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WEEKLY NEWS

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Students at Winnipeg Beach School downed tools last Wednesday and took up the cudgels of literacy in honour of I Love to Read month. Camp Read A Lot kids in Room 7 threw some logs on the fire and settled in for a good afternoon's read. Pictured, left to right, Asher, Kailyn and Mya.

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Gimli council votes in favour of snowmobiles on Goldfield Dr.

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli councillors voted four to one in favour of permitting snowmobiles to drive through a residential neighbourhood close to the central business district despite strong objections from multiple homeowners.

Bylaw No. 17-0001 authorizes snowmobiles to use the road or its shoulder on Goldfield Drive and Second Avenue between 7:01 a.m. and 10:59 p.m. for five and a half months of the year (Nov. 1 to April 15). Sleds are allowed to travel up to 50 km/h.

The RM had attached to its Feb. 8 agenda six letters from residents opposed to the bylaw and heard from a spokesperson representing 32 residents who “just don’t want it.”

Spokesperson Mike Gielas, whose home abuts Goldfield Drive, said people are concerned about pedestrian (including middle school students) safety and a lack of RCMP enforcement.

“We know [about] and are frustrated by the lack of enforcement now, and we feel it will be the same in the future,” said Gielas. “The speed of vehicles — constantly over the speed limit. Sidewalk use still happens and boulevard [use] still happens.”

Gielas also said the noise of snowmobiles disturbs residents at all hours.

“We’re not mobile; we can’t leave the area,” he said. “We don’t have any choice.”

Goldfield Drive has one stop sign between Seventh (Highway 9) and First Avenue. It has homes bordering it on both sides right down to Third Avenue, where a daycare is situated.

Mike Chudd, vice-president of Interlake Snow Trackers, an organization that grooms trails and which had petitioned the RM for the two routes, attended the meeting to rebut letters written by residents and field objections from about 15 of them.

“Goldfield years ago used to be a snowmobile route,” said Chudd, who helps run a family-owned dealership in town that sells snowmobiles and other vehicles. “There were no issues back then. If this goes through, there will be very few to no issues now.”

Chudd said allowing snowmobiles to drive on the two streets will support Gimli’s economy in the winter when business “drops off drastically” and will make it easier for snowmobilers to get into town.

“This is being done to bring more tourist dollars in from outside the community,” said Chudd. “That’s good for the businesses that do, by the way, pay taxes.”

He dismissed residents’ concerns about safety, noise pollution, lack of enforcement and sled emissions.

“Emissions is not an issue,” said Chudd. “We probably have more issue with possible oil leaks from Mercedes-Benzes out on the lake over the last few weeks. Nobody complained about that.”

Chudd suggested residents’ claims about snowmobiles driving on sidewalks may be a tall tale because he himself hadn’t heard any complaints.

“I haven’t seen any proof of it,” he said. “Having said that, I haven’t looked for proof of it. I haven’t heard of any complaints. Snowmobilers tend to follow the trails that have been provided to them.”

Mayor Randy Woroniuk permitted questions from residents — with a proviso they not ask any question that had already been asked or answered.

As to residents’ concerns that the routes will not be monitored for infractions, Chudd said the RCMP had provided him with a letter of support, and that, furthermore, they’ll be able to enforce the routes now that a bylaw is in place.

“Yes, you do have a few bad eggs out there,” he said. “You’re never going to change that. But if you make things more structured, it gives them [snowmobilers] less wiggle room. With less wiggle room, it gives the RCMP a better chance to enforce the laws that are in place.”

Resident Ingrid Roed asked council what value it places on residents’ quality of life versus the “entertainment of people who may or may not be residents.”

The mayor said he lives by a snowmobile trail, hears them all weekend and is woken up at midnight “a lot of times” by sleds travelling at full tilt. “My quality of life is still great. ... I don’t see the impact on the quality of life.”

Another resident, whom the *Express*



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Three days after a majority of Gimli councillors passed a bylaw allowing snowmobiles to use the road or its shoulder on Goldfield Drive, a snowmobile left a discernible track on the boulevard where they’re prohibited.



This town-owned parking lot, which snowmobilers can now access via two residential streets, is two blocks from the Lakeview Resort.

chooses to keep anonymous, begged to differ.

“It [Goldfield] already has extreme noise pollution. I have small children at home,” she said. “I have an autistic child who’s very sensitive to smell and noise and a four-year-old as well. My bedroom is right on the [street]. It does affect my quality, and I think it affects all the people’s quality of life that have to live there.”

The resident said she has video of sleds breaking the law and convoys travelling down the street.

“Five, 10, 15 at a time — this isn’t one little snowmobile going by your house.”

The mayor said that up to this point in time, there have been no complaints from residents.

The mayor, Deputy Mayor Peter Peiluck, Coun. Richard Petrowski and Coun. Thora Palson approved second and third reading of the bylaw. Coun. Danny Luprypa voted against both.

The mayor told residents this is “only a trial period.”

There is no clause within or appendix to the bylaw stating that the routes are subject to a trial period.

Correction

In the Feb. 2 edition of the *Express Weekly News*, we published the article “Eriksdale Winter Carnival packs in the activities” and reported that the cost for a weekend pass was \$40.

However, in light of information that came to us after the interview, the cost is actually only \$30 for a weekend pass.

The *Express* apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

Arborg Ag Society Fundraiser Social

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Camp Read A Lot at Winnipeg Beach School sizzles

By Patricia Barrett

Students at Winnipeg Beach School downed tools last Wednesday and took up the cudgels of literacy in honour of I Love to Read month.

Dressed in shorts, T-shirts, hats and sunglasses, students turned their school into a summer camp dedicated to the written, spoken and pictorial word.

Representatives from kindergarten to Grade 7 held a press conference in the principal's office to discuss the merits of their school-turned-camp.

"We have this theme for our school," said Jada, grades 3-4 spokesperson. "It [is] Camp Read A Lot, and we [are] dressing up for a couple of the days. And this one is a very, very hot day."

Kindergarten students in Room 7 took things to the extreme, pitching a tent and building a blazing campfire before settling in with a mountain of books for a sizzling hot day of reading fun.

Students get each day underway by singing a camp song such as Sally the Camel and Baby Bumble Bee, said Jada, before they break into groups.

Older students act as camp counsellors, leading their young charges through a number of literacy exercises designed to limber up the brain and loosen up the tongue.

Kindergarten students Brooke and Kailyn explained what the Roaring Readers group is all about.

"Book buddies," said Brooke. "They read to you."

"Wally wildcat roars," said Kailyn, explaining how Wally, the school's mascot, sounds. "And he likes to roar!"

Chloe, who's in Grade 7, said she and the older students read to the youngsters then subject them to strenuous tests designed to sharpen memory and listening skills.

"We ask them questions about what we read to them in the book," she said. "Sometimes they have picture books and sometimes a book full of poems."

Each student at C.R.A.L. got to choose a project to carry out on Activity Day, which is devoted to the pursuit of creative thinking.

Jada, Ariel and Kailyn made keepsake boxes, and Brooke made "melty beads" (also known as fuze art).

"You just put it on a napkin and you try to push it gently off the [board] and put the beads on," said Brooke. "And it looks very flat."

Chloe went in for in tile-making.

"You have this white square tile and you scribble in whatever colour you want and whatever design," she said. "And then you take rubbing alcohol

and grab a straw to spritz it on. Then you put Mod Podge on it and let it dry overnight."

Maddie, who's in Grade 2, took part in the Fairy and Gnome home-building project to ensure the diminutive beings were made as comfortable as possible on move-in day.

"I made a table, a chair, a garden and a pool," she said.

Maddie then read a letter the students received from Uncle Wilbur, a kind old soul who wraps books in parcel paper and has them delivered to each classroom.

"Dear Campers, It's Uncle Wilbur here. I've been thinking of you little rascals lately, so I thought I'd write ya a letter," she said, delivering the words as though they were the notes of a song, using pitch changes, pauses and emphasis. "How's camping going? I sure did enjoy my days in camp when I was a little fella like yourselves. Of course, way back then our camp days were spent outdoors and with books, not with — what do you call them things? — the eyegads [iPads]?"

Ariel, spokesperson for grades 1-2, said each book Uncle Wilbur delivers comes with 10 trivia questions that students can answer individually or in groups.

"We [our class] got all of them right," she said.

Rebekah, spokesperson for grades 3-4, shared the details of upcoming camp events.

"On the 15th, we're having a Pyjama Day," she said. "We [the whole school] get to go into the gym in our PJs and read in the dark with flashlights."

And they'll be indulging in S'mores on the 27th to ensure they have enough energy to see them through the waning days of I Love to Read month.

The person responsible for this literacy-camp madness was unapologetic.

"We don't go to Winnipeg Beach School anymore," said principal Shawna Rudd in a shocking statement to the media about the activities she unilaterally sanctioned.

Rudd even gets on the tannoy every morning with the greeting, "Good morning, Campers. Read, read, read."

With all this reading activity, we asked the students whether they're actually getting any work done. A chorus of "We have homework" arose.

At the end of the Express' tour of Camp Read A Lot, Maddie gave the reporter a Valentine's heart on which she wrote in elegant freehand, "Thanks for doing your job."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

C.R.A.L. has an on-site library that is jam-packed with good books. Sitting: Brooke, left, and Maddie. Standing, left to right: Ariel, Rebekah, Jada, Chloe (with lamp) and Kailyn.

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Gimli councillor questions enforcement of snowmobile bylaw

By Patricia Barrett

The only councillor opposed to Gimli's new snowmobile bylaw said the chances are slim of catching snowmobilers speeding and driving on sidewalks and boulevards in a residential neighbourhood.

Coun. Danny Luprypa, who is council's liaison for residents along Goldfield Drive and Second Avenue, voted against Bylaw No. 17-001, which passed at council's regular meeting Feb. 8.

"A resident had called me and suggested that they did call the RCMP," said Luprypa when Mayor Randy Woroniuk gave him an opportunity to express his opinion. "And the RCMP said they were unable to enforce snowmobile issues because by the time they arrived on the scene, the snowmobiles were on the lake and gone. So the whole issue of enforcement is pretty much impossible."

Residents who live along Goldfield and Second had written letters to council saying as much.

"If the RCMP are informed, the snowmobilers will have left the area before the police arrive," wrote Debra Campbell in a letter received Jan. 27.

Another resident along Goldfield said he took photographs of various snowmobile infractions and showed them to officers at the local detachment.

"They said if they saw an infraction and weren't busy, they would do something about it," wrote Cam Bellingham in a Jan. 31 letter to council.

The *Express* asked the RCMP about enforcement along Goldfield and Second.

"The Gimli RCMP has always and will always enforce and/or educate the public on any ORV (Off Road Vehicle) violations that are observed by officers, or reported by members of

the public," said Const. Stéfán Manaigre by email. "We take pride in the fact that we are very visible in the community and make regular patrols of the town of Gimli. Goldfield will be patrolled for compliance just as often as every other road that we patrol in the community."

Manaigre, who works out of the Arborg detachment, said the Gimli RCMP has snowmobiles that are used for enforcement purposes, and they'll be out this winter to "provide visibility and promote safe snowmobiling."

The RCMP received three snowmobile complaints during the 2015-2016 season, said Manaigre, and they came from the same caller who had "vague" and "limited" information. The resident also called after the offences occurred, making it difficult to locate the snowmobiles or their operators.

He said residents can help the RCMP by providing as much information as they can about an incident and by reporting it immediately.

Residents should note the type/make/model of the snowmobile; colour of the machine; licence plate number; colour of clothing worn by the rider; distinguishable parts/stickers/decals; and the direction the violator came from and direction heading.

Manaigre said the RM's new snowmobile bylaw will help the detachment know what routes to patrol.

"Having a bylaw will allow the RCMP to enforce the misuse of snowmobiles in the town of Gimli more efficiently by knowing exactly which routes are allowed and which are not," he said.

In addition to his concerns about the near impossibility of catching violators, Luprypa argued that snowmobilers already have access to Gimli's central business district via two other approved routes.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Snowmobilers are allowed to access town centre via two routes to the lake and park in front of the Lakeview Resort. From the hotel, they have about a two-minute walk to central businesses.

Between Highway 9 and the lake, snowmobiles can travel along Amisk Drive (three streets north of Goldfield) and Colville Drive (four streets south of the business district on Centre Street).

Snowmobilers use these routes to get to the lake. They then drive on the lake towards town centre and park their sleds in front of the Lakeview Resort.

Providing them with access to a town-owned parking lot on Second Avenue — one block up from the Lakeview — will still entail a bit of walking, said Luprypa.

"You have to walk from the parking lot to a business just like they would from the lake to a business."

The parking lot access, he argued, will reduce snowmobilers' walking time from the lake by only two minutes.

Luprypa emphasized the need to consider pedestrian safety along Goldfield and Second, saying the oth-

er routes do not have a high volume of traffic.

"There's very little foot traffic and almost no vehicular traffic along Colville and Amisk," said Luprypa. "Certainly Amisk."

Goldfield resident Audrey Swift, who's a medical researcher at the University of Manitoba, penned a letter to council dated Feb. 1, questioning its intent to sacrifice children and other pedestrian's safety in the interests of capitalist pursuit.

"Not sure why the RM is even risking this type of incident from happening, especially since snowmobilers already have permission ... via other approved routes. Are a few extra bucks (from the snowmobilers buying coffee downtown) really worth it?"

Manaigre encourages residents to contact the Gimli RCMP detachment at 204-642-5106 if they witness a snowmobile violation.

Faulkner poker derby kicks off year of Canada 150 prep events

Sno Drifters annual poker derby Feb. 18

By Jeff Ward

The Lakeside Sno Drifters are hosting their annual poker derby ride next weekend, which will begin a series of events in the area by different organizations leading up to the massive Canada 150 celebration at Steep Rock Beach Park.

The poker derby takes place on Saturday, Feb. 18 and features a 65-kilometre ride through some impressive and well-maintained trails. Riders start their journey at the Faulkner

Community Hall and make their way through Steep Rock, Hilbre and Gramdale before circling back to their original starting point.

Poker hands can be purchased for \$5 each or \$10 for three hands. During each of the stops, if you pull a Joker card, you win \$10. Sixty per cent of the money collected from the sale of poker hands goes back into the prize structure and gets handed out at 30, 20 and 10 per cent for first, second and third place winners.

The event is the first of many for the area in a joint effort among local organizations to raise money for and plan Canada 150 events later this summer. Lana Iwanchuk, manager at Steep Rock Beach Park, will run a stained glass fundraiser at the Faulkner Community Hall that day to raise money for their summer celebrations. The Faulkner Community Hall board will be serving burgers and refreshments as a fundraiser as well.

"The money we raise will go towards maintaining our trails," said Jason Bittner, president of the Lakeside Sno Drifters.

"We did a similar large event like this last year and it was really successful, and it served as a trial run for this year. Now we have a good idea of what works and what people enjoy most. I expect to see our crowd grow, and with the side event, I think every organization will raise good money."

The event is family friendly and the hall will also have an indoor curling activity for the kids. Bittner said that the trails do have a 60km/h speed limit, but this event is more about having a leisurely ride. He expects the journey to take about four hours in total.

Mercedes-AMG Mythbusters #3: It's All in the Vision

By Melanie Paterson of AMG Driving Academy

Driving is a hand-eye co-ordination skill — like hockey or baseball — so it's critical to use your vision properly in order to maximize accuracy and control.

Sometimes we look down the hood of the car at the road while driving. But we need to use high-aim vision and look as far down the road as possible.

When driving on straight roads, using high-aim vision and looking at the horizon allows your brain to take in more information with your peripheral vision and facilitates better decision-making.

When you're focused on one area, you miss the information from the other areas, so that's why the saying goes "look at nothing ... see everything."

If you're driving down a straight road such as Highway 8 or Centre Street, use high-aim vision to moni-

tor all the things happening in front of you. It will be much easier to see movement and follow patterns such as someone walking across the sidewalk towards the road instead of just seeing them pop out between parked cars at the last minute.

Now, when it comes to turning corners, we need to use our vision to look where we want the car to go, and we do that by turning our head in advance. Anyone who rides a motorcycle, snowmobile or bicycle knows that if you do not look where you go, you can't turn the handlebars in that direction.

Ever wonder why when you look at that pothole you want to avoid, you run right over it? The reason for that is our hands and eyes work as a team, and wherever you look, you steer. When you look at what you're trying to avoid, it is extremely hard to steer away from that object or area.

When you're approaching a curve in the road or an intersection you



EXPRESS PHOTO COURTESY OF MELANIE PATERSON

want to turn at, turn your head before you turn the steering wheel and look through the corner to the part of the road where you want to end up.

You will find that by looking ahead and looking through the corners soon-

er, you will drive more smoothly and with more precision. There will also be less chance of something surprising you and causing an emergency.

Province plans to reduce regulatory red tape to help business

By Jeff Ward

The manager of Community Futures West Interlake (CFWI) said that the provincial government's strategy to lessen the burden or red tape should help to streamline the system for new and existing business owners.

In a statement last month, Manitoba's deputy premier Heather Stefanson committed to reducing the "unnecessary barriers for businesses, local governments, non-profit organizations and all Manitobans."

To accomplish this, the government said that for every new regulation put in place, they must remove a similar administrative burden. The one-for-one rule would cap the growth of regulatory requirements, and a more aggressive two-for-one rule would be

enforced until 2021.

CFWI manager Lana Cowling-Mason explained that on the surface, this feels like the right approach and could definitely lead to easier times for business owners in the Interlake.

"If there's a way to make the overall system more streamlined or more user-friendly, I think we should move in that direction," said Cowling-Mason.

"Folks that are dealing with the land-use end of things, for instance, have to go through 10 to 15 different agencies for approval. It would be great if there was a way to streamline those regulations."

CFWI helps businesses to survive and grow by connecting them to experts and resources. They also provide advice to business owners and

can help businesses in developing a financial plan. CFWI is committed to economic development in their catchment area which encompasses all communities along Highway 6 from Woodlands to Grahamdale.

Cowling-Mason said that while some regulations are welcome, there are many that serve to eat up the most precious resource any business owner has, and that is time.

"Part of it is figuring out what people deem as redundant. I think that we should also be doing a better job of communicating what regulations are set out to accomplish, so that business owners can better understand them. When owners are filling out forms X, Y and Z, they don't always understand what all of that information is being

used for," said Cowling-Mason.

The government will have to find a balance between regulations that are a necessary part of owning a business and regulations that are redundant. But Cowling-Mason feels the timing is right for a review of the red tape that so many businesses have to deal with and if the barrier to entry for new entrepreneurs is reduced in the future, there might be more new businesses popping up in the Interlake.

Kiwanis looking for writers

Submitted

The Kiwanis Club of Gimli & District is pleased to announce the launch of their second annual writing competition. The competition is open to all students of the region and is in memory of Kiwanian and writer Brian Kahler.

All interested youth who enjoy writing are invited to consider submitting an original piece of work.

The topic is the writer's choice. Entries should be 800 to 2,000 words.

The contest is open now and closes at the end of May 2017.

The winner will be announced in June. First place will receive \$100 and a plaque to be retained by the student's school for one year from June to June. Second place will receive \$50. Entries may be handed in to your homeroom teacher or to any Gimli Kiwanis member.

For further information, please contact your principal, your teachers or Pam at 204-642-3735 or planner@lakenet.ca.

We challenge all you young writers to get their ideas percolating.

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getfishing

RED RIVER > CHALET BEACH > LAKE WINNIPEG

> ARNIE WEIDL Fishermen's luck earns him supper

Hi, outdoor buddies. Late last week found me sitting and swapping fishing stories with Philip Perkins of Transcona in Shawn MacDuff's ice shack not far from the end of Gimli's harbour. The air of brightness in this shack's high walls, grand ceiling fan and huge windows seemed to complement Phil's story of his happy childhood fishing contests in Pinawa years ago.

Phil was a jolly, energetic, full-faced guy with short brown hair who punctuated every sentence with a short hurried laugh. He loved telling a story about when he, his sister and dad would go boat fishing in the weed banks of the Winnipeg River by Pinawa. Whichever kid caught the biggest jackfish, dad would take them to a sporting goods store and buy them anything they wanted.

On one such occasion, his sister caught a humongous jack that netted her a fine fishing rod prize and bragging rights because, come the next spring when they were spring cleaning the boat, she found and kept a half-inch tooth from that jack stuck in the floor carpet.

A few days before meeting Phil, I went visiting anglers on the Red River off Breezy Point. Going from one portable shack to another, I met two young chaps. Drew Wallace was thin with a dark pointed beard and his pal William Henry was a very fit guy who had a warm, subdued, constant smile. We talked of fishing experiences while standing on the ice in a brisk cool wind. Drew's favourite story was about when he was checking the wa-



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL

Cameron Bernier with a pickerel he caught while fishing with his father on the Red River by Breezy Point.

ter depth off an interior rock face by Nanaimo, B.C., with a line and weight. As he was winding it up, at the 25-foot level, he felt a tug. When he brought it all the way up, to his amazement, a jack had swallowed the weight.

I left Drew and William after a bit and carefully walked along over the truck trails of half ice, half hard snow to another tent-shack where I struck up a conversation with Cameron Bernier and his dad Perry, also from Transcona. They had caught a few fish, and Cameron held one up for me to show you. Cameron and Perry spoke with fondness of the fact that they have been fishing together forever. Cameron remembered once when he was very small and they were fish-

ing off the slippery rocks at Seven Sisters when he spied a turtle swimming furiously between the rocks in the rushing river current. Oblivious to the danger, he went after it and, sure enough, fell into the icy, turbulent water.

He was in luck, though, because a passing stranger saw him trying to grab onto the slimy rocks as his legs flailed about. With one grand move, he bent over and plucked Cam out of the water with one hand. To this day, in his mind, Cameron can still see himself in that cold water amongst those slippery rocks.

One beautiful, warm, cloudy

Continued on page 8

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letters

Letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklynews.ca

Snowmobiles on Goldfield - a sad day for the residents and for democracy

Democracy has previously been defined as "government by the people; a form of government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised directly by them or by their elected agents under a free electoral system" (www.dictionary.com). In many respects, local government is the level of government closest to the people, and the state of democracy in the country as a whole is closely tied to the state of democracy at the local level. So what's this country coming to?

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2017, was a sad day for the residents of Goldfield Drive and for democracy, since that was the day that Mayor Randy Woroniuk and his council (our elected officials) arbitrarily decided to go against the wishes of the majority of the people and "test out" having snowmobile traffic on Goldfield.

An injustice has been done, since that decision was made despite the fact that the residents had mounted even stronger support against the issue than they did in 2015, in terms of number of petition signatures obtained and number of letters submitted, both to council and to the local newspapers.

How could this happen, in this day and age of democracy? Not sure, but it seemed as though the mayor and council had already made up their minds prior to the Feb. 8 council meeting, since the bulldozers were out, grooming both sides of Goldfield Drive, a couple of days before the meeting. And that wasn't the only thing. Highlights of the meeting included the mayor exhibiting little patience when hearing out the residents' side of things; and when the issue of noise resulting from the

snowmobiles came up, the mayor himself admitted that it woke him up at night. He said that he lived a third of a mile away from a snowmobile trail. Just imagine how it sounds at a distance of 30 feet, the approximate distance between most of the homes on Goldfield and the snowmobile trail.

Close to the end of the meeting, Chudd presented an article by one of the local newspapers showing the Interlake Snow Trackers (his snowmobile group) donating \$1,000 to the local Stars Air Ambulance. Admittedly, this was an admirable cause. But does it elevate them to hero status in the eyes of the Goldfield residents, as intended? Or should the snowmobilers' goodwill be extended directly to the residents, by respecting their right to live in peace, quiet and safety on their street?

In short, counter to the democratic process, the residents of Goldfield Drive were given the "bum's rush" by the mayor and council, and were told that allowing snowmobiles on Goldfield was only "a test." Presumably, if the RCMP and/or the bylaw officer receive enough complaints, the issue will be revisited. I actually called the bylaw officer with a complaint at 1:30 p.m. the day after the council meeting. My complaint was that I saw two snowmobiles driving on Goldfield, against instead of with traffic, thereby causing a hazard on the road. I only got the bylaw officer's answering machine. The question now becomes, will the "test" ever end?!

Cam Bellingham
Resident of Goldfield Drive
Attendee Feb. 8 council meeting

Manitoba announces Farm Products Marketing Council

Submitted

A new chair and directors have been appointed, and one existing director appointed to vice-chair, to the board of the Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council, Agriculture Minister Ralph Eichler announced Tuesday.

"The newly appointed chair, vice-chair and directors for the Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council will serve an important role helping foster growth in a very exciting and innovative sector of agriculture in Manitoba," said Eichler. "We are proud of the experience, leadership and abilities of the newly formed board and look forward to the results of their work."

The board of directors for the Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council is responsible for overseeing the promotion, regulation and management of the production and marketing of farm products in Manitoba, as set out in The Farm Products Marketing Act.

The new chair of the board is Ed Helwer, who is a retired farmer, owner of a successful farm supply business, and public servant at both the municipal and provincial level. He held positions of councillor and mayor for the Town of Teulon over separate periods of time from 1969 to 1988, then served as a member of the legislative assembly for the constituency of Gimli from 1988 to 2003. He farmed in the Netley

area and sold the farm in 2012.

Norine Dohan is an existing director who has served on the board since June of 2011 and has been appointed vice-chair. She is a rancher and bookkeeper. She previously served on the board of the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation. Dohan has many years of experience as a volunteer with local sporting organizations and the 4-H club in the Ethelbert area.

Newly appointed directors are Lisa Dyck, Ronalee Janzen, Louise Lachance and Raymond Wytinck.

Dyck is owner of Cornell Crème Ltd., Manitoba's first dairy producer/processor founded in 2012, and co-owner of Cornell Dairy Ltd. A recognized and active member of Manitoba's business community, she is a director on the boards of the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and Food & Beverage Manitoba.

Janzen shares in the operation of her family's grain farm, while also devoting significant time to community volunteerism and farm organizations.

Lachance is secretary and treasurer for the family's farm and corporation, Lachance Bros. Ltd. She and her husband have operated their farm for 40 years. Lachance remained involved in 4-H for many years as both a member and a leader.

Wytinck has been the general manager of NorthStar Genetics since 2009, which supplies traited soybean seed to operations in Western Canada. He previously worked for Cargill for 13 years in a variety of management capacities.

Robert Muir, Garry Draper and John Sandborn had their terms expire and Erin Crampton has resigned from her appointment. The appointments of directors Ken Caldwell and Rick



Lakeside MLA Ralph Eichler

Wiens have been revoked. Eichler thanked previous board members for their past service to the Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council.

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Weekend poker derby raises \$1,500 for Ashern fire department

By Jeff Ward

Great weather and a healthy turnout of riders helped make the annual Ashern Fireman's Poker Derby a success last weekend raising \$2,500.

Ashern Fire Chief Ken Falk said that approximately \$1,500 will make its way into the bank account for the department after \$900 was handed out in prizes.

Falk said that the money will stay in the bank account until the department decides what new equipment may need to be purchased or if another need arises.

Falk said that more than 50 riders showed up to the derby and estimates that 550 poker hands were sold last Saturday.

"The beautiful weather we had made the ride really enjoyable, and I think

everyone had a great time," said Falk.

"Fred Gasper sold 300 hands to our ghost riders before we even set out for the weekend. He was an active member of the department for a number of years, and even though he's retired, he still walks up and down the streets helping us fundraise. I think he brought in about \$1,000 on his own."

Ghost riders are the people who purchase poker hands but don't come out for the ride. The hands purchased by ghost riders are done in a separate draw so that everyone has the opportunity to support the department.

Falk said that this year's event was very comparable to how much money the department normally raises and, he's very happy to see the support come in year after year.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

More than 50 riders came out to support the Ashern Fire Department's annual poker derby ride last weekend when \$2,500 was raised.

Moosehorn hoping to see protective dike in 2017

By Jeff Ward

The town of Moosehorn is hoping to see a protective dike built on the east side of Government Road this year to prevent future overland flooding after seven years of planning.

The RM of Grahamdale has been working on the plan since 2010 under the 2010 Canada-Manitoba Flood Mitigation Program. According to CAO Shelly Schwitek much of the waiting to get the project completed was due to the aftermath of the flood of 2011. Schwitek added that in 2012 the province notified the RM that the municipality was approved for a feasibility study to look at the impact of the dike.

The plan calls for a dike that diverts water away from the east side of Moosehorn — the municipal of-

fice, Alf Cuthbert School and many properties along the road will now be protected from flooding — and into drainage ditches to the north and south of town.

Perhaps the best part of the plan, outside of the protection it gives property owners, is the cost to ratepayers. The federal and provincial governments have committed to covering 90 per cent of the cost of the project with the municipality kicking in the remainder. The CAO said that she couldn't say what the 10 per cent share is because the contracts are being tendered out soon.

"The mandate of the program is to just keep the town dry. It's not going to fix any drainage downstream," said Schwitek.

"I wouldn't say that the area floods

regularly, but it is often. When we have a huge rain event, and there have been several of those, the area is affected a lot. We deal with a lot of overland flooding for the church, the school and many properties along the road."

Gene Price, councillor for Ward 2 in Grahamdale, said that he is looking forward to the day when shovels finally go in the ground on this project. Price is in his second term as councillor and this has been a project that he's been working on for quite a while.

"Stuff like this takes a lot of time. It's a slow procedure. But this is something that's very important to the people in Moosehorn. The project has always been about protecting the town, so it's good to see this so close to

getting accomplished," said Price.

There isn't a 100-per-cent guarantee that the construction will take place in 2017, but both Schwitek and Price said that they both anticipate seeing this happen. What the municipality is waiting for right now is just confirmation from both the provincial and federal governments as they agree on how to split the 90 per cent they're going to cover.

"It will be exciting when we actually see the machines there and everyone working on this. When the church floods, it's kind of an automatic thing that people from the community come and help fill and place sandbags, so it would be great if they didn't have to do that anymore. I think we'll all be quite excited to see this happen in 2017," said Schwitek.

> GET FISHING, FROM PG. 6

Saturday, I was far out on the ice at Balsam Bay. I was bouncing along between what seemed like streets of shacks when I heard someone shout, "Hey Arnie, how are you doing?"

Off to my left, a shorter fellow heavily dressed and with a scarf that almost completely covered his face waved me to come over. Obliging, I pulled up and met Paul Joyal and his son-in-law Lawrence Bryant from Winnipeg.

Paul's upbeat, fun-loving personality was overwhelming. Holding up a pickerel, he took great joy in telling me that he had been coming out here all winter long and hadn't caught a thing. He told his wife before leaving home today that if he didn't catch anything, he was going to quit fishing for good. Well, that must have changed his luck because he was three pickerel to the good. Apparently, he had just called his wife and told her, "Tonight

we're having fish for supper."

Later, when I was pulling off the ice onto the road, I met a young couple out for a walk pulling a sleigh carrying their child. I remember stopping, rolling down my window and jokingly asking, "How do you guys like the 'fishing city' that's been appearing here on the ice every weekend?" They just laughed and shook their heads in wonder at the spectacle.

See you next week, gang. Bye.



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Proposed bylaw to split West Interlake into three wards

By Jeff Ward

A new bylaw for the RM of West Interlake, if passed, will split the municipality into three wards with two councillors representing each and the reeve being elected at large for the purposes of the 2018 election.

The proposed bylaw has been in the works since September of last year and hopes to split the three zones by equal population. Ward 1 will remain the same and encompass what was the former RM of Eriksdale. Ward 2 is the rural area of what was the former RM of Siglunes, and Ward 3 will be the town of Ashern and surrounding rural area.

West Interlake CAO Larissa Love explained that the wards only establish the areas for the purposes of the election and don't change things like mill rate or taxes.

The third reading of the bylaw will be voted on at the regular meeting of council on Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 9:30 a.m. in the council chambers in Ashern.

West Interlake Reeve Randy Helgason said that this is what representation by population looks like and explained that this is a system that he feels works for the municipality as a whole.

"The numbers don't reflect the seasonal property owners along the lake

either, so Ward 2 actually has more people than what the map states," said Helgason.

"But for them to be counted in there, they need to be full-time residents. At the same time, even though they're not counted in those numbers, they still deserve to be equally represented by council."

However, not everyone is happy about the proposed boundary lines. Ward 1 Coun. John Wainwright said that he would not vote for this bylaw in its current form. Wainwright said that as it stands, Eriksdale isn't being represented at the table as much as the Ashern area is.

"It leaves Eriksdale with only two people representing it. It might work out if the town of Eriksdale also becomes an LUD [Local Urban District] because that's the only way Eriksdale will get equal representation," said Wainwright.

Wainwright said that he would be in favour of having West Interlake split into five Wards — three in the former Siglunes area and two in the former Eriksdale area, each with one councillor and the reeve at large. Wainwright added that the best solution in his mind is to have the entire election at large.

"This way, the best six people get

elected," said Wainwright.

If we define the areas as the former RMs of Eriksdale and Siglunes, this bylaw does give Siglunes four councillors and Eriksdale only two. However, both Helgason and Wainwright agree that the municipality can't be viewed in that way anymore if they have any chance of working together and moving forward.

Love explained that in the next election, it doesn't matter where residents live — they're able to run as a councillor in any of the three wards. It is within the realm of possibility that a resident of Eriksdale runs as a Ward 3 councillor. Whether or not they win is entirely up to voters, but there are no limits as to where a candidate lives and where they can serve.

On the topic of Eriksdale being under-represented, Helgason offered the fact that based on population, Ward 2 is under-represented right now. The population of Ward 2 is 1,360, compared to the population of Ward 1, which is 846.

"The whole issue could've been avoided before amalgamation took place if the province hadn't legislated the amount of councillors of Ward 1 or Ward 2. The people of Ward 2 were never represented by population," said Helgason.

The reeve added that he feels the council is working well together now and wants to continue that trend over the next few years. After getting off to a rocky start, Helgason said things have really settled down over the last year and a half, and Wainwright agrees with that.

"Those running in this next election have to run representing West Interlake because that's the only way we're ever going to get away from the fiction of Ashern and Eriksdale," said Wainwright.

The Municipal Act states that rate-payers need to be advised of the third reading of this bylaw so that they may attend the meeting. If 25 or more rate-payers submit letters to council asking the Municipal Board to review the wards, a public hearing and review would take place to do so.

Helgason said that there probably are some, perhaps as many as 25, in the community who aren't going to agree with this bylaw, and that's fine by him.

"Honestly, I think that there's a handful of people that are dissatisfied and a review could happen. But that's their right and I respect people's rights," said Helgason.

Mercedes-AMG winter sport driving program in Gimli defies the ice

By Patricia Barrett

If you love carnival rides that spin you silly and have you crying for more, you'll love the oval on Lake Winnipeg that Mercedes-Benz and the AMG Driving Academy are using for their winter sport driving program.

Last week race car driver and instructor Danny Kok showed the *Express* how to whirligig on ice at high speed as though he were James Bond in *Die Another Day*.

The only thing you'll see are snowbanks whizzing past and the smooth, but speedy balletic movements of Kok's hands on the steering wheel as the Mercedes barrels sideways around an oval multiple, multiple times.

"I'm steering where I want the car to go," Kok said calmly, as though we were out for a Sunday drive. "Learning car control is really what this is about, travelling sideways essentially the whole time. What it teaches you is to be in a skid for as long as possible."

Not once during the 10 minutes of zooming and zigzagging around five race courses on the lake did he hit the

wall, so to speak.

"We've been doing this a long time," said Kok, as he took the car up to 100 clicks on an icy blue straightaway then braked before a corner to trigger a slide. "I'm probably able to carry a little more speed than most of our customers can carry."

To Kok, it's effortless, having raced for years in North America and Europe. But there are dozens of techniques to learn, from proper seat position (torso close to the steering wheel) and braking pressure to hand position (9 and 3) and direction in which to steer when the car begins to slither.

Although it seems counterintuitive, focusing on the spot you want to avoid will likely result in your hitting it. Kok was indifferent to snowbanks and barricades, avoiding eye contact the way one does in an elevator full of strangers.

Before participants can take charge of a Mercedes with its V8 Biturbo engine (a high performance sports car engine), they must undergo about three hours of in-class instruction.

They'll learn safety, car, vision and



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Heading into a turn on Lake Winnipeg.

sliding control and how to "set up" for corners. Then they'll get behind the wheel and "just build it up from there," said Kok.

They can even slip into a pair of high-tech shoes designed for heel and

toe downshifting.

"They're purpose-built driving shoes that have a roll," said race car driver and instructor Melanie Paterson, who

Continued on page 12

Local teens take future of Inwood Arena into their hands

Ball hockey tournament this weekend

By Jeff Ward

Two high school students from Inwood are organizing a rally call to help save the Inwood arena and have already raised more than \$5,000 to keep the doors open.

Sixteen-year-old Graham Moore and 17-year-old Christopher Mott started a Go Fund Me campaign last week and in just 72 hours raised \$5,500 with donations still being accepted.

Both teens wanted to help keep the arena open and are doing everything in their power to make sure the facility is around for many years to come. The monthly hydro bill on the building is \$1,000, according to Moore.

Mott is the one who made the ice and is now maintaining it. He has spent over 100 hours volunteering to make sure there is ice for everyone in the community to play on. There is no ice plant at the arena, so it's all done naturally and by hand.

Both boys are part of a Friday group that plays rec hockey at the rink. However, they are the only group that uses the surface regularly.

"We don't have many skaters that use the ice, so it's hard to make money to actually pay the bills," said Moore.

"Our worst case scenario is that we stay open until the end of this season

but don't open the doors next year. The bank account is dwindling away, and we don't have much money coming in. What we want to see is people renting the ice and getting people interested in using the arena again."

Both Mott and Moore are aware that it's an uphill battle, but they refuse to back down. This is a building they've spent countless hours having fun in, and to them, it's worth fighting for.

The success of the Go Fund Me campaign — www.gofundme.com/help-save-inwood-rink — has shown to both of them that there is still interest in the facility. There are people out there, more than 50 donors now, that want to support the arena.

The boys are also hosting a two-day ball hockey tournament this weekend to help raise even more money for the arena. The tournament begins Friday, Feb. 17 and ends on Saturday.

Participants can register for \$25 and can show up at the arena on Friday at 7 p.m. There will be a full canteen, 50/50 draw and silent auction to help raise money.

"Hopefully, we get more ice rentals after this, which will help make our money last longer. Even if we just get a few more rec teams renting the ice for a few hours a week, that goes a



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Chris Mott, left, and Graham Moore are raising money to save the Inwood Arena. The two teenagers have raised more than \$5,000 online already and are hosting a ball hockey tournament this weekend to raise more.

long way to helping out," said Mott.

Both Mott and Moore never thought their Go Fund Me campaign would gain so much traction so quickly, but they're very encouraged by the response.

"We really only expected to make a few hundred dollars at the most when

we made it. I don't think many people know that the arena is threatened right now, and now that they're aware they want to support. They all have memories of playing in the arena, and we want everyone to have the opportunity to create their own memories here too," said Moore.

Provincial funding to decrease for Lakeshore School Division

By Jeff Ward

The Lakeshore School Division will not be seeing any of the \$13.1 million provincial funding for the upcoming school year announced earlier this month and instead will have to get creative to sustain the budget.

On Wednesday, Feb. 1, Education and Training Minister Ian Wishart announced that the provincial government will be increasing funding for kindergarten to Grade 12 education for public schools for the 2017-18 school year. In total, this announcement represents an overall funding increase of one per cent for the next school year.

However, for the Lakeshore School Division funds are dropping instead of rising.

"Unfortunate" is how division secretary treasurer Marlene Michno describes the funding increase announcement.

For Lakeshore, the increase from the province is actually a decrease

in funding of 1.7 per cent totalling \$163,000. This is a lot of money that the division needs to answer rising costs of teachers' salaries and benefits.

Michno said that the board is still working to figure out how to address those costs, but it will likely happen in a few different ways. The board can cut staffing positions, raise taxes or dip into the surplus to deal with the discrepancy.

"They'll likely end up doing all three of these," said Michno.

"The province knows full well that all school boards in the province have settled with employees and all teacher contracts are settled. Teachers will see a 2.4 per cent increase in salaries, which also affects benefit costs. This is a decrease in funding, for sure."

"IT WAS UNFORTUNATE TO SEE THAT EDUCATION IS NOT A PRIORITY FOR THE PROVINCE."

Opposition Education critic Wab Kinew said that the cost of education is expected to rise two per cent this year — on the low end of projections

for Lakeshore — and that an increase of one per cent is a "de facto cut" for education in the province.

Interlake MLA Derek Johnson said he doesn't believe this is a cut for education and that it is an increase, but one in tough financial times. Johnson's comments echo what Wishart said on the subject a few weeks ago.

"\$13.1 million, as far as I know, is a record level of funding increase for education," said Johnson.

Johnson went on to say if the previous government had been a little more responsible with provincial finances, we wouldn't be facing the

challenges we are today.

"There are tough times here and that's something to be taken into consideration."

This increase leaves school boards in the unenviable position of putting the burden of rising education costs on ratepayers in the form of higher taxes. But taxpayers fund public education already, so for divisions like Lakeshore, ratepayers are on the receiving end of a double dip into their wallets.

"I've attended school at Lundar and Eriksdale and feel we had a very good education back then and I feel we are entitled to that now," said Johnson.

Michno feels the exact same way, but now has to work with the school board to figure out how to pay for it.

"I think our board is very cognizant of always doing what's best for the students. They'll make the decision, but it was unfortunate to see that education is not a priority for the province," said Michno.

Riverton teacher combining kayaking and appreciation of nature

By Patricia Barrett

A teacher at Riverton Collegiate will be launching a kayaking school this summer to teach people the basics of handling the watercraft while providing them with an opportunity to learn about and appreciate nature.

Rob Jantz, who teaches English to grades 8-12 students, established an eco-kayak company called Prairie Sea Kayak Adventures and will be taking participants out to Willow Creek, south of Gimli.

In addition to providing lessons on paddling, steering, exiting and entering — as well as recovery in the event of a spill — Jantz will be teaching participants how to take a break from the hectic world of Internet and mobile connectivity.

Kayakers will hear songbirds, the wind in the willows and the gentle slap of paddles on the surface of the meandering stream rather than the dings and buzzes of cell phones.

“Everyone can relate to a place they went to as a kid,” said Jantz. “For me, it was when I was eight years old and a friend and I rode our Mustang bikes with the banana seats down to a stream to catch tadpoles.”

Jantz wants people to understand the environmental challenges facing Interlake waterways and to develop an appreciation for protecting habitats.

In a Jan. 9 letter to the RM of Gimli, Jantz wrote that the company will provide “a safe yet diverse setting for the novice kayaker. Clients would be provided a guided tour of the creek and [learn] about the health challenges that the creek and adjacent lake are facing.”

He’ll be supplying the kayaks, dry



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Rob Jantz will be launching a kayaking school this summer to teach people the basics of handling the watercraft.

bags (for spare clothes) and knowledge of the riparian area. Each two-hour tour can accommodate six participants. Weather permitting, Jantz will offer a tour every day during July and August.

Jantz will be also be offering special kayaking adventures over the course of the summer.

The Celestial kayaking events include a Full Moon Tour in July and August, a Delta Aquarid (meteor shower) Tour on July 28, a Perseid

(meteor shower) Tour on Aug. 12, and a Solar Eclipse (the first since 1979) Tour on Aug. 21.

A Yoga Kayak Tour will have participants take to Lake Winnipeg.

“You’ll paddle for a while, find a beach and do yoga,” said Jantz.

On Canada Day in Gimli, people can reserve a kayak and take part in the town’s boat parade on Lake Winnipeg, and then watch the fireworks while floating in the harbour.

Tours vary from \$60 to \$85, according

to the company’s website.

For more information, email Rob at info@prairieseakayak.ca or call 204-642-2707. Visit Prairie Sea Kayak Adventures online at www.prairieseakayak.ca.

The launch site is located at the junctions of Highway 9 and Willow Creek Road (107 North), about five kilometres south of Gimli.

Kayakers will be asked to bring a change of clothes, sunscreen, hat and sunglasses.

Eriksdale New Horizons to hold all-you-can-eat pancake fundraiser

All-you-can-eat fundraiser Feb. 28

By Jeff Ward

The Eriksdale New Horizons Club board is hoping to see people bring their appetites and their wallets to their annual pancake lunch fundraiser.

The fundraiser is one of only a few for the New Horizons Club each year that encourages new memberships while raising money.

The lunch will take place at the club on Feb. 28 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and everyone is welcome to join. The cost is only \$6, and that gets you a virtually limitless supply of sausages and

pancakes, as well as the good feeling that comes from helping out a worthy community cause.

Mary Riddell, secretary-treasurer and co-ordinator of the congregate meal program, said that people are also encouraged to sign up for a membership. Memberships cost \$15 for the year and go a long to helping keep the club open and the meal program running. Memberships are also one of the best ways to support the club as the larger numbers help open up new granting possibilities.

“The community is very aware of the

fact that this service is being done and that there’s a need for it here,” said Riddell.

“When we were struggling with our numbers last year, people asked what they could do to help. We told them about membership and how they can help volunteer for fundraisers. Last year, our numbers went from 30 to 45, so we saw the community respond nicely.”

Last year, the fundraiser brought in approximately \$300.

Riddell hopes to

see the interest continues this year and that their fundraiser is also successful. A simple donation and registering a new membership help the board continue to provide a space and programs that are catered to the seniors of the community.

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Volunteers wanted for Spirit of Caring course

Submitted

During critical times of suffering, trauma or loss, spiritual health can play a vital role in helping patients find their peace, inner strength and courage. It is during these moments of uncertainty that patients may need to regain their spiritual focus, recover their sense of purpose and reconnect with their beliefs.

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's spiritual health services program is looking for volunteers to walk alongside residents and patients of personal care homes and acute care hospitals with hope, respect, care and compassion. The Spirit of Caring course is a nine-week course that prepares volunteers to accompany and support people in a health-care setting.

Marion Magnusson, regional spiritual health services co-ordinator serving the west side of the regional health authority, explained spiritual care offers holistic healing. It is the activity of devoting presence, attention and respectful listening to people in helping them discern the meaning in life now — in this time and place, perhaps in the midst of a health crisis.

"It is through learning about spirituality that your own perspective on life will change. You will grow in understanding more about yourself in the diversity of expressing who we are as human beings," said Magnusson. "Our awareness of the cultural lens we wear will develop a broader scope to embrace the spiritual in all faith communities. Additionally, you will learn how to be available to another, to be

quiet with another and to listen without having to respond to be fully present with another."

Participants are invited to learn practical applications of spirituality in a variety of situations in health care, including how to recognize, respect and support a spiritual need, and how to attend to spiritual distress, conflict and dilemma in themselves and others. Participants will also explore the diversity of spiritual traditions, beliefs, cultures and many more themes.

Bonnie Murray, a spiritual health volunteer with the regional health authority, said the course was a commitment well worth her time. She learned from the co-ordinators, guest speakers and the class group through discussions of different perspectives and life experiences.

"I personally came away with a clearer understanding of spirituality and the importance of caring for our own spirit/self as well as that of others," said Murray. "Spiritual care in the health system is so very important because that is usually when people are their most vulnerable. While we aren't expected to have all the answers or fix anything for them, being an empathetic and supportive presence is what we can do for them."

The course is a pre-requisite for spiritual health services volunteers. It runs from March 23 until May 25 as follows: Stonewall: March 23 and 30, April 27 and May 4, May 25; Beausejour: April 6 and 20, May 11 and 18; Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 p.m.

The deadline to register is Feb. 28. There is a \$100 fee (no cost for spiritual health services volunteers).



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Marion Magnusson, regional spiritual health services co-ordinator.

For details and to register, contact Marion Magnusson at 204-641-1379 or mmagnusson@ierha.ca.

Northern Lights Festival of the Arts Entries Due February 28th, 2017

If you sing, dance, play an instrument or perform in some other artistic area, the Northern Lights Festival welcomes your entry.

The festival is open to adults, students, choirs and bands throughout the Northern Interlake.

Entry forms and a copy of the syllabus are available at your local school; any questions or concerns, call 204-641-1760.

The festival runs this year from April 17 to 21 in Fisher Branch.

If you wish to volunteer during the festival, please call 204-372-6707.

Adjudicators for this year's festival are:

Tiffany Wilson for voice, choir and piano
Nancy Nowosad for guitar, violin and piano.
Rachelle Bouger for dance and gymnastics.

The Highlights Concert will be held at the Fisher Branch Community Hall on April 28th at 7pm.

Awards and scholarships will be presented at the concert.

The festival committee wishes once again to thank the Interlake communities for their continued donations and support for the festival - it is greatly appreciated.

> MERCEDES-AMG, FROM PG. 9

showed the Express a number of different shoes at AMG's headquarters in the Lakeview Resort. "The heel rolls up around the corner. When you're driving, the proper way is to keep your heel on the ground and roll at your ankle to be gentler on the controls. These are meant to replicate the advantages of a racing shoe without compromising comfort."

Paterson said the program is very structured, but designed in such a way that each participant can proceed at his/her own comfort level.

It's ideal for people who want to understand car control or who've had a bad driving experience.

"When you have an experience like that, you don't understand what happened to you. You don't understand why," she said. "It just scares you, and you're always stressed about the fact that it may happen again. Because we explain the basics of why cars slide and how to fix a slide — and you start to practise it — you become more comfortable with it. It's just like swinging a baseball bat: at first you don't know how to hold it, but pretty soon you're able to swing the bat and hit the ball."

Slalom exercises are designed to teach participants sliding control without having to corner.

"We set up cones, like a big slalom on the ice," said Kok, as he weaved between imaginary cones on a long stretch of ice, "and they learn how to move back and forth through the slalom and control the car."

Although the techniques are derived from those used by the pros, this isn't Formula 1. In

other words, you won't get an opportunity to cut off other drivers on a curve the way some do on Highway 9 through Sandy Hook.

You can, however, open the throttle (if you feel comfortable enough) and not have to worry about RCMP lights flashing in your rear-view mirror.

Kok said losing control of a car on ice comes down to a lack of understanding of what cars are capable of doing — and that's any car, not just a high performance Mercedes equipped with studded tires.

"For me, having done this so much, I know where to look. Even though we're travelling this way [about to broadside a snowbank], I'm looking where I need to be going," he said. "And the more I look to where I need to go, the more I tend to steer towards [it]. And I maintain my nine and three hand position as I go around the circle."

When drivers get tired, they can take a break in a homey cabin AMG set up on the ice.

"We have a wood-burning stove in there," said Kok, "and they can hang out and have coffee breaks."

The driving program is set to return to Gimli next February.

"We've had a number of locals who signed up and already participated in the program," said Kok. "We have driving enthusiasts everywhere, not just Vancouver and Toronto."

He singled out the RM for helping them bring the program to Gimli.

"The mayor and council have been nothing but supportive."

Cooley's Canada 150 Winter Parade and canoe-pushing competition

Gimli Ice Festival festivities get underway this Sunday, Feb. 19

By Patricia Barrett

Cooley, the mascot of the Gimli Ice Festival, has decided to throw something new in the mix this year for the launch of his Ice Park.

A Canada 150 Winter Parade and some canoe-pushing competitions will form part of the park's launch on Sunday, Feb. 19.

The parade, which gets underway at 1 p.m., will have about 30 floats that will dazzle spectators and include a "twist" on Iceland's parades, said Ice Festival co-chair Susan Holfeuer.

"We're going to have spectators follow behind us," she said. "As we get to the end of the parade, people can join in and march down to the harbour."

Gimli Coun. Thora Palson, who was born in Iceland, told Holfeuer about the parade tradition.

Cooley will bring up the rear of the floats, and Holfeuer will have a megaphone in hand to marshal the crowds to the harbour where Cooley will officially throw open his park at 1:45.

Representatives from Future Mechanical, the Lakeview Resort, Noventis Credit Union, Shachtay Sales & Service, as well as snow sculptor Ralph Tanchak, MP James Bezan, MLA Jeff Wharton, Mayor Randy Woroniuk and co-chairs Susan and Peter Holfeuer, will help Cooley get his paws on a pair of scissors for the ribbon-cutting.

Holfeuer said they may get into a bit of premature spirit for the March Ice Festival by undertaking a Crazy Canoe test-drive after the ribbon-cutting.

English teacher Rob Jantz borrowed a canoe from the Evergreen School Division and helped Holfeuer and her volunteers try it out on the snow last Saturday.

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, people can warm up in the Lake Winnipeg Visitor's Centre.

"It will be run by volunteers," said Holfeuer. "You can buy your festival pass there if you want. If you buy a pass that day, hot chocolate and popcorn will be free; [otherwise], it only a \$1."

The Ice Park has a child's skating rink and massive snow sculptors (currently in progress) that will reflect Canada's community, culture, heritage and history.

Stonewall snow sculptor and artist Ralph Tanchak was on his ladder in front of the Gimli Art Club chiselling away at a huge block of snow while his brother-in-law was executing rough

cuts on a nearby block.

"He's taking away the snow that doesn't belong to the sculpture," said Tanchak, explaining snow-sculpting lingo. "It's going to be a pickerel (wall-eye), which is significant to this community because fishing is a major industry."

Holfeuer said if Tanchak is unable to complete his last sculpture in time for parade day, he'll be demonstrating his sculpting magic for visitors.

"We're super stoked to have him actually do the demo for people," she said. "He gets stopped 100 times a day, anyway!"

The Ice Park is sponsored by several Gimli and area businesses, the Westshore Community Foundation and the municipality.

The festival itself on March 4 and 5 will include a Kid's Fun-time Ice Fishing event.

"It's where kids get to learn how to ice fish and they get little prize packages just for going out and trying it."

Sustainable Development will be donating prizes (educational books), and Ace Hardware and Stringer Rentals are sponsoring the event.

"The volunteers for the kids' fishing are all from the Breast Cancer Warrior team. The money we raise, we donate to the Canadian Cancer Society," said Holfeuer.

The Ice Festival is in its sixth year



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Susan Holfeuer (bow) and Shirley Yakowchuk (stern) try paddling a canoe in front of the Lakeview Resort while Rob Jantz (left) and Bill Szewaga push. Peter Holfeuer and Carol Szewaga cheered them on.

and draws thousands of visitors from across the province, contributing to the town's economic and social success.

"The Ice Festival is Gimli's winter signature event," said Holfeuer. "We're a community festival. That's why we have a lot of partners. What's special about us is we give back to the community. We do stuff on Canada Day, we volunteer with the Gimli Film

Festival and help the high school by donating to their grad program. We donate our time and money."



Stonewall artist and snow sculptor Ralph Tanchak created a three-headed snow sculpture representing Ukrainian culture (seen here), and Indigenous and Icelandic cultures.

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Well-known Manitoba artist visits Fisher Branch

By Rozanne Nevakshonoff

For the last eight years, the Fisher Branch Collegiate (FBC) and the Manitoba Arts Council (MAC) have collaborated to put on a weeklong art program.

Grade 5/6 teacher Mrs. Malenchak explained how the school applied for a grant from the MAC. In turn, the MAC covers 75 per cent of the program costs while the school covers the remainder. The school chooses an art instructor from a list of eight to 10 available artists.

Well-known Manitoba artist Gerald LaRoche led this year's project. LaRoche, an accomplished visual artist as well as a Juno award-winning musician, performs both nationally and internationally. LaRoche has participated in school programs throughout northern Manitoba, and this is his first venture into this part of the Interlake. LaRoche enjoyed his time with the Fisher Branch students and looks forward to his return when he visits Ashern and Marble Ridge Colony at a later date.

LaRoche started creating art when he was young and discovered music at 12 years old. He decided to pursue both careers for a living, finding that they are closely connected. LaRoche obtained a certificate in commercial art from Red River College and since that time has been actively working as a visual artist, musician and teacher.

While walking through the classroom observing the students painting, Grade 7 student Taylor Klimchuk enthused, "We have artists in the school every year; by far, this was the best teacher."

Klimchuk explained she has been participating in the art program from



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY ROZANNE NEVAKSHONOFF

Fisher Branch Collegiate Grade 5 and 6 students took part in a watercolour project with well-known Manitoba artist Gerald LaRoche last week. Students show off their watercolour masterpieces, pictured, left to right: Allen Emms, Mrs. Malenchak, Presley McConnell, Milla Richards, Keanna Walashek-Nault, Klyd Miranda, Howie Beaudette, Ivan Huynh, Dasani Cameron, artist Gerald LaRoche.

the time she was in the Fisher Branch Early Years School and has also experienced music and dance.

After getting the students set up and showing them how to finish their paintings, LaRoche had time to share how he sets up the programming. The students meet one artistic requirement per day. Day 1 begins with drawing and setting up the scene. Next is a lesson on move perspective,

focal points and how to transfer a design to paper.

"WE HAVE ARTISTS IN THE SCHOOL EVERY YEAR; BY FAR, THIS WAS THE BEST TEACHER."



Gerald LaRoche gives Fisher Branch students a lesson on shadowing.

Over the five days, the students added what they learned, and at the end of the week, they had a finished piece of art. Watercolours were the medium LaRoche chose for this project. Students had the opportunity to paint three watercolours in different sizes by selecting one of the more than 10 landscape options given.

Amanda Bouchard, the lead teacher, was delighted with the work the students were turning out and voiced how very thankful the school is for

the monetary assistance the Manitoba Arts Council provides. She explained that without this funding, it would be very difficult for small rural communities to provide students with opportunities like this to explore the arts.

When asked what the plans are for next year, Bouchard responded, "I anticipate a mural project made up of individual tiles hand painted by the students." Something for everyone to look forward to.

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Manitoba to streamline farm building code requirements

Submitted

The Manitoba government is supporting the long-term, sustainable growth of the agricultural sector by removing unnecessary regulatory requirements on the construction of farm buildings, Agriculture Minister Ralph Eichler announced last week.

“Our government is listening to Manitoba’s farm families and other stakeholders, who have clearly shown how the current code for farm buildings is impractical and costly,” said Eichler. “Instead, we will be moving forward with common-sense amendments to the Manitoba Building Code that more closely align with other Western Canadian jurisdictions to ensure appropriate protective measures are in place that also reflect the unique issues related to farm buildings and the farming industry.”

The current Manitoba Farm Building Code will be repealed and an amendment will be made to the Manitoba Building Code to add specific provisions for farm buildings. The minister noted this approach will reduce the red tape burden on those planning to build new farm buildings, while still ensuring appropriate rules will be in place related to occupant safety and fire prevention.

The minister noted key changes that will apply to farm buildings will include:

- establishing a “low-human occupancy” building classification for most types of farm buildings, which will recognize lower risks by reducing additional regulatory requirements for items like full fire alarm systems;
- focusing on ways to prevent fires from spreading to neighbouring buildings, while still allowing these low-human occupancy buildings to be grouped together to meet operational needs;
- applying only structural requirements for

unenclosed farm buildings used for hay storage or livestock shelters;

- removing requirements for fire-rated separations in high-humidity environments where the building materials are unsuitable or in areas where animals are likely to cause damage to them.

- providing more options to meet entrance and exit requirements;

Continued on page 18



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO NEWSPAPER SERVICE

The province has announced that the Manitoba Farm Building Code will be repealed and an amendment will be made to the Manitoba Building Code to add specific provisions for farm buildings. This approach will reduce the red tape burden on those planning to build new farm buildings while still ensuring appropriate rules will be in place related to occupant safety and fire prevention.



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get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS

Salmon yogurt spread



6 servings / 5 min
 Prep 5 min / Cook 0 min
 With protein from both yogurt and salmon, this snack is sure to hit the spot when hunger strikes. Try it as an

appetizer too!

Ingredients
 1/4 cup (50 mL) Canadian Mozzarella cheese, shredded
 1/2 cup (125 mL) 2% plain Greek-style yogurt
 1 can (7 1/2 oz/213 g) salmon, well drained
 1/4 cup (50 mL) red onion, finely chopped
 2 tbsp (25 mL) fresh dill, finely chopped
 2 tsp (10 mL) Thai Red Curry Paste

Directions
 In a medium bowl, mix all ingredients together.
 Serve with crackers or toasted bread.

Artichoke Hummus



Prep time: 10-15 minutes
 Servings: 4
 1 can (14 ounces) Progresso Artichoke Hearts, drained
 1 can (15 ounces) Goya Chick Peas, drained and rinsed
 1/4 cup canned Swanson Vegetable Broth
 1/4 cup tahini paste

2 tablespoons lemon juice
 1 clove garlic, crushed
 1 tablespoon chopped Italian parsley, plus more for garnish
 1 teaspoon kosher salt
 1/4 teaspoon cracked black pepper
 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin, plus more for garnish
 olive oil

In food processor, combine all ingredients and pulse until smooth. Season to taste with additional salt and pepper, if necessary.
 Transfer to serving bowl and garnish with drizzle of olive oil, fresh parsley and dash of cumin.
 Serving suggestions: Serve with toasted French bread slices, cut veggies or pita chips.

Tropical Mango Guacamole

Recipe courtesy of Ricardo Muñoz Zurita, Azul Restaurantes, Mexico City
 Makes: 4 servings

1 ripe mango, diced into 1/4-inch cubes
 1/4 cup jicama, diced into 1/4-inch cubes
 1/4 cup red onion, finely chopped
 1/4 cup garlic, finely chopped
 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper



2 ripe avocados, peeled
 2 tablespoons cilantro, chopped
 1 tablespoon red pomegranate seeds, for garnish (optional)

In medium bowl, mix mango, jicama, onion, garlic, lemon juice, salt and black pepper. Set aside.
 In another bowl, add avocado and mash until soft. Add mango mixture to avocado and mix. Top with cilantro and pomegranate seeds, if desired, and serve with tortilla chips.

Holding a Grudge



"RESENTMENT IS LIKE TAKING POISON AND WAITING FOR THE OTHER PERSON TO DIE."

MALACHY MCCOURT

A grudge is a feeling of deep-seated resentment or ill will. It forms when we are unhappy with what someone did or did not do. They did not act or respond in the way we expected or wanted them to. We are angry, upset, and often choose to distance from the one who has offended us.

Often the "offender" has no idea that we have taken offence. They did not act intentionally to hurt us, and indeed might be surprised to find that we have disappointed them.

If we find ourselves upset and disappointed often with the behavior of others, we must consider the possibility that we may be somewhat codependent. Codependency is when we are psychologically dependent

on others. Our wellbeing or mood is unduly related to the behavior of others. We are like a puppet on a string. If others please us, we are up, if they displease us we are down. Codependents also tend to take things very personally.

This naturally creates trouble in friendships and relationships. It has been said that we create as much harm when we take offence as when we give offence. When we take offence we are judging another for not living up to our standards, or not meeting our needs.

It is not the responsibility of others to fill our emotional needs. The more we take responsibility for our own emotional fulfillment, the less upset we are with others and the less we try to control their behaviors.

When we are tempted to hold a grudge, it can be helpful to look at all the many ways the individual has shown their caring for us in the past, rather than focusing on the one that, to our mind at least, they missed.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning Psychotherapist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, cds or MP3's, visit www.gwen.ca

Lentil Soup with Bacon



Prep time: 5 minutes
 Cook time: 20 minutes
 Servings: 2
 2 slices bacon, diced
 1 medium red onion, diced
 1 large garlic clove, minced
 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
 1 can (15 ounces) lentils, drained
 1 can (14.5 ounces) Swanson Vegetable Broth
 1 can (14.5 ounces) Del Monte Diced

New Potatoes, drained
 1 can (14.5 ounces) Del Monte Sliced Carrots, drained
 1 can (8 ounces) Del Monte Cut Green Beans, drained

In medium saucepan over medium-high heat, cook bacon until crisp, about 5 minutes. Remove to paper towels to drain. Reserve.

In drippings remaining in skillet over medium heat, cook onion and garlic until tender, about 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add cumin; cook 1 minute.

Add lentils, vegetable broth, potatoes, carrots and green beans; over high heat, heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low; simmer 10 minutes uncovered to blend flavors, stirring occasionally.

To serve, sprinkle soup with reserved bacon.

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Fisher Branch and Peguis RCMP take down marijuana grow operation

Submitted

Fisher Branch and Peguis RCMP executed a Controlled Drug and Substances Act warrant on a rural residence in the RM of Fisher on Feb. 3.

When officers entered the house, they located 78 marijuana plants at various stages of growth. Nobody was inside the residence when police entered.

The grow operation has been dismantled. No arrests have been made at this time.

The investigation continues.

Those who produce and traffic illicit drugs destroy lives, homes and communities. The RCMP remains fully committed to enforcing laws against illicit drugs to their fullest extent.

Anyone with information is asked to contact their local police agency or call Manitoba Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477, submit a secure tip online at www.manitobacrimestoppers.com or text "TIPMAN" plus your message to CRIMES (274637).



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

RCMP located 78 marihuana plants in the RM of Fisher on Feb. 3.

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Suspension Problems In the Interlake?

Suspension is the system of tires, tire air, springs, shock absorbers and linkages that connects a vehicle to its wheels and allows relative motion between the two. Suspension systems serve a dual purpose — contributing to the vehicle's roadholding/handling and braking for good active safety and driving pleasure, and keeping vehicle occupants comfortable and a ride quality reasonably well isolated from road noise, bumps, vibrations, etc.

Said another way, the job of your suspension system is to maximize the friction of your tires to the road. If your suspension is failing, not only will you be in for a rough ride, but your safety is also compromised when you come across rough terrain at higher speeds.

Suspension systems should continue to operate effectively for many years and tens of thousands of kilometers, holding your tires' foot print on the road. Eventually components do wear out, but how long that takes depends a lot on how and where you drive. And different components wear at different rates, so it's important to familiarize yourself with all parts of your suspension system.

Wheel Bearings allow the wheel to spin freely, and bushings absorb vibrations, but your shocks take the main brunt of the effects of bumps in the road.

As you can imagine, if most of your driving is on smooth highways, your vehicle shock absorbers will last a lot longer than if you do most of your driving on bumpy Interlake roads or hauling heavy loads. In addition to just wearing out, upgraded shock suspension components can be damaged in an accident or by a hard impact — like a pothole, hitting a

curb or a rock in the road. Because the life span of shocks can vary so widely, your vehicle manufacturer recommends periodic inspections. The shock is designed with fluid and internal passages to control the movement of the wheel and dampen the spring, over time the fluid can leak, degrade or the valving can become damaged. Generally a shock and/or strut assembly requires changing every 80,000 km as they wear out internally. During a car inspection at your Independent Service provider, your technician will check for worn, broken or missing suspension parts. If the inspection

reveals any problems, take care of this important safety and handling work. When you replace your shocks, it's usually a good idea to replace all four at the same time. That'll give you even handling at all four corners of the vehicle. If you have special road handling needs like improved cornering or towing or hauling requirements in the Interlake, your Local Independent Service Provider can recommend an upgraded shock or strut to get you what you want. They'll also advocate for your warranty, and advise you of other items that may need to repair so you can make the most of your warranty.

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Trump travel ban worries Manitoba's Iranian community

By Lindsey Enns

Manitoba's Iranian community is still on edge following a federal appeals court refusal to reinstate U.S. President Donald Trump's ban on travellers from seven Muslim-majority countries.

"I'm still worried," said Majid Kermani, president of the Iranian Community of Manitoba. "I don't like conflict."

"We Iranian have had enough conflict."

Kermani, who is originally from Iran but currently lives and works in Selkirk, said there are roughly 2,000 to 3,000 Iranian people living in Manitoba.

He added Manitoba's Iranian community was "surprised" when they first learned Iran was part of Trump's travel ban.

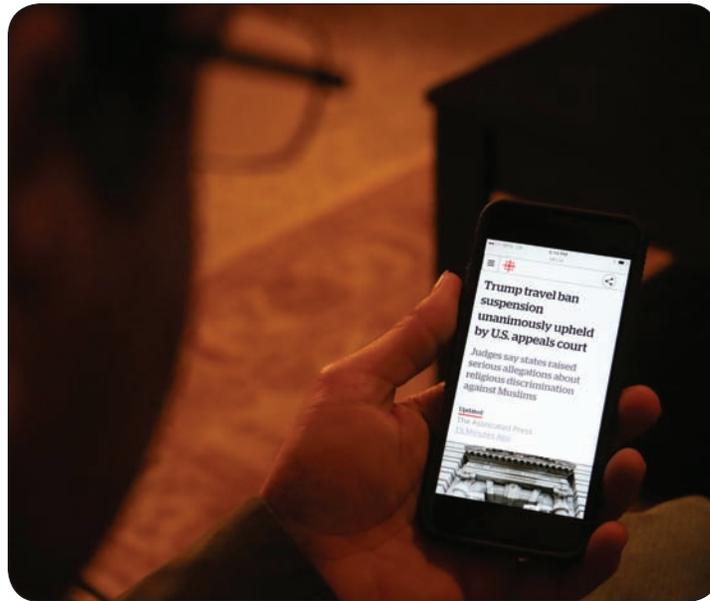
"They were surprised because most of them are here for a better life, for education, for having a good affect on society," he said, adding he still has family living in Iran and they were "very sad" to hear about the ban. "They couldn't come to visit us. It's an impact on their life, on our life and a bad impact on the businesses."

On Jan. 27, Trump signed an executive order on immigration immediately suspending entry of all refugees for 120 days and barring those fleeing Syria indefinitely.

The order also blocked entry into the U.S. for three months for citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Syria, Sudan and Yemen.

Last Thursday, a federal appeals court refused to reinstate Trump's travel ban, unanimously rejecting the administration's claim of presidential authority, questioning its motives and concluding that the order likely wouldn't survive legal challenges, according to U.S. media reports.

"I did some searching ... and there is no record that one citizen from those



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LINDSEY ENNS

Left photo: Majid Kermani of Selkirk reads a CBC News article on his phone about U.S. President Donald Trump's travel ban being upheld by the U.S. supreme court last Thursday evening. Kermani, who is the president of the Iranian Community of Manitoba, says the roughly 2,000 to 3,000 Iranian people living in Manitoba were "surprised" to learn that Iran was included in the travel ban. Right photo, pictured from left to right: Majid Kermani, his daughter Selina and his wife Rozita Mohammadi flip through one of their family albums last Thursday evening, looking at pictures taken in their home in Iran.

seven countries killed any American," Kermani said. "Why (Trump) called them terrorists, it doesn't make sense."

Although the appeals court has ruled Trump's travel ban can't be enforced, he has been very vocal about his intentions to continue the fight through further courts.

Trump's travel ban has also triggered dozens of refugees to cross the Emerson border into Manitoba by foot over the last few weeks.

Despite harsh winter temperatures, the small Manitoba town, located near the border with North Dakota, has seen an influx of refugees.

RCMP said they intercepted a total of 28 people trying to illegally cross the border at Emerson between last Friday and Monday. The year-to-date total for 2017 is 69.

All of the individuals were requested to make refugee claims and were

taken to the Canada Border Services Agency port at Emerson so they could do so.

Since April 2016, the Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council, Manitoba's largest refugee settlement agency, has opened 270 files and more than 30 files in January.

Kermani said those refugees are being forced to flee to Canada due to war and conflict in their countries but they aren't prepared when they get here.

"When I came to Canada, I was prepared to come and live in this country," he said. "I worked on my English, I had a higher education, I prepared myself mentally for this challenge."

"Immigration is always associated with some challenges, and those refugees that have to leave their countries, unfortunately, they are not prepared for this challenge."

Kermani added they are being

forced to start over in a new country with a new culture.

"They have to adapt ... and it's not easy," he said. "The best solution for these people is having peace in their countries."

Kermani moved to Quebec from Iran as a PhD student in 2004, and then he and his family moved to Ontario and later to Nova Scotia. His family has now called Selkirk home for more than four years.

Although it was a hard decision to move to Canada, Kermani said he did it so he could build a better future for his wife and their two children.

"Over here, I try to work with the Iranian community. I like being a part of this community," he said. "This openness of Canada is really appreciated by all Iranians," he said. "I would like to thank all Canadians for this open culture, this open country."

> CODE REQUIREMENTS, FROM PG. 15

- allowing flexibility in the direction of door swing to meet operational needs;
 - allowing flexibility in requirements related to covering foamed plastic insulation in high-humidity vegetable storage facilities such as potato storage sheds; and
 - adjusting emergency lighting requirements to be responsive to the needs of poultry and egg producers.
- "KAP is extremely pleased with

this announcement because it will result in a renewal of the livestock industry, allowing producers to build new barns and modernize existing ones," said Dan Mazier, Keystone Agricultural Producers president.

"We will now become more competitive with producers in other jurisdictions, where building costs for barns are lower because they don't have this excess regulation. We look

forward to working with the province, not only to reduce costs but also to ensure the safety of farmers, employees and animals."

As a result of this change, construction requirements for all buildings will be part of a single regulation, the minister said, adding this approach will also eliminate the need for government to update multiple regulations when new versions of the National Building Code are ad-

opted. The building code requirements will apply to all farm buildings over 600 square metres.

The Manitoba farm building code would be repealed once the new provisions for farm buildings come into effect, Eichler said.

Building codes and other related standards are overseen by Manitoba's Office of the Fire Commissioner. For more information, visit firecomm.gov.mb.ca.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Bonkowski wins silver at powerlifting competition

By Brian Bowman

Wyatt Bonkowski has not been in the sport of powerlifting very long.

But he powered his way to a silver medal in the 74 kg weight class in a recent competition at the Brickhouse Gym in Winnipeg.

Bonkowski, a Riverton product, lifted a total weight of 990 pounds. He squatted 362, deadlifted 402, and benched 226. A powerlifter's best lift in each category goes toward their final score.

"I didn't go there to win a medal," said the 5-foot-10 Bonkowski. "I just wanted to beat my personal scores and I was short by two or three pounds in all of them."

Bonkowski, 22, said it's very different lifting in a competition compared to working out in a gym. He started hitting the gym to train about seven months ago.

"You're tired because you're lifting all day," he said, noting it was his first ever powerlifting competition. "You don't really get much of a rest, so fatigue plays a big part."

Bonkowski said there were about "four or five" competitors in his junior division. One of those other competitors was Haiden Einarson, who is also from Riverton.

Einarson, who introduced Bonkowski to the sport, also lifted well at the competition. The pair has been helped out in powerlifting by Riverton's Kurt Kornelsen

Bonkowski, who has improved tremendously since he first took up the sport, said the competition was a fun one to be a part of. He worked out about six days a week leading up to the competition.

"I was pretty nervous going in," he admitted, noting technique is extremely important in the sport. "But it was an awesome atmosphere. You feel that everyone has your back and you're up there on the podium to lift and everyone's cheering you on."

"It's just a good atmosphere."

Bonkowski is hoping to participate in the Manitoba powerlifting provincials later this year.

"I'm not looking to place anywhere," he said. "But it will be a good experience."

The sport of powerlifting is starting to really gain popularity in Manitoba the last few years. "The sport has been around a while but lately, I think, it has had a big boom," Bonkowski said. "Even guys at the Manitoba powerlifting Association are saying it's really starting to grow."



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Riverton's Wyatt Bonkowski, left, and Haiden Einarson recently competed at a weightlifting competition in Winnipeg.

Lightning losing streak extended to 10 games

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning Midget Provincial hockey team's losing streak extended to 10 games after a pair of losses last weekend.

Interlake was edged 5-4 in a shootout by the Pembina Valley Hawks on Saturday evening in Teulon and then was defeated 6-1 by the Winnipeg Thrashers Sunday at Gateway Arena.

In Sunday's loss, Corbin Mariash scored the Lightning's lone goal on the power play in the second period, assisted by James Maxwell and Jack Einarson.

Winnipeg grabbed a 3-0 lead on first-period goals by Curtis Rebeck, Riley Johnson and Dylan Burton. Gabriel Comeau scored for the Thrashers in the second period and then Reid Robertson and Burton tallied in the third.

Riley Buhay made 46 saves in the loss.

On Saturday, Jayden McCarthy and Cade Kowalski scored for Pembina Valley in the shootout. Codey Behun replied for the Interlake.

In regulation time, the Lightning's Bryce Krauter, Maxwell and Einarson scored in the second period to erase a 2-0 deficit.

Behun then tallied at 13:05 of the third to tie the score at 4-4.

Wyatt Cobb, Garrett Szeremly, Everett Bestland, and Elijah Carels scored for the Hawks. Buhay stopped 47 Pembina Valley shots.

Interlake (9-28-0-0-4) hosted Eastman last night and then will visit Kenora to play the Thistles twice this weekend to end its regular season.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Jack Einarson scored in the second period Saturday night to help the Lightning erase a 2-0 deficit against Pembina Valley. Interlake later lost 5-4 in a shootout.

sports & recreation

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Ice Dawgs dump Fishermen

By Brian Bowman

The Arborg Ice Dawgs continue to pile up the victories.

Arborg won its fifth game out of its past six after a solid 4-1 win over the Selkirk Fishermen on Saturday evening.

After a scoreless first period, Karson Collins tallied midway in the second period. The score stayed that way until 13:21 of the third period when Selkirk's Mike Smiley tied the score at 1-1.

The Ice Dawgs' quickly answered just 21 seconds later, though, when Mitch Lameroux gave Arborg the lead for good. Colton Davies struck on the power play just 1:24 later and then Spencer Kilbrei added an insurance marker with 2:39 remaining.

Dylan Ossachuk made 32 saves for the win. He is now 11-5 with a 3.21 goals-against average and .922 save percentage.

Shutting down the Storm

On Friday, Ryan Pochailo scored the game winner in overtime to lift the Ice Dawgs to a 5-4 home victory over the OCN Storm.

Spencer Kilbrei, Karson Collins, Derric Gulay and Davies scored Arborg's other goals. Harold Linklater, Devon Tobacco, Tony Apetagon and Camacho Lathlin replied for OCN.

Ossachuk made 51 saves for the well-deserved win.

Arborg (22-10) now has 44 points to sit in sole possession of second place in the Central Division standings.

The Ice Dawgs will wrap up regular-season play with a pair of games this weekend. Arborg will host Fisher River on Friday (8:15 p.m.) and then will battle the Falcons in Lundar on Saturday (8 p.m.).

Lundar was also in action last weekend, losing 6-1 to the St. Malo Warriors on Saturday.

Eric Miller scored an unassisted goal in the first period for Lundar.

Riley Hunter (two), Kyle Fortin, Jared Magne, Dustin Wiebe and Shaquille Houle replied for St. Malo.

Lundar will be very busy this weekend with three games. Besides the Arborg matchup, the Falcons will host North Winnipeg on Friday (8 p.m.) and then will travel to St. Malo Sunday for a 4 p.m. game.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Ice Dawgs' Spencer Kilbrei added an insurance marker in Arborg's 4-1 victory over the Fishermen Saturday evening.

Female Midget action



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's Denali Sigurdson protects the puck along the boards during Interlake's 3-0 loss to the top seeded Westman Wildcats last Saturday in MFMHL action.

Bantam weekend action



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ANNALIESE MEIER

Peguis' Colby Bear, 9, scored for the Lightning in their 7-5 loss to the Wolves on Feb. 12. Interlake also played the Wolves on Saturday and lost 3-2. The Lightning will host the Brandon Wheat Kings at the VMSC this Saturday at 8 p.m.

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Local curlers very competitive at Viterra Championship

By Brian Bowman

Mike McEwen's Fort Rouge rink is headed to the Brier once again.

The defending-provincial champion edged West St. Paul's Reid Carruthers 8-7 in the Viterra Championship on Sunday in Portage la Prairie.

Trailing 5-4, the turning point in the final came in the eighth end when McEwen scored four to take an 8-5 lead. He then held Carruthers to singles in the ninth and 10th ends.

McEwen reached the final after downing Granite's Trevor Loreth 8-2 earlier Sunday. It was McEwen's fourth consecutive year playing in the Manitoba final.

Carruthers, meanwhile, won six consecutive games, including a huge 4-2 victory Saturday over McEwen, to earn a berth into the final.

McEwen's rink, which includes third B.J. Neufeld, second Matt Wozniak, and lead Denni Neufeld, will now compete at the nationals in St. John's, Nfld. from March 4-12.

Meanwhile, the Arborg Curling Club's Kyle Foster opened action Feb. 8 with a 7-4 loss to Fort Rouge's Sean Grassie. The game was tied 4-4 after eight ends before Grassie scored one in the ninth and then added a steal of

two in the 10th.

Foster rebounded nicely from that loss to double Fort Rouge's Howard Restall 8-4 the following morning. Tied at 3-3 after five ends, Foster scored once in the sixth and then added key steals of two in the next two ends.

Foster, whose rink includes third Shawn Magnusson, second Bryan Galbraith, lead Justin Reischek, and fifth Kyle Einarson, then outscored Fort Rouge's Hayden Forrester 7-5. Foster trailed 5-3 after seven ends but fought back with a pair in the eighth and steals of one in the ninth and 10th ends.

But Foster's run at the provincials would end last Friday with an 8-4 loss to Granite's Jason Gunnlaugson.

Gunnlaugson, whose rink included Sandy Hook's Colton Lott at third, grabbed a 5-1 lead after just three ends to cruise to the victory.

Gunnlaugson would then defeat Grassie 5-3, Assiniboine Memorial's David Bohn 7-5, and Deer Lodge's Matt Dunstone 5-3.

His run at the provincials ended Saturday evening, however, with an 8-3 loss to Loreth.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Sandy Hook's Colton Lott releases a stone at the Viterra Men's Curling Provincials last Saturday.

Ice post 2-2 record at Bantam 'AAA' Showcase

Staff

The Interlake Ice finished with a 2-2 record at a Hockey Manitoba Bantam "AAA" Showcase last weekend in Pilot Mound.

Interlake started the tournament Friday with a 4-1 win over Norman. The Lightning, which held period leads of 2-0 and 3-1, received goals from Ellen Marshall, Brenna Barylski, Jorja Wheddon, and Megan Humeniuk.

Kennedy Cummings replied for Norman. Dana Beck posted the win in goal.

Interlake then improved its record to 2-0 after a solid 4-0 shutout over the Yellowhead Chiefs. The Lightning scored twice in the first period and then added a pair of insurance markers in the third.

Barylski (two), Emma Pool and Wheddon scored in the win. Jaylynn Miller earned the shutout.

Interlake then saw its offence suddenly dry up with a 4-0 loss to the Eastman Selects on Saturday and a 3-0 defeat to Pembina Valley on Sunday.

Interlake posted a 5-5 record in three separate showcase tournaments this season. The other two showcase events were held in October and December.

In league play, the Ice has a 4-17-0-3 record and 11 points to sit in eighth place in the nine-team league heading into this week's action.

Interlake played St. Norbert on Monday evening but no score was available. The Ice will then play the Rangers Saturday (7:30 p.m.) at Eric Coy Arena.

Interlake will host the Titans on Sunday (5:30 p.m.) and the Predators Monday (7:15 p.m.). Both games will be played in Stonewall.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATTI HACAULT

Ice goaltender Jaylynn Miller watches as teammate Jacey Ledochowski defends the zone during Interlake's 4-0 win over Yellowhead.

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Eriksdale School wins divisional basketball tournament

By Jeff Ward

The Eriksdale Middle Years boys' and girls' basketball teams won their respective divisions at their home tournament last Friday.

The annual tournament is one of several tournaments held in the Interlake each year. Organized by physical education teacher Brad Drews, the basketball tournament featured the talents of Lakeshore School Division schools including Ashern, Lundar, Eriksdale, Inwood and Moosehorn. Out-of-division teams from Arborg and St. Laurent also took part in the tournament.

The tournament featured eight boys' and eight girls' teams playing three 11-minute games over the course of the day. But it came down to a battle

between Arborg Collegiate and Eriksdale School for both the boys' and girls' championships.

"The unfortunate part was that Arborg had to leave before the girls game was finished," said Drews.

"It happens sometimes because the buses have to run on a schedule and they couldn't wait. So in that case, the Eriksdale girls' team is technically the winner. I've been on the other side of that before when we had to leave a championship game."

Drews said the game was a close contest, and when Arborg had to leave, there was no way to tell who was going to win the game. He said a car accident on Highway 68 prevented the students from arriving on time.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Eriksdale boys' and girls' basketball team pose for a photo after coming out on top in last week's tournament. Pictured, back row, left to right: Andrew Mason, Dawson Monkman, Zac Halldorson, Devon Torgerson, Austin Magnusson; front row: Makayla Goodman, Brooklyn Wirgau and Emma Pool.

Juniors end regular season on winning note

By Brian Bowman

The Peguis Juniors were a very busy hockey team last week to end their Keystone Junior Hockey League regular season.

They were also a very successful one.

Peguis closed out its regular season with three straight victories to finish with a 23-10-0-1 record and 47 points. The Juniors are currently in first place in the Central Division standings, three points ahead of the Arborg Ice Dawgs.

The Ice Dawgs still have two more games to play, though, in its regular season.

Peguis wrapped up its regular season with a 5-4 win over the Cross Lake Islanders.

Keifer Tacan led Peguis with three goals while Colby Choken and Waylon Neault added singles.

Dray Flett made 55 saves for the win.

On Saturday, Peguis pounded Norway House 8-2 as Quinton Flett and Waylon Neault each scored twice. Christian Cochrane, Joshua Spence, Devon Garson and Dylan Stevenson also scored for the Juniors.

Last Thursday, Peguis outscored the Fisher River Hawks 11-5.

Flett had a monster game with six

goals and an assist while Romano Paul, Tye Turner, Neault, Devon Garson and Storm Swan also tallied.

Neault, Garson and Cochrane each finished the game with four assists.

Evan Thickfoot (two), Joshua Beaulieu (two) and Audy Penner replied for Fisher River.

The Hawks also hosted the Selkirk Fishermen on Sunday, losing 22-0.

Selkirk scored nine times in the first period, added three more in the second, and then closed out the game with 10 third-period goals.

The Fishermen outshot the Hawks 80-28 as Travis Schalk earned the shutout.

Milan Horanski led Selkirk with four goals, followed by Harley Hoyaldo (three), Auzzie Loewen (three), Mike Smiley (two), Kale Ilchena (two), Dylan Painchaud-Niemi (two), Drayton Mendrun (two), Jeremy Thomas, Bronson Kelly, Sean Loutit and Dane Derewianchuk.

Horanski finished the game with nine points while Mendrun had eight.

On Feb. 7, the Hawks were defeated 5-2 by the North Winnipeg Satellites.

Joshua Beaulieu and Dalton Woodhouse scored second-period goals for the Hawks. Glen Paupanekis (three),

Parker Cassie and Braden Zamrykut tallied for North Winnipeg.

Fisher River will wrap up its regular season with a road game at Arborg

on Friday (8:15 p.m.) and then a home game against Cross Lake on Saturday (7:30 p.m.).

Manitoba Hockey Standings

MANITOBA JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE							Central Plains										
GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA				
Steinbach Pistons	50	42	7	1	85	220	98	Eastman	41	23	15	2	49	142	116		
Winkler Flyers	53	37	13	3	77	198	132	Parkland	41	16	21	1	36	140	183		
Selkirk Steelers	55	36	16	3	75	195	160	Southwest	41	15	23	2	33	116	164		
OCN Blizzard	52	33	16	3	69	169	138	Kenora	42	14	24	0	32	113	190		
Portage Terriers	51	32	16	3	67	216	162	Interlake	41	9	28	0	22	105	204		
Winnipeg Blues	53	25	23	5	55	179	183	Norman	42	7	34	0	15	107	272		
Swan Valley Stampeders	51	18	30	3	39	141	203	AAA CITY MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE									
Dauphin Kings	53	15	33	5	35	125	196	Winnipeg Monarchs	33	29	4	0	58	205	104		
Neepawa Natives	50	14	31	5	33	134	197	Winnipeg Sharks	32	22	9	1	45	144	98		
Waywayseccappo Wolverines	50	11	35	4	26	147	227	Winnipeg Warriors	34	20	12	1	42	173	142		
KEYSTONE HOCKEY LEAGUE							Winnipeg Hawks	34	13	16	3	31	129	137			
Central Division			GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	Eastman Selects	32	9	18	4	23	110	138
Peguis Juniors	34	23	10	1	47	248	164	Interlake Lightning	33	4	29	0	8	77	219		
Arborg Ice Dawgs	32	22	10	0	44	189	111	AAA BANTAM HOCKEY LEAGUE									
Fisher River Hawks	32	8	23	1	17	170	297	Winnipeg Monarchs	32	26	5	1	53	201	45		
South Division			GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	Winnipeg Hawks	31	24	4	1	51	193	86
St. Malo Warriors	31	23	7	1	47	221	119	Winnipeg Warriors	31	16	12	2	35	118	92		
Selkirk Fishermen	32	22	10	0	44	192	76	Eastman Selects	32	17	15	0	34	144	117		
North Winnipeg Satellites	31	14	16	1	29	138	149	Winnipeg Sharks	31	10	19	1	22	71	120		
Lundar Falcons	31	8	22	1	17	110	168	MANITOBA FEMALE MIDGET AAA HOCKEY LEAGUE									
North Division			GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	Westman Wildcats	28	23	2	-	2	1	51
OCN Storm	32	21	9	2	44	291	197	PV Hawks	28	19	6	-	1	2	42		
Cross Lake Islanders	32	17	14	1	35	188	173	Winnipeg Avros	28	16	8	-	4	-	40		
Norway House North Stars	33	2	31	0	4	90	383	Yellowhead Chiefs	28	18	9	-	1	-	38		
AAA MIDGET HOCKEY LEAGUE			GP	W	L	OTL	PTS	GF	GA	Eastman Selects	28	11	11	-	2	4	30
Wild	42	34	5	0	71	222	77	Norman Wild	28	7	18	-	2	1	19		
Yellowhead	41	28	5	2	64	183	111	Central Plains	28	6	19	-	-	3	15		
Thrashers	42	26	12	1	56	188	110	Interlake Lightning	28	-	25	-	1	2	4		
Pembina Valley	41	27	13	0	55	163	122	STATS AS OF TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14									
Brandon	42	25	15	1	52	164	124										

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MJHL Steelers to stay in Selkirk next season

By Brian Bowman

Social media was buzzing recently after a tweet was sent out saying that the Selkirk Steelers were finalizing details for a move to Beausejour next season.

But Steelers' director of hockey operations and general manager Ken Petrash was quick to refute the rumour on social media last week that the Steelers were moving to Beausejour.

Still, Petrash said he and the owners are not very pleased with the fan support the team has received this year. The same could be said for the past few seasons.

"The fan support makes it tougher and tougher to keep the team in town," Petrash said candidly on Jan. 31. "The guys that are in there now, Jordan (Fillion) and Darren (Piwniuk), are looking at this and asking, 'What do we have to do to get people out (at Steeler) home games.'"

Petrash remembers having a crowd of about 1,000 on a Friday night back in 2010. This year's attendance for a weekend game is nowhere near that figure.

Petrash estimated that number is around 400

this season, despite having ticket prices below the MJHL average.

That, combined with the high costs of running an MJHL franchise, makes it very, very difficult to survive.

"The local community, the fan in town, there's enough people in town (to support the team)," Petrash said.

The Steelers' GM admitted that the owners have looked at different options for their hockey club. One change would rebrand the team as the Interlake Steelers and have games played in various rinks in the region.

Another idea to increase revenue would involve adding beer sales at Steeler home games.

The City of Selkirk did not grant the Steelers a liquor license a few years ago when Selkirk made the request. Selkirk Mayor Larry Johannson said the Steelers would have to send the city a formal application, once again, requesting a license to sell beer at their home games.

Several other MJHL teams have had beer sales at their games for years.

"It's something that you add on to the entertain-

ment value, especially the 20 to 30 (age bracket)," Petrash said.

"We don't want the Selkirk Steelers to leave and then have people say, 'Oh, we could have saved this thing.'"

MJHL commissioner Kim Davis said that any team looking to move would have to get approval from the league's board of governors.

"At this time, nobody has made that request of our league board," said Davis. "In that context, there is nothing to this story."

Johannson said the Steelers are, and have always been, an integral part of the community. Selkirk is a hockey town, said the Mayor, but he wondered aloud how stable some of the teams are in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League.

"This is the Steelers' 50th year and, I think, a strong franchise," said Johannson.

"They have had strong teams over the years and Selkirk has a strong hockey history with the Junior 'A' and Junior 'B' teams."

Fillion and Piwniuk could not be reached for comment at press time.

Sport Manitoba reduces its regional boundaries from seven to five

Submitted by Sport Manitoba

To provide the best services possible to Manitobans, Sport Manitoba has restructured the provincial regional zones it recognizes and their boundaries.

The previous seven regions (Norman, Parkland, Interlake, Eastman, Westman, Central and Winnipeg) are now divided into five regions (North, East, South, West and Winnipeg).

In a continued effort to lead and support participation and achievement in sport by all Manitobans, Sport Manitoba began an extensive review back in early 2014 of sport programs and services in rural Manitoba. A crucial component of the review was information from key community stakeholders throughout Manitoba's six rural regions.

Based on feedback from the review, Sport Manitoba evaluated its regional staffing structure to better meet the needs of regional sport development. It was clear that more direct programming for coaches and athletes was the biggest area of support review participants suggested.

"We executed a significant review of the services and programs we were delivering in rural Manitoba," said Laurel Read, Sport Manitoba's interim CEO. "Given the results of our rural review, we reorganized our staffing structure in 2014.

"Based on the rural review, Sport Manitoba created new regional positions called Coach & Athlete Development Coordinators," she continued.

"Sport Manitoba restructured regional boundaries to allow for the addition of new regional staff servicing athletes and coaches specifically. This led to the creation of new regional boundaries which are now being implemented."

The new regions recognized by Sport Manitoba are divided as follows:

East Region

Shannon Schade, Regional Sport Development Officer

Coach & Athlete Development Coordinator - position posted

The East Region is now defined as the former Interlake region and part of the former Eastman region that is north of Highway 1.

West Region

Megan Foster, Regional Sport Development Officer

Brittany Bruinooge, Coach and Athlete Development Officer

The West Region amalgamates the Westman and Parkland regions with the following amendments:

- Westlake-Gladstone and Glenella-Lansdowne has been removed from the Central Region and added to the new West Region.
- Argyle has been removed from Westman and added to the South Region.

South Region

Leanne Traynor, Regional Sport Development Officer

Jacqueline Mazur, Coach and Athlete Development Coordinator

The South Region assumes the Central Region boundaries with the following amendments:

- Westlake-Gladstone and Glenella-Lansdowne has been removed from our old Central boundary and added to new West Region.
- South gains the section of Eastman south of the Highway 1, extending to the Ontario border.
- Argyle has been removed from Westman and added to the South.

North Region

Iris Murray, Regional Sport Development Officer
Coach & Athlete Development Coordinator - position hired next fiscal year

The North Region assumes the previous Norman regional boundaries; 53rd parallel and north (no boundary changes).

Winnipeg Region

Amanda Daurie, Regional Sport Development Officer

The Winnipeg Region remains the same as the previous Winnipeg regional boundaries (No boundary changes, city of Winnipeg limits, not Perimeter Highway).

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RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF FISHER PUBLIC NOTICE

Municipal Auditor Report

Public Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, that the Report of the Municipal Auditor and related Financial Statements for the year 2014 have been deposited in the office of The Rural Municipality of Fisher, at 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba and are available for inspection by any person, or his/her agent, during regular office hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Any person or his/her agent may, at his own expense, make a copy thereof or extracts therefrom.

Dated at Fisher Branch, Manitoba this 1st day of February, 2017.

Shannon Pyziak
Reeve
Rural Municipality of Fisher



The College of Licensed Practical Nurses is seeking public representatives to serve on various committees. An honorarium is paid for all committee meetings. Experience in education, law, or accounting is beneficial but not required. Please submit your resume to:

College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba
463 St. Anne's Road
Winnipeg, MB, R2M 3C9
Or via e-mail to: president@clpnm.ca

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

INTERLAKE CATTLEMAN'S CO-OP (Ashern Auction Mart)

Part Time Position

The desired applicant will perform a variety of administrative and clerical work to help in the selling of cattle at the Ashern Auction Mart.

Job Description:

- Administrative - Data entry, Coordinating producer reports, Government filings, keeping financial records
- Operate standard office equipment
- Customer service

The applicant should possess the following skills:

- A self-motivated individual, with the ability to work with minimal supervision
- Have excellent oral and written communication skills
- The ability to perform varied and multiple tasks within deadlines.
- Computer skills required
- Public Speaking
- Dedicated team player

Hours & Wages negotiable

For more information contact Kirk Kiesman 204-768-0019 Submit detailed resume on or before

February 17, 2017

Interlake Cattleman's Co-op
PO Box 599, Ashern, MB R0C 0E0.
Email: icca@mymts.net or Fax: 768-3690



LAKESHORE SCHOOL DIVISION

VISION and VOICE Divisional Ratepayers Public Meeting

- Budget Information
- 2017 - 2018 Planning

Division Office
Eriksdale, MB
February 28, 2017
Starting at 2:00 p.m.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PLANT MAINTENANCE WORKER

Johnson Seeds is seeking an ambitious, self-motivated individual for the permanent full-time position of Plant Maintenance Worker.

Duties include daily maintenance and repairs of plant equipment and other general repairs. The successful applicant must have good mechanical skills and a valid drivers licence. Basic electrical skills would be an asset.

We offer a competitive wage commensurate with qualifications, and a benefits package.

Please send applications to:

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

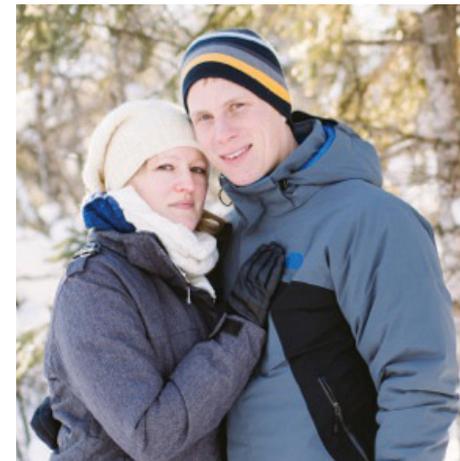
CARD OF THANKS

A sincere thank you to everyone for their kindnesses during the recent passing of Iris (Byron) Desjarlais. Thank you for the many cards, the meals, baking, flowers, phone calls and visits. Thank you also to Zac Dixon and to all those who attended Iris' memorial. We much appreciate all the support shown to us.

-Kay Byron and family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENGAGEMENT



Mueller - Gulay

Angela Mueller and Thomas Falkenberg along with Ivan and Brenda Gulay are very pleased to announce the engagement of their children Ingen and Brett. A community shower will be held March 11, 2017 and social to follow in the evening at the Arborg Community Hall. An August wedding is planned.

Remember Your Loved Ones

with an Announcement in the



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OBITUARY

Mike Meleshko



It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of our uncle at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre on Friday, February 10, 2017.

Mike was born on November 27, 1930 at Poplarfield, MB. He lived and farmed at the family homestead until his retirement. Left to mourn are his numerous nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Maria and Fred Meleshko; his sisters, Anne Fudali, Mary Kolotylo, Olga Sosnowich, Jean Pelrine, Kay Melesko, and Nancy Liebhart; and brothers, Nick, Peter and Harry Meleshko.

Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 16, 2017 at the Sacred Heart of Jesus Ukrainian Catholic Church with Rev. Harry Chuckry officiating. Interment to follow at the Hamerlik Cemetery in Hamerlik, MB. Pallbearers will be David Blackmore, Darrin Fudali, Taras Meleshko, Dennis Paulin, Phil Riley, and Greg Ewechuk.

The family wishes to express sincere gratitude to Mike's many physicians, to the staff at the Arborg and District Personal Care Home and the Selkirk Mental Health Centre for the care provided.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Arborg Personal Care Home at Box 10, Arborg, MB.

Mackenzie Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Mackenzie Funeral Home
Arborg
1-800-467-0024
info@mackenziefh.com



Instructor - Health Care Aide Certificate Program

Located in Arborg MB Interlake Campus- Approximately 120km from Winnipeg
Part Time Term Position(s) – Starting February 27, 2017

This competition will be used to establish an eligibility list of qualified candidates for future vacancies.

Applicants are to clearly demonstrate how they satisfy the selection criteria in their written submissions and must identify the competition number they are applying for in the subject line of the email.

Red River College is a leader in applied learning and innovation. Our talented team of employees is passionate about education, innovation and student success. We offer competitive salaries, extensive benefits, and the opportunity for personal and professional growth in a rewarding career.

Duties: Red River College, Interlake Campus (Arborg) require instructor(s) for teaching, supervision and guidance of students in both classroom and practicum settings. This will include; maintaining student records, student evaluation, development and adherence to the delivery schedule within an allocated time, attendance at scheduled meetings, ensuring curriculum content is consistent with parent program and other professional duties related to instruction.

Qualifications:

Required:

- Registered Nurse designation, license in good standing within Manitoba
- Work experience in a nursing capacity
- Experience providing presentations in a group setting
- Demonstrated verbal communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills (focus on holistic care and meeting the needs of at risk patients)
- Excellent conflict resolution skills
- Values Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Commitment to lifelong learning

Assets:

- Experience instructing at a post-secondary level
- Experience training others in health related topics

Conditions of Employment:

- This position may be required to work evenings
- Candidates must be legally entitled to work in Canada
- Satisfactory Criminal Records Check and Adult Abuse Registry Check
- Valid Driver's license
- Travel within Manitoba may be required

We seek diversity in our workplace. Aboriginal persons, women, visible minorities and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Competition Number: 2017-010
Closing Date: February 21, 2017
Salary Range: \$30.52 – \$45.33 per hour

*The successful candidate with a Masters or PhD in a related field will receive an Educational Supplement of \$2,725 or \$5,450 per annum respectively pro-rated on an hourly basis.

Apply to: Red River College by e-mail at humanresources@rrc.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Red River College provides accommodations to applicants with disabilities throughout the hiring process. If an applicant requires an accommodation during the application or selection process, Human Resources will work with the applicant to meet the accommodation needs.

For more information and other employment opportunities, visit <http://blogs.rrc.ca/hr>.

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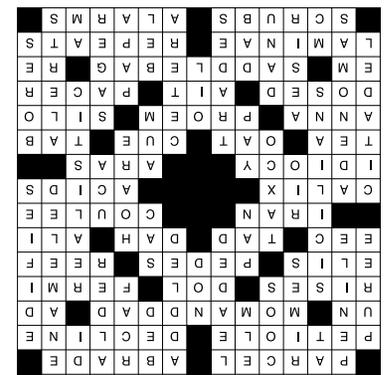
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Crossword Answer



Instructor, Carpentry - Term Position Peguis Fisher River Campus (Fisher River)

"This competition will be used to establish an eligibility list of qualified candidates for future vacancies."

Applicants are to clearly demonstrate how they satisfy the selection criteria in their written submissions and must identify the competition number they are applying for in the subject line of the email.

Red River College is a leader in applied learning and innovation. Our talented team of employees is passionate about education, innovation and student success. We offer competitive salaries, extensive benefits, and the opportunity for personal and professional growth in a rewarding career.

Duties: Instruct both the theoretical and practical aspects of carpentry in the Carpentry Certificate program. Topics include hand tools, machines, concrete, framing, stairs, finishing, surveying, blueprint reading, drafting and the Canadian Building Code. Duties include: safe supervision and guidance of students, maintaining student records, student evaluation, development and adherence to the delivery schedule within an allocated time, attendance at scheduled meetings, ensuring curriculum content is consistent with parent program, maintain lab and classroom setup, plan for material and supply needs and other professional duties related to instruction.

Qualifications:

Required:

- Valid Inter-Provincial Journeyman's Certificate in Carpentry
- Significant, current and related industry experience in the commercial and/or residential aspects of the trade
- Experience using a variety of hand tools and machines
- Experience reading blueprints
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Effective Interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated leadership skills
- Ability to work independently as well as in small to large group settings
- Ability to use conflict resolution techniques to facilitate positive outcomes
- Ability to present material to diverse groups with the use of appropriate technology
- Ability to demonstrate values of Red River College: Learning, Respect, Inclusiveness, Integrity, Healthy Environment and Contribution to Community
- Values Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Commitment to lifelong learning

Assets:

- Experience with the application of the Canadian Building Code
- Curriculum development experience
- Experience teaching adults
- A network of contacts within industry
- Proficiency with MS office software (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)

Conditions of Employment:

- Candidates must be legally entitled to work in Canada
- This position may be subject to audiometric assessments

We seek diversity in our workplace. Aboriginal persons, women, visible minorities and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Competition Number: 2017-014
Closing Date: February 24, 2017
Salary Range: \$30.52 – \$45.33 per hour

*The successful candidate with a Masters or PhD in a related field will receive an Educational Supplement of \$2,725 or \$5,450 per annum respectively pro-rated on an hourly basis.

Apply to: Red River College by e-mail at humanresources@rrc.ca
We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Red River College provides accommodations to applicants with disabilities throughout the hiring process. If an applicant requires an accommodation during the application or selection process, Human Resources will work with the applicant to meet the accommodation needs.

For more information and other employment opportunities, visit <http://blog.rrc.ca/hr>



Administrative/Customer Service Clerk Part Time Position Interlake Regional Campus (Selkirk, Manitoba)

This competition may be used to establish an eligibility list of qualified candidates for future, term, part-time or regular vacancies. *Applicants are to clearly demonstrate how they satisfy the selection criteria in their written submissions.*

Applicants must identify the competition number they are applying for in the subject line of the email.

Red River College is a leader in applied learning and innovation. Our talented team of employees is passionate about education, innovation and student success. We offer competitive salaries, extensive benefits, and the opportunity for personal and professional growth in a rewarding career.

Duties: Reporting to the Manager of the Interlake Campus, the main responsibility will be to provide prompt, friendly, professional, efficient customer service both in person and over the phone and via email. Responsibilities include but are not limited to; providing general information and respond to enquiries from prospective students, existing students, staff and general public to assist them in meeting their career/educational goals. Determining student needs and refer them to appropriate resources when necessary, to provide routes or pathways to help students achieve their career/educational goals. Processing program applications, course registrations, accurately inputting data and sending out appropriate correspondence in a timely and professional manner. Calculating and processing simple and complicated financial transactions including tuition, test services and application fees. Producing transcripts, confirmation of enrollment and other various reports and forms. Assisting student with online account related issues (password reset, account creation, procedures, etc.). Work hours will include day and evening coverage.

Qualifications:

Required:

- Education in office administration or business; an equivalent combination of training and experience will be considered
- Extensive front line customer service experience
- Extensive experience and proficiency with MS Office Applications (e.g., MS Word, Excel, and Outlook)
- Experience working with confidential records and knowledge of Freedom of Information Personal Protection Act (FIPPA)
- Experience providing courteous customer service to diverse groups (with flexibility in adapting to the needs of a customer service driven environment)
- Effective written communication skills
- Demonstrated verbal communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills (with both internal and external collaterals)
- Excellent organizational and multi-tasking skills
- Ability to recall vast amounts of information, policies, and procedures
- Ability to work independently with little supervision
- Ability to prioritize work, meet deadlines and work under pressure
- Values Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Commitment to lifelong learning

Assets:

- Experience using the College's information systems (Colleague and Recruiter)

Conditions of Employment

- Candidates must be legally entitled to work in Canada
- This position may be required to work evenings.

We seek diversity in our workplace. Aboriginal persons, women, visible minorities and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Competition Number: 2017-009
Closing Date: February 21, 2017
Salary Range: \$20.50 - \$28.06 per hour

Apply to: Red River College e-mail: humanresources@rrc.ca

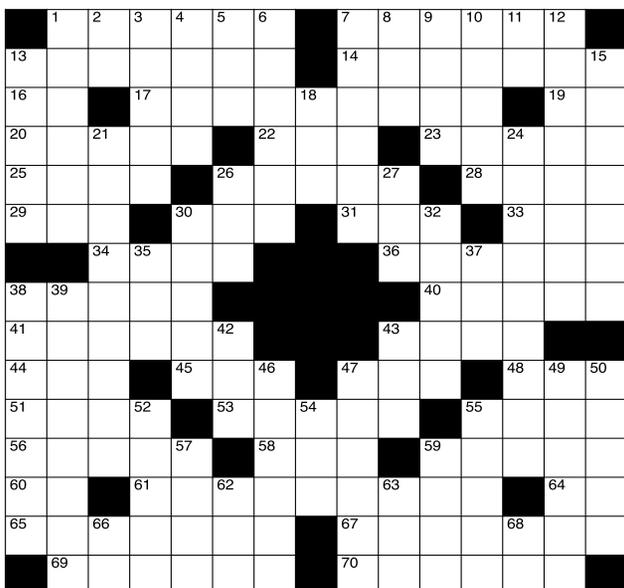
We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Red River College provides accommodations to applicants with disabilities throughout the hiring process. If an applicant requires an accommodation during the application or selection process, Human Resources will work with the applicant to meet the accommodation needs.

For more information and other employment opportunities, visit <http://blogs.rrc.ca/hr>

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Package
7. Wear away
13. Joins a leaf to a stem
14. Worsen
16. Promotes international cooperation (abbr.)
17. Your folks
19. Publicity
20. Moves up
22. Dept. of Labor
23. Physicist Enrico
25. Whitney and Manning are two
26. Human foot (pl.)
28. Coral is an example
29. Extended error correction
30. Small amount
31. Dash
33. The greatest of all time
34. Middle Eastern country
36. Ravine
38. Cup-like cavity
40. Chemical substances
41. Extremely stupid behavior
43. He built Arantea
44. Beverage beloved by Brits
45. Cereal plant
47. Signal
48. A bar bill
51. Comedienne Faris
53. Preface to a book
55. Stores grain
56. In a way, medicated
58. Small island (British)
59. An Indiana-based hoopster
60. Measures width of printed matter
61. Riders use this to transport goods
64. Once more
65. Thin layers
67. Says again
69. Cleans thoroughly
70. Warnings



4. Makes a soft murmuring sound
5. Wood
6. Type of fuel
7. Confused
8. Where you go at night
9. Canadian flyers
10. Type of birch tree
11. Beloved Welsh princess
12. Coated
13. Smooth substance of crushed fruit
15. Improves intellectually
18. A sign of assent
21. Island-based Italians
24. Pragmatic
26. Peter's last name
27. A bag-like structure in a plant or animal
30. Mexican city
32. Sir Samuel ___, Brit. statesman
35. Summer Olympics were just here
37. Fiddler crabs
38. Southern military academy
39. Tumors
42. Speaks incessantly
43. Sacred sound in Indian religions
46. Transactions
47. Et-__
49. Reminders
50. Doesn't interest
52. Norse gods
54. Canola is one type
55. Beloved sportscaster Craig
57. Irish mother goddess
59. Daddy
62. Press against lightly
63. Sound unit
66. Master of Ceremonies
68. Morning

CLUES DOWN

1. Relating to male organ
2. Indicates position
3. Covers with frost

REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER

Are you a natural born storyteller with an eye for photography and interest in social media?

The Selkirk Record is currently seeking a full time Reporter/Photographer to join its multi-award winning weekly community newspaper with an average circulation of 16,500 copies.

We are looking for someone who is both motivated and passionate about being the best outlet of interesting and breaking news stories in Selkirk and surrounding areas.

The successful candidate must be able to track down breaking news and dig for original story and creative feature ideas that keep the communities we cover informed.

Qualifications:

- A post-secondary degree/diploma in journalism or equivalent experience in a related field
- Self-starter with the ability to exercise solid news judgement
- Active on social media and familiar with Canadian Press style
- Ability to establish professional relationships to consistently source and write a wide range of stories and cover events in a fair, balanced and accurate manner
- Able to work both independently and as a team on a flexible work schedule including both evenings and weekends to meet our weekly editorial deadline
- Exceptional organizational, written and verbal skills is imperative
- Knowledge about Selkirk and its surrounding communities would be an asset

Please forward your resumé, writing and photography samples to:

Lindsey Enns

Editor, The Selkirk Record

Email: news@selkirkrecord.ca

Deadline to apply is Monday, February 27.



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