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VOLUME 9 EDITION 10

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022

*Slava Ukraini!*

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## WEEKLY NEWS

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## Flying fish

EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Friends and family were out enjoying the beautiful weather at Gimli's annual Ice Festival last weekend. The festival attracts hundreds of visitors every year to the beachside town and helps beat the winter blahs. This group was entertained by Viking Jarin Eirson (a.k.a. Jason Jackson) at the frozen fish toss.

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# Sixty meals for a Winnipeg Beach local's 60th birthday

By Nicole Brownlee

A COVID-19 habit has turned into a birthday wish for a Winnipeg Beach resident hoping to spread positivity before her 60th year.

Denyse and her husband Larry Stewner started paying for two strangers' meals a week at Shenanigans on the Beach almost two years ago when a wave of COVID-19 was making its first appearance.

"For some people, the pandemic is financially devastating," said Denyse.

"We weren't financially hit through all of this, so we chose to buy two strangers two meals once a week."

Denyse wanted to continue the tradition with a twist leading up to her 60th birthday on May 11.

"My idea was to try to get, as a community, friends and family together for 60 days before my actual birthday to get 60 pay-it-forward meals."

Donors sign up to donate \$15, roughly the price of one meal at Shenanigans, and the restaurant takes care of the rest.

"I think it's a wonderful idea," said Shannon King, co-owner of Shenanigans.

"To see people's response when they get a meal, and they know that

somebody bought it for them. It's really nice to see. It puts a smile on their face."

King said Shenanigans staff award the free meal to random customers, whether it be a patron's first time at the restaurant or someone staff knows could use a hearty free meal.

"One Sunday, (Denyse) paid for somebody's meal, and everybody that evening paid for the next person's meal," said King.

"We had 19 people pay it forward in one night."

King described Denyse as outgoing, giving and passionate about the community.

"It's good to see some kindness."

Denyse and Larry, who moved to Winnipeg Beach 11 years ago, picked Shenanigans because of the staff's kindness, home-cooked food and connection to the community.

"They cater a lot to the community," said Denyse.

"They're very hardworking."

Starting on March 13, one patron will receive a free meal a day, but the kindness might last past Denyse's special day.

Denyse counted 60 days between March 13 to her birthday in May with-



EXPRESS PHOTO SUPPLIED BY DENYSE STEWNER

Denyse Stewner wished for 60 meals at Shenanigans on the Beach for 60 patrons for 60 days leading up to her 60th birthday on May 11.

out considering that Shenanigans is closed on Thursdays.

"If I do get more than 60 signatures, I've already posted on my letter that it will go until the money runs out,"

said Denyse.

She and Larry will also continue paying for two strangers' meals a week. "I love my little town here. I really do," said Denyse.



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# Fraserwood Hall in critical need of volunteers; sale of hall a possibility

By Patricia Barrett

The executive of the Fraserwood Hall is issuing an urgent call for volunteers to step into a variety of roles to keep the hall operating and stave off a potential sale of the building.

President Peter Capar said the executive will be holding a public meeting on March 15 to engage the community on the need for new people and fresh ideas.

Capar said they're not experiencing financial difficulties but are in great need of people — from Fraserwood, Gimli and other communities in the area — to oversee the hall.

"It's a real possibility the hall could be sold. Right now, we're financially viable. We've done very well, putting on all sorts of great events over the years, but our volunteer base has dwindled. Our membership over time has aged and we've lost members," said Capar last week.

"Even though we're managing financially, it has been the same people doing all the work and we're really struggling. We're at the point now that unless the community and people from the surrounding area are prepared to take on leadership roles and fill other positions, we won't be able to manage going forward."

The COVID-19 pandemic brought a shortage of volunteers to light, he said. Various periods of public health restrictions in which gatherings were restricted coupled with some volunteers concerned about the potential effect of the virus on their health led to a decline in people willing to serve. It also put an extra burden on those keeping the hall going. It's a phenomenon seen in other sectors too.

"Things definitely came to a head with the pandemic," said Capar. "I'm hearing that from other groups as well. Unfortunately, this [lack of volunteering] is one of the things the pandemic has done."

Fraserwood Hall was built by the membership through fundraising. The original hall dates back to the 1920s and started out as a library. In the 1940s and 1950s, the hall started hosting weddings and other events, said Capar. Plumbing and oil heat was installed in the 1970s. In the 1990s, the hall needed significant renovations at which point it was decided to a new hall should be built.

"For a number of years, we scrimped and saved and fundraised," said Capar. "In 2004 we began construction and we opened in the fall of 2005."

The 9,600-square-foot, state-of-the-



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Gimli Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Club (shown here in 2016) holds Malanka celebrations at the Fraserwood Hall every year.

art hall is a mainstay of community functions. It can be rented for meetings and AGMs, banquets, wedding socials, community functions, dance and other performances and fundraisers. It can seat over 450 people, has a hardwood dance floor, a stage, canteen, wet bar and a commercial

kitchen.

Capar said he has been involved with the running of Fraserwood Hall for 35 years and has served as president off and on for the past 15 years. He has held every executive position

Continued on page 5

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in

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# 'A Viking's Challenge' runner completes 30-kilometre run across Lake Winnipeg

By Patricia Barrett

Shawn Bjornsson, who grew up in Gimli, was back in his home town last weekend to compete against the elements and the icy terrain of Lake Winnipeg to raise money for skin cancer awareness.

Bjornsson completed A Viking's Challenge, a 30-kilometre run across Lake Winnipeg, last Saturday during the Gimli Ice Festival.

He ran in support of childhood friend Chris Isfeld, who developed late-stage melanoma and underwent treatment in 2017. This year, Isfeld developed a mass on his adrenal gland.

Bjornsson and Isfeld began the annual gruelling trek across the lake as a way to challenge each other and to fundraise for the Save Your Skin Foundation, a Vancouver-based not-for-profit group dedicated to advocating for people with skin cancer

and providing education on how to reduce the incidence in Canada.

Gimli Chamber of Commerce co-president Cheryl Buhler said Bjornsson actually ran over 60 kilometres last weekend: 31 kilometres in Winnipeg on Friday and 30 kilometres across the lake on Saturday.

The Gimli Running Club participated in the fundraiser by holding a walk and a run. They later gathered at A Viking's Challenge finish line near the Lakeview Resort to greet Bjornsson.

"Around 10-12 of us walked five kilometres today," said Buhler, who is a member of the running club and took part in the walk. "We cheered on Shawn as he crossed the finish line."

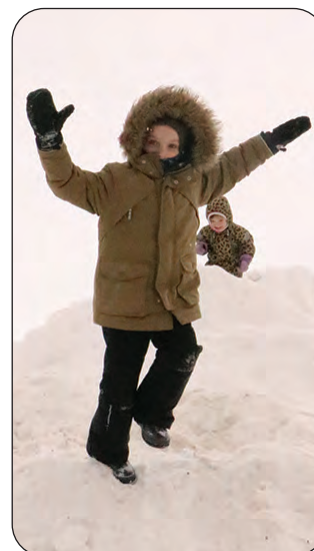
The Gimli Ice Festival donated \$10 to the foundation for every participant who registered to run.

For more information about Save Your Skin, visit [saveyourskin.ca](http://saveyourskin.ca)



EXPRESS PHOTO BY CHERYL BUHLER

Gimli Ice Festival's mascot Coolie, Interlake-Gimli MLA and agriculture minister Derek Johnson, Gimli mayor Lynn Greenberg and Red River North MLA and Environment Minister Jeff Wharton congratulated Shawn Bjornsson (middle) for running 30 kilometres across Lake Winnipeg to raise money for the Save Your Skin Foundation.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Mother Nature cooperated for those who enjoyed the many snow and ice activities at Gimli's Ice Festival this past weekend. Two-year-old Laval, on the sled, and her brother Paxton Vann (5) enjoyed the snow hill at the harbour; Viking Jarin Eirson was teaching the technique of tossing frozen fish, while Shannon Penner and Cathy Dyck of Hands of Lugh were cooking like Vikings, Keith and Ethan pose by a snow sculpture and others enjoyed skating and racing on Lake Winnipeg.



# Money from province could expand Interlake childcare

By Nicole Brownlee

New provincial supports for early learning and childcare centres could benefit Interlake facilities.

On Feb. 22, the provincial and federal governments announced their extension of the Canada-Manitoba Early Learning and Child Care Agreement to invest around \$98 million over four years. The agreement was signed in February 2018 for a three-year period and was extended in 2020.

Over \$19 million will target recruitment and retention efforts to build the early childhood workforce in Manitoba.

The Manitoba Child Care Association (MCCA) reports that there is a substantial early childhood education shortage in Manitoba. The COVID-19 pandemic has also exacerbated a

shortage of teachers across Canada.

Focusing on recruitment and retention will benefit the province's goal of expanding childcare spaces by 40 per cent, said MCCA.

"Our first investments will be to enhance wages for many workers who make less than the provincial average, as well as provide additional benefits to current staff, which is expected to help us retain more employees to support the youngest Manitobans," said Early Childhood Learning Minister Wayne Ewasko in a statement.

The province said \$15.5 million will help fund Francophone and Indigenous programming, provide grants and increase childcare capacities in rural and northern communities this year.

Offering a pre-school program is an important introduction to education, said Korissa Gasper, a pre-school teacher at Ashern Early Years School.

"They get to learn about each other and how school works and what the expectations are when they do come to kindergarten," said Gasper.

Gasper joined the pre-school program in September 2021 and has worked at Ashern Early Years as an educational assistant for two years.

"I love watching the children grow into the best people they can be," said Gasper.

The Lakeshore School Division runs the second term of pre-school activities, while the North Interlake Early Childhood Development Coalition is responsible for providing care from

September to February.

Ashern Early Years offers pre-school services to four-year-olds on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The children are creating an alphabet and numbers book to practise learning and writing letters and numbers, said Gasper.

There are 10 children enrolled in the pre-school program, but the program can support several more additions.

The Lakeshore School Division has not received any details about how the funding announcement may impact local programming, said Don Nikkel, superintendent of human resources and alternative program director of the school division.

## 'Spruce Up Your Story' accepting applications for funding

By Ty Dilello

Red River Mutual's Spruce Up Your Story program is back for a third year in a row, providing funding opportunities to help restore well-worn and well-loved community spaces across Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

This year, Spruce Up Your Story will be providing up to \$25,000 in cash to each project selected, with \$150,000 in total to award to communities across the Prairies.

On top of the monetary gift, the winners will also have access to addition-

al volunteer hours from a crew of staff members from Red River Mutual and their local brokerage to help complete the project, if and when it is safe to do so.

"Leading into 2020, we reflected on our community involvement and wondered how we could make an even greater and more direct impact," said Kailynn Newediuk of Red River Mutual. "After some research and self-reflection, we started the Spruce Up Your Story community sponsor-

ship initiative.

"Our purpose as a company is to be a positive force in the lives of our customers and communities, and through Spruce Up Your Story, we feel we are further able to connect with people and support them beyond their insurance needs. We value our customers and the people in our communities like family. Spruce Up Your Story allows us to learn more about who they are and how we can protect their stories through the spac-

es that bring them together."

Last year, 10 winners were selected based on community use, sustainability, an opportunity for volunteerism and a link to a brokerage that partners with Red River Mutual. The funding they received was put towards sprucing up the trails, parks, halls and baseball diamonds that bring their communities together.

Project submissions are open until May 31 at [SpruceUpYourStory.com](http://SpruceUpYourStory.com).

### > VOLUNTEERS, FROM PG. 3

on the board and he — along with other members — is simply tired.

They need at least 20 new people to step up and take on roles in running the hall.

"We're all getting older and we've put our time in. We need to walk out of the meeting next week with a minimum of 20 new volunteers," he said. "I don't think any less is enough for the hall to continue as it is. We've considered other options: we thought about hiring a manager to run things but that too requires a strong board and a commitment to serve."

New people are needed to fill executive positions, including the role of president. They also need new people to work on fundraising, cut the grass, change lightbulbs, work in the kitchen, monitor the hall's geothermal system,

oversee the mechanical system and act as caretaker.

"A new membership is going to bring new ideas. That could perhaps bring new ideas about how to run things. Just because we've been running things a certain way right now doesn't mean a new group has to do the same. Maybe they'll see a new efficient way of doing things," said Capar, who was planning to spend the weekend repairing the hall's floor-

washer and making perogy dough for the upcoming All You Can Eat Perogies fundraiser. "We also need people to bring different fundraising ideas to the table. There are all sorts of jobs for people with different skills sets."

The public meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 15 at 7 p.m. at the Fraserwood Hall. The hall is located on PR 231 in the town of Fraserwood. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, please contact Peter Capar, Jr. at 204-955-5415.



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Lana Meier



**SALES**  
Brett Mitchell



**SALES AND MARKETING**  
Jasmin Wolf



**REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Jennifer McFee



**SPORTS EDITOR**  
Brian Bowman



**REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Patricia Barrett



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1-204-407-6099  
patricia@expressweeklynews.ca



Call Nicole Brownlee  
1-204-467-5836  
nicole@expressweeklynews.ca

## Tale of two pandemics

**By Cam Dahl, general manager of Manitoba Pork**

It has been over two years since we first heard the words COVID-19. Since then, we have seen over 130,000 Manitobans become ill from the virus and over 1,500 deaths from the disease. Our mental health has taken a hit too, families kept apart, kids seeing extended time away from school, and the normal interactions we need as social beings are broken. There is an overwhelming feeling that we need to do things differently if this happens again.

COVID-19 has impacted Manitoba's agriculture production too. In the hog sector, we have seen labour become more difficult to find, both in our barns and processing plants, while at the same time more has been required of existing staff because of the pandemic, including filling in for those who have become ill. Our supply chains have been interrupted by a shortage of truckers and vaccine requirements. These constrictions have made it more difficult to access feed and export pigs to the United States. Despite the ongoing difficulties, the value chain has shown tremendous resilience to COVID-19 outbreaks, ensuring a reliable supply of pork to both Canadian and international consumers.

While we all have been dealing with COVID-19, hog farmers in Manitoba have been hit with another coronavirus outbreak: porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED). While PED has no impact on people, and our pork remains safe to eat, the disease is fatal to young

pigs. Euthanasia is often the only humane response to prevent extended animal distress.

PED was first found in Canada in 2014. Since then, Manitoba has seen major outbreaks in 2017, 2019 and 2021-22. We seem to be on a two-year cycle for this disease, which is not sustainable in the long run.

PED has taken an enormous toll on farmers whose operations have been impacted. The financial loss has driven some independent producers to consider their future in the industry. The disease has also taken a significant emotional toll on farmers and their staff. Like COVID-19, producers are telling us that we need to do things differently.

Manitoba is fortunate. All links in our value-chain work collaboratively, including producers, independent and company veterinarians, transport companies and the office of our chief veterinarian. These partnerships may seem natural, but it is actually not common to see industry and government players step out of their silos and openly collaborate.

Using this collaborative model, Manitoba Pork has established a value-chain working group to answer the question, "What do we need to do differently to prevent the spread of PED?" Each participant is being asked to bring forward the pieces of their PED management strategy that they feel are effective and highlight areas where they feel changes could be made. To see the best results possible, members of the working group are looking beyond their own specific

issues and will make recommendations based on the best interest of the entire industry.

As part of this effort, Manitoba Pork has engaged the Western College of Veterinary Medicine to review PED management practices in other jurisdictions, including other Canadian provinces and the United States. What works elsewhere that might fit in the Manitoba environment? What alternative practices might look promising but have been shown to be ineffective?

All parts of the value chain have ramped up biosecurity enforcement since PED was first discovered in Manitoba. But are there still gaps in the application of biosecurity best practices? Can the industry do a better job of communicating the appropriate responses, by service providers, if PED is found on a farm? It is clear that strong communication, both within the value chain and to outside stakeholders, is critical in preventing the next outbreak.

How do you stop the spread of the next potential pandemic? The principles are the same, whether one is talking about a virus spreading through our towns and cities or one spreading through our barns. First, get out in front with strong biosecurity. Take measures to prevent contact with infected premises. Collaborate and communicate frequently with all stakeholders. Perhaps most of all, be flexible and be willing to adapt new approaches that will better meet the needs of the community.

### ADVERTISING OR PRINT CONTACT INFORMATION

Lana Meier 204-292-2128  
ads@expressweeklynews.ca  
Jasmin Wolf 204-771-8707  
ads@stonewallteulontribune.ca  
PHONE 204-467-5836  
FAX 204-467-2679

### > EMAIL US

Letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklynews.ca  
Classifieds: classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca  
News: news@expressweeklynews.ca  
Print: igrphic@mymts.net

### OUR EDITORIAL STAFF

Brian Bowman Sports Reporter  
sports@expressweeklynews.ca  
Nicole Brownlee Reporter/Photographer  
nicole@expressweeklynews.ca | 204-232-5191  
Patricia Barrett - Reporter/Photographer  
Cell 204-407-6099 patricia@expressweeklynews.ca  
ADDRESS  
74 Patterson Drive, Stonewall Industrial Park  
Box 39, Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0

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# get informed

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



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Keeping up with a longtime tradition, Kelly and Gary Eyford were out "ski-dooskiing" last Wednesday. Kelly said as resourceful flatlanders, they have made this a fun winter pastime for their family for many years. Help the Express record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or family enjoying the outdoors. Email: [weather@expressweeklynews.ca](mailto:weather@expressweeklynews.ca)

## Self-isolation requirements gone as of March 15

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitobans who test positive for COVID-19 will soon no longer be required to self-isolate.

Dr. Jazz Atwal, deputy chief provincial public health officer, last week announced the province's intention to drop self-isolation requirements on March 15, the same day the mask mandate expires.

"No matter what your respiratory symptoms are, it's still recommended to stay home when you're sick to give your body time to recover and to reduce the likelihood of spreading that illness to someone else," Atwal stressed.

Manitoba will also stop COVID-19 case investigations next week.

People who test positive for the virus will still be contacted and provided guidance on how to care for themselves and whether they're eligible for certain treatments, Atwal explained, but the province will no longer be looking into where a person may have caught or transmitted CO-

VID-19.

Health officials will also be changing how it reports COVID-19 data moving forward.

"As we continue to transition to living with COVID-19 outside of public health restrictions, we also need to adjust to the information we collect and share with Manitobans," Atwal said. "Real-time data is less critical with endemic reporting. Instead, we would shift our focus to key piece of information that will provide the most relevant epidemiological evidence and data for both the public and decision-makers.

"Manitobans will see this shift in the days ahead as we focus on reporting on key trends, more vulnerable settings, and other important indicators of COVID activity and severity in our province."

With restrictions easing across the province, it's likely Manitoba will see a jump in cases, Atwal said, though he doesn't believe a major new wave of the virus will hit in the weeks ahead.

"The system has been preparing and will continue to prepare for potentially a new wave," he said, noting a future variant could well come along and cause more severe outcomes than the currently prevalent omicron variant. "There isn't anything on the horizon that we can see in relation to that, but we're going to continue to monitor that situation."

Public health is prepared to scale up its response once again should case numbers, especially hospitalizations and ICU admissions, require it.

On Monday, Manitoba's online COVID-19 dashboard was reporting 434 people in hospital with COVID-19 (192 of them contagious) and 27 people in ICU (15 contagious). That is an improvement over the previous week, dropping by 40 in hospitalizations and three in ICU patients.

The number of deaths due to the virus was at 1,700, up 20 from the Monday before.

## I Cry For You My Ukrainia

By Jerry Jaroslaw Kozubal

Written March 2022 in response to the war in Ukraine

You are a land of hidden beauty  
Radiant mountains and sparkling waters

Forests full of life  
And rich fields of blacken gold.

For three decades you have enjoyed your freedom

Independence was gained.  
You are a nation of culture  
Of knowledge and great strength.

Without provocation an enemy appears

It is a dark and ruthless monster  
Set to destroy your way of life  
And the nation that you have built.

Your leaders are struggling for your freedom to maintain

To protect the rights of the people.  
There are friends who want to help you

To lend a helping hand.

The land and its people have been battered and bruised

By deliberate and inhumane actions

Of dictators intent on stealing your nation

And obliterating your identity as proud Ukrainians.

Do not give up the fight

Do not give up your freedom.

Rise up together and stand united

To give peace and freedom a chance.

I cry for you my Ukraina

For your hurt is in my soul.

I feel your pain and sorrow

Freedom is such an elusive goal.

I cry for you Ukraina

I want to see you proud and strong.

But for today and for tomorrow

I cry for you my Ukraina.

I cry for you Ukraina

I offer you my prayers.

My hopes and dreams are with you

As millions of us care.

## Lieutenant-governor requests nominations for annual historical award

Submitted by the office of the lieutenant-governor

Lt.-Gov. Janice Filmon is encouraging the public to nominate a worthy Manitoban who has provided prolonged and meritorious service in the preservation and promotion of Manitoba history for an award, presented in consultation with the Manitoba

Historical Society.

"In every community, in every city and town, there are individuals who devote their time and expertise to preserving documents, creating historical studies, restoring or maintaining historical buildings and artifacts, bringing the past to life in schools, museums and historic sites, and ad-

vocating for historical understanding," said Lt.-Gov. Filmon. "It is a pleasure to formally recognize Manitobans who take such pride in preserving and promoting the history of this great province for the benefit of us all."

The Lieutenant-Governor's Award for Historical Preservation and Pro-

motion is presented to those with experience in such endeavours as:

- the writing of historical publications and documents;
- stewardship of museums and archives;
- raising of public education,

Continued on page 10

# 'Continue to take COVID precautions,' urges Doctors MB

By Lorne Stelmach

Physicians are urging Manitobans to remain cautious about COVID-19 even as pandemic restrictions are being eased in the province.

During an online press conference last week, Doctors Manitoba president Dr. Kristjan Thompson stressed that we all need remember there's still a significant risk and a need to take precautions, as COVID continues to circulate widely in communities throughout the province.

"While these protections are being loosened, the risk from COVID-19 is not yet gone," stressed Thompson, who is an emergency physician at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg.

"While our numbers are trending in reassuring directions, we are not out of the woods yet," he continued. "We've been at this for two years. There's a very strong sentiment and urge just to get back to way things were, but we're not there yet."

During this critical transition period, it remains vital that people continue to follow public health and medical recommendations to reduce the risk.

With that in mind, Doctors Manitoba has launched a new website, new-

covidnormal.ca, to help Manitobans understand the current risks, who is more vulnerable and what everyone can do to help. The resource was created based on public health advice and with the input of physicians with a wide variety of expertise including in infectious diseases, public health, family medicine, critical care, geriatrics and pediatrics.

As part of the awareness campaign, Doctors Manitoba is also stressing that there are many factors that can make people more vulnerable to severe outcomes from COVID-19.

Risk factors include age, underlying medical issues, compromised immune systems, obesity, disabilities, history of smoking and pregnancy, and many of these risk factors are not visible to others. As well, Manitobans who are Indigenous, Black or people of colour can also be at an increased risk.

"There are over 20 risk factors that can make people more vulnerable to COVID-19," explained Thompson. "Over half of Manitobans have risk factors that make them higher risk for severe illness or even death from COVID-19."

He reiterated the message that "COVID is still circulating widely in Manitoba ... our hospitals are still nowhere near back to normal. There are hundreds of patients with COVID still in hospital, and this affects patient care all across the board.

"I think we're concerned that people are getting the wrong message. ... The end of restrictions and protections does not mean the end of the pandemic," Thompson said. "There's still absolutely a need to continue doing things that will limit the risk of spreading COVID-19 to others."

Thompson touched on his own recent experiences at St. Boniface Hospital as a prime example of the health-care system still being well over capacity.

"There are often days when there are over 20, sometimes approaching 30 admitted patients waiting for beds," he said. "Our hospitals are still stretched and are still over capacity, so I think it behooves us to tread carefully and softly so we can get on top of these numbers.

"I don't want there to be another wave. I'm done with COVID too. ... I want this to be over just as much as

anyone else," Thompson continued. "Another variant could still come, and we may have to reinstate these restrictions. If we start to see a trend in the wrong direction, if we start to see our numbers go up, if we see a new wave ... we have to have a mechanism to reinstate, if need be, and I do trust our public health officials are looking at that data and will advise government accordingly."

Over the next several weeks, physicians recommend Manitobans do the following to help:

- Understand the risks by visiting the [newcovidnormal.ca](https://www.newcovidnormal.ca) website.
- Continue to wear a mask that is good quality and well-fitted.
- Get vaccinated and boosted, especially as easing restrictions increase risks for those who haven't been fully vaccinated and boosted.
- Reconnect with others gradually by keeping contacts at a reasonable level and finding fresh air whenever possible.
- Stay home when ill to avoid spreading COVID to others.

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## Sex education and drug usage addressed in Lakeshore School Division

By Nicole Brownlee

The Lakeshore School Division is integrating a harm reduction program into select schools this spring with the help of three nursing students and the Manitoba Harm Reduction Network (MHRN).

René Piché, Carly Meyer and Julie Hochman are third-year nursing students at Université de Saint-Boniface who want to make a difference in harm reduction in the Interlake.

The students have been working with the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority since September to learn more about Eriksdale and Ashern.

"With Mikayla Johnson from MHRN, we identified that there was a need for resources and harm reduction in the schools," said Piché.

Harm reduction is a set of strategies aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use, like sexually transmitted or blood-borne infections. Harm reduction also advocates for the rights and respect of people who use drugs.

Lakeshore School Division connected with the nursing students to open a conversation about harm reduction in Lunder and Ashern schools.

"The students are planning on being responsive to the needs in our schools and then tailoring the program based on that," said Don Nikkel, the division's superintendent of human resources and alternative program director.

"It's wonderful to be able to acknowledge some of the things that have been happening almost behind the scenes with COVID-19 over the last few years."

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated opioid overdoses and deaths across Canada.

From January to June 2021, Manitoba saw a 44 per cent increase in the number of drug-related deaths reported during the same period in 2020. In the first half of 2021, there were 199 drug-related deaths in Manitoba, while in all of 2020, there were 372.

The nursing students started their research by distributing surveys to Lunder School, Ashern Central School, public health nurses and peers connected to MHRN's Northwest Interlake region.

"We see that there is usage in the schools," said Piché.

Hochman added that lack of en-

agement in the community leads to a higher risk of substance use because of a lack of activities. The COVID-19 pandemic also contributed to extra-curriculars halting.

"There's not a lot of things that youth can do in these rural settings to be occupying themselves," said Hochman.

"In the harm reduction way, we meet the users where they're at and use a non-judgmental approach to help them have a safer drug use and sexual activity," said Piché.

The nursing students also noticed from their initial research that students had misconceptions about pregnancy prevention and sexually transmitted infections, and some teachers felt uncomfortable talking about these topics.

"A lot of the burden falls on the teachers," said Meyer.

"It sometimes might be easier or more doable to have a professional come in and talk to the students or have some kind of bridge in between organizations like the Manitoba Harm Reduction Network and schools," said Piché.

The trio is meeting with teachers from the Lakeshore School Division

this week to connect and get a sense of staff's familiarity with harm reduction.

"We thought that working with the teachers will create that impact for future students as well," said Meyer.

The nursing students also want to create a framework for teachers and schools because they are only mandated to continue the project until April.

"We're trying to find ways this can make a long-lasting impact and go way beyond just April," said Hochman.

Mikayla Johnson, MHRN co-ordinator for the Northwest Interlake area, said their main goal is to build a relationship and start the conversation about sexual education and substance use education for students in schools.

"I'm hoping it can keep going so that these rural folk and these rural students don't get left out of any of these important topics that should be taught," said Johnson.

"Anyone who lives in a rural community knows our needs and our resources are always so different than those in an urban setting."



# Donation drive underway for Ukraine humanitarian relief

By Jennifer McFee

While the world rallies in support of Ukraine, the local community continues to do its part.

Warren resident Lauren Iwanchuk is currently collecting donations of priority items for humanitarian relief to be sent overseas. Some of the items will also be stored in preparation for the influx of Ukrainian refugees expected to arrive soon.

The donation drive will wrap up in the morning on Friday, March 11.

Iwanchuk decided to get involved when she saw a Facebook post from her friend John Huver of Royal LePage Prime Realty stating that his co-worker had put a bin in their office to collect donations.

"His co-worker has family in Ukraine currently. I had a couple of things I wanted to donate and thought I would reach out to the community to see if anyone else wanted to help out," she said.

"I reposted the post to a few community pages and it blew up. I had people messaging, wanting to donate items. It was amazing to have so

many people wanting to help out."

Items being accepted for donation include non-perishable food (with a big demand for baby food), feminine hygiene products, diapers, first aid kits, oral hygiene products, blankets, bedding, clothing, footwear, tents, camping mattresses, portable lamps, candles and tactical items such as helmets, backpacks and dry rations.

Restricted items that aren't eligible for donation include knives, aerosol items, matches, perfumes, aftershaves, any products with alcohol, batteries, compressed air or gas cylinders, camping stoves and perishable food.

Anyone who would like to donate to the cause can drop off items at Warren Tire by Friday morning.

"All donations get taken to a drop-off depot on Main Street in Winnipeg," she said.

"They get sorted and sent to Poland and then they are transported to Lviv and distributed to humanitarian centres there."

Iwanchuk said another option is to donate funds online through the



EXPRESS PHOTO BY DARIA LUKIE

Donations for Ukraine are being collected until Friday, March 11 and can be dropped off at Warren Tire.

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal organized by the Canada-Ukraine Foundation ([www.cufoundation.ca](http://www.cufoundation.ca)).

"I feel that we're all pretty lucky to wake up every day and go about our lives without minimal disruptions,"

she said.

"The people of Ukraine have had their whole lives upheaved at no fault of their own, and I just wanted to help in anyway that I could."

# Clocks spring forward this Sunday for daylight savings

Staff

Most Canadians will adjust their clocks ahead by an hour Sunday, March 13 for the switch from local standard time to daylight saving time.

Daylight saving time officially starts at 2 a.m.

Clocks are pushed ahead one hour in spring to what's commonly called "daylight saving time," an idea first

used in Germany during the First World War with the goal of saving energy. It aims to take advantage of daylight hours in the spring so that people don't sleep through the first

few hours of sunshine.

When the daylight period gets shorter in the fall, the clocks are readjusted to the proper "local standard time."

# Film festival calls for Ukrainian filmmakers

By Nicole Brownlee

The Gimli International Film Festival has removed all submission fees for Ukrainian filmmakers and filmmakers of Ukrainian descent to encourage connections and remove barriers.

"There were many people, myself included, who felt very emotionally impacted by the (events) in Ukraine," said Alan Wong, executive director of GIFF.

Wong is referring to Russia's attack and invasion of Ukraine in late February, which has killed and injured hundreds of Ukrainians and destroyed residential areas.

"I thought that one way we could, kind of, help is to spread the messaging," said Wong.

"Film has the power to change minds. Film has the power to inspire."

Waiving the submission fee could also remove an obstacle that could have barred Ukrainian filmmakers from submitting their work.

"If they're filmmakers in Ukraine, they are obviously dealing with a lot right now, and submitting their film to a festival is the least of their worries, so anything that we can do to make it an easier process for those filmmakers, we're happy to do it," said Wong.

GIFF staff are reaching out to Ukrainian film co-operatives to spread awareness about the opportunity.

Filmmakers can give context to historical events and lend a different perspective than media can.

"We're very accustomed to getting our information through media now. ... I think films are another way that we're able to learn about the world or ourselves," said Wong.

"It's interesting to see even a fictional story in that (historical) setting. It can shed a lot of light on some of the real human experiences."

Photographer and filmmaker John Paskievich said any time an organization like the GIFF opens its doors wider for submissions is a good opportunity for filmmakers.

"It's a nice gesture."

Paskievich was born to Ukrainian parents in a displaced persons camp at the end of the Second World War. His family immigrated to Montreal from Austria in 1953 and relocated to Winnipeg in 1959.

Paskievich is known for covering a diverse range of humanity from Inuit carvers in Baffin Island to Orthodox Russians living in Northern Alberta through film and has won several awards during his career, which spans over four decades.

"Film is an ideal medium to explore the past because you can use not only words but also visuals. With the invention of photography, you can actually see the past," said Paskievich, who lives in Winnipeg.

"The past is always with us. ... If you don't know the past, you don't know what's going on now, and you will have absolutely no idea what might possibly happen in the future."

Paskievich said he looks forward to seeing filmmakers' submissions at the festival.

The final deadline to submit films to the 22nd Annual GIFF is April 15. The GIFF will be held from July 20 to 24.

## Community Support Service

### Al-Anon Gimli and Winnipeg Beach

Meeting place  
17B North Colonization Rd.  
Gimli (Next to the New Horizons)

Meetings are Wednesdays  
between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact 204-389-4777

### 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 204-340-1855



# Gimli residents raising money for Canadian Red Cross

## 'Stand with Ukraine' fundraiser March 26

By Patricia Barrett

As the unprovoked Russian invasion and attack on Ukraine continues, and more and more women, children and elderly people flee the country for safety, a group of Interlake residents will be holding an upcoming fundraiser to help the Canadian Red Cross support the humanitarian crisis.

Romanna Klymkiw, Allison Magnusson, Ashley Warcimaga, Stacy Jo Markusson and Katrina Klymkiw are co-organizing the "Stand with Ukraine" fundraiser, which will be held at the Lakeview Resort in a few weeks.

Romanna Klymkiw, who lives in Gimli, said she has family in Ukraine and they're helping with the war effort.

"To my knowledge, they are OK. Many of them are joining the war effort; they are going to fight. I haven't heard of anything happening to them as of now," said Klymkiw last Sunday. "I'm a second-generation Ukrainian. Three of my grandparents emigrated from Ukraine, and my mom has first cousins living in Ukraine right now, as well as their children and their grandchildren."

Russian president Vladimir Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, claiming Ukraine threatens Russia's security because it wants to join the NATO military alliance which is made up of western countries. Despite saying Russians and Ukrainians



Stand with Ukraine tickets are \$20 and can be purchased from Romanna Klymkiw.

are "one people," Putin continues to kill Ukrainians, decimate their cities and seize their nuclear power plants.

On Sunday, the United Nations' refugee agency said 1.5 million Ukrainians have fled their homes as missiles continue to rain down on residential neighbourhoods and the Russian military advances towards the capital Kyiv.

The Gimli fundraiser is intended to raise monetary donations for the Ukraine Humanitarian Crisis Appeal through the Canadian Red Cross. The aid agency can use the money in ways that best support displaced people, who've fled to neighbouring countries such as Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia, as well as the Ukrainians who are staying to fight for their country and democracy.

Klymkiw and her co-organizers are planning an afternoon of entertainment that includes Ukrainian dance club performances, prize draws, a light lunch and speeches from munic-



ROMANNA KLYMKIWIW INSTAGRAM

Romanna Klymkiw from Gimli and her sister took part in a rally on Feb. 26 at the Manitoba Legislature, where thousands of people gathered in support of Ukraine a few days after Russia attacked and invaded the country.

ipal, provincial and federal officials.

"I have the Barvinok dancers and the Reechka dancers performing. I have The Group Five band from Winnipeg coming in. They play old-time music and polka," said Klymkiw. "We also have the Nibi Ikwe Drum Group, an Indigenous drum group from Gimli."

Klymkiw runs a music studio, offering voice and piano lessons, and one of her students will be taking part in the entertainment.

"One of my students, Adalynn

Tupper, is performing a Ukrainian song on the piano and will sing a couple of pieces," said Klymkiw.

Businesses are invited to donate articles for the event's silent auction.

The fundraising event takes place on Saturday, March 26 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Lakeview Resort in Gimli. Tickets are \$20. People can also purchase \$20 support tickets.

For more information about the fundraiser and tickets, call Romanna Klymkiw at 204-792-6019.

	<b>INTERLAKE CO-OP</b> Arborg Bulk Fuel 204-376-5201 fuel@interlakecoop.com	<b>MOOSEHORN CO-OP</b> Moosehorn Bulk Fuel 204-768-2770	<b>UKRAINIAN FARMERS CO-OP</b> Fisher Branch Bulk Fuel 204-372-6841 alex.ferris@ukfarmerscoop.com
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## > HISTORIC AWARD, FROM PG. 7

advocacy and awareness;

- committee or community service;
- preservation of historic sites / buildings; and
- art and media.

As the oldest historical organization in Western Canada, founded in 1879, the Manitoba Historical Society (MHS) presents awards to businesses, farms and organizations that have operated for over 100 years, recognizes important historical books with its Margaret McWilliams Awards and encourages school children to learn about Manitoba's past through its Young Historians Awards. It publishes the *Prairie History The Journal of the West* and operates a comprehensive website with information on all facets of Manitoba history and heritage.

The MHS will receive nominations from the public and will recommend up to three individuals to receive awards this year. Nominations to be considered for 2022 must be received by Friday, April 1. The awards will be presented at Government House later in the spring.

Nomination forms and further details of the award program are available on the websites of the lieutenant-governor of Manitoba ([www.manitobalg.ca](http://www.manitobalg.ca)) and the Manitoba Historical Society ([www.mhs.mb.ca](http://www.mhs.mb.ca)).



# Gimli raises flag to show solidarity with Ukrainian people, support for democracy

By Patricia Barrett

The latest count by the United Nations last Saturday showed 1.3 million Ukrainians having been made refugees as Russia continues to lay waste to Ukraine's cities and seize vital infrastructure, such as nuclear power plants, in its attempt to take over the sovereign, democratic country.

Russia invaded and attacked Ukraine on Feb. 24, saying the nation's interest in joining NATO threatened Russian security.

Gimli mayor Lynn Greenberg, Coun. Thora Palson and resident Bruce Benson — who created the Flag of Humanity to unite people — raised the Ukrainian flag on Gimli Beach last Friday morning to show their solidarity with Ukraine and support for democratic rule. The event was livestreamed on the RM's Facebook page.

Coun. Palson said her prayers are with the Ukrainian people as they flee from bombardment.

"I pray for the people of Ukraine and all the innocent victims of this horrendous assault," said Palson. "I pray for a swift end to Putin's war actions and I pray that Putin is removed from power and held accountable as a war criminal. As we know from history, when evil dictators engage in war, no person is truly safe."

Mayor Greenberg said the municipality is behind the people of Ukraine as homes and infrastructure get senselessly destroyed and people are displaced and killed.

"It's important to show support for Ukraine. In the early 1900s, many people came from Ukraine and settled in Gimli and the Interlake and made this area a better place," said Greenberg. "This is a needless war."

Greenberg said he tried to track down a large Ukrainian flag. A few residents of Gimli, who happened to be shopping at a store in Selkirk, found a flag and delivered it to Greenberg, who paid for it.

The mayor said if asked, the municipality is willing to work with the federal government or the province to assist with settling potential Ukrainian refugees in the area. The federal government said it will fast-track Ukrainian applications to enter Canada.

European countries along Ukraine's western border — Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania and Moldova — are providing food, shelter, medicine and other aid to Ukrainians fleeing Russian missile strikes, which are deliberately targeting residential neighbourhoods and critical infrastructure as a way to get Ukrainians to capitulate, according to military experts.

The United Nations Refugee Agency



Ukraine's blue and yellow flag flies with the Flag of Humanity on Gimli Beach.

said a million Ukrainians fled their homes in a mere seven days since the start of the invasion and the shelling, and that people continue to flee as Russia advances farther into the country. As of last Saturday, the UN said there were 1.3 million refugees. Neighbouring European countries are providing succour to Ukrainians.

"Despite the extraordinary pace and challenges, the response from governments and local communities in receiving [these] one million refugees has been remarkable," said UN high commissioner for refugees Filippo Grandi in a March 3 statement.

"UNHCR staff have already moved in throughout the region and are scaling up our protection and assistance programmes for refugees, in support of host governments."

Ukraine president Volodymyr Zelenskiy has repeatedly asked NATO to impose a no-fly zone over Ukraine to prevent Russian attacks from the air. NATO has so far refused to do so, saying it will escalate the Kremlin's aggression.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Gimli mayor Lynn Greenberg (right), resident and Flag of Humanity creator Bruce Benson and Gimli Coun. Thora Palson raised Ukraine's flag last Friday on Gimli Beach to show support for the besieged sovereign nation that was attacked and invaded by Russia on Feb. 24.

To see more photos of your favourite Interlake Athletes

GO TO

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# Attendance statistics at ESD don't determine prevalence of COVID in schools

By Patricia Barrett

Although the Evergreen School Division is posting attendance statistics for each of its schools on its website, it's difficult to determine whether student absences are because of COVID-19 infections as the provincial government stopped tracking the spread of the infectious virus in schools.

The government has also severely restricted the public's access to PCR testing, resulting in significant undercounts of potentially infected people in communities.

The government has asked schools to track absenteeism. When the levels reach a certain threshold, school divisions are asked to contact the government.

ESD Supt. Roza Gray said the "usual" absenteeism rate across the division is about seven per cent, and the division is postulating that the increase in absenteeism over the past few months is tied to public health's recommendation for students to stay home when they feel sick.

"We believe the increase in student absences is tied to the public health direction to stay home while experiencing symptoms," said Gray last week. "As testing has been de-emphasized,

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### Attendance Tracker

Please Note:

- Overall student absenteeism is never 0% due to the range of needs families and "normal" rates can be expected in the 5% - 15% range.
- Student attendance is gathered daily.
- The attendance data displayed is calculated by dividing the number students absent in Period 1 by student enrollment expected that period.

Date	Students Absent
Feb 23	29%
Feb 22	22%
Feb 16	18%
Feb 15	16%
Feb 14	14%
Feb 10	17%

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### Attendance Tracker

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- Overall student absenteeism is never 0% due to the range of needs families and "normal" rates can be expected in the 5% - 15% range.
- Student attendance is gathered daily.
- The attendance data displayed is calculated by dividing the number students absent in Period 1 by student enrollment expected that period.

Date	Students Absent
Feb 7	-
Feb 8	-
Feb 9	32%
Feb 10	15%
Feb 14	38%
Feb 15	11%
Feb 16	11%
Feb 22	27%
Feb 23	19%

EXPRESS PHOTO ESD WEBSITE

Attendance for Gimli High School over a few weeks in February showed an absenteeism high of 29 per cent on Feb. 23. Riverton Collegiate saw 38 per cent of its students absent on Feb. 14. Middle and early years schools also showed above-normal rates of absenteeism.

we don't have data on how many students have had COVID-19 in the last few months."

Gray shared absenteeism rates at a divisional level. From Jan. 24 to 28, it was 22 per cent; Jan. 31 to Feb. 4, 19 per cent; Feb. 7 to 11, 20 per cent; Feb. 14 to 18, 16 per cent; Feb. 21 to 25, 20 per cent; and Feb. 28 to March 4, 15.6 per cent.

Certain levels of absenteeism in individual classrooms trigger requirements to inform students' parents/caregivers as do certain levels at the school or student cohort level.

"At a school level, if absenteeism in a classroom exceeds 30 per cent, parents/caregivers of students in that classroom are informed," said Gray.

"The provincial government has informed school divisions that if absenteeism in a school or cohort exceeds 40 per cent, then we are to engage public health to determine if a rapid testing program is required. Since this

announcement was made earlier in January, we have not met this threshold."

On March 1, the government dropped all restrictions on gathering limits and the need to show vaccine cards. On March 15, it's lifting mandatory masking indoors. That includes in schools and childcare facilities. The government is also no longer requiring people infected with COVID to isolate. The onus will fall on individuals as to whether they decide to be out and about in public when they're sick.

Because the provincial government has restricted PCR testing for COVID, new case data is basically meaningless because it doesn't inform the public as to full extent of the virus circulating in the community, as well as help them make informed decisions about the risk to their personal health.

Last Friday, the province's COVID dashboard showed active COVID cases (an undercount) at 7,142. There

were 420 people in hospital because of COVID, including 22 in intensive care. A total of 1,690 Manitobans so far have died from the virus.

The provincial government's education department recently told superintendents and independent schools' principals by email that its public health officials advised that "we are in a position to start to return to normal." However, the need to protect children hasn't been ruled out.

"Work to monitor the situation is ongoing, and schools and child care facilities need to be prepared for future scenarios that may require additional preventive measures," the department wrote.

Manitoba Health Minister Audrey Gordon stated last week she doesn't envisage more COVID cases and is relying on optimism that the virus will decline after the mask mandate is abolished.

Across Canada 36,843 people have died from COVID, according to federal government statistics as of March 4. Worldwide, over 5.9 million people have died, according the World Health Organization as of the same date.

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Friday Nights 7:15 PM  
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Breakopens 50/50

5 Share The Wealth Games  
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JACKPOT \$2,500.00  
FIRST SPECIAL \$411.00 +  
BONANZA \$11,423.00 +  
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STAR \$358 +  
WEEHOUSE \$1,809.00 +  
HOUDINI \$14,042.00 +  
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CANTEEN - OPENS @ 5PM  
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204-643-5541 or www.fraserwoodhall.com

**All You Can Eat Perogies**  
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admission at the door, for info contact  
Nancy 204-643-5133

**Indoor Garage Sale**  
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If you are interested in renting a table contact  
Yvonne 204-642-5352

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Interlake Real Estate is pleased to welcome

*Pam Isfeld*

To our team of Real Estate Professionals

Pam recently joined Interlake Real Estate after working 40 years in the service industry; most of that time as Owner/Operator of Beachcomber Family Hair Design. Born and raised in Gimli, Pam resides with her husband of 40 years, Grant and their son Austin. She has an active engagement in her community through the Gimli Curling Club, Art Club and Kinettes. Becoming a Realtor® provides Pam the opportunity to share her love of Gimli and surrounding communities.

We invite you to call Pam at our Gimli office at 204-642-8501, on her cell at 204-641-5408 or email her at isfeldpam@gmail.com. Pam is able to assist you in all of our service areas throughout the Interlake, as well as Winnipeg and surrounding areas. She looks forward to helping you buy or sell your home, cottage, land or business.

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**THE EXPRESS**  
WEEKLY NEWS



# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Ice Dawgs whip Warriors in CRJHL action

By Brian Bowman

The Arborg Ice Dawgs played a perfect road game on Sunday.

Arborg scored five third-period goals on its way to a 10-1 drubbing over the St. Malo Warriors in Game 2 of their best-of-seven CRJHL semifinal series on Sunday evening.

Cadrick Dueck had a great game with two goals and three assists while Jack Einarson was the playmaker with six assists.

Also having strong offensive games for Arborg were Kalen Guimond (two goals, an assist), Tyson Barylski (two goals), Logan Clarke (goal, assist) and Troy Johanneson (goal, assist).

Michael Crave and Jordan Einarson also scored for the Ice Dawgs.

Brendan Spence replied with a third-period goal for St. Malo.

Tre Strachan made 30 saves for the win.

In Game 1, the Ice Dawgs defeated the Warriors 4-1 last Saturday in Arborg.

Dyson Pelletier scored to give Arborg a 1-0 first-period lead and then Brayden Kohlman, on the power play, and Guimond tallied in the second.

Guimond and St. Malo's Mitchell Penner traded goals in the third.

The Ice Dawgs' Jack Einarson had three assists while Clarke chipped in with two helpers.

Strachan made 23 saves for the win.

Game 3 of the series will be played Saturday (7:30 p.m.) in Arborg while Game 4 is set for Sunday (4 p.m.) in St. Malo.

If necessary, Game 5 would be played next Tuesday (8 p.m.) in Arborg, followed by Game 6 on Thursday (8 p.m.) in St. Malo and Game 7 Saturday (7:30 p.m.) in Arborg.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LLOYD BARYLSYKI

Kerri Einarson drops the puck for her cousin Jack Einarson, right, and St. Malo's Evan Wuerch for Game 1 in Arborg last Saturday.

## U13 Arborg Falcons heading to provincials



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Elijah Rempel, Hunter Loewen, Nathanael Loewen, Charlie Buehlmann, Dawson Barkman, Ryder Jacobson, Dlyar Jarkas, Carter Buehlmann, Dray Reimer, Jayce Reimer, Mason Bardarson, Kolby Koomen, Tanner Plett, Makayla Sydenham, Luke Wilson, Ronald Murdock, Eli Klym

Staff

The Arborg Falcons U13 hockey team ended their regular season with a 13-1-1 record and then swept the provincial playoff series.

In the playoffs, Arborg defeated Warren 6-1 and 5-1 and Lakeside 8-7 in overtime and 7-2.

The Falcons are heading to the provincials in Killarney, with games this Friday through Sunday.

"It's been a great season with an

amazing bunch of kids," said Falcons' coach Cory Koomen. "Most of these kids have been playing together since they started hockey; however, this year Arborg welcomed four out-of-town players from Fisher Branch, Hodgson and Fisher River who have been a positive addition to the team.

"There is always good morale, team spirit and the kids have a lot of fun together on and off the ice."

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Brought to you by The Gimli Chamber of Commerce

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*Samantha King*

To our team of Real Estate Professionals

Sam resides in the Municipality of Bifrost Riverton. With over 20 years working with the public, her philosophy is to always go above and beyond her clients' expectations. Sam has always had a love for real estate and meeting new people. Prior to joining Interlake Real Estate, she worked as a Realtor's® assistant in Winnipeg before she began an 11-year career as a flight attendant. Some of her hobbies include wood carving, painting, gardening, landscape design, astronomy, aviation, and fitness competitions.

We invite you to call Sam at our Gimli office at 204-642-8501, on her cell at 204-229-7560 or email her at samanthaking50@hotmail.com. Sam is able to assist you in all of our service areas throughout the Interlake, as well as Winnipeg and surrounding areas.

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# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Lakers win MHSAA boys' provincial curling championship

By Brian Bowman

The Gimli Lakers are the MHSAA boys' provincial curling champions.

Gimli needed to beat the Virden Golden Bears twice on Saturday in Hamiota - and they did exactly that.

The Lakers' rink of skip Elias Huminicki, third Tanner Graham, second Mitchell Baker, lead Rylan Graham and alternate Brady Michaluk were outstanding when they had to be as they beat Virden 6-3 and 6-2.

"We're just a little high school team put together (so) it's really awesome, especially having the opportunity to skip that team," Huminicki said. "It's really sentimental for me in my last year in high school."

Those two wins over the Bears were really impressive. Gimli changed up their game to exploit Virden's weaknesses, said Huminicki.

"It was, of course, tough," Huminicki said, noting he reached the high school provincial final in 2020 as a lead for Josh Maisey. "Jace Freeman was their skip and I curl against him competitively on a different team outside of high school and he's a tough team. Their team was very well put together and you can tell that they've been practicing and things like that."

Gimli was relegated to the B-side after a tough 7-1 loss to Virden.

"We had to learn a lot from that game," Huminicki said. "We had to pull up our socks really well. We sure underestimated them, how well they played, and how good of a competition it was going to be against them."

On the B-side Gimli redeemed that Virden loss by edging the Morris Mavericks 7-6.

"That was a real nail-biter, we were behind and chasing most of the game," Huminicki recalled. "I had to get really defensive and make my team play a lot of guards. Once, we got one or two in the house, it was guard, guard, guard and just one miss by them and we had to capitalize and we did that."

The Lakers started provincial action with a 7-5 win over the Jeanne-Sauve Olympiens and then they defeated the Dauphin Clippers 7-4.

A 2-0 start was very important for Gimli.

"It was a definite confidence boost, especially with Dauphin because Dauphin was a really well played out team," Huminicki said. "We knew



Lundar Kodiaks' Jersi Godfrey, left, and Aiden Spalding won the Zone 5 mixed curling championship after beating the Stonewall Collegiate Rams 7-4 in the final. The duo competed at the provincials in Swan Lake on March 4-5, losing in the semifinals to the Garden Valley Zodiacs who went on to win gold.

Dauphin was a really well-played team and once we beat them we had a lot of confidence from that."

The Riverton Patriots, meanwhile, finished with a 1-2 record at the girls' championship which was also held in Hamiota.

Riverton started the provincials with an 8-6 win over the Dakota Lancers but then lost 10-7 to the West Kildonan Wolverines and 8-2 to the Oak Park Raiders.

The Patriots' rink included skip Alexis Magnusson, third Olivia Magnusson, second Mercedes Sigurdson, lead Kadence Vigfusson and alternate Brooklyn Kornelson.

The mixed doubles curling championship took place at the Prairie Mountain High School.

The Lundar Kodiaks were eliminated from the provincials after a 7-0 loss to the eventual-champion Garden Valley Zodiacs.

Garden Valley defeated Gabrielle-Roy Les Roys 9-7 in an extra end in the final.

Lundar started the playoffs with a 7-4 win over the Pilot Mound Pilots.

In pool play, the Kodiaks finished with a 1-2 record. Lundar defeated the Alonso Aces 6-1 but lost to the Nellie McClung Stingers (7-4) and Garden



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Gimli Lakers' rink of Elias Huminicki (skip), Tanner Graham (third), Mitchell Baker (second), Rylan Graham (lead), Brady Michaluk (alternate) and Tony Michaluk (coach) defeated the Virden Bears 6-3 and 6-2 to win the MHSAA boys' provincial curling championship last Saturday.



The Riverton Patriots won the Zone 5 girls' curling championship last week. Pictured, left to right: lead Kadence Vigfusson, second Mercedes Sigurdson, third Olivia Magnusson, skip Alexis Magnusson and coach Aaron Magnusson.

Valley (9-1).

The Kodiaks' rink was made up of Jersi Godfrey and Aiden Spalding.

The Ashern Cobras, meanwhile, lost 7-4 to Nellie McClung in a playoff game.

Ashern, whose team included War-

rick Gunther and Kierra Hickman, also posted a 1-2 record in pool play. The Cobras beat the Major Pratt Trojans but were defeated by Pilot Mound (6-4) and Gabrielle Roy (6-3).



# Falcons lose Game 1 of CRJHL semifinal series

By Brian Bowman

The Selkirk Fishermen dominated the Lundar Falcons in Game 1 of their CRJHL semifinal series on Sunday at the Recreation Complex.

Selkirk scored twice in each period as it skated to a 6-0 victory. The Fishermen outshot the Falcons 43-17 in the game.

Reece Tessier led Selkirk with two goals and two assists while Travis Spratt had two goals and an assist.

Clint Thomas also tallied twice for the winners.

Lundar was 0-for-7 on the power play while Selkirk was 0-for-4.

Brendon Hocaluk posted the shut-out.

Game 2 of the series is scheduled for Wednesday (8 p.m.) in Lundar and Game 3 is set for Friday (8 p.m.) in Lundar.

Game 4 returns to Selkirk on Sunday (3 p.m.).

Last Friday, Lunder defeated the North Winnipeg Satellites 2-1 to sweep their best-of-three survivor series.

All three goals were scored in the first period.

Ryan Gleich and Riley Wirgau scored for Lunder. Isaiah Sagriotis-Castaneda replied for North Winnipeg.

The Falcons started the survivor series with an impressive 6-1 road win March 1.

Matt Brown led Lunder with two goals and an assist while Gleich, Wirgau, and Bryce Allary each had a goal and an assist.

Andrew Henry also scored for the Falcons. Jayden Timlick had two assists.

Jordan Klippenstein and Troy Gutowski had a goal and an assist apiece for North Winnipeg.

Graeme Edmund made 30 saves for the win.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY SCOTT STROH

The Lundar Falcons' Matt Brown scored twice and had an assist in his team's 6-2 victory over North Winnipeg. Lundar swept the best-of-three series and now face Selkirk in a semifinal series.

# Lightning reach U15 AAA semifinals

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning U15 AAA hockey team had its three-game playoff winning streak snapped on Sunday.

The Yellowhead Chiefs scored twice in each period on their way to a 6-1 victory in Warren.

"We had 28 minutes in penalties and I think the kids were pretty excited about being 3-0 and heading into next weekend without having to win," said Lightning head coach Chad Balmer. "I think the kids took the game a little bit for granted and we got behind early. We got away from our game plan that made us successful in the first three games."

Cole Swanson scored Interlake's goal late in the third period on the

power play.

Brad Brandon (two), Kaden Allan, Riley Swereda, Cohen Kulback and Cole Hunter had the Chiefs' goals.

Last Friday, the Lightning defeated the Winnipeg Thrashers 7-4 in Warren.

Interlake, which held period leads of 3-1 and 3-2, had a three goal and two assist performance from Gavin Holod while Noah Oughton scored once to go along with three assists.

Swanson and Talon Hogg each had a goal and an assist while Skylar Farthington scored the Lightning's other goal.

Thrashers' goals were tallied by Ben Brambilla (two), Hubert Clarke and



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's Cole Swanson is stopped on this scoring attempt by the Winnipeg Thrashers' goaltender during U15 AAA playoff action last Friday in Warren.

Continued on page 16

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# Lott makes his debut at Tim Horton's Brier

By Ty Dilello

The Tim Horton's Brier is underway from Lethbridge, Alta. This week, a familiar face from Winnipeg Beach might be on your television screens as Colton Lott has been bumped up to lead on the Team Manitoba Mike McEwen rink.

Lott replaces Colin Hodgson due to a last-minute pre-travel positive COVID test as well as a nagging lower-body injury that had been bugging Hodgson all season long. East St. Paul's Kyle Doering is also in Lethbridge, serving as McEwen's alternate.

"I feel terrible Colin doesn't get to come and play, and I just hope for him a speedy recovery," said Lott. "It's been tough on everybody the past couple of years."

Lott is making his Brier debut and is poised to make a splash at the event.

"Obviously, it's a surprise. But I'm just ready to play. I'm ready to give it my all and be the best for Mike's team as I can at the lead position."

It's been a bit of a wild ride for Lott over the past 12 months. To his benefit, he's spared for numerous top teams over that time, so joining McEwen at this vital stage might seem like a walk in the park.

Last spring, Lott joined John Epping for a pair of Grand Slam of Curling events, then had Pat Simmons skip his squad at the Olympic pre-trials competition in Liverpool, N.S., before joining former junior team-mate Matt Dunstone at the Canadian Olympic Curling Trials in Saskatoon in November. He then skipped his team to a

provincial final loss last month. And, of course, Lott and fiancée Kadriana Sahaidak make up one of Canada's top mixed doubles teams.

Morris' Jason Gunnlaugson will also represent Manitoba at the Brier as Team Wild Card #3, while Ashern's Jared Kolomaya will throw second stones for Team British Columbia (Brent Pierce).

The 2022 Tim Horton's Brier began last Friday and continues until Sunday night from Lethbridge, Alta. The 18-team field features a modified round-robin with two pools of nine teams. From there, the top three teams in each pool advance to a playoff round, which then has a few games to determine a page playoff bracket.

In other news, curling enthusiasts will have one last chance to see a

bevy of elite curlers in action when the Chicken Chef Mixed Provincials slides into Carman March 17-20.

The provincials, which will feature teams from across Manitoba and will begin next Thursday at the Carman Golf & Curling Club rink.

Carman will have two local teams with the Dean North and Darcy Hayward rinks in the event. Carman-born Tyler Forrest, who won the 2021 event, will also be competing.

The winner of this year's mixed provincials will earn a trip to Sudbury for the 2023 Canadian Mixed Curling Championship.

Admission to the provincials is very affordable, \$5 per draw, \$10 per day or weekend passes just \$25.

# U17 Lightning ousted from playoffs

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning gave the Winnipeg Thrashers all that they could handle in their U17 AAA playoff series.

Interlake lost the best-of-five series 3-1 but every game was decided by just a goal. Game 3 of the series went into overtime with Winnipeg winning 2-1.

"It was an incredible series to be part of," said Lightning head coach Aaron Kaatz. "We kind of knew going into it that it would be a close series and it could have gone either way by the way we finished off the season with them."

Winnipeg clinched the series victory with a 3-2 victory at the Bell MTS Iceplex on March 1.

Adam Vigfusson gave Interlake a 1-0 lead with a goal midway in the first period but the Thrashers came back with first-period goals from Ian Lavallee and Branden Watson.

Winnipeg went ahead 3-1 as Liam Urciuoli tallied at 10:43 of the middle frame.

The Lightning's Hayden Kaczowski pulled Interlake to within a goal at 14:05 of the third.

Dylan LeClair made 35 saves in the losing cause.

Defensively, the Lightning were

very good, allowing just nine goals in the four playoff games.

"They were low-scoring, very intense games," Kaatz said. "The first two games, four out of the six periods, it was scoreless and it was just the third period where goals started to go in."

The Lightning made vast improvements over the course of the season and were playing their best hockey in the playoffs.

"Every single person on our team showed up ready to play and ready to sacrifice and they gave it their all right to the final minutes of Game 4," Kaatz said. "We pushed and fought

hard right to the end. We didn't want to give up, we had vision, we had hope, and that stayed with us the entire series."

Interlake will have just three players — captain Luke Sekundiak, Mitchell Wilson and Max Goulden — age out of U17 hockey. The Lightning have 17 players eligible to return to their program next season.

"It's a very healthy number to have coming back, especially seeing the possibilities of what can be done," Kaatz said.

## > U15AAA, FROM PG. 15

Griffin Rarog.

Interlake goaltender Nathan Meisner made 34 saves for the win.

Interlake finished the playoffs with an impressive 3-1 record. The Lightning scored 19 goals in its first three playoff games - all victories.

"The kids are definitely connecting all of the dots that we have been teaching them all year," Balmer said. "A lot of (our offence) is coming from playing pretty good defence and we're taking advantage of opportunities."

Despite posting a 6-24-1 record in the regular season, Balmer isn't surprised with the Lightning's success in the playoffs.

"We were always optimistic and felt our guys were, not underperforming, but definitely had all of the tools to

be successful," he said. "It just took a little longer to be expected. We're not surprised at all."

Interlake will now play the Southwest Cougars in a semifinal game this Saturday (4 p.m.) at the Bell MTS Iceplex.

Not too many people would have predicted that the Lightning would have a shot at winning a medal this season.

"It's super cool and it doesn't happen very often in the Interlake," Balmer said.

If the Lightning win then they will play Sunday (3:45 p.m.) in the gold-medal game.

A loss would send Interlake to the bronze-medal game on Sunday at 12:45 p.m.

## Peguis blitzes OCN Storm

Staff

The Peguis Juniors continue to score a lot of goals and they continue to win hockey games.

Peguis blitzed the OCN Storm 10-1 in Keystone Junior Hockey League action Sunday afternoon.

Juniors' goals were scored by Dion Fontaine (three), Keelian Lavoisier (two), Lyle Murdock (two), Kyle Cochrane, Gabriel Beaulieu and Ayden Daniels.

Magnus Pearson scored a third-period goal for OCN.

Aidon Marchand stopped 33 Storm shots for the win.

On Saturday evening, Peguis

doubled OCN 8-4.

Lavoisier led Peguis with four goals while Lyle Murdock had a hat trick.

Keenan Woodhouse scored a goal and added an assist for the Juniors.

OCN goals were scored by Chavez Constant (two), Daemon Titterton and Blaine Dorion.

Tyrese Bear made 22 saves for the win.

Peguis, now 24-5-0-1, will host the Cross Lake Islanders this Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday (1:30 p.m.).



# Hands-on university experience from home for high school students

By Nicole Brownlee

First Nations, Métis and Inuit high school students have the opportunity to virtually study science and engineering at universities across Canada for a week in May.

The Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation (VJKEF) has run the program for over a decade, first partnering with the University of Manitoba in 2012 to address the under-representation of Indigenous students at Canadian universities.

"If students that are going to university and see themselves there after having done this program, that would be a win," said Amber Boyd, VJKEF's executive director.

"Ideally, we'd love to see more students graduating in science, technology, engineering and math."

Verna Kirkness is an author, educator and advocate from Fisher River Cree Nation. Kirkness was voted Canadian Educator of the Year in 1990 is a member of the Order of Canada (1998) and the Order of Manitoba (2007).

VJKEF is partnered with 13 Canadian universities with 100 university mentors guiding students in grades 10 to 12 through lectures, labs and facility tours for free. Over 530 students have participated in the program through VJKEF scholarships.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, students were flown across Canada to visit post-secondary institutions of their choice to learn more about the expectations of post-secondary education, the flow of academics and ac-



Verna Kirkness is an author, educator and advocate from Fisher River Cree Nation who joined the program and lent her name to the organization in 2010.

cessible opportunities.

This year, students will learn more about university life virtually.

"We have students participate right across Canada even from the territories, the provinces, from all different communities," said Boyd.

"What we're trying to do is emulate what the experience would be on campus."

Professors have scheduled time slots for labs, class time and work periods for students to build presentations. Keynote speakers, hands-on activities and virtual tours of Indigenous centres on campus are other events scattered throughout the five-day program. Students get to choose which events they'd like to attend.

The organization of the virtual program is very similar to the in-person experience, but without the travel, said Boyd.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY THE VERNA J. KIRKNESS EDUCATION FOUNDATION WEBSITE  
The Verna J. Kirkness Education Foundation Program has given over 530 high school students from across Canada the opportunity to study at Canadian universities for a week.

VJKEF offers two programs, one from May 2 to 6 for Western Canada and the second from May 9 to 13 for Eastern Canada.

The application deadline for the program is April 1. More information on mentors, specializations and schedules will be released in the following weeks.

Boyd said they expect to accept 150 students to this year's program.

"This year is going to be really strong. We've built a really fun program. Even though it's virtual, there's so much hands-on stuff at home," said Boyd.

Tariq Saddleback attended the pro-

gram in 2019 and went to the University of Calgary to learn more about veterinary medicine.

"I definitely had a lot of fun," said Saddleback, who's from Calgary.

"I learned a lot, and it was really hands-on experience."

Saddleback initially applied to study veterinary medicine because of his participation in rodeos. During his week at the U of C, Saddleback learned about avian viruses while meeting students from across Canada.

Saddleback plans to return to post-secondary education later this year to study automotive technology.

# Petition to improve the safety of Highway 6 in final stretch

By Nicole Brownlee

A petition calling on Manitoba's premier to improve the safety conditions of Highway 6 is picking up traction with only one month to go until the grassroots organization reaches its goal.

The petition was started as a response to the shocking death of Thompson MLA Danielle Adams on Dec. 9, 2021. Adams was struck by a semi-truck on Highway 6 in early December while heading south.

Within two months, the petition attracted 3,500 signatures, more than half of the organizers' goal of 5,000.

"We're now at 4,600 plus signatures," said Brenda Redman, a volunteer who used to live in Thompson.

"We're in the home stretch."

The group plans to reach 5,000 signatures by the end of March and then schedule a meeting with the province to discuss their ideas.

"We were looking again at stats from MPI, and it's showing that there's been an average of seven accidents a month on Highway 6 over the past few years," said Redman.

The group is appealing to the provincial government to add passing lanes every 50 kilometres on Highway 6, rumble strips, widened shoulders and lay-bys for rest stops over the next three years.

They're also requesting the province implement 2+1 roads, which are three-lane roads, with two lanes in one direction and one opposing, alternating every few kilometres and usually separated by a barrier, and faster emergency response times for highway accidents.

For more information, email manitobahighwaysix@gmail.com. To sign the petition, search #SaferHighway6 online.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRENDA REDMAN  
Volker Beckmann, one of the petition's organizers, passed 61 semis on Highway 6 travelling south from Thompson to Winnipeg.



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## Invitation to Quote The Rural Municipality of Fisher Bid Hourly Equipment Rates

The Rural Municipality of Fisher is inviting quotes for hourly rates for various equipment for the purpose of establishing pay rates for 2022 construction and maintenance season.

Quotation forms may be obtained at the RM of Fisher office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba

or on the RM of Fisher website: [www.rmoffisher.com](http://www.rmoffisher.com)  
Please return to the RM Office in person

Deadline for proposals is 12 noon, April 1, 2022

Rural Municipality of Fisher  
30 Tache Street; Fisher Branch, MB, R0C 0Z0  
Phone: (204) 372-6393 Fax: (204) 372-8470  
Email: [rmoffisher@mymts.ca](mailto:rmoffisher@mymts.ca)



Rural Municipality of  
**GRAHAMDALE**  
[www.Grahamdale.ca](http://www.Grahamdale.ca)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### REGARDING THE 2022 FINANCIAL PLAN

Public Notice is hereby given pursuant to Subsection 162(2) of The Municipal Act, that the Council of the R.M. of Grahamdale intends to present its Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2022 at a Public Hearing being held at the Moosehorn Community Hall, 21 Railway Avenue, in Moosehorn, MB on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to allow any interested person to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Financial Plan as provided.

Copies of the Financial Plan will be available for review on March 18, 2022 and may be examined by any person during regular office hours at the Municipal Office or on our website at [www.grahamdale.ca](http://www.grahamdale.ca).

All applicable Public Health Order restrictions in force at the time of this Public Hearing will be enforced.

Public participation can be met through interactive technology or by written submission. Please contact our office for more information Ph: 204-768-2858 or email: [info@grahamdale.ca](mailto:info@grahamdale.ca)

Dated this 11th day of February, 2022.

Shelly Schwitek, CMMA  
Chief Administrative Officer  
R.M. of Grahamdale



## MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON NOTICE OF VOTERS LIST / VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT / PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION

Notice is hereby given that a copy of the VOTERS LIST may be revised at 329 River Road, Arborg, MB between the hours of 8:30am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-4:30pm. At this time staff will be available to update the voters list by:

- adding the names of voters who are entitled to have their names on the list;
- deleting the names of persons who are not entitled to have their names on the list; and
- making such other correction of errors to the list as required.

### VOTER ELIGIBILITY:

A person is eligible to have their name added to the Voters List if they are:  
1) a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years of age on election day; and  
2) a resident of the local authority for at least six months prior to election day, or a registered owner of land in the municipality for at least six months prior to election day.

### VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT VOTER

A maximum of two non-resident property owners, per property, are permitted to vote in a municipal election. In order to vote, each of these voters must obtain written consent from a majority of the registered landowners, and file this with the S.E.O. prior to September 20, 2022. When voting, you may also be required to provide proof of ownership and/or proof of identity to the voting official.

### NON-RESIDENT VOTER QUALIFIED IN MULTIPLE WARDS:

In accordance with Section 25(2) of *The Municipal Councils and School Boards Elections Act*, any non-resident voter who owns property in more than one ward is responsible to notify the S.E.O. in writing, not later than September 20, 2022 of the ward in which they desire to vote. Failing the foregoing, the voter's name will be placed on the list as the S.E.O. may select.

### APPLICATION FOR PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION:

A voter may apply in writing to the S.E.O. no later than September 20, 2022 to have their name and other personal information omitted or obscured from the voters list in order to protect the voter's personal security. The application may be submitted in person, by mail or fax and must include your name, address and include proof of identity.

**All changes to the voters list must be completed by September 20, 2022 in preparation for the municipal election to be held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022.**

Jan Larkin, Senior Election Official  
Box 70, Arborg, MB R0C 0A0  
Phone: 204-376-2391 Fax: 204-376-2742



## MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON SEEKING QUOTATIONS

### Privately Owned Equipment Rates

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking quotations from qualified bidders for hourly rates for **Privately Owned Equipment for the 2022 / 2023 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](http://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 31, 2022**

### Survey Services

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking quotations from qualified bidders for **hourly rates for Survey Services for the 2022 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](http://www.rmbifrost.com)

Sealed submissions clearly marked "Survey Services" 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 31, 2022**

### Tree Pruning

Quotation packages are available at the Main Office or through email. Sealed bids marked with project name and clearly displaying the bidder's name will be received by the undersigned until 12:00pm on **March 18, 2022.**

All inquiries related to the Request for Quotations should be directed to Jason Comeau at 204.641.2167.

The lowest or any hourly rate bid not necessarily accepted.

### SCRAP METAL

BUYING SCRAP METAL, CARS, TRACTORS, COMBINES, FARM SCRAP, ANY METAL MATERIAL, ANY FARM MACHINERY. PH LONNIE AT 204-886-3407 LVE. MESSAGE OR CELL AT 204-861-2031.

Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. NO ITEM TOO LARGE! Best prices paid, cash in hand. Phone Alf at 204-461-1649.

### APARTMENT FOR RENT

Tollak Place has 1 & 2 bedroom suites, located at 40 Eveline Street. Spacious suites, with F/S, A/C, storage areas and large balconies; utilities are included, parking is extra. Tollak 2 is a 55 plus bldg., river view apts. with central air, F/S, DW & microwave; large storage area off the kitchen and a balcony; utilities and parking extra. Call the onsite office 204-482-2751 for AVAILABILITY.

### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Do you own rental property in Winnipeg? Are you tired of dealing with long term renters and the mess they can leave? We can provide you with a different option to earn a rental income. Pawluk Realty 204-890-8141.

### HELP WANTED

Seasonal employment - Sabourin Lake Lodge is looking for summer staff, May thru September. Kitchen staff, serving, housekeeping, guides, yard crew and carpenters. Contact [sabourinlake@outlook.com](mailto:sabourinlake@outlook.com)



## DO YOU NEED HELP FINDING EMPLOYMENT?

**A.I.M. for Work may be able to help!**

A.I.M. is a Vocational Rehabilitation program for persons living with a physical disability or chronic illness.

Contact one of our Vocational Rehabilitation Assistants at **204-482-2130** to get started on your journey to employment.

*Serving Rural Manitoba for over 20 years*

Funding provided by  
The Government of Canada The Manitoba Government

**204 PALLET AND PACKAGING**



Like working with wood and working close to home?

204 Pallet & Packaging in Stony Mountain is looking for full time production workers. Wage depending on experience, and health benefits after 3 months. **Please call 204-344-5404 for more details.**

## Fisher Branch Care-A-Lot For Tots is Hiring

**Are you looking for a great job and career opportunity?**

We are looking for a new team member to assist our ECE's and CCA's implementing an amazing program for our children

**Job details include:** Playing, fun, dancing, learning plus much more!  
Must be 18 yrs. of age, energetic, reliable and willing to learn  
Competitive wages, employee benefits and pension plan.

This full time, permanent position is to be begin as soon as possible

**Please send resume to [carealot@mymts.net](mailto:carealot@mymts.net) or contact Tami @ 204-280-0245**



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### MISCELLANEOUS

Usborne Books for early readers. Lots of variety and reasonable price. Ages 0-14 years. For more info Jennifer Duggan at 204-378-0606 or Facebook Jennifer's Usborne Books.

Difficult naps and/or nights? I am a Certified Sleep Consultant, I help families discover the beauty of sleep with healthy sleep habits. www.dayandnightsleep.ca

### NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? Having a spring/summer event? 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.

### NOTICES

HIRING FOR SPRING? Need Class 1 drivers? Construction staff? Having an AGM or on-line event? Advertise in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging out now! Selling something? Have an on-line store to shop at, doing curbside pickup/deliveries? Let people know in the Blanket Classifieds! Start the

CONT. ON NEXT COL.

year off right. Don't let COVID get you down. We are now booking Classified Advertising for 2022. Call 1-204-467-5836 or call MCNA at 204-947-1691 for details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

### LIVESTOCK

Registered purebred, polled and quiet yearling Charolais bulls for sale. Will be semen tested. Delivery and EPDs available. For more information call Ken at 204-376-2418.

### WANTED

Firearms wanted. Looking for all unwanted firearms. Fully licensed for both non-restricted and restricted. Anywhere from individual items to estates. Cash buyer, paying top dollar. Please call or text Adam at 204-795-2850.

### 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

Still stressed about COVID-19? Try our Health Canada Government Approved solutions for stress and immune support - we should talk - Peter Marykuca, Gimli, MB. 204-641-1504.

Everything you need to promote your business Call Today! 467-5836



EXPRESS WEEKLY NEWS 204-467-5836



Rural Municipality of FISHER

### WATER METERS

Fisher Branch is looking for Bid's for the Installation of approximately 210 residential and commercial water meters c/w integrated register and RF transmitter and related appurtenances located in the Municipality of Fisher.

Please visit www.mbwaterservicesboard.ca Bid Opportunities for further information or any questions.

Bids closed March 18, 2022



Rural Municipality of FISHER

### SENIOR ELECTION OFFICER POSITION

Seeking an individual interested in being the Senior Election Official for our October 2022 Municipal Election.

This is not a full time or permanent position.

Individual would receive provincial training and receive Provincial and Municipal supports.

Responsible for the implementation of the whole election process, RM staff available to assist upon request.

Interested persons can contact the RM office, 204-372-6393 for a more detailed description.

Application Deadline is March 31, 2022, 4 p.m. Applications to be dropped off at the RM office only, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, MB.



### FULL TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

We are looking for a dedicated, organized and self motivated individual for the position of

### HEAVY TRUCK & TRAILER MECHANIC & SAFETY TECHNICIAN

Duties will include, but are not limited to performing inspections on units, mechanical repairs, and more. Must be red seal certified or eligible for certification. The successful candidate will receive training, all necessary tools, competitive wages & benefits package.

Sales@jbrandtent.com

Call 204-364-2775 for more information



### ATTENTION FARMERS & RANCHERS

ATTENTION FARMERS AND RANCHERS ASHERN AUCTION MART WILL BE HOLDING A BRED COW SALE ON

Saturday March 19, 2022 at 1:00 pm Complete Herd Dispersal

Approx. 180 Red and Black Angus cross cows

With shorthorn background for more milk. (40% red 60% black)

Cows are carrying their fourth calf Cows have been pen handled at calving.

Bred to Red and Black Angus Bulls (40% red, 60% black)

Due to start calving Middle of March Pictures of last year's heifer calves on our website are from last year

For More Information

www.ashernauctionmart.com

BUDDY AT 204-768-0018

KIRK AT 204-768-0019

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Interlake Auto & Tractor Parts Ltd. ARBORG, MANITOBA



Is seeking immediate additional staff for the following positions

#### • Parts/Counter Person

- Mechanically Inclined
- Having hydraulic fitting knowledge
- Willing to build hydraulic hoses

#### • Inventory Control

Experience not necessary but an asset. Benefit plan available.

Apply in person or email

161 Sunset Blvd

iautoar@aol.com

204-376-2667

www.interlakeauto.ca

Locally owned and operated for 40 years.

We thank all those who apply, but only those considered for an interview will be contacted.



### Town of Winnipeg Beach CONTRACT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER PART-TIME CONTRACT POSITION

The successful candidate will be responsible for monitoring compliance and enforcement of bylaws within the Town and identifying non-compliance issues; must possess effective public relations and communication skills; ability to deal effectively with complaint investigations and resolution, perform duties effectively with a minimum of supervision and maintain accurate work records.

The Contract will be awarded for a three-year period of time.

The successful candidate must be familiar with Microsoft Office products. Must have a valid Manitoba Driver's License and work shifts, primarily evenings and weekends. Applicants selected for the interview will be requested to bring a current driver's abstract. The successful applicant must provide an RCMP Criminal Record Check before commencing work. Information pertaining to job responsibilities may be requested.

#### ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER PART-TIME CONTRACT POSITION

The successful candidate will be responsible for monitoring compliance and enforcement of the Animal Control By-Law. This includes license enforcement, responding to animal related complaints, apprehending animals running at large and stray pick-up. Must possess effective public relations and communication skills; ability to deal effectively with complaint investigations and resolution, perform duties effectively with a minimum of supervision, and maintain accurate work records.

The Contract will be awarded for a three-year period of time.

Must have a valid Manitoba Driver's License. Applicants selected for the interview will be requested to bring a current driver's abstract. The successful applicant must provide an RCMP Criminal Record Check before commencing work.

Applications for both positions will be accepted in confidence until 4:30 p.m., Friday, April 7th, 2022, to:

Kerry Swanson  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Town of Winnipeg Beach  
PO Box 160, 29 Robinson Ave  
Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0  
Email: cao@winnipegbeach.ca

\*\*\*Please indicate which position you are applying for. The town will consider applicants that are interested in both positions. If you are interested in applying for both positions, please indicate this in your cover letter. \*\*\*

For more information regarding these opportunities, including a detailed description of the responsibilities and requirements, contact the Town Office by phone at 204-389-2698, Email info@winnipegbeach.ca.

The Town of Winnipeg Beach welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

The Town of Winnipeg Beach would like to thank all applicants for their interest-only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



**Gimli Community Development Corporation, (GCDC)  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

**The Opportunity:**

The successful candidate will undertake key responsibilities that will enhance Gimli and the Municipality as a whole and promote the Municipality as a place to work, live, play and grow. They will facilitate and promote community growth and economic development planning and implementation within the Municipality to be measured, in part, by securing opportunities for new economic and business development and supporting the growth and development of existing business within the community.

**Job Description:**

Reporting to the GCDC board the candidate will promote the Gimli industrial park and oversee current and future operations of GCDC properties. They will also identify, develop and implement approved strategies for attracting new business to the area while facilitating growth of existing businesses. Represent the Municipality at regional and provincial meetings and conferences on economic development, which could include public speaking and delivering presentations.

**The Ideal Candidate:**

The successful applicant will possess relevant post-secondary education and/or years of business and administrative experience. The candidate will be self-motivated, effective written and oral communication skills and computer skills including Excel, Word, PowerPoint. Ability to identify and promote community economic development projects and initiatives along with knowledge and understanding of the Municipality would be a definite asset. The candidate must have a valid Class 5 driver's licence and access to a vehicle for travel and be available to work flexible hours.

For more information please go to [www.gimli.ca](http://www.gimli.ca)

Hours and wages are negotiable with experience and qualifications.

Please submit a detailed resume on or before **March 25, 2022 by 4:30 p.m.** to PO Box 1246, Gimli, MB. ROC 1B0 or to [gimlicdc@rmgimli.com](mailto:gimlicdc@rmgimli.com)

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**Announcements**

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Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING?

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Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide! Providing assistance during Covid.

**Expert Help:**  
204-453-5372

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**take a break** > GAMES

**SUDOKU**

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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!

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

Sudoku Answer


Crossword Answer

**X CROSSWORD**

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Central mail bureau
- 4. Member of the family
- 7. Partner to flow
- 10. \_\_ Angeles
- 11. Military mailbox
- 12. Patriotic women
- 13. Shallow lake
- 15. Tear apart
- 16. Middle Easterner
- 19. Eat to excess
- 21. Stained
- 23. Certain peoples of equatorial Africa
- 24. 1st day of month
- 25. Skin disease
- 26. Skating figure
- 27. Annelids
- 30. Gracefully slender
- 34. Kids need it
- 35. Swiss river
- 36. Indents
- 41. A sheer fabric of silk or nylon
- 45. Belgian River
- 46. \_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 47. Originate from
- 50. Rugged mountain ranges
- 54. Made less clean
- 55. Professions
- 56. 3s
- 57. Scarf
- 59. Yellow light
- 60. Bird noise
- 61. Opposite of start
- 62. Bar bill
- 63. Northeastern Mass. cape
- 64. American rocker Snider
- 65. Midway between northeast and east

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Scandinavian drink
- 2. Washington river


- 3. Fast-running flightless bird
- 4. Nerve conditions
- 5. Indicates near
- 6. Immediate relevance
- 7. Things you can eat
- 8. Receptacles
- 9. Retired Brewers great
- 13. Month
- 14. Happy New Year!
- 17. Exclamation to convey truth
- 18. Passports and licenses are two
- 20. Ebert's partner Siskel
- 22. Long skirt
- 27. Part of company name
- 28. Drugmaker \_\_ Lilly
- 29. Electronic countermeasures
- 31. Klutz
- 32. Chinese statesman
- 33. Stir with emotion
- 37. Flat-bottomed boat
- 38. Go-between
- 39. This (Spanish)
- 40. A plot of ground where seedlings are grown before transplanting
- 41. Small waterfall
- 42. Modern tech necessity (abbr.)
- 43. Utter repeatedly
- 44. One of the bravest
- 47. Sun up in New York
- 48. Space station
- 49. Chilean seaport
- 51. Hasidic spiritual leader
- 52. They \_\_
- 53. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 58. Single unit

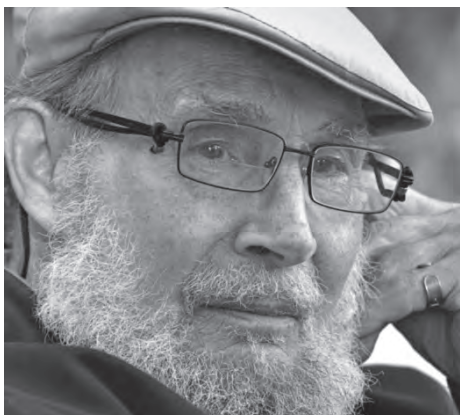


# Classifieds



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**IN MEMORIAM**



**Jim Bright**  
who left us March 7, 2012  
Ten years have come and gone so quickly  
Since you passed away:  
We think about you always,  
We talk about you still;  
You have never been forgotten,  
And you never will.  
We hold you close within our hearts,  
And there you will remain;  
To walk and guide us through our lives,  
Until we meet again.

-Always remembered  
your family

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Ed Sielski**  
December 7, 1918 - March 8, 1996  
We hold you close within our hearts,  
And there you will remain;  
To walk and guide us through our lives,  
Until we meet again.  
-Lovingly remembered  
by wife Olive and family

Eddie's Gravel is Hiring  
**CLASS 1 TRUCK DRIVERS**  
Competitive Wages  
Training, Benefits  
Experience an asset  
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102086 Hwy 9, Wpg Beach, MB

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with an  
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WEEKLY NEWS  
204-467-5836



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[www.mcna.com](http://www.mcna.com)

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- Truck & Service Bodies
- Generation Grain Trailers

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Hwy #1, MacGregor, MB  
**1-888-685-3127**  
[www.kaldecktrailers.com](http://www.kaldecktrailers.com)

**The Aurora Plus**

**1648 SqFt RTM**

3 bedrooms, ensuite, huge kitchen, quartz countertops, walk-in pantry, island. 9 ft walls and double cathedral ceiling. James Hardie Siding.

Pictures available

[www.wgiesbrechthomes.ca](http://www.wgiesbrechthomes.ca)

Taking orders for Spring 2022  
**204-346-3231**



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY  
Driving Position**

We have an opening for a long-haul driver. No waiting for back-hauls.

Our customers are located in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Iowa, South Dakota and Minnesota. Compensation is paid on an hourly basis. We have a health package including dental, a deferred profit sharing plan, and paid meals while outside of the province

For further information call Shaunne at 204-886- 2922 ext 205 or email resume to [shaunne@charisons.ca](mailto:shaunne@charisons.ca)



**Human Resources Director**

Are you looking for an exciting career in Human Resources? Look no further than the H5 Group of Companies (Automotive Industry). The future you want is within reach! In conjunction with the Executive Team, you will lead and direct all aspects of Human Resources for our businesses located in Manitoba (The Pas, Thompson, Flin Flon, and Dauphin). Contact Karen at [karen.haukaas@twinmotors.ca](mailto:karen.haukaas@twinmotors.ca)

Full details of this opportunity can be found at: <https://hr4.com/careers/h5group/>

**McSherry Auctions**  
12 Patterson Dr., Stonewall, MB

**Online Timed Auctions @ iCollector.com**

**Estate & Moving**  
Closes Wed Mar 16 @ 7:00PM

**Estate & Moving**  
Closes Wed Mar 23 @ 7:00PM

**Future Auction featuring Guns & Ammo ends Mar 30**

Consignments Welcome!  
(204) 467-1858 or (204) 886-7027  
[www.mcsherryauction.com](http://www.mcsherryauction.com)



**SELKIRK**

**NOW HIRING!**

The Canadian Tire Selkirk Automotive Department is now seeking staff for the following position:

**EXPERIENCED Red Seal Mechanic**

Strong candidates must have:

- Solid communication skills
- Problem solving abilities
- Strong interactive skills

Compensation based on experience. Full time position includes benefit package. Email resume and references to [mick.walsh@thetire.ca](mailto:mick.walsh@thetire.ca)



McMunn & Yates Building Supplies Ltd., a COR certified leading supplier of building materials and construction products, is currently accepting applications for the position of Contractor Sales in our Ashern, MB Branch.

**Contractor Sales – Ashern Branch**

We are looking for an enthusiastic individual who is ready to join our team. The Contractor Salesperson is responsible for volume sales and service to our commercial contractors and home building customers. Your duties will include:

- Professional Account Management
- Provide estimates & job quotes to customers in timely manner
- Accurately records sales transactions into point of sales system
- Showcasing product benefits

The successful candidate will:

- Show a commitment to delivering outstanding customer service
- Have great organizational & time management skills
- Look to build strong customer relationships with our contractor customer base
- Will be driven to further grow the business by actively seeking out & following up on sales leads
- The ability to work in a fast paced team environment is essential
- Displays a desire to expand their knowledge & skill set

If you would like to build your career with our company, please forward your resume with cover letter, in confidence to:

**McMunn & Yates Building Supplies**  
Ashern Branch | 16 Highway #6 Ashern, MB R0C 0E0  
Attn: Amanda Artimowich  
Email: [aartimowich@mcmunnandyates.com](mailto:aartimowich@mcmunnandyates.com)

We thank all candidates in advance; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Everything you need to promote your business



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IN MEMORIAM



**Ambrosia (Bonnie) Pawluk**  
June 7, 1932 - March 4, 2021

Loving memories never die,  
As years roll on and the days go by.  
In our hearts, memories are kept  
Of the one we loved and will never forget.  
In memory of our dear  
Mom, Baba and Great Baba.  
Thank you for the wonderful years we had.  
-Your loving family

IN MEMORIAM



**Victoria Kaminski**  
December 10, 1925 - March 16, 2019

In loving memory of  
**Our dear Mom, Grandma and  
Great-Grandma**  
Always loved,  
Always missed,  
And forever in our hearts.  
-Love Linda,  
Jane and Ken, Wally and Audra,  
Derek, Nicole, Sienna and Athena

OBITUARY



**Ruth Ann Arnold (nee Cain)**  
June 27, 1950 - February 27, 2022

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved mother and grandmother Ruth at the age of 71.

Ruth was predeceased by her husband William (Bill), parents Dick and Betty Cain, brother Joey Cain, in-laws George and Evelyn Arnold, sister-in-law Iris and brother-in-law Gilbert.

Leaving to mourn are her children Carrie (Steve), Jaret (Kirby) and loving grandchildren Kyra and Hunter. Survived by brothers Art (Holly), Rick (Shelly); sisters Janet (Ernie), Cathy (Clayton); sister-in-law June Price; brother-in-law George Arnold; numerous nieces and nephews; chosen children Cheryl (Anthony), Adam as well as friends and extended family.

Ruth was born in Winnipeg and grew up in Winnipeg Beach, MB, where she was crowned Miss Winnipeg Beach in 1968.

She attended elementary school in Winnipeg Beach and high school in Gimli. She met her high school sweetheart and future husband in high school and was married in April 1971. The two moved to Clandeboye, MB to raise their family. Ruth spent many years working for Scotia Bank and TD Bank in Selkirk, MB. After retirement she enjoyed spending her winters in Harlingen, Texas and summers at her trailer in Gimli, MB. Along with many trips to Saskatchewan to visit her two grandchildren whom she adored.

Ruth was an avid Romance Novel reader, loved to knit, bake and spend time with family and friends. She enjoyed taking her little red car (1978 MG Midget) to car shows and was a member of the Lily Pad Cruisers Car Club in Petersfield, Mb. She was also a member of the Selkirk Chapter of the Icelandic National League, the Gordon Howard Centre and volunteered at the Clandeboye Community Club. Ruth was a very social person who will be missed by many.

Special thanks to Selkirk Regional Health Center.

Donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Cremation has taken place and a private family service will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be left on her tribute wall at [www.gilbartfuneralhome.com](http://www.gilbartfuneralhome.com)

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY

**Russel Newton Bobier**

Suddenly at his residence on February 25, 2022, Russel Newton Bobier, aged 82 years of Faulkner, MB passed away.

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

Arrangements by:  
**ARNASON FUNERAL HOME**  
Ashern - Lundar  
1-204-768-2072  
1-866-323-3593

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OBITUARY



**Eva Marie Bernier (née Meilleur)**  
June 26, 1925 - March 2, 2022

Peacefully on March 2, 2022, at the age of 96, Eva Marie Bernier fell asleep in the assurance of the Resurrection and in the faith of God's mercy.

She was predeceased by her husband Roger in 2005; her parents Ovila and Zéphérina (née Gauthier) Meilleur; her brothers: Théodore, Wilbrod, Ernest, Albert, Emery, Maurice, Alcide; Auray and sisters, Céline, Lea Raymond, Delia Bernier, Amanda Lagassé, and grandson Nicholas Truszynski.

Holding her in loving memory are her children: Raymond, Gilbert (Deb), Roland (Donna), Rolande (Bob) Chernichan, Laurette (Ted) Truszynski, Rene (Janet), Leo (Susan), Suzanne (Cameron) Moore, Jeannette (Jameel) Ali, Guy (Kathe), Alain (Lorene), Denis (Brenda), Monique (Stuart) McCune; special daughter-in-law Valerie,

and great-grandchildren, sister-in-law Simonne (Auray) Meilleur and numerous nephews and nieces.

Mom was born June 26, 1925, on the family homestead in the Meridian district of Fisher Branch. She attended and completed Grade 8 at North Meridian School, where she acquired her love for learning, beautiful penmanship, and a relentless work ethic from a childhood poem "Do Your Best." Her motto was "Don't count your work." She took grade 9 by correspondence and spent her adolescent years being farmed out to help older married siblings who had young families. Her aspirations to become a teacher or nurse brought her to Winnipeg, where she worked in housekeeping at St. Boniface Hospital. A lasting impression that she passed on to her children was that one's bed had to be made daily with taught sheets, fluffed pillows and hospital corners.

In June 1947, Eva married Roger Bernier, and together they journeyed through a lifetime of farming and loving devotion towards each other and their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Mom put faith and family first. She had a special devotion to Divine Mercy, was an active volunteer in the church, sang in the choir, and taught Catechism. She was proud of her charter membership in the Catholic Women's League for over 50 years, where she often served on the executive, and where her passion supporting pro-life initiatives was realized through countless layettes she crocheted for newborns of unwed mothers.

Mom was an excellent cook and made it look effortless to put together a meal for 4 or 20 at barely a moment's notice. Mémère is fondly remembered for her homemade bread and cinnamon buns and baked treats she knew her family liked. Visitors would often be given a loaf of bread to take home with them as a gift. Mom believed her stove was like an altar, where she served God by serving others the food she had lovingly prepared.

Our Mom lived hospitality. Together with Dad, their home was never too small to welcome one more to their table; they were never too busy to ignore someone in need...there was always "room at the inn." Their home 'adopted' novice RCMP officers and young adults in need of a mother's touch. They welcomed parish priests and visiting bishops, and Sunday meals often included additional relatives and friends. Mom's kitchen was alive with banter and laughter when she hosted perogy pinching parties for CWL fundraising. That same kitchen hosted many teenage dance parties, curling teams, hockey teams, and countless card parties with friends and family.

Mom loved to sing French songs and hymns while she worked. She delighted in bouncing her baby grandchildren on her lap and humming or sing "Vive la Canadienne" to them. She enjoyed singing along to country music on the radio and being part of the senior "Songbirds."

Mom's hands symbolized her life that was centred on faith, family, food and friends. Her hands milked countless cows, worked tirelessly in the garden and prepared an innumerable amount of meals. They washed mountains of dirty diapers and greasy work clothes and scrubbed floors and walls until they were red and raw. She scaled many a frozen fish, butchered meat, plucked chickens, hauled water and prepared vegetables and fruit for canning. Those same hands that were quick to swat a wayward child were also the ones that so lovingly caressed and cuddled many a newborn. Mom was creative and loved sewing, knitting, and crocheting. She was an accomplished seamstress, often making patterns for clothes. Her hands that were called upon to sew a torn swather canvass or mend a tattered pair of coveralls could also turn out remarkable dresses and other clothing for her family. She sewed elaborate wedding gowns, fancy dresses, figure skating costumes, baptismal gowns, as well as many of Dad's work shirts. Her hands that tirelessly knitted woollen mittens and stockings for her family's comfort were also the ones that created delicate, exquisitely crocheted doilies. Her rosary and a deck of cards were lifelong companions. Mom's hands were the instrument by which she put her faith in action. Most importantly, at the end of every day, her hands came together in prayer, and she never failed to give thanks to God for all the blessings of her life.

The family acknowledges with heartfelt appreciation the devoted caregiving that Mom received while at Fisher Personal Care Home. The staff are truly 'angels' among us. Special thanks to a dear friend, Fr. Paul Bisson, who celebrated the Mass of Resurrection on Monday, March 7, 2022, in Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church, Fisher Branch, MB. Eva's adieu included an honour guard of her CWL sisters, a fitting tribute to her 54 years of membership in the organization.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Fisher Personal Care Home or a charity of choice. "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7)

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## OBITUARY



**Alexander (Paddy) Flint McLellan**  
March 17, 1937 – February 27, 2022

It is with deep sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Alex (Paddy) McLellan on February 27th at the age of 84 years. He was the dear husband of Eleanor; loving father to Heather (Robin), Robert (Jacquie), Wendy (Bruce), Brent (Tara) and James (Roxanne); loving grandpa to Cassidy, Lindsay, Dylan, Kristin, Claire, Adrien and Elianne. Loving brother to Signe (Gerry) and loving uncle to many nieces and nephews.

We are so grateful to all the Healthcare Professionals for their care, kindness and understanding which provided so much support to our family:

- The lady who answered my 911 call
- The two Lady Paramedics
- The four Firemen

- Dr. Ade (our Family Doctor) who was with us in the hospital.
- Nurse Alanna and the staff at the Johnson Memorial Hospital, Gimli
- Marlene, Gimli Public Health Nurse
- Matthew, continuing case care coordinator, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority

A celebration of Paddy's life will be held in the summer.

THOMSON FUNERAL HOME  
204-783-7211

Condolences may be sent to  
[www.thomsonfuneralchapel.com](http://www.thomsonfuneralchapel.com)

## OBITUARY



**Robert Andrew Jacobson**  
November 29, 1949 – March 2, 2022

It is with tremendous sadness that we announce the passing of Robert Andrew Jacobson, age 72.

He was a devoted husband to Delores Jacobson for 49 years and was blessed with two children, Cynthia (husband-David) and Tracy. Grandchildren further blessed his life when Liam (fondly called "guy") then Cassidy (fondly called "princess") were born.

The son of Anna and Ernest Jacobson, brother to Leslie Jacobson (wife-Carol) and Diane Kicenko (husband-David), Robert was a farmer-heart, mind and soul farming the family farm with his father, brother and two nephews. He loved driving a combine in the sun of Manitoba's early fall, tinkering with machinery, playing cribbage with coffee, hunting, history and visiting his large extended family.

Robert achieved many dreams in his life: travelling to Europe for his 25th wedding anniversary (memories of which he fondly shared), traveling to Alaska for his 65th birthday, and purchasing his own camper (which he was passionate about, repairing and tinkering it with zeal). Seeing his 50th wedding anniversary was his only unachieved dream when he lost his final battle with cancer.

We gratefully thank his doctor, Dr. John Donnelly, as well as all the staff at CancerCare for the smiles, hope and aid they gave. So too the staff of Interlake Eastern Palliative Care who helped to ease him at the end.

A celebration of his life will be planned before seeding and a private interment will follow for the family.



204-886-0404

## OBITUARY

**Marilyn Eirickson**

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our Mom, Amma, Laung Amma, Marilyn Eirickson of Lundar, MB on February 28th, 2022. Mom passed away peacefully surrounded by her family.

A celebration of life is being planned for a later date.

A full obituary to follow.

Arrangements by:  
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## OBITUARY

**Curtis Fredrick Schettler**

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Curtis Fredrick Schettler on Saturday, February 5th, 2022.

Curtis was born on April 5th, 1963, in Gimli, Manitoba. Curtis was an outdoorsman at heart, always camping and exploring the wilderness at every opportunity. Curtis was an excellent tradesperson, building many unique items for friends and family over the years.

Curtis is survived by his brother, David (Brenda), son Bryson, mother-in-law Jean Miller, brothers-in-law Daryl and Kevin Miller, and sister-in-law Bonnie (Kenny) Seniuk and their families.

There will be a private celebration of life at a later date.

Curtis' family would like to express gratitude for the cards, food baskets, flowers, and kind words during this time of mourning.



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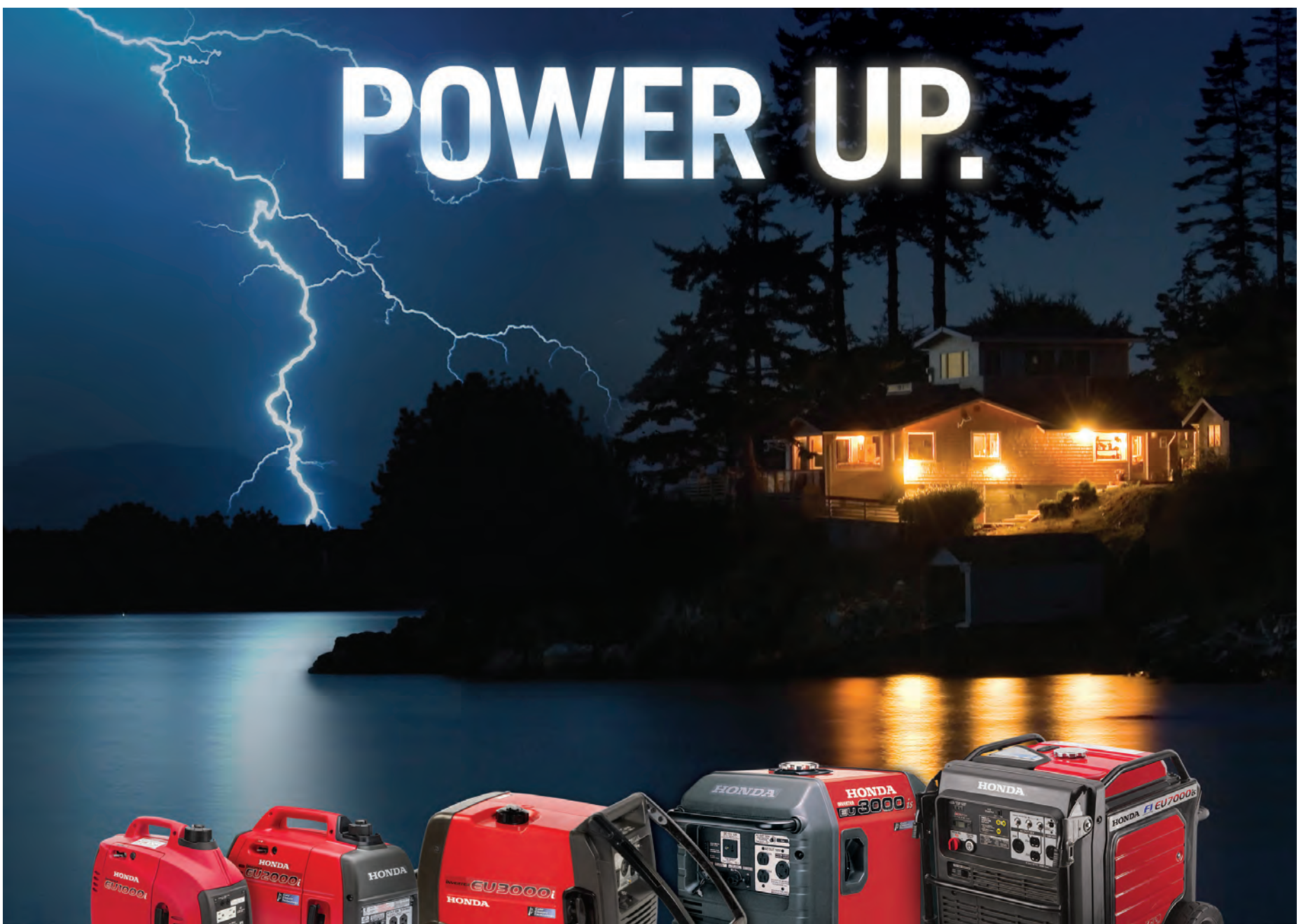
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