

The Quebec-based circus troupe Machine de Cirque rolled into Gimli last Thursday. Performers compared navigating a city like jumping through hoops.

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### 2 *The Express Weekly News* Thursday, August 9, 2018 A road trip like no other: Machine de Cirque's Truck Stop thrills and chills

#### By Patricia Barrett

Whatever you get up to on road trips probably can't top the escapades of Machine de Cirque. The Quebecbased circus troupe rolled into Gimli last Thursday with a spell-binding outdoor show titled Truck Stop and provided an hour of non-stop thrills to a 500-strong crowd on Gimli Beach.

With its blend of comedic theatre, acrobatic feats and live music, Truck Stop tells the story of a group of friends who hitch up a camper trailer and hit the road for a Canadian sightseeing adventure, making pit stops along vast plains, forests, the big city, the mountains and the coast.

Created in 2013 by veteran circus artist Vincent Dubé, Machine de Cirque has performed across Canada, the U.S., Europe and Japan. Truck Stop features five circus artists (Frédérique Hamel, Adam Strom, Dylan Herrera, Nate Armour and Timothé Vincent) plus a musician (Eric Savard), who creates rich, multi-layered soundscapes.

The troupe's slapstick comedy routines included a swaggering city dude who falls through a manhole cover and a busker competing for attention by playing the ukulele while balancing on his head, all executed with dance-like precision and acrobatic flair. When the storyline brought the troupe to the Rocky Mountains, they staged (with no safety harnesses) chilling falls from and rebounds up to (via a trampoline) a narrow platform about 15 feet above the stage.

With a bare-bones crew of one, the artists themselves did double duty as stage hands, speedily erecting and/or disassembling flat-pack scenery, Chinese poles and the trampoline while one of the performers entertained the audience.

Gimli Mayor Randy Woroniuk, who attended the show, said the RM's Community Development Corporation invited Machine de Cirque to perform in town as part of its coast-tocoast Canadian tour, which includes small communities and major urban centres.

Sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts, the show was free. The CDC covered in-kind costs such as accommodation, a dressing room and refreshments and snacks, said



Mountain climbing.

the RM's economic development and tourism/CDC clerk Brittany Isfeld, who helped organize the event.

At the end of the show, the artists leapt from the stage and made a beeline for the lake, throwing themselves headlong into the surf to cool down after their long journey.

Cannonball through a hula hoop.



Taking in the view.



Wheeling around.

**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRET** 



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### **The Express Weekly News** Thursday, August 9, 2018 **3 Steep Rock Beach Park builds mini library for campers**

#### By Jeff Ward

Campers and visitors to Steep Rock Beach Park now have a new library to take books from when they want to read something new or forgot their reading material at home.

The mini library currently holds more than 30 books that have been donated by campers. Campground manager Lana Gabbs said the rule is take a book, leave a book — and the reception to the fun idea has been really positive. The library itself is made to look like a trailer and opens from the door to reveal a stockpile of books. Gabbs said that this was one of the ideas that has been in their summer job jar for a while and that her husband, Trevor, set to work building it a few weeks ago. With the help of seasonal camper, Brenda Wood, the exterior was painted and finished and is now jammed full of donated books.

"We wanted to do this little popup library or something similar for a while now," said Gabbs.

"We had seen these all over the country whenever we do travelling in

the winter time. We've seen different variations of it and I expected him to just build a simple wooden house, not something this elaborate."

Gabbs said that their seasonal campers and other members of the community were quick to bring books to fill up the library, which is located right at the store inside the campground. She said there are a lot of avid readers in the campground and it's really neat to have a space where people can grab something new and either put it back or place an old book of theirs inside. Smaller projects like this, Gabbs explained, are all part of the ongoing effort to add little niceties to the park.

The managers are always looking for different ways to add something new and special to the park when they go travelling in the off season and have built up quite a list of things they'd like to one day accomplish.

For now, the new mini library is the hot new attraction that is free for anyone visiting the park to enjoy.



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LANA GABBS** Seasonal camper Brenda Wood and campground manager Trevor Gabbs worked together to complete the new mini library that is now stocked with books for visitors to read.



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# Iceland's Prime Minister celebrates Gimli's Icelandic family gathering

#### **By Patricia Barrett**

Iceland's Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdottir attended the 129th Icelandic Festival in Gimli last week, speaking warmly of the ties between the homeland and the Lake Winnipeg community and of its dedication to preserving its culture.

"Who we are today is built on solid roots we have on the ground. And it's important to preserve those roots and nurture them so we can grow new flowers in the relationships we have," said Jakobsdottir to about 200 people attending the festival's traditional program celebration Monday afternoon in Gimli Park.

This is first time the prime minister has attended the festival, which celebrates Icelandic culture, food and storytelling and is the oldest ethnic festival in North America.

Iceland is forging ahead in the social, economic and political realms, said the prime minister, making great strides on gender quality and becoming a "role model" for countries around the world. For the past seven years, Iceland has topped the World Economic Forum's survey on gender quality. She also said the country has set an ambitious goal to be carbon neutral by 2040 in order to help combat climate change and encouraged Canada to work together with Iceland to achieve climate reform.

While in Gimli, Jakobsdottir said she visited the big white rock on Willow Island where the first Icelandic immigrants arrived in 1875, met filmmaker Guy Maddin and discovered relations she didn't know she had.

She commended Gimli's Icelandic community for its perseverance in keeping its culture and heritage alive, a trait she said all Icelanders share.

"Iceland has long been interested in our history and genealogy. I think it's fair to say that's surpassed only in our unhealthy interest in the weather!"

That single-minded focus has been invaluable to a number of achieve-



Prime Minister of Iceland Katrin Jakobsdottir.

ments, such as preserving the language in Manitoba, she said, as well as Iceland's success in becoming an independent state under the Danish Crown in 1918 and independent republic in 1944.

"I think the most important thing when we come to a festival like this is to think of our common past and common heritage, and also think about the opportunities of the future," said Jakobsdottir.

Other dignitaries, including Manitoba's Lt.-Gov. Janice Filmon, Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan, Gimli MLA and Municipal Relations Minister Jeff Wharton and Gimli Mayor Randy Woroniuk also spoke at the event, paying their respects to the community and its festival.

Wanda Josephson Anderson, the festival's Fjallkona — which means Lady of the Mountain and is a symbol of Iceland with a crown of ice on her head — spoke of the Icelanders' determination to keep their culture at the forefront.

"I believe we are achieving the dreams of our forefathers," she said, referring to the first wave of settlers in 1875. "Groups such as the Icelandic League of North America, individual chapters of the ILN, the Icelandic River Heritage sites and the Icelandic



Tim Arnason escorts Fjallkona Wanda Josephson Anderson to the stage.

**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT** 

Festival of Manitoba are working hard to preserve and promote the culture and heritage of the people of Icelandic descent in Manitoba. Now we must make sure our youth will carry on this legacy."

During the celebration, Icelandic Festival president Grant Stefanson awarded a \$500 Dennis N. Stefanson Memorial Scholarship to student Thomas Wright, who belongs to one of Gimli's Arnason clans.

The award was established in 2011 after the death of Stefanson's father and is presented each year to a student who has achieved academic excellence in post-secondary education, promotes the Icelandic culture and participates in community service.



Manitoba's Lt.-Gov. Janice Filmon is escorted to the podium by her aide.



From left: Gimli Mayor Randy Woroniuk, Grant Stefanson, right, presents a \$500 Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan Dennis N. Stefanson Memorial Scholarship Fjallkona Wanda Josephson Anderson with attendants and Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton.



to Thomas Wright.



Willow Josephson, left, and Stephanie Johnson, right.

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# Arborg to hold public forum on proposed plastic bag bylaw

#### By Patricia Barrett

Town of Arborg council will be holding a public meeting next month to get feedback from residents and businesses about its proposed bylaw to reduce plastic bags.

If passed, Plastic Shopping Bag Bylaw No. 4-2018 will prohibit retail businesses from providing single-use plastic bags free of charge to customers, as well as prohibit anyone employed by or acting on behalf of a retail business to provide free bags.

Businesses will be required to charge a "minimum" of five cents for each single-use bag.

Money collected from the levy will be donated to the Icelandic River Community Foundation, states the bylaw, "for the sole purpose of Recreational Use by the Riverdale Place Workshop Recycling Facility."

Single-use plastic bags are defined as those made with "less than 2.25 mils thick polyethylene, including biodegradable bags."

The Town drafted the bylaw after grades 7 and 8 students at Arborg Early Middle School formed a group called Students Against Plastic and appeared as a delegation at council's May 9 meeting to ask for a fee on plastic bags. The students' initiative received support from the chamber of commerce.

According to research the students carried out, about eight million metric tons of plastic end up in the ocean or are buried or burnt in landfills each year.

The bylaw includes a number of exemptions whereby businesses can provide plastic bags free of charge. Those include packaging for bulk items, wrappings for meat, fish, flowers, potted plants, prepared foods and bakery goods and bags sold in packages for pet waste, yard waste or household trash.

Businesses that fail to adhere to the bylaw will be charged \$100 for a first offence, \$250 for a second offence and \$500 for a third offence.

The public forum is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 12 at 11 a.m. in council chambers.

A copy of the bylaw is available at the administration office or from the town website under "Files & Documents." For more information call (204) 376-2647.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

A single-use plastic bag washed up on the shore of Lake Winnipeg. Plastic can break down into tiny particles and be ingested by fish and wildlife.

# Children's Wish fundraiser riding into 30th year

#### By Caitlyn Gowriluk

For one Interlake family, this year's Ride for a Child's Wish event is hitting closer to home than usual.

Since the event first started in 1988, Carol and Bill Gibson have attended the annual motorcycle and trail ride with their family. First, they brought their daughter, Angela Roberts, and later, Angela's son, Brendan.

"It was just an event that we enjoyed in the community," said Roberts. "It was close by, and it was right up our alley for fun things to do."

But over the past several years, the fundraising event benefiting the Children's Wish Foundation has become more meaningful to their family, said Roberts.

Two years ago, Brendan started getting chronic lung infections. He got colds that wouldn't go away and coughing that never stopped. He was already thin and wasn't growing as quickly as other kids his age, said Roberts.

Just before his 14th birthday in 2016, Roberts took him to a nurse practitioner who had worked with cystic fibrosis patients for years and who quickly diagnosed him with the genetic condition.

"It came as a complete surprise," said Roberts. "We had no idea. Neither my husband nor myself recall any family member in history ever having this."

What was at first just a good cause to support soon became one to which their family had a personal connection, said Roberts. Last year, Brendan had his own wish granted by the charity: a trip to New Zealand.

"We've always just gone in support of the cause," said Roberts. "But now it's personal. Now it's something that we've used, [that] we've participated in. And now we really like to support it, because it means a lot to families that are going through it."

The event has also become more meaningful for people

close to their family, said Roberts.

"My parents are affected differently by it," she said. "And [so are] close friends that have watched us go through this." As someone who has a personal connection to the Children's Wish Foundation, Brendan has been invited to speak at this year's event.

"It's not just going on the ride," said Gary Peltier, who organizes and hosts the annual event with his wife, Silver, on their farm south of Woodlands. "It's supporting the children."

Now in its 30th year, the annual ride — which usually sees about 600 to 800 people in attendance — has grown a lot and raised over \$1.3 million for the Children's Wish Foundation since it first began. But the principle of it, "the support that's there, the volunteers that show up the night before, [or] the day before, and help us get everything done and put together, the commitment of all the people that have shown up, year after year after year," has stayed the same, said Peltier.

This year's event is on Aug. 18, and will include the annual 12-mile horseback trail ride and 250-kilometre motorcycle ride through the Interlake area that begin at 11 a.m., plus



games and activities for kids at 3 p.m. The evening portion of the event will also include a dinner at 5 p.m., and a barn dance featuring a performance by country music band Crossroads.

The event is open to everyone, with or without a horse or motorcylce. For more information about donating, volunteering or attending the event, email info@rideforachildswish.ca.











Brett Mitchell

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the partnership."

nadian Armed Forces."

mission.

During the next two years, DUC and the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (MHHC) will share \$400,000 through the Lake Winnipeg Basin Program, which is funded by Environment and Climate Change Canada. The partners can use that money to leverage further funding, tripling the contribution to \$1.2 million.

CC NEWS > VIEWS > GIMLI > ARBORG > HIGHWAY 6 > SURROUNDING AREAS

**Justin Trudeau failing Canadian Armed Forces** 

"It is also unclear if a new design

would be created with input from

manufacturers and suppliers in Can-

ada, or if it will undergo the same

rigorous scientific testing that was

done with the current uniforms. This

is reminiscent of a decision made by

the previous Liberal government to

send our troops into the Afghanistan

desert wearing green uniforms that

were completely inadequate for the

"The safety and security of our

troops should be top of mind for

any government. Canada's Conser-

vatives will ensure that those who

serve our country day in and day out

are equipped with the necessary re-

sources to meet the needs of the Ca-

That will help DUC and MHHC continue their work promoting wildlife habitat by restoring an additional 100 acres of wetland (about 50 CFL fields) and protecting another 1,068 acres (534 CFL fields).

Besides providing wildlife habitat, one of the many other benefits of wetlands is their ability to filter nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen,

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from snow and rain runoff. Nutrientladen runoff that isn't filtered by wetlands can eventually flow into Lake Winnipeg and produce algae blooms. Some of those algae species are toxic.

James Bezan

Wetlands restored and protected with this new funding will retain 88 metric tonnes of phosphorus and 334 metric tonnes of nitrogen. For phosphorus alone, that's the amount in eight semi loads of commercial fertilizer.

In addition, farmers stand to benefit because DUC and MHHC will use the funding to pay incentives to private landowners who choose to protect and restore wetlands with long term agreements.

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for the Canadian Armed Forces is not one that should be taken lightly. It must be made in consultation with troops to ensure they are equipped with what they need to serve on the battlefield. "Right now, it's unclear why uniforms need replacing. It appears

Forces:

Submitted will use new federal funding announced today to support programs that restore and protect wetlands while helping to reduce algae in Lake

DISTRIBUTION Christy Brown

Winnipeg. That will benefit the recreation, tourism and fishing industries by helping to reduce algae in the lake, and support Manitoba farmers who are paid incentives to partner with DUC on wetland projects.

"This funding will allow two experienced conservation groups to work together for the benefit of many Manitobans," says Mark Francis, DUC's head of conservation programs in Manitoba. "DUC brings eight decades of conservation experience to

Submitted by PC government

James Bezan, Shadow Minister for

National Defence, issued a state-

ment following a media report that

the Trudeau government is looking

to spend up to \$500 million on new

uniforms for the Canadian Armed

"The decision to replace uniforms

from media reports that the move is

being considered mostly for esthetic

purposes. If this is the case, Justin

Trudeau should intervene and stop it.

Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC)

Federal funds allow DUC and MHHC to team up to provide more



# Province reminds people to be cautious of black bears

#### **By Jeff Ward**

With the increase in bear sightings and attacks on Interlake livestock and a few recent bear attacks in the province, now is a good time to go over some key safety tips should you ever encounter a bear.

A bear attacked a child in a tent last month and caused lacerations to her face while her family camped in Whiteshell Provincial Park. Another attack took place on the Mantario Trail at the beginning of last month when a bear snuck up behind a man and bit him on the back of his leg. Manitoba Sustainable Development warns of approaching bears and cautions approaching any wildlife in general.

The *Express* has told you about many incidents over the last few years of bears attacking and killing local livestock. The RM of Grahamdale has had numerous issues with predators like coyotes and bears. While these incidents are all farm-based, bears are slowly making their way farther south into the Interlake and could become a more common sight.

Lana Gabbs, manager for Steep Rock Beach Park, said that while bears have been seen in the area this year, there have been no issues.

"People have seen them in and out of the campground but we've had no issues. This is the first year in five years we haven't had a trap," said Gabbs.

The campground imposes a strict rule designed to keep bears out and campers safe. Management doesn't allow any bird feeders, feed or liquid as they are common attractors to bears. They also have a garbage area that locks garbage away and keeps the smell from spreading to hungry bears. Manitoba Sustainable Development

released a list of preventative mea-

sures to help you avoid conflict with bears.

• never approach or feed a bear (or any other wild animal);

• keep dogs on a leash to reduce the potential of it being attacked by a bear or leading a bear back to you;

• store attractants, such as food and garbage, in a secure building or bear resistant container so they are not accessible to bears;

• when travelling in wilderness areas be alert, make noise, travel in groups, and keep children close by;

• take down bird feeders between April and November;

• store garbage in a secure building or bear resistant container;

• secure compost piles or compost food items indoors;

• in the summer, remove all ripened or fallen fruit daily in the morning and before dusk and don't allow it to rot on the ground;

• allow barbecue grills to burn for a couple of minutes after cooking to burn off grease and to eliminate odors, and clean grills and grease cup after each use;

• clean up thoroughly after picnics in the yard or on the deck and don't allow food odors to linger;

• feed pets indoors and never leave food dishes outdoors; and

• fully enclose backyard beehives and chicken coops; electric fencing is an effective bear deterrent.

The province also reminds people that feeding wildlife along the roadside is prohibited by regulations. It encouraged animals to seek that food source again and that could end up in collisions with wildlife and vehicles.

# letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklypews.c

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### subhead

Three weeks ago, our government issued a request for proposals to explore possible improvements to the public-private delivery model of provincially owned and operated government air services. With the by-election blackout period now over, I can now discuss the facts and reasoning behind our decision.

In order to understand how we arrived at this point, we must first understand that the previous government privatized government air services without tender and without telling Manitobans it was doing so. As a result of that decision, the Manitoba government has for many years depended on private air service providers for virtually all air ambulance services, and for well over half of all its air service needs. None of those privatization measures were ever tendered. There is no guarantee of available aircraft, no service standards, and insufficient safety requirements. That explains why it is often a challenge to provide air ambulance service to communities who need it most. At the same time, government-owned aircraft remain idle 60 per cent of the time. This means that Manitoba taxpayers are bearing the high cost of planes and crews sitting on the tarmac, waiting for deployment.

That is no way to spend taxpayer dollars, nor is it the best way to manage such a critical service. That is why our government has issued this request for proposals. It is a factfinding mission that will allow us determine whether the same or better services can be offered in a more cost-effective manner.

It is important to note that the RFP stipulates that Manitoba will retain ownership of all active water bombers. The Manitoba Wildfire Program will remain in charge of co-ordinating, dispatching, and directing when and where those planes will go to support wildfire suppression. Our water bombers will always be in the province during fire season unless Manitobans agree to let them assist our neighbours in times of emergencies.

In terms of both critical and noncritical air ambulance services, the RFP outlines mandatory requirements on both the provincial and Health Canada side. This includes the ability to access all northern airports — including those that have gravel runways — and operate in low-visibility conditions. Our government is committed to protecting the safety of Manitobans, just as we are committed to ensuring they receive the best value for their tax dollars. The two concepts are not mutually exclusive. The air services currently provided by our government will continue to be available to Manitobans, and the programs those services support will not change. If the RFP does not result in an outcome that is at least as safe and efficient as the current delivery model, we will not proceed.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this important initiative, please contact your local MLA or contact me directly at the Manitoba Legislative Building.

The Honourable Ron Schuler Minister of Infrastructure Government of Manitoba

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# Set red river > chalet beach > lake winnipeg

#### Hi folks.

The Winnipeg Beach marina complex boasts a monumental rocky split running southward with a trail along its top. Sandy beaches skirt the rocks on either side but unless you have the sure-footedness of a mountain goat only the bravest anglers gain those fine fishing shores.

Last Saturday, I found myself strolling down the trail casting glances past the rocks looking for some of those brave fishers. In time I saw a younger agile chap with short dark brown hair casting out into restless waves. I shouted to him asking if he a fishing experience to share, he smiled. Moving his head up and down as some folks do to focus through their glasses, he scrambled up the rocks coming to my side, slightly out of breath.

"Are you a local guy?" I asked.

"Yeah, I'm Ron Thiffeault," he said and without hesitation began a story.

"The waves were fierce here last week. It didn't take long for me to get a strike and I knew it was a big one. I started hauling in just as two conservation officers showed up. They were nice enough and, standing beside me, made comments on the giant waves and other small talk as I played the fish. After about five minutes, I caught a glimpse of the ivory belly and green tail of a huge pickerel rising from the top of a cresting wave. I was instantly sickened though to see my prize being slammed against the sandy shore between waves. I wasn't quite sure what to do but thankfully the conservation

officers came to my rescue.

"They rushed into the thrashing waves with their clothes on and, teaming up, grappled the fish pushing it to dryer shore. I quickly unhooked it, got a picture and released it. The officers then helped push the big fish back to deeper water."

Well, Ron, let me say on behalf of all anglers, thanks for the story, and to those officers, you guys are the best.

By the way, I happen to be going to Riverton and stopped at Hnausa just as a Roger and Jake Schultz from Arborg were stringing up a perch. Thanks for letting me take a picture of you and your fish guys.

I stopped at Silver Harbour not long ago and ran into an engaging angler. He was of average size with chiselled features, penetrating eyes and a perpetual mischievous grin so it was no surprise when he gave us a funny fishing story.

He was Ken Barry of Winnipeg and had been going to Bird Lake fishing with a bunch of buddies for years.

One particular year on a bright, warm day, they were in a boat on the lake and his best buddy Jerry, an experienced angler, caught a jack a bit under four feet long. They had forgotten to bring a net but Ken watched as Jerry worked and played the fish through the choppy waves to the side of the boat. Jerry quickly handed Ken a glove and motioned for him to grab it.

"What do you want me to do with this?" Ken looked from the glove to



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL** Roger Schultz, left, and son Jake Schultz with their catch at Hnausa on Lake Winnipeg.

#### Jerry wide-eyed.

"Grab it," Jerry shouted.

"I'm not grabbing it," cried out Ken. "Did you see the size of his teeth? He'll take my arm off."

"Fine, give me the glove and take my rod, you sissy," Jerry teased as he landed it.

Another time on Bird Lake in late fall, it was so cold they had snowmobile suits on. The lake was mostly frozen over except for a circle by the waterfall. Ken said they "trolled the ice line" but the only thing they got was some "buzz bait" from their coolers. I will leave it to you, my friends, to figure out just what that means.

Now, fellow fishers, I have been asked to spread the word. If any of you business or private folks want a huge musky to have stuffed for a trophy, you can get hold of me through the newspapers. Someone I know caught a very large one up north and unfortunately because of a prolonged fight, it could not be released. It's in a freezer so if you're interested, sing out.

Down on the Selkirk Waterfront, I ran into a local fellow Scott Lancaster. He said, a funny thing happened to him when he was fishing at the Forks on the Red a while back. As he was reeling in to check his bait some tourists from the other side of the world walked up to him. As the minnows on his pickerel rig hooks popped from the water into view, the tourists became very excited, motioning at the minnows, thinking that's what Scott had caught. He told one of the visitors who seemed to understand a little English that we catch fish a bit bigger than that in Canada.

Until next week, friends. Bye for now.

# Ashern MYJC helps area youth gain key skills required for first job

#### By Jeff Ward

The Manitoba Youth Job Centre in Ashern recently completed a oneday course designed to help youth gain key employment skills while also learning money management and other important lessons.

The First Job Certificate Program has four modules: Introduction to the Workplace, Customer Service, Money Management and Professional Skills and Leadership. The program was administered by MYJC youth engagement leader Will Mantik last Wednesday and took about four hours to complete. Mantik explained he goes through a PowerPoint presentation that details the specifics of the aforementioned modules and also conducts in-class activities for practice. Once completed participants receive a certificate that adds a lot to a growing resumé.

"Most of the people who sign up for the program are younger and they don't have a lot of job experience, so this is a really good program for them to gain new skills," said Mantik.

"A lot of the activities are things like how to give change if you're a cashier, going over and understanding your paystub and general money management tips."

It's easy to take for granted these skills if you've been in the workforce for a few years, but people who are just getting their foot in the door need opportunities like this to practise. Making change for a \$10 bill can have a lot more pressure associated with it if it's a busy day and there's a long line of people waiting. These instances are where those customer service skills are needed to make sure you can keep a cool head and make sure customers leave happy.

"A lot of people are just figuring this stuff out for the first time, so we just want to make sure they understand this new information," said Mantik.

Understanding the information on your paystub, for instance, is something that could be very difficult to figure out on your own. How much do you lose to taxes, CPP and other benefits you might pay into? And then it's also imortant to have the money management skills to make the net income go to work for you.

Mantik said that his office in Ashern is open until Aug. 17 and that anyone who wants to go through the program and get their own certificate can call him and set up an appointment to do so.

Mantik is also hosting a barbecue in Ashern at the Chamber of Commerce Booth on Friday. Aug. 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Will Mantik can be reached at 204-302-0937.

# Ashern student spearheading catch-and-release spay and neuter program

#### By Jeff Ward

An enterprising young veterinary student is spearheading a new initiative in Ashern that aims to curb the growing population of cats that are often seen roaming the town.

Jenna Noordenbos is soon to be a third-year veterinary student at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatchewan. She is currently working at Hudson Reykdal Veterinary Service (HRVS) for the summer. Noordenbos explained that she will set up cat traps around town and perform spay and neuter services on all the cats she traps.

The program will be catch and release and is something that HRVS has wanted to do for some time. Noordenbos explained that the schedule at the clinic is already very busy and there was just never any time to devote to it. Noordenbos said Dr. Keri Hudson Reykdal will supervise the program and that she might be able to do about a dozen a day if the cats are caught.

"The main goal is to decrease the amount of cats roaming around Ashern," said Noordenbos.

"But we also want to educate the people in Ashern as well to let them know about the importance of doing these kinds of things for their pets. When you have a cat, you can't just let it run around; you need to take care of it as well."

Outside of the issue of rampant breeding and a future of thousands of feral cats roaming around, there is also the equally important issue of the spread of disease. Rabies, feline leukemia virus and feline aids are all risks when cats are let out into the wild. Rabies especially is dangerous to humans and Noordenbos doesn't want to see a situation where a cat attacks a person in Ashern and rabies is transmitted. If a person is unvaccinated against rabies, it is extremely serious and can be fatal.

Noordenbos said that an accurate number of cats roaming the town is extremely difficult to know but estimated to be in the hundreds right now.

HRVS is covering the cost of all the spay and neuter services and the RM of West Interlake is providing the traps. Reeve Randy Helgason said that he supports Noordenbos' initiative and council has thrown their support behind her as well.

"We'll probably start by setting maybe 10 traps a day. Maybe a dozen depending on how many we can get. I'll be working with the people of the town of Ashern to kind of have knowledge of where we should be setting some of the traps as well, where they're seeing cats go," explained Noordenbos.

Noordenbos is going back to school soon and hopes to get as many as 50 cats done by then.

On a more personal note, Noordenbos doesn't want to see a large population of wild cats living in the woods with no home. It's a tough life for kittens and adult cats to have to bear the brunt of harsh winters and summers and contend with other predators. Last summer, Noordenbos' parents found three kittens in the back of their bakery in town and she said it really opened up her eyes to the problem.

"We raised and bottle-fed those kittens and almost lost one of them. I wonder how many other cats are suffering out there. And the fact that these cats could be carrying rabies around town while we have kids outside playing, I knew something had to be done," said Noordenbos.

Traps should start popping up in Ashern over the next few weeks.



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** Jenna Noordenbos will be setting up cat traps around Ashern over the next few weeks for a new catch-and-release spay and neuter program administered through Hudson Reykdal Veterinary Services.

# Flow reduction at Fairford River water control structure

#### Submitted

Manitoba Infrastructure advises that discharge through the Fairford River Water Control Structure was reduced beginning Aug. 7.

The adjusted flow will remain in effect as long as the Lake Manitoba level is within the desired water level range of 810.5 to 812.5 feet.

The water level on Lake Manitoba has reached approximately 811.4 ft., which is in the middle of the desired water level range. As per the operating rules for managing water levels on Lake Manitoba, discharge through the Fairford River Water Control structure will be reduced to 60 per cent of its full capacity.

Flows will be reduced to approximately 2,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the current flow of approximately 3,500 cfs. It will take approximately one week to complete the flow reduction operation.







# Leave the driver at home when you go to Inwood Golf Course

The Inwood Golf & Country Club is a course that demands accuracy from golfers. From the opening tee box until the final green each hole represents a risk/reward that can see scores either well below par, or well above.

The best way to describe the course is, narrow. Each hole is encroached on by tall thick trees that pinch each fairway from both sides. Golfers who tee up driver need to be keenly aware of where their ball is going to go and understand that power on this course isn't needed. The first hole is a par 5 at 483 yards with water one third the distance from tee to green. Long or even above average hitters can make this green in two shots but if their shots have any leak right or left they could be in the O.B.

Players looking to shoot good scores might be better served by taking their more consistent mid to long irons off the tee boxes instead and leaving the driver in the bag. Fairway woods can come in handy to clear longer second shots on the courses five par 5's but in most cases laying up and having a wedge or short iron into the green will set up better putts.

Strong players will have many opportunities for birdie or even eagles with many of the courses par 4's being in a drivable distance from the tee box. The difficulty comes not from distance on this course, but in clever course design that puts deep bunkers in front of the greens or bends fairways to tuck pins in behind trees that reach 60 feet high. The par 4 15th hole is one of those uniquely designed holes where the hole cuts a hard 90 degrees from the tee box. Playing a 3-iron to the edge of the trees at the elbow of the fairway and having a short second shot into the green is smart, but hitters can choose to bomb a shot over the trees and, if they're strong and accurate, drop the ball right on top of the pin.

Miracle shots aren't what this course is about though. Inwood Golf & Country Club plays more like a game of chess and challenges players to think differently about how they attack each hole. Course management, a strong knowledge of the distance of your clubs and accuracy will see your score red hot.

The only hole that can be considered open is the par 5 finishing hole



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JEFF WARD** One of Inwood's more devious greens is this par 3 13th that has a raised green with sloping sides.

that feels like coming out of a long tunnel. The fairway is still tight, but much more open and the distance at 400 yards means a green in two is possible. But where the course gives back in an accurate second open design it takes away in an island green. Risk/reward. That's the name of the game.

This green is shaped like a peanut and demands shot to attach the pin set in the middle.



# Author Kathleen Arnason dispels Huldufolk myths during Icelandic Festival



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT Author Kathleen Arnason at the Icelandic Festival in Gimli Park.

#### By Patricia Barrett

Yes, the Huldufolk really do live in the attic of the Gimli Public School (now the municipality's administration offices), according to children's author and poet Kathleen Arnason.

Arnason was in town last weekend to help the 129th Annual Icelandic Festival celebrate 25 years of the Huldufolk with storytelling events at Gimli Harbour.

In Icelandic folklore, the Huldufolk are elves who live hidden among rocks (and attics). Arnason said her book, "The Story of the Gimli Huldufolk," now 25 years old, is still going strong at booksellers around town.

"When I was little, I did see the little people, there's no question about that," she said last Sunday while taking a break in Gimli Park where her books were on display at the pavilion. "And they're as real to me now as they were when I was young."

Arnason, who grew up in Gimli and now lives in Victoria, B.C., has published 11 books and earned the Queen's Jubilee Medal for her work in arts and culture.

She wrote the Huldufolk book at the time the former public school was being restored to bring attention to heritage efforts.

"There's a portion of the story that's real, and I use magic and imagination

and curiosity to grab the kids' attention and get them to ask questions," she said.

She recently finished a children's poem titled "You're Not the Boss of Me," which is slated for publication this fall. And she has a new book

ready for next spring titled The Story of the Gimli Huldufolk Quest and the Traveller's Stone, which will take kids across Canada in search of "all the pieces the little Huldufolk need to break the spell of giants."

"The bottom line is joy always conquers fear," she said. "I've always had a huge passion for nurturing children. My inner child has been alive and well and running around all over the place."

For more information about Arnason's work, visit kathleenarnason. com.

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The Riverton & District Friendship Centre & Reggie Leach present a night of music with the 1960's Recording Star Mark Stevens Of the Dovells

Tickets are \$25 and available at the Riverton Friendship Centre. Doors open at 6:30 and is a first come first serve sitting. The show starts at 7:00pm with opening act Adam T Elvis. Mark Stevens the show headliner will take to the stage

at 8:00pm. This is a show you don't want to miss! Riverton Community Hall

#### August 11th, 2018 Silent Auction Light Lunch & more

This event is a community fundraiser with proceeds going toward such local organizations such as: Riverton Seniors Activity Center Riverton Bifrost Parks & Rec

Riverton Bifrost Parks & Rec Bifrost Riverton Seniors Resource

# On a good road: Indigenous aid and tragic loss brought to life

#### **By Patricia Barrett**

A Song for John Ramsay by documentary filmmaker Andy Blicq recounts the life of an Indigenous man who saved 19th-century Icelandic immigrants from starvation and is a stepping-stone to raising non-Indigenous awareness of Canada's focus, at that time, on country-building, which led to the displacement of Aboriginal people and the destruction of their culture.

About 200 Icelanders arrived on the shores of Lake Winnipeg in 1875, driven from Iceland by poverty and hunger and promised free land in a colony called New Iceland that



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the government created on traditional Indigenous lands. Debuting last month at the Gimli Film Festival, Blicq's documentary features Juno-award-winning musician William Prince from Peguis First Nation and the haunting song he wrote about Ramsay's life-giving aid to a group of Icelanders who settled near Riverton and brought destruction in their wake.

"When Andy and I began talking about creating this documentary, there was a very important discussion regarding who has the right to tell stories. We don't," said Huw Eirug, who produced the documentary and took part in a discussion with film-goers after its screening July 28."We recognized that William is from Peguis First Nation and is a wonderful singer-songwriter. And we asked [him], 'Will you write the song?""

Prince recounts the death of Ramsay's beloved wife Betsey, who succumbed to the smallpox virus the Icelanders (about 100 of whom also died) brought to the colony, his aid to the settlers (teaching them how survive the harsh winter), his death and subsequent appearance to an Icelander and the misspelt headstone marking Betsey's grave.

"The documentary is William's interpretation of the story, the culture and the colonization. And that's what we did: we allowed William the opportunity to tell the story," said Eirug.

Prince recorded the song in a Winnipeg studio and sings it in the documentary as he traces Ramsay's footsteps along the shore of Lake Winnipeg and at the gravesite of Bet-



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**EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT** great-grand-John Ramsay's daughter Ruth Christie.

sey and three of their children (who also died from smallpox), located in a farmer's field near Riverton.

"I think throughout history there are always people in certain areas that step up, and leadership is one of those spiritual things that has existed for thousands of years," said Prince in the film. "I'd like him to be remembered in that regard — selfless John Ramsay."

Blicq, as narrator, tells us there was conflict between the Icelanders and Ramsay, who was part of a band of 60 Indigenous people living in a settlement near Sandy Bar, just east of Riverton. But they came to an agreement to share the land. And the Icelanders later wrote that Ramsay became a "true friend," saving many of them from certain death during a bitterly cold winter.

"He was a very important character in the survival of the Icelandic people when they arrived in Canada," said New Iceland Heritage Museum director Julianna Roberts, who appeared in the documentary and organized an exhibit on Ramsay last year."He didn't have to be our friend, but he chose to be our friend and help us out."

It was through Prince that Blicq and Eirug discovered a living relative of Ramsay's, his great-granddaughter Ruth Christie, a descendant through his third wife. Christie attended the screening and spoke with the audience about her forebear.

She generates a warmth both on screen and off but also challenges



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# **14** The Express Weekly News Thursday, August 9, 2018 **Icelandic culture celebrated**

#### By Patricia Barrett

The 129th Islendingadagurinn, or Icelandic Festival, offered four days of Icelandic-style merry-making in Gimli that included a Viking village, Viking battles, music and poetry, traditional food, beer gardens, a huge parade and carnival rides.

On Sunday, Frisbee enthusiasts signed up for the made-in-Gimli Fris-Nok competition.

"The object of the game is to knock a beer bottle off a post," said Fris-Nok referee Tom Hurlburt. "If the person throwing knocks the bottle, the opposing team can catch the Frisbee and the bottle to negate the point."

During Monday's closing celebration, Iceland's Prime Minister Katrin Jakobsdottir, who attended the festival for the first time, spoke about the close ties between Iceland and Gimli.



- 7 p.m. Evening Bingo at Community Hall

Parks Canada float.

Friday, August 10

- 7 p.m. Setup in the Park

- 11 a.m. Parade

Saturday, August 11

- 11 a.m. Concessions Open

- 10 a.m. Bed Races (Main Street)



Hunter (left) and Ethan race for the finish.



Putting a spin on Fris-Nok.



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT** Crimson (foreground) and Ryder on the whirligig.



Haley enjoys a midway ride Sunday afternoon.



Fris-Nok competitors hold steady their beer bottle



Yeah! Now we're flying.



Métis step-dancers.



- 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Museum Open - 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Art & Craft Show and Yard Sale at Log Cabin - 1 p.m. The Freedom Singers Gospel concert freedomsingers.com
- 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Local Talent on stage - 6 p.m. BBQ Steak Supper \$18 (250 Tickets available)
- 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Third Chins concert

- 10 p.m. 50/50 Draw (Tickets will be sold through out the day) - 10:30 p.m. Fireworks!

During the afternoon, Jail will be open, Volleyball will be played and the children can stay busy with games, bouncy castles, glitter tattoos and face painting. Beer gardens will be setup in the park as well. There will be picnic tables set up in various locations, but please bring your lawn chairs as well.

Sunday, August 12 - 10:30 a.m. Cleanup in the Park

Also at 10:30, Moosehorn Baptist Church will be celebrating their Centennial...100 Years and all are welcome to attend.

Here's to celebrating another year of community spirit in the R.M. of Grahamdale





Come on down and enjoy the 2018 Moosehorn Community Pride Days Moosehorn Coop (204) 768-2770

# Gimli Kiwanis and Transplant Manitoba raise awareness of organ donation

#### **By Patricia Barrett**

The Kiwanis Club of Gimli & District teamed up with Transplant Manitoba last weekend during the Gimli Icelandic Festival to encourage people to sign up online to donate their organs at the end of their lives.

"We were invited by Kiwanis to promote signupforlife.ca, which is the organ and tissue registry where Manitobans can go online and make their wishes known," said Kim Werestiuk from Transplant Manitoba, which cares for people undergoing transplants. "We also encourage everyone to speak with their family so they are also aware."

Sign Up for Life is overseen by Transplant Manitoba and the Tissue Bank of Manitoba, part of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. The heart, valves, pericardium (membrane around the heart), liver, kidneys, pancreas, lungs, small bowel, stomach, corneas, bone, cartilage, tendons, ligaments and skin can all be donated.

Health-care professionals caring for critically ill patients will do everything possible to save their lives, according the website's frequently asked questions, and the "possibility of donation is only considered when all lifesaving efforts have failed."

Werestiuk said people should ditch their paper donation cards and sign

up online instead so that health-care workers can access the information at the time of a health-care crisis.

"If your card is not with you should something happen, your wishes are online, and the co-ordinators will be able to access that information anytime," she said.

Driver's licences phased out the paper organ donation forms about 10 years ago, and Manitoba Health cards will no longer provide the form after this year, she said. The percentage of Manitobans registered online is very low.

"Right now there's only about 2.1 per cent of Manitobans who are signed up online. But we know, according to conversation, that about 90 per cent of people are pro-donation. But they don't have a card or they've only spoken to their families," said Werestiuk.

In 2017, 124 Manitobans donated organs/tissue to enhance the quality of life for those in need, according the WRHA's website. Skin transplants are used for victims suffering severe burns, heart valves can save infants born with defective valves, bone grafts can save limbs that might otherwise have to be amputated and corneas can restore vision.

Signing up online makes the organ donation process easier for families, said Werestiuk. The stress of organ



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

From left Kiwanian Patrick Duguid, Kim Werestiuk from Transplant Manitoba and Kiwanian Merle Duguid.

donation is compounded when donor's card can't be found.

"Families are left with a really hard decision if they don't have anything tangible that says, 'Yes, this is what you wanted. When they have the online registry, and the [health-care] co-ordinator tells the family that, it info@signupforlife.ca.

makes the decision easy for them. It takes all that stress off because it's always a traumatic time."

Visit signupforlife.ca for more information about the organ donation registry or call 204-787-1897 (toll-free 1-877-499-8774, ext. 1897) or email

# **Steep Rock getting much-needed community upgrades**

#### By Jeff Ward

The community of Steep Rock will see work begin over the next few weeks on projects to expand a parking lot, connect two roads, repair public washrooms and make improvements to the breakwater at the docks.

Ward 4 Coun. Tom Johnson said that these projects have been talked about for some time and explained that he's happy to see them finally being worked on. He said that repairs to the public washrooms have been sorely needed and that extending Lakeshore Road.

To connect it with Quarry Lane is a project that should help reduce traffic flows within the town of Steep Rock. That extension will allow for vehicles to have a more direct route to the boat launch and docks in Steep Rock. With the parking lot expansion happening along that road as well, it should mean less traffic congestion in the area.

"I think this will really help the people who live here," said Johnson.

"The guy who lives along [Lakeshore Road] had people parking on his lawn last summer and it was really frustrat-

ing. Once we expand this parking lot, it will give cars more space to park so that shouldn't happen again."

Johnson said work to the breakwater at the docks in Steep Rock will also pave the way for an upgrade to the docks at a later date. Johnson said that he'd like to see more investment in that area as it is used a lot.

The parking lot expansion is being handled by Shoreline Excavating Ltd. and will cost \$3,650 plus GST. The expansion will take place on the north end of the existing lot and will add an extra 800 square feet. The breakwater project is being done by the same contractor and will cost \$700 to move six existing rocks and place them at the west end of the breakwater. Shoreline Excavating Ltd. will also haul five to six limestone flat rock from Graymont and place them on the breakwater as directed by the RM.

The bathrooms will see new service hookups and weather-proofing for the circuit panel and water pump. The work is being done by GL Electric and will cost \$2,350.



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JEFF WARD** 

Upgrades to Steep Rock's public washrooms and docks are underway now as the RM of Grahamdale invests nearly \$7,000 in the area.

## 16 The Express Weekly News Thursday, August 9, 2018 Environment minister stops in Selkirk to talk climate change

#### Staff

Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna, visited Selkirk last week to learn to learn more about the city's approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and integrating a concern for the environment into its everyday practices.

McKenna stopped in Selkirk last Thursday afternoon after announcing that \$3.8 million in funding will be doled out over the next four years to help save Lake Winnipeg and its surrounding ecosystems. A total of 23 projects aimed at preserving water quality and health of nearby wetlands will receive the money from the five-year Lake Winnipeg Basin Program. The Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation are among the 23 funding recipients.

Selkirk Mayor Larry Johannson says council and administration are learning how to become more environmentally responsible and how to be better global citizens.

"We take that role seriously, and I'm proud of the effort that everyone here at the city puts into becoming more educated, more responsible and innovative in our thinking about our city and our planet," Johannson stated in a release last week.

McKenna spent one hour in Selkirk, and toured the Gaynor Family Regional Library, a green building, while learning about several city initiatives that helped Selkirk become one of 16 communities across the country selected to participate in the first phase of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Capital and Asset Management Network (CAMN).

CAMN combines peer-learning opportunities, training, and funding to help Canadian municipalities integrate climate change and sustainability goals systematically into decisionmaking about infrastructure assets, such as roads, buildings and water and sanitation systems.

Selkirk was the only Manitoba community selected for CAMN and is the smallest of all chosen to participate.

McKenna said she was impressed with the city's dedication to protecting the environment and fighting back against climate change.

"It's great to see the City of Selkirk, in partnership with the Prairie Climate Centre, doing incredible work to protect our environment and strengthen the local economy," McKenna stated in a release.

Selkirk received a \$50,560 grant from the federal government, through FCM, to integrate climate change goals into its Capital Asset Management Plan (CAMP) and have been working towards that with Winnipeg's Prairie Climate Centre.

McKenna was directed to Selkirk by Dr. Ian Mauro, co-director of Prairie Climate Centre (PCC), which has teamed with the city to help staff understand the specific impacts climate change has on Selkirk and develop an adaptation strategy to deal with those impacts. PCC recently launched climateatlas.ca, which combines climate science, mapping and storytelling to bring the global issue of climate change closer to home for Canadians.

"The City of Selkirk is at the fore-



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY LINDSEY ENNS** 

Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna, pictured left, and Selkirk Mayor Larry Johannson, right, meet outside the Gaynor Family Regional Library last Thursday. McKenna stopped in Selkirk to learn to learn more about the city's approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and integrating a concern for the environment into its everyday practices.

front of preparing for climate change. They are demonstrating — and increasingly recognized — for reducing their greenhouse gas emissions while making their community more resilient and livable," Mauro said. "We're excited by our emerging partnership."

McKenna applauded the partnership and the efforts to make climate change knowledge accessible to all Canadians.

McKenna learned about the city's decision to heat the new wastewater treatment plant without the use of fossil fuels, instead repatriating waste heat and using electric heat with the long-term ability to connect solar panels and generate its own electricity.

At the city's water treatment plant, an older section that uses natural gas for heat, is being updated with an innovative geothermal system. No new wells will be drilled; the city will use raw water to either take heat out of or deposit heat in to either heat or cool the building.

Solar panels that are being placed at the Rec Complex, the city's transit service, its hydration station, which has eliminated 10,222 single-use plastic bottles since its inception three years ago, and the city's active transportation network were also brought to the minister's attention.

# Long Point swim program wraps up another successful summer

#### By Jeff Ward

Another successful summer of water safety at Long Point Beach is in the books with over 60 kids taking part in the intensive week-long course.

The Long Point Water Safety Program has students learning valuable and life-saving water safety tips. Practising swimming in open water is very different from swimming in a pool. Temperature and weather changes, waves, wind and more are all hazards that are explained in the course. Students learned what to do in emergency scenarios to use as little energy as possible so that you can remain above water without exhausting yourself.

Amie Whiteside, one of the two program co-ordinators, said this year's course went swimmingly and that they had to cancel only one day due to very cold air and water temperature.

"Outside of that one day, the weath-Continued on page 19



Water safety instructor Vanessa Stamm poses with Hailey Milian who received her Level 9 and 10 certification this year.



**EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY MELANIE SPALDING AND AMIE WHITESIDE** Students from the first group pose for a photo before getting their water safety lessons last month.

# Oak Hammock Air Park hosting annual fly-in lunch

Aviation enthusiasts expected to gather at 15th annual event on Aug. 25

#### By Caitlyn Gowriluk

After 14 years of hosting its fly-in lunch and barbecue, the Oak Hammock Flying Club is hoping to draw in a younger audience with its 15th annual event on Aug. 25.

"The average age of a pilot out there is, they say, around 62 years old," said Ed Gulay, president of the Oak Hammock Flying Club. "There's a lot above that 62, but there's not a lot

of young people involved. We're targeting the young people, trying to get them involved in aviation as much as possible."

As older generations of aviation enthusiasts have begun to age, interest in the industry is waning. Bringing in more young people with events like the fly-in lunch is a way to keep interest in aviation alive, said Gulay.



A Gypsy Tiger Moth from the Commonwealth Aircraft Museum of Brandon will be on display.

"It's easy for people to do other things. It's important to keep the aviation industry going in the private sector," said Gulay."We'd like to see more young people involved in aviation ... to keep the industry going, basically, to lower the average age of a pilot in Canada from 62 to maybe 45."

This year's fly-in event is set to have nearly 40 planes on site, plus several



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Last year's event saw over 200 people in attendance and nearly 40 planes.

new attractions. STARS helicopter is scheduled to attend along with Second World War vintage planes, the Tiger Moth and Cornell from the Commonwealth Aircraft Museum in Brandon. Half-hour flights for \$280 must be pre-booked by calling Ed at 204-688-7247.

The event also creates a kind of community where aviation enthusiasts can gather, said Gulay.

"It gives an opportunity for anybody that's interested in aviation to talk to people about it," said Gulay. "We've got people from out of the country, tourists, coming just to take pictures beside the airplane, because it's nostalgic. There's aircraft there from the 1930s right up to modern aircraft."

This year's fly-in lunch and barbecue will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Oak Hammock Air Park on 1023 Fort Garry Rd. adjacent to Oak Hammock Marsh on Saturday, Aug. 25. Rain date is Sunday, Aug. 26.

### > TRAGIC LOSS, FROM PG. 12

you to think about what it meant for Indigenous people to lose their lands and access to their resources, eventually undergoing a process of assimilation with a culture alien to their own only to be relegated to the fringes, both figuratively and geographically.

Only 23 members of the Sandy Bar band survived the smallpox outbreak and others — such as Ramsay's surviving daughter, Mary — were horribly disfigured, according to documents written by the Icelanders. The Indigenous settlement was then burned to the ground to prevent the spread of infection. Despite that, Ramsay remained a loyal friend to the Icelanders.

"I think he was a man that was able to forgive, and the skills he had he shared with his own people and, of course, with the new Icelanders when they came,"said Christie, who learned of Ramsay's story through her grandmother. "I thought it must have been difficult for him to go ahead and extend a helping hand, but that's part of the Aboriginal culture: you share, you don't put yourself first especially if you've got the skills. It's a good example for me."

There are no extant photographs or letters of Ramsay, who died in the spring of 1894 after contracting tuberculosis. Blicq fills in that missing slice of the historical record through interviews with Prince, Christie and descendants of the Icelandic settlers.

It's hard to grasp history when you're standing in its midst, and it's unclear whether Ramsay was aware of the bigger picture of what was happening to his people and their culture.

A historian Blicq interviewed for the documentary said the story is a reminder of the Indigenous "presence" (something that's usually overlooked in local histories) and has been important for the "self-image of the Icelanders to be honest, to know that they were involved in this process of colonization but to feel they had good relations with at least one person who is affected by their arrival."

Christie thanked the filmmakers and those who've kept Ramsay's story alive for over 140 years, hoping his deeds will inspire others to lend a helping hand to those facing hardship.

"Ôver the years, just hearing the history through archival documents and other people, you know it seems that invariably when there's a contest for the land, my people usually lost," said Christie. "But we're on a good road now. It's called Truth and Reconciliation. And I'm so pleased I'm here today to walk the road with you."



### **18** The Express Weekly News Thursday, August 9, 2018 Young farmers finding new ways to connect with consumers

#### **By Kaitlin Vitt**

If someone asked you the difference between hens and roosters, could you answer?

Hens are the ladies. Roosters are the gents.

To some, this is basic information, but that's not the case for everyone something Andrea Taite from Broken Tree Farmstead noticed.

"I lived in the city for a while, and I found a lot of people didn't understand the basics — things farm kids really take for granted and understand,"Taite said.

Taite, 26, and her husband bought their 80-acre property in Komarno in 2014. They use 40 acres for oat production and the other 40 for pastureland. They have pigs, chickens, sheep, rabbits, cows, horses and bees. Her husband is from Winnipeg, and she's from Kenora. Growing up, Taite, who is Métis, spent a lot of time outdoors hunting, fishing and trapping.

Taite said she sees a disconnect between consumers and the food industry, especially among her generation, millennials. Taite shares her farming lifestyle on Instagram (@brokentreefarmstead) to bridge the gap between farmers and consumers, educating people — about hens versus roosters and so on — by showing where their food comes from.

"Food heals you," Taite said. "It's so

important to understand what you're putting into your body."

But the disconnect between farm and table goes two ways, said farmer Will Bergmann from Bergmann Bros. in Glenlea. Not only does the urban population not understand where their food comes from, but also farmers don't know much about the people eating their food.

Bergmann, 35, shares about his farm lifestyle on Instagram (@will\_bergmann). He also connects with people by speaking at events and through Winnipeg's culinary scene. He provides vegetables to a number of restaurants in the city, including Oxbow on Osborne Street, which he's a partner of.

"I'm definitely trying to bring a little bit of the city to the farm, and bring a little bit of the farm to the city."

Bergmann also said it's important to share accurate information about the agricultural industry to correct any spreading misinformation.

Social media makes the world a little smaller, he said, since it connects people, whether they know each other or not. This helps farmers reach consumers and vice versa.

"It's a really short chain that can be in place," he said. "That's why it's important for me to share my story."

Social media may come naturally to today's modern millennial farm-



Broken Tree Farmstead is home to pigs, chickens, sheep, rabbits, cows,



**EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANDREA TAITE** 

Andrea and Shane Taite run Broken Tree Farmstead in Komarno and share their farming lifestyle on Instagram, hoping to tackle the disconnect between farmers and consumers. Broken Tree Farmstead is home to pigs, chickens, sheep, rabbits, cows, horses and bees.



er, but more and more farmers from older generations are looking to connect with people online too, said Taite. Farmers have approached her to help set up profiles focused on their farm.

Taite makes sure she doesn't post only the "romanticized" version of farming. Though you'll see lots of landscapes on her account, she also shares the not-so-pretty stuff, like having to bandage a pig's injured leg. Though days can be long, especially since she and her husband both have jobs outside of farming, she enjoys it, so farming doesn't even feel like work. "It's like a hobby," she says, "but on a

horses and bees. photos of cute animals and beautiful larger scale." hay production issues for farmer Hot, dry summer causing severe

#### By Jeff Ward

Extreme heat and no rain have created drought-like conditions in the Interlake that are forcing some farmers to purchase hay and grain to feed their animals.

David Gleich, a farmer in the Eriksdale area, said these conditions are the worst he's seen since 2003 when there was another drought. Gleich said that he's only yielded about 45 to 50 per cent of the hay he got at this time last year and has had to shift into other methods to feed his herd. He had to go and rent more pasture because his cows have eaten all of the grass and it hasn't been able to grow

because of lack of rain. Gleich will be going to the RM of Rosser to get straw to supplement the feed he's lost.

"You have no choice. You have to feed them," Gleich said.

"You do have some options and I've already done some of that by renting more pasture and getting some straw. But I might now have to feed them a bit more grain too. It's been very tough."

Gleich said that there has been no regrowth at all in his grass this year. Even if it started raining now and was heavy through fall, it's too far gone to make a difference this year. Financially speaking, this summer will be a

big hit for him as the cost of hay has gone up from demand. Gleich said that typically the cost of a pound of hay is around five cents but has now gone up to eight cents a pound.

"There's no if or maybe; you're going to take a financial hit this year. You're having to buy stuff you normally don't, and just hauling my equipment to bail straw back and forth costs money too."

With gas prices on the rise, it compounds the issues producers like Gleich are facing and only adds frustration to an already tough summer.

Gleich said he believes many farmers will take to selling their livestock this year as the cost of feeding them is simply too high.

"I think there will be some serious [selling] going on. If you were thinking about [selling] already, this might push you over the edge. It's still in the back of my mind, too, for some of my older cows," said Gleich.

The problem does creep into next year too as even with optimal conditions for moisture the grass will take longer to grow back. Gleich's cows have already chewed the grass down to the soil. He believes it will most likely recover over the winter but it could take as much as a month longer than usual to grow back.

### The Express Weekly News Thursday, August 9, 2018 19 Riverton youth worker recognized at friendship centre AGM

#### By Caitlyn Gowriluk

After four years of working in youth programming at the Riverton & District Friendship Centre, Dylan Furgala was awarded the Nelson Mayer Youth Recognition Award by the National Association of Friendship Centres at its annual general meeting in Ottawa on July 19.

"It means a lot to me," said Furgala. "I'm actually making an impact on people's lives, and other people around me are seeing that."

Furgala started working at the Riverton & District Friendship Centre during the summer while he was in high school and has since transitioned to working there full-time.

"I love what I do," said Furgala. "It's something new and exciting every day. [I'm] always working with people, there's always something new to talk about, or someone new to meet. It's just a fun job."

Furgala was nominated for the award — created in honour of Nelson Mayer, a former president of the National Association of Friendship Centres and advocate for Indigenous peoples across Canada, who died in 2016 — by Aboriginal Youth Council

> LONG POINT, FROM PG. 16

er was beautiful," said Whiteside,

who added that one student in par-

ticular achieved a big milestone this

"We had one student complete

her Level 9 and 10 this year and

she's planning on taking her in-

structor courses between now and

next summer. We're hoping that

she continues with it and will come

back to instruct here next summer."

Hailey Milian has family in the

year.

Manitoba representative Desarae Bilinski.

The Riverton & District Friendship Centre's youth programming includes day camps in the summers, and a drop-in centre in the evenings, which Furgala said are important resources for youth in the community.

"It's a safe place," said Furgala. "Everyone's friendly here, and everyone always has a smile on their face. It's a very welcoming place."

While Furgala said he has fun working with youth at the centre, he also takes the job seriously, and hopes to be a good role model for kids in the community.

"I think we need more role models around. ... Everyone needs guidance, no matter who you are, or where you come from," said Furgala. "You just see lots of people struggle, and it's hard to see that. It's nice to be able to help, or at least try."

Furgala plans to attend the University of Manitoba in the fall to pursue a career related to working with youth.

"I'm obviously doing what I'm supposed to be doing, and making a change in other people's lives," he said.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Dylan Furgala, left, received a plaque from Aboriginal Youth Council Manitoba representative Desarae Bilinski at the National Association of Friendship Centres annual general meeting in Ottawa on July 19.

# Riverton to host rock 'n' roll community fundraiser

#### By Melissa McIvor

This Saturday in Riverton, NHL hockey legend Reggie Leach and the Riverton and District Friendship Centre are hosting a community fundraiser that promises to be a rockin' good evening.

Leach, formerly of the Philadelphia Flyers, will be joined in his hometown by long-time friend Mark Stevens of the Dovells, who will perform his one-man History of Rock n' Roll show.

"I often use the analogy of Jersey Boys, the Broadway show," Stevens replied when asked what guests can expect from the evening. "That's the life story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, which is generally the same story as my [Dovells] partner [Jerry Gross] and I."

"I tell the story, just like the title says, of the history of rock 'n' roll," Stevens continued. "I tell the story of growing up at 14 years old and starting a singing group with my partner [Gross] and then having all the success that the group had and how we continued and got older, started working Las Vegas a lot and just continued to tour. It's been an amazing life."

The show itself is a theatre-style performance that combines monologue with musical pieces by Stevens and his guest musician.

"I'm bringing up one of the best

guitar players on the planet," said Stevens. "He's from the Houston, Texas, area, Lonnie Atkinson. He accompanies me along with my guitar."

As for the musical pieces, attendees can expect to hear some familiar oldies, and singing along is encouraged.

"I do pieces of the Dovells' hits, including three of the six most recognizable chart breakers that we had which are 'Bristol Stomp,' 'Hulley Gulley' and 'You Can't Sit Down' and I explain how that came about," Stevens said. "All the other pieces that I do are songs that were recorded by friends of mine who I have toured with all my life. I know the artists so I have the backstories of a lot of those people."

"I am a humorous guy and there's always comedy going on so it's a wellrounded show," he added.

Stevens, who is originally from Philadelphia, has been performing his one-man show for about 15 years. He was brought on for the Riverton fundraiser after Leach saw a similar performance he did at Johnson Hall in Gimli last year when Stevens was vacationing away from his home outside of Austin, Texas.

"My wife has a summer home on the lake in Arnes and I've been coming up here for 24, 25 years. I've been coming up here for long time so I'm pretty familiar with Gimli," he said.

"There's a couple reasons why we decided to do it [the upcoming fundraiser] in Riverton. The other reason besides the connection with Reggie is that last year Isabelle, my wife, and I went to the hootenanny and it was mobbed. I think there were over 750 tickets sold. So they told me that Riverton is quite the music town. They love shows like this, and so we're hoping to have a sold-out show.

"If it goes well, I'll be here next year and maybe we can do it again. I'll change the show all up and we could possibly do it again."

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for firstcome, first-served seating. The show starts at 7 p.m. with Elvis impersonator Adam T. Elvis as the opening act. Stevens will take the stage at 8 p.m. There will also be a silent auction and a light lunch.

The proceeds from the event will be presented to three community groups hand-selected by Leach: the Riverton Seniors Activity Centre, the Riverton Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission and the Bifrost Riverton Seniors Resource.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at the Riverton Friendship Centre.

Interlake but lives in Winnipeg. Whiteside said that it's nice to have some home-grown instructors to be a part of the program and hopes Milian comes back to do just that. While the week-long course is a

While the week-long course is a great resource for learning, Whiteside said that it's sometimes difficult to remain practised through the year when lake swimming becomes too cold.

"Swimming takes a lot. Itss cardiovascular and it's muscular. If you've gotten yourself out of shape, it takes a bit to get that endurance back. It'll come back to you, but you need to keep practising," said Whiteside.

Luckily for those looking to add to their skill set, the Long Point Water Safety Program will be back next summer. Whiteside said it's all about making sure that people are being safe on the water and having fun.



# Interlake reaches bronze-medal game at PeeWee 'AAA' provincials

#### By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Orioles played some great baseball on their way to reaching the bronze-medal game at the PeeWee "AAA" provincials in West St. Paul last weekend.

But their season ended with a tough 10-0 loss to the North Winnipeg Pirates on Sunday.

Still, reaching the medal round at provincials is pretty impressive for an Interlake team.

"They were great," said Interlake head coach Dave Meyers. "The kids battled so hard all weekend. The whole group of them was just great and they have been good all year. They're a great bunch of kids to be with and they all work terribly hard."

Interlake reached the bronze-medal game after losing 14-2 to Oildome in a semifinal game earlier Sunday.

The Orioles had a nice start to the provincials on Friday, jumping out to a 2-0 record. They trounced Midwest 16-3 and then defeated Brandon 6-4.

The Orioles led Brandon 6-1 in the bottom of the seventh inning but the game got interesting when the home side scored three runs.

"I told them, 'If we play like we can, we can win these two games," Meyers said. "Brandon, hands down is the best team. Nobody is as good as them but we just played really well. We didn't make any bad plays - we played really good."

Interlake reeled off its third consecutive win with a solid 5-1 victory over Red River but then stumbled in a 20-2 loss to Bonivital.

The Orioles made several nice defensive plays in the win over Red River, said Meyers.

Brandon went on to win the PeeWee provincial crown with a 9-7 win over Oildome.

Brandon, Oildome and North Winnipeg will now attend the Western Canada/National 13U Championships in Brandon from Aug. 16-19.

The Orioles, meanwhile, will have just two players on their roster back to play PeeWee baseball next summer. The remainder will move up to the Bantam level, where Meyers feels they can be competitive.

"I think they can," he agreed, adding



Lundar's Slater Farthing was one of several Interlake pitchers Sunday morning.

he wanted to thank assistant coaches Stu Schaefer, Todd Faragher and Shari Meyers for all of their help this season. "They play good defence, that's



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MELER** Jesse Bindle looks for a signal from his coach during the provincials.

the biggest thing. They don't make stupid mistakes and they don't throw the ball around."

# Stonewall to host 21U women's baseball tournament this week

#### Staff

Some of the best women's baseball players in the country will be in Stonewall this week for the 2018 21U Women's Invitational Championship.

The five-team tournament, which begins Thursday and wraps up Sunday, will feature teams from Manitoba, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Quebec at Quarry Park. Manitoba's 15-player roster is loaded with talent from the Interlake.

Local players feature Garson's Brittney Langlais, Arborg's Jamie Johnson and Laura Kilbrei, Stonewall's Megan Humaniuk and Teulon sisters Jade and Jacey Ledochowski. Manitoba will begin action Thursday with games against Ontario (9 a.m.) and Saskatchewan (7 p.m.).

The opening ceremonies will take place Thursday at 6 p.m.

On Friday, Manitoba will battle Quebec at 3 p.m. in its lone game of the day.

Team Manitoba will then wrap up round-robin play Saturday with a

noon game against Nova Scotia.

Semifinal games will be played Saturday at 4 p.m. (fourth-place team versus top team) and 7 p.m. (secondplace squad against third-place team). The bronze-medal game will be played Sunday at 10 a.m., followed by the gold-medal game at 1 p.m.

# Ball hockey championship honours Humboldt Broncos' captain

#### Submitted

The Manitoba Ball Hockey Association is hosting the Canadian National Ball Hockey Championship for the first time in nine years.

The event will be dedicated to former Team Manitoba player and Humboldt Broncos' captain Logan Schatz, along with his teammates and those impacted from the bus tragedy.

Schatz played ball hockey in Saskatchewan and played for Team Manitoba as a junior player.

He went on to play for Team Canada in the under-20 division where he won a silver medal. The Canadian Ball Hockey Association and the Manitoba Ball Hockey Association had a special ceremony to announce the creation of an award for the Top Junior Ball Hockey Player called the Logan Schatz award.

The ceremony happened between the opening games for the women's and men's Team Manitoba this past Monday.

The ceremony featured the presentation of the award, as well as Logan's framed jersey being presented to his family.

One of the surviving Broncos' players, Mathieu Gomeric of Winnipeg, dropped the ball for the ceremonial face-off.

The tournament, which wraps up Saturday, will have games being

played in men's, women's and men's masters categories at both the Bell MTS Iceplex and Keith Bodley Arena. Teams from across Canada will be attending in all divisions and many pro, college, and Olympic ice-hockey players will be representing their provincial ball hockey teams.

Manitoba looks to win gold medals in all three divisions. Manitoba has not won gold in over 40 years in any of the divisions.



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# ARBORG

### **TOWN OF ARBORG** PUBLIC NOTICE

#### **2018 PROPERTY TAX STATEMENTS** HAVE BEEN MAILED

Any property owner who has not yet received a tax statement should contact the Town Office at 204-376-2647.

**NEW PROPERTY OWNERS** are reminded they may be responsible for payment of the 2018 taxes, whether or not they receive a tax notice in their name.

2018 property taxes are due and payable on or before September 28th, 2018

Lorraine Bardarson, CMMA **Chief Administrative Officer** 

### **NEWS TIPS Call 467-5836**



#### **TOWN OF ARBORG PUBLIC NOTICE -BOARD OF REVISION**

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2019 Assessment Roll for the Town of Arborg has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 337 River Road, Arborg, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with Sections 42 & 43 of The Assessment Act.

#### **APPLICATION FOR REVISION 42(1)**

A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

- a) liability to taxation;
- b) amount of an assessed value:
- c) classification of property; or

d) a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under Subsection 13(2).

#### **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS 43(1)**

- An application for revision must:
- a) be made in writing;

b) set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;

c) set out which of the matters referred to in Subsection 42(1) are at issue, and the grounds for each of those matters; and

d) be filed by

- i) delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office indicated
- in the public notice given under Subsection 41(2), or ii) serving it upon the Secretary, at least 15 days before the
  - scheduled sitting date of the Board as indicated in the public notice.

The Board of Revision will sit to hear applications on Wednesday, September 12th, 2018 at 10:00 AM in the Town of Arborg Council Chamber, 337 River Road.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is Monday, August 27th, 2018.

Dated at Arborg, in Manitoba, this 9th day of August, 2018.

Lorraine Bardarson, Secretary Board of Revision Town of Arborg Box 159 – 337 River Road Arborg, MB ROC 0A0

at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication. Call 467-5836



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### NANNY

WEEKLY NEWS

to assume full responsibility of household in absence of parents, perform light housekeeping. I am offering 4 hours per day at a rate of \$25/hour, interested applicants to email me directly at mauricebousk@gmail.com

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

BIRTHDAY



Join us as we celebrate Gladys Stoyanowski's 100th Birthday Come and Go Tea Sunday, August 19, 2018 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Arborg Heritage Village Hall Let your presence be your gift!

### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** Sawmill Workers required immediately. Must be reliable and follow directions well. Must be a team player.

Spruce Wood Loggers is looking for an energetic person who is physically able, punctual, promotable, trainable and can work with others. Must be at least 18 years of age have a class 5 drivers license and dependable transportation.

We are located approx. 18 miles north of Arborg.

Email resume to: swl@lakenet.ca or SPRUCE WOOD call 204-378-2997 References required.

#### **Employment Opportunity**



We are looking for a self-motivated, hardworking individual to fill the position of general laborer to perform a variety of duties as well as to assist mechanics.

Duties include: repairing and changing tires, organizing parts in yard, washing trucks and trailers, yard work such as snow removal, and assisting mechanics with various tasks.

Qualifications include: Must be physically fit, communication skills, ability to work independently, and attention to detail. A valid driver's license as well as experience operating

equipment, such as a skid steer and zoom boom, is an asset Resumes can be sent to sales@jbrandtent.com, or for more information please call 204-364-2775

#### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY** PHYSIOTHERAPY AIDE/ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT STAFF

**Gimli Physiotherapy Clinic is seeking two energetic** part-time physiotherapy aide/administration support

team members for our busy physiotherapy clinic. Must be able to multi-task in this dual role of assisting the physiotherapist and administering front desk duties. 10 - 16 hours per week, and must be available to work both day and early evening shifts.

Submit resume with contact details to gimliphysio@mts.net or drop off at 107 -7th Avenue (Highway #9), Gimli Manitoba.

### ARBORG BIFROST PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY **ATTENDANT & MAINTENANCE POSITION**

The Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission exists to foster and promote quality recreational facilities and programs for the Town of Arborg and RM of Bifrost/Riverton. The Recreation Commission is requesting applications to fill an attendant/maintenance position primarily at the Arborg and District Arena with a requirement to perform maintenance at other facilities as required

Length of Employment: September 25, 2018 - March 31, 2019.

Interested candidates can contact Tom Chwaliboga at the Recreation Office for more information or a detailed job description.

Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission Box 555, Arborg, MB R0C 0A0 Attention: Chet Wyka or Email to: tom.abprc@mymts.net





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