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Gimli Red River Métis Local delegates Susan Champagne-Shapiro, Donna Austfjord and Gloria Thomas with MMF minister Alfred Anderson at Louis Riel's grave.

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# Arborg opens arms for newcomers from Philippines

By Jennifer McFee

The Arborg community bolstered its population this month with several new arrivals from the Philippines.

Deanna Fernando landed in Manitoba in early February as a participant in the Philippines recruitment initiative, along with her husband Renz and their 10-year-old son Darence.

"I have always wanted to work in Manitoba because of the lower cost of living, an amazing health-care system and varieties of industries providing numerous job opportunities that could really help me and my family for our daily living. In addition, I feel secure knowing that my son will be provided a high quality of education," she said.

"I have always wanted to live in Manitoba, especially since my sister's family is also here and we will all be together achieving our dreams as a family. Manitoba truly is where Canada's heart beats."

In the Philippines, Fernando worked in private health care. Now that she's in Manitoba, she's working as a health-care aide at Arborg Personal Care Home.

"What I find the most fulfilling and rewarding working in health care is that I get to make a difference in the world — seeing the positive impact

on my patients' lives and knowing that I am directly helping patients overcome their health challenges," she said.

"A sense of purpose is what drives me to work every day. Too often, we forget all the other things that makes our job what it truly is: to be compassionate and having a desire to make a difference, not just with other people but also within ourselves."

She said life in Manitoba is amazing, yet she knows there's no place like home.

"The strong sense of community and close-knit family ties in the Philippines can be greatly missed when living abroad. I miss the warmth and comfort of being in an environment I grew up in — familiar places and faces, familiar words spoken," she said.

"Those are some of the things that I miss upon leaving my homeland — but looking toward to the future, I know the best is yet to come."

She's grateful to community members and coworkers who have helped her family get settled into their new Arborg home.

"Our new community is safe, welcoming and multicultural. They have welcomed us with open arms. We quickly feel at home. My co-workers and 'kababayans' (Filipino commu-



Lorie Ann Casaclang moved to Arborg from the Philippines in February.

nity) truly helped and guided us to settle in during our first week here in Arborg through their genuine kindness and generosity. I am grateful for all the support and warm welcome we received in our new community," Fernando said.

"I genuinely want to take a moment and give a huge thanks to IERHA for giving me the chance to achieve my dreams together with my family. All the guidance and support that they have given me are overwhelming and everything is truly appreciated. Thank you for believing in me and giving this opportunity. I'm looking forward to making the most of it and have the best time of my life working with your team."

Also in February, Lorie Ann Casaclang moved to Arborg from the Philippines as part of the health-care recruitment effort. She shared some of her thoughts on why she decided to move to Manitoba.

"It is a great opportunity for my career and a wonderful program as a



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Deanna Fernando moved to Arborg from the Philippines with her husband Renz and their 10-year-old son Darence.

health-care provider. I heard a lot of good things like friendly people and wonderful weather," she said.

"I'll probably miss my family a lot, but I'm doing this for them to give them a better life."

In the Philippines, Casaclang worked as an occupational health nurse. Now that she's in Manitoba, she's working as a health-care aide at Arborg hospital.

"The community here is friendly and giving me some tips about settling here and some benefits I can get working here," she said.

"Working in a health care is a big responsibility; however, it gives you a great feeling of fulfillment whenever the patients get well and appreciate whatever help you gave them."

A photograph of a family of four (a man, a woman, and two children) walking away from the camera through a sunlit forest. The man is holding the hand of a child who is jumping in the air. A dog is on a leash to the right.

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# Inspiring Manitobans to learn about Louis Riel

## Gimli Red River Métis honour provincial founder and honorary first premier

By Patricia Barrett

Members of the Gimli Red River Métis Local were among the hundreds of people who gathered at Louis Riel's gravesite at St. Boniface Cathedral on Louis Riel Day (Feb. 19) to witness the ceremonial presentation of the *Louis Riel Act* and pay tribute to the man who founded Manitoba and fought for Indigenous rights.

The Manitoba government passed legislation in 2023 to give Riel (1844-1885) the honorary title of first premier of Manitoba. On Feb. 19 the government updated the Métis leader's portrait in the legislature to reflect his title.

Gimli Red River Métis chairperson Donna Austfjord attended the ceremony at the cathedral with members Brian Austfjord, Susan Champagne-Shapiro, Gloria Thomas and Kim Karish.

Austfjord said the highlight of the day for her was the acknowledgment of Riel as first premier.

"The *Louis Riel Act* is the culmination of more than 30 years of advocacy for the Métis people of Manitoba, recognizing Louis Riel as the first



Riel's grave at the St. Boniface Cathedral in Winnipeg.

premier of Manitoba. Standing there while history is corrected before my eyes is something that will be read in history books for generations after me," said Austfjord. "I can say I was there while it happened and followed [Manitoba Métis Federation] president David Chartrand for many years as he fought for this day. It was a proud day for all Red River Métis."

Riel defended the rights of Métis people. He was born in the Red River settlement, educated in St. Boniface and Montreal and elected three times to the House of Commons, which expelled him for his participation in the

Continued on page 8



Manitoba Métis Federation president David Chartrand unveiling the portrait recognizing Louis Riel as first premier of Manitoba.



Louis Riel was declared founder of Manitoba in 1992.

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# City of Winnipeg's 15-day raw sewage discharge 'shocking and horrific'

By Patricia Barrett

Winnipeg's notoriety as a polluter of fresh water amped up this month after a raw sewage spill of nearly 230 million litres was discharged from the City of Winnipeg into the Red River over the course of at least 15 days.

Between Feb. 7 and Feb. 21, an outfall at 3100 Abinojii Mikanah (formerly called Bishop Grandin) discharged an estimated 228.39 million litres (or megalitres) of untreated human waste and other hazardous substances into the river, which flows into Lake Winnipeg.

A planned leakage test carried out by the city on Nov. 29, 2023, discovered that the integrity of two sewer pipes, installed across the river in

1970, were compromised. One pipe had a "significant leak," resulting in an "unknown" amount of raw sewage entering the Red River for an "unknown" period of time. City workers "plugged the pipe," according to incident details the city posts on its untreated sewage report webpage. The second pipe — into which sewage had been diverted — was believed to have "defects." The city indicated it would "gather information to help us determine how to best move forward with the repair or replacement of these pipes." Work on the pipes started this month.

Communities and commercial fishers along Lake Winnipeg are outraged and bracing for environmental



EXPRESS FILE PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Discharge flows into the Red River near the Chief Peguis Bridge. The City of Winnipeg's North End wastewater treatment plant, which the city is upgrading, is shown in the background.

fallout, a potential hit to their economies and disruption to their tourism sector, which includes angling.

Town of Winnipeg Beach Mayor Pam Jackson called the sewage spill "shocking and horrific" and will likely lead to long-term consequences for the community and the lake.

"It's horrible news for our town, our residents and for our lake. Of course, this will contribute to what I expect will be significant, possibly toxic, algal blooms this year, which will affect the lake itself and everyone who enjoys Lake Winnipeg," said Jackson.

Continued on page 7



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# Hope for Spring: Icelandic violinist holding free concert in Gimli this Sunday

By Patricia Barrett

An Icelandic violinist will be performing in Gimli this Sunday as part of his visit to Manitoba, and there's no charge to the community to see him.

Sibbi Bernhardsson, who is professor of violin at Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio, was invited by the University of Manitoba's Desautels Faculty of Music to teach a master class, which features a highly proficient artist/teacher who works with students or ensembles.

Tristin Tergesen, who is manager of the Gimli Waterfront Centre and Betel Home Foundation, said the University of Manitoba reached out to her to ask whether it would be possible to bring Bernhardsson to town.

"The person at the university — who's connected to our Icelandic community — saw an opportunity to bring Bernhardsson to Gimli, and contacted me and asked if I'd be willing to help facilitate that," said Tergesen.

The concert will feature compositions of Icelandic and Icelandic-Canadian composers, one of whom is Kenley Kristofferson, who grew up in Gimli. The other composers are Icelanders Anna Thorvaldsdottir and Thorkell Sigurbjörnsson, and Icelandic-Canadian Fjola Evans.

Two masters of music candidates, Miguel Stamato (viola) and Breno Barone (cello), will be performing Johannes Brahms' String Sextet No. 2 in G Major, Opus 36.

The cost to bring Bernhardsson to Gimli is cov-



PHOTO SIBBI BERNHARDSSON, OBERLIN COLLEGE  
Violin professor Sibbi Bernhardsson will be playing in Gimli this Sunday.

Icelandic Canadian Society and the Icelandic National League of North America.

Johnson Hall in the Waterfront Centre has seating for 150 people. The Hope for Spring concert will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 3.

ered.

"The nice part for us is that all the costs were covered already through the university and the Government of Iceland around bringing this artist to Canada to do the master class," said Tergesen. "And this is really a nice opportunity for people in our community to hear the performance."

The concert is also being co-sponsored by Gimli

## 13th Annual Gimli Ice Festival gearing up to beat the winter blahs

By Patricia Barrett

The Gimli Ice Festival will be rolling out its 13th annual winter festival this weekend with two full days of activities to entertain the crowds.

GIF co-chair Susan Holfeuer, who's been busy preparing for the festival and meeting with volunteers, said the festival was nominated by Manitoba Travel for a rural community festival award and is currently one of the finalists.

"We're just thrilled to be in the Top 3. That's already a win for us and it helps put Gimli on the map," said Holfeuer. The festival is offering a number of new activities this year.

"The hockey skills competition is new this year and we've got Hidden Treasures Studio offering an art class where people can make a polar bear suncatcher," said Holfeuer. "We're also bringing back Cooley's (festival mascot) indoor playground, which we haven't offered since before the COVID pandemic."

The hockey skills competition has three different skills events for U7 to U18+ (females and males) with a chance to win medals and bragging rights. The event will take place at the Gimli Recreation Centre on Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. Despite the relatively balmy temperatures that hit Manitoba near the end of January, the Fire on Ice Car Racing (on Saturday and Sunday) and the Ice Man Motorcycle Ice Racing (on Sunday) is scheduled to go ahead on Lake Winnipeg as there is sufficient ice to accommodate the vehicles.

"The car racing and the motorcycle racing will be a go for sure," said Holfeuer. "We've got over 30 drivers already registered for the motorcycle racing."

The New Iceland Heritage Museum will be playing host to a Winter Photo Expression Exhibition and a beading workshop on both days of the festival, she said. And the Lakeview Resort will be playing host to a Manitoba Métis Federation artisan craft show.

Those who like a good outdoor run can register to run in A Viking's Challenge, Battle of the Bay, which is a fundraiser for the Save Your Skin Foundation.

There will be plenty of grub for festival-goers at local restaurants and on the festival site itself. The Gimli Kiwanis Club will be serving up a pancake breakfast on Sunday morning at the harbour, and people can enjoy bannock and tea and maple syrup taffy on a stick near the Lake Winnipeg Visitor Centre.

The festival wouldn't be complete without the Vikings sharpening their spears and doing battle at Gimli Harbour. The re-enactments are performed by The Hands of Lugh. And festival favourites such as the frozen fish toss and the frozen T-shirt contest will be offered.

On Saturday, fireworks will light up the night at Gimli Harbour starting at 7 p.m. followed by entertainment at the Lakeview Resort.

The festival kicks off on Friday, March 1 with the Gimli Ice Festspiel doubles curling bonspiel at the Gimli Recreation Centre followed by two days of icy fun. Festival passes are \$5 and are required to get into some venues. Please refer to the festival schedule on the Gimli Ice Festival's website as some event offerings are subject to change.



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## Lake Manitoba commercial fishery closes early, first time since '90s

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government closed the Lake Manitoba commercial fishery season early as the maximum quota for walleye (pickerel) and sauger was reached.

A spokesperson for the department of economic development, investment, trade and natural resources said this is the first year since the early 1990s that the fishery has had to close before the end of March.

"The department is closing the Lake Manitoba winter commercial net fishery for walleye and sauger on Feb. 24 as a result of the annual allowable quota being reached. This is the first year since 1991 that the Lake Manitoba quota (907,000 kilograms of walleye and sauger combined) has been reached and the fishery closed before the normal seasonal end date of March 31," said the spokesperson. "Working in collaboration with the Lake Manitoba Commercial Fishers Association, it was agreed that based on weekly production figures, the season would close on Feb. 24 to avoid exceeding the quota."

Fishers were given 10 days' notice before the closure.

All fishing nets had to be pulled and fish deliveries completed by the end of the day on Feb. 24, according to a notice from the fisheries section manager.

The department issued 285 commercial fishing licenses to Lake Manitoba fishers this year, the spokesperson said, and there are 12 fish sheds that operate around the lake to purchase fish from commercial fishers.

The early closure affects only commercial harvesters. Anglers and those



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

A commercial fishing net, fish and tote on the ice on Lake Manitoba. The province closed the fishery early as the maximum quota for pickerel and sauger had been met. The fishery normally closes around the end of March.

with a carp licence can continue fishing.

"The commercial quota is regulated separately from the recreational harvest. Only the commercial fishery will be closing on Feb. 24 and other fishers are not affected," said the spokesperson. "In addition, Lake Manitoba fishers using a carp licence can continue to harvest carp for the remainder of the season."

The Lake Manitoba fishery is managed separately from Lake Winnipeg, and its harvest data was not acciden-

tally combined with data from Lake Winnipeg.

"The closure of the Lake Manitoba commercial net fishery does not have impact on commercial fishing activities on Lake Winnipeg, as the Lake Winnipeg commercial fishery is managed separately," said the spokesperson.

The *Express* was unable to reach the fishery association and fish sheds for comment.

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## > SEWAGE, FROM PG. 4

“The amount of nitrogen and phosphorous this is releasing into Lake Winnipeg is appalling and will have significant long-term negative consequences. This will have a deleterious effect on our aquatic life, our fishers who make a living on the lake, the ecosystem and the overall health of our lake.”

As stewards of Lake Winnipeg, Jackson said we’re “failing miserably” on a lake under strain for years.

“This situation really speaks to the need for all politicians to have to courage and foresight to think of the long-term good of their communities, and make decisions based on what will be good for their community over decades and not just over four years,” said Jackson. “That means maintaining and keeping in good repair all infrastructure, before it becomes so aged that we have these types of catastrophic events.”

Gimli Mayor Kevin Chudd called the spill “shameful” and “disgusting” and said his community is concerned about the damaging effects the raw sewage will have on the environment, the commercial fishing industry and on tourism, which helps support the economic livelihood of the rural municipality.

“This is an environmental catastrophe,” said Chudd. And given the sewage spill continued unabated for a reported 15 days, he wonders how the situation “would have been handled if the flows were going south” rather than north.

Apart from understandable feelings of revulsion to the spill, Chudd said this is no time to be “adversarial.” Gimli would like to work collaboratively with Winnipeg to help it in any way possible to prevent raw sewage spills, which occur dozens of times every year. He’d also like to see the provincial and federal governments involved.

“It’s clearly evident the priority for us — and for a lot of people — is safeguarding one of the most precious natural resources we have — fresh water,” said the mayor. “This isn’t the first time there’s been a major spill. Unfortunately, it won’t be the last time. But we need to collaborate with all parties.”

Chudd said the RM hadn’t been informed by the city about the spill and council wants to see communication improved with municipalities downstream of Winnipeg.

Gimli Coun. Andy Damm said he reached out to Winnipeg Coun. Brian Mayes and discussed the incident with him and one of the city’s engineers. He asked that communication with the RM be “stepped up” as well as with First Nations communities on the lake.

“In the future, water is going to be such a vital resource. I can see the potential for wars being fought over fresh water,” said Damm. “And here we are using Lake Winnipeg as a dumping ground. We can’t stand for this.”

The RM plans to hold a summit on the issue with First Nations communities, the Manitoba Métis Federation, other towns on the lake, the province and the city “if [the city] wishes to show up to something like this,” said Damm.

Commercial fisher Robert T. Kristjanson, who for decades has been calling attention to algal blooms on the lake, said he was left with a profound sense of shame after learning of the spill.

“We here along the shores of Lake Winnipeg will have to live with this monster of a spill,” said Kristjanson. “It’s so hypocritical of the City of Winnipeg to think that the people who live north of the city are unimportant. I’m so ashamed of Winnipeg and how they’re failing to address what they’re doing to our environment.”

Kristjanson added that he wonders why environmental laws don’t seem to apply to the city.

“I didn’t know we we’re in a country [i.e., region] separate from the rest of Canada in terms of laws,” he said. “Does the City of Winnipeg have special dispensation from the federal and provincial governments to pollute our waterways? My God, the city should be ashamed of themselves for what they’ve done to the rest of Manitoba.”

Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher and systems analyst Bill Buckels, who’s faced outright denial in the past when he’s reported to the province large volumes of fecal matter swirling off the coast of the Hecla-Grindstone region, said the city’s 15-day, non-stop raw sewage discharge is “absolutely outrageous.”

He’s questioning where the city’s contingency plan was when the spill was detected last November. And if there’s no contingency plan for something so critical as protecting the environment and human health from hazardous waste, why isn’t there one?

“To begin with, this is not some corporate entity called the city that should have had a contingency plan. Clearly, the accountable person, the mayor of Winnipeg Scott Gillingham, as well as all the people who work for him, should have had the sense to know in November their system was damaged and that any contingency such as further overloading it would fail. This spill may have lasted 15 days, but the knowledge that the pipe had failed was evident in November,” said Buckels.

“There should have been a way at that time to redirect sewage to a hold-

ing area of some kind like a lagoon or pond while they replaced the damaged pipes. Any system, whether it’s a computer system or a process of some sort — such as infection control in a tattoo parlour or a dishwasher to sterilize tableware in a restaurant — must have proper risk analyses and failovers.”

Buckels said there’s apparently no way of “turning off raw sewage” from going into the Red or Assiniboine rivers, and municipal, provincial and federal politicians have failed over the years to rectify that, preferring instead to run in “reactive mode.”

“Let’s be clear about what politicians care about: politicians care about perception because, to them, perception is reality. They will not do any more than they have to in order to get people’s votes. At this point they’d rather put money into planting trees along a pretty river walk on the Red River, which — let’s face it — is just a big sewer for city waste to flow out to the lagoon they call Lake Winnipeg,” said Buckels. “Who designs a sewer system that has no requirement to safely turn off or redirect the shit? It’s obviously dysfunctional.”

David Driedger, the City of Winnipeg’s manager of corporate communications, said the two pipes that run under the river at the Fort Garry Bridge direct sewage from southwest Winnipeg to the South End Sewage Treatment Plant. In November the leaking 700-mm pipe was “immedi-

ately” taken out of service.

“The remaining pipe, an 800-mm pipe, was found to be in poor condition, but could still handle the flow across the river. Planning for a bypass system began at that time,” said Driedger. “The bypass system, made up of temporary new pipes, would allow us to continue directing sewage to the treatment plant. We could then take the existing pipes out of service until [they] could be permanently replaced.”

Work on the bypass system — sewage pipes laid across the Fort Garry Bridge — to restore sewage collection capacity started on Feb. 5, he said. On Feb. 7, two days after the work started, the second pipe (800 mm) failed.

“Due to this second failure, the work to assemble the bypass system over the bridge was accelerated,” said Driedger. “Provincial and federal agencies were notified of this environmental issue.”

Crews will be continuously monitoring the bypass system, making adjustments as necessary to ensure it’s reliable, he said.

“It’s expected the bypass system will be in place until the river-crossing pipes that failed can be replaced. Work to replace the pipes will begin right away, with construction continuing in 2025,” said Driedger. “Under normal circumstances, the work involved in building a bypass system

Continued on page 9



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# get informed

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



EXPRESS PHOTO BY CHRISTA SMITH

Last Saturday was a perfect day for a lake walk near Winnipeg Beach. The temperature reached a high of 6 degrees C. with a southwest wind. 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](mailto:news@expressweeklynews.ca)

## Manitoba government funds wheelchair repair jobs

By Lana Meier

Last Friday, the Manitoba government, represented by Families Minister Nahanni Fontaine and Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care Minister Uzoma Asagwara, announced initiatives to address the freeze on funding for Manitoba Possible's wheelchair repair program. These include allocating over \$288,000 to hire additional repair technicians.

According to Fontaine, the government has taken note that the correct wheelchair can greatly impact the lives of individuals with disabilities in Manitoba. It is unacceptable to make people wait for weeks for essential tools they require on a daily basis. This funding will decrease wait times and enhance accessibility to wheelchair services, ensuring that all Manitobans receive prompt and secure repairs and modifications.

Through Manitoba Possible, over 14,000 residents can access various forms of mobility support such as

long-term loans for both manual and motorized wheelchairs. This program also offers maintenance and modification services to cater to individual mobility requirements. With this recent investment, Manitoba Possible will expand its repair team by hiring one more in-house technician and one new field technician who will be able to provide repair services directly to clients at their homes, workplaces or schools.

"Our government is committed to making Manitoba more accessible for everyone, no matter where you live," said Asagwara. "This funding will ensure Manitoba Possible can continue to expand their essential work to the many Manitobans who count on them including working towards restoring better service for our rural and northern neighbours."

"As a powerchair user from rural Manitoba, this will bring some ease

Continued on page 10

### 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](mailto: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

#### AI-Anon

#### Gimli and Winnipeg Beach

Join us at 17B Loni Beach Road, next to New Horizon building... Gimli at 7:00 pm Wednesday evenings for an hour of support, strength, guidance and Hope. Contact 204-389-4777.

All ages welcome.

#### AA Riverton Group

12 Main St. at the  
Riverton Senior Centre  
Mondays 7:30 p.m.

### > LOUIS RIEL, FROM PG. 3

Red River Resistance of 1869-1870. He led a provisional government that negotiated Manitoba's entry into Confederation in 1870. Later fearing lynching, Riel fled to the United States. Asked to negotiate for Saskatchewan Métis, Riel returned and in 1885 the Canadian government charged him with high treason and hanged him. He is buried at the St. Boniface Cathedral.

In 1992 Riel was declared founder of Manitoba, and in 2016 he was officially recognized as the first leader of Manitoba.

Austfjord said there have many changes over the past 15 years where

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#### Way of the Cross during Lent:

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**St. Michael's:** following the 10 a.m. Mass every Friday

**St. Benedict's:** before weekly Mass on Sunday 8:30 am

#### HOLY WEEK Palm Sunday - (Regular Weekend Mass Schedule) - March 23/24th

- Saturday, Our Lady of the Lake at 4 p.m.

- Sunday, St. Benedict's at 9 a.m.

- Sunday, St. Michael's at 11 a.m.

**Holy Thursday Mass:** March 28 St. Michael's Church at 7 pm

**Good Friday Liturgy:** March 29 Our Lady of the Lake 3 pm

**Holy Saturday Easter Vigil:** Saturday, March 30 Our Lady of the Lake 5 pm St. Michael's at 8 pm

**Easter Sunday Mass:** St. Benedict's at 9 am St. Michael's at 11 am

**Blessing of Festive Foods (Easter Baskets):** Holy Saturday, St. Michael's at 11 am and at the end of each Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Mass

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Performance of "SISTERS OF THE HOLY ROCK" On Saturday, April 20 at Fraserwood Hall

Doors open: 6:30 p.m. Performance: 7 p.m.

Price: \$20.00 in advance or \$25.00 at the door

For more information, please call Christine at 204-795-9546

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the Red River Métis fought for their place and the history of Manitoba.

"This event will change the story and what we teach in the history books. Louis Riel was hanged for treason based on an obscure British law, and this law carried the death penalty whereas Canada's treason law did not," she said. "I hope the story of Louis Riel and the Red River Métis will inspire many Manitobans and Canadians to dig into the real story and acknowledge the wrongdoing of John A. McDonald. First Indigenous premier Wab Kinew spoke very proudly of having the ability to assist MMF president Chartrand in righting a longtime wrong to Louis Riel, a man who had a great influence on this province, which is what we see now."

After the ceremony, Austfjord said she celebrated with all Red River Métis ministers, delegates and citizens at Elsie Bear's Kitchen at 150 Henry Ave. and enjoyed bannock and stew and fiddling and jigging.

"It is always a wonderful time when you meet someone and at the next gathering you are family," said Austfjord.

Manitoba premier Wab Kinew said in a Feb. 19 joint statement with MMF president David Chartrand that the government is continuing to honour the legacy of Louis Riel by ensuring Manitoba's school curricula include Riel's contributions and acknowledgement of his honorary title.

"Our government was proud to make the first legislation we introduced a bill to recognize Louis Riel as Manitoba's first premier. We have also taken steps to ensure all Mani-

toba students learn about Riel and his provisional government including the List of Rights they drafted that would eventually become the basis of the Manitoba Act of 1870," said Kinew. "Today we celebrate Riel's legacy and the accomplishments of the Red River Métis people in Manitoba."

MMF president David Chartrand called the day historic and momentous and a time to reflect on the true history of Louis Riel and the Métis of the Red River.

"Our history has been one of hardship, marginalization, racism and discrimination — a continued struggle for recognition of our identity as the Red River Métis people. We have been 153 years in waiting and advocating to correct this part of our history, and today we see the true title of Louis Riel further acknowledged," said Chartrand in the joint statement. "The stain on Canada remains for portraying him as traitor and a madman, instead of telling his true history as the first premier and the founder of Manitoba. We hope what we do here today will be a catalyst for real change, so that all know the truth and honour premier Riel's legacy and the legacy of our people."

The Red River Métis has a proud entrepreneurial spirit and love for its culture, said Austfjord, and takes pride in showing its beading work, furs and music. The Gimli Red River Métis Local welcomes everyone to join its meetings and community events. People interested in joining the local can call Donna at 204-641-4783.



> RAW SEWAGE, FROM PG. 7



Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher Bill Buckels has had his fishing operation sidelined many times because of excrement and algal blooms in the lake. He's shown in 2018 in the Hecla-Grindstone region where fecal matter (Buckels had a sample confirmed by a city lab) and algae swirled in the currents for weeks.

of this type is very challenging and would take upwards of five weeks. It's incredibly difficult work when you can't turn things off to troubleshoot issues."

The city has been posting information about the spill on its website to keep the public informed. And during open water season, the city samples river water quality and posts the results online.

A spokesperson for the provincial government, which regulates industry, said the situation is being monitored and an investigation has been launched, the details of which cannot be shared.

"Manitoba Environment and Climate Change is actively monitoring the situation. The pipe that is leaking is part of the City of Winnipeg's South End Pollution Control Centre Environment Act Licence. The environmental compliance and enforcement branch has launched an investigation and details cannot be provided during an active investigation," said the spokesperson. "The department is also monitoring upstream and downstream water quality to help assess environmental impacts. Manitoba has a strong regulatory framework in place to address water pollution, and

these requirements are also incorporated into our Environment Act licensing process."

Cecelia Parsons, spokesperson for the federal department of Environment and Climate Change Canada, said a file on the sewage spill has been opened and that the ECCC takes pollution incidents and threats to the environment seriously.

"ECCC has a mandate to enforce federal environmental legislation aimed at preventing pollution and protecting wildlife and biodiversity in Canada. ECCC enforcement officers are responsible for administering and enforcing the pollution prevention provisions of the Fisheries Act, which prohibits the deposit of deleterious, or harmful, substances

into water frequented by fish," said Parsons. "ECCC enforcement officers have responded to the incident and a file has been opened. If there is sufficient evidence of an alleged violation, enforcement officers may take appropriate action in accordance with the compliance and enforcement policy for habitat and pollution provisions of the Fisheries Act."

Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan issued a press release Feb. 22 in which he said he was "disgusted" by the raw sewage breach that ran "unimpeded" since Feb. 7 into the Red River and Lake Winnipeg, and that the federal Liberals "must take an active role" to support Manitoba and Winnipeg and protect its waterways from future breaches.

"These waterways are vital to the economic prosperity and health of our communities. The sewage is polluting our iconic Lake Winnipeg, which is vital to Manitoba's thriving inland commercial fishery, beautiful beaches, recreational activities, and is a source of drinking water for many communities," said Bezan.

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**Fraserwood Neighbourhood Social**  
**Sat. March 23, 2024**  
 8Pm to 1am, Tickets \$10 - advance tickets only, late lunch, DJ.  
 Tickets available at J & J Store & Nancy 204-861-0098

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# A winter weekend of fun in Winnipeg Beach



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY RAYME THOMSON/CLIVE WILLIAMS

The fireworks over Lake Winnipeg for Winnipeg Beach's 58th Annual Wonderful Winter Weekend were spectacular. The Fire on Ice Car Racing was also a highlight, along with the indoor and outdoor activities for a fun-filled weekend.

## > WHEELCHAIR, FROM PG. 8

to my life," said Alex Lytwyn, wheelchair program client. "This funding will also allow wheelchair users from remote and rural parts of the province to feel connected to the rest of society and to not be forgotten about while continuing to live life with one less burden."

According to Lindsey Cooke, CEO of Manitoba Possible, the Manitoba Wheelchair Program is a top priority for the province. This investment will help overcome key challenges by hiring wheelchair technicians, obtaining necessary tools and equipment, and enhancing services in rural areas. We are extremely appreciative of this assistance, as it not only supports the independence and well-being of individuals with disabilities in Manitoba but also highlights our mutual dedication to creating an equitable and welcoming community for everyone.

For further details, please check out <https://manitobapossible.ca/wheelchair-services>.

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# Enjoy Your Gimli ICE Festival Weekend!

**Derek Johnson**  
MLA for Interlake-Gimli

[InterlakeGimliMLA@gmail.com](mailto:InterlakeGimliMLA@gmail.com)  
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# GIMLI *Ice* festival

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# GIMLI Ice festival

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## FRIDAY, MARCH 1

7:00pm Start Time	Gimli Ice FESTISPIEL Doubles Curling Bonspiel At the Gimli Recreation Centre
-------------------	---

## SATURDAY, MARCH 2

9:00am Start Time	A Viking's Challenge – Battle of the Bay A Save Your Skin Foundation Fundraiser Run on the Lake
-------------------	--

9:00am Start Time	Gimli Ice FESTISPIEL Doubles Curling Bonspiel At Gimli Recreation Centre
-------------------	---

10:00am – 1:00pm	Beading Workshop At New Iceland Heritage Museum – Festival Pass Required
------------------	---

10:00am – 3:00pm	Fire on Ice Car Racing Practice from 10am - 11am Racing 12pm - 3pm
------------------	---

10:00am – 4:00pm	Gimli Metis & EIWD - Artisan / Vendor Market At Lakeview Resort Ballrooms A-C – Festival Pass Required
------------------	---

10:00am – 4:00pm	Create A Cooley the Polar Bear Suncatcher At Hidden Treasures Studio - Festival Pass plus \$2 to Participate
------------------	---

10:00am – 4:00pm	Winter Expression Photo Exhibition At New Iceland Heritage Museum – Festival Pass Required
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11:00pm – 3:00pm	Face Painting & Festival Mural Creation <i>At Gimli Art Club by the Harbour – Festival Pass Required</i>
11:00am – 3:00pm	Hands of Lugh Viking Age Living History Reenactors <i>At Gimli Harbour</i>
11:00am – 3:00pm	Bannock & Tea / Maple Syrup Taffy On A Stick <i>Near Visitor Centre by the Harbour – Festival Pass Required</i>
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Hockey Skills Competition <i>At Gimli Recreation Centre – Festival Pass Required</i>
Variable Times	Cooley's Outdoor Fun-Time Activities <i>At Gimli Harbour after 11am</i>
Variable Times	Frozen Fish Toss <i>At Gimli Harbour after 11am</i>
7:00pm	<b>FIREWORKS!</b> <i>At Gimli Harbour</i>
7:00pm	Saturday Night Entertainment <i>At Lakeview Resort - Admission \$5 or Free with Festival Pass</i>



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**SUNDAY, MARCH 3**

9:00am – 11:00am	<b>Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast</b> <i>At Gimli Rec Centre \$2 with Festival Pass (\$7 without Pass)</i>
10:00am – 1:00pm	<b>Beading Workshop</b> <i>At New Iceland Heritage Museum – Festival Pass Required</i>
10:00am – 3:00pm	<b>Fire on Ice Car Racing</b> <i>Practice from 10am - 11am Racing 12pm - 3pm</i>
10:00am – 4:00pm	<b>Winter Expression Photo Exhibition</b> <i>At New Iceland Heritage Museum – Festival Pass Required</i>
11:00am – 2:30pm	<b>Face Painting &amp; Festival Mural Creation</b> <i>At Gimli Art Club by the Harbour - Festival Pass Required</i>
11:00am – 2:30pm	<b>Bannock &amp; Tea / Maple Syrup Taffy On A Stick</b> <i>Near Visitor Centre by the Harbour – Festival Pass Required</i>
11:00pm – 3:00pm	<b>Hands of Lugh Viking Age Living History Reenactors</b> <i>At Gimli Harbour</i>
11:30am – 1:30pm	<b>Cooley's Indoor Playground</b> <i>At Gimli Recreation Centre – Festival Pass plus \$2 to Participate</i>
12:00pm – 3:00pm	<b>ICE MAN Motorcycle Ice Racing Demo</b>
12:00pm – 4:00pm	<b>Create A Cooley the Polar Bear Suncatcher</b> <i>At Hidden Treasures Studio - Festival Pass plus \$2 to Participate</i>
2:00pm Start Time	<b>Frozen T-Shirt Competition</b> <i>Info &amp; Registration at Visitor Centre - Festival Headquarters</i>
Variable Times	<b>Cooley's Outdoor Fun-Time Activities</b> <i>At Gimli Harbour after 11am</i>
Variable Times	<b>Frozen Fish Toss</b> <i>At Gimli Harbour after 11am</i>



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# sports&recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## U18 AAA female Lightning defeat Selects in double OT thriller on Sunday

By Brian Bowman/Lana Meier

The Interlake Lightning U18 AAA female hockey team defeated the Eastman Selects 4-3 in double overtime on Sunday evening in Niverville.

What a game.

Interlake goals were scored by Adriana Duna, Claire Hudson, Georgia O'Neill and Bre-Ann Windross.

Ava Boily, Ginger Fast and Kali Remillard replied for Eastman as Rachel Halldorson earned the win in goal.

Off the ice, Halldorson was very deservedly named a second-team all star by the league.

Friday saw Interlake get edged 1-0 as Sophia Heindinger scored the game winner in the second period.

Last Wednesday, Eastman snagged a 1-0 series lead with a 3-2 win in Niverville.

The Selects, which took a 2-0 first-period advantage, had goals from Heindinger (two) and Cassidy LeSage.

O'Neill was very good for Interlake, scoring a pair of goals. Brooke Barylski had two assists.

Interlake will host Eastman on Thursday at 8 p.m. in Stonewall.

Meanwhile, Interlake did a super job honouring its three great graduating players.

Here is what was said:

### Brooke Barylski

"To start off, a little bit about our captain Brooke Barylski. She started playing hockey at the age of five with the Arborg Falcons boys' team. Six years ago, she started playing within the female Interlake Lightning program, getting opportunities to AP and playing underage at age 14 on the U18 AAA squad. Some notable achievements consist of being rookie

of the year and top scorer in 2019. Brooke has always been part of the leadership group over the course of her minor hockey career and has been a big leader to all players within our organization.

During my time with Brooke, I have recognized what a pivotal player and person she is in our locker room. Thank you Brooke, for helping develop this team over the past four seasons. Brooke is a very special athlete, and someone who is easy to rally behind with her strong leadership skills, talent, and commitment to her team. Brooke's future will continue to be bright in her next steps as she has committed as a D1 athlete at Midland University for next season. We wish you all the best in your next chapter.

On behalf of our coaches, our team and all the people that make up our organization in the Interlake, we cannot be more proud of you. You have been a leader to a lot, friend to all, and a big heartbeat within the Bolts' family."

### Rachel Halldorson

It will be hard to keep it short and sweet for our graduating senior Rachel Halldorson, especially when it comes to her achievements.

Some of Rachel's most noteworthy achievements within the Interlake program are being named Most Dedicated Player and Most Valuable Player numerous times.

In the MFHL, Rachel has achieved second-team all-star status for the past two years.

In 2023, Rachel won a silver medal at the U18 National Aboriginal Hockey Championship and will be playing again this upcoming summer in Grande Prairie, Alberta.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's goaltender Rachel Halldorson makes a glove save against the Eastman Selects Friday night. Eastman won the game 1-0.

In 2024, she also participated at the nationals for Team Manitoba in Dawson Creek, B.C.

Incredible accomplishments from our assistant captain Rachel Halldorson.

Rach is the type of goaltender that makes game-changing saves every time she's on the ice. Her competitive mindset motivates everyone to bring their "A" game to the rink everyday. Rachel's determination is unmatched. ... Thank you for everything you have contributed this season and your four years with our program. Congratulations on an incredible career with the Bolts and you are going to be a difference maker wherever your next steps take you in life. Thanks so much for being a dominant force in our program.

### Charleen Wong

Char has been an incredible person to work with this season and we have made so many fantastic memories together. Char has also made some great memories, winning a gold medal while representing Team Hong Kong at the 2023 IIHF Women's World Championship Division in Brasov, Romania.

Over the course of the season, Char unlocked a higher level of play and we want to say congratulations on such a successful senior year. Char has a special level of coach-ability, work ethic and positive mindset that has had a huge impact on our team. We want to wish her all the best in pursuing her passion for medicine at a university in Ontario in health sciences.

Thank you for your contribution this season and helping grow our program."



Interlake Lightning head coach Tatiana Rafter honoured the team's graduating players at last Friday's home playoff game.



Brooke Barylski, Charleen Wong and Rachel Halldorson

# U18 AAA male Interlake Lightning involved in high-scoring games

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning U18 AAA male hockey team lost a wild 8-7 decision to the Winnipeg Bruins on Sunday afternoon.

Blake Farthing (two), Cole Swanson (two), Brandon Burak, Jeremy Kawiwuk and Ian Buors scored for Interlake.

Winnipeg goals were tallied by Lukas Mager (two), Tyler Free (two), Shea Rollason, Maxx Hamelin, Tyrice Pattyn and Alexandre Andre.

On Saturday, Interlake trounced the Yellowhead Chiefs 8-3 in Teulon.

The Lightning trailed 2-0 in the second period before their offence lit up with four goals in the middle frame and then four more in the third.

Swanson led the way with three goals and three assists while Buors was equally great with two goals and five assists.

James Franklin chipped in with a goal and three assists for Interlake. Tytan Johnson and Morgan Waddell also scored for the Lightning.

Alex Myers made 38 saves for the win.

Last Wednesday, the Thrashers

threw the kitchen sink at the Lightning in an 8-1 victory in Teulon. Winnipeg outshot Interlake 50-26.

Burak scored a third-period goal for the Lightning.

Thrashers' goals were tallied by Maddox Malmquist (three), Prabh Bhathal (two), Rohan Guevarra, Parker Rolston and Crosby Harrison.

Interlake finished in sixth place in the regular season with a 24-17-3 record and 51 points.

The Lightning will play the Winnipeg Wild in their first round of play-offs.

Here is the schedule:

Game 1 - March 1 at 7:15 p.m. at the Hockey for All Centre

Game 2 - March 3 at 5 p.m. in Teulon

Game 3 - March 5 at 7:15 at the Hockey for All Centre

Game 4 (if required) - March 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Teulon

Game 5 (if required) - March 9 at 5:45 p.m. at the Hockey for All Centre.

The Lightning are hoping to fill the Teulon arena with fans and are offering free admission on March 2 and 7.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's Cole Swanson scored a hat trick in their 8-3 win against the Yellowhead Chiefs Saturday night.



Interlake Lightning graduating players presented their parents with flowers and a touching thank you for their commitment and support they received while playing "AAA" hockey.



Left to right, Morgan Waddell, David Johnson, Ian Buors, Brandon Burak and Alex Myers.

# Arborg Ladies bonspiel winners celebrate curling victory



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Arborg Ladies bonspiel brought a lot of fun and foolishness with its "Ciddy up" themed curling event on Feb. 16-18. Pictured from left: Bailey Magnusson, Alexis Magnusson, Olivia Magnusson and Lilly Magnusson won the first event, while Agnes Furgala, Sherry Rozecki, Laurence Sigurdson and Jeannette Nickols won the second. The third event was won by Kara Peiluck, Doraine Johnson, Lori Palsson and Tristin Tergesen.



# Drews wins Minnesota State Men's Club Curling Championship

By Brian Bowman

Nick Drews has won a lot of curling games in Manitoba.

Last month, he won games in a different country - the United States.

Drews skipped his team (which hasn't played a lot of years in the game) to the 10-team Minnesota State Men's Club Curling Championship in Brainerd, Minnesota late last month.

"I think we were the least experienced and definitely the youngest at third," Drews explained, adding he had to bide his time to become a skip. "Teams were 50s and older, a couple of 40s and maybe one other skip in his 30s so we were definitely the least experienced and probably the youngest. I really like playing with this team, they all want to learn and get better. It was a fun event."

Drews was 3-1 in pool play and the top two teams in the two pools qualified for the playoffs. Drews was the second seed in Pool A and then won playoff games 6-4 and 8-3.

He said their rink played very well when it counted.

"(The final game) was nice because we stole three in the second end and the hitting ability from my

team was pretty good — it's a strength of ours to fend off any chances that they have. They had to take some chances and we eventually ran away with it."

Drews and his rink have now advanced to the national championship, which will be held April 2-6 in Fargo, N.D. The CBS Sports Network is going to be televising the event. That's big time.

If they play well, Drews and his rink have a good opportunity to win the whole thing.

"We are really looking forward to playing at nationals," Drews said. "That was our goal, playing for something bigger than just our club."

The U.S. isn't new to Drews as he came down to attend school at the University of Minnesota in 2014. He won the title at the U.S. College Curling Championship in his third season of playing in it.



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED**  
Nick Drews, far right, who grew up in Eriksdale and Lundar, skipped his team to the Minnesota State Men's Championship earlier this year in Brainerd, Minn. The team has advanced to the national championship, which will be held April 2-6 in Fargo, N.D.

## McDonald, Hayward capture U21 provincial curling title

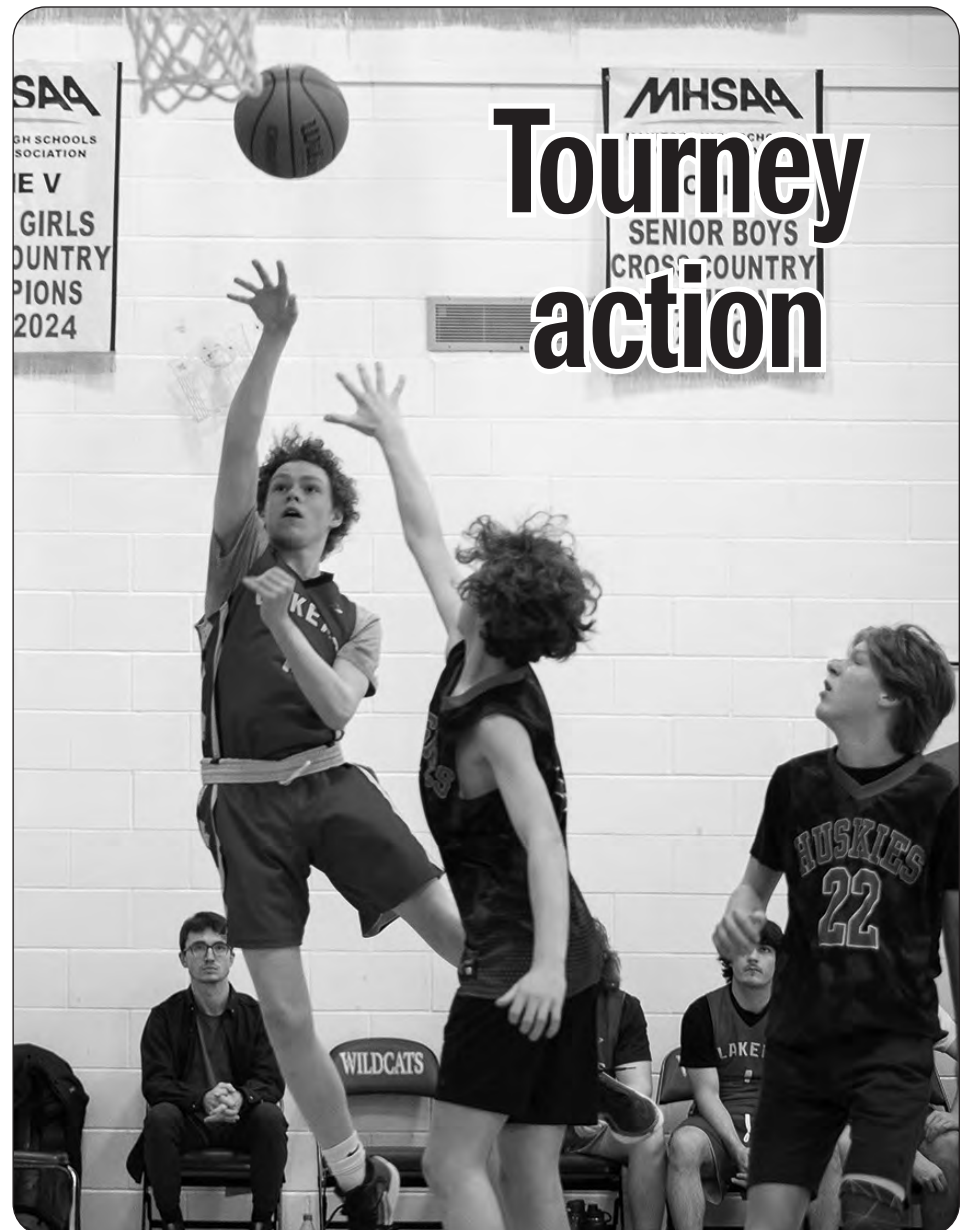


**EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER**

Assiniboine Memorial's Jordon McDonald and his team including Dallas Burgess, Elias Huminicki and Cam Olafson won his third straight Provincial Junior Championship with a 7-5 win in the final over Virden's Jace Freeman this past Sunday in Carman. McDonald, who features Winnipeg Beach's Huminicki at second, went 5-1 in the event and was the dominant team on the week.

Carman's Shaela Hayward, Keira Krahn, India Young and Rylie Cox captured the Manitoba U21 female Junior Curling Championship after a 9-6 victory over Heather Curling Club's Zoey Terrick in Sunday evening's championship final at the Carman Golf and Country Club.

Hayward, Terrick, McDonald and Freeman will now go on to represent Manitoba at the 2024 Canadian U21 Curling Championships from March 24 to 31 in Fort McMurray, Alta.



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER**  
Gimli Lakers junior varsity basketball player Dillon Carter goes up for a shot in his team's 61-33 victory against the Hamiota Huskies at the Warren Wildcats' tournament last weekend.

# A lot of winning for Winnipeg Beach curlers

By Jeremiah Knight

Kadriana and Colton Lott's success in Manitoba's mixed-doubles curling scene is almost to be expected each year. Ask the Winnipeg Beach couple, and they'll tell you their story on the pebbled ice was anything but.

The Lotts penned another fruitful chapter in their legacy after winning the provincial mixed doubles curling championship in Beausejour on Feb. 20. After losing their opening game in the 18-team tournament, the couple rattled off six straight wins, which includes cruising to a 10-4 triumph over Lisa McLeod and Lyall Hudson in the final.

The Lotts, whose first provincial championship appearance together came in 2018 before being married, will don the Buffalo Jacket for a third time (2018, 2023) at the Canadian mixed-doubles championships in Fredericton, N.B., from March 17 to 22. It will also be their sixth-straight appearance at the national event (pre-qualified for the tournament in 2019, 2021 and 2022).

"Any Manitoba provincial you go into, your dream is always to represent the province at nationals and for us to have been fortunate enough that this will be our third time representing Manitoba at nationals, it's almost like a dream come true," said Colton, who will also play second for Matt Dunstone's team at the Brier in Regina this week.

"You work hard toward it and it's nice to see that all that hard work pays off in the end. Also doing it together, it's just a special thing that we have."

Ten years ago, Kadriana and Colton

knew each other from a distance as budding junior curlers. It was around that time that Kadriana was scrambling for a player to join her team in a bonspiel.

"Like every younger person does, I put it on Facebook," she said. "And then Colton messages me saying he wants to play and I was ecstatic because he's known so well. So he ended up playing with us and that's how we got to know each other."

"It was nice becoming a friend with a good curler in our hometowns and it kind of blossomed from there."

The pair grew closer and took their on-ice relationship to another level a few years later when the Winnipeg Beach Curling Club began hosting a mixed-doubles recreation league.

As fate would have it, they were a pretty good pair. In 2018, the Lotts entered the provincial mixed-doubles championship on a whim and won it all, a run they continued to a runner-up finish at nationals.

"Looking back at it now and seeing how it all unravelled, yeah, it's the coolest thing ever. From something that you wouldn't have expected to being, in my mind, one of the top mixed doubles teams in the country," Colton said.

Added Kadriana: "And you think, it's taken us all around the world. We've been to Sweden. We've been to China. We've been to numerous places in Canada for it. We make trips out of it, so it kind of gives us time together, as well. It's not just curling but it's also off the ice and being able to travel and do stuff together, which is awesome."

While the Lotts have five appearanc-



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Colton and Kadriana Lott didn't play in any mixed-doubles events together this season until the provincial championship, where they lost their first game then rattled off six-straight wins.

es in the national bonspiel under their belt, they've never finished better than a bridesmaid. In 2018, their run ended at the brooms of Alberta Laura Walker and Kirk Muyers. In 2021, it was Manitoba's own Kerri Einarson and Brad Gushue who bested them in the title game.

What's important is that Kadriana and Colton know they have what it takes to get it done. This time, they

have a renewed focus to match their unwavering confidence in each other.

Perhaps their success on the national level will be expected soon, too.

"It would mean so much (to win)," Kadriana said. "I mean, we've been there how many times, been so close, and we know we're capable to get there. We got to finish that."

"Get there, but we also got to finish that last one strong."

## Zone 5 basketball champs



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Gimli Lakers won the Zone 5 varsity boys' basketball championship after a convincing 90-34 victory over the Warren Collegiate Wildcats last Wednesday. Pictured back row (left to right): coach Chad Heminger, Haden Magnusson, Jessie Patrick-Batenchuk, Carter Bomberak, Parker Johnson and Ethan Yablonski. Front row: Ryan Litwin, Shane Bomberak, Dylan MacLean, Viggo Bochoruka and Luke Robinson. Missing from the photo is Wyatt Langlois.

## Falcons, Ice Dawgs in CRJHL playoffs

By Brian Bowman

The Lundar Falcons and Arborg Ice Dawgs have some work to do in the Capital Region Junior Hockey League playoffs.

Both local teams are down 2-0 in their respective series.

Lundar lost 5-1 to the North Winnipeg Satelites on Sunday.

Riley Zdan scored a third-period goal for the Falcons.

Satelites' goals were tallied by Daniel Valente, Jack Speechley, Kayden Buffalo, Emerson Veloso and Logan Ashe.

Last Friday, the Falcons were edged 5-4 in overtime on home ice.

Nicolas Andrews scored the game winner in OT.

Veloso (two), Speechley and Tyler

Nault also scored for North Winnipeg while Cayden St. Laurent, Morgan Mantik, Ryan Benson and Joel MacMillan replied for the Falcons.

Lundar will host North Winnipeg on Friday. Game time is 8 p.m.

The Ice Dawgs, meanwhile, were beaten 9-1 at home by the Beausejour Comets on Saturday.

Tyson Barylski scored a second-period goal for the Ice Dawgs.

Comets' goals came from Aidan Avanthay (two), Nikolas Bear (two), Jarvis Ewasko, Clint Thomas, Kieran Brannen, Chiefton Enns and Zavir Beaudette.

Game 3 is set for Wednesday (8 p.m.) at the Sun Gro Centre in Beausejour.

# Vote for Interlake restaurants during Potato Week

By Jennifer McFee

Manitoba is no small fry when it comes to growing spuds, since many farmers across the province have grown taters since they were tots.

To celebrate the starchy root vegetable, Peak of the Market Ltd. is presenting Potato Week. Starting Friday, March 1, diners can vote for the 2024 Potato Week champion at [www.potatoweek.com](http://www.potatoweek.com).

"From March 1 to 10, restaurants throughout Manitoba will transform into potato palaces, crafting mouth-watering dishes that showcase their culinary creativity," said Taylor Fenn, director of marketing and communications.

"This event is free for restaurants to participate, and restaurants can opt in to receive 100 pounds of complimentary Manitoba-grown potatoes."

Potato Week began in 2018 in an effort to showcase the versatility of potatoes while also highlighting the creativity of local chefs.

"Potato Week isn't just about delicious bites, though. It's also a chance to shine a spotlight on Manitoba growers," Fenn said.

"By participating, you're supporting the dedicated individuals who cultivate the potatoes that inspire the innovative dishes crafted by local chefs."

Many of the growers are rooted in Winkler and surrounding areas. Participating growers this year include Garden Valley Vegetable Growers, Haskett Growers, Hespler Farms, Kroeker Farms Ltd., Schmidt Farms Ltd., Southern Potato Co. and W.J.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Local eateries are encouraging people to eat more potatoes while voting for their favourites from March 1 to 10. Restaurants can enter to participate up until March 1.

Siemens Farming Co. Ltd.

In addition, participating restaurants extend beyond city limits — including a couple entries in the Interlake.

Kahleigh's Brew Barn in Riverton is entering a simple yet delicious dish called "Kahleigh's Potato Wedges" featuring Italian seasoned and marinated Manitoba-grown potatoes fried to perfection and served with their house ranch.

Located at 40 Main St., Kahleigh's Brew Barn recently earned accolades during La Poutine Week, ranking No. 1 in Manitoba and No. 3 across all of Canada.

"Potato Week reached out to us this year asking us to participate via social media. I had never heard about Potato Week before, and after looking into it further, it definitely appealed to us," said owner Kahleigh Dubois.

"We love that this is something for Manitoba restaurants and promoting Manitoba potatoes. It's exciting to

be in the first few years of an event like this as it's just going to grow and grow each year, I'm sure — and we get to be along for that ride."

For their first year entering Potato Week, Kahleigh's Brew Barn will maintain a focus on potatoes only.

"This is something so simple to make, yet so delicious. Hopefully this can promote not only our restaurant but an easy dinnertime recipe as well to get more Manitoba potatoes on Manitoba plates," Dubois said.

"After the week is done, I plan to share with our customers on our social media pages the way I make these at home with only an air fryer. They are a little more tasty when made in the deep fryer, of course, but the air fryer version are a close second."

The Riverton restaurant 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.

Meanwhile, in East Selkirk, Taysteez is entering a delectable dish called

"Taysteez Poutine" featuring fresh-cut russet potatoes smothered with house-made gravy and tasty cheese curds.

The eatery is currently located at 1145 Strathcona Rd. in the East Selkirk arena and clubhouse building, although plans are in the works to find a new location.

"Our French fries sales are huge and people love our poutines. We get a lot of compliments on them," said Robert McLean, who co-owns the restaurant with Marlene Sutherland.

"We are expanding our food options in 2024 and changing locations and how we operate."

McLean encourages diners to check out the restaurant's profiles on social media platforms.

At the same time, Fenn encourages everyone to try the tasty tuber creations and vote for their favourite during Potato Week.

"Potatoes are versatile, high in nutrients and affordable. Manitoba is one of the largest producers of table potatoes, meaning these humble vegetables are critical to the province's agricultural economy," Fenn said.

"We encourage the public to visit restaurants through social and traditional media and we're partnering with a number of local food influencers this year. Potato Week is an opportunity for customers to try a new dish and be inspired to create their own spud-tacular potato-based dishes."

Visit [www.potatoweek.com](http://www.potatoweek.com) to view a full list of participating restaurants and growers. The list will continue to be updated until March 1.

# Camp Stepping Stones looking for volunteers, campers

By Lana Meier

Camp Stepping Stones will be back in person from Friday, May 31 to Sunday, June 2, and it's looking for volunteers and campers.

This camp is geared for kids aged seven to 17 who have recently lost a parent or somebody close to them. Volunteers create a safe environment for kids to explore their grief alongside other youth who are also grieving.

Cameron Benedictson, 33, occupational safety and health officer with Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, lost his father when he was in his 20s so he knows what it's like to lose someone close to him.

"I volunteered at camp last year for the first time. I saw that they needed volunteers and I thought it was a great idea for kids to go away for a weekend and see other kids going through something similar. They learn they aren't alone," says Benedictson, who will volunteer again this year. "They get to go have fun."

Individuals interested in volunteering can

complete an application form found at <https://www.ierha.ca/programs-services/palliative-care/camp-stepping-stones/>

Various volunteer roles are offered, including being a cabin leader and assisting with activities.

In addition to volunteers, the camp is also still accepting applications for campers at <https://www.ierha.ca/programs-services/palliative-care/camp-stepping-stones/>

Barb Ramsay, palliative care volunteer coordinator, is calling for individuals to assist campers with a variety of tasks such as sewing, crafts, ziplining and archery. Whether for the entire weekend or just a few hours, volunteers are encouraged to join in on the fun and lend a helping hand.

For more information, contact Barb Ramsay at [bramsay@ierha.ca](mailto:bramsay@ierha.ca), 1-855-494-7369 or 204-785-7542 or visit <https://www.ierha.ca/programs-services/palliative-care/camp-stepping-stones/>



Campers were able to enjoy the outdoors at Camp Stepping Stones with rope climbing.

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**NOTICE OF APPLICATION  
 RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI  
 REVISED WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES  
 GIMLI AMALGAMATED WATER UTILITY AND GIMLI WASTEWATER UTILITY**

February 20, 2024

The Rural Municipality of Gimli (RM) has applied to the Public Utilities Board (Board) for revised water and wastewater rates for the Gimli Amalgamated Water Utility (Water Utility) and the Gimli Wastewater Utility (Wastewater Utility) as set out in By-Law No. 23-0009, read the first time on October 11, 2023 and receiving second reading on February 14, 2024. Wastewater rates were last approved in 2019 in Board Order No. 111/19, with current rates coming into effect October 1, 2019, and Water rates were last approved in 2022 in Board Order No. 37/22 with current rates coming into effect on July 1, 2023.

The current and proposed rates are as follows:

WATER RATES	Current Rates	Proposed Rates			
	By-Law 21-0003	By-Law 23-0009 Year 1	By-Law 23-0009 Year 2	By-Law 23-0009 Year 3	By-Law 23-0009
Quarterly Service Charge	\$ 25.91	\$ 27.37	\$ 28.22	\$ 29.09	\$ 29.09
Water (per cubic meter)	\$ 1.57	\$ 1.68	\$ 1.72	\$ 1.76	\$ 1.76
Minimum Quarterly Charge*	\$ 47.11	\$ 50.05	\$ 51.44	\$ 52.85	\$ 52.85
Quarterly Flat Rate Commodity Charge per REU**	\$ 85.17	\$ 91.14	\$ 93.31	\$ 95.48	\$ 95.48
Flat Rate Quarterly Bill***	\$ 111.08	\$ 118.51	\$ 121.53	\$ 124.57	\$ 124.57
Bulk Water Sales (per cubic meter)	\$ 2.83	\$ 2.70	\$ 2.75	\$ 2.80	\$ 2.80

WASTEWATER RATES	Current Rates	Proposed Rates			
	By-Law 21-0003	By-Law 23-0009 Year 1	By-Law 23-0009 Year 2	By-Law 23-0009 Year 3	By-Law 23-0009
Quarterly Service Charge	\$ 22.71	\$ 27.37	\$ 28.23	\$ 29.12	\$ 29.12
Wastewater (per cubic meter)	\$ 1.35	\$ 1.45	\$ 1.48	\$ 1.52	\$ 1.52
Minimum Quarterly Charge*	\$ 40.94	\$ 46.95	\$ 48.21	\$ 49.64	\$ 49.64
Quarterly Flat Rate Commodity Charge per REU**	\$ 66.49	\$ 78.66	\$ 80.29	\$ 82.46	\$ 82.46
Flat Rate Quarterly Bill***	\$ 89.20	\$ 106.03	\$ 108.52	\$ 111.58	\$ 111.58
Septic Haulers (per cubic meter within RM)	\$ 4.60	\$ 4.74	\$ 4.88	\$ 5.02	\$ 5.02
Septic Haulers (per cubic meter outside RM)	\$ 5.95	\$ 6.24	\$ 6.31	\$ 6.38	\$ 6.38

\*Based on 13.5 cubic meters  
 \*\*Residential Equivalency Unit (REU); 1 REU = 217 cubic meters annual (per year)  
 \*\*\*1 REU plus Quarterly Service Charge

Details of the RM's application are available for review at the Municipal office or the Board's office. Any questions concerning the application for revised rates, or the operation of the Utilities, should be sent directly to the RM.

If you have concerns/comments regarding the RM's application for water and wastewater, rates please go to [www.pubmanitoba.ca](http://www.pubmanitoba.ca) and provide your comment. Please note all comments will be forwarded to the RM.

Questions or comments should be sent on or before **April 5, 2024**.

The Board is the provincial regulatory agency that reviews and approves rates for water and wastewater utilities in Manitoba, with the exception of the City of Winnipeg. The Board's review process involves:

- the Utility filing a rate application to the Board,
- a public notification of proposed rate changes,
- the Board's review of the application through a public hearing or paper review process, and
- the issuance of an Order which outlines the Board's decision on the rate application and the rates to be charged.

The Manitoba Ombudsman has privacy guidelines for administrative tribunals. The Board is mindful of its obligations under those guidelines. Its decisions in respect of the application being considered will be sensitive to the guidelines. Personal information will not be disclosed unless it is appropriate and necessary to do so. However, the Board advises participants that these proceedings are public and that as a result, personal information protections are reduced.

The Board will then decide whether any further notice is required and whether to proceed with a public hearing or paper review process. All concerns received by the Board will be considered in the Board's decision on rates to be charged.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT IN CONSIDERING THIS APPLICATION, THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD MAY OR MAY NOT FIND IT NECESSARY TO DETERMINE RATES DIFFERENT FROM THOSE APPLIED FOR BY THE APPLICANT.**

Note: All proceedings will be conducted in accordance with the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure, which the Board may vary in order to constrain regulatory costs. The Rules are available at [www.pubmanitoba.ca](http://www.pubmanitoba.ca).

Frederick Mykytyshyn  
 Assistant Associate Secretary  
 Manitoba Public Utilities Board

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## OFFICIAL NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Interlake Weed Control District (comprised of the Rural Municipalities of Armstrong, Bifrost-Riverton, Fisher, and Gimli, the Town of Arborg, and the LUD of Fisher) intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2024.

1. To control noxious weeds and brush, as well as vegetation causing a safety hazard, on rights-of-way, school grounds, and public areas within the Interlake Weed Control District, the Rural Municipalities of Grahamdale, Coldwell, St. Laurent, and West Interlake, and the LUD of Lunder. School grounds include all Evergreen and Lakeshore School Division properties. The projected dates of application will be from April 8 to December 31, 2024. The herbicides to be used in the program may include:

- 2,4-D Amine	- Diuron	- Picloram
- 2,4-D Ester	- Diflufenzopyr	- Saflufenacil
- 2,4-D choline salt	- Diquat	- Simazine
- Aminocyclopyrachlor	- Flumioxazin	- Triclopyr
- Aminopyralid	- Fluroxypyr	- Gateway adjuvant
- Bromacil	- Glyphosate	- Hasten NT adjuvant
- Chlorsulfuron	- Imazapyr	- Excel 70 surfactant
- Clopyralid	- Indaziflam	- LI700 surfactant
- Dicamba	- Mecoprop	- nonionic surfactant
- Dichlorprop	- Metsulfuron methyl	

- as well as products in the allowable list as per MB Regulation 286/2014

2. To control insect pests including mosquitoes, forest tent caterpillars, cankerworms, elm bark beetles, spruce bud worm, etc. in public areas within the Interlake Weed Control District. The projected dates of application will be from April 8 to October 31, 2024. The insecticides to be used may include:

- Bti	- Btk	- Deltamethrin	- Dimethoate	- Malathion
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The public may, within 15 days of the publication of this notice, send a written submission to the department below, regarding the advertised control programs, or to register with the department their written objection to the SPECIFIC control program(s) next to their properties for the 2024 season.

Environment and Climate  
 Environmental Approvals Branch  
 14 Fultz Boulevard (Box 35)  
 Winnipeg MB R3Y 0L6

Fred Paulson, Weed Supervisor  
 Interlake Weed Control District

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### RECRUITING FOR Full Time Permanent French Immersion Teachers

Resumes are being accepted for École St. Eustache and Institut Collégial St. Paul's Collegiate in anticipation for the 2024-2025 school year. All grade levels from K-12 are welcome.

Candidates interested in less than full time are also welcome to apply.

Currently posted: Grade 5/6 teacher at École St. Eustache (Comp: #004-24-25)

École St. Eustache and Institut Collégial St. Paul's Collegiate are both 20-30 minutes west of the Winnipeg perimeter on Hwy 1.

Apply to [hr@g.prsdmb.ca](mailto:hr@g.prsdmb.ca)

For postings, please visit [www.prsdmb.ca](http://www.prsdmb.ca)

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: COLLEEN ELIZABETH PEARL BORLASE (also known as COLLEEN ELIZABETH BORLASE), late of the Town of Winnipeg Beach, in Manitoba, Deceased. ALL claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, 72A Centre Street, P.O. Box 6500, Gimli, Manitoba, R0C 1B0, on or before the 27th day of March, 2024. DATED at Gimli, Manitoba, this 29th day of February, 2024.

BAKER LAW CORPORATION SOLICITORS FOR THE EXECUTORS  
Attention: Grant D. Baker

### HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail [stonewoodelkranch@mymts.net](mailto:stonewoodelkranch@mymts.net)

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### Construction Employee Required

Independent, experienced builder (own tools) required for, from scratch building of remote cabins (start to finish), including propane appliances, plumbing, wiring, metal roofs, etc. May through September.

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**Todd 250-864-3521**

## Remember Your Loved Ones

with an Announcement in the



Call 204-467-5836



## Rural Municipality of FISHER

Box 280, Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0  
Tel: 204-372-6393, Fax: 204-372-8470

## MUNICIPAL HERITAGE NOTICE

### RM of Fisher

#### Take Notice That:

The site described as follows:

The lands and premises commonly known as **The Ukrainian Catholic Parish of St. Nicholas** in the town of Fisher Branch, province of Manitoba and legally described in Certificate of Title No. P 32491 as: All that portion of the Southeast Quarter of Section 23 in Township 24 and Range 2 West of the principal meridian in Manitoba, which lies east of a line drawn parallel to the eastern Boundary thereof and perpendicularly distant westerly therefrom 285 feet and south of a lone drawn parallel to the southern boundary thereof and distant perpendicularly northerly therefrom 285. Excepting thereout all mines and minerals and special reservations as reserved in the grant from the Crown.

Of which the records of the Winnipeg Land Titles Office show as owner:

The Ukrainian Catholic Parish of St. Nicholas

All the lands and buildings thereon, have been designated as a municipal heritage site to be protected under the authority of **The Heritage Resources Act** by Municipal By-Law 1177/18 of the Municipality of Fisher, adopted on the 20th day of December 2018

#### AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT:

A copy of the Municipal Heritage Notice shall be filed in the appropriate Land Titles Office registry office, in accordance with the provisions of **The Heritage Resources Act**.

Dated at the Rural Municipality of Fisher, this 22nd day of February 2024.

**Kelly Marykuca, CMMA**  
Clerk of the Municipality of Fisher

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Lakeshore Handivan Association Inc. is hiring for a part time Coordinator 3 days/week with possibility of full time to start immediately.**

Reporting to the LSH Committee, the Coordinator will perform the duties and responsibilities necessary to supervise and organize Handivan services for the area based on the needs of both Rural Municipalities. The Coordinator will work in conjunction with the CRC office (LIFE) on calls.

#### Duties And Responsibilities:

- Supervise And Organize Driving Staff Including:
  - o Provide A Dispatch Function For The Service Including:
- Provide Administrative Support By:
- Oversee Vehicle Fleet Maintenance Including:
- Performing Duties of Driver When Operating A Vehicle For LSH (on an as needed basis)

#### Skills And Qualifications - Minimum:

- Interpersonal Skills To Deal With The Public And Staff (E.G. Patience, Tact And Courtesy)
- Strong Organizational Skills (E.G. Maintaining Records and Office Procedures)
- Microsoft Office/Computer Skills with good knowledge of Excel

#### Preferred Skills

- A background in logistics/dispatch or experience/knowledge in the operation of the transportation industry and/or fleet vehicles
- Class 4 or 5 Drivers' licence

**Salary:** Negotiable

**Work Location:** Living Independence for Elders

**Application deadline:** Monday, March 4, 2024

**We thank all those that apply but only those selected will be contacted for an interview. Please send a completed resume and references to: Lakeshore Handivan Association Inc.**

**Hiring Committee Box 684, Ashern, MB R0C 0E0**  
**Email: [Ishandivan23@gmail.com](mailto:Ishandivan23@gmail.com)**

**Or drop off at the LIFE Office - #4 - 61 Main Street, TBJ Mall, Ashern, MB**

Classified booking deadline is Monday at NOON prior to Thursday's publication Please Call 204-467-5836

## MORTGAGE SALE ADVERTISEMENT

The land as identified below will be sold at auction on Tuesday, the 2nd day of April, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. The auction will be held by way of video and/or teleconference. There will be no in-person attendees at the auction. In order to participate you must pre-register at least 24 hours prior to the auction by contacting Maria L. Grande at either 204-934-2573 or [mlg@tdslaw.com](mailto:mlg@tdslaw.com).

#### Certificate of Title No. 2342657/1

The land known as NE 1/4 of Section 36-23-10 WPM, in the Rural Municipality of West Interlake, Manitoba. The vendor is informed that this parcel of land consists of about 160 acres made up of 46.84 acres of Garson/Fine Sandy Clay Loam; 54.43 acres of Slough (conservation land); 34.65 acres of Native Hay and Pasture; 16.08 of Slough, Hay; and 8.00 acres of Bush and Scrub (conservation land). Directions: From Vogar travel 2 miles north on Highway 68 to Hayland Line Road. Turn west on Hayland Line Road and travel 3 miles. Turn north and travel 2.5 miles to arrive on the south-east corner of the quarter.

Prior Encumbrances: NIL

Property taxes are paid up to the 31st day of December, 2022. The Parcel is sold subject to taxes and penalties accruing after that date. Any outstanding water, sewer and utility account(s) for the current and prior years, whether or not added to the tax account at any time, are the responsibility of the purchaser.

TERMS - A \$5,000 deposit is required in form of cash, certified cheque or bank draft payable to Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP for the Parcel and the balance of the purchase price is to be paid according to the auction sale conditions. The maximum amount of cash that may be provided as part of the deposit is \$5,000.

The sale of the Parcel is subject to a Reserve Bid to be announced at the sale.

The auction sale will be conducted pursuant to an Order for Sale issued by the District Registrar. Certain parties may be prohibited from purchasing the property, including but not limited to, the parties who by virtue of their employment or relationship to a person involved in the sale process would have special knowledge of the circumstances pertaining to the sale. For more information and a list of prohibited purchasers please visit: [www.teranetmanitoba.ca](http://www.teranetmanitoba.ca). The winning bidder will have 24 hours to provide the deposit to our office, along with a signed copy of the mortgage sale conditions. Should the successful bidder fail to do so, the auction will be considered abortive.

Further information or a copy of the sale conditions may be obtained from:

THOMPSON DORFMAN SWEATMAN LLP  
Barristers and Solicitors  
1700 - 242 Hargrave Street  
Winnipeg MB R3C 0V1 Matter No. 0172234 MLG  
ATTENTION: MARIA L. GRANDE  
Telephone No. (204) 934-2573

# Classifieds Announcements

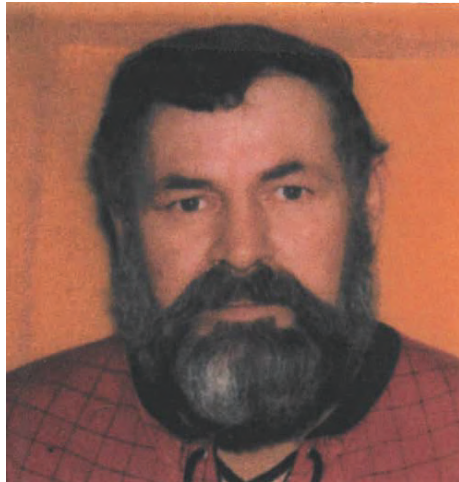


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**CARD OF THANKS**

The family of William Barlow would like to thank all who so generously supported us during the last months. Your visits, cards, phone calls and gifts of food have been much appreciated. We have been truly overwhelmed by all the kindness; we will be forever grateful.

**IN MEMORIAM**



**Lawrence (Lorne) D. Park**  
August 28, 1943 – March 2, 2021  
A day we remember so sad

Lost our brother, husband, father, grandad  
When tomorrow starts without me,  
Don't think we're far apart;  
With every cherished memory,  
I'm right there in your heart.

-Forever loved, deeply missed,  
Linda, Crystal  
James, Shirley  
Alexandria, Seraphina

**OBITUARY**

**Donald Mackenzie**

August 1, 1971 - February 9, 2024

It is with heavy hearts we announce the peaceful passing of Donald Mackenzie on February 9, 2024 with his family by his side, after a brave and courageous battle with cancer.

He was predeceased by his father Jack Mackenzie. Donald will be terribly missed with many cherished memories by his loving partner of 30 years Angel, his daughter Rayne, his mother Ethel Mackenzie Reykdal; his brothers, Alan (Debbie), Ian (Lori), Roderick (Sonja), sister Bev as well as numerous nieces and nephews; mother-in-law Connie Quaglia, sisters-in-law Alicia (Adam), Amanda (Steph), Brittany (Chad), Lauren (Kelly); best friends Brian (Sheryl), Warren (Dom) and beloved dog Tess.

Donald was born August 1, 1971 and grew up in Whytewold, he attended school in Winnipeg Beach and Gimli.

Donald was an avid sportsman and enjoyed speed swimming, hockey and golf. Donald's love of reading resulted in everyone wanting to be on his team when we played Trivial Pursuit.

Donald had many accomplishments but no other like his daughter Rayne and completing his journeyman plumber course with honors. His zest for life was like no other, and we were all blessed for knowing him.

We wish to thank the staff at Gimli Hospital for their end-of-life care. A special thank you to my sister Amanda, friends and family for all their support during this difficult time.

Cremation has taken place and a private celebration of life will follow at a later date.

We miss you so much. Til we meet again.

Luceo Non Uro  
(I Shine, Not Burn)



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**OBITUARY**



**Shirley Joan Conklin**  
July 10, 1934 – February 16, 2024

It is with deep and profound sorrow that we announce the passing of Shirley Joan Conklin on February 16, 2024 at Betel Home Selkirk.

Shirley was predeceased by husband Donald Conklin; partner John Litwin; son David Conklin; mother Doris Simcoe; father William Simcoe; sister Mildred Bouzovetsky; brothers Zane Simcoe and Elven Simcoe; nieces Leslie Thingelstad and Janice Simcoe and nephew Raymond Simcoe.

Shirley will be forever remembered and deeply missed by her son Rick Conklin (Debbie); grandchildren Aynsley (Meagan) and Amanda (Courtenay); nephew Christopher Onofreychuk (Barbara); niece Karen Onofreychuk and numerous friends.

Shirley was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba and spent most of her early years visiting family in and around Winnipeg Beach enjoying sun, sand and the Winnipeg Beach attractions. She moved to Thompson and Emerson, Manitoba but eventually settled in Gimli, Manitoba where she was employed at the Johnson Memorial Hospital for many years. Shirley had various interests over her lifetime which included hosting bus trips to casinos in Manitoba and the U.S, hosting Icelandic Festival barbeques for friends and family, gardening, knitting fuzzy scarfs for everyone and donating to causes that deeply touched her. In her later years she became a devoted Toronto Blue Jays and curling fan and never missed watching any games if she could help it.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the charity of your choice. There will be a private interment on a later date.

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



**OBITUARY**

**William Wolchuk**

William Wolchuk of Winnipeg Beach, MB passed away on Friday, February 16, 2024 at St. Boniface Hospital. He leaves to mourn his wife Valerie of 49 years; daughter Joanne Wolchuk Echlin (predeceased son-in-law Darren Echlin), Amanda Wolchuk (Cory Grierson); brother Raymond (Sally) of Chicago.

William was known as "Bill". He was a mechanic owning Bill's Esso Service in Winnipeg Beach for 30 years. He loved his cars, Thunder Birds, Harley Davidson truck, Allis Chalmers HD.5 Caterpillar, going to car shows, also watching Nascar racing.

In keeping with his wishes, cremation has taken place and a family gathering will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



**OBITUARY**

**Helen Anniuk**

Peacefully, on Sunday, February 25, 2024 at the Fred Douglas Lodge, Winnipeg, MB, Helen Anniuk, aged 93 years, formerly of Matlock, MB, passed away.

In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be held in the spring.

Longer obituary and memorial details will follow at a later date.  
Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home,  
Selkirk in care of arrangements.



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with an Announcement in the **EXPRESS** WEEKLY NEWS

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**Sudoku Answer**

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

**Crossword Answer**

S	E	S	E	T	E	V	G	R	I
P	E	H	S	R	S	I	N	I	R
E	D	S	E	C	R	X	I	N	U
A	V	A	B	I	A	S	E	S	E
L	I	T	E	R	A	T	E	R	A
N	G	I	F	I	P	A	T	E	M
O	O	I	B	I	C	A	R	I	B
E	R	R	E	D	E	A	R	A	M
A	R	T	A	R	T	A	N	I	T
A	R	T	R	E	O	I	R	E	T
S	E	N	E	S	N	E	S	N	E
S	E	N	E	S	N	E	S	N	E
O	L	S	O	E	A	B	O	R	I
T	T	O	D	T	I	N	T	S	L
N	O	O	N	I	A	N	I	D	C
L	I	U	G	S	C	I	S	E	S

# take a break

> GAMES

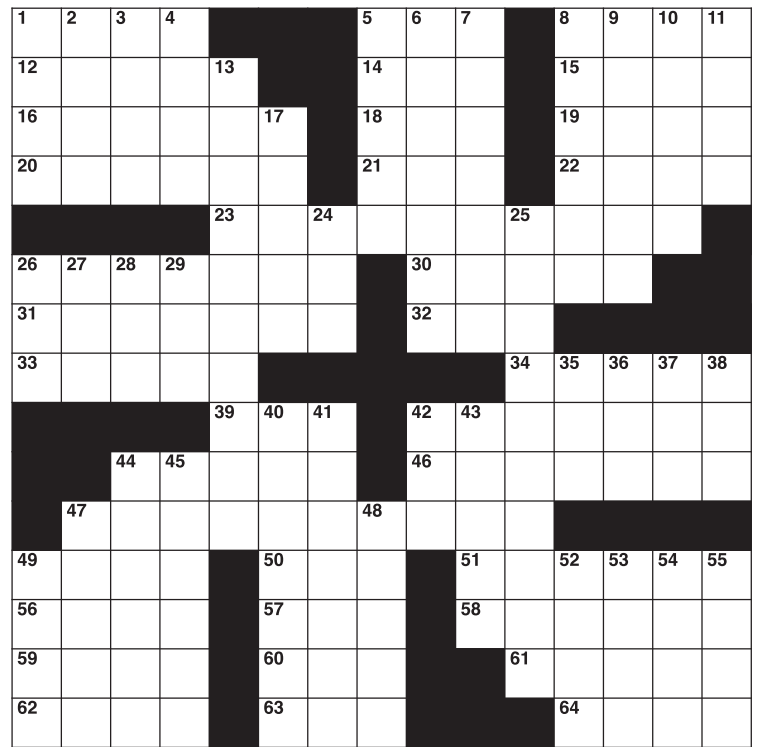
## CROSSWORD

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Home of Iowa State University
- 5. \_\_\_-fi (slang)
- 8. Mottled green and yellow fruit
- 12. Capable of thinking and expressing oneself clearly

**CLUES DOWN**

- 14. Sports broadcaster Eagle
- 15. Midday
- 16. Kinsmen
- 18. Cable network
- 19. Simpleton
- 20. Brunch beverage
- 21. Fed
- 22. European capital
- 23. Native inhabitants
- 26. Mechanical device
- 30. Rare geese native to Hawaii
- 31. Bedroom furnishing
- 32. The products of human creativity
- 33. Mass transit option
- 34. Made a mistake
- 39. Sacred sound symbol
- 42. Large N. American reindeer
- 44. Dull and flat
- 46. Partner to huffing
- 47. Written works
- 49. Monetary unit of Serbia
- 50. Midway between east and southeast
- 51. Peninsula of southwestern Asia
- 56. Widely used multiuser OS
- 57. Aggressive dog
- 58. Varnished
- 59. Hindu queen
- 60. Time units, abbr.
- 61. Farm animals
- 62. Capital of Latvia
- 63. Where golfers begin
- 64. Takes to civil court



## SUDOKU

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

**Fun By The Numbers**

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Level: Intermediate

**Here's How It Works:**

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. One who graduated
- 2. An inspired holy person
- 3. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 4. A place to store things
- 5. Indian instrument
- 6. Spanish saloon

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 7. Whole number
- 8. Not fastened
- 9. Gives a boost
- 10. Lounges about
- 11. Interested in
- 13. Remove salt
- 17. Type of sword
- 24. Naturally occurring solid material
- 25. Gets involved without being invited
- 26. Feline
- 27. Bobby \_\_\_, NHL champ
- 28. "Kill Bill" actress Thurman
- 29. Hawaiian dish
- 35. Moroccan coastal region
- 36. Baseball statistic
- 37. Long period of time

**CLUES DOWN**

- 38. Moved earth
- 40. Central Netherlands city
- 41. Take stock of
- 42. Central processing unit
- 43. Distinctive qualities one generates
- 44. Getting stuck
- 45. Loss of bodily movements
- 47. Veranda
- 48. Abrupt
- 49. What cats do
- 52. Expresses pleasure
- 53. Type of cheese
- 54. Professional STEM organization
- 55. Automatic data processing systems



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