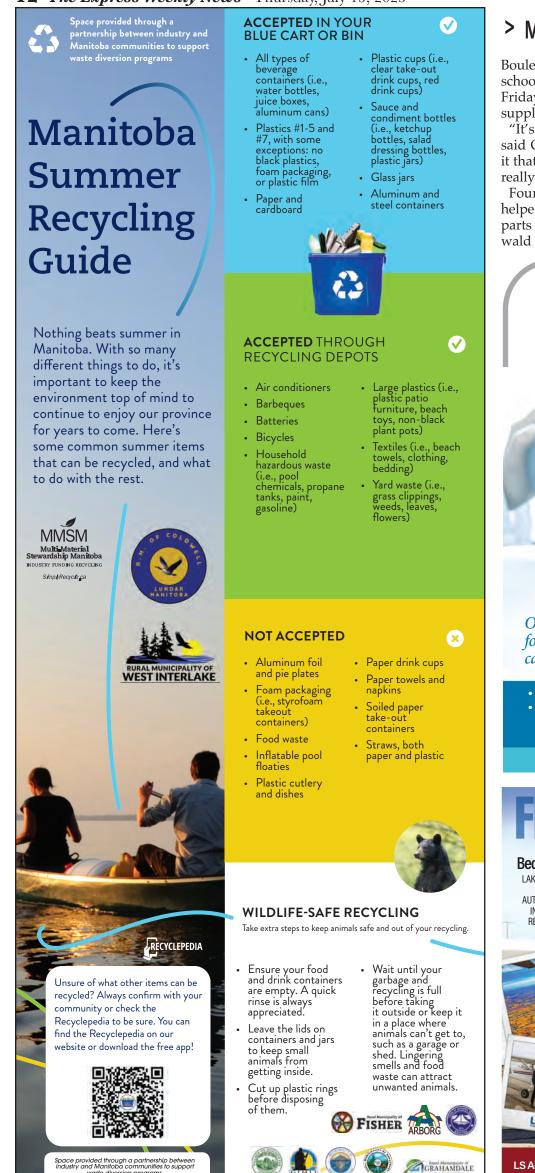


Lynne (pictured right) celebrates her new teeth with her friend Anna and Denturist Brock.

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> MURAL, FROM PG. 11

Boulette Grapentin showed up to the school and got straight to work. By Friday, June 9, she was packing up her supplies, the mural finished.

"It's unbelievable how it changed," said Oswald. "Each time I passed by it that week, I was like 'Oh my, this is really coming together.'"

Four older students at the school helped with the mural, painting in parts she drew the outlines for. Oswald said he'd have liked more students to be able to get involved, but it just wasn't possible for this.

"The students love it," said Oswald. "It's a sense of pride."

He said, as a school, they're moving forward with reconciliation calls to action, and this was one way they could do that. Oswald isn't principal at Gypsumville School next year, so he said being able to leave this behind is something he's extremely proud to do.

"EACH TIME I PASSED BY IT THAT WEEK, I WAS LIKE 'OH MY, THIS IS REALLY COMING TOGETHER.'"



The Express Weekly News Thursday, July 13, 2023 13 **Arborg Heritage Village kicks off summer with its farmer's market**

By Autumn Fehr

Last Wednesday, the Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village (ADMHV) kicked off its farmer's market for its third consecutive year.

The traffic was slow for its first week this season, but everyone sold something, so they will definitely be coming back. The market is small, but vendors have increased since last year, said Marlene Taylor, ADMHV rental coordinator.

This year many vendors returned, but there were also some new faces.

Eight vendors set up shop, selling baked goods, wood carvings, Mary Kay products, imported clothing, handmade sewn items, Avon and Watkins products, and a medium.

Carl Osioway is one of the vendors returning this year, coming back for his second year, selling his wood carvings of various shapes, sizes and models. His carvings are getting larger and larger all the time, said Taylor.

Next week there will be new vendors at the market, such as Tupperware, Bonnie's Handmade soaps, Capricorn candles and Norwex.

Vendors are spreading their time out, so visitors can expect a different mix of vendors each week, said Taylor.

Taylor was happy with the turnout, considering it was the first market of the season, and hopes that there will be lots of traffic and vendors this year. "The vendors are always working

together hard to make sure that their product is up to standards," she said.

The market opened on July 5 and takes place every Wednesday between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. weather depending, until Aug. 30, with outdoor and indoor spaces to peruse and shop.

The historical village charges only a small fee for vendors to reserve a table and sell their goods, and customers are welcome to shop around the market and explore the heritage site.

The site features preserved homes and structures, a 100-year-old church with a crystal chandelier and a windmill. The buildings are closed during the market, but visitors can drop in and arrange a guided tour with village staff, Taylor said.

The ADMHV is open for visitors to drop in for a guided tour. They are open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m.

The farmer's market is put on solely



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY TYLER SEARLE

Arborg's Heritage Village is now home to a new farmer's market. Some vendors set up inside the hall and other remain outside on village grounds.

through volunteers every week for vendors to set up and shoppers to come out and enjoy the day.

The market will open again next Wednesday at 10 a.m., and Taylor encourages anybody wanting to experience something new to come and check it out.

"We've become a family," she said. A full-time vegetable gardener is still needed for the season. Taylor said any gardener interested and able to spare any Wednesday can be fit in the line-up.

Vendors interested in renting a table can contact her at 204-376-5607.

Rental costs \$25 indoors and \$20 outside.

Updates and information are available on the ADMHV Facebook page.

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MANITOBA CANADA'S HEART IS CALLING

14 The Express Weekly News Thursday, July 13, 2023 Province's neglect of its drains has Bifrost farmers fed up

By Partricia Barrett

Why the province isn't fixing its drains that run through the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton has become an eternally burning question among farmers who raise the issue every year in the hope of seeing some action.

The provincially owned Washow Bay Drain and the Sylvan Drain have fallen into a state of neglect, according to two municipal farmers who are fed up with provincial inaction. Trying to get the province to maintain its drainage infrastructure has been an ongoing battle for decades.

Maintenance is necessary part of anything that ages, including highways, houses, cars. And drains and culverts are no different. They need to be freed from obstructions such as trees, cattails, silt and rocks in order to work properly. Ditch bottoms need to be dug up to prevent vegetation growth, which impedes water flow.

Drain neglect leads to repeated flooding of agricultural land, crop insurance payouts and the deterioration of roads.

One section of the Washow Bay Drain is at the point of jeopardizing driver safety on a municipal road.

Gordon Klym, a grain farmer near Ledwyn and a municipal councillor, said the deteriorating Washow Bay Drain not only affects his farmland, but it's now washing out a section of Road 138N near 14E (municipal roads) and has the potential to send drivers literally over the edge. "There has been complete and total neglect of our third order [provincially owned] drains," said Klym by phone in early July. "It's to the point right now where the Washow Bay Drain is washing right through one of our gravel roads and has created a steep drop. This is now a safety issue with the province's drain. We've got school buses, heavy trucks, church-goers and people driving to work on this road that now has a straight-edge drop."

At the Association of Manitoba Municipalities spring convention, Klym said he had a meeting with Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson and told him the only option for the municipality is "to shut down the road if you don't fix the problem."

There are three major culverts on the drain that are inoperable because they're either stuffed with obstructions such as branches, dead tree or reeds, or rocks and debris are impeding the flow of water.

"Of those three major culverts, two are plugged solid and the third one has a big rock wedged on the outside of it. They wash out infrastructure every year," said Klym.

Two years ago, he said the province "profiled and engineered it" and was planning to carry out repairs in the fall of 2022. But that didn't happen because the province said there was no equipment available.

"This year they say they've got no personnel even though they hire contractors to do the work. The province has excuse after excuse," said Klym. "This is a dangerous situation with the road crumbling."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY GORDON KLYM Three culverts on the provincially owned Washow Bay Drain are blocked with vegetation and rocks.

Continued on page 15

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> NEGLECT, FROM PG. 14

The municipality can't repair the Washow Bay Drain, or any other provincially owned drain, because they don't own it. Yet it has to keep drivers safe from hazards.

"The Washow Bay Drain is not our responsibility and we can't interfere with it," said Klym. "But at the same time, we as a municipality have a responsibility to keep the people who drive down our municipal roads safe."

Dave Shott, who farms land along

the Sylvan Drain (between Morweena and Sylvan) and who formerly served on municipal council including as deputy reeve, said you can name any provincial drain in the municipality and you'll find issues.

But the province's neglect of its Sylvan Drain has become a roughly 25year saga.

"We farm along the Sylvan Drain and have been complaining about it for the last 20 to 25 years," said Shott in early July. "When I sat on Bifrost council, I told the province, 'This drain doesn't work.'



MANITOBA AGRIMAPS

The Sylvan Drain backs up water on to agricultural land, resulting in crop losses for producers.



There are three main pipes by the Morweena Store that cross PR329 and flow into the Icelandic River on the south side of the community, he said. One is ingrown with trees. He doesn't know why the second one doesn't work. And the third one takes only about a quarter of the water.

"If you go north three or four miles, you'll find the water has spilled into the fields because of this," he said. "Last year we farmed right along the drain and we lost roughly about 200 acres out of the 320 we farm there. It impacts the fields right along the drain, but it also impacts all the land around there because everything drains into the Sylvan Drain."

Many of the provincial drains were done about 50 years ago and they haven't "had a bucket [dug out] in them ever since," said Shott. Bifrost gets water from the RM of Armstrong, from the RM of Fisher and all the way west from Alberta as it flows on its way towards Lake Winnipeg. And 70 to 80 per cent of the municipality's drain flow into a provincial drain.

"If those provincial waterways don't work, guess what? Our municipal drains won't work," he said. "And it doesn't matter if we clean out RM drains or not because these drains work hand-in-hand."

After 50 years there has to be a ro-

bust maintenance program for provincial drains to keep the water from backing up and spilling onto agricultural land.

"It's inevitable that silt and cattails and trees and other debris will block drains. You need to maintain them in order to keep them working," said Shott. "It's no different with a highway: you have to have a maintenance program because the asphalt will eventually wear out and crumble."

Shott said his crop losses make him "look like a bad farmer" because his personal index goes down every time he makes a claim with crop insurance.

"This is no fault of my own; it's the drain that's at fault. But as a producer I get penalized," he said.

Not only are farmers paying the price for deteriorating provincial drains, but so are taxpayers when crop insurance is paid out. It would make better fiscal sense for the province to fix its drains than pay out crop insurance year after year after year, which wastes public funds, he said. Maybe part of the neglect has to do with drains not being "sexy enough" as far as the projects the province likes to hype go, or that the southern part of the province is perceived as more important than the Interlake, agriculturally speaking.

Continued on page 19



Sing a Song of Summer: A cottage to die for

H.P. Tergesen & Sons in Gimli to host book launch July 18 for local author Raye Anderson

By Autumn Fehr

Ever come across a cottage to die for?

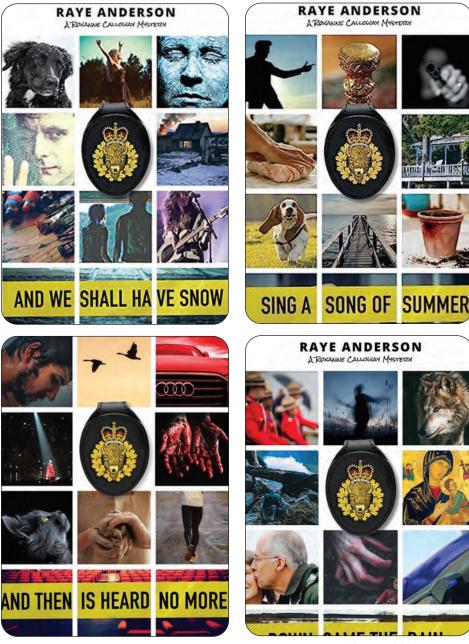
This Tuesday, July 18, the launch of *Sing a Song of Summer*, the fourth book in the thrilling mystery series by Raye Anderson, will unravel the ominous phrase.

For book lovers, the anticipated launch of the new novel will take place at HP Tergesen & Sons on 82 1 Ave., Gimli, at 7 p.m.

Sing a Song of Summer is the fourth book in the Roxanne Calloway Mystery series. Preceding this most recent release are *And We Shall Have Snow* (shortlisted for the 2021 CWC Best Crime First Novel and the 2021 WIL-LA Literary Award for Original Softcover Fiction), *And Then Is Heard No More* and *Down Came the Rain*.

The new tale continues to follow the life of Sgt. Roxanne Calloway, who has recently decided to slow down and focus on family life since her recent life-threatening incident with the major crimes unit. Although protocol dictates against it, Calloway can't help but be drawn to the recent death in Cullen Village, cottage country. It was ruled a suicide, but Calloway sensed the pieces surrounding the incident may not be as predictable as the public eye perceives it. Will Calloway find that it was, in fact, a suicide, or will the case lead her to draw other conclusions?

Raye Anderson calls Manitoba's Interlake home, where she is a part of the thriving arts community here. She is a Scots Canadian who spent years running theatre schools and presenting creative arts programmes for arts organizations, most notably at the Prairie Theatre Exchange in Winnipeg.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Author Raye Anderson will be releasing her fourth book Sing a Song of Summer in the thrilling mystery series at HP Tergesens in Gimli at 7 p.m. on July 18.





St. Laurent company launches crowd-funding campaign

By Jennifer McFee

A St. Laurent business is opening the gates to discussion about the future of the area.

Big Interlake Mechanical is seeking input about potential future development on the company's 132-acre property.

Jessica Chartrand, who co-owns the company with her husband Wayland McKay, said ideas would likely focus on amenities to support the local community, as well as tourists and those who travel the highway. They're calling their project the Gates of Sheringham since the property is located on Sheringham Road in St. Laurent.

"It would be geared for all ages and walks of life with accessibility standards in place," Chartrand said.

"It would be for people who want to get out be active, have an experience and travel and explore St. Laurent."

To start the process, they've launched a crowd-funding campaign that involves selling sweaters for \$75 plus tax featuring the company's logo and phone number. Along with the sweater, investors will

receive communication updates, and they'll also have the chance to provide input on what type of services they'd like to see in the potential future development.

"The funds used will go to create some positions to maintain the information, keep people updated, create events, monthly newsletters and surveys to get the supporters involved in the project. Once the initial part is done, funds will be needed for surveys and for a detailed project scope and plan to move what is decided forward," Chartrand said.

"Our initial goal is 5,000 sweaters. If

we exceed that goal, we will be able to move on the project at a faster rate as we will continue to reinvest funds into the project as long as the sweater campaign keeps its steam."

She said the project has the potential to create local job opportunities and grow tourism.

"We would love to see support from local and surrounding area schools to see what type of amenities would attract them here for a field trip perhaps," she added. "It will be built on the supporters' voice through the sweater campaign."

Big Interlake Mechanical is putting up the funds to bring in the sweaters until the project can build its own foundation, Chartrand said.

"It's a way of giving back and advertising Big Interlake Mechanical. Big Interlake Mechanical will give coupons to its business with the sweater purchase so people can already feel like they are getting something for their contribution," she said.

"It is currently a company project as we would love to wel-

come other entrepreneurs and businesses here with us, creating a group of amenities for people to access."

Although they have not yet had direct conversations with St. Laurent council, Chartrand said they've sent information to the RM's assistant CAO and economic development officer.

"We hope to further engage council and the community at large to give life to this new initiative," she said.

"We are always looking at creative way's to ignite passion in our projects."

To learn more, call 204-646-2709.





EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Local business Big Interlake Mechanical have launched a crowd-funding campaign that involves selling sweatshirts in support of their future development project.



For people who want to get out be active"

""IT WOULD BE

18 The Express Weekly News Thursday, July 13, 2023 Manitoba girls go Farming For Love on Canadian TV

By Becca Myskiw

Two Manitoban girls recently went Farming For Love for all of Canada to see

CTV's new dating show Farming For *Love* aired this month, and there was more than one familiar face.

Five young Canadian farmers, all from different farming specialties, meet prospective partners and choose if they wish to pursue a romance. Over time, eliminations occur, with the aim of finding the ultimate partner.

Bailey Gitzel from Carman and

"OF COURSE.

I WANTED TO

SHARE IT, BUT

I KNEW THAT

WASN'T POSSIBLE

AND THAT'S WHAT

I SIGNED UP FOR."

Amanda Bodner from Winnipeg were selected to be daters on the show's inaugural season.

"I'm a farmer's daughter and I'm really big into Canadian agriculture so I thought it would be a unique opportunity," said Gitzel. "I didn't actually think I'd get the call to go on."

But she did. The show's production team said there was a great response to the casting call for Season 1. After the last few years, they said,

living in a rural, idyllic landscape appeals to people.

Farming For Love first cast the farmers, then launched their profiles online. From there, people from across the country applied as daters for the farmer of their choice, and the show's team acted as matchmakers, casting those they thought would be suitable for their farmers.

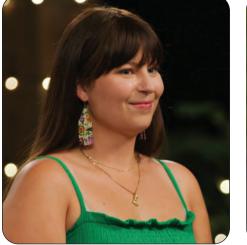
Gitzel and Bodner travelled to B.C. last fall to film the show and give love a chance. Neither made it to happily ever after, but that's not what they remember from the experience.

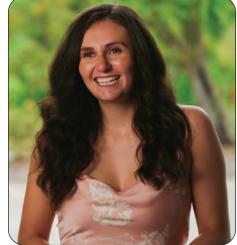
Gitzel landed in B.C. ready to open herself up to Farmer Doug, a dairy

farmer from Chemainus. On her 15-minute date with him, she and Doug bonded over shared experiences he lived in Manitoba for a while and has chickens.

"It went by in a flash," she said. "I was a bit nervous. I was putting myself out of my comfort zone, but overall, it was a really cool experience."

Gitzel said dating on national television was nerve-wracking and seeing the filming process was an eye-opening experience.





PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Carman's Bailery Gitzel, left, and Winnipeg's Amanda Bodner were both selected as prospective partners for five young Canadian farmers, all from different farming specialties, for the premiere showing of Farming for Love.

Though that first date with Farmer Doug was all she got, she enjoyed everything about being on the show.

"Initially it was disappointing," she said. "But I know it wasn't meant to be. Now I can look at the humour of it. Not everyone has the chance to be rejected on national TV."

Bodner made it past the first episode with Farmer Dave and got to go to his farm on Episode 2, where she and the other daters watched him shear sheep.

"When you're standing in front of

him and he's calling out names, it's a very nerve-wracking experience," she said. "And when your name gets called, it feels really good."

Bodner worked on a farm in Australia for a few months, but other than that, she hasn't had many farm-related experiences. Seeing sheep being sheared was really cool, she said, and felt personal.

Bodner's run on the show ended after that day on the farm.

Continued on page 19



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Music and dancing celebrated at Oak Point Music Festival

Submitted

The Oak Point Music Festival took place on Saturday, July 8 at the Oak Point Sports Grounds.

A crowd of approximately 200 enjoyed the music of talented performers from throughout the Interlake performing on the outdoor stage under the canopy of oak trees. Performers included Charlee Holm, Emma and Donald Futros, Bruno Stimpson, Jim Williamson, Cara Westfall, Gage Millar, Glen Ambrose, Cameron Ducharme, The Gaudry Boys Band, Guy Dumont and the L'il Bitty Steppers. Music and accompaniment was also provided throughout the day by the Country Pride band of Ray Millar, Peter Karish, Alex Woslowski, Glen Ambrose, Len Gladu and featuring Jason Appleyard.

Greetings and best wishes for the day were given by Richard Chartrand, reeve of the RM of St. Laurent, Virgil Johnson, reeve of the RM of Coldwell, and Derek Johnson, our local MLA.

It was a fantastic afternoon of music, dancing on the outdoor dance floor and good food. The festival was put on by the Oak Point Community Club. Thanks to the many community volunteers, the day went off without a hitch and everyone left looking forward to next year's festival.



Approximately 200 attended the Oak Point Music Festival, celebrating with dance and music on the outdoor stage.

> NEGLECT, FROM PG. 15

"It doesn't seem to matter which government — whether it's NDP or Conservative — is in power, they both have this mentality with regard to provincial drains. They say, 'Don't worry guys, you have crop insurance and you'll get paid out.' That's all well and good, but farmers are getting penalized," said Shott. "If the province would just clean out their drains, they wouldn't have to pay out crop claims and it'd be money better spent. That money is, after all, coming out of one pot — the taxpayers' pot."

Shott said when he served on council, as well as afterwards, the same council "wish list" regarding deteriorating/inoperable provincial drains they want fixed was given to newly elected provincial MLAs. That's been going on for well over a decade.

When asked for the reason why the province hasn't maintained/fixed its Washow Bay and Sylvan drains, a provincial spokesperson for the Manitoba department of transportation and infrastructure (MTI) said repairs have been undertaken in the past and some rehabilitation work is scheduled to take place in the near future.

"Within the past decade, around the mid-2010s, MTI rehabilitated seven miles of Washow Bay Drain. Currently, MTI is planning to undertake rehabilitation of another two miles of the drain from Road 14E to 12E along mile road 138N. This work is scheduled to take place in 2024," said the spokesperson. "MTI is also planning to replace several thru-dike culverts along the Washow Bay Drain this year, which will improve flow of surface water from adjacent lands into the drain."

With regard to the Sylvan Drain, MTI recently undertook repairs of two low level crossings [location not identified] that were washed out this spring, said the spokesperson.

"Minor rehabilitation works for the Sylvan Drain are also included in the department's five-year capital plan. Survey and design for the rehabilitation works will take place in 2024 with construction planned for 2025," he said.

> FARMING, FROM PG. 18

"I didn't really get to connect with Dave on a deep level, unfortunately," she said. "But I felt like he was a great person ... someone that I could have seen myself being with, but at the end of the day, that spark just didn't fly."

She was disappointed not to be chosen to go on, but she could see him forming connections with the other daters and understood his decision.

After the women were sent home, they had to keep the secret of what they'd just experienced until the cast for the show was revealed in May. Both of their immediate families knew, but to the rest of the world, they had been on a trip (Bodner) or taking a class (Gitzel).

"Of course, I wanted to share it, but I knew that wasn't possible and that's what I signed up for," said Gitzel.

Bodner, on the other hand, liked keeping the secret.

"You want it to be a good reveal, so it was fun to be part of that," she said. "It was so exciting." Once the news did come out, the reactions from each daters' communities was overwhelming — so much so that Gitzel's work put up a sign outside their building telling everyone to watch her on the show.

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Both Gitzel and Bodner said having the experiences they did helped them learn a lot about themselves, and Gitzel said she has a newfound confidence. Their advice? Do it. Put yourself out there and go out of your comfort zone.

Farming For Love is based on the hit show *The Farmer Wants A Wife,* which has been made in more than 35 countries across the globe.

"Farmers are extremely busy people that work almost 24/7, 365 days a year and often live in rural communities," said the show's production team. "If you're not already matched up, it can be hard to meet new people, so this show brings love to the farm."

People can watch *Farming For Love live* on CTV every Sunday at 7 p.m. Casting is open for Season 2 at www.ctv.ca/farmingforlovecasting.

Interlake Phillies' teams in action

Staff

The Interlake Phillies dropped a doubleheader to the Eastman Wildcats, losing 9-2 and 15-3, in U17 AAA action last Sunday at Quarry Park.

On Saturday, Interlake was defeated 9-2 and 12-2 by the Manitoba Angels.

The Phillies are now 4-20 in regular-season play.

Interlake's U15 AAA team split a doubleheader with Eastman on Sunday, losing 2-0 and winning 11-5.

On Saturday, the Phillies were defeated 7-0 by the Smitty's Terminators and then the teams played to a 3-3 tie. Interlake is in third place in the

eight-team league with a 14-10 record. In U13 AAA action, the Phillies pounded Smitty's by identical 9-1 scores last Sunday.

On Saturday, Interlake lost 7-5 and 8-5 to Eastman.

The Phillies are in fourth place with a 15-9 record.

Interlake to face St. Boniface in MJBL playoffs

Staff

The Interlake Blue Jays will play the St. Boniface Legionaries in a bestof-five first-round Manitoba Junior Baseball League playoff series.

Game 1 of the series is slated for Wednesday (7 p.m.) at Whittier Park while Game 2 is set for Thursday (7:30 p.m.) at Quarry Park.

On Friday, the two teams will return to Whittier Park. First pitch is 7 p.m.

The remainder of the playoff schedule was not posted on the league website at press time.

The Blue Jays finished their regular season in fifth place with a 10-14 record while the Legionaries were fourth with a 13-11 mark.

Interlake wrapped up its regular season with a 6-1 home loss to the Carillon Sultans last Sunday.

On Friday, the Blue Jays were beaten 6-5 by the Altona Bisons in Altona.

Last Wednesday, Interlake was edged 3-2 on the road by the Carillon Sultans.

Impact defeated by SCM Academy

Staff

The Interlake Impact were defeated 5-1 by SCM Academy in Manitoba Major Soccer League 4th Division action on July 4 at the Buhler Recreation Park in Winnipeg.

Benny Wiens scored for Interlake while Gabriel Talisuna (two), Jeremi-

ah Talisuna (two) and Leeroy Kachere replied for SCM Academy.

Interlake, now 2-5 and in eighth place of the 10-team division, will take on Southside FC this Friday at Shaughnessy Park. Game time is 8 p.m.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

The U17 AAA Interlake Phillies' Chloe Beresford accepts a throw as an Eastman Wildcats' player slides safely into third.



The U17 AAA Interlake Phillies' Morgan Walker is tagged out on a close play at the plate against the Eastman Wildcats last Sunday.

Teulon hosts junior golf championships

By Golf Manitoba

Thailand's Teerawut Boonseeor shot a one under par 71 last Wednesday in his final round to win the Junior Boys Championship presented by the Alex & Peggy Colonello Foundation.

The 14 year old finished the 54-hole event at the Teulon Golf & Country Club with a one-under 215 total, good for an eight-stroke victory over Ryan Orchard (Carman Golf & Curling Club) and Grady Chuback (Team Manitoba/St. Charles Country Club).

Off to represent Manitoba at the Canadian Junior Boys Championship are Orchard, Chuback and Terence Rafferty (Team Manitoba/ Southwood Golf & Country Club). Crystal Zamzow (Team Manitoba/ Golf Manitoba Public Players Club) is the Junior Girls champion after shooting a final round two-under par 70, good for a seven-stroke victory over Jeri Lafleche (Clear Lake Golf Course).

Representing Manitoba at the Canadian Junior Girls Championship will be Zamzow, Lafleche and Cala Korman (Team Manitoba/Golf Manitoba Public Players Club).

Golf Manitoba appreciated the time and effort of the host club, Teulon Golf & Country Club led by co-owners Perry and Gary Dola, general manager Janis Dola, superintendent Braeden McGowan, their staff, club members and volunteers for their warm welcome.



Lundar's Einarson wins top shot at provincial competition

By Joshua Frey-Sam

Easton Einarson didn't expect to set any records at the Manitoba Junior Shotgun Association provincials, but a monumental day is what it became for the Lundar teen.

The 14-year-old trap shooter ran away with the provincial title in the 14-15 year-old open division on the strength of 88 out of 100 hits at Pembina Triangle Gun Club on June 25.

It was the way Einarson started that opened the eyes of those in attendance, however.

Einarson began his best day as a trap shooter by rattling off the first 31 targets he faced. He hit all 25 targets on the first of five stations, then hit six in a row on the second. His fast start even caught him by surprise.

"After I got my 25 I was just ecstatic," said Einarson, in just his second year trap shooting. "I looked back and my parents and grandparents, then when we went for a second round, I had no intentions of trying to shoot 25 again. But I just went up there and shot what I did, and I didn't even know there was a consecutive shots (award) until (coach) Donny (Law) said something to me."

Indeed, Einarson's hat was shot at the end of the day to commemorate his outstanding performance. His score of 88 bested the next best in his division by 10 targets, and was fourth-best among all junior shooters, which earned him an exemption into the Brandon provincial champions from Aug. 25 to 27.

"It was fun. I enjoyed the whole day," said Einarson, adding his previous best score was in the 70s. "Everybody shot great. Everybody did very well, including myself.

"Last year was my first year there and I got second place for the age group. We shot every Wednesday there but I feel like I came a long ways."

And his coach, Donnie Law, couldn't agree more. "He's really interested in it," said Law, who, along with the rest of the staff at Lundar Trap Club, has trained Einarson the past two years. "You can see he's dedicated to it and he's improved so much since he first came. He's a good listener and he does well because of that."

Einarson's performance was one of four impressive outings from the Lundar Trap Club. Juerg Bieri (89), who finished second, Carter Sweetland (89), who finished third, and Matty Law (86), who finished fifth, all crowded the top-five at the event. Host club shooter Nic Neufeld owned the top score of the day with a clean 93 out of 100 hits.

"They're all good kids," Law said. "They listen. They're all from hunting backgrounds so a firearm isn't something they just touch when they come to the gun club. They're used to the tool. They're all good kids. I'm proud of them."

On the women's side, a late adjustment helped Stonewall's Nevaeh Domansky capture a thirdplace finish in the novice lady division.

One week before the provincial tournament — Domansky's first as a trap shooter — the 13-yearold continued what had been a tough stretch of shooting this season in practice. None of Domansky, her coaches or peers could figure out what was hindering the young shooter, until Lorne Ross, one of the top trainers at Winnipeg Trap Club, noticed Domansky was looking down the sight with the wrong eye.

To his amazement, Domansky had been shooting out of the wrong eye since she started two years ago.

"When we found out I was shooting out of the wrong eye, every time I would hit one I would get a boost of confidence. ... I just needed that boost of confidence that made me keep on going," said Domansky.

The correction came in the nick of time, as Domansky's score of 54 got her to the podium in her first competition. She said she plans on it being her first of many trapshooting events going forward, ones



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Lundar's Easton Einarson won the 14-15-year-old open division at the Manitoba Junior Shotgun provincials on June 25.

she'll be sure to have the right eye on.

"I was very nervous because I didn't know how the day would go, because a lot of people have more experience and they're from all over Manitoba," said Domansky of the event.

"It was new. It was a good day, I enjoyed it. I had fun."

Hecla Triathlon to be held July 15

The race started in 2015 and has continued to

grow and evolve each year since, and is home

to Manitoba's only long course race.

Hecla Triathlon website

The Interlake's only triathlon — the Hecla Triathlon — will take place in Hecla on July 15. As of last Thursday, 145 individuals had registered. Start time is 7 a.m. from the Hecla Ma-



rina.

may also have you feeling like you're somewhere outside of Manitoba.

This year's event will also be the 2024 Long Course Triathlon and Standard and Long Course Aquabike World Qualifier, where the top age group female and male athletes can make their way onto the Canadian national team. The event will be held in Townsville, Queensland, Australia.

The swim course is protected by the marina, guarding from what can be an unpredictable Lake Winnipeg, with only a short run to transition T1.

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Please submit your resume with Qualifications to Lundar Day Care Inc. at lundardaycare5278@gmail.com or deliver to the Lundar Day Čare at 36 1st Street South, to the Board of Directors attention in a sealed envelope.

All applications must be received no later than 5PM on Friday, July 14, 2023.

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IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of Carl Gunnar Granberg, late of the Postal District of Eriksdale, in Manitoba, deceased,

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All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, P.O. Box 1400, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0 on or before the 16th day of August, 2023. DATED at Stonewall, Manitoba this 10th day of July, 2023.

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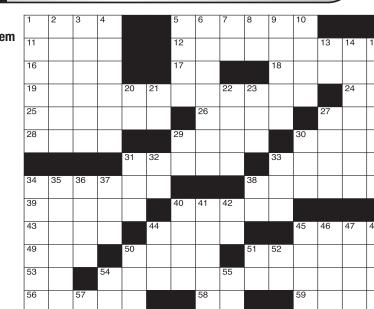
6

2

- **CLUES ACROSS** 1. Database management system
- 5. Medical procedures
- 11. Clapton, musician
- 12. Defender
- 16. Exert oneself
- 17. Indicates position
- 18. Prevents river overflow
- 19. Atrocities
- 24. Mister
- 25. Ends
- 26. Slope or tilt
- 27. Taxi
- 28. The very ends
- 29. Actor Sean
- 30. Japanese persimmon
- 31. Sours
- 33. Beneficiary
- 34. Baseball official
- 38. Muddy, boggy ground 39. Not worldly
- 40. Actress Lathan
- 43. Soil
- -Cola 44.
- 45. Asleep
- _ Angeles 49.
- 50. Give birth to a child
- 51. Beach shelter
- 53. Commercial
- 54. Taste property 56. Local jurisdictions
- 58. It cools your home
- 59. Dismounted from a horse
- 60. Charge with a crime
- 63. Close in
- 64. Spoke
 - 65. Famed garden

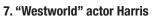
CLUES DOWN

- 1. Draw a scene
- 2. Its sultan is famous 3. Unlucky accident
- 4. A way to ski
- 5. Abba ___, Israeli politician
- 6. Saw



62

CROSSWOR



64

- 8. Belonging to me
- 9. Shoelace tube
- 10. Takes to court
- 13. Early multimedia
- 14. In a way, produces
- 15. Bowlers

60

- 20. Of I
- 21. Equally
- 22. Gets some sun
- 23. A place to stay
- 27. Town in Galilee
- 29. Aronofsky film
- 30. Klingon character, "Star Trek"
- 31. Equal to 100 square meters
- 32. Atomic #58
- 33. Arrived extinct
- 34. Loosen grip
- 35. A distinctive odor that is unpleasant
- 36. Membranes

37. Some is poisonous 38. Partner to Pa

63

65

- 40. Small brown gray rail
- 41. A salt or ester of acetic acid
- 42. Sodium

52. Controversial tech product

55. Passed with flying colors

62. Home of the Longhorns

57. A way to win a boxing match

- 44. Military official (abbr.)
- 45. Lighted
- 46. Took off
- 47. All
- 48. Ohio city 50. More abject
- 51. A radio band

(abbr.)

54. Monetary unit

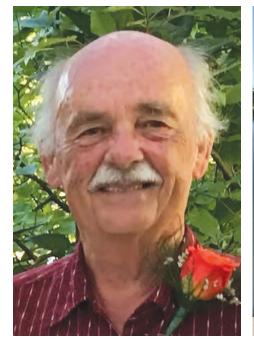
61. The Golden State



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BIRTHDAY



Happy 80th Birthday to William Barlow on July 15th



GRADUATION



Carly-Jo Schultz

Congratulations to Carly-Jo Schultz on her June 2023 Graduation from U of M with a Bachelor of Nursing Degree with distinction, awarded the University Gold Medal for highest academic standing in nursing. All the best in your nursing career. We are very proud of you.

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Municipal Auditor Report

Public Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, that the Report of the Municipal Auditor and related Financial Statements for the year 2022 have been deposited in the office of the Rural Municipality of Grahamdale at 23 Government Road, Moosehorn, Manitoba and are available for inspection by any person or his/her agent during regular business hours.

Any person or their agent may, at their own expense, make a copy thereof or extracts therefrom

Dated at Moosehorn, Manitoba this 7th day of July, 2023.

Shelly Schwitek, CMMA Chief Administrative Officer

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or Ph: 204 848-2380

Email

info@wannakumbac.com

Registration Deadline

July 21, 2023

weekend Enjoy decade reunions, campfires, beef pit BBQ & dance. Info on fees, de-

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THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROSSER

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THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF **EMPLOYMENT** ROSSER **OPPORTUNITY**

The Rural Municipality of Rosser invites applications for the new position of Recreation and Communications Facilitator. (Permanent, Full-time)

Under the direction of the Chief Administrative Officer, the Recreation and Communications Facilitator will guide and facilitate the development of recreation programming offered in the RM of Rosser by assisting volunteer organizations to maximize facility usage, develop leadership and promote the value of recreation and community event programming, while recommending strategies to Council on growing recreation in general. In addition, this position will be the lead on communicating effectively on our various communications platforms

Qualifications - Recreation and Communications Facilitator

- · Recreation administration experience, or a combination of experience and college level education is required.
- Communications experience or communications education.
- Research and grant writing skills is an asset.
- An understanding of social media and marketing tactics used to promote events is an asset.
- · Proficiency in using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint) and the ability to learn and adapt to multiple software programs. Knowledge of website content and social media platforms is an asset.
- · Excellent verbal and written communication skills with the ability to effectively communicate with various stakeholders.
- Class 5 driver's license.

The Rural Municipality of Rosser offers a competitive salary and benefits package including health/dental and pension.

Applications must contain a resume, covering letter and three references. Application deadline is 4:30 pm on July 27, 2023. Only those candidates chosen for an interview will be contacted.

Please forward application marked "Application for Recreation and Communications Facilitator" to Ashley Campbell, Executive Assistant at:

RM of Rosser

Rural Municipality of Rosser Box 131, Rosser, Manitoba ROH 1 EO fax: (204) 467-5958 e-mail: admin@rmofrosser.com

To view a full job description please visit www.rmofrosser.com/p/ local-notices or call the Municipal Office at (204)467-5711.

The Rural Municipality of Rosser supports inclusivity and accessibility in the workplace. Reasonable accommodation is available to applicants with disabilities.





Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca

OBITUARY

George Richard Arndt Date of Passing: July 7,2023

George Arndt peacefully passed away on July 7, 2023 at the age

of 85 years, at the Arborg and Districts Health Centre. Remaining to cherish his memory is his wife of 53 years, Mary (nee Bushenlonga), his sons, Richard (Melanie) and Curtis (Rose), beloved grandchildren Kelby, Aimee and Keifer, along with his many close friends.

He was predeceased by his parents Reinhold and Olga (nee Bittner) and his brother, Robert.

George was born April 19, 1938 in the Homer District of the RM of Bifrost. He and Mary were married in 1970 and settled in Winnipeg, where they raised their family until their retirement move to Arborg in 2015, where they enjoyed many years.

Over the years George had a variety of jobs, starting in the automotive repair industry with Eastern Sales and finishing his career as a caretaker for the Winnipeg School Division. He met some of his closest friends during his working years.

The biggest treasures in his life were his family and friends. He was always happy to visit and spend time with everyone and loved to catch up and share stories over a cup of coffee or a breakfast outing.

He enjoyed spending time at his family homestead, where he and Mary would spend most summers, relaxing and visiting with friends from the neighbouring farms. In his later years, he still enjoyed taking occasional drives up to visit the property. George also loved music, attending many old time dances and picking up his accordion to play for his family and friends on many an occasion.

The family is grateful to the doctors and staff at the Arborg Hospital for their care and compassion in George's final days.

A private burial will take place with family. A Celebration of Life will be held on July 30th at 11:00 a.m. at the Arborg Heritage Village.

In lieu of flowers, if so desired, donations may be made in memory of George Arndt to the Arborg Heritage Village.

OBITUARY

Family and friends are invited to leave condolences and memories at mackenziefh.com

MACKENZIE FUNERAL HOME ARBORG (204) 467-0024 • info@mackenziefh.com



Teval John Marks May 16, 1938 - September 6, 2022

It is with our deepest sadness that our family announces the passing of my dear husband, Teval.

family. Teval's brothers, sisters, grandchildren, great-grandsons and many nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. Interment will take place on July 21 for family members only.

Celebration of Life will take place on Saturday, July 22 at 134A Maple St. in Aspen Park Community Hall between 1-4 p.m. A light lunch will be served.

Everything you need to

He leaves to mourn his wife of 16 years, Neva St. Dennis and her







CELEBRATION OF LIFE



bring a lawn chair and their favorite story.

Gunnar Palson

A Celebration of Life will be held for our father,

Gunnar Palson, on July 22, 2023 at 11 a.m. at the

Hnausa Cemetery with lunch to follow at the Palson

farm. Dress casual if you like. Everyone is asked to

SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT



Richard Allen Macklin

and Buddy

An interment service will be held at 1:00 on Saturday, July 22, 2023 at Robinson Spur Cemetery, Matlock, MB. Luncheon to follow. Matlock Rec Centre/

Recreational Club, 77 Matlock Rd, Matlock,

OBITUARY Helga Donalda Nygaard (Donna)

We are sad to announce that our mother and Amma, Donna, passed away on July 2, 2023. She was a wonderful mother who was always there when we needed her. Mom was a kind and generous lady who's home was always open for a cup of coffee and her famous home baking.

She was predeceased by her husband and an infant son. Mourning her loss are her children, grandchildren, extended family and friends and in accordance with her wishes there will be no service.

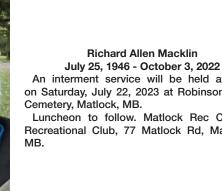
> "Remember the love that we once shared Miss me but let me go" Góða nótt Amma Condolences may be left on her tribute wall at www. gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.

Gilbart











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