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EXPRESS PHOTO BY TREVOR MATTHEWS

Newlywed Brad and Jennifer MacDonald celebrated their love last weekend amongst the COVID pandemic. The couple had their photos taken at Silver Harbour Marina.

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Wedding proves love knows no bounds

By Evan Matthews

In the most uncertain times, the world has been put on pause in many ways. But in many other ways, the world keeps spinning and, as one couple proved last weekend, love knows no bounds.

Known as Jennifer Glowach while growing up in Arborg, Jenn's last name is now MacDonald after marrying her husband, Brad. She and her husband needed something positive to come out of this year.

"With the ongoing pandemic as well as some personal issues we had to face, we needed something (positive)," said MacDonald.

"Brad and I met later in life, and both being in our 40s and wanting to start a family made it important to have the wedding."

On Sept. 19, Brad and Jennifer were married at her mother and father's property, just south of Arborg, on a gorgeous sunny day.

"We figured even though the wedding wouldn't be as we originally planned, it was perfect how it turned out," said MacDonald. "We were grateful for those who chose to attend

and spend the day with us."

To say the wedding wasn't as originally planned is putting it mildly, MacDonald clarified, as the couple was forced to cancel their social, cut down the guest list to comply with government rules, and hold an outdoor wedding to be able to have more guests.

"We chose the tent for our venues so we could have the doors and walls open, which makes it an outdoor space," said MacDonald, adding hand sanitizer and masks were available for everyone in attendance.

"We did have guests cancel on us right up until the day before the wedding. Of course, it's heartbreaking but also completely understandable. We would never want anyone to attend if they were uncomfortable."

Ultimately, 90 attended the outdoor wedding including staff, volunteers and the wedding party, she said, emphasizing distancing where possible.

It was a beautiful day, and both Brad and Jennifer said they wouldn't change a thing.

"WITH THE ONGOING PANDEMIC AS WELL AS SOME PERSONAL ISSUES WE HAD TO FACE, WE NEEDED SOMETHING (POSITIVE)."



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY TREVOR MATTHEWS

Brad and Jennifer MacDonald get set to walk down the aisle as a married couple.



Following the ceremony, the couple went to the Silver Harbour Marina for a private photo shoot.

Second My Health Team given green light in Interlake-Eastern RHA

Submitted by IERHA

People living in the Ashern/Hodgson area will soon have access to primary health care in a more consistent and co-ordinated way, thanks to the addition of a second My Health Team in the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority.

The initiative involves several local community-based health partners, area physicians and more extensive partnerships with Indigenous communities. It's the second My Health Team site in the region — the first launched in Selkirk in November 2019.

Primary health care, typically delivered by a team including a doctor or nurse practitioner, is the first place people go for day-to-day health concerns. It's a comprehensive approach to health that includes services to address determinants of health like income, housing, education and environment. My Health Teams reflect a formal relationship among local physi-

cians, community organizations and the regional health authority to work together to plan, develop and provide primary health-care services for residents. If care providers are not working out of one site together, they are linked online so patient information can be easily shared and accessible for safe patient care.

"When various types of health-care providers come together through My Health Teams to build upon existing services and share information and resources, Manitobans benefit from more inclusive, co-ordinated, and patient-centred primary health care," said Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen. "Expanding My Health Teams means more Manitobans can have their everyday health-care needs dealt with closer to home, and it also provides them with better access to specialized care."

The Ashern/Hodgson Area My Health Team was created by a steering committee comprised of physi-

cians who practise in Ashern and Eriksdale, and health leaders from Pinaymootang Health Centre, Little Saskatchewan First Nation Health Centre, Lake Manitoba First Nation Health Centre, Percy E. Moore Clinic – Ongomiizwin Health Services, the Interlake-Eastern RHA and Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living, as well as an Elder supporting and guiding the team.

Dr. Sunu Thomas, an Interlake-Eastern RHA physician and site chief medical officer for Ashern and Eriksdale, noted that the My Health Team will reflect the unique care needs of people in the region.

"It was key for the steering committee to reflect on our personal experiences and review data about the particular health-care needs of people — including vulnerable populations — in the area. Through this process, and in working with our partners, we are able propose the right practitioners to add who can provide optimal

care and enhance service delivery through the My Health Team," Dr. Thomas said.

In her role as health director at Pinaymootang First Nation for the past 14 years, Gwen Traverse says she has seen many changes and an evolution to both the Interlake-Eastern health region and her community within it.

"The My Health Team has been a long time coming," says Traverse. "It's a stepping stone in the right direction, and an important initiative that says we are partners in this together and we are listening to one another. This collaborative approach will enhance the care and services in our area in a way that takes into account the specific needs in our First Nations community."

Involving Indigenous health partners in the My Health Teams is in line with the Truth and Reconcilia-

Continued on page 3

A day in the life with students: coping with COVID rules

By Evan Matthews

Though things look so much different than a mere six months ago, students are back to school and, maybe surprisingly, couldn't be happier about it.

Fisher Branch Collegiate (FBC), Grade 8 student Horatio Chudy and Grade 6 student Breanna Stodgell both said they're extremely grateful to be back in school learning, despite the differences in how the school is run due to COVID-19.

"I'm the type of person that likes to be at school, rather than sit at home and do distance learning. I find it hard to get up in the morning and want to do my work," said Chudy.

"I'm happy to be back. The other thing is you get to see a lot of your friends. I have one friend who I'd video chat with every morning and talk about school, but you don't get that full classroom feeling."

When students arrive in the morning, Chudy said they're to use sanitizer as soon as they enter the school, pumping a foot pedal to avoid having to touch anything.

Each student then has a space in the classroom where they can go put their stuff, since lockers are no longer being used. Social distancing becomes too difficult with lockers.

Students can remove masks outside because they're able to social distance, but Chudy said in the halls the students are all wearing masks. At their desks, students can remove their masks again.

"You can't really see if someone is

smiling," said Chudy.

"But aside from that, my social life hasn't changed too much. The sports we would play before like basketball, we can't play. We mostly play soccer now."

For Stodgell, she said she was sad from the beginning because she enjoyed being at school. She's very happy to be back.

"It's hard to wear a mask all the time, though," said Stodgell.

"I hadn't seen my friends in a couple months, and it's nice to see them a little bit closer than just on the street or on computers."

Both Chudy and Stodgell said while it's a little bit scary to know a deadly virus is going around, they hope and believe things will get better.

"If we social distance for long enough, maybe it will go away eventually," said Stodgell. "We just need to do the right things to be safe."

Joel Matheson, FBC principal, said the way a school operates on a daily basis has entirely changed.

Everything from busing to seating arrangements and how students move between rooms and around the school safely and efficiently has been re-thought with student and staff safety in mind, he said.

"Yet, we want to maintain some of what used to be student life, what they're accustomed to," said Matheson, "while at the same time maintaining safety for everyone in the building."

Even at lunch, Matheson said micro-waves are no longer available for students, as another frequently touched



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JOEL MATHESON

Fisher Branch Collegiate Grade 6 student Breanna Stodgell, left, and Horatio Chudy, both wearing masks, share similar feelings: while acknowledging things are different, there is definite excitement to be back at school.

surface is now viewed as an unnecessary risk. Families have had to rethink what they're sending for food, he said.

Classrooms have been created to accommodate smaller cohorts of students, with places like the school's library and the lunchroom being converted. Because the school has room to do so, students are typically two metres apart in classrooms as opposed to the one metre required by the province.

The silver lining to it all, according to Matheson, is that the students are

adjusting quite well.

"They seem to feel pretty safe and calm in the building. ... I think they've responded well because they want to stay in school, and they want the school to remain open," said Matheson.

"They've done really well, and they've been following the guidelines and doing everything they're supposed to do and more. The students deserve a lot of credit."

> SECOND MY HEALTH, FROM PG. 3

tion Commission's Calls to Action that seek to promote the value of Indigenous health practices and the professionals working in the field. According to Paul Barnard, regional director of primary care with the RHA, Indigenous health partnerships are also an important part of integrating all services a patient might access.

"These extensive partnerships with our Indigenous communities and physicians enable service providers to deliver more integrated care and also make it easier for people to access that care," said Barnard. "Patients will spend less time repeating their medical history or arranging appointments and more time working with care providers to focus on improving their health."

In addition to physician care, the Ashern/Hodgson My Health Team will provide mental health and sub-

stance use support, physiotherapy and chronic disease management, as well as offer traditional Indigenous healing. There will be a focus on connecting people with the care that is relevant to their specific needs to maintain good health. When patients have access to primary health care, not only are they more satisfied with their care; they also experience a reduced need for hospital and emergency department visits.

Recruitment for the Ashern/Hodgson My Health Team's new care providers is underway, and it is anticipated they will begin accepting patients into the My Health Team in the fall. If you are currently searching for a regular care provider, please contact Family Doctor Finder at 1-866-690-8260. For more information on My Health Teams, visit <https://is.gd/MyHealthTeam>.

RCMP seize drugs and cash



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

RCMP officers seized a large sum of Canadian currency, cocaine and other drug-related paraphernalia in response to a drug trafficking investigation on Sept. 18.

Submitted by RCMP

Fisher Branch RCMP officers executed a search warrant at a residence located on the Peguis First Nation and seized a large sum of Canadian currency, 90 grams of cocaine and other drug-related paraphernalia in response to a drug trafficking investigation on Sept. 18.

Officers arrested a 57-year-old female and a 35-year-old male, both from the Peguis First Nation, and later released them for court scheduled Dec. 15 in Peguis.

The investigation continues.

Commercial fisher pulling up moss, citing fishing and environmental concerns

By Patricia Barrett

Nearly two years after he pulled up algae and what he believes was fecal material in his nets, a Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher is being inundated with moss.

Robert T. Kristjanson is known as the bellwether of the lake after raising the alarm a few decades ago about the increasing incidence of algal blooms, including toxic blue-green algae. He received the Order of Manitoba in 2018 for bringing the plight of the lake to public attention.

Despite that recognition, Kristjanson said the environmental degradation continues and now moss, in addition to algae, may be proliferating and on its way to becoming the latest trend that could affect not only the lake's threatened ecosystem but also commercial fishing catches by fouling nets. Fish won't swim into dark blobs swirling in the water column.

"I'm 86 years old and I've never had to fish around moss on this end of the lake," said Kristjanson, referring to Grindstone near the channel area where he fishes in the fall. "There were spots in June where we used to fish whitefish amongst the rocks and we'd get moss coming off the rocks after a storm. That was a natural thing. Now, we've got moss all along the rocky shoreline."

Kristjanson, who's been on the lake since a boy when he worked in his parents' fish camp, said he believes moss is another "stage" in the environmental degradation of the lake, and the immediate culprit is zebra mussels.

The invasive species filter the water column, allowing sunlight to penetrate farther below the surface. That encourages the growth of algae. Along a rocky shore bottom where moss likes to grow, sunlight penetrating the water spurs it on. Coupled with hot summers, the moss proliferates.

"Once you get north of Gimli there aren't any big sandy beaches; it's all rock," said Kristjanson. "The zebra mussels are cleaning the water and this moss

is going to go down the west side of the lake because it's all hard bottom and rocky. The water is going to look very clean but as soon as you get the wind and the current, the moss is swept off the rocks and fills your nets up."

As well as being well-connected to fishers on Lake Winnipeg, Kristjanson knows fishers on the Great Lakes where he sells nets. He's well aware of what's happening there in terms of phosphorus over-loading and its concomitant algal blooms, as well as invasive species and the growth of moss.

"It happens with the boats on the Great Lakes. Once the moss started there, fishermen couldn't come close to shore wherever there's hard bottom or it just filled their nets up. And in places where the zebra mussels congregate, they will cut loose in big blobs, come ashore and it's a rotten mess. Here [Lake Winnipeg], we're seeing the moss hanging on more and more and more."

In addition to moss, Kristjanson said he's also netted algae since the fall fishing opened at the beginning of this month.

Lake Winnipeg is a perfect storm with its collection of stressors, including zebra mussels, too much phosphorus from agricultural run-off and too much phosphorus and raw sewage from Winnipeg's infamous North End Water Pollution Control Centre. Throw in a global climate crisis that's nudging up water temperatures and you're set for destruction.

Politicians and scientists know that nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus emitted from the North End wastewater treatment plant can be reduced; it's a matter of money rather than know-how. Yet the discussion has been ongoing since at least 2003 when the Manitoba Clean Environment Commission told the province — which regulates the lake on behalf of the federal government that owns it — to tell the city to clean up its act.

Kristjanson is fed up with decades of phosphorus reduction foot-dragging from what he refers to as the "Crystal City."



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO SUBMITTED

In the fall of 2018, Robert Kristjanson's nets were inundated by algae and fecal matter near Grindstone.

"They've got every goddamn excuse you can dream up. This has been going on for too long. They've jiggered around it in every way you can," he said. "There has to be a lawsuit against them for what they're doing to Lake Winnipeg. That's the only way you're going to get them moving on it. For every day it goes on, there should be a penalty of something like \$5,000 and that should be put towards the fishing industry because of what they're doing to us."

The Lake Winnipeg Foundation and the International Institute for Sustainable Development call the North End wastewater plant the single-largest

Continued on page 5

New Iceland Heritage Museum hosts new Consul General of Iceland

By Patricia Barrett

The new consul of the Consulate General of Iceland's office in Winnipeg paid a visit to Gimli last weekend to tour the region and some of its attractions, visit his office in the Waterfront Centre and meet with locals and Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson.

Consul General Gudmundur Arni Stefannson is a former mayor and newspaper editor. His foreign service as ambassador with the Iceland government includes India, the United States and Argentina, to name a few.

"He was welcomed with a private tour of the New Iceland Heritage Museum," said NIHM executive director Julianna Roberts. "Along with MLA Derek Johnson, Gudmundur unveiled the Winnipeg Falcons mural, on loan from the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame."

This year marks 100 years since the Winnipeg Falcons hockey team won a gold medal during the 1920 Olympic

games in Belgium. Formed in 1911, the team was a senior men's amateur team and the majority of the players were of Icelandic descent.

The mural depicts the players and complements the museum's current hockey exhibit, which is on loan until January 2021 from the Canadian Museum of History.

After the tour of the museum, Stefannson was greeted by the Gimli Icelandic Canadian Society, which hosted a small gathering of 15 people in the Lake of the Lake theatre, said Roberts.

Iceland has had an honorary consul in Winnipeg since 1942. The role of the consulate is to help people of Icelandic descent in Manitoba and Western Canada stay in touch with their history and heritage through cultural events and information. It also helps promote business and assists Icelandic nationals, according to the consulate's website.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JULIANNA ROBERTS

Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson (left) and Consul General Gudmundur Arni Stefannson unveil the Falcon's hockey team mural at the NIHM.

Manitoba Public Insurance and police focus on school zone safety

Submitted by MPI

Manitoba Public Insurance is once again partnering with law enforcement agencies throughout the province to fund enhanced enforcement activities in and around schools over the month of September.

Now in its eighth year, MPI provides funding to assist three police agencies in enhancing their patrols around schools in the mornings and afternoons when pedestrian activity and traffic volumes are heaviest. Participating agencies this year are the RCMP, Winnipeg and Brandon police services.

Drivers are reminded to educate themselves when school zone speed limits are in effect within their respective communities. Enhanced enforcement can take place before, during or after classes in the designated school zone.

"It's important that drivers observe

the speed limits and slow down. Reducing the vehicle's speed could save a life. Slowing down allows the driver to react quicker and reduces braking distance," said Satvir Jatana, vice-president of employee and community engagement for Manitoba Public Insurance.

"Whether it's pedestrian traffic or parents dropping off their children, school zones can be very busy. Slowing down can make everyone safer."

During the campaign last year, nearly 600 speeding offence notices were handed out during this annual school safety initiative. Over the last five years, more than 5,000 provincial offence notices for various infractions, — ranging from speeding to use of a hand-held electronic while driving to failure to stop at pedestrian crosswalks and other traffic control devices — have been issued to drivers.

Last year, participating police agen-

cies monitored more than 100 different school locations in both urban and rural communities. Photo radar speed enforcement in school zones is not a part of this partnership initiative.

Important back-to-school safety tips

For drivers:

- Look well ahead to spot school buses and school zone signs; reduce speed in school zones, and wait for children to cross completely before proceeding.

- Stop at least five metres behind a school bus when the upper red lights are flashing, and do not proceed until the "Stop" sign is closed and the red lights stop flashing. Motorists travelling in both directions must stop for the school bus, except if the road is divided by a median.

- Scan under parked cars for the feet of children approaching traffic

and make lane changes early to allow room for children on bicycles, skateboards or roller blades.

For parents:

- If you are driving your children to school, drop them off in a safe area, away from traffic; use a designated drop-off zone, if the school has one.

- Talk to your children about traffic safety and the importance of staying alert to the traffic around them. This includes staying off cell phones and other electronic devices and being smart pedestrians.

For children:

- Cross only at intersections whenever possible, preferably at those controlled by patrols, signs or traffic control signs.

- When crossing the street, make eye contact with drivers to be sure you are seen and cross as quickly as possible to minimize time in the roadway.

> CONCERNS, FROM PG. 4

point source of phosphorus flowing into Lake Winnipeg and the fourth largest phosphorus polluter among all treatment facilities in Canada.

It treats about 70 per cent of the city's wastewater, releasing an average of 600 kilograms of phosphorus into the Red River every day, according to the LWF. That's food for algal blooms.

While the city said it's committed to upgrading its plant, costs continue to rise with delays. The latest figure is pegged at \$1.8 billion. The upgrade has been split into three phases, with nutrient reduction (nutrient removal facilities) taking third place. That's not expected to start before 2030.

Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson said the province has already contributed the "entire sum of the money" for its share of Phase 1 (new power substation and new headworks facilities) and a "huge percentage" of money for Phase 2 (new biosolids facilities) that's now sitting in a city bank account.

"We've put a lot of money aside for the North End [wastewater treatment plant]. To my knowledge, it contributes about seven per cent of all the nutrients in the whole watershed,"

said Johnson by phone last week. "So that's obviously the first one you should tackle."

The province is not the "hold-up" on the upgrades, he said, and it's trying to get the federal government "on board" for their one-third share of the cost of the project.

"Lake Winnipeg became the most endangered lake in the world under the NDP's watch, and I feel our government and ministers, led by our premier, have been working very hard to correct this travesty," said Johnson. "We're pressuring the federal government to put money away for the North End wastewater treatment plant. We actually have: it's around \$200 million."

Minister of Municipal Relations Rochelle Squires told city media last week the province's contribution to Phase 2 represents 50 per cent so far and that the province hasn't seen an application from the city for Phase 3.

Johnson said the Lake Winnipeg watershed is massive, stretching from Alberta to the United States. All that water — along with nutrients — runs into Lake Winnipeg and heads north to Hudson Bay.

To help mitigate that pollution, John-

son said the province has funded a number of projects to improve water quality. Those include protecting marshes (\$6 million recently to Oak Hammock Marsh), which are "the kidneys of our watersheds," and investing in disaster prevention strategies.

"We need to become more climate resilient," said Johnson, referring to severe weather events that can cause flooding and pollute the environment. "So we've funded \$15 million towards disaster prevention."

Speaking about the flood of 2011, Johnson said septic tanks in St. Laurent popped out of the ground and were swept into Lake Francis, sewage entered Lake Manitoba and trees along its shoreline were decimated. After that seminal flooding event, he said people began to realize how important environmental protection is.

After the flood, people began to burn their outhouses, which coincided with the annual Laurentia Beach Corn Roasts that Johnson said he used to attend.

"That's so symbolic of our change in culture where people would burn their outhouses. [Matter] used to go straight into the ground, then into the sand and maybe leach into the lake,"

he said. "We're working hard at educating people and making them aware that that practice, as well as soak pits, aren't acceptable."

Other provincial strategies include "talking to the neighbours" in Western Canada and the United States to "build relationships" in attempts to mitigate flood waters along with the nutrients that come with them, Johnson said, and providing funding for fencing to keep cattle away from tributaries and capping abandoned wells.

But it's the stemming of the phosphorus that's front and centre for Kristjanson and other commercial fishers on Lake Winnipeg. That, along with what looks like a new problem — moss.

"We want some answers. As we say in Icelandic, 'This is absolutely right,'" said Kristjanson. "I got lots of algae today and the moss. It's growing anywhere it's rocky. Further north where they fish close to the rocks, as time goes on, the devastation from moss will be tremendous. You won't be able to fish. You can't come close to it."



Derek Johnson
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Quick review of traffic habits

By Evan Matthews

This topic seems to come up relatively often, but more so this year than ever, unfortunately. The message should be short and sweet: We need Manitoba drivers to take more caution when they're behind the wheel.

The number of traffic related fatalities is devastating.

RCMP have repeatedly said the number of highway related deaths in Manitoba is higher than normal this year, potentially record setting, but the sad part is often the unnecessary behaviours leading to these deaths.

Education and proactive conversation are definitely important in reducing collisions, but ultimately, it's people's driving habits that are the most important aspect in reducing vehicu-

lar accidents.

Speed, alcohol, absence of seatbelts, and distracted driving are typically the most common contributors to accidents. This isn't rocket science.

Yet, if you're driving on an Interlake highway, it's pretty common to see someone speed past; it's pretty common to see people texting; we often hear of DUIs and deaths due to the absence of seatbelts.

Just this past week, another two people died in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton after a single-vehicle roll over. The vehicle was westbound on Highway 8 and rolled into the ditch, according to RCMP.

It's very sad, and of course we think of the people left behind in these instances.

At the risk of sounding repetitive and/or preachy, this is once again a plea to drivers everywhere. Please: slow down; wear a seatbelt; do not drink and drive; and do not text and drive.

The oft-repeated messages are also seemingly continuing themes, so it's important to make note of them.

There is so much to worry about in the world as it stands now, there isn't any need to add more to anyone's plate, especially those who care about us.

Maybe together we can level out the numbers before the year's end.

Leave yourself enough time to take your time and enjoy the ride.

Safe travels.

Fifty-fifty funding for water infrastructure projects

By Patricia Barrett

The province announced funding last month for upgrades to the Gimli water treatment plant and the Town of Winnipeg Beach's well and filtration system.

The Gimli water plant upgrade will cost about \$4 million, with half paid by the province and half by the municipality, said Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson by phone last week. The Winnipeg Beach upgrade will cost about a quarter of a million dollars and the province will cover half the cost.

"The water treatment upgrade in Gimli will help increase the proficien-

cy of the plant, and the filtration system in Winnipeg Beach will improve the quality of the water," said Johnson. "The province is 50-50 on these projects."

The new Gimli water treatment plant (Phase 1) was completed in October 2018. It included the centralized delivery of water (the municipality formerly operated three separate water delivery systems for most of the town of Gimli, Pelican Beach and the Industrial Park and Aspen Park), increased capacity to better accommodate summer visitors, new water mains along Seventh Avenue and increased power for firefighting.

The plant cost about \$7 million, with federal and provincial government grants covering 75 per cent of the cost. It had been built with extra capacity to accommodate the future installation of a water softening system (Phase 2) to eliminate calcium carbonate that builds up on taps and dishes.

The RM of Gimli's acting chief administrative officer Kelly Cosgrove said the municipality had submitted a funding request to the province for a membrane water softener system.

"The benefits the softener will pro-

Continued on page 7

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COVID numbers continue to climb in Manitoba

Staff

The current five-day COVID-19 test positivity rate is 1.8 per cent and 22 new cases of the virus have been identified as of 9:30 a.m. Monday, bringing the number of cases in Manitoba to 1,608.

Public health officials are also reporting two new deaths: a male in his 80s from the Southern Health-Santé Sud health region and a female in her 80s from the Prairie Mountain Health region. This brings the total number of deaths to 18.

The data shows Interlake-Eastern region with a total of 18 active cases, 86 recovered and no deaths.

Currently there is one active case in the Beausejour district, four in Fisher/Peguis, two in Powerview/Pine Falls, two in Springfield, five in Stonewall/Teulon, three in Winnipeg Beach/St. Andrews and one in an unknown district.

The data also shows:

- 363 active cases and 1,227 individuals have recovered from COVID-19;
- eight people are in hospital and two people in intensive care; and
- the number of deaths due to COVID-19 is 18.

Case investigations continue and if a public health risk is identified, the public will be notified. Confirmed laboratory testing numbers show 1,626 tests were completed on Friday, 1,425 tests were completed on Saturday and 1,116 tests were completed on Sunday, bringing the total number of lab tests completed since early February to 166,998.

Public health officials have sent a letter to parents about a possible exposure to COVID-19 at Collège Garden City Collegiate on Sept. 14-16. The school is working closely with public health officials and following their recommendations. Based on the public health investigation, this exposure was assessed to be low risk. At this time, no close contacts in the classrooms have been identified at Garden City Collegiate. No one is required to self-isolate from this exposure. The school will remain open to students and staff, who can continue to attend school in person. The site is not being elevated on the Pandemic Response System, given the low risk and lack of close contacts.

Public health officials have sent a letter to parents about a possible expo-

sure to COVID-19 in the school portable at Meadows School in Brandon on Tuesday, Sept. 15 and Wednesday, Sept. 16. The school is working closely with public health officials and following their recommendations. This case was not acquired at school. Public health has recommended that all students and staff in the same room as the case be identified as close contacts and advised to self-isolate. This class has been transitioned to remote learning as of today. The school will remain open to all other students and staff, who can continue to attend school in person.

Public health is also advising of possible exposures to COVID-19 at the following sites on the dates and times:

- Planet Fitness at 783 Leila Ave. in Winnipeg on Tuesday, Sept. 15 from 3 to 4 p.m.;
- 7 Arabian Dreams at 775 Corydon Ave. in Winnipeg on Friday, Sept. 18 from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. and Sunday, Sept. 20 from 12:45 to 1 a.m.; and
- Winnipeg Transit, route #14 on Sept. 15 from Ellice Avenue and Spence Street at 11:10 a.m. to St. Mary Avenue at 11:30 a.m.

There has been a concerning in-

crease in the number of cases in Winnipeg, with many cases having large numbers of close contacts. Recent success in the Prairie Mountain Health region shows that focusing on the fundamentals can reduce the transmission of COVID-19. The chief provincial public health officer strongly encourages residents of and visitors to Winnipeg to focus on these fundamentals to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

People must stay home if sick. Wash/sanitize your hands, cover your cough and physically distance when you are with people outside your household. If you cannot physically distance, you should wear a mask to help reduce your risk. Reduce the number of close contacts outside your household, and avoid closed-in or crowded spaces.

Unless recommended by public health officials, only individuals experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should go for testing. Individuals with symptoms are asked to seek testing as soon as possible once symptoms are present. Employers are asked to only send employees for testing if they have symptoms or if testing has been recommended by public health officials.

> WATER INFRASTRUCTURE, FROM PG. 6



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

WSP's water specialist and project manager Bill Brant provided tours of Gimli's new water treatment plant when it opened in October 2018.

vide to users of the municipal water system include the improvement of the quality of potable water, a reduction in the amount of salt going into the ecosystem and the elimination of the need for in-home softening systems," said Cosgrove by email.

"It will provide cost savings to homes that have a softening system because a central softening

[system] is a more cost-effective way to treat hard water."

The province announced it is investing more than \$50 million in 42 new water and waste infrastructure projects as part of the RestartMB program, according to an Aug. 28 news release from Johnson.



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Fisher River postpones in-class learning until 2021

By Patricia Barrett

Fisher River Cree Nation's students won't be heading back to class this year as the First Nation decided to postpone in-class learning until next year because of COVID-19.

Charles Sinclair School, which offers nursery to Grade 6, and Fisher River High School, which offers grades 7 to 12, will move to remote learning to ensure the safety of students after cases of the virus were confirmed in the community.

"Following the recommendations of parents and the school community, the Fisher River Board of Education along with Leadership of Fisher River Cree Nation has decided to suspend classroom learning for the first semester ending in February 2021," states a Sept. 16 notice posted on the First Nation's website.

"We feel that the suspension is necessary to alleviate fear and to keep our students safe with the COVID-19 situation we are facing in the community. Classes may resume at that time, but only if it is safe to do so."

As of Sept. 18, four cases of COVID have been identified in Fisher River.

Both schools made homework packages available last Friday and will continue to do so for nursery to Grade

12 students, says the notice. Students will also have access to technology and online resources.

"The teaching teams along with the Director of Education will also work to minimize the impact of this suspension by procuring online learning tools and technology for all students. Details to follow once these plans have been finalized," states the notice.

The First Nation also established checkpoints last Friday at entrances to the community in order to monitor traffic and reduce the risk of spreading COVID. The checkpoints include PR 224, Krywenko's backroad and Fish Road.

Peguis and Kinonjeoshtegon First Nations have also instituted checkpoints, with Peguis instituting a checkpoint curfew between midnight and 6 a.m. each day.

People with cottages in the Fisher River and Kinonjeoshtegon areas are asked to register with Peguis First Nation before they travel and to not stop in the community for supplies as they pass through.

For more information about the checkpoints, contact the Fisher River Cree Nation COVID-19 Hotline at 431-256-0041.



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Fisher River High School, shown here in May 2018 under construction, is postponing in-class learning until 2021.

Gimli RCMP investigate fatal single vehicle collision

Submitted by RCMP

Gimli RCMP responded to a report of a single vehicle rollover on Highway 8 at Road 23 E in the RM of Bifrost on Sept. 20 at approximately 6:45 p.m.

A passer-by noticed the vehicle in the ditch and called emergency services.

RCMP, Riverton Fire Department and emergency services attended. The vehicle was located on its hood, submerged in water.

The driver, a 28-year-old male,

and the passenger, a 30-year-old female, both from Morden, were pronounced deceased at the scene.

It is believed that the vehicle was travelling westbound on Highway 8 when it lost control, entered the ditch and rolled.

Both occupants were wearing seatbelts at the time of the collision.

Gimli RCMP along with the RCMP criminal collision investigation team and a forensic collision reconstructionist, continue to investigate.

Three words you should know when wearing dentures

By Elisha Vador

The happiest people who wear dentures will tell you that their dentures look good, feel good and work good. When these three words – look, feel, and work, unite together in a good way, it makes people say, "I have no issues". And that's the golden sentence every person who's wearing some sort of denture in their mouth strives to say every day, while eating their toast.

When Lorraine came to see us last month (in July) she was due for a new upper denture. She initially addressed two main concerns with her old denture. First, when she smiled, too much of the gums showed. So, we classify this as a 'looks' concern and ultimately an opportunity to improve her confidence when smiling. Second, her denture was starting to feel loose, uncomfortable, and not fitting properly.

Essentially, it didn't feel good anymore, and that's a huge issue many denture wearers experience.

Creating a custom natural-looking denture is honestly the easy part, thanks to our smile design guru, Sharina, who meticulously shapes and places each tooth in an individual's denture to create their custom look. She references pictures of the patient and follows Brock or Matthew's specific guidelines for design. Every patient who receives new dentures from us goes through the four-appointment process. It's during these four appointments you and the Denturist pick the tooth shape, size, and colour together and ensure you like the way your teeth look in your mouth when you smile before taking them home at the fourth and final appointment. If changes need to be made, we can adjust each

tooth individually, align the upper and lower bite correctly and give you that look of confidence when walking out the door for the first time with your new smile.

Now Lorraine is "so so happy", as she describes her experience at Vador Denture Centre. "You guys are awesome, professional, friendly...I love this place. My teeth feel amazing. The fit is excellent. I have no gums showing anymore. I am very very happy with them, thank-you so much. The first thing I'm going to do is show my family because everyone is waiting. It's just a very pleasant and excellent experience." Such a wonderful compliment, thank-you Lorraine!

We want you to have the look, feel, and work good dentures too. Consultations are always free. Phone or email to book your appointment.



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Despite pandemic, property purchasing continues

By Evan Matthews

With Manitoba experiencing record sales over the summer, the Interlake has been no exception to the busy housing market.

Laurence Humniski, a realtor with Interlake Real Estate focused in the Matlock area and as north as Hecla-Grindstone, said it was a really good year.

"It started quiet in April, but May took off like a shot," said Humniski. "It's been steady since."

On Sept. 16, the Manitoba Real Estate Association (MREA) announced 2020 saw record sales over the summer months.

Humniski believes there could be a few reasons for that.

"The interest rates are down due to the state of the world, so that's a factor. A lot of people are wanting out of the city, too," said Humniski.

"Nobody is travelling, so there are more dollars to be spent in other avenues. RVs and mobile homes have been (selling), too. Lumber yards are having trouble keeping stock because of people's home projects."

In August alone, 1,955 residential properties sold in the province, a 29.6 per cent increase from 2019. The sales of the aforementioned properties accounted for roughly \$606 million, according to the MREA, an increase of 42 per cent from 2019.

In July, 2,060 properties sold, totalling roughly \$637 million in sales, and the highest level of residential sales in a single month for over 40 years, according to the MREA.

"Spring is the busiest season typically in the real estate market; however, following the slowdown in late March and April due to COVID-19, the summer months have had the highest level of activity this year. Year-to-date sales have surpassed last year and we're seeing a competitive market for buyers," said MREA president Glen Tosh.

"While strong sales activity over the summer months is good news for sellers and those considering selling, current market conditions may be more challenging for buyers looking to purchase.

"This is because new listings have not come to market at the same rate as the rebound in sales, and buyers need to understand how to navigate potential multiple offer situations in a competitive market," he said.

Total year-to-date sales in the province totals 11,138 sales of residential properties, a 6.6. per cent increase from 2019, according to the MREA; however, the number of listings has gone down.

There have been 17,865 put on the market in 2020, according to the MERA, down 8.7 per cent (or 1,697 fewer properties) compared to 2019.

"In addition to the pent-up demand created by the spring slowdown, we believe COVID-19 has led to greater demand for homes that offer living space to accommodate families working from home and homeschooling during these extraordinary times," said Tosh.

"It is also conceivable due to COVID-19 that some potential sellers may have decided this year to stay in their current home.

"The current state of the real estate market is reflective of the fact so many of our communities and neighbourhoods in Manitoba are great places to live and own a home."

For monthly residential market statistics, [monthly-market-statistics.html](https://realestatemanitoba.com/monthly-market-statistics.html). please visit <https://realestatemanitoba.com/>



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"THE INTEREST RATES ARE DOWN DUE TO THE STATE OF THE WORLD, SO THAT'S A FACTOR. A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE WANTING OUT OF THE CITY, TOO."

Minerva Ladies Aid fall suppers fondly remembered

By Patricia Barrett

The Minerva Ladies Aid celebrated its 100th anniversary this year with various members paying tribute to the organization that helped strengthen community bonds.

Minerva Ladies Aid member Christine Dann set down a history of the organization's legendary fall suppers as a tribute to the members who cooked and organized the annual events, which are no longer held.

The third Sunday in September was traditionally set aside for the annual fall suppers at Minerva Hall. The people who supported the fundraiser enjoyed roast turkey and all the trimmings along with pumpkin and apple pies.

The supper was a time to get together with the friends and family, but the ladies who organized it and made it a success stayed behind the scenes.

"For them it wasn't just another day," said Dann. "Though they all tell me it was a day of fun and excitement, it was hard work too — and not just on that day. It started at the beginning of the month when the Ladies Aid held their meeting on the first Tuesday of September."

Club members who had been with the organization for years usually did the same jobs each year and knew what preparations had to be made. But people were assigned to jobs, including who would cook the turkeys in their homes the morning of the supper and what non-club members could help with that.

"There were usually 20 turkeys to cook with weighing each over 20 pounds," said Dann. "At the last fall supper, held Sept. 19, 2010, the ladies cooked 25 turkeys."

Club members also had to buy food such as potatoes, carrots, cabbage and buns and bake six to eight pies each. They took the cabbage to Chicken Delite and later to Chicken Chef to be shredded



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CHRISTINE DANN
The Minerva Ladies Aid from June 2019.

for coleslaw. Phyllis Olson and Karen Elliott were known for making the coleslaw for many years.

The Ladies Aid members also set their husbands to work at the hall, having them put the tables and chairs in place. And on the Saturday before the supper, they all gathered at hall, bringing cucumbers and tomatoes from their gardens and peeling "mountains" of potatoes and carrots.

"On Sunday morning, the ladies put the turkeys in the oven to roast. Each lady made a roaster of dressing and a pot of gravy. Then all of this, plus the pies they had made, were transported to the hall," said Dann. "It was Ray and Alma Sigurdson's son-in-law, Don, who rigged up a heater outside at the back door to be used for boiling the potatoes and carrots. This freed up a lot of room in the kitchen, and in the days before air conditioning, this made the kitchen a little less stifling with the heat."

In later years it was Alma Sigurdson who kept the huge urns of coffee and tea in full supply. Oli Narfasson sold tickets at the door to the long line of hungry customers and in the bar area, and Marj Narfasson sliced the pies and served up whipping cream from their dairy.

On the stage behind curtains was Lorne Anderson, Raymond Sigurdson, Brian Arnason, Al Olson and others carving turkeys. In the kitchen were Dorothy Sigurdson, Karen Elliott, Sheila Panteluk, Doris Anderson, Ardith Sigurdson, Elaine Einarson and others mashing potatoes and keeping the dishes on the buffet table full or who served food at the buffet table, said Dann.

People came by the hundreds and dined on turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots, coleslaw, cucumbers, tomatoes, pickled beets (donated from someone's canning cupboard), buns and butter.

The roles played by family members also contributed to the supper's success. Club members counted on their husbands, children and grandchildren to pitch in and lend a helping hand. And members of the Minerva 4H Club, such as Michelle Belanger, were also on hand to bring the diners coffee, tea or iced tea and pie. They cleared the tables of dirty dishes and helped wash the dishes.

Belanger's grandmother Sheila Panteluk and great-grandmother Sigga Benedictson were members of Minerva Ladies Aid. Although Michelle's mother, Roberta Panteluk, was not a member, she, like other ladies of the community, roasted turkeys and baked pies for the big day, said Dann. And there were dozens more families involved, all having played an important part.

"The very last year of the fall supper, members of the Crazy Ladies Scrapbook Club were privileged to help with the dishes and get a glimpse of the clockwork precision of these marvellous ladies that made up the Minerva Ladies Aid," said Dann. "Due to various circumstances, the Ladies Aid no longer hosts a fall supper. But those suppers remain in our memories and are a tribute to the ladies and the community."

Interlake couple celebrating 60 years of marriage

By Sydney Lockhart

Last Thursday Linda and Wally Finnbogason celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their family at a backyard barbecue.

"The day we got married, we were at the Lutheran church between Arborg and Riverton. It was almost 80 degrees," said Linda Finnbogason.

She said there was around 100 people in attendance at their wedding and that she had three bridesmaids.

"We went to the same school and we only lived a mile apart," said Finnbogason, "I was in Grade 4 and Wally was in Grade 5 when we met."

She added that she and Wally always had similar interests drawing them together.

"We've had a great life together. We had three kids and they all got married and we had six grandchildren and now seven great-grandkids."

In their spare time, Linda and Wally love horseback riding and snowmobiling. Even at 78 and 80 years old,

they get on their horses as often as they can.

They have taught their grandchildren and great-grandchildren to ride as well on the family farm, making it a family hobby.

"We do everything together. I don't tractor pull but I watch him all the time and I've never missed one. We've been compatible since the beginning," she said.

Linda and Wally sit at the table and have breakfast every morning together, coffee and toast over the newspaper, chatting about the weather and their plans for the day.

"We've just had a very simple life," said Linda.

The couple has travelled together to Iceland, the East Coast, Florida and many more places. If they can, they ride horses along their travels.

They have also been active contributors to the annual Ride for a Child's Wish charity event, Wally taking it upon himself to collect donations ev-

ery year.

Out of the 31 years the event has run, the Finnbogasons have only missed two. The couple say that they will ride horses in the fundraiser until they aren't able to.

Wally had some advice for newlyweds that he believes is the key to a happy and long marriage.

"We don't argue. We talk through any issue that's pressing. We don't yell, shout or anything. We always get along. We both like what we're doing together," he said.

The couple had a backyard barbecue with their family to celebrate the milestone, where they had sausages, hamburgers and cupcakes decorated into their family tree.

"I think we're fortunate that her and I are healthy enough to get that far," said Wally.

Both Wally and Linda's parents celebrated their 60th anniversary as well.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED
Wally, 80, and Linda, 78, Finnbogason spend as much time as possible horseback riding.

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Hodgson man aims for cannabis retail in 2020

By Evan Matthews

According to one local man, an economic, industry and medicinal gap exists in the RM of Fisher, which sparked his idea to expand his current business to include cannabis retail.

Tyrone Abas said the entrepreneurial spirit exists in many of his family members, and he isn't any different. Having opened his Hodgson-based marijuana glassware business three years ago — currently called Pot Country Bongs and selling pipes, bongs and other marijuana paraphernalia — he's realized a more robust opportunity exists.

"I've grown up here all my life, and I've been here for the ups and the downs. To get an opportunity to bring revenue into the RM ... it could help the community blossom again, and that's huge for me," said Abas, adding the name of his expanded business will be Budees Dispensary.

"We're slowly going at this, making sure we've done things the right way and everything is in place."

He noted that his business is located at the Hodgson Metis Federation Hall, and the plan is to expand operations at the same location.

Abas said after presenting his plans to council, he feels supported by the RM of Fisher and is eager to continue working with council.

After submitting all of his paperwork this past week to the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority, Abas said he's playing the waiting game for now. Eventually, he'd like to have all

products, initially from the cannabis itself to eventually having edibles and concentrates.

Abas said his hope is to be operating by the end of 2020.

The RM of Fisher Council decided in 2017 that it would not stand in the way of business development and opportunities that could create employment in the municipality. Fisher Reeve Shannon Pyziak did not respond to our request for comment.

"We did have a conditional use public hearing to discuss this proposal, at which time anyone who was opposed had the opportunity to object on the record," said an anonymous councillor.

"There was no presentation in opposition. Council gave its approval. The decision was unanimous with one council member recusing themselves from the discussion."

Not far from Hodgson is Peguis First Nation. Peguis First Nation owns and operates Flint and Embers Cannabis Company, which opened on May 20 in Winnipeg. According to the First Nation, the store is the first of a multi-location strategy with expansion plans into both Peguis and Selkirk.

Currently, delivery is available to Peguis for a flat rate. The band did not respond to the *Express Weekly News* reporter's request for comment.

Fisher River Cree Nation has set a very high standard in regards to combatting abuse in its community, according to the anonymous RM of Fisher councillor, who added the



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY TYRONE ABAS

Tyrone Abas in his Hodgson-based glassware store with his dog Trixie. Abas said providing medicine to the region's people will make things a lot easier, rather than travelling to Winnipeg.

band may object as a result.

Fisher River Cree Nation did not respond to the *Express Weekly News* reporter's request for comment; however, Abas said he has heard — only through the grapevine, though — that the band is supportive of cannabis and has not objected to his business proposal.

"Cannabis is an up-and-coming, exciting industry to be a part of," said

Abas. "There is so much potential for the region, and I just said, 'Let's try it out and see what we can do.'"

Abas said he expects the laws around growing marijuana in one's home to change quite soon, and if/when the laws do change, he'll be ready to add hydroponic and growing equipment and seeds to his repertoire as a one-stop-shop.

Manitobans reminded minimum wage will increase Oct. 1

Submitted by Manitoba government

Manitoba Finance reminds Manitobans the minimum wage will increase by 25 cents to \$11.90 Oct. 1.

The increase of 25 cents per hour will raise the current minimum wage to \$11.90 from \$11.65. This adjustment is based on Manitoba's 2019 inflation rate of 2.2 per cent, rounding up to the

nearest five cents.

Budget 2019 implemented the reduction of the sales tax rate to seven per cent from eight per cent, effective July 1, 2019. This broad-based tax cut benefits all Manitoba families and businesses, with an estimated total savings of \$325 million in the first full year and growing in each subsequent

year. On July 1, 2020, Manitoba eliminated the sales tax on property insurance premiums, saving families and businesses an additional \$75 million.

Manitobans also continue to benefit from the indexation of the Basic Personal Amount and the provincial income tax brackets since 2017. Since indexation began, an estimated 7,720

Manitobans have been removed from the tax rolls and the cumulative maximum tax savings from the 2017 tax year to 2019 tax year is \$253.

Information on the minimum wage and other employment standards is available at www.gov.mb.ca/labour/standards.

Province recognizes rail safety awareness week Sept. 21 to 27

Railway safety is a shared responsibility

Submitted by Manitoba government

Rail Safety Week encourages Manitobans to increase awareness and understand the importance of safe practices around railways. Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler announced Monday.

"Railway safety is a shared respon-

sibility. Most rail accidents are preventable, and we hope to bring public awareness to prevent further injuries and damages caused by collisions at crossings," said Schuler.

According to Operation LifeSaver Canada, an organization dedicated to railway collision prevention, as of

January to August of this year, there has been over 110 incidents; of those 36 were fatalities and 22 were serious injuries because of unsafe railway crossings or railway trespassing incidents. In Manitoba, the province had 13 incidents, two fatalities and one injury reported in that timeframe.

"Basic rail safety includes staying off the tracks, follow all railway signs and

signals, and stay alert when you're behind the wheel of your vehicle," Schuler said.

The Rail Safety Awareness Week Act was passed in 2018, recognizing the last Friday of September to focus attention on railway safety to heighten public awareness and help prevent rail accidents.

Outdoor visitation shelters for PCHs beneficial but come with some concerns

By Patricia Barrett

Family visits with loved ones in Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority personal care homes are about to move to specially designed shelters that will be situated outside the homes and allow visits of up to five family members at a time.

Gimli resident Sherry Benson-Podolchuk's dad, Harvey Benson, lives at Betel Home near Gimli har-bour. She says having more visitors will be beneficial, but at the same time she has concerns about the increased chances of spreading the COVID-19 virus, which comes along with that; some people may not even know they're infected because they show no symptoms.

"More people can come to visit, which is great, but my concern is the [number of people] and their social bubbles. I know where I've been and my sister, Tanis, is very careful," said Benson-Podolchuk. "But some family members could be in contact with people through work so there could be a chance for exposure."

Her dad, who was recently recognized by Veterans Affairs Canada for his service during the Second World War, is 95 years old, she said. Although sound of mind, his lungs aren't what they used to be.

"People don't think it can happen to them, but we're all wearing a target. For my dad, COVID would be the end of him because his lungs are compromised," said Benson-Podolchuk. "And, personally, I don't want to end up on a ventilator. I also don't want to be the cause of someone else ending up on one. You'll die alone because you can't have anyone in there with you."

It will be vital for Betel to maintain what Benson-Podolchuk dubbed "hygiene continuity" in regards the shelters. She herself practises rigorous hygiene, including frequent hand-washing, "gelling and masking up" whenever she's in public and adhering to a strict social bubble.

As tiring as that has become after seven months, she says we need to continue to act vigilantly to protect our loved ones.

"If COVID has done anything, it has shone a very shameful light on how we've historically treated our elderly, and as result [of this pandemic] hundreds of thousands have died around the world," she said. "Hopefully, things are changing. I know when we had that initial COVID scare [a false positive] at Betel, they really clamped down hard on keeping people away and keeping residents safe. That's something to be proud of. They did a very good job."

She has no information as yet about the trailers — other than what was announced by the province — but said she can foresee a few potential snags, including Betel's not having enough staff to accommodate the same level of weekly visits it does now (there are no evening and weekend visits currently) and not having enough time slots for every family to get a visit as there will only be one trailer.

"The big thing is quality of life and mental health. How do you maintain that?" said Benson-Podolchuk. "People need to have connections. I used to take my dad outside the building for coffee once a week to break up his week. You can see people thrive when they have social connections. Fifteen minutes a week would not

be nearly enough for quality of life."

That said, she recognizes the fluid nature of public health's response to COVID; depending on how case numbers move, the nature of visits may change.

Benson-Podolchuk's sister, Tanis Benson, said she doesn't quite understand how the trailers will be any better at containing the virus than the prevention control measures already in place at Betel. And indoor visits from family — in addition to the current weather-permitting outdoor visits — are already allowed at the care home.

"I can understand it's an attempt to [move away] from outside visits when it's cold, but why not just open inside visits to more family members?" said Benson. "I feel that's possible because Betel staff have done so well. They have taken the [COVID] threat seriously and pulled together."

She said each time one of her family members pops over to see her dad, they're rigorously screened by staff.

"Maybe some nursing homes can't have indoor visits and the pods would be a good idea," said Benson. "Personally, I'd rather see flexibility in the indoor visits. The screening process is in place. The rules are strictly enforced. That includes masks and social distancing as well as the location as to where you can visit."

Some PCHs, such as Betel, have 80 beds. Others, such as the Arborg Personal Care Home, have 40 beds. Resident numbers might determine how many visits per day the trailers can accommodate.

The IERHA is currently in the process of determining that, said Lauralou Cicierski, regional manager and public relations and communications spokesperson.

"Exterior visitation shelters can accommodate up to five visitors at one time per resident visit. We are working to determine how many visits will be offered on a daily basis. Physical infrastructure is only one component; staffing capacity to support visits is also required," she said.

The process would include screening visitors before they enter the trailer, readying the residents and transporting them to and from the trailer, and required cleaning between visits.

"We're trying to support as much visitation as possible while still adhering to the safety protocols we must have in place," said Cicierski.

Whether the trailers will have an ultraviolet light (UV) system installed to help kill bacteria is currently being investigated, she said.

"The UV light system is being investigated by the provincial group, as well as medical professionals. If deemed to be a useful tool in fighting bacteria, they will be installed in all exterior visitation shelters," she said.

And at the end of each day, PCH support services teams will complete a "deeper clean" of the trailers. The IERHA didn't say whether UV light can kill viruses, such as the coronavirus.

The trailers are expected to arrive between Sept. 25 and Oct. 31 and will be in operation at the beginning of November.

"All PCHs in the region will have at least one, and some larger sites that can accommodate [them] may have two," said Cicierski. "There is



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY SHERRY BENSON-PODOLCHUK
Harvey Benson with his daughters Sherry Benson-Podolchuk (left) and Tanis Benson during a visit last Friday at Betel Home in Gimli.

one PCH in Oakbank that doesn't have the space outdoors to accommodate an exterior visitation shelter so an interior space is being developed."

Lauren Marantz and Leona Wright, the IERHA's regional directors of the long-term care program and standards, said in a joint statement they know how important in-person visits are to the residents' wellbeing:

"Our goal is for visits to remain accessible while maintaining the safety of residents and their loved ones, and reducing the risk of introducing an infection into our residents' homes."

The provincial government said the upcoming influenza season and a possible second wave of COVID in Manitoba were reasons for ordering the all-season shelters, which will be made from modified shipping containers and cost \$17.9 million. The tender was awarded to PCL Constructors Canada.

"Our government recognized the suspension of visiting privileges at care homes due to COVID-19 put a tremendous strain on families," said Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen in a Sept. 15 news release. "While we acted quickly to restore visits in the spring, it was clear that a more comprehensive strategy would be necessary to facilitate visits with the approaching influenza season and the potential for a second wave of COVID-19."



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sports & recreation

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Olfert, Anderson selected as MJBL all stars

By Brian Bowman

A pair of Interlake Blue Jays were rewarded for their all-star type seasons recently.

The Blue Jays' Cole Olfert and Ben Anderson were very deservedly named to the Manitoba Junior Baseball League all-star team.

Olfert was selected as a utility player while Anderson was chosen as an outfielder.

"It's obviously an honour and, to be honest, I wasn't really expecting it," said Olfert, who lives in Riverbend. "It came as a surprise but it was a good season and there were definitely other guys on the team that could have been picked in that spot as well."

Olfert played every position with the exception of catcher and right field this past season while hitting a solid .274 with four doubles and a home run against Winnipeg South.

"Growing up I had great coaching so I always had knowledge of each position and I think that helped," said the 20 year old Olfert. "We had some younger guys on the team that had a little more pep in their step in the infield than I do now. I'm getting a little older so I was happy to move to the outfield."

Interlake's other homer was hit by Anderson.

Olfert played several seasons with the North Winnipeg Pirates "AAA" program. He really enjoyed his time with the Pirates while being coached by Dave Nychuk and Gary Dear, both

St. Andrews residents.

"So much of my success in baseball growing up and just character as a man was because of Dave," Olfert said. "Not only does he teach baseball on the field but off the field as well with how to handle yourself and how to handle failure. It's not only huge in baseball but life in general."

Olfert will be entering his third season playing at the junior level with the Blue Jays next summer. He's proud of the fact that their team has made it to the league semifinal two consecutive seasons.

"(Adam Kirk) is great and all of the coaching staff bring a really good approach to the game," Olfert said. "They're super competitive and they want to win but you know they have your back as well. They also keep it loose enough that by the end of the day, we're always getting better towards our end goal. We're always playing our best baseball at the end of the year, which is what you want."

Anderson, meanwhile, enjoyed a tremendous season this past summer. He hit a whopping .410 and had a team-leading 11 stolen bases.

On the defensive side, he was an outstanding outfielder, tracking down a lot of baseballs that were headed in the gap.

"Ben's a good player," Olfert noted. "Not only can the guy hit very well, he plays centre field and he can run with the best of them. I would say he's the second fastest in the league next

to Darnell Wyke from Elmwood.

"When he puts the ball in play, he can beat out infield singles which leads to that super high average."

"He was a huge part of our team this year."

The other MJBL all stars includes the Elmwood Giants' Riley Trager (first base), Dawson Tanner (second base), Wyke (outfield), and Brandon Racette (right-handed pitcher), the Pembina Valley Orioles' Tristan Peters (outfield), Jared McCorrister (designated hitter), and Tyson Pringle (left-handed pitcher), the Altona Bisons' Isaiah Letkeman (catcher), the Carillon Sultans' Zach Giesbrecht (third base) and the St. James A's Troy Kemball.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY KEN ALLEN

From top: The Interlake Blue Jays' Cole Olfert and Ben Anderson were selected to the Manitoba Junior Baseball League all-star team.

Hockey Canada makes full-face protection mandatory in MMJHL

By Brian Bowman

In a move aimed at improving player safety, full-face protection will become mandatory for players in the Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League this season.

Hockey Canada wanted to make full-face shields mandatory in all Junior "B" and Junior "C" leagues across Canada by August, 2020.

"It's a change and we have to live with the change," said MMJHL president Kerry Lines on Monday. "I can tell you as a league we fought that change and we're going to live with it because there are other concerns in the world with COVID and that sort of thing. It's something that we will probably revisit at a later date."

Full-face protection is mandatory at all levels of minor hockey in Manitoba and also in the Keystone Junior Hockey League and the Capital Region Junior Hockey League.

Manitoba Junior Hockey League players wear half visors although undrafted players need to have full-face protection.

Statistics that have been released from Hockey Canada show a staggering difference in the volume - and cost of dental injuries - between players who wear full face protection versus those who don't.

Stonewall Jets' head coach Brock Couch said the change was bound to happen and just a matter of time with insurance costs.

He noted that there have been facial injuries in the league over the years. In fact, Couch noted he had teeth knocked out during his MMJHL playing days.

"It's for the players' safety," he said. "The colleges do it in the States and fighting is on its way out, you can tell, with all of the head injuries and stuff. I'm fine with it but it will be an adjustment for some guys."

Many will argue that fighting, most likely, will be reduced and that there will be more stick infractions as players release frustration.

"If you go back decades ago, nobody wore helmets," Couch noted. "There was a respect where it was keep your stick down and your elbows down and

it held guys accountable. Now, you could two-hand a guy in the face and do minimal cosmetic damage. I could see that happening where you might get cage-rages happening. I think it's going to look ridiculous at some point when guys lose their cool and lash out that way."

Meanwhile, the MMJHL hopes to be able to begin their season early next month. That all depends, though, if they get the go ahead from Sport Manitoba and Hockey Manitoba.

"It's a different year and we're just thankful to have the opportunity to return all 10 teams to the ice with what's going on," Lines said. "That's the focus of ours instead of the visors."

Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League announces major schedule changes

From the U18 AAA hockey website

The Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League's Return to Play Task Force has determined the structure and format of the schedule for the 2020-21 regular season.

The following Return to Play plan is subject to final approval by Hockey Manitoba.

Following parameters set by Hockey Manitoba and the Provincial Health Authority, the Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League has prepared a significantly modified schedule. Member clubs will play a reduced schedule of 36 games in two phases beginning on Oct. 16.

To accommodate potential regional health authority restriction increases during the season, the league will divide its member clubs into three divisions: West, aligned with the Prairie Mountain Health Region; Central, aligned with the Southern Health and Interlake-Eastman Health Regions; and East, aligned with the Winnipeg Health Region and north-western Ontario.

West Division: Parkland Rangers, Yellowhead Chiefs, Brandon Wheat

Kings and Southwest Cougars.

Central Division: Central Plains Capitals, Pembina Valley Hawks, Interlake Lightning and Eastman Selects.

East Division: Winnipeg Bruins, Winnipeg Thrashers, Winnipeg Wild and Kenora Thistles.

As a geographical outlier, Norman's schedule will differ significantly from other member clubs.

In an effort to reduce travel, hotel stays and contact between multiple clubs in succession, Phase 1 of the season will consist of divisional play and three-game mini-series over 10-day periods. Using the East Division as an example, Phase 1 would see the Wild play the Bruins in a three-game set followed by a three-game set against the Thrashers, followed by a three-game set against the Thistles.

The teams would then repeat the cycle to complete Phase 1.

Should a positive case or outbreak occur, the three-division structure will allow the league to isolate individual divisions while permitting the others to continue to play.

At the conclusion of Phase 1, and

subject to its completion without COVID-related cancellations, Phase 2 will consist of interdivisional play. Teams will play home and home series against teams outside of their own division.

Continuing our effort to reduce hotel stays and contact between multiple clubs in succession, Norman's schedule will see the team host all 12 clubs for two games in Thompson. Norman will also travel south to play six teams for two games. As always, the games will be confined to weekend play, and the league intends to isolate Norman's games from any three-game set played between divisional opponents.

Finally, as directed by Hockey Manitoba, each team will appoint a communications officer to be responsible for monitoring and maintaining safety and hygiene protocols. Communication officers will be required to ensure all health authority guidelines as well as Hockey Manitoba guidelines and recommendations are adhered to for each on or off-ice session (practice, games, video, etc.).

Stonewall's Laxdal coaching in NHL final



PHOTO THE HOCKEY WRITERS.COM
Derek Laxdal is the assistant coach for the Dallas Stars in this year's NHL Stanley Cup final.

Staff

The Dallas Stars are just three victories away from winning their franchise's second Stanley Cup.

Dallas defeated the Tampa Bay Lightning 4-1 in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup final last Saturday night in Edmonton.

Stars' goaltender Anton Khudobin made 35 saves while Joel Hanley, Jamie Oleksiak, Joel Kiviranta and Jason Dickinson scored for Dallas.

Yanni Gourde replied for Tampa Bay. Stonewall's Derek Laxdal is an assistant coach with the Stars while Dallas head coach Rick Bowness is a former Winnipeg Jets' player and coach.

Both were promoted back in December when Dallas fired head coach Jim Montgomery. Bowness went from an assistant coach with Dallas to interim coach while Laxdal made the move up to the NHL after serving as a head coach for six seasons with the Texas Stars of the American Hockey League.

Game 2 of the best-of-seven NHL final series was played on Monday but no score was available at press time. Game 3 is set for Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Local schools taking a time out with sports

By Brian Bowman

With the Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association's release of Return to School Sport Plan - Version 2 released on Sept. 15, schools are taking a slow approach to starting their respective seasons.

In fact, many schools have shut down all sporting activities for the time being.

Currently, only golf and cross country have been given the green light by the MHSAA for competition.

The MHSAA has said, at this time, there will be no tournaments or provincials. For some high schools, their volleyball and basketball seasons are made up of exhibition and tournament play.

Rory Tycoles, a teacher and coach at Lundar School, said there currently

aren't any sports activities going on at their school.

"At the moment our division has said that we will not be able to participate in extracurricular sports activities, so for the time being Lundar School is not participating in any sports," Tycoles said in an email. "With sports being contained to local competition only there (aren't) many opportunities for us to compete in the sports that have Return to Play protocol in place. 'Hopefully, the students get a chance to participate as time goes on, but only time will tell.'"

The same message has been delivered at Gimli High School.

"Right now, we're just trying to figure out how to have kids here and not get anybody sick," said phys-ed

teacher Chad Heminger. "Our division has said, for right now, there will be no competing. We are, I think, going to try to run some volleyball, practice-wise, because volleyball's Return to Play is pretty decent. Right now, I think you can get nine athletes and a coach on a court together. That's not terrible."

Heminger noted that the zone Gimli competes in is made up of three different school divisions. Getting them to all agree to competition is, at least right now, a tall task.

"Our phys-ed department shares the belief that we have to be careful to get back to normal as slowly as it takes," Heminger said. "We want the kids to be active but we also want them to be safe."

Impact undefeated in past six games

Staff

The Interlake Impact is now undefeated in their past six Manitoba Major Soccer League 4th Division games.

Interlake defeated Kucame B FC 1-0 on Sept. 14 at the Ralph Cantafio Soc-

cer Complex in Winnipeg.

Interlake's goal was scored by Eric Harder.

With the victory, the Impact is now 5-3-2 and has 17 points to sit tied for third with Central Plains FC. Central Plains had played one fewer game

than the Impact heading into this week's slate of games

Interlake is back in action Sunday when it takes on Central Plains FC at the Ralph Cantafio Soccer Complex. Game time is 8 p.m.

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Position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

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HAIRGOES

After much deliberation, I have decided to retire on September 25, 2020. I personally want to thank all of my clients over the past 38 years for your dedicated business and friendship. I will miss all of you and our visits.

Jessica Evanyshyn (The Hair Chop) will be taking over the business. She can be reached at 204-642-7951. Shes going to love you guys.

Take care,
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Sandra Dunlop

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Evergreen Basic Needs Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020 at 7 p.m. at the Lounge, Gimli Rec Centre. Limited seating - 40 people, per current Public Health Order.

2020 Telus Manitoba Motorcycle Ride for Dad. 'Ride Alone Together' format - register to ride, collect pledges, and Ride Alone Together on the day and route of your choice. Details at ridetofordad.ca/Manitoba

NOTICES

Urgent press release &/ media advisories. The news never stops, and neither do we! MCNA assists organizations, businesses, and the public in getting their important news, changing operations, cancellations, etc. Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands of the member weekly Manitoba Newspapers for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information, or email classified@mcna.com for details. www.mcna.com. We are here to help you.

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Please drop of resume at workshop or send to Alex Janower, Manager Riverdale Place Workshop Inc. Box 609 Arborg MB. R0C 0A0 Tele-1-204-376-5584 Fax-1-204-376-5584 e-mail riverdalew@mymts.net

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the Estate of **CHARLES WILLIAM LARRY**, late of the Village of Fisher Branch, Manitoba, Deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at his office at P.O. Box 200, Ashern, Manitoba, R0C 0E0, on or before the 24th day of October, 2020. DATED at Ashern, Manitoba, this 17th day of September, 2020. **PAUL D. GEISLER J.D.** **DUNCAN E. GEISLER** LAW OFFICE Solicitor for the Executor

The Express Weekly News Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication. Please Call 204-467-5836



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On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter(s):

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI BY-LAW NO. 20-0020

Being an amendment to the Gimli Zoning By-law No. 11-0013, as amended.

HEARING LOCATION: Gimli Recreation Centre
45 Centennial Road, Gimli, MB

DATE & TIME: October 14, 2020, 7:15 pm

APPLICATION: RMG-20-03R

AFFECTED: Lot 6, Plan 54478 in

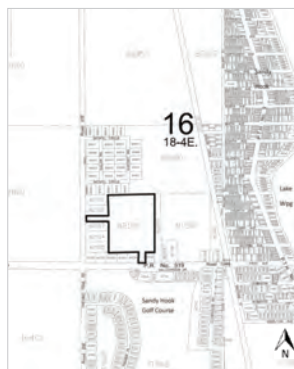
AREA: Pt. SW ¼ 16-18-4 EPM
Roll 82100, 24.24 acres

GENERAL INTENT: To rezone an area in the RM of Gimli from "AL" Agricultural Limited Zone to "RM" Residential Multiple-Family Zone for a residential condominium development.

FOR INFORMATION

CONTACT:

Nancy Thom,
CAO/Development Officer
Eastern Interlake Planning District
62 2nd Ave,
Box 1758 Gimli MB R0C 1B0
Ph: 204-642-5478
Fax: 204-642-4061
Email: eipd@mymts.net
website: www.interlakeplanning.com



COVID-19 PROTOCOL: Should you wish to attend the hearing, you must PRE-REGISTER NO LATER THAN 4:30 p.m. ONE (1) DAY PRIOR TO THE HEARING with the RM of Gimli office at 204-642-6650.

A copy of the proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken there from upon request.

Please Note: E.I.P.D. recommends that property owner's notify lessee/renter if applicable.

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The program is flexible for your educational needs and you can work at your own pace. The centre is open Tuesdays from 9:00 – 3:30 and Wednesdays from 9:00 until noon for teacher assistance, with the remainder of time working in the comfort of your home.

The program begins **September 15, 2020** and will be held at the Evergreen Technology and Education Centre, 234 Tudor Lane, Gimli Industrial Park.

The annual registration fee is only \$40.

For more information, or to register please contact:

Gail Kreutzer, Career Development Consultant

Gail.Kreutzer@esd.ca

(204) 642-1718

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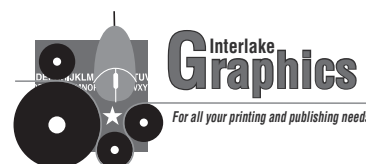
-Strong computer skills, including Microsoft Office

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BIRTHDAY



Happy 85th Birthday!
The family of
Margaret Hayward
invite you to join us
in celebrating her
with a Come & Go Tea
Saturday, October 3rd
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Outside at her home
Bring a lawn chair if possible.
No gifts please.

OBITUARY



Evelyn Louise Eyolfson
(nee Schultz)

It is with great sorrow that we announce the sudden passing of Evelyn Eyolfson (nee Schultz) of Lundar, MB on Friday, September 11, 2020 at the age of 77 years.

She is survived by her husband Bill; children Mark (Lisa), Corey (Dana-Jo) and Christa (Robert); grandchildren Tyler, Riley (Joanna) and Amber (Shannon); sisters Joyce (Lawrence), Doreen, Eileen, June, Beverly (Edward), Patricia (Ed) and Gladys along with nieces, nephews and many other family, friends and loved ones too numerous to list but you know who you are.

She has been welcomed in heaven by her parents Carl and Alice Schultz; infant brother Jim; nephew Timmy and brothers-in-law Andy, Max, Don and David.

Evelyn was born on June 17, 1943 at home in Camper, MB to Carl and Alice Schultz. She attended Edison School in Camper and completed her high school education at Tec Voc in Winnipeg. She then attended Success Business College and became a legal secretary beginning her career with Newman McLean Law Offices soon afterwards.

Evelyn and Bill were married on December 29, 1965 and started their family in 1969, moving to Deerhorn, MB in 1973 where they raised their three children, ran the store and was the Postmistress until its closing.

Later in life, they opened their home to many children in need of care. Evelyn had a big heart and filled many bellies with her home cooking and preserves. She will also be remembered for her gentle nature and eloquent story telling ability.

There will be a private service for immediate family.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Evelyn's memory to the E. M. Crowe Memorial Hospital Guild, c/o Irene Sigurdson, Box 474, Eriksdale, MB R0C 0W0.

The family would like thank the EMS teams and Arnason Funeral Home.

Arrangements by:

ARNASON FUNERAL HOME

Ashern - Lundar

1.204.768.2072

1.866.323.3593

OBITUARY



Doris Diane Zborowsky (nee Dreger)
September 21, 1962 – September 10, 2020

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the tragic and sudden passing of our beloved wife, mother, daughter, sister and friend, Doris Zborowsky on September 10, 2020 near Ile Des Chenes, MB at the age of 57 years.

Born on September 21, 1962 in Ashern, Manitoba, Doris was predeceased by her father Albert, infant brother Ronald, father-in-law Cyril, and beloved dog Kili.

Doris is survived by her husband Dean Carriere; daughter Katrina Zborowsky; mother Linda; sisters Debbie (Garry), Marilyn (Adrian), Becky (Tim), Gail (Joe); mother-in-law Fran; sister-in-law Cheryl (Richard) and numerous relatives and close friends.

Doris grew up on the family farm near Moosehorn, MB and moved to Winnipeg after high school for employment. Then after retiring from a successful career with Canada Post, she started another one in project management with JLL. Though she had a long working career she did enjoy her time away from work. She travelled the world visiting places like Turkey, Iceland, South Africa, Germany, England to name a few. From trekking to Machu Picchu (Peru), Everest base camp (Nepal) to riding a camel in the Sahara (Morocco) for a nights sleep under the stars. Mountain climbing and summiting the highest peaks in Argentina (Aconcagua), Italy (Gran Paradiso), Tanzania (Kilimanjaro), Russia (Elbrus). Relaxing in Thailand, Cayman, experiencing inner peace in Bali, seeing her climbing friends in Alaska, she did it all. Through these travels she met wonderful people, touched their hearts with her magical spirit, and made everlasting friends. Yet, the biggest adventure she took was to live the life of her dreams.

Her drive for excellence was in everything she did. Her health, her home, her outlook on life. An avid cyclist and overall fitness enthusiast. A gardener in that she created a beautiful yard with flowers in abundance and a hearty vegetable garden. A chef, creating divine meals for family and friends, and always looking to try new things. An artisan, creating wonderful items through sewing, knitting and crocheting with her own distinct personal style.

Of all her accomplishments and all that she had seen and done; her greatest joy was her daughter.

Our lives will never be the same without Doris's presence – gone, but never forgotten.

Due to COVID-19, an invitation only service will be held.

In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to an animal shelter of your choosing.

OBITUARY



Alvin Loewen
December 3, 1954 - September 15, 2020

Alvin Loewen, beloved husband of Irene, went on ahead to meet his Saviour and is now free!

Thanks to so many of you who showed your love for Alvin and his family throughout his long illness. A special thank you to the Arborg PCH staff who cared for Alvin so lovingly in his last years.

Goodbye for a little while!

OBITUARY



Elsie Margaret Coldwell (nee Wilson)

Sadly, Elsie Margaret Coldwell (nee Wilson) passed away on September 11, 2020 at Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg. She had been courageously, with a steady positive attitude battling cancer for the last two years.

Elsie leaves to love and cherish her memory her husband of 53 years Duane; her sons Robert (Kristel) and Jeffrey (Raquel); grandsons Nicholas (Marielle), Lucas and Thomas; granddaughters Kelsey (Kieran) and Makenna; brother George Ernest Wilson (Lorraine); nieces Marla (Adam), Janna, Lori Morton (Chad); brother-in-law Merle Coldwell (Ellis); sister-in-law Carole Robinson (Dennis); nephew Troy Robinson (Cindy); great-nephews Christian, Isaac, Malcolm, Kyle, Tyler, Jayce and many other relatives and friends including her special long time friend, Wanda who she referred to as the sister she chose.

She is predeceased by her parents George and Jean Wilson (nee Moyer); her brother Wesley; sister Eleanor; parents-in-law Joseph and Eleanora Coldwell; sister-in-law June Wilson; brother-in-law Darold Coldwell; brother-in-law John Kardshinski; and nephew Trevor Robinson.

Elsie was born on March 12th, 1947 in Selkirk. She was raised and attended school in Selkirk. Elsie chose nursing as a career, which suited her caring and giving nature. She took her training at the Municipal Hospital in Winnipeg and Selkirk General Hospital. Elsie worked in Winnipeg and Selkirk, but spent most of her career (32 years) at Betel Nursing Home in Gimli. Elsie married Duane on October 21st, 1967 in Selkirk. They chose to live in Gimli. Soon, she was a hardworking mother of two sons. Her sons loved sports, mainly hockey, and she was proud and supportive of their love of the game. She travelled Manitoba to watch them play and later would watch her grandsons play as well. Elsie believed education was very important and encouraged this with her sons, nieces, and later her grandchildren. She took pride in and enjoyed watching her grandkids' activities: hockey, softball, dance and music.

Elsie had much love and compassion for animals/pets, especially for her last dog Joey. They are together again in a field of flowers, her "garden of the soul".

Elsie was an active and giving member of the community, supporting many fundraisers/bingo (a lucky winner), a strong player in the bowling league, member at Curves. She volunteered at Betel, feeding residents and accompanying them to appointments long after retiring. A fierce and friendly soul, a smile given to all, always offering to help, giving a moment to talk and laugh. She enjoyed and treasured times with her husband and family, camping, fishing and cheering on the Jets and Bombers. Elsie really loved living in Gimli, loving nature, and utilizing home-grown produce by canning pickling.

Elsie believed in angels and is now welcomed by them and reunited with her mom. Now, she can rest in peace forever in our hearts.

We thank Elsie's doctor Dr. Minuk and the staff at Gimli Hospital who cared for her during her treatment, and the nurses and doctors at HSC who cared for her in her final days.

In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and a private family interment will take place at the Gimli Community Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, you may choose to make a donation to CancerCare Manitoba or Gimli Animal Shelter.

Condolences may be left on her tribute wall at www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



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Phyllis Dueck, Riverton	\$767.00	Kent & Helena Kostshyn, Lunder	\$639.80	Judy Wells, GrandePointe	\$119
John & Nellie Burak, Arborg	\$599.00	Thomas Kowalchuk, Fraserwood	\$499.00	Lynn Bear, Peguis	\$239.00
Andrew Barg, Winnipeg	\$1,749.00	Layne & Holly Kulbacki, Arborg	\$599.00	Hazel Brunen, Eriksdale	\$729.00
Crystal Sigurdson, Riverton	\$549.00	Edward Penner, Arborg	\$619.00	David Chudy, FisherBranch	\$1,499.00
Robert & Ellen Martin, Arborg	\$1,330.00	Keith Poleschuk, Arborg	\$2082.00	Susie & Brian Eyllston, Riverton	\$528.00
Ronald Ostrozylnik, Poplarfield	\$479.00	Curtis Spence, Hodgson	\$479.00	Nelson Hudson, Koostatak	\$629.00
Margaret S. Wilson, Peguis	\$1,699.00	Tanya & Lyle Thorgilsson, Lunder	\$329.00	Larry and Valerie Kornelsen, Arborg	\$799.00
Stacey Ledingham, Riverton	\$1,279.00	Nancy Woychysyn, Arborg	\$768.00	Jason Loewen, Arborg	\$859.00
Wayne Barkman, Arnes	\$799.00	Mathew & Gemma Avison, Arborg	\$219.00	Rita Milne, Gimli	\$1,327.43
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Stanley Wallach, Poplarfield	\$399.00	Isabel JToy, Lunder	\$469.00	Will & Shelly Ashley, Arborg	\$193.98
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Bev Webb, Fisher Branch	\$129.00	Doreen Steg, Camp Morton	\$1,474.50	Ruth Kennedy, Arborg	\$64.99
Alan McKay, Arborg	\$349.00	Darlene Jonsson	\$529.00	Chris and Jennifer Kristinsson, Gimli	\$919.00
Zenith Poole, Arborg	\$848.00	Delbert & Luwana Brandt, Riverton	\$1,799.00	Bjani and Elaine Martinson, Riverton	\$399.00
Barb & Menno Friesen, Riverton	\$559.00	Brenda & Ed Anderson, Princess Harbor	\$529.00	Bruce and Candace McKinnon, Eriksdale	\$1,669.00
Pat Dudrak, Arborg	\$499.00	Linda Williams, Peguis	\$339.00	Stephen and Liz Murdoch, Koostatak	\$70.00
Mary Dunlop, Gimli	\$109.00	Eugene Feschuk, Arborg	\$2,227.00	Lorne and Susan Smith, Gimli	\$929.00
Jean Harrison, Arborg	\$1,988.00	Ida Jean Buck, Hodgson	\$26.75	Faye Stevenson, Peguis	\$1,173.95
Roxanne Roche, Arborg	\$1,868.00	Glen & Phyllis Stevenson, Peguis	\$877.00	Walter and Charlene Stevenson, Peguis	\$154.98
Ernie & Lucille Stabner, Eriksdale	\$1,349.00	Don & Betty Johnson, Arborg	\$1,299.00	Renate Van Der Molen, Eriksdale	\$1,632.10
Nancy Woychysyn, Arborg	\$499.00	Patricia McCallum, Gimli	\$569.00	Delores Wallbridge, Peguis	\$2,186.00
Donna & Ray Andert, Gimli	\$899.00	Joyce Bielick, Riverton	\$29.95	Al and Gloria Wiebe, Poplarfield	\$152.94
Will Ashley, Arborg	\$479.00	Marvin Olson, Arborg	\$29.95	Irene Zazulinski, Fraserwood	\$279.00
Jake Barkman, Riverton	\$619.00	Jeroline Smith, Peguis	\$1227.00	Kurtis and Iris Stansell, Arborg	\$239.00
Mike & Thelma Blahay, Arborg	\$557.00	Sandra Jonasson, Arborg	\$549.00	Stephen & Liz Murdoch, Koostatak	\$841.00
Elaine Bolter / Geoff Crew, Sandy Hook	\$999.00	Melissa & Jeff Abuda, Arborg	\$3,339	Ian and Carla Christiansen, Gimli	\$2,257.99
Natalia & Roger Eyllson, Riverton	\$1638.00	John Paul Avison, Arborg	\$679	Duane Loewen, Arborg	\$199.59
Randy & Glenda Forster, Hodgson	\$1898.00	Carol & Dan Beauchemin, Inwood	\$1,329	Matthew Smith, Eriksdale	\$2,297.00
Perry & Genni Hibbert, Arborg	\$479.00	Jim Dingwall, CampMorton	\$1,038	Sharon Mcleod, Gimli	\$1385.97
Kris & Begga Johansson, Riverton	\$939.00	Eugene Feschuk, Gimli	\$698	George and Mary Lywak, Koostatak	\$629.00
Rick & Sheila Johnston, Arborg	\$349.00	Jason Hudson, Riverton	\$1,278	Lorna Friesen, Arborg	\$599.00
Bertha Jonasson, Arnes	\$769.00	Darlene Jonsson, Gimli	\$359	Teddy Ferkel, Sandy Hook	\$699.00
Donna Jonasson, Arnes	\$399.00	Ruth Kennedy, Arborg	\$549	Darrell and Donna Thaddeus, Koostatak	\$138.00
Jeannette Kist, Gimli	\$121.87	Benita Muzyka, Arborg	\$388	Joyce and Glenn Peden, Gimli	\$1,019.00
		Archie Thompson, Arborg	\$549	Lilja Macaulay, Gimli	\$829.00

GRAND TOTAL TO DATE \$269,471.18

A NOTE TO OUR CUSTOMERS

Due to the nature of this sale, we felt a brief explanation is essential.
At closing, 6 p.m. Sat. Sept 26th we will tally the 20 days of paid sales and divide by 20 to get the average daily sale. The day which is closest to this daily average, without going over it, will be the day which ALL qualifying purchasers will receive their purchase amount back, taxes excluded.

In the case of credit card (Smitty's, Visa, Mastercard) purchases, we will issue a credit immediately.
Every item in stock will be included in the sale. No exceptions - clearance, damaged, discontinued, even new arrivals: furniture and appliances.

We would like to thank you for your support, especially in these challenging times. This is our opportunity to give back by awarding one whole day for free.
Larry Kornelsen
Smitty's

Frigidaire Chest Freezers
7 cu. ft.
\$369

BEDS, BEDS, BEDS,
15 Models on Display From \$199-\$2299

6 PC DINING SET
Table
4 Chairs & Bench
Only \$699
Reg \$799

Ashley Power Recliner
2 colours
\$549
Reg \$819

STOCK ONLY
Décor-Rest Sofas
STARTING AS LOW AS
\$899

ALL PURCHASES QUALIFY!
• Furniture
• Appliances
• Clearance Items

PLUS
DON'T PAY FOR 3 MONTHS
0% INTEREST ON EVERYTHING O.A.C.!
FURNITURE, APPLIANCES

SALE RULES
• All sales must be paid in full to qualify for this sale.
• Visa, Mastercard or Smitty's Credit Cards accepted.
• Sale Starts 9 a.m. Tues., Sept. 1 and ends Sat., Sept. 26, 6p.m.
• All purchasers on free day will be notified and receive their full refund by Friday, Oct. 2, 6p.m.
• All sales tallies and free day will be verified by our accounting firm.
• Commercial sales excluded in tallies and free day.
• All taxes excluded in tallies and refunds.
• No returns or substitutions for these 20 sale days.

Smitty's
FURNITURE & APPLIANCES

"The largest selection of Furniture & Appliances between the lakes"
321 MAIN ST. ARBORG
204-376-5242 TOLL FREE 1-800-361-4156
E-mail: smittysfurniture@mts.net
www.smittysfurniture.net

HOURS: 9 - 6 TUES. - SAT.

