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Team spirit

EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRENNAL MALCOLM

Skaters of all ages enjoyed an outdoor hockey game at Lundar's Winter Family Fun Day, hosted by the RM of Coldwell Recreation and the Lundar Metis Local in honour of Louis Riel Day this past Monday.

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Ukrainian singing sensation and a nuclear scientist among newcomers to Gimli

By Patricia Barrett

After living through the Russian invasion and destruction of much of their homeland and making the difficult decision to emigrate to Canada, two Ukrainian newcomers who've chosen to live in Gimli are weighing their options for the future.

Diana Diakiv is a 17-year-old singing sensation who has appeared in televised talent shows in Ukraine and has sung for European royalty. Dmytro Veremenko is a geologist who was among a team of nuclear scientists monitoring radiation levels at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant when Russian troops crossed the border from Belarus and took control of the plant and its radiation exclusion zone.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine will be entering its third year in a few days, and organizations in Gimli that are helping support the Ukrainians are expecting even more people to leave the shattered country and come to Manitoba.

Diakiv left Ukraine in 2023 with her mother, who's a doctor, and her brother. Veremenko went to Iceland in 2023 before coming to Canada. They've found jobs and housing at the municipality's dormitory, where 55 newcomers — mostly Ukrainians — currently live.

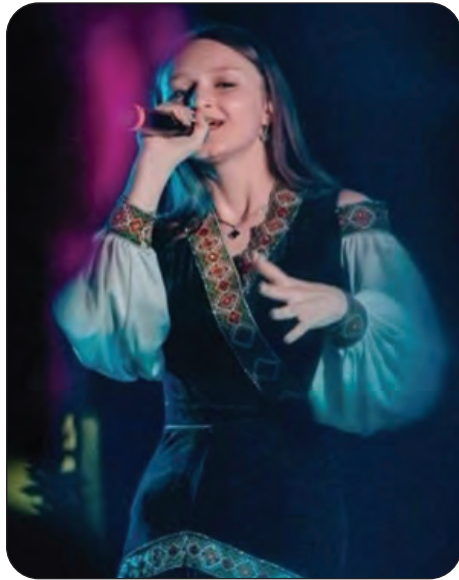


PHOTO ATLAS ENTERTAINMENT

Diana Diakiv was invited to sing in Toronto last December at a Stepan Giga (Ukrainian pop singer and composer) charity concert to raise money for Ukraine's soldiers.

While both Diakiv and Veremenko have found jobs in the community, those jobs are outside their respective specialized fields.

Diakiv, who is in Grade 12 at Gimli High School and works part-time after school, started training as a vocalist and a dancer when she was five years old and was an accomplished



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Geologist Dmytro Veremenko and singer Diana Diakiv, who came to Canada in 2023, are among the hundreds of Ukrainian newcomers who've chosen to live in Gimli after fleeing the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

singer when the invasion eventually forced her and her family out of their hometown of Kolomyia in western Ukraine.

"At the age of five, I started to study vocals and ballroom dancing," said Diakiv. "During my vocal training, I won numerous prizes. I also took part in two famous TV shows for children, *Step to the Stars* (dancing with a partner) when I was six years old and *Ukraine Has Talent* (singing), where I became a semi-finalist."

With outstanding vocal abilities and a dynamic and commanding stage presence, Diakiv was invited to sing for Princess Margareta of Romania

at a charity show called the Book of Goodness to help raise funds for orphans.

"The princess really liked this performance. She was delighted and she gave me a bouquet of flowers," said Diakiv, who learned English in Ukraine, studied in English through the Ukrainian Pedagogical College and is working on enhancing her knowledge of the language.

Diakiv went on to sing in other European countries including Italy and Bulgaria. Her natural charisma landed her repeated parts in *Mystetsky*

Continued on page 8

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Gimli donor establishes scholarship with Westshore Community Foundation

By Patricia Barrett

A Gimli resident who has lived in the community for over 100 years is ensuring students pursuing post-secondary education will have an opportunity to tap into some financial support along their educational journey.

Anna Stevens, who will be turning 101 in a month, established a lasting legacy for students needing some financial support when they enroll in university or college.

Stevens set up the Anna Stevens & Family Scholarship Fund 2024 through the Westshore Community Foundation, which disperses a number of scholarship funds for students. The new fund will be available to applicants this year.

"I thought it was very important to provide a scholarship for a needy student," said Stevens.

Westshore Community Foundation vice-president Teri Nicholson said the foundation had the privilege of working with Stevens and her family to establish the new fund, and also provided a statement of Stevens' involvement in and service to the community.

"Anna is a believer that if you devote your life to a cause, you can make a difference in your community, and people's lives," says the statement. "Education and community service are dear to Anna's heart."

Stevens has a love for music and singing and formed the Icelandic Children's Choir in her earlier years. She is an honorary life member of the Gimli Icelandic Canadian Society, an active member of the Icelandic National League and for 80 years was a member of the Gimli Lutheran Church.

"Anna still loves to teach and sing



Anna Stevens

the traditional songs with her family and grandchildren," says the statement. "This stems from her being activities director at Betel Home for many years."

Stevens also served as Fjallkona of the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba for 2020 and 2021. In October 2020, she officially opened the Fjallkona Walkway at Viking Park.

Stevens inspires others to look on the bright side of life, and enjoys the support of a large family.

"The love of family is so important. I have five wonderful children, 15 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren," she said. "There's a lot of love in our family and I feel very blessed. I've had good health, I'm happy with everything and I have no complaints."

The Westshore Community Foundation was established in 1998 is cele-



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Accompanied by her nephew Tim Arnason, Anna Stevens officially opened the Fjallkona Walkway at Viking Park in October 2020.

brating its 25th anniversary this year. The foundation is a charitable organization that provides grants through endowments and other funds to not-for-profit organizations in communi-

ties in its catchment area of Riverton, Gimli, Fraserwood, Winnipeg Beach and Dunnottar. It also provides scholarships to students.

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Celebrating culture



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY BRENNA MALCOLM

Monday was a beautiful day with temperatures hovering around -4 degrees to celebrate and honour Métis culture, history and identity in Lundar. The RM of Coldwell Recreation and the Lundar Metis Local organized skating, snowshoeing, snow painting, horse and wagon rides along with traditional Metis games & crafts. Louis Riel Day, also known as Family Day, celebrates the founder and First Premier of Manitoba, father of Confederation, and visionary leader of the Red River Métis.



MMF Interlake hosts successful regional meeting

By Gloria Thomas

On Feb. 10, the Red River Métis Gimli Local hosted the MMF Interlake Regional Meeting inside Johnson Hall on the fifth floor of the Waterfront Centre. Over 100 MMF members from across the Interlake attended, along with many cabinet ministers and MMF president David Chartrand.

The day-long event covered the projects and progress of areas such as housing, culture and heritage, infrastructure, employment, youth initiatives, justice, health and Child and Family Services.

Jack Park, minister of Energy and Infrastructure, shared that all of the delegates were impressed with the gathering and that this was one of the best regional meetings he had been to in the 21 years he has been attending.

Park expressed enthusiasm about Gimli Mayor Kevin Chudd and council's plans to host a flag-raising ceremony at the rural municipality office and work together with the MMF on future endeavours.

"We look forward to engaging in meaningful discussions, forging new connections and creating lasting memories," Chudd pledged.

Chartrand was taken with the Gimli Locals' efforts, calling the meeting a "class act."

"Driving up and seeing our Métis flag flying was a proud moment for us all. It really touched me. The venue is amazing with a great view of the lake. We are proud of the Gimli Local and can't say enough. We have tremendous respect for them and how far they have come in such a short time," he said.

Chartrand also looks forward to opportunities in working with the RM of Gimli, Chudd and the Gimli Local. He plans to meet with the respective groups in the near future, he said.

Interlake Locals and delegates in attendance also brought an amazing amount of donations for the silent auction, held on the centre's first floor in the New Iceland Heritage Museum theatre.

Prize-winning Métis curler Kerri Einarson donated a signed jersey for auction. She also gifted delegates with



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Minister Will Goodon, Minister Francis Chartrand, Minister Anita Campbell, Kerri Einarson, president David Chartrand, Minister John Fleury, Gimli Mayor Kevin Chudd and Minister Mona Buors.



MMF president David Chartrand at Gimli office doing his NCI radio report.

curling brooms signed by her team.

Red River Métis Gimli Local chairperson Donna Austfjord expressed pride in her community with respect to the efforts made to make the meeting a huge success.

"Hosting the re-



Scotties champion Kerri Einarson donated her signed jersey to be auctioned off.

gional meeting was a proud moment for the Local. We have been embraced by the RM of Gimli, businesses and citizens. Special thanks to Kerri Ein-

arson, the Waterfront Centre, NIHM, Mad Dash catering and especially the volunteers for all their help," she said.

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OUR SISTER PUBLICATIONS



More doctors, more nurses, shorter wait times in Manitoba

By Lana Meier

Together, the governments of Canada and Manitoba are working to bring the health-care workers we need to the front lines so we can cut wait times and deliver the best possible care to Manitobans.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, alongside Manitoba Premier Wab Kinew, announced more than \$633 million in funding to improve health care in Manitoba last week. Through the Working Together agreement, the Government of Canada will provide close to \$434 million to support Manitoba's three-year action plan to improve health care and approximately \$199 million through the Aging with Dignity agreement to support their five-year action plan to improve home, community and long-term care for seniors.

"Canadians value universal public health care. That's why we're signing agreements with provinces and territories to make health-care work better for Canadians. Today's agreements with Manitoba will help hire more health workers, reduce wait times, support seniors and make sure Canadians get the care they need, when they need it," said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Under the Working Together agreement, Manitoba will move forward with its commitments to fix the damage done to health care, starting with staffing shortages.

"Fixing the health-care staffing shortage is job No. 1 for our government — that means more support for the bedside instead of the bureaucracy. We will work with the Government of Canada to hire more doctors and more nurses into our system, so we can start to cut wait times and deliver the best care possible for Manitobans," said Premier Wab Kinew.

By providing financial support,

Manitoba aims to fulfill its objective of recruiting additional medical professionals. This strategic allocation of resources will aid in increasing the number of acute and medicine beds within the province's health-care system, alleviating the strain on overburdened emergency departments, and broadening primary care resources for families. As a result, individuals can spend more time engaging in their passions instead of waiting for necessary medical attention.

Together, Canada and Manitoba are working to remove barriers for internationally trained doctors and health professionals to practise in Manitoba. This includes removing barriers to foreign credential recognition, simplifying licensing processes and increasing program access to educated and skilled health professionals. Manitoba will make it easier for health workers to move within Canada so they spend less time dealing with red tape and more time helping patients in need.

Manitoba will hire more psychologists to help reduce wait times for counselling and double hospital spaces for those experiencing homelessness and needing comprehensive health care and treatment. Additionally, the province will support addiction treatment services, peer support and other community-based mental health initiatives.

Manitoba is committed to promoting the Aging with Dignity agreement to provide seniors with the dignity and respect they deserve. The province will enhance its support for seniors who choose to age at home, in their community or in personal care homes. To enhance long-term care services, Manitoba will raise safety and standards, as well as recruit more workers to ensure hygienic, high-quality and customized care. A dedicated seniors advocate will also be es-

tablished to serve as an impartial and influential advocate for seniors and their loved ones.

The federal and provincial governments are committed to collaborating with Indigenous Peoples to address disparities and systemic inequalities in health care for Indigenous communities. This partnership will also aim to enhance access to culturally sensitive care. As part of this effort, government funds will assist in supporting Granny's House, a project that offers community-led and culturally appropriate services to children and families. Additionally, resources will be allocated towards Indigenous-led treatment programs that offer personalized and culturally sensitive care for youth. As we continue on the journey of reconciliation, timely and secure health care remains a top priority for Indigenous communities.

This investment is part of the government of Canada's larger work to invest over \$200 billion to improve health care including through tailored bilateral agreements with provinces and territories as well as \$5.4 billion for Aging with Dignity agreements. Through the agreements recently announced, the governments of Canada and Manitoba will deliver better results for patients, support health workers and protect our health-care system now and into the future.

The federal government works collaboratively and in partnership with Indigenous Peoples and communities to support improved access to high quality, culturally appropriate health services, greater Indigenous control of health services and improved health outcomes. Each year, the federal government invests approximately \$5 billion in Indigenous health.

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Riverton restaurant earns awards for La Poutine Week

By Jennifer McFee

A Riverton restaurant created a mouth-watering entry for La Poutine Week and drew praise from its customers. The rest is just gravy — including the eatery's nationwide accolades for its efforts.

From Feb. 1 to 7, diners had the chance to cast online votes in the Canada-wide annual event called La Poutine Week, allowing restaurants nationwide to create one-of-a-kind entries.

Kahleigh's Brew Barn, located at 40 Main St. in Riverton, deconstructed its Brew Barn Burger for a culinary concoction called Brew Burger Poutine. The ooey, gooey option featured fries topped with ground beef from Arborg, cheddar cheese, gravy, bacon crumble, tomato, pickles, lettuce and homemade burger sauce.

It proved to be a popular pick since it ranked No. 1 in Manitoba and No. 3 across all of Canada.

"I was shocked to see us in the Top 5," said owner Kahleigh Dubois. "They did not show the leaderboard, so we had no idea we were placing that high in La Poutine Week. We are so thrilled we were able to be in the Top 5 for all of Canada."

Plenty of locals tried out the prize-winning poutine, as well as some customers who travelled from Winnipeg and surrounding areas.

"Lots said it was better than last year's entries and were sure it would be a winner," Dubois said.

"We are so grateful for our community who supported us and took the time to rate our poutine. Riverton has always been home, and it feels good to keep this place on the map and bring people into our beautiful little community."

Dubois hasn't decided yet if Brew Burger Poutine will be added as a permanent menu item, but the restaurant extended the offering for a few



Kahleigh's Brew Barn was one of three Interlake restaurants taking part in La Poutine Week.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Kahleigh Dubois owns Kahleigh's Brew Barn in Riverton, which earned the No. 1 spot in Manitoba and No. 3 in Canada for its entry in La Poutine Week.

extra days in case anyone hadn't had the chance to try it yet.

And this isn't the first time the Riverton restaurant has earned accolades for its stand-out food.

"We received the Stone Soup Award for having the best soup in Interlake-Eastern region in 2022," Dubois said. "We did a lasagna soup, and \$1 from each bowl sold was donated to local breakfast programs for children."

Coming up soon, Kahleigh's Brew Barn will enter Potato Week for the first time ever. Peak of the Market will put on the event, which runs from March 1 to 10.

"I am going to be using a recipe I use often at home for my family and I'm super excited for everyone to try it,"

Dubois said.

"We use McCain's fries at the Brew Barn, which are Manitoba-grown potatoes. We will use Manitoba-grown during Potato Week as well."

Kahleigh's Brew Barn is open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday to Saturday and noon to 8 p.m. on Sundays. Visit www.kahleighsbrewbarn.ca to learn more about the Riverton restaurant.

Manitobans encouraged to provide feedback on functional design study for PTH 3

By Lana Meier

Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure (MTI) invites Manitobans to provide their thoughts on a functional design study to twin a section of Provincial Trunk Highway (PTH) 3 to address increased traffic volume.

MTI is conducting a functional design study for PTH 3, which spans from Road 7E to the Winnipeg city limit. This study will explore potential routes for the road, including the current one that leads to McGillivray Boulevard and a new route that connects Bishop Grandin Boulevard (Abinojii Mikanah).

Manitobans are being encouraged to participate in an online survey to provide feedback on the various options for the PTH 3 functional design study. The survey period will end on Feb. 27, and a report called "What We Heard"

will be published on the EngageMB site once the survey concludes.

Other public engagement opportunities are expected to take place in summer 2024 and will include a presentation of the preferred highway alignment and intersection designs.

The functional design study in its entirety will take approximately 18 months to complete and will be informed by both technical studies and feedback from the public.

For those interested in taking part in the EngageMB survey, simply go to <https://engagemb.ca/pth3>.

letter to the editor

Keep up the great work

Just finished devouring the last issue of the *Express Weekly News*. Great reading, so many interesting articles relevant to the area residents.

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- Barb Gluck, Sandy Hook

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> **NEWCOMERS, FROM PG. 2**

Khram, a charity TV show, and stints as a TV presenter — something she wants to pursue in future through a journalism degree — for the Ukrainian national song award, Halytskyi Shlyager children.

“Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, I and other Ukrainian artists had many charity concerts in every corner of western Ukraine, but the shelling became more frequent and my family and I had to look for a safe place on Earth,” she said. “On many Ukrainian websites, there was information about assistance to Ukrainians from Canada’s immigration department. That’s why we decided to move to Canada. Canada has always been ready to help everyone.”

Inspired by singers Celine Dion and Christina Aguilera, Diakiv said she wants to become a folk artist, performing traditional and popular songs from Ukraine. She’s also open to singing different genres and in different languages. She already sings

songs in English, Spanish and German. And with her training in classical and contemporary piano, as well as music theory, she has written musical scores for four of her own songs.

“When I go on stage, I go with the mission of performing the songs that are popular in Ukraine. I get excited about performing,” said Diakiv. “It’s a bad situation in Ukraine with people dying, and many Ukrainian immigrants have strong feelings for these songs. I hope people are happy when they hear these songs from Ukraine.”

Diakiv said she’s still adjusting to her new life in Canada, where she wants to remain in the future, and has supportive people around her.

“Talking with Melanie [Melanie Specula who oversees the management of Ukrainian newcomers to Gimli] really inspired me to find myself and not lose heart,” said Diakiv. “I am sincerely grateful to her and her team.”

Like Diakiv and her family, Veremenko made the difficult decision to leave Ukraine and settle in Canada in 2023.

He had been part of a scientific team studying radiation levels in the soil, water, groundwater and air in the exclusion zone of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, which was the scene of one of the world’s worst nuclear disasters after one of its reactors blew up and melted down in 1986 and dispersed radioactive material across Europe.

On the first day of the invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022, Russian troops crossed from Belarus and captured the Chernobyl exclusion zone. They also seized the plant itself, where hundreds of workers and medical and security personnel became trapped. The Russians stole or destroyed computers, radiation do-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATLAS ENTERTAINMENT

Seventeen-year-old Diana Diakiv is a charismatic performer, who wants to continue her singing career in Canada.

simeters, firefighting equipment and vehicles.

“When Russian troops attacked the exclusion zone at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, they destroyed the radiation safety system. It’s a very dangerous situation. For one month that I was in my home in the northern part of Ukraine, it was occupied by Russian troops. After that we started to fix the safety system, which is a very big and difficult system,” said Veremenko, who co-authored a scientific paper titled “Evaluating changes in radionuclide concentrations and groundwater levels before and after the cooling pond drawdown in the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant vicinity” that was published in 2023 in the journal *The Science of the Total Environment*.

While the Russian invasion continued, Veremenko took part in conferences in Poland and Austria to discuss nuclear-related matters and finished working on the co-authored paper. He then took a break and went to Iceland where he made the decision to emigrate to Canada after hearing about New Iceland and Gimli.

“When I had a rest in Iceland, I de-

cidated not to go back to Ukraine,” said Veremenko. “It won’t get better. They have attacked all parts of Ukraine. It’s not possible to end [the invasion]. For the next several years, I see no future.”

While he would like to eventually work as a hydrogeologist in the future and continue publishing research papers, Veremenko said he would like to settle in for a while in Gimli. He was offered a job overseeing the day-to-day operation of the dormitory, helping other Ukrainian newcomers and driving people to and from work and school.

A few years ago, while she was co-chair of the Gimli Chamber of Commerce, Melanie Specula began helping Ukrainians settle in Gimli and finding them jobs. She is currently the vice-chair of the Gimli Community Development Corporation (CDC), which is now overseeing their settlement. With more Ukrainian newcomers on their way to Gimli, Specula said she’ll continue to do all she can to find housing, jobs and English lessons for them.

She’s grateful that Veremenko is overseeing a myriad of daily tasks at the dormitory and helping Ukrainians transition to a new life in the municipality, she said. She will continue to look for grant opportunities to help support all newcomers to Gimli and work with the municipality and local employers.

“I honestly don’t know what I would have done without Dmytro agreeing to take the job at the dormitory,” said Specula, who owns the Gimli Chicken Chef restaurant where she has hired a number of Ukrainians.

Specula said she’s also going to put out feelers to see whether she can find Diakiv singing gigs — preferably paid — so that she can re-launch her musical career and start earning more money to support herself and her family.

“Diana is so accomplished for someone so young,” said Specula. “We have this amazing talent right here in Gimli and we need to let people know about her.”

Community Support Service

AA Meetings in Ashern

Open Meeting

Time: 6-7pm Fridays

Starting Friday March 3rd.

Location: #11 2nd Ave North

-Pioneer Manor

(beside the main door entrance of Pioneer Manor)

Contact AAMBCO@mts.net

AA Eriksdale

Eriksdale United Church building

#7 Main Street, Eriksdale (side door)

Meetings are Mondays

at 6:30 p.m.

AA Winnipeg Beach

Lady of the Lake RC Church

Corner of Hwy. 9 and Lake Ave.,

Winnipeg Beach

Meetings are Saturdays

between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact Ann J 204-389-3417

Gimli Group AA

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd

Industrial Park

Fri & Sun Mtgs at 7:30 pm

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Nurse practitioner float pool increases access to care

By Jennifer McFee

With a dedication to health and well-being, nurse practitioners help to increase access to care while addressing health inequities in some communities across the region.

Nurse practitioners are registered nurses with advanced education at the master's level. This advanced education provides them with knowledge and skills to screen for illness, diagnose, prescribe and manage patient care as a sole practitioner or as part of a multidisciplinary team.

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority currently employs 26 nurse practitioners, including full-time and part-time positions. In addition, the health authority recently launched a casual nurse practitioner float pool to help bridge gaps in communities where there are vacancies for primary care providers.

Nurse practitioners in the float pool are flexible in their assignments. They can "float" or move between different geographic areas, health centres and primary care clinics within the Interlake-Eastern region. This flexibility is especially valuable in settings where patient needs are high and access to primary care providers is limited.

The float pool recruits nurse practitioners with varied career backgrounds, including some with experience working in northern First Nations and for tribal councils.

Ann Nzereum works for Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority and Southeast Resource Development Council, which provides health care and other services to eight First Nations. She's a nurse practitioner who has been involved with the float pool for about seven months.

As a result, Nzereum has worked in multiple different settings, including Ashern, Eriksdale Primary Care, Pinaymootang Health Centre, Pine Falls Primary Care Clinic, Black River Health Centre and Hollow Water Health Centre.

"The nurse practitioner float pool model allows health-care organizations to optimize their workforce, ensuring they can provide quality care across different geographical locations. In regions where there may be shortages of health-care professionals in specific specialties or units,



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ann Nzereum is a nurse practitioner who is involved with the float pool.

a float pool can help address staffing gaps and ensure that patient care needs are met," she said.

"Float nurse practitioners contribute to maintaining and improving the quality of patient care by applying their skills across various clinical areas and adhering to best practices in each specialty. Their ability to integrate into different health-care teams enhances collaboration and communication skills since they work with diverse groups of professionals."

Providing virtual care is also part of this model, offering a flexible way to ensure health-care providers are available when and where they are most needed. To start, the client makes an appointment to visit a health-care centre or clinic. When they arrive, they're checked into a consultation room where a computer is set up with

Microsoft Teams. The client receives an explanation of how the appointment will work followed by a virtual introduction to the nurse practitioner. The clinic's administrative assistants will print any required paperwork, such as lab requisitions, and provide it to the patient after the appointment ends.

As a nurse practitioner in the float pool, Nzereum appreciates how the opportunity has bolstered her skills and versatility.

"I enjoy the exposure to different clinical settings and specialties. I also like that I have a flexible schedule and a dynamic work environment," she said. "I have been able to develop strong problem-solving skills given that I have to deal with different patient populations and clinical scenarios."

The health authority continues to recruit health-care workers, including casual nurse practitioners to join the float pool. From April 1 to Dec. 31, 2023, the nurse practitioner float pool provided 57 days of service, and it's currently being expanded to provide more services.

get informed

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



EXPRESS PHOTO BY DONNA GISLASON

Monday was a beautiful sunny day in Arborg with temperatures hovering around -6 degrees. Friends and families gathered at the Icelandic River to skate on the trail. Help the Express record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or family enjoying the outdoors. Email: news@expressweeklynews.ca

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Royal MTC production presented at Gimli Theatre

By Gloria Thomas

On Feb. 13, the Gimli Kiwanis hosted the play *Mix Tapes From My Mom*, a production of Playnow and the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, at the Gimli Theatre.

The production was written and performed by Cory Wojcik and features a live band, consisting of Josh Bellan on guitar and Christy Taronno on keyboard.

Wojcik wrote the play in 2019 and gave the first live performances at Ex-Cues in Winnipeg and The Fringe Festival that same year.

Based on his life experience with the birth of his child and the loss of his mother occurring on the same day, Wojcik balances the feelings of despair with a mix of humour and music, creating an emotional ride throughout the two-hour show.

Wojcik expressed gratitude toward

the crowd of 177, saying the response of the Gimli audience was great and the people were amazing.

Sadie Wannamaker, stage and tour manager, said there are 21 shows packed into 30 days.

Wannamaker is responsible for meeting with the presenters and securing accommodations for the entire crew throughout the tour. Wannamaker, a native of Ontario, is on her second tour with the RMTC.

Five of the presentations will occur in Ontario, with the rest in Manitoba.

Two recent University of Winnipeg graduates are also a part of the team. Larissa Shabaga, apprentice stage manager, and Josh Gehman, technical director, joined the RMTC after graduating from Theatre and Film and Theatre Production and Film respectively.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY DARRELL BEZDIETNY

Mix Tapes From My Mom was performed by Cory Wojcik, left, and featured a live band with Josh Bellan on guitar, middle, and Christy Taronno on keyboard.



Nearly 200 people attended the play, which was performed at the Gimli Theatre on Feb. 13.



Mix Tapes From My Mom tackles difficult subject with humour and music, creating an emotionally charged two-hour performance.

The end of an era



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The former Sandy Hook eatery Jane & Walter's Restaurant was being torn down last week. The steakhouse was known for their steaks, seafood, pasta and ribs, large wine selection and prompt service. Work crews were busy razing the building at the corner of Congdon and Highway 9. The restaurant had been closed for a number of years.

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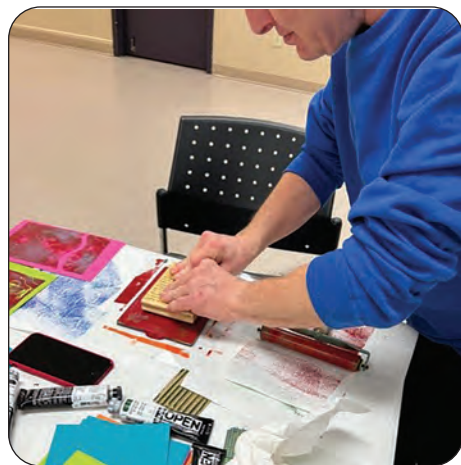
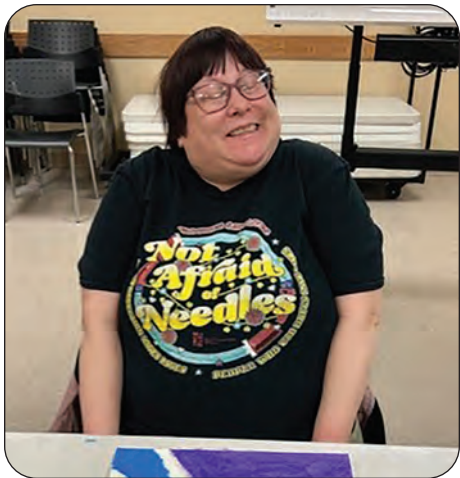
LS Airways Flight Academy | 311 Anson St, Gimli, MB | 204-651-1402

Art classes bring smiles from all over the Interlake



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

With the generous support of Manitoba Arts Council, Inclusion Selkirk was thrilled to work with Patti Fernie from LakeGalArtworks in offering three hybrid Zoom/in-person art classes. Her classes included techniques featuring the use of acrylic paint, bleeding tissue paper and subtractive mono-printing. The classes were a success with Stonewall ACL Interlake joining in with 28 artists each class and artists attending all the way from Arborg.



Evergreen Festival of the Arts holding upcoming competition

By Patricia Barrett

The Evergreen Festival of the Arts is getting set to launch its annual performing arts competition that gives students and youth living in the Evergreen School Division catchment area an opportunity to hone their performing talents.

The three-week performance competition will be held in Gimli, Riverton and Arborg.

The festival sees a diverse range of student talent in performance arts such as solo and group singing, piano and other instruments, speech, dancing and Orff, which combines music, movement, speech and drama. The festival provides performers with an opportunity to compete and receive feedback from judges on how to further develop their skills.

Festival president Krystal Isfeld, who is a music specialist, literacy sup-

port teacher and assistant principal at Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School, and her committee oversee every aspect of the festival from venue and volunteer co-ordination, liaising with community sponsors, preparing the program and bringing in the adjudicators.

The adjudicators for this year's festival are Barbara Cornish (piano), Laurie Hoogstraten (speech), Meaghan Funk (dance), Jewel Casselman (Orff), Barbara Hamilton (vocal/choral) and Ryan Werle (instrumental).

The festival will run from April 11 to May 7. The schedule is as follows: Instrumental April 11 in Gimli; Orff April 15 in Gimli; Piano April 16-17 in Gimli; Dance April 22 in Arborg; Speech April 25-26 in Riverton; Vocal/Choral April 30-May 1 in Gimli; and Trophy Class May 1 in Gimli.



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Festival president Krystal Isfeld led the Sigurbjorg Stefansson grades 3 and 4 choir in a charming performance of Oye in 2017.

A Hi-Lites concert is scheduled for May 7 in Gimli. The concert includes the presentation of a variety of scholarships.

Visit the festival's website at www.evergreenfestivalofthearts.com for more information.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Huminicki confident entering U21 provincial championships

By Jeremiah Knight

Elias Huminicki walked off the pebbled ice in Stonewall earlier this month chin-up despite his team coming up short in the biggest game of their young careers.

The youthful Jordon McDonald rink out of Assiniboine Memorial, for which Huminicki plays second, had become one of the best stories of the week after giving tournament-favourite Team Carruthers all they could handle in the semi-final of the Viterra Manitoba men's provincial curling championship.

McDonald, Huminicki, along with third Dallas Burgess and lead Cam Olafson, fell 10-7 to the eventual champions, skipped by former Olympic gold medallist Brad Jacobs, but were tied going into the deciding 10th end in a game that few gave them a chance to win.

"Coming from a junior team, it was honestly so special and I believe that we have a new voice for junior curling, considering we were up against the top dog that weekend," Huminicki reflected. "I didn't expect it to go as well as it did but we're very happy and very proud of ourselves for making it the way that we made it.

"All in all, it was just a win to even get the privilege to play Brad Jacobs in that semifinal game. It built our team so well after that weekend."

Indeed, the product of Winnipeg Beach is brimming with confidence heading into the U21 provincial championship in Carman this weekend, where his squad will vie for a third-



Stonewall's Blake Good will be playing second for Team Norris this week at the U21 Junior Provincial Championships being held in Carman from Feb. 21 to 25.

straight title. The championship, held at Carman Golf and Country Club, begins Wednesday and wraps up on Sunday.

Huminicki, 19, and McDonald are the two original members of the team that formed three years ago. While teammates have aged out of U21 eligibility, the team hasn't skipped a beat by adding Olafson and, this season, Burgess, who hails from Thunder Bay, Ont.

This season, Team McDonald has primarily played in mens tournaments to condition themselves to higher competition. And the teens have held their own in many cases,



EXPRESS PHOTO BY CURL MANITOBA

Winnipeg Beach's Elias Huminicki will be playing second for Team McDonald this week at the U21 Junior Provincial Championships being held in Carman from Feb. 21 to 25.

such as a tied-for-third finish in the DEKALB Superspiel in Morris, in December.

"Even the events we haven't been winning, we're still playing great and we're still building off of each other. There's never really a point where you've been your greatest. ... There is no highest point; it's just growing as much as you can and wanting to grow," Huminicki said.

"I believe carrying that experience with us, it gives us a very good advantage (going into) U21 provincials. Obviously, we're not going to be cocky because anything can happen, but I'd say we're very comfortable going into the event for sure, and the expectations aren't high or anything but we just want to play our best in

Continued on page 13

U18 AAA Lightning teams make playoffs

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning knocked off the Norman Northstars 5-2 in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action on Sunday afternoon in Teulon.

Interlake has played some great hockey this season.

"It's been a positive year," said Lightning head coach Aaron Kaatz. "This team is competitive. They have been scoring and we have a little bit of grit and compete with us. We want to be competitive in the post-season and shock some people."

Last Wednesday, Interlake doubled

the Thrashers 4-2 in Winnipeg. That win clinched a playoff spot for the Lightning — some say nine or 10 years.

"We're happy about that and so Teulon, for a long time, will have playoff hockey in that barn," Kaatz said.

James Franklin and Ian Buors scored to give the Lightning a 2-0 first-period lead. After a scoreless second, Lucas Spencer and Cole Swanson made it 4-0 in the third.

The Thrashers' Ben Brambilla notched a pair of goals in the game's final minute.

Lightning goaltender Alex Myers played a strong game — making 38 saves — for the win.

The Lightning's goaltending this season has been outstanding.

Interlake are one of seven squads that have clinched a playoff spot.

Interlake will host the Thrashers on Wednesday and the Yellowhead Chiefs Friday (both games start at 7:30 p.m.) before visiting the Winnipeg Bruins Sunday (12:30 p.m.).

In Manitoba U18 AAA Female Hockey League action, Interlake ended its regular season with a 3-0 road loss to

the Eastman Selects last Saturday.

The Lightning had a fantastic regular season, finishing with a 10-14-4 record.

Cheyenne Scott Cooke (two) and Danyel Heppner scored for Eastman.

The two teams will meet up for a best-of-five playoff series, beginning Wednesday (7 p.m.) in Niverville.

Game 2 is set for Friday in Warren. Puck drop is 7:30 p.m.

Sunday will see Interlake and Eastman return to Niverville for a 7:30 p.m.

Arborg Minor Hockey's Female Hockey Day inspirational

By Patricia Barrett

Arborg Minor Hockey hosted a female hockey day on Feb. 11 at the Arborg Arena that had female players from across the Interlake take part in friendly games, skills development sessions and mentoring of younger players.

Arborg Minor Hockey board member Kaitlyn Magnusson said this was the first time AMH hosted a day exclusively for female hockey players. Girls playing in U7 to U18 teams took part in sessions throughout the day.

"We hadn't hosted this before and it was good for all the girls to come together and see how many female teams there are in the Interlake and how many young female hockey players there are out there," said Magnusson. "We had U11 girls as well as U7 and U9 girls, and they really enjoyed meeting the U18 girls, who were a real inspiration to watch. They had a fantastic game."

Brooke Barylski, who plays for Interlake Lightning Female U18 AAA and will be heading to university on a scholarship, said when she was growing up in Arborg there were not many girls playing hockey and it was inspiring to see how far the female hockey program has come.

"We didn't have this when I started in hockey," she said. "There were only two girls that played from the whole Interlake. It was a boy's world."

Playing with and mentoring the younger girls were among the highlights of Barylski's day. The younger players really appreciated getting on the ice with the U18 players and learning as much as they could, she said. And the way they looked up to them was "very heart-warming" and made their day.

"It made us realize that doing something so commonplace like stepping on the ice with younger girls could really change their mindset; the way it is in a small town, you don't really think you can go further because the girls all play on boys' teams," said Barylski. "Having them realize



Brooke Barylski of Interlake Lightning helped inspire younger female hockey players during Arborg Minor Hockey's Female Hockey Day.

that there is somewhere they can go, and the look of 'Whoa' on their faces when they see what we can do, was most exciting for us."

In addition to female players from Arborg, Stonewall, Teulon and Peguis First Nation, players from other Interlake regions, such as Lundar and Riverton, took part in the event.

Before Barylski's U18 team played in the afternoon, they got on the ice with the younger girls for a skills session in the morning.

Players at the U11 level have basic skating skills, such as crossovers, "down pat" from previously taking figure skating or playing hockey and don't need to practise skating, she said. The focus was instead on their hockey stance, always having both hands on their stick, moving the puck with their heads up and shooting on net.

"They had a little game then we hopped on with them for a little skills session for an hour. We did two sessions," she said. "We had lots of interactions with the younger girls. They watched us skate and stick-handle and asked us how to do things."



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Arborg Minor Hockey hosted Female Hockey Day for the U11 female Interlake teams last week. There were two games and two skills sessions run by Shoot to Score Hockey with help from the Interlake Lightning U18 AAA Female team.

When she and her team hit the ice in the afternoon, she said there were a lot of younger girls who had stayed behind to watch their game. They made signs that said "Go Lightning Go" and "Go Interlake Go" and cheered them on.

"Afterwards we had tons of girls come up to us and say 'I want to be you when I'm older' and 'You're my favourite player.' It was super cute," said Barylski. "You don't really real-

ize how you can inspire the younger generation of female hockey players. It was nice to see."

Barylski earned a scholarship to Midland University in Nebraska and will be getting her post-secondary education and playing hockey for the university in the ACHA (American Collegiate Hockey Association) Division 1.

> U21 PROVINCIALS, FROM PG. 12

that event."

Huminicki won't be the only Interlake representative in Carmen this weekend.

Stonewall's Blake Good will play second for Zach Norris' rink out of Morris, with lead Carter Malmquist and third Ethan Brandt. It's Good's first appearance in the U21 provincials, but his experience is hardly on his mind.

"I'm looking forward to it," said

Good, 18. "We've played in the (Manitoba Junior Curling Tour) against most of the teams that'll be there and we've had quite a bit of success. We're seeded third right now ... and out of all the bonspiels you play, this is the one you want to win."

Team Norris, which lost in the semi final of the U18 provincial championship last year, has enjoyed a strong season highlighted by a win in the MJCT's event in Petersfield.

"We just play to our game and we play our role on the team. You have to play to your strengths and I think we do that pretty good," he said.

Good has continued that success for Collège Stonewall Collegiate, where he skipped the Rams to the provincial championship game but fell 7-4 to the Béliveau Barracudas. Despite falling short of the mark, Good said the experience of throwing high-pressure shots as the skip bodes well for him entering this week.

"I think so, just because you need to

be so much more precise when you're throwing the last rock. If you pull up a foot short, it makes more of a difference and you have to be that little bit more on when you're throwing the last rock and skipping," Good said.

"I understand now that I have to make my shots more accurate so I don't put so much pressure on my skip."

Manitoba has two seats available in the Canadian U21 Junior National Championship for junior men's and women's teams.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Female Thunder football team hits Brandon

By Brian Bowman

The Super Bowl last Sunday was really cool.

And the Interlake Thunder female football team had a really cool experience in Brandon recently.

Through talks, the Rural Manitoba Football League chose to hold a one-day football camp in Brandon.

"Our girls know how to play football, they provide leadership for the new girls, so I reached out to our group and we had 16 girls in total," said Thunder head coach Joel McDonald. "A group of veterans from last year's team and graduating players and a couple of new girls. We decided to go out to the camp and there were about 30-40 girls in total — a blend of some girls with experience and some new girls."

The players had an in-class session and were put through some skills and drills and some control plays while elite coaches were on hand.

"It was a great opportunity to get some reps in with full equipment this early in the season," McDonald said.



Former Thunder quarterback Madison Siwicki assisted with coaching the offence.

"The purpose was to expose girls to the sport. ...This was an opportunity for the girls to get equipment, a helmet on, and actually see what the game is about before they have to make any kind of commitment."



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JOEL McDONALD

Livanna Daun from Stony Mountain between Annah and Miyah Trippier of Teulon travelled to Brandon to take in a one-day football camp earlier this year.



Thunder coach Kris Johnston ran the on-field portion addressing the girls.

Curlers wanted from days gone by to celebrate TCC 100-year anniversary

By Annaliese Meier

Get ready to step back in time and celebrate a major milestone with the Teulon Curling Club.

The club, which was founded in 1924, is gearing up for its 100th anniversary with a "Retro" Open Bonspiel taking place from March 1 to 3.

The cost to put a team in the bonspiel is \$200 and includes four dinner tickets. Dinner is a roast turkey meal with all the fixings at the Teulon Hall, catered by Janet Dyrda from Blue Skies Pastries.

Extra dinner tickets are available for \$40, which includes the dinner and dance. Dance-only tickets are available for \$10. You do not have to be curling in the bonspiel to attend the dinner or dance. The entertainment for the dance will be provided by Music Man Trevor Ewankiw.

They are hoping for 32 teams. All skill levels of curlers welcome. The

bonspiel is open to all ages, mixed teams, stick curlers, family teams, etc.

As we celebrate this monumental anniversary milestone together as a community, Curtis Benzick, TCC vice-president, warmly extends an invitation to anyone who has ever been associated with Teulon Curling Club over these past 100 years. It's an opportunity for old memories to resurface and new ones waiting to be made.

Games are six ends and all teams are guaranteed three games.

There will be food available for purchase, along with plenty of fun and prizes.

Benzick is encouraging curlers and guests to dress up in retro curling outfits from the eras.

If any business is looking to donate prizes, they can contact Lindsey at 204-461-1471.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY RANDALL FRIESEN

Teulon Curling Club is hosting a "Retro" Open Bonspiel from March 1 to 3 and encouraging participants to don their curling sweaters and clothing through the eras.

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Riverton Bifrost Holdings Inc. NOTICE OF TENDER

April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025
 Riverton Bifrost Holdings Inc. invites tenders for **Snow Removal** at the Icelandic River Lodge in Riverton. For more information or to schedule a visit to the site please call 204-378-2937.
 • Contract will be awarded with option for a one year extension.
 • Tender will not necessarily be awarded to lowest bidder.
 • Submission Deadline - Friday, March 8, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
 • Submit tender by mail or email to: Riverton Bifrost Holdings Inc. Icelandic River Lodge Box 448, Riverton, MB R0C 2R0, rbh.inc@outlook.com

Riverton Bifrost Holdings Inc. NOTICE OF TENDER

April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025
 RBH Inc. invites tenders for **Plumbing** for Riverton Family Housing Units located in Riverton. For information call 204-378-2937.
 • Contract will be awarded with option for a one year extension.
 • Tender will not necessarily be awarded to lowest bidder.
 • Submission Deadline - Friday, March 8, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
 • Submit tender by mail or email to: Riverton Bifrost Holdings Inc. RBH Houses Box 448, Riverton, MB R0C 2R0 rbh.inc@outlook.com

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Town of Winnipeg Beach GARBAGE & RECYCLING TENDER

For the provision of garbage & recycling collection services within the boundaries of the Town of Winnipeg Beach for the period April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2027.
 Detailed tender packages complete with specifications will be available on Monday, February 5, 2024, to interested bidders at www.winnipegbeach.ca.
 Completed sealed tenders must be received by noon on Friday, March 1, 2024, at:
 Town of Winnipeg Beach
 Attention: Sharon Desiatnyk, CAO
 PO Box 160
 29 Robinson Ave.
 Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0
 Questions in respect to the tender can be directed to Sharon Desiatnyk, CAO, by telephone 204-389-2698 or by email cao@winnipegbeach.ca

MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton invites tenders & quotations for the following;

New Road Construction, Hnausa, MB
 The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking tenders from qualified bidders for the construction of a new road in Hnausa, MB. Request for Tender packages, including specifications and submission documents are available at the Municipal Office, 329 River Road, Arborg or from the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton website, www.rmbifrost.com
 Sealed submissions clearly marked "Anderson Road" will be received at the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton office, located at 329 River Road, Arborg, MB, up until 12:00pm, local time on March 12, 2024
 All inquiries related to the Request for Tender should be directed to Jason Comeau at 204.641.2167.
 The lowest tender bid not necessarily accepted.

Sidewalk Tender
 The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking tenders from qualified bidders for the removal and construction of a sidewalk at the Municipal Office located in Arborg, MB.
 Request for Tender packages, including specifications and submission documents are available at the Municipal Office, 329 River Road, Arborg or from the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton website, www.rmbifrost.com
 Sealed submissions clearly marked "Anderson Rd" will be received at the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton office, located at 329 River Road, Arborg, MB, up until 12:00pm, local time on March 12, 2024
 All inquiries related to the Request for Tender should be directed to Jason Comeau at 204.641.2167.
 The lowest tender bid not necessarily accepted.

Privately Owned Equipment Rates
 The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking quotations from qualified bidders for hourly rates for Privately Owned Equipment for the 2024/ 2025 season.
 Request for Quotation packages, including specifications and submission documents are available at the Municipal Office, 329 River Road, Arborg or from the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton website, www.rmbifrost.com
 Sealed submissions clearly marked "Privately Owned Equipment Rates" will be received at the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton office, located at 329 River Road, Arborg, MB, up until 12:00pm, local time on March 15, 2024
 All inquiries related to the Request for Quotation should be directed to Jason Comeau at 204.641.2167.
 The lowest or any hourly rate bid not necessarily accepted.

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ARMSTRONG EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Meleb Waste Disposal Ground Operator

The Rural Municipality of Armstrong invites applications for the position of a permanent, part-time operator for the Meleb Waste Disposal Grounds.

Under the supervision of the Public Works Coordinator, the Disposal Grounds Operator operates the site in compliance with the Waste Disposal Ground Operating Permit, Municipal By-laws and policies, and applicable federal and provincial regulations.

MELEB WASTE DISPOSAL GROUNDS

| | Summer Hours March 1 to October 31 | Winter Hours November 1 to February 28 |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Tuesdays | 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM | 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM |
| Thursdays | 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM | 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM |
| Saturdays | 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM | 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM |

The operator will be required to take the Manitoba Landfill Operator Certification Program and be responsible for various recycling programs.

Deadline to submit applications will be Friday, March 1, 2024. Posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. We appreciate your interest in the position, however, only those applicants chosen for an interview will be contacted. This position commences as soon as possible.

Interested candidates should submit a resume with three references to:

RM of Armstrong Office
 1094 Highway 17 Inwood
 P.O. Box 69, Inwood, MB R0C 1P0
 Fax: 204-278-3437
 Email: cao@rmofarmstrong.com

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RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

INVITATION TO TENDER

CLOSING DATE: Thursday, March 1, 2024 at Noon

The Rural Municipality of Gimli is accepting tenders for the following:

- PRIVATE EQUIPMENT RATES (RFT 2024-01):** the RM of Gimli is seeking proposals from qualified bidders for hourly rates on various types of privately owned equipment for the purpose of establishing pay rates and hiring order of private equipment for the 2024 works season ending March 31, 2025. Contractors who do not submit pricing and/or do not hold a valid business license or business tax will not be considered for municipal projects.
- FUEL SUPPLY FOR MUNICIPAL EQUIPMENT (RFT 2024-02):** for the supply of fuel for the period of April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, for municipal equipment. The tenders are for approximately 40,000 litres of gasoline, approximately 50,000 litres of clear diesel fuel, approximately 90,000 litres of purple diesel (at pumps, card lock system). To be delivered to the Public Works Yard in the Gimli Industrial Park.
- DUST CONTROL PRODUCT SUPPLY & APPLICATION (RFT 2024-03):** Application of Magnesium Chloride or Calcium Chloride dust control product. Product must be Magnesium Chloride Liquid or Calcium Chloride Liquid with a 30% to 35% Brine Solution and an Anti-Corrosive Inhibitor to meet Corrosion Rate of less than 4.0 mils per ASTM G 4-84. Bidders may provide a quote for one or both. The product shall be available for delivery to various locations in the Municipality from June 1, 2024, to October 31, 2024, as required by the Municipality.
- LIMESTONE AGGREGATE SUPPLY & DELIVERY (RFT 2024-04):** for the supply and delivery of limestone aggregates; to be deposited on municipal roads throughout the RM of Gimli or hauled to stockpile at the Public Works Shop yards, as directed by the Municipality. The material is to be applied in one main haul approximately during the period of June 1, 2024, until completed. In addition, there may be spot hauling continuing until December 31, 2024, therefore, prices are in effect until December 31, 2024.
- GRAVEL HAULING & LOADING (RFT 2024-05):** for the hauling of gravel to be deposited on municipal roads throughout the RM of Gimli from the pit located in SW25-20-3E. The material to be applied in one main haul during the period of June 1, 2024, until completed. Additionally, there may be spot hauling continuing until December 31, 2024. While the Municipality would normally be responsible for loading, contractors are asked for the option of supplying a loader and operator. The contract also includes hauling material to the Public Works yard(s).
- GRAVEL STOCKPILING (RFT 2024-06):** The work to be done under this Contract shall consist of the stockpiling/push-up of gravel from the pit located in SW25-20-3E. Approximately 14,000 cubic yards of gravel is required to be stockpiled for 2025 gravel requirements. The gravel stockpiling is to be completed by August 30, 2024, weather permitting.
- GRAVEL CRUSHING (RFT 2024-07):** The work to be done under this Contract shall consist of the crushing and stockpiling "Class C" traffic gravel at the gravel pit located in SW25-20-3. The material and stockpiling are required to meet Manitoba Transportation & Infrastructure (MTI) specification No 910. The gravel crushing is to be completed by October 31, 2024 weather permitting.

Detailed tender packages complete with specifications are available to interested bidders on the RM of Gimli website, www.gimli.ca, MERX or at the Municipal Office, 62 2nd Avenue, between the hours of 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday.

Any questions or concerns related to the tenders can be directed to:

Karl Bergman
Public Works Foreman
Rural Municipality of Gimli
Phone: (204) 642-6688
publicworks@rmgimli.com

The RM of Gimli reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein, and to award the tender in the best interest of the RM of Gimli in its sole discretion. Lowest bid may not be accepted. Contractors must comply with Municipal requirements for liability insurance, WCB coverage and business licensing to be eligible to be awarded the contract.

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Rural Municipality of
FISHER

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THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF FISHER

2024 BUDGET HEARING

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024
6:00 P.M.

RM OF FISHER COUNCIL CHAMBERS
30 TACHE ST, FISHER BRANCH

At this time the Council will present the proposed 2024 financial plan for the municipality.

The presentation will provide an overview of the proposed financial plan followed by a forum for questions and comments from the public. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Copies of the proposed financial plan will be available upon request, March 20, 2024 at the RM of Fisher Municipal Office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, MB during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may also be directed by letter to the Chief Administrative Officer or through e-mail at fishercao@mymts.net



NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF COLDWELL

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 14th day of March, 2024, at the hour of 2:00 PM, at 35 Main Street, Lundar, Manitoba, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

| Roll Number | Description | Assessed Value | Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|--|
| 130085 | LOT 58 BLOCK 4 PLAN 20721 WLTO SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS, PROVISIONS AND CONDITIONS RESPECTING MINES, MINERALS, MINERAL OILS AND OTHER MATTERS MORE FULLY SET FORTH IN AN INSTRUMENT REGISTERED IN THE WLTO (P DIV) AS NO. 114920 IN FRAC S 1/2 SEC 17 AND FRAC N 1/2 SEC 8-20-6 WPM AND OF CLOSED GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE - 193 SUGAR POINT TRAIL | L -\$66,400 | \$8,808.33 |
| 142150 | LOT 10 AND N 1/2 OF LOT 11 BLOCK 3 PLAN 411 WLTO (P DIV) EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS NW 1/4 1-20-5 WPM - 29 FIRST AVE | L -\$8,100 B -\$56,700 | \$13,602.79 |

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any unpaid municipal utilities and any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft to the Rural Municipality of Coldwell as follows:
 - The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - A fee in the amount \$498.75 (\$475 + GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 7th day of February, 2024.

Managed by:



Nicole Christensen
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Coldwell
Phone: (204) 762-5421
Fax: (204) 762-5177

NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

SEASONAL CRAFT SHOW? REGISTERING spring programs? Having an AGM? Have your blanket classified ads seen in the 31 Member Newspapers which are seen in over 368,000+ homes in Manitoba. Now booking winter and spring advertising for 2024. Please Call 204-467-5836 or MCNA at 204-947-1691 for more details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

HEALTH

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CARD OF THANKS

Our heartfelt thank you to family and friends for their words of comfort, cards, texts, food and offers of help upon the passing of our husband, dad, grandpa and great-grandpa, Marven Konzelman. You all made a difficult time so much easier. A special thank you to John and Karen Gray, you two are awesome.

-Betty Konzelman,
Glen, Carrie and family,
Michael, Elisabeth and family,
Shelley, Ward (Cook) and family

IN MEMORIAM

Cliff Lindstrom
February 21, 1944 – February 24, 2009
In a quiet country graveyard,
Where the Icelandic River flows;
Lies the one we love so dearly,
Whom we lost 15 years ago.
-Forever loved and missed,
Vilborg and family

OBITUARY



Beatrice Evelyn McDougall (nee Rach)
December 18, 1935 – February 7, 2024

Peacefully with her daughters and granddaughters by her side, Beatrice McDougall aged 88 years of Ashern, MB passed away at the Ashern Personal Care Home.

She is survived by her daughters Sandra and Lori (Rob); grandchildren Nicole (Chris), Lexa (Colt) and Eric (Kaelyn); great-granddaughter Anastasia and great-grandsons Zaiden and Ryatt; sisters Betty (Lloyd Wyspianski) and Edith (Alfred Kiesman); sisters-in-law Margaret, Marlene, Bernice Rach, Carole, Gwen and Judy McDougall; brother-in-law Harold McDougall as well as many nieces and nephews.

Beatrice was predeceased by her husband Ron in 2020; son-in-law Ralph; parents Albert and Mary Rach; her sister Irene; her brothers Lorne, Allan and Dennis; in-laws Donald and Gwen; brothers-in-law Bill, Gordon and David along with other family members.

Beatrice was born on December 18, 1935 in Thalberg, MB. She grew up in the Thalberg district near Beausejour and, being the eldest of seven children, attended school until she stayed at home to look after her siblings that allowed her parents to work together on the family farm. When she was 16 she went to work in the Beausejour Hospital for a couple of years as a nurse's aide and then moved to Winnipeg where she worked in a clothing factory. Shortly after that time Ron and Beatrice met and were married on June 3, 1961. They lived on the farm in the Goulbourne district for 40 years until semi-retiring in 2000 and moving into the town of Ashern. They worked many long and hard hours on their farm together.

Mom enjoyed cooking and baking. Mom was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She would think nothing of baking or cooking at any request. In her retirement years, her grandchildren gave her much joy.

We would like to send a special thank you to all the staff at the Ashern Personal Care Home for all their excellent care provided to Mom 'Bea' these past years. Also thank you to the doctors and staff at the Lakeshore General Hospital in Ashern.

A funeral service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at the Ashern Legion Hall with Dawn Tober officiating. Interment followed in the Ashern United Church Cemetery. Pallbearers were Conrad Kiesman, Duane Rach, Jeffrey Ready, Scott McDougall, Franklin Plohman and Andrew Ready.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Beatrice's memory to the Ashern Personal Care Home, Recreational Use, c/o Darlene Hargot, PO Box 110, Ashern, MB R0C 0E0 or to Alzheimer Society of Manitoba, 10-120 Donald Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4G2.

Arrangements by:
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME
Ashern - Lundar
1.204.768.2072
1.866.323.3593

BIRTHDAY



Lorne Thomas
Happy 95th Birthday
on February 24th, 2024
-Love from your family

IN MEMORIAM



Joseph E. Skibinsky
February 10, 1925 - February 18, 2023
In loving memory of Joseph Skibinsky who passed away one year ago. Joe lives on in our hearts and through the many cherished pictures, family videos and stories we share. He is remembered every day with love by his wife Joyce, his children Marilyn (John), Joanne, John (Lori), his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The family would again like to thank Fisher Funeral Home and many family and friends for the support following Joe's passing.

OBITUARY



Patricia Ann Helms

Pat passed on to the other world on January 31, 2024 at the age of 81. She leaves behind her husband, Lane; her two sons and six grandchildren and many happy memories.

Pat was born in Inglewood, California. After completion of business training, she began working at Security Pacific Bank in Inglewood, California.

Pat married Lane in 1961 and they moved to Santa Susanna, California. In 1972, Pat and Lane decided to move with their two sons to Gimli, Manitoba. While in Gimli, Pat joined the Gimli Hospital Auxiliary. Eventually, she became the President of that organization, then the President of the Manitoba Hospital Auxiliaries. That position required her to travel throughout Manitoba coordinating all the activities in Manitoba. Eventually, Pat became the Secretary for the National Hospital Association of Hospital Auxiliaries. She gave up her charity work to help her husband start and develop an aeronautical design and manufacturing company where Pat served as Vice President of Finance.

Pat enjoyed many hobbies, raising flowers, quilting, cooking, and she especially enjoyed collecting classic cars. She retired in 2008 and enjoyed travelling in her classic 1935 Ford Sedan.

Pat developed Alzheimer's disease and after several years of private home care she was admitted to Red River Place in December 2020. Her husband, Lane would like to thank the wonderful, caring staff at Red River Place for the care they provided to Pat while she was in their care.

In accordance with her wishes, a small private memorial service was held at Gilbert Funeral Home in Selkirk. Cremation has been completed and in accordance with her wishes, her ashes will be scattered in a memorial garden in Selkirk.

Pat's wishes were "Please don't cry because I am gone, please smile because I was here."
Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbert Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



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SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|-----|
| 6 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| | | 5 | | | 4 | 3 | | |
| | | 4 | | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | | 3 | | | 7 |
| 8 | | | 7 | | | 5 | | 6 |
| 9 | | | | | | | | 8 |
| | | 9 | | | | | | 8 3 |
| 1 | | | | | 7 | | | 2 |
| 4 | | | 5 | 6 | | | | |

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X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

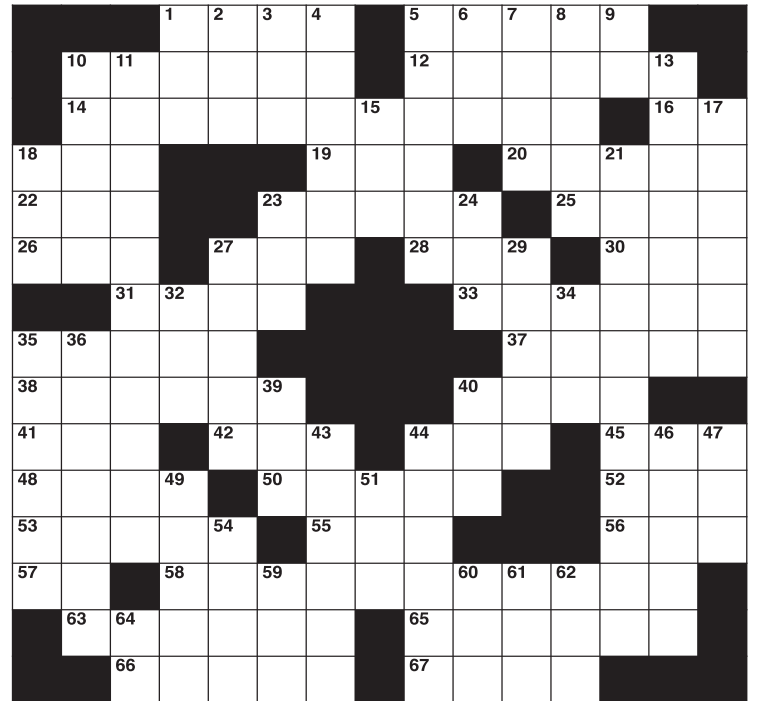
1. Gene type
5. Persian male given name
10. Type of protection
12. Cloud
14. One who returns to life
16. Gym class
18. General's assistant (abbr.)
19. Baby's dining accessory
20. Enchantress
22. Prefix denoting "in a"
23. Spiritual leader
25. Cavities
26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

27. Foot (Latin)
28. Sweet potato
30. Pharaoh of Lower Egypt
31. Land
33. More inquisitive
35. Dog breed: ___ Apso
37. Stood up
38. Direct and uninhibited
40. Authorless
41. Blocking type of drug (abbr.)
42. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
44. Root mean square (abbr.)
45. Macaws
48. Actress Remini
50. Polynesian wrapped skirt
52. City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)
53. Fitzgerald and Baker are two
55. Bowling alley must-have
56. A way to cool down
57. Ethnic group in Asia
58. A way to alter
63. Set of five
65. Removes from the record
66. Dummies

CLUES DOWN

1. DC Comics superhero
2. Brew
3. Play
4. Single-celled animals
5. Rough to the touch
6. Small island (British)
7. Often noted alongside cons
8. Preparation of rootstock
9. Atomic #44
10. Egyptian unit of capacity
11. About secretary
13. Particular groups
15. Poke fun at
17. Make certain that something occurs
18. Financial term
21. Justify
23. Arbiter
24. 007's creato
27. Czech name for Prague
29. Groans
32. American time
34. No seats available
35. ___ Stahl, journalist
36. Cleft lip
39. Talk incessantly



40. Expresses atomic and molecular weights (abbr.)
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Curdled milk
46. Running competitions
47. A team's best pitcher
49. Carthaginian explorer
51. World-renowned city
54. Most common Japanese surname
59. The bill in a restaurant
60. They ___
61. City of Angels football team (abbr.)
62. Distinctive practice
64. One quintillion bytes

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\$1579⁰⁰

(ALL IN PRICE)



HONDA
Power
Equipment

CRF50F
Dirt Bike
50 CC

\$2300⁰⁰

(ALL IN PRICE)



\$400⁰⁰ Savings

CRF110F 110 c.c.
Dirt Bike
Electric Start
EFI

\$3900⁰⁰

(ALL IN PRICE)



CRF125 125 C.C.
Dirt Bike
Electric
Start, EFI

\$4800⁰⁰

(ALL IN PRICE)



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