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Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher sounding quagga mussel alarm

By Patricia Barrett

A Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher who had warned the government years ago about the rise of algal blooms and the advent of zebra mussels is sounding the horn on quagga mussels, which are causing environmental and economic damage in the Great Lakes and waterways in various parts of the United States.

Robert T. Kristjanson, who has been fishing for over 70 years and earned the Order of Manitoba in 2018 for raising awareness of algal blooms, said he's concerned there's not enough being done by the government to stop quagga mussels, an aquatic invasive species (AIS), from hitching a ride on boats from away.

Quaggas could damage Manitoba's commercial fishery and angling industry.

"If the quagga comes to Lake Winnipeg, that will be the end of our lake. The destruction will be terrible," said Kristjanson. "What are we doing in this province to prevent this? Are we going to let boaters travel in every direction throughout Manitoba? These things are dynamite."

Quagga mussels have already invaded lakes such as Ontario, Erie and



DAVE BRENNER, MICHIGAN SEA GRANT Quagga mussel shells have light and dark stripes that are similar to zebra mussels but they're more rounded and don't have a flat underside.

Huron and the St. Lawrence River. They've also spread to several American states including North Dakota, Utah and California. They latch onto boats and other watercraft, boat trailers and fishing equipment and can be easily spread between water bodies.

Quagas are more prolific breeders than zebra mussels, can live in deep water and will compete for food and space with native aquatic species. Both mussels were introduced to Canada and the United States from the Caspian and Black Sea regions in the ballast water of ocean vessels using the St. Lawrence River.



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Zebra mussels washed ashore near Cimli's Loni Beach neighbourhood in 2018. Lake Winnipeg is inundated with the mussels. Zebra mussels were also detected in Lake Manitoba a few years ago.

Lake Winnipeg in already inundated with zebra mussels, which can wash up on beaches in the hundreds of thousands, preventing locals and tourists from using the beach. They filter plankton from the water, depleting the food source for other species and can colonize areas where fish spawn. They threaten Manitoba Hydro generating stations by attaching to and blocking pipes.

Kristjanson said boats at Gimli Harbour last week were covered with zebra mussels. But zebras will pale in comparison to the quaggas. He travels occasionally to Ontario for business and has seen firsthand how quagga mussels in Lake Erie disrupt its commercial fishery.

"Zebra mussels get in our nets but you can shake them out. Quaggas will hook onto nets and everything else and you can't shake them out. They stick to the nets like a clamp. You can't even pull them off," he said. "I was in Lake Erie where nets were piled for

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The Express Weekly News Thursday, May 18, 2023 3

Shoreside driving GM sales in Gimli and beyond; legacy of exceptional service continues

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli's Shoreside GM may have slipped quietly into the driver's seat last year without a lot of fanfare, but the long-standing General Motors dealership formerly known as Giesbrecht & Sons continues to stop on a dime for its customers.

Marshall and Bruce Giesbrecht sold the dealership last year to Mike Shrimpton, an Interlaker with plenty of experience in the auto sales industry, but they continue to work there.

The dealership was renamed Shoreside GM to reflect its presence in the Lake Winnipeg community.

What made the Giesbrechts so successful over their 47-year run was a commitment to exceptional service that not only met customers' expectations, but also exceeded them. They and Mike are carrying that ethos forward under the Shoreside banner. A customer will drive off the lot knowing he or she can have any potential problems resolved without fuss.

"One of my dad's [John Sr.] sayings was, 'Sales and service, service, service,'" said Marshall Giesbrecht.

Originally from Winnipeg, John Sr. and Rose Giesbrecht (Bruce and Marshall's dad and mom) bought a car dealership on Gimli's Centre Street in 1976, naming it Gimli Motors (1976) Ltd. To accommodate the growth of Gimli Motors and the demand for GM products, the family built a new dealership in 1988 just west of town on PR 231. They renamed it Giesbrecht & Sons. Over the years the family built a strong customer base that currently stretches from Kenora, Ont., to Brandon and from Winnipeg to Ashern.

Shoreside sells three General Motors brands: Chevrolet, Buick and GMC. It also sells pre-owned vehicles and has a certified service centre.

Marshall said one of the best things about running the dealership was the customers.

"One of the highlights for me when we owned the dealership was the number of people and families we met and dealt with over the years," he said. "We've created a family atmosphere here and get to know people by their first names. Everybody knows us by our first names, too."

Bruce Giesbrecht said another highlight from their time at the dealership's helm was earning a prestigious award. In 1997, their dad, John Sr., was awarded through *Maclean's* magazine the Manitoba Dealer of Excellence Award by General Motors.

Owning the dealership was not always a smooth ride, however, as they weathered some challenges along the way, including coming to Gimli as strangers in the 1970s and having to



build connections from the ground up, as well as raising enough capital to erect the dealership and service centre west of town.

Perhaps the most nerve-wracking time occurred in 2009 during the Great Recession (late 2007 to mid 2009) when General Motors culled about 296 of its 705 dealerships across Canada as it grappled with flagging auto sales. Several thousand people lost their jobs. The Giesbrechts remember anxiously waiting to find out whether their dealership would be on the chopping block.

"It was very tense for all GM dealerships and ours as well. By the time the smoke had cleared, we were still standing. There were almost 300 dealers that lost their franchises on that one afternoon — it was a Wednesday afternoon. There were lots of casualties," said Bruce. "Even though we were a smaller dealership, GM felt we were doing a good job and were economically viable."

After a good long run, Marshall said he and his brother decided to sell the business in order to take a "little bit of time off." With their children having entered various professional careers, the brothers looked around for an external buyer.

It was the Giesbrechts' reputation for customer service that got Mike Shrimpton's attention.

"As an outsider looking in, I could see they had a very happy customer base," said Mike, who's from the St. Andrews-Selkirk area. "People enjoy dealing here. They feel the level of service is always top-notch."

Mike has no plans to reinvent the wheel, so to speak, because the business is running as smoothly as a Chevy Silverado and continues to be a mainstay in the Interlake. And no one at the dealership has lost their job.

Although some people might say the dealership model is no longer needed in this day and age when considering

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EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The GM dealership moved to its present location on PR 231 in 1988 and was renamed Giesbrecht & Sons. It was renamed Shoreside GM last year after the Giesbrecht family sold it. The Giesbrechts are still working at the dealership as employees rather than owners.



Shoreside is carrying on Giesbrecht's legacy of outstanding customer service to its Interlake and Winnipeg customers, as well as those from as far away as Ontario.



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Vidir Vertical Storage Solutions earns Top Employer and other awards for excellence

By Patricia Barrett

Vidir Vertical Storage Solutions earned a number of awards this year for going the distance as an employer.

Vidir Solutions (both its Arborg and Teulon locations) was selected for the second year in a row as one of Manitoba's Top Employers for 2023. It was also selected as one of Canada's Top Small and Medium Employers for 2023.

"We are one out of 100 companies selected across Canada," said Carissa Rempel, program manager, human resources and PR, "and we were one of only two product manufacturers selected."

The company designs and builds motorized vertical storage units and carousels for industries including manufacturing, construction, automotive, medical and retail. It has sold its products in over 40 countries.

It was chosen for the awards for a number of business practices that include workplace diversity, staff support and incentives, and charitable giving.

Vidir Solutions provides a maternity leave top-up of 95 per cent for up to 17 weeks, actively recruits women and newcomers, offers free language classes in the workplace to newcomer



Vidir staff were treated to cake after winning awards for Manitoba's Top Employer and Top Canadian Small and Medium Business Employer this year.

employees and also pays for half of their time in the classroom, provides employee development incentives that include generous tuition subsidies (sometimes covering an entire university education) and is committed to helping charities with a minimum of 10 per cent of its profits donated each year, said Rempel.

The company's HR team at both its Arborg and Teulon plants was recently awarded a Unity Award from CPHR Manitoba [Chartered Professional in Human Resources] for promoting women in a male-dominated industry, said Rempel. Other finalists for the award included Red River Col-



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED Vidir Solutions earned a Unity Award from CPHR Manitoba [Chartered Professional in Human Resources] for promoting women in a male-dominated industry. From left: Jodi Lee Kaemingk (award presenter), Jasmine Nault, Carissa Rempel (holding award), Dale Stoyanowski and Cristina Vieira (director of HR).



Vidir's female staff enjoying lunch in the lunchroom.

lege, the City of Winnipeg and New Flyer Industries.

CPHR is an organization that advances the human resource profession. It offers a number of HR Excellence Awards annually for business ty Award, under the business excellence category, recognizes employers for advancing diversity, inclusivity and accessibility at work. It looks at

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WATERFRONT CENTRE, JOHNSON HALL (94 1st AVE, GIMLI) Sunday, June 4th, 2023 11am to 1pm Tickets \$30 Available at Festival Gift Shop H.P. Tergesen & Sons New Iceland Heritage Museum



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Organizers to create Every Child Matters garden for reflection

Garden will honour memory of children who died attending residential schools

Submitted by the Manitoba government

In consultation and collaboration with the organizers of the Every Child Matters flag display at the legislative building grounds, the Manitoba government is creating a new permanent garden on the grounds in memory of thousands of Indigenous children who never returned home from residential schools in Manitoba and across the country, Consumer Protection and Government Services Minister James Teitsma announced Saturday.

"Over the past several years, Canadians have become increasingly aware of the harms caused by the residential school system," said Teitsma. "The new Every Child Matters memorial garden will create an opportunity and a place for reflection for Manitobans in honour of the memory of the children who never returned home to their families from residential schools, as we continue to work toward reconciliation."

The new garden will be on the south grounds of the legislative building alongside Assiniboine Avenue and will feature a mix of orange annuals and perennials such as lilies, roses and marigolds. Later this spring, a memorial plaque and bench will be installed for visitors to sit and reflect, the minister said.

The orange Every Child Matters flags currently on display on the north side of the legislative building grounds will be relocated to the new garden this weekend, led by the organizers of the display. The flags will be replaced with the garden flowers as soon as weather allows in order to create a more permanent tribute to the children, the minister said, noting that organizers who initially created the flag display have selected meaningful plants in consultation with an elder.

"It has been our absolute honour taking on the task of installing and maintaining the Every Child Matters flag display. We could have never predicted the immense impact that our actions would have on the community," said Tara Martinez, co-organizer of the display installation. "Over the last two years, many Indigenous and non-Indigenous supporters of the Children First Society of Canada have helped to make this happen, proving that although we don't always agree on past transgressions, we can choose to move forward in a positive way."

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada has documented 6,000 children who died while attending residential schools across the



The Every Child Matters gardens will include a mix of orange annuals such as lilies, roses and marigolds.

country. The commission estimates that of the 6,000 documented deaths, 338 children died while attending such schools in Manitoba. However, the true number of children who died while attending these institutions is likely much higher.

Fraserwood Fearless 4-H Club taking on trash, inviting the community to a clean-up

By Patricia Barrett

The Fraserwood Fearless 4-H Club is living up to its name by fearlessly taking on trash along a stretch of busy highway.

The club will be getting out its gloves and bags near the end of the month and is inviting community members in the RM of Armstrong to pitch in.

The Fraserwood Fearless is a small group that started up last fall but has big plans to contribute to the welfare of its community. The youth will be undertaking a five-mile clean-up from the town of Fraserwood east to the RM of Armstrong and RM of Gimli's shared border.

> VIDIR, FROM PG. 4

a culture of inclusion, advancing truth and reconciliation and removing barriers to access.

For its charitable giving in 2023, Rempel said Vidir Solutions will be focusing on Arborg's river trail, Teulon's daycare, the Canadian Food Grains Bank, the Winnipeg Children's Hospital and MEDA [Mennonite Economic Development Associates].

The company rewards its hard-working staff with a number of fun social events and outings each year.

The company recently rented the Scotiabank Theatre in Winnipeg and held a Vidir at the Theatre Day where staff watched a movie and got free popcorn, candy and drinks. It also held a Jets Whiteout Playoffs Contest to see which location (Arborg or Teulon) had more spirit. Teulon staff won and were treated to a pizza party.

"Some upcoming events in the next two months for employees include a cultural potluck, pickleball day with live music and food, a food truck day and a pool party," said Rempel. "Vidir is also paying \$100 towards all of their employees' children's tuition to summer camp this summer."

For more information about Vidir Vertical Storage Solutions, visit vidirsolutions.com

"The club is doing a highway clean-up and fundraiser on May 27 on PR 231 from Fraserwood to Road 15E," said RM of Armstrong Reeve Kate Basford, who got the club up and running. "The club would love to ask the community to join them to clean up Fraserwood and area or just clean up their own yards as a Fraserwood communitywide clean-up."

4-H is a not-for-profit organization that helps youth develop leadership and communication skills and become responsible, caring and contributing leaders who will effect positive change in their communities. Club are made up of youth ranging from age six to 25 years old. Manitoba has over 130 clubs.

The Fraserwood Fearless received a \$500 grant from Farm Credit Canada's 4-H Club Fund to help it get started, said Basford, and the members will be using the grant to purchase 4-H T-shirts and hats to wear when they carry out club activities, as well as when they're out and about helping the community.

FCC provides up to \$500 for 4-H clubs across Canada to help them with programs and activities. It awarded \$100,000 in total for 2022-2023. Sixteen Manitoba clubs, including the Fraserwood Fearless and clubs from Ashern, Balmoral, Narcisse, Teulon and East Selkirk, received a grant.











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



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COVID infections, hospitalizations increase first week of May

By Patricia Barrett

COVID infections and hospitalizations rose during the first week of May, according to the provincial government's respiratory surveillance report for the period April 30 to May 6 (reporting Week 18).

There were 105 new COVID infections detected by PCR testing. There were 96 new infections reported the previous week. Provincial COVID data are underestimates of the true number of infections as the government restricts access to PCR testing. Rapid antigen tests aren't tracked.

Forty-eight people were hospitalized with COVID including 10 patients admitted to the intensive care unit in Week 18. There were 39 people hospitalized the previous week with two people admitted to the ICU.

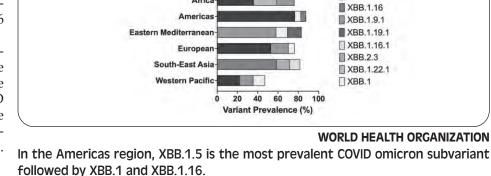
Two people died from COVID in Week 18. There were six deaths reported in Week 17 and 10 deaths the week before that.

Numbers are calculated using comparisons of total outcome data between the current and the previous week's report.

Manitoba's COVID death toll is currently 2,499 according to the federal government's COVID webpage as of April 29. Canada's death toll has reached 52,231.

Wastewater surveillance data for Winnipeg and Brandon to April 25 indicates sustained COVID activity, states the Week 18 report. The Week 17 report provided wastewater data up to the same date, April 25, so it's unclear whether that activity changed in Week 18.

There were four new cases of influ-



Afric

Figure 5. Top three SARS-CoV-2 variants (including non-VOIs/VUMs) by WHO region, week 12 to week 16 of 2023

enza A and five new cases of influenza B reported in Week 18. There were four new hospitalizations for influenza but no deaths. There were two and five new cases, respectively, reported the week before, with no hospitalizations and deaths.

There were 10 new cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in Week 18. There were 15 cases the week before.

OTHER HEALTH NEWS:

- There were over 2.7 million new COVID cases and over 17,000 new deaths from the virus reported worldwide over the period April 10 to May 7, according to the World Health Organization's epidemiological update published May 11.

In the Americas region (North, Central and South America), XBB.1.5 is the most prevalent COVID omicron subvariant followed by XBB.1 and XBB.1.16.

A few recent studies on vaccine effectiveness of monovalent and bivalent (targeting two virus strains) COVID vaccines show there is either marginal vaccine effectiveness of the bivalent vaccine or no difference.

XBB.1.5

Two studies from the U.K. and France have shown "marginal (approximately 10%) higher VE [vaccine effectiveness] for bivalent vaccines against Omicron infection" while one study from Canada showed "no difference in VE between monovalent and bivalent vaccines against hospitalization," states the epidemiological report.

The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority reported on May 8 a gastrointestinal outbreak at the Betel Personal Care Home in Gimli. The COVID outbreaks at Red River Place PCH in Selkirk (reported May 1) and Tudor House PCH in Selkirk (reported April 28) are ongoing, according to the health authority's outbreak webpage (viewed May 14).

- Manitoba's Shared Health organi-

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REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER Autumn Fehr





> COVID, FROM PG. 6

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

A bird's eye view of Lake Winnipeg shows ice still on the lake this past Sunday although temperatures have been above 20 degree Celsius throughout the week. 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.

Government provides \$1.2 million for youth to build skills, enter the workforce

Submitted by the Manitoba government

The Manitoba government is providing youth in Manitoba with the opportunity to experience their first jobs in a supportive environment that gives them the confidence and skills needed for work, Economic Development, Investment and Trade Minister Jeff Wharton announced Monday.

"Our government is committed to The supporting young Manitobans so you they can build their skills and engage with the workforce through this supportive model," said Wharton. "The A programs funded through the First 31. Jobs Fund help youth develop the skills necessary to be successful in the future."

The First Jobs Fund supports registered non-profit or non-government organizations to implement programming for youth aged 15 to 29 facing barriers to employment, up to a maximum of \$300,000 per organization.

The two programs available include:

- a job readiness program which develops employability skills and provides mentorship, job coaching and

life skills to youth participants.; and

- a wage subsidy program which provides a minimum of seven hours of employment per week and at least 150 hours of employment to youth participants.

Last year, more than 300 Manitoba youth had the opportunity to build skills in their first job through the First Jobs Fund. These young people have gained valuable experiences that have supported them in their further education and career paths, the minister noted.

The fund prioritizes projects that support Indigenous youth, include paid work experience, and provide skills and experiences in key economic sectors and for in-demand jobs, said the minister.

Applications for the First Jobs Fund are open until July 31.

For more information and the application form, visit



https://gov. mb.ca/wd/ites/ youth/first_jobs_ fund.html. zation said 55 nurses have been hired in the provincial government's nursing float pool since it was formed last year, and that they're working shifts in rural and northern communities.

"Our government is healing health care by bolstering the health-care system's workforce and improving patient care and staff well-being," said health minister Audrey Gordon in a May 9 statement on Shared Health's website.

The float pool is lessening the reliance on overtime and agency nursing, she added.

- The NDP released figures last week showing the provincial Conservative government cancelled over 2,600 surgeries at Winnipeg facilities over the course of more than a year.

Based on the results of a freedom of information request, the NDP said it found 2,623 surgeries had been cancelled between November 2021 and January 2023.

Of those cancelled procedures, 576 were orthopedic surgeries including hip and knee surgeries. Grace Hospital had the highest number of cancelled obstetrical surgeries with 247. The Pan Am Clinic had 151 cancelled surgeries, Concordia Hospital had 147 and the Health Sciences Centre had 31.

"Every cancelled surgery is a person waiting in pain and discomfort for longer. Brian Pallister created a staffing crisis in our hospitals and Premier Stefanson has made it even worse. Their cuts have been devastating to our healthcare system," said NDP leader Wab Kinew in a statement. "Manitobans deserve timely access to healthcare, including surgeries. It's time for real leadership that will put the healthcare needs of Manitobans first."

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Letters to the Editor: Letters@expressweeklynews.ca

Commercial fishers concerned about impact of government decisions

Pioneer Commercial Fishers of Manitoba (PCFM) response to last month's article (March 23 edition of the *Express Weekly News*), titled "Province implements year-round recreational fishing for most species."

The PC government has yet again made changes to the fishing industry in Manitoba ("most water bodies"), without any consultation with commercial fishers nor a proper statistical analysis and/ or data to justify their decision(s). The PC government indicated they (in 2021) "consulted with the public" and "feedback from the entire engagement process was supportive." PCFM were not included in this "engagement" nor are we aware of commercial fishers being consulted. The PC government apparently mailed letters to 70 Indigenous communities/organizations to inform them of the proposed changes. This is great; however, why were just Indigenous communities/organizations communicated with? PCFM would also like to know how the PC government determined who would be communicated with and what exactly was identified in those letters?

The PC government has "taken aim at increasing angling opportunities while protecting fish stocks" (according to the new regulation's executive summary).

So ... by allowing recreational fishing to occur year-round and dropping the requirement for them to sign a licence, will "protect fish stocks"? This by itself makes absolutely no sense and we're unclear how they arrived at those decisions. In contrast, commercial fishers are regulated with certain "seasons/dates" we are allowed to fish with specific dedication to NOT fish during yearly spawning times, and we are required to sign for a licence every year, even though we already have official "quotas/licences" that allow us to fish that we already own.

Apparently angling in Manitoba generates approximately \$600 million a year (according to the 2021 Recreational Angling Strategy). How was this amount determined for when reviewing their PDF about this and their website, there's no data on "how" they manufactured this figure? It'd be interesting to see how the RAS arrived at this amount. Perhaps they know when a boat was purchased or a Ski-Doo, truck, etc., they were only to be used for recreational fishing in Manitoba ... and purchased in Manitoba?

Although the article also references various reductions of limits for recreational fishers, it would appear the restrictions on them continues to loosen by allowing them to fish year-round, yet the regulations, policies and procedures for commercial fishers continue to increase with continuous changes and additional restrictions that derive from unsubstantiated data the government supposedly has.

The "spokesperson" for the provincial Department of Natural Resources and Northern Development (PC government, indicated "the new regulations," which includes allowing anglers to fish "year-round" will "provide more opportunity to fish for some species and increase the protection of sensitive stocks." They also elaborated further and indicated, "anglers will be able to fish for species such as smallmouth bass and northern pike all year, walleye/pickerel will have a closed season to protect them when they are spawning."

Yes, the PC government may "close the season" for walleye/pickerel (during spawning times); however, anglers will now be permitted to fish during those important spawning times thus will now catch fish at those times when they couldn't previously. "Closing the seasons" for that species doesn't mean walleye/pickerel won't swallow hooks at those times for anglers are not in control of what actually swallows their hook(s). Apparently, the PC government is under the impression recreational fishers can use their telekinetic abilities to control the specific species caught on their hooks. This is amazing and commercial fishers would like to hire these individuals in hopes they can assist with our net fishing so they can show us how to accomplish this. It would save fishers significant time, energy and resources, especially when we're out on the lake lifting nets in rough/ windy (dangerous) weather conditions, essentially putting our lives on the line in order to abide by all the regulations and requirements the PC government continues to police on commercial fishers (again, while in contrast, reducing the restrictions for recreational fishers).

It would also appear the PC government is under the impression fish caught on hooks that are "released" swim away and have a wonderful life. Depending on the various statistics available, approximately 50-70 per cent of fish caught with a hook, pulled out of the water, held, pictures taken, etc., die shortly after being released.

There were also references to "help conserve these species" or "help ensure the long-term sustainability of recreational fishing in the province" or "will increase the protection of sensitive stocks" or it will "increase angling opportunities while protecting fish stocks" and so on. Many of these new regulations do just the opposite, and if the PC government took the time to address this correctly with the major stakeholders on Manitoba waters, this would have been identified. The article also indicated "the governments OPINION is that the changes to recreational angling add enhanced protection measures" and "will not negatively impact food supply." The fact is the PC government has absolutely no data to confirm or deny this. It's "their opinion." The irony behind this is amazing for commercial fishers also have "opinions," with thousands of collective years of experience and knowledge of Manitoba water bodies and fishing stocks/patterns/cycles. These "opinions" are not welcome with the current PC government and commercial fishers have the data to support the exact opposite of what the PC government has provided the public (and continues to provide them).

The PC government also identified said changes to recreational fishing "will affect competitive fishing events" and that the PC government "might provide funding to defray the cost of equipment needed for competitive events at a cost that's not expected to exceed \$50,000." PCFM would like to everyone to be cognizant of the fact the PC government made significant changes to commercial fishing regulations in 2019 that immediately eliminated the usage of several sizes of "net stocks" for all fishers. Millions of dollars' worth of nets suddenly were useless. Not only did this affect commercial fishers, it also affected the companies that sold these nets to commercial fishers, leaving their existing stocks also useless and unsellable. Absolutely no compensation was granted to commercial fishers with now useless net stocks nor to the companies that had these net sizes in their shops for sale. Yet the PC government is indicating they "might provide funding up to \$50,000" to "defray the cost" of these recreational changes?

These changes are absurd and it would appear recreational fishing (what is done for fun) is higher up the food chain than commercial fishers who are making a living all while supporting Manitoba businesses with the purchases they require in order to conduct their business and in order to catch fish to put food on the table for everyone on the globe.

> Sincerely and respectfully, PCFM (Pioneer Commercial Fishers of Manitoba)



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Manitobans anglers are reminded to release spawning fish

Walleye and sauger season opens May 20 on Lake Winnipeg, Northwest and North Central divisions

Submitted by Manitoba government

Manitoba anglers are gearing up for walleye and sauger fishing season, which officially opened May 13 in the Southern fishing division, with the season opening one week later on Lake Winnipeg and in the Northwest and North Central fishing divisions, Natural Resources and Northern Development Minister Greg Nesbitt announced Friday. "It's no secret anglers have been eagerly waiting to get out on the water and start fishing for walleye and sauger, so starting this weekend, anglers in the Southern fishing division will be able to cast a line for two of Manitoba's most popular fish species," said Nesbitt. "We are also excited for the first season that makes it easier for Manitoba seniors to fish for free by simply showing proof of age and residency upon request of a conservation officer."

Approximately 22,000 Manitoba seniors take part in recreational fishing, and until recently, they needed to apply for a Manitoba Resident Senior Angling Licence every year, the minister noted. This year, the Manitoba government has also implemented angling licence exemptions for active military members and veterans who reside in Manitoba.

With the late spring conditions that Manitoba is experiencing, deteriorating ice, fast-flowing currents and cold water temperatures may be present. Anglers are reminded to follow safe boating measures, wear life-jackets, check water conditions and use caution.

Some fish may still be spawning due to the late spring conditions. Anglers are asked to help protect fish stocks by immediately releasing fish that are discharging eggs. By proactively releasing spawning fish, anglers will help protect fish stocks and sustain Manitoba's fisheries, noted the minister.

Anglers are reminded that a suite of new angling regulations came into effect April 1, which includes new possession limits and size restrictions for certain species. Other changes include new angling licence types and fees. For more information on all angling regulations, refer to the 2023 Manitoba Anglers' Guide at www. manitobafisheries.com.

Water users are reminded that regulations are in place to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS). These include requirements to clean, drain and dry watercraft and water-related gear as well as the requirement for anyone transporting a watercraft (e.g. power boats, canoes, and jet skis) to stop at watercraft inspection stations when they are open. For more information on AIS, requirements, and locations and hours of watercraft inspection stations, visit www.manitoba.ca/stopAIS.

Manitoba government providing historic tax relief

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba government is making historic investments that will bring total tax and affordability measures to more than \$1.8 billion between 2022 and 2024, providing \$5,500 in total savings for the average two-income family by 2024, Finance Minister Cliff Cullen stated last week.

"We have a Low Tax Plan to make Manitoba a more affordable place to live, and a more competitive place to do business," said Cullen. "This means creating a positive atmosphere for economic development with new opportunities for Manitoba businesses to grow. Our historic tax relief will help the economy prosper because we understand that affordability and tax competitiveness is the key to creating good local jobs for Manitobans."

This year, the school tax rebate for residential and farm properties increases to 50 per cent in 2023 from 37.5 per cent in 2022. The average rebate to a homeowner will increase to \$774 in 2023 from \$581 in 2022. Rebates are delivered the month in which municipal property taxes are due and will begin being received in Winnipeg and Brandon in June.

Owners of other properties including commercial, industrial, institutional properties will receive a 10 per cent rebate of the total of both the school division special levy and the education support levy payable.

"It would be naive to understate the importance of Manitoba's grocers to our provincial economy," said John Graham, prairie director, Retail Council of Canada. "These primarily national brands provide over 17,000 jobs, pay tens of millions of dollars in annual taxes, support hundreds of charities, as well as being critical champions of Manitoba growers and food producers. Arbitrarily determining who receives a rebate on the taxes they pay based on who owns a company or the size of their contributions

to Manitoba's economy not only undermines the importance of fairness and trust, it's simply bad tax policy. Tax rebates allow retailers to lower prices, create jobs and invest in their businesses."

To learn more about the School Tax Rebate, visit https://www.gov.



For the third year in four, Manitoba is holding the line of Pharmacare rates.

This will help make life more affordable for seniors on fixed incomes, lower income Manitobans and families.

Learn more about Pharmacare and how it helps cover the cost of prescription drugs at

Manitoba.ca/pharmacare



mb.ca/schooltaxrebate/index.html.

Community Support Service

AA Meetings in Ashern Open Meeting Time: 6-7pm Fridays Starting Friday March 3rd. Location: #11 2nd Ave North -Pioneer Manor (beside the main door entrance of Pioneer Manor) Contact AAMBCO@mts.net

AA Eriksdale

Eriksdale United Church building #7 Main Street, Erikesdale (side door) Meetings are Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

AA Winnipeg Beach

Lady of the Lake RC Church Corner of Hwy. 9 and Lake Ave., Winnipeg Beach

Meetings are Saturdays between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact Ann J 204-389-3417

Gimli Group AA

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd Industrial Park

Fri & Sun Mtgs at 7:30 pm Womens Mtgs Thurs at 10:30 am

Al-Anon Gimli and Winnipeg Beach

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

Winnipeg Beach Legion hosted 1st Annual Fashion show and dinner

Staff

The Winnipeg Beach Legion is more than just a place for veterans to gather — it's also a hub of community events and fundraisers. And their latest event, the 1st Annual Fashion Show and dinner fundraiser, was no exception.

The event brought together members of the community, including Legion and Ladies Auxiliary members, as well as family and friends. The show featured 12 models ranging in age from 18 months to over 75 years old, showing off clothing supplied by Red Apple Store in Gimli.

Velma Daroux was master of ceremonies for the afternoon on April 23 while Diane played the music for the models.

One of the highlights of the evening was undoubtedly the delicious dinner that was catered by none other than legion members themselves under the supervision of chef Jordan. Guests dined on stuffed chicken breast served with homemade potato salad on a bed of fresh spinach, accompanied by grape tomatoes and a freshly baked dinner roll. And who could forget dessert? Chocolate and white birthday cakes were served to celebrate one member's 75th birthday (as well as all other April birthdays).

Red Apple Store in Gimli supplied all the clothes and accessories for the models. They also donated a door prize containing an assortment of lights and decorations for the garden. Everyone in attendance received a coupon for 20 per cent off their next visit to Red Apple.

Darroux thanked Tamara, the manager of Red Apple, for all her hard work helping the models choose their



outfits while keeping everyone organized and out to the catwalk on time and Coralea from the Beauty Mark Loft for donating her time and expertise to do the models makeup for the show.

Darroux also expressed thanks to the greeters at the door, ticket sellers, bar and kitchen workers and everyone else that helped to make this day a success.

"Without all of our volunteers we couldn't have events like these!" said Darroux.

"And last but not least, thank you to the legion president Lorraine Andrushuk for surprising us with flowers after the show."

All monies raised are for the day to day operations and maintenance of our legion.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 20 - a pancake breakfast from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. along with a raffle and a 50/50 draw at the breakfast. May 20 - Bud, Spud and Steak Din-



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The models included 18-month-old Grayson accompanied by his 10-year-old sister Sophia, three men (Myles, Ryan and Lincoln) and the ladies (Liz, Vera, Charlotte, Sydney, Heather, Stacy and Cheryl). Everyone did a wonderful job.



Legion president Lorraine Andrushuk surprised the volunteers with flowers after the show.

ner and Dance - \$35 will get you a succulent eight-ounce steak with all the trimmings and dessert. Following

dinner, you can dance the night away. There will be a cash bar, silent auction and a 50/50 draw.

Evergreen Foundation Of Manitoba Inc.

The Evergreen Foundation of Manitoba Inc. will receive applications from graduates or residents of The Evergreen School Division who are furthering their education in a recognized post-secondary institution to be considered for one of three general \$1,000.00 scholarships.

The Foundation will also receive applications from previous Gimli High School graduates who are pursuing post-secondary education specializing in a medical field at a recognized post-secondary institution for the \$1,000 Dr. R.C. Patel & Mrs. Shakuntala Patel Scholarship.

Application forms and criteria are available at the School Division Office in Gimli and the School Division Web Site (www. esd.ca). Successful applicants will be notified by June 30, 2023.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: June 9, 2023

Please forward applications to:

The Evergreen Foundation of Manitoba Inc. Box 1200 140 Centre Avenue West Gimli, Manitoba R0C 1B0

> SHORESIDE, FROM PG. 3

Tesla founder Elon Musk's direct-to-consumer sales model, Mike says otherwise.

Dealerships deliver valuable services to customers that include information about brand reputation and other features of the vehicles, as well as a network of service centres that cover warranties and provide repairs and tune-ups.

"The advantage we have is a really, really strong dealer network that allows us to provide service to our customers. Local customers or people who are travelling across North America can find a GM dealership that's probably not very far from them," said Mike. "Our dealer network is definitely a strength in terms of obtaining service. Strong service support sells the next vehicle."

Supply-chain disruptions that arose during the COVID-19 pandemic affected nearly every industry, including the automotive industry, and the global economy is still recovering. Despite higher interest rates and price hikes at the supermarket, there's a demand for vehicles that's outstripping supply, said Mike. Shoreside currently has a bit more open space than vehicles because the majority of their inventory is hitting the open road as soon as it arrives. The dealership has seen a 229 per cent rate of sale increase this year already.

As busy as they've been, Shoreside is planning a day-long grand opening celebration on Saturday, July 22. It will include a car show courtesy of the local Gimli Car Club (and perhaps other clubs), a live band and broadcasts from CJ107 and QX104.

Shoreside GM prides itself on providing the best automotive services. The dealership is located on PR 231 between highways 8 and 9. It's open (sales) from Monday to Saturday, with the service and parts departments open Monday to Friday.

The sales department can be reached at 204-642-5132, the service department at 204-819-0178, and the parts department at 204-808-1225. For those outside the area, call toll-free 1-888-885-3871.

The Express Weekly News Thursday, May 18, 2023 **11** Interlake WAVE artists will take you on a creative journey: upcoming studio tours

By Patricia Barrett

People who want to indulge their curiosity about how art is created will have an opportunity next month when artists with the WAVE Interlake Artists Studio Tour throw open their doors to the public.

WAVE artists from Arborg to St. Andrews and Dunnottar to Gimli are taking part in two studio tours in June and September.

Several WAVE artists were on hand at the Gimli Art Gallery on May 6 to showcase their unique works of art and provide demonstrations to the public.

The three-hour event, which included a light buffet, attracted dozens of people wanting to get the lowdown on how artists work with paint, glass, wood, metal and other media to bring their creative visions to life.

"We had close to 50 people come through already," said Jerry Maryniuk, a retired forensic artist, cartoonist, author and sculptor who specializes in creating works of art out of homegrown gourds. "We have 18 artists involved with this year's WAVE tours."

Gary Foidart, a Métis artist from Winnipeg Beach, had an array of chisels lined up to show people how he shapes wood into artwork. He also uses chainsaws and electrified probes, but he left those tools at home so as not to cause a ruckus in the club's workroom.

He harvests his own wood and will show you how to navigate the grain using different sized chisels.

"I'm really a chainsaw carver; that's my main gig. It can be dangerous," he said as he demonstrated how to chisel on what will be a wall-hanging of a woman with flowing hair. "You have to carve with the grain. You'll know which way the grain is going because the chisel will get caught. If it starts tearing out the wood, I know the grain has changed direction and I need to chisel from another angle."

He also specializes in Lichtenberg burning in which he electrocutes wood to create stunning designs. The electricity gouges a pathway in the wood that he sometimes fills with a glow-in-the-dark epoxy.

"I rewired a microwave oven transformer. I have wires on two leads attached to screwdrivers that you push into the wood. I dampen the wood and back off 20 feet. Then you basically electrocute it," he said. "It only takes one shock and you learn how to do it safely. The guys that get burnt hold on to the leads."

Breaking pieces of glass to make intensely colourful decorative and functional artwork seems less risky. Artist Patricia Tymkiw, who is new to the WAVE tour this year, has special tools to score and break coloured glass into small pieces that she incorporates into her artwork.

"I cut glass into squares that become part of the design, such as seeds for a flower, then put it into a kiln for 24 hours so that it becomes one piece," said Tymkiw.

She buys sheets of glass that are naturally coloured through minerals such as gold (red) and mercury or zinc (pink).

Heather Dawson also works with glass, making decorative art such as lanterns and jewelry with designs that are screen-printed right onto the glass.

"Basically, it's like screen-printing on a T-shirt," said Dawson, demon-



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

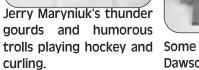
From left: Interlake artists Stephanie Sutton, Heather Dawson, Gary Foidart, Jerry Maryniuk, Helma Rogge Rehders, Patricia Tymkiw, Ainslie Davis, Gayle Halliwell and Alan Lacovetsky.

of

Dawson's glass jewelry.

Heather





strating how to make a bookmark on paper using acrylic ink. "I'll make a design on the computer, print off a stencil and cover my screen with emulsion paint. The emulsion fills the tiny squares in the screen, which transfers onto the glass. Afterwards it



Jerry Maryniuk, who lives west of Arborg, is a cartoonist as well as a sculptor.

goes into the kiln and gets fired so it becomes sintered onto the surface."

The public can visit the artists in their studios from June 10 to 11 and from Sept. 2 to 3. For information about the artists and where their studios are located, visit www.watchthewave.ca



Ainslie Davis from Sandy Hook is an acrylic painter and also makes cards, pottery and jewelry.



Patricia Tymkiw from Sandy Hook demonstrates how she scores pieces of glass and cuts it with a special tool. She incorporates the pieces into intensely colourful works.



Gayle Halliwell from Winnipeg Beach wields her brushes to capture the beauty of nature.

12 The Express Weekly News Thursday, May 18, 2023 > GUAGGA MUSSEL ALARM, FROM PG. 2

half a block and full of quagga mussels."

A friend of his recently returned from the United States, he said, and told him the authorities there are taking stringent measures to prevent the further spread of quagga mussels.

"The quagga is in North Dakota. [My friend] said it doesn't matter where you go, you can't take boats from one lake to another," said Kristjanson. "They won't let any boat on the water unless it's been certified and washed and carries a card."

To contain the ongoing spread of zebra mussels in national parks, Parks Canada (the federal government) implemented new boating rules for Clear Lake in Riding Mountain National Park after zebra mussel DNA was detected in the lake earlier this year.

Boat operators who've been in other water bodies in 2023 will not be issued a permit to boat on Clear Lake, which offers only one boat launch. And after June 15 permits for trailered boats won't be issued.

"We know that several boats that were launched in RMNP [Riding Mountain National Park] in 2022 had come from lakes that were infested with zebra mussels and some even had adult mussels on them," says Parks Canada on its website outlining changes to its AIS program for the park.

Its measures also include stepping up the inspection of watercraft such as canoes, kayaks and inflatables, as well as water toys.

Kristjanson said it's not commercial fishers who are spreading zebra mussels to different waterbodies across Manitoba as they don't move from lake to lake. It's the anglers and recreational boaters. And quagga mussels will be spread the same way.

"Anglers will carry the quagga mussel all over Manitoba if they're not stopped. It will get moved to different lakes just like the zebra mussel. It's the anglers who are moving from lake to lake. That's got to be said. We can't have people coming to Manitoba from all over and moving their boats from this lake to that lake. 'Oh, I got no fish here today, so I'm going to go to another place.' That's what they do," said Kristjanson.

Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher and analyst Bill Buckels said the provincial government is responsible for the water and it needs to step up.

"Quagga mussels, like COVID, are out there, but nobody wants to believe they exist. We have to close our borders to them because once those mussels are here, it'll be too late to do anything about them," said Buckels. "I said over a decade ago that you can't bring boats and pontoon planes carrying vectors into Manitoba. But there was — and there still is — greed for tourist dollars. That's responsible for the incursion of AIS. You can't wash these things away; you have to prevent them from coming."

The provincial government didn't take the threat of zebra mussels seriously for years, said Buckels, who sat on a zebra mussel committee. Commercial fishers repeatedly warned the government about them to no avail. The government didn't even know where to find zebra mussels in Lake Winnipeg and had to ask commercial fishers to show them where they were.

"What's surely coming here replicates 10 times faster than zebra mussels and they'll ruin our fishing equipment. Quaggas will clear the water column, use up all the nutrients, break the food chain even further and allow sunlight to penetrate deeper water, which will fry the fish," said Buckels.

Not only will quaggas decimate the commercial fishery but also the tourism industry and the angling industry, including its network of businesses relying on anglers.

"The province is responsible for all aquatic life; it's responsible for the bad things in the lake that kill the good things in the lake," said Buckels. "The food chain in Lake Winnipeg is already broken. It's down 50 per cent according to a recent study. The province needs to act on this."

Buckels said the province educating boaters about AIS is all very well, but it's relying on their willingness to take responsibility for ensuring they aren't contaminated. Having boots on the ground stopping boats before they arrive will make a difference.

"It costs less for the province to do an awareness campaign than physical enforcement. Does the province stop everyone with a boat heading north up Highway 75 [from the U.S.]?" he said. "It has mobile power washers they set up who knows where for periodic spot-checks."

The province, in fact, put its power washers away at Hecla Island before the end of the season while anglers were still going fishing. That left the fishery "unprotected for an entire month," he said.

Buckels said there is a solution to prevent quagga mussels from being spread to or around Manitoba via watercraft coming in from other lakes and jurisdictions. And it would also open up a new revenue stream for angling outfitters.

"The anglers and the commercial fishers should get together to work on saving Lake Winnipeg from quaggas.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

In 2021, hundreds of thousands of zebra mussels washed up along South Beach, just south of Cimli, covering wide swathes of the beach in front of homes and cottages.

We have a wonderful fishery here and we have to tell our angling friends from America they need to leave their boats at home," said Buckels. "Outfitters here could set up rentals where the boats stay on Lake Winnipeg."

Unlike Parks Canada, the provincial government currently has no plans to limit boats to a single body of water as that would disrupt tourism.

And the cleaning and decontamination of zebra mussels from boats and other watercraft is largely the responsibility of the operator and based on trust that they'll do so.

"There are no plans at this time to limit motorized and non-motorized watercraft users to a single body of water. While that may be feasible for a single lake, it would be nearly impossible to enforce province-wide and would cause a significant disruption to tourism (affecting both local and out-of-province visitors)," said a spokesperson for the Manitoba department of natural resources and northern development. "The province continues to rely on responsible water users to follow the [legal] requirements, and with reminders such as the watercraft inspection stations and enforcement of those who fail to stop, the message is getting out to water users."

Every watercraft has to be inspected, he added, but there's a misconception as to who carries out that inspection.

"The misconception is they must be inspected by Manitoba government staff. It is the individual water user's responsibility to ensure they are AIS compliant," said the spokesperson.

The transport of invasive species is preventable, he said. And it's not only boats that require inspection but also water-related aircraft, off-road vehicles and water-related items such as inflatables, paddling gear and beach

toys.

"This is no different than an automobile user's responsibility to buckle their seat belt every time before driving. There are supports and enforcement in place, but in the first instance, the onus remains with the user / owner / operator to be legally compliant," he said. "This is what the "Clean" means in Clean Drain Dry: Inspect the watercraft and all water related equipment before leaving the shore and remove aquatic plants and AIS."

Manitoba's watercraft inspection station program is "still being finalized," but it's expected there'll be at least five locations open mid-May, said the spokesperson when asked how many stations there'll be for 2023.

Thus far, there have been no reports of quagga mussel detection in Manitoba, he said. The province's AIS program includes working with the federal government as the federal government has "responsibility to prevent the entry of quagga mussels, zebra mussels and the four species of Asian carp (i.e., silver, bighead, grass and black carp) into Canada."

Many provinces, including Manitoba, worked cooperatively with the federal department of Fisheries and Oceans to prevent the entry into Canada of zebra mussels found in decorative moss balls used in aquariums, said the spokesperson, citing an example of both levels of government working together.

"Quagga mussels are prohibited from entry into Canada, so that is one formal line of defense. They are also prohibited in Manitoba. With compliant water users and our inspectors, enforcement staff and partners support, we can maintain vigilance upholding this prohibition," he said.

Icelandic River Community Foundation supports Riverdale Place Homes

By Annaliese Meier

The Icelandic River Community Foundation has always been dedicated to supporting their local community, and this year was no exception.

Recently, members of the foundation visited Riverdale Place Homes to see firsthand how their donations have made a difference in the community. From hydraulic lift tubs to accessible showers, these projects have improved the lives of residents with mobility issues.

One such project was Oli's Gesta Hus on Second Avenue in Arborg, which received a hydraulic lift tub that would allow ease of bathing for residents. The foundation donated \$13,000 towards this project while Thomas Sill Foundation also contributed \$12,000.

The hydraulic lift tub allows easy and safe access for those with limited mobility or who require assistance from caregivers. This addition will undoubtedly help improve the quality of life for residents living at Oli's Gesta Hus.

Following the tour, entertainment was provided by one of the younger residents, Sarah, who has exceptional talent with the spoons. The second project, at the Spruce Apartments on Crosstown Avenue, was a new accessible shower for \$13,054.66 paid in full by IRCF. This will allow users with mobility issues easier access to showers while improving their quality of life.

Larry Speiss, chair of IRCF, even commented on how he could have used something like this after his hip surgery.

Projects like these are essential because they help improve the quality of life for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Speiss thanked Kathy Finnson, executive director, and Laura Oddleifson, administration co-ordinator, for conducting the tours.

The Icelandic River Community Foundation area covers Arborg and the Bifrost-Riverton municipality and would like to remind groups that applications for grants for projects need to be in by Sept. 30. Donations can be made at any time. In November, there is a Giving Challenge in which donations to their unrestricted/unspecified funds are matched by the province and Endow Winnipeg, \$2 for every \$5 raised. For more infor-



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Jack Sigurdson, treasurer of the Icelandic River Community Foundation and chair, Larry Speiss posing with Linda Oddleifson, chair for the board of Riverdale Place Homes and resident Erich Schmidt (sitting) in front of the accessible shower recently installed at the Riverdale residence on Crosstown Avenue in the Spruce Apartments.

mation, contact anyone on the board or go to the website at www.ircf.ca . Online donations can be made to the foundation through Endow Manitoba's portal at www.endowmb.org

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MANITOBA CANADA'S HEART IS CALLING

Evergreen Festival of the Arts Hi-Lites concert

By Annaliese Meier

Young musicians from across the Interlake delighted music lovers, friends and family during the 42nd annual Evergreen Festival of the Arts Hi-Lites Concert May 9 at the Gimli High School.

The Evergreen Festival of the Arts resumed after a three-year hiatus due to COVID.

It went really well according to Krystal Isfeld, Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School music specialist.

The concert showcased the talents of student dancers, singers and poets and musicians from the Evergreen School Division.

Riverton resident Sonja Asmundsson received the Riverton Elks International Music Camp Scholarship of \$1,000. Three recipients each received \$200 from the Lilja Martin piano scholarships. Access Credit Union, Baker Law and the Kiwanis each donated \$500. Other sponsors donations range from \$50 to \$300.

"We are extremely grateful to all our sponsors. We couldn't run the festival without them. We run solely with their donations and a completely volunteer committee," said Isfeld.

Gifted dancer Molly Avison received the Best Overall Trophy sponsored by Kiwanis sponsor.

Three participants, Adalynn Tupper, Malakai Pelletier and Sonja Asmundsson, were recommended to attend the AMAF Provincial Music and Arts Festival at the University of Manitoba, May 26-28.

Past members May Peiluck and Oli Narfasson, who both passed away recently, were honoured during the concert. Oli was a founding member of the festival 42 years ago and donated substantially to the festival over the years. Oil's daughter Janice Arnason is still a member of the fes-



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Individual trophy winners compete in a trophy class at the end of the festival. The winners, left to right, Molly Avison, Hannah Loewen, Victoria Stiglmayr, Lucia Borkowsky, Marley Luckhardt, Milana Kerney, Adalynn Tupper, Tyler Schellenberg. Missing from the photo are Ava Wiebe and Sequoia Hardy.

tival. May was a dedicated festival member for decades. She volunteered hundreds of hours of her time in multiple capacities to help the festival be a success. May's daughter-in-law, Kara Peiluck (Sobeys Orff Trophy) and granddaughter Aurora Peiluck (Aurora Peiluck trophy for Best Contemporary Vocal Performance) both sponsor awards.

Heather Clarke and Krystal Isfeld welcomed artists, musicians and guests and presented awards and scholarships to the following:

1. ORFF Ensemble: Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School (SSES) Gr. 3 & 4 "Best Day of My Life" - Sobeys Gimli Trophy and Access Credit Union Award

2. Vocal Solo, 12 and under: Lucia Borkowsky "All Through the Night" - Westshore Singers Plaque and Baker Law Award

3. Solo Spoken Poetry, K - Gr. 4: Sequoia Hardy "My Brother"- Minerva Ladies Aid Plaque

4. Vocal Solo: Sonja Asmundsson "When Sweet Anne Sings" - Riverton Elks International Music Camp Scholarship

5. School Choir, K - Gr. 8: DGJMS Grades 5 & 6 choir "Octopus' Garden" - Evergreen School Division Plaque and Access Credit Union Award

6. Choral Performance: Riverton and Arborg Collegiate Choir "Death Came a Knockin" - Access Credit Union Plaque and Award

7. Piano Ŝolo, Gr. 1 – 3: Ava Wiebe - RM of Gimli Plaque & Lilja Martin Scholarship

8. Solo Spoken Poetry, Gr. 5 and up: Lucia Borkowsky "Fred" - Baker Law Plaque & Award

9. Speech Choir: WBS, Mr. Gibson's Gr. 5 & 6 class "Casey at the Bat" - Rotary Plaque & Access Credit Union Award

10. Piano Solo, Gr. 4 - 6: Hannah Loewen "Waltz in A Minor" - Lilja Martin Scholarship & Evergreen Festival of the Arts Plaque

11. Vocal Solo, Malakai Pelletier "Mr. Cellophane" - Evergreen Festival of the Arts Music Camp Scholarship

12. Piano Solo, Gr. 1-3: Nate Borkowsky "Robots" - Certificate of Distinction

13. Vocal Ensemble: Riverton Vocal Ensemble "Land of the Silver Birch" -Certificate of Distinction

14. Dance Solo Molly Avison "You There" - Access Credit Union Plaque



Molly Avison won the Kiwanis Best Overall Performance Trophy and monetary award. She performed a contemporary dance to the song "You There".

15. Piano Solo, Gr. 1-3: Elizabeth Barkman "On The Move" - Certificate of Distinction

16. Vocal Solo: Tyler Schellenberg "My Way" - Aurora Peiluck Trophy

17. Piano: Lovinson Reimer - Romanna Klymkiw Music Studio certificate

18. Instrumental Duet: Milana Kerney and Marley Luckhardt "Aura Lee" - Evergreen Festival of the Arts Trophy

19. Band, Instrumental: Riverton Arborg Senior Band - Merit Award for Band and Access Credit Union Award 20. Band, Instrumental GHS Senior Band - Merit Award for Band and Access Credit Union Award

21. Piano Solo, Gr. 7 and up: Ty Plett - Town of Winnipeg Beach Plaque and the Lilja Martin Scholarship

22. School Dance: AEMS, Gr. 3 & 4, Mrs. Johnston "Gimme That Sunshine" - Access Credit Union Plaque & Award

23. Dance Solo – Sydney Burak "Esmerelda's Entrance" - Kiwanis Club and District Inc. Dance Scholarship

24. Vocal Solo, 13 years and over: Adalynn Tupper "My Grand Plan" -Oli and Marj Narfason Trophy, St. Michael's Catholic Women's League Plaque, Lillian Fridfinnson Memorial Scholarship

25. Vocal Solo, Sacred Victoria Stiglmayr "Panis Angelicus" - Bayview Evangelical Free Church Plaque, Kiwanis Trophy.







The Express Weekly News Thursday, May 18, 2023 15 **Celebrating outstanding educators in Lakeshore School Division**

By Autumn Fehr

At the end of the school year, the Lakeshore School Division will say goodbye to three long-standing educators: Joanne Kiesman, Patty Goranson and Gail Postlethwaite.

On June 30, 2023, these ladies who have worked in the education system for decades will close a chapter in their lives and open a new one as they begin retirement.

Joanne Kiesman – Alf Cuthbert School in Moosehorn

Joanne Kiesman started working with the Lakeshore School Division for the second time in September 1992. She had previously worked with the division for a year, from 1985 to 1986.

Although Kiesman spent most of her career with the Lakeshore School Division, she didn't start her teaching career with this division.

Kiesman started teaching in 1980 in Leaf Rapids. In 1982, she taught at CFB Gypsumville, then the following year at the school in Gypsumville for the Frontier School Division. After that, she subbed for a few years when her children were young.

Currently, she teaches at Alf Cuthbert School in Moosehorn.

Kiesman said most of her time has been with Ashern Early Years School, but she has also taught at Ashern Central School.

For the past few years, she has taught all subject areas in grades 3 and 4, but she has taught every grade from kindergarten to 9.

"I have learned more from my students than they have probably learned from me," said Kiesman.

Kiesman said her favourite thing about her job is spending time doing what she loves daily.

"No two days are the same. It is always interesting and sometimes challenging," she said.

Her favourite memory is seeing the excited and surprised looks of the students when they grasp a concept for the first time.

She said she would miss most seeing and learning about the students and spending time with her colleagues.

"My husband says that after 60 years of going to school, I have finally learned enough to graduate," said Kiesman.

Patty Goranson – Lundar School

In the fall of 1989, Patty Goranson started working in the Lakeshore School Division. First, she started subbing; then, signed a term contract teaching kindergarten and music. Her first teaching position was with Frontier School Division, teaching nursery

to Grade 4 in Bissett, Man. She was there for two years before moving to Lundar. In 1990, she got a permanent contract and has taught kindergarten in Lundar and Eriksdale, music, resource and Grade 3 and 4 in Lundar ever since. She has been teaching for 36 years.

Currently, Goranson teaches grades 3 and 4 at Lundar School. She said her favourite subjects to teach have been ELA and social studies, with a particular enjoyment for teaching about Canadian democracy and participating in CIVIX Student Vote.

A fun fact about Goranson is that she taught most parents who now have children in her classroom.

Her favourite thing about her job is getting to know her students and creating a positive learning experience.

"I enjoy watching that light bulb when a student first gets a new concept," said Goranson.

One of her other fond memories was the Totally Unbelievable Speakers Club (TUSC). The club teaches students how to run a meeting and speak in front of the class.

"I think the skills students get from these meetings have been useful throughout their lives. I would like to add that the support parents gave their child every week to be ready for TUSC did not go unnoticed. I think parents may have cursed TUSC and my name a few times, trying to fit it into their busy schedules," said Goranson.

Goranson's favourite memory in her teaching career is of all the Christmas concerts and festivals.

"The creative, hard work of students and colleagues to perform and make lifelong memories for our community fills my heart," she said.

She also looks back at the many times her classes have had rip-roaring

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Joanne Kiesman Alf Cuthbert School, Moosehorn

belly laughs over the silly things that happen while learning.

What Goranson will miss most is the children and watching them grow.

"I will miss my amazing colleagues and being part of a team that has the children's best interests at heart. I will miss our school community. I will miss the laughter,"

she said. Lundar School won't have to Goranson miss too much when she retires, as she said she plans to

come back and sub. "They won't be completely rid of me vet."

In her retirement, Goranson plans to travel

extensively and



Patty Goranson Lundar School

spend more time with family. In addition, she hopes to keep active with running, hiking and biking and might even take up pickleball.

"I have been in the education system since I was five. It is time to try something new," she said.

Continued on page 21

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Regenerative Agriculture: saving our farmland for the next generation

Educative collaboration between the EIWD and Understanding Ag

By Emma McGill

Humans have been learning to cultivate and care for land since the beginning of the first agricultural revolution about 11,000 years ago and have continued to develop more efficient methods and technology for arable husbandry. The second agricultural revolution brought us things like mechanization, large-scale irrigation and the use of pesticides and herbicides.

Though these methods of farming put into practice on the Canadian prairies have significantly assisted in the foundation that agriculture brings to our communities, they need to be revised. There is major concern rising across the country for the biodiversity of the land and for the health and viability of the crops themselves under current practices. On May 4, Blain Hjertaas and Michael Thiele visited the South Interlake Rockwood Ag Society as a part of a regenerative agriculture workshop hosted by manager Armand Belanger of the East Interlake Watershed District. Hjertaas and Theile, about five years into their project, come from Understanding Ag, which is an organization of genuine farmers and ranchers who work with clients who are willing to learn about and put a model of regenerative principles into place to create more sustainable and profitable farms. They work with services like Ducks Unlimited to promote conservation.

Hjertaas is a farmer of 49 years from Saskatchewan, 25 of which have been under the regenerative model, who does consulting work for Understanding Ag. Thiele is from the Dauphin area and has always been curious about agriculture, having completed a plant science degree at the University of Manitoba.

Concerningly, after about 20 years of cultivating land using past methods, organic matter in soil has dropped from 12 to two per cent. One third of farmable land has been lost in the last 40 years.



PHOTO BY EMMA MCGILL

Michael Theile, left, and Blain Hjertaas shared their knowledge with farmers at a recent workshop.

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18 The Express Weekly News Thursday, May 18, 2023



Farmers learned about sustainable farming practices.

"We are wrecking the resource that our livelihoods depend on," says Hjertaas.

Regenerative agriculture involves using the rules of nature and co-operating with them, and working these rules into our understanding and relationships with nature itself. The six regenerative principles are context (the only man-made principle), living root for as long as possible, diversity, armour on the surface, minimizing disturbance, and animal incorporation. These are the principles that will allow farmers to accommodate nature and its economic processes: energy flow, the water cycle, the mineral cycle, and biodiversity.

During their presentation, Hjertaas and Thiele guided the audience through each principle, its history, and its benefits. They also guided everyone through a few big things that can be done to create healthier soil; the ideal soil is not compact and concentrated but a spacious balance between soil and carbon that allows for water to soak in and room for roots.

This can be tested using a water infiltration test. Understanding Ag also promotes the power of observing the soil directly, using the senses and watching how it changes from day to day. They are highly enthusiastic about these changes being picked up across the prairies.

"There's so much cool stuff being done here in Manitoba and Saskatchewan," says Thiele.

Not only do these methods produce healthier soil with more nutrients and allow for a more biodiverse environment involving large feeders and pollinators, but they also reduce the risk of both droughts and floods.



Call Today if you would like your items Consigned! Office (204) 434–6519 • Brad Kehler (204) 346–2440 • Ed Pylypjuk (204) 392–844: • Darryl Enns (204) 216–0931 ITEMS ARE SOLD AS YOU SEE THEM, WITH NO WARRANTY. This is where the Watershed District comes in; a watershed is an area of land that carries rainfall and melted snow down to creeks and rivers and eventually to larger bodies of water. The Watershed District is all about protecting those areas of land and sustainably making use of aquatic resources. They also aim to protect wetlands, native grasslands, forests and riparian areas.

Currently, fields that are farmed using typical methods can often take about an hour to absorb one inch of rain, making those fields highly susceptible to floods during intense rainfall. Also, if the field is not soaking up and storing water, it will become very dry very quickly, causing a drought. In contrast, a field that is farmed under regenerative agriculture's ideals would take about 10 to 30 seconds to soak up that one inch of rain. Now, the example being used is just one inch of rain, so let's look at things on a larger, more realistic scale: it is estimated that 25,000 gallons of water could be stored on just one acre of land when following these regenerative principles.

If you missed the collaborative workshop event between the East Interlake Watershed District and Understanding Ag, some things to check out would include any of EIWD's upcoming open houses, or take a look at any of the funding they have available for things like reforestation, prairie rehabilitation and regenerative agriculture practices.



MFGA Grazing Mentors to support MB watershed districts rotational grazing BMPs

Submitted by MFGA

Manitoba farmers interested in the rotational grazing best management practices (BMPs) within the Prairie Watersheds Climate Program (PWCP) led by the Manitoba Association of Watershed Districts (MAW) received great news last week.

Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association (MFGA) has provided MAW with a list of around 15 grazing experts located across the province for watershed districts (WD) to connect farmers with grazing mentors and experts to help bring their PWCP aspirations forward around grazing plans and better understanding grazing practices and BMPs.

"MAW is pleased to announce the PWCP rotational grazing support available to watershed districts through MFGA," said Garry Wasylowski, MAW board chair. "MFGA has been a strong partner within the Prairie Watersheds Climate Program, and we look forward to their services being available to support Manitoba's watershed districts in their delivery of the rotational grazing BMP.'

The MFGA grazing mentors all come from within the MFGA network, either board members or supporters. The group's grazing plan approach will be organized by Larry Wegner, MFGA board alumni. Watershed districts may use the provided MFGA mentors list to connect farm-

ers with available mentors. MFGA mentor services to watershed districts may include services such as one-onone mentorship to answer entry-level questions, watershed district support for application review as well as rotational grazing questions.

"The role of MFGA in providing grazing mentors is a great fit for us and we thank PWCP leaders for the opportunity to show our leadership and mentoring abilities on a farmer-to-farmer basis," said Lawrence Knockaert, MFGA chair. "Many of the leaders on our MFGA board and among our grazing mentors are leaders on grazing and regenerative agriculture practices and fully understand what needs to be discussed around grazing plans that help access some of the PWCP rotational grazing funding for farmers."

The MFGA grazing mentor list will help watershed districts facilitate increased uptake of the rotational grazing BMPs of the PWCP, an up to \$40-million program led by MAW through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's On Farm Climate Action Fund to producers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan to accelerate their adoption and implementation of onfarm beneficial management practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support production efficiency, sustainability and resiliency on their farm operations.



The Prairie Watershed Climate Program, through the On Farm Climate Action Fund, may fund producers for the adoption or expansion of planning and implementing grazing rotations in their operations. For rotational grazing, these include:

Infrastructure to support the Rotational Grazing Plan

- \$18,0000 / quarter to a maximum of \$75,000. Includes all eligible fencing and watering systems.

Improving Pasture compositions by seeding legumes such as alfalfa/ sainfoin

- \$35/acre, up to \$75,000

Creation of Grazing Management Plan

- 50% of cost of the plan, up to \$400

Eligibility requirements funded practices must:

- Be new practices for an operation or

- Be expanded from what has been practised in prior years on new land or new acres than prior years,

- Have a rotational grazing plan provided that supports the new practice, and

- Provide a rotational grazing plan that is recommended by a licensed agrology professional (with demonstrated competency in the agronomy practice area that may include the CCA designation).

For more information, contact Duncan Morrison, MFGA executive director, at 204-770-3548 or Duncan@mfga. net



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CASE

Manitoba memories inspire master chocolatier

By Jennifer McFee

A master chocolatier is honouring her local roots with a mouthwatering treat inspired by her childhood in rural Manitoba.

Rachel McKinley grew up in Stonewall and is now based in Vancouver, where she's enjoying a sweet career with Purdys Chocolatier.

McKinley, a Stonewall Collegiate graduate, earned an undergraduate degree in science from the University of Manitoba. She applied for medical school and started making chocolate for fun while she waited to hear if she was accepted.

Âfter three years of applications and waitlists, McKinley decided to change directions and focus entirely on chocolate. She took online courses and did internships with chocolatiers across North America

Over time, the budding entrepreneur ran her own small business in Manitoba called Prairie Girl Chocolates and another in Vancouver called Cocoa Nymph, while also teaching at a chocolate school.

For the past eight years, she's been working for Purdys Chocolatier based in the company's factory kitchen in Vancouver.

One of her mouth-watering chocolate creations called "Saskatoon Berry" stems from her fond memories of Manitoba.

"The saskatoon berry chocolate starts with a mould, which is sprayed with a coating of light



Saskatoon berry chocolate is available for the season.

cocoa butter is the fat that gives chocolate its structure. Then it is a dark chocolate shell and filled with white chocolate mixed with a concentrated saskatoon juice," McKinley explained.

"I grew up in Manitoba and my grandparents were all Mennonites. As early European settlers, my ancestors learned to use saskatoons, and one of my favourite dishes growing up was saskatoon 'verenika' — perogies — that my paternal grandmother would make. This chocolate was inspired by my grandma and her cooking."

Purdys Chocolatier sells the saskatoon berry chocolate seasonally, and it remains popular year over year. It's currently available for purchase at all Purdys shops across Canada.

"We have sold this chocolate every summer for a few years now," McKinley said, "and people love it and wait for it to come back."

For McKinley, making chocolate has offered an enjoyable career path.



PHOTO SUBMITTED Rachel McKinley, a master chocolatier with **Purdys Chocolatier**

"It's the perfect blend of science, art and sociability. It makes people happy, and that brings me so much joy," she said.

"We are always working on new things in our factory kitchen. I'm really proud of our new vegan caramel, which allows folks who can't eat dairy to still enjoy caramel chocolates."

Although the West Coast is now home for McKinley, she remains connected to her Manitoba roots.

"I love hearing from folks from back home when our chocolates make them happy," she said. "Say hi through our social channels."

Enjoying the outdoors



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ADELE DONALDSON It was a chilly and wet Saturday on May 6, with temperatures hovering around 13 degrees C. Despite the dreary weather, six-year-old Carina Poworski from Milonton was successful in her quest ditch fishing for suckers in the area. With her love for the outdoors and thrill of fishing, she's always on the lookout for new locations to explore. Carina is a student at SSES in Gimli. Let us know what this week's weather looked like for you by sending photos of your friends or family enjoying outdoor activities to weather@expressweeklynews.ca



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Indigenous Women Entrepreneurship Fund is helping Indigenous businesswomen

Submitted by CCAB

The Indigenous Women Entrepreneurship Fund is helping Indigenous businesswomen with innovative ideas, but little access to capital, grow and succeed as entrepreneurs.

Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business' (CCAB) Indigenous Women Entrepreneurship Fund (IWEF) was created to assist Indigenous women who have traditionally faced significant obstacles accessing financing through the usual means.

The fund, which is presented by LNG Canada with a contribution from Paper Excellence, is open to Indigenous women-owned businesses that have encountered systemic barriers to lending relationships and have been impacted by the pandemic.

"Women are elemental in the achievement of Indigenous economic prosperity, yet securing affordable financing remains one of the most arduous challenges for Indigenous women entrepreneurs. The lack of access to networks and financial institutions, property for collateral and credit are all factors that we must overcome," says Tabatha Bull, president and CEO, CCAB. "We are thrilled that LNG Canada and Paper Excellence are taking meaningful action to support Indigenous women entrepreneurs and help grow the Indigenous economy."

CCAB research has demonstrated that access to appropriate credit and lending is one of the main barriers for Indigenous businesses. The Indigenous Business Survey, Phase II: Indigenous Women Entrepreneurs, which was released in 2021 by CCAB, found close to half (47 per cent) of Indigenous women-owned businesses report no current lending relationships with any financial institutions, compared to almost one-third of male-owned businesses.

"LNG Canada is committed to supporting the advancement and empowerment of Indigenous women entrepreneurs. Indigenous women's economic empowerment and inclusion is a direct response to the Calls for Justice," said Hope Regimbald, LNG Canada's Indigenous and stakeholder relations lead. "Access to capital and financing is critical, which is why opportunities provided through the Indigenous Women Entrepreneurship Fund are so important. We commend Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business for their efforts to enable Indigenous prosperity and remove systemic barriers facing Indigenous women."

This is the third year the fund has been made available, and applications for the \$2,000 grants will be open until May 19 at 5 p.m.

"Paper Excellence recognizes that a rising tide lifts all boats — that when Indigenous business does well, we all succeed doing business right means building business together," said Lana Wilhelm, manager of Indigenous and community relations.

"We are pleased to be a part of empowering Indigenous women entrepreneurs to build their businesses. And we thank Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business for giving members like us this opportunity."

Former recipients are saying that

these grants have been transformative to their businesses and lives. More than 40 Indigenous women who own businesses have received grants to date.

"I am a proud member of Sapotaweyak Cree Nation with two children, and owning your own business isn't always easy, but grants like this sure do help," says Brandy Bulycz, the owner of Freedom Embroidery and an IWEF recipient last year.

"With this grant, I was able to purchase stock, as well as do some promotion for my business. The help is appreciated more than you know."

The entrepreneurship fund is administered through CCAB's Tools and Financing for Aboriginal Business (TFAB) program to enhance Indigenous entrepreneurship through providing access to development and networks.

A lottery system will be used to award grants. A live draw will be made at a future date at which time 20 recipients will receive grants.

> OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS, FROM PG. 15



Gail Postlethwaite

Gail Postlethwaite started working with the Lakeshore School Division in the fall of 1987. She had just graduated from the double degree five-anda-half-year program at the University of Manitoba and was hired to teach home economics (75 per cent) and Grade 7 English language arts.

Postlethwaite was a classroom teacher for the first 34 years of her career, and the last two years she has spent as a principal. She spent 23 years at Ashern Central School and then moved to Inwood School, where she has taught for the last 13 years. Some highlights of her teaching career come from travelling trips with students.

Postlethwaite and one of her colleagues started the Grade 9 trip to Minneapolis at Ashern Central, which became the Grade 7/8 trip every other year. The trip ran from 1989 to 2009. In 2017, she took a small group of travellers on an EF TOURS trip to London, Paris and Rome for nine days. In 2018, she offered a nine-day Canadian heritage tour in Montreal, Québec City, Ottawa, Toronto and Niagara Falls for students in Inwood and Ashern.

"On this trip, I had parent chaperones who were students on my Minneapolis trip," Postlethwaite said.

When thinking back on her teaching career, her favourite things about the job are sharing her love of learning and building relationships with students.

"Always thinking that each and every day is unique and showing excitement for my love of learning and encouraging the students to do their best work and to be proud of it. Making connections with the students and providing them the opportunity to gain skills, knowledge, and a positive mindset."

Over her 36 years in the division, many memories stand out for Postle-thwaite.

She did a lot of coaching for middle

years baseball and ran a curling program for middle years students in Ashern. For many years, she hosted fashion shows for her home-ec students in Ashern and Moosehorn to showcase their talents and projects. Another favourite memory is making grad quilts with the students in their human ecology class last year.

But she said her most favourite memory is when one of her students submitted an assignment saying she was their role model because she came back to teach just as good, if not better, after a health setback.

Postlethwaite said she will miss the staff and students, planning and preparing Christmas dinners and special hot lunches for the students, and all the unique activities that made Inwood School feel like a small family to her.

"In some ways, the last 36 years have flown by, but I look forward to continuing the journey of lifelong learning," said Postlethwaite.



We want to hear from you.

The Express Weekly News connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at news@expressweeklynews.ca or Phone 204-467-5836



Another successful Survive and Thrive conference

By John Bruce

The second annual Survive and Thrive conference attracted entrepreneurs, students and business owners from across the Interlake and beyond. They gathered April 28 and 29 at Lakeview Gimli Resort for inspiration, connection, and support.

Organized by Samantha Hampton, the conference aimed to inspire and educate entrepreneurs. She knew it would be important to her attendees for the conference to be somewhere outside of Winnipeg because of the unique challenges they face running their businesses in rural Manitoba.

"If rural entrepreneurs wanted a city experience, they would be in the city, but they're looking for connections and support on a different level," said Hampton.

Attendees came not just from the Interlake but as far as Brandon. They heard from a variety of speakers, including successful entrepreneurs, business coaches and marketing experts. Many attendees found inspiration in the stories of speakers.

"I enjoyed connecting with other like-minded individuals," said Hugh Beck, who runs a flooring business in the Interlake region. "It was so helpful to connect with other entrepreneurs who could relate to the everyday trials and tribulations that come with owning your own business"

Sherry Benson-Podolchuk, a successful entrepreneur and speaker from Gimli, MCed the conference and ran two workshops on workplace harassment and bullying.

"I decided to take some of the negative experiences from my career and flip them into a positive," said Benson-Podolchuk. "Often the workshops evolve into really beautiful conversations about various stages of success or growth where we're all learning from each other. I thought it was great."

The conference included workshops by Dawn Madahbee Leach who spoke about topics like Indigenous economic development, the presentation of the Owen Eyolfson Entrepreneur of the Year award, and many opportunities to network and connect.



Lucy Sloan, winner of Owen Eyolfson Entreprenur of the Year award.

For Hampton, who is originally from Winnipeg, the conference was a way to give back to the Interlake community she now calls home. Her business, Creative Community Promotions, helps local businesses with communications and publicity. She's also president of the Gimli Chamber of Commerce.

"I've had so many people reach out who say they were dreading Mondays, but for the first time in so long, they feel motivated and re-energized to run their businesses," said Hampton. "They said that the resources and skills they picked up and the people they met at Survive and Thrive really gave them inspiration."

Many attendees were already looking forward to next year's conference.

"I had people asking if they can preregister for 2024," said Hampton. "I think people appreciate that they can get together at events like this and regardless of what stage you are in your business, whether it's an idea in your head or you're actually in the thick of it, there's a place you can come to each year to obtain new skills and grow as a group."

Overall, the Survive and Thrive conference provided a much-needed source of inspiration and education for entrepreneurs from rural Manitoba.

"I am excited for the future of my business and new opportunities," said Anita McAliden, owner of Interlake Handmade Boutique. "The speakers were so inspiring I feel like there is nothing I can't overcome."



Tandem Collaborative Workshop - More Then Just a Logo_ Why even small biz needs a brand stragegy.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY RAYME THOMSON







The Phenomenally You Life Coaching Workshop - You Matter was well attended.



The Ultimate Networking Night #1 drew a large crowd.

Team Manitoba wins medals at 2023 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships

Staff

Team Manitoba won the gold after defeating Ontario 5-2 at the 2023 National Aboriginal Male Hockey Championship at the Seven Oaks Sportsplex in Winnipeg last weekend.

Manitoba's roster included Ian Buors of St. Laurent, who was a forward with the Interlake Lightning this past season, while Peguis' Darian Sinclair played with the KJHL's Peguis Juniors.

Buors finished the tournament with four goals and an assist and also scored in the gold-medal game.

Sinclair added an assist at the tournament.

Manitoba advanced to the gold-medal game after beating Saskatchewan 5-2 in a semifinal contest.

Team Manitoba was 2–0-1 in preliminary play after defeating Eastern Door and the North (14-0) and Ontario (4-1) before playing to a 4-4 draw with Atlantic.

Meanwhile, Lundar goaltender Rachel Halldorson and East St. Paul's Ella Stewner were members of Team Manitoba that won silver at the 2023

Lightning name new head coach



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Interlake Minor Hockey Association recently announced that Ashley Ross has been named the head coach of the Interlake Lightning U13 AA female hockey team for the 2023-24 season.

National Aboriginal Female Hockey Championship in Winnipeg last weekend.

Manitoba lost 2-1 to Ontario in the championship game.

Ontario's goals were scored by Ali Altiman and Sydney Sawyer while Addison Dyck replied for Manitoba.

Manitoba reached the gold-medal game after defeating Alberta 4-1 in a semifinal contest.

In preliminary play, Manitoba posted a 4-0 record while outscoring its opponents 29-2. Team Manitoba defeated Saskatchewan (5-0), Alberta (2-0), Atlantic (9-0), and Eastern Door and the North (13-2).

Halldorson received the player of the game award against Saskatchewan and also was in goal against Alberta twice and Ontario in the final.

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Lundar goaltender Rachel Halldorson and Team Manitoba won the silver at the 2023 National Aboriginal Hockey Championships in Winnipeg.



Selkirk to host pickleball tournament

Staff

Selkirk is hosting its first pickleball tournament starting this Wednesday and finishing Sunday afternoon.

Recreational and intermediate players will be competing Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

while advanced competitive players will be competing on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday evening will feature some of the best in the province. The tournament is being held at the Selkirk Community Church gym, 6569, Highway 9, and has over 200 entries.

Blue Jays beat Bisons twice

By Brian Bowman

There were a lot of happy mothers on Sunday at Quarry Park.

At least, the ones that were cheering for the Interlake Blue Jays.

The Blue Jays gave their mothers an extra Mother's Day gift by sweeping the Altona Bisons in a doubleheader to begin the Manitoba Junior Baseball League season.

Interlake won games by scores of 11-1 and 5-3.

"The first game (Landin Irvine, a lefty) threw and he threw very well and they weren't as good as I expected," said Blue Jays' coach Dave Meyers. "The second game was a good game. They just played so good, it was fun to be there. They kept fighting, we were losing and then they came back and (Altona) would come back and we finally came back and finished it off."

Connor Smith pitched great in his five innings of work.

"We were in trouble in the first inning and he bailed us out," Myers said. "He got us out of a jam. There was nobody out and the bases loaded and he only gave up one run. Liam Allen closed out the game with two solid innings on the mound."

The two home wins were a great start to the season.

"I told the boys that we're going to be a lot better this year," Myers said. "Last year was a learning curve for me, too. I didn't know any of these guys so that was a learning curve. You get to know them and you know what to expect. It was fun to start (the season) that way and keep this going."

Interlake will host the St. James A's on Wednesday and the Carillon Sultans next Monday at Quarry Park. Both games will start at 7:30 p.m.

This season for the Blue Jays will be an extremely exciting one as Interlake will host the eight-team U22 men's nationals Aug. 3-6.

"I think it's going to be a great weekend ... and I think we'll be right there," Myers said. "We'll give anybody a run for their money."

Planning-wise, everything is going great, said Myers, but there still is a need for volunteers.

"A lot of stuff has been taken care of by other companies," Myers said. "They're really helping out, they're taking care of a food thing and the beer garden is taken care of and all that. We don't have to worry about stuff like that and that has really taken a load off. But we're going to need volunteers to work the front gate and we're going to need volunteers to work the clothing booth where they're selling the Baseball Canada apparel. And we need people to do the scorekeeping. We definitely need help (with volunteers)."

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact either Myers at 204-791-7087 or by email at drmeyersbaseball@gmail.com or Adam Kirk at 204-461-0593 or via email at homehandyman25@yahoo.ca.





Recipe courtesy of Tracy Shaw on behalf of Healthy Family Project

Prep time: 5 minutes

Cook time: 20 minutes

Servings: 8

1 cup sweetpotatoes, peeled and diced small

nonstick olive oil spray

1/2 cup peanut butter, preferred nut butter or nut-free butter

8 small, low-carb flour tortillas

1 cup blueberries, washed and dried 1 cup raspberries, washed and dried Preheat air fryer to 400 F.

Add diced sweetpotatoes to air fryer



Recipe courtesy of Rachael Ray on behalf of Genova Tuna

Prep time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 40 minutes with fresh artichokes (25 minutes with canned)

Servings: 4 Artichokes:

Cold water

12 small, fresh artichokes or 2 cans artichoke hearts in water

2 lemons

3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

salt, to taste pepper or red pepper, to taste

Pasta:

Water

2 cans (5 ounces each) Genova Yellowfin

Tuna in Olive Oil 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

4 tablespoons butter, cut into tabs

- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper (optional)

salt, to taste 1/2 cup white wine, chicken stock or veg-

etable stock

1 pound spaghetti or linguine

1 lemon, juice only

1 cup grated Pecorino Romano cheese 1/4 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley, divided

1 small handful fresh mint, chopped, divided

1/4 cup toasted pistachios or pine nuts, chopped

Peanut Butter and Jelly Sweetpotato Taquitos

basket and lightly spray with olive oil spray. Cook sweetpotatoes 10 minutes, shaking basket 1-2 times to toss sweetpotatoes.

Transfer cooked sweetpotatoes to medium bowl; add peanut butter and mix well.

Lay tortillas on counter and place 1-2 tablespoons sweetpotato mixture on each tortilla.

Add blueberries and raspberries next to sweetpotato mixture.

Roll each tortilla tightly. Place rolled tortillas, seam sides down, in air fryer.

Spray tortillas lightly with olive oil spray.

Cook in air fryer 6-7 minutes.

Yellowfin Tuna and Artichoke Pasta

To make artichokes: Preheat oven to 425 F. Fill bowl with cold water and juice of one lemon.

If using fresh artichokes, trim tops of artichokes and tougher outer leaves. Using vegetable peeler or small paring knife, trim stems. Once prepped, cut fresh artichokes in half. If using canned artichokes, drain well and quarter lengthwise.

Place artichokes in lemon water.

Let soak 2-3 minutes, drain and pat dry with kitchen towel.

In casserole or baking dish, arrange artichokes and add juice of remaining lemon, quarter lemon and add lemon wedges to dish.

Add olive oil and salt and pepper, to taste.

Roast 25-30 minutes, or until tender.

To make pasta: Bring large pot of water to boil.

While water is coming to boil, place large skillet over medium heat and add olive oil and butter. Add garlic; red pepper, if desired; and salt, to taste, and swirl 1 minute. Add white wine or stock and let reduce by half.

When water comes to boil, salt water, add pasta and cook 1 minute less than directions. Reserve 1/2 cup pasta water before draining.

Add artichokes to large skillet with tuna with its oil and gently break up with back of wooden spoon or paddle.

Add lemon juice and reserved pasta water to skillet along with drained pasta, cheese and half the parsley, mint and pistachios. Toss to combine, top with remaining parsley, mint and pistachios and serve.

Let's talk about insomnia



By Gwen Randall-Young

Fundamentally, insomnia happens because the mind cannot relax. When the mind cannot relax, then the body cannot either. Relaxation is a natural state in members of the animal kingdom. Our pet can be running around, playing with us, or wrestling with a toy. They have lots of energy and are stimulated. Then, a few minutes later we find them peacefully dozing while their bodies seem completely limp.

Babies are like this after being fed, and long ago adult humans were like this too. Early humans were right brain dominant, without language. The right brain is abstract, and emotional. With language came an increasingly dominant left brain, the logical analytical part.

Over time the left brain became more and more dominant. With the rise of technology, humans are more alert and tuned into that technology. The left brain became very busy. No longer thinking only of the next meal, fighting or mating, it was like there was ongoing dialogue within the brain. Everything speeded up.

Now we could worry about the future or lament the past. We could create worst case scenarios and wonder what others thought of us. The brain did not stop when we slept. We did not hear it when in deep sleep, but when we came out of that phase, the inner chatter woke us. If the chatter was about something we worried or were anxious about, a whole new train of thinking could begin so then we could not go back to sleep.

Further, if our life situation creates stress, the muscles contract which makes it harder to sleep. With a tense body relaxation is not possible.

Many turn to sleep medications, however those do not get to the root of the problem, and if we stop taking them, sleeplessness recurs. The body and mind have not learned to shut down.

Of course, caffeine, alcohol, a full stomach, and too much technology before bed also affects our sleep.

Notwithstanding a neurological disorder, I think most sleep problems would be resolved if we completely relaxed the body and quieted the mind. This is not something we can do overnight (pun not intended). We must train ourselves to relax our muscles and gain control of the mind, so at night we can shut it off just like a television.

The first step is to pay attention. Lie down and notice your body. Then tell the muscles to relax. You should feel a little release. Then tell it to relax more. You can keep doing this and never reach the point where there is nothing left to relax! You will become aware of how much tension is in your muscles. Yoga is great for relaxing the body.

Next, notice what your mind is doing. Is it re-running films of your past experiences? Is it worrying about some person or problem? Is it re-playing the day or planning or worrying about the next day? Is it re-playing conversations? All of these will make it hard, or for some, impossible to sleep.

Start with assessing yourself. Read up on sleep hygiene. You do have the power to learn to put yourself to sleep.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www. gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for inspiration.



Easy Homemade Salsa

Recipe courtesy of Healthy Family Project Cook time: 10 minutes Servings: 6

- 1/2 small RealSweet sweet onion, halved
- 5 mini sweet peppers, seeded and quartered
- 3 Roma tomatoes, quartered
- 1 1/2 limes, juice only
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro

1 1/2 teaspoons garlic salt, or to taste tortilla chips

In food processor, blend onion, peppers, tomatoes, lime juice, cilantro and garlic salt until desired consistency is reached. Serve with tortilla chips.



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No experience required. Training and assistance with bus certificate provided.

See website for further details and application procedures: http://www.esd.ca/Employment under Support Staff.

CLOSING DATE: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

We wish to thank all applicants for their interest, however only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.

Employment will be subject to satisfactory criminal record and child abuse registry checks. Evergreen School Division may contact former employers.



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

NOTICE OF TENDER GRASS CUTTING

The Rural Municipality of Fisher is inviting tenders for grass cutting at:

RM of Fisher Office yard Water Plant yard

Please state price per cut in the tender.

- Applicant is to supply own equipment and fuel.

- Applicant to be 18 years of age or over.
- Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Submit sealed envelope marked "Tender Grass Cutting" to:

Rural Municipality of Fisher Box 280 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 Email: fishercao@mymts.net

Deadline for tenders is 4:00 p.m. May 31, 2023.

For further information, call the RM of Fisher office at 204-372-6393.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY VAC TRUCK OPERATORS

Gimli Septic Service Ltd. has immediate openings for vac truck operators for our Waste Water removal team. We currently have one full-time and one parttime opening. Operators must have a class 5 or class 3 with air driver's license. The shop is in Sandy Hook and will be your shift start location.

Starting wage for class 5 > \$20/hr with a per tank premium Starting wage for class 3 > \$25/hr with a per tank premium Applicants must:

- Maintain a Class 5 license or Class 3 license with air endorsement.
- Demonstrate good truck driving ability with a clean driving record.
- Have the ability to lift 65lbs as the position requires physical labor - Be a responsible individual - Ability to work independently
- Be available and willing to work some weekends.
- Other duties as assigned Be motivated and bring a positive attitude!

Benefits are offered after 3 months for a full-time position.

We expect our drivers/operators to deliver excellent service to our customers while representing our company in a courteous and professional manner. Please submit your resume to via email at: gimliseptic@gmail.com



NOTICE OF DUST CONTROL PROGRAM

Homeowners along municipal roads in the RM of Fisher may apply to have dust control in front of their home sites. Homeowners have the option of a light application or a heavier application

1 site is 150 meters. Costs are as follows: 800L Light Application 12ft wide for \$350.00 OR

1000L Heavy Application 12ft wide for \$395.00

*It is the homeowners' responsibility to flag the site for application.

Payment must be received by the Rural Municipality of Fisher Office, Box 280, Fisher Branch, Manitoba ROC OZO no later than Wednesday, May 31,2023. Make cheques payable to the RM of Fisher. Payments are not refundable after application of dust control. Price does not include gravel applied to site prior to dust control application. Gravel at site is at the discretion of the contractor. Dust control application tentatively booked for week of June 5, 2023. For more information, please contact the Rural Municipality of Fisher Office at 372-6393.

> Rural Municipality of Fisher Box 280 Fisher Branch, Manitoba ROC OZO

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NOTICE TO CONTROL WEEDS

ATTENTION: all Pelican Beach Property owners in Blocks 1, 2, and 3, Plan 29103 and Block 1, Plan 27513

Under the terms of the **Noxious Weeds Act** of Manitoba and the **Development Agreement** for the Pelican Beach property owners, notice is hereby given by the Interlake Weed Control Board and the RM of Gimli, that it is the property owner, agent, or occupant's responsibility to control or destroy all noxious weeds growing on the land and control the growth of long grass as often as necessary to prevent the growth, ripening, and scattering of weeds or weed seeds and maintain the property in accordance with the standards set out in the Development Agreement.

In order to control the weeds and grass, the property owner must perform regular mowing. A representative of the Weed Control Board will make an inspection of these properties on the following dates:

MAY 29, 2023 JUNE 19, 2023 JULY 10, 2023 AUGUST 14, 2023

LOTS MUST BE MOWED <u>PRIOR</u> TO THESE INSPECTION DATES. It is recommended that cutting occur as close to the inspection date as possible to ensure a favourable inspection report. A representative of the Weed Board will begin mowing offending lots immediately after each inspection. The cost of mowing, in addition to a \$40 administration fee, will be charged to the landowner. The administration fee will only be charged to offending lots once per season, regardless of how many mowing operations are performed by the Weed District. Failure to pay the bill will result in the costs being added to the owner's tax bill.

For more information contact the Weed Supervisor, Fred Paulson, at 204 376 3313.

EASTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

THE EASTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT BY-LAW NO. 03-2023 Being an amendment to the

Eastern Interlake Planning District Development Plan By-law No. 01-2022

HEARING LOCATION:	RM of Gimli Council Chambers 62 - 2 nd Avenue, Gimli, MB	
DATE & TIME:	June 1, 2023 5:15 pm	99
GENERAL INTENT:	To re-designate an area in the RM of Gimli from "Agriculture Rural - Limited Area and Urban Residential Area" to "Parks, Recreation and Open Space Area" for the purpose of the "Gimli Waterfront Wetland Interpretive Centre".	August Au
AREA AFFECTED:	Pt. 9-19-4E, being Pt. of that portion bordered pink on Plan 6710 WLTO (registered map at Land Titles), shown on the dotted line. Roll No. 146200	
CONTACT FOR Nancy Thom, CAO/Development Officer INFORMATION: Eastern Interlake Planning District 62 2nd Avenue, P.O. Box 1758, Gimli, MB R0C 1B0 Phone: 204-642-5478 Phone: 204-642-5478 Fax: 204-642-4061 E-mail: eipd@mts.net		
A copy of the proposal and supporting material may be provided upon request to the contact person mentioned above.		

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

OFFICIAL NOTICE TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS INTERLAKE WEED CONTROL DISTRICT

Rural Municipalities of Armstrong, Bifrost-Riverton, Fisher, and Gimli, the Town of Arborg, and the LUD of Fisher Branch

Notice is hereby given by the Interlake Weed Control Board that, under the terms of the Noxious Weeds Act for Manitoba, it is the responsibility of the property owner, agent, or occupant to destroy or control noxious weeds.

This is the **OFFICIAL NOTICE** for 2023, to destroy or control as specified within Section 3(1), all noxious weeds as often as necessary to prevent the growth, scattering, and ripening of weeds or weed seeds in the Rural Municipalities of Armstrong, Bifrost-Riverton, Fisher, and Gimli, the Town of Arborg, and the LUD of Fisher Branch.

If the weeds are not destroyed or controlled as required, a representative of the Weed Control Board may enter the land and destroy or control the weeds. The cost of weed control as well as an administration fee will be charged to the property owner through the tax rolls.

The Weed Supervisor will make systematic inspections and will enforce weed control. He is available for general advice concerning control methods and herbicide use.

Specific information may be obtained by contacting the Weed Supervisor, Fred Paulson, at the Arborg Provincial Building, phone 204 376 3313.

Gordon Klym, Chairman Interlake Weed Control Board

The Cooperation of All Citizens is Requested.

SALES CAREER OPPORTUNITY BigandColourful



person to become part of our advertising sales team in the Interlake area.

The successful candidate will thrive in a fast paced sales environment where a competitive nature, strong work ethic and excellent customer service skills are required and rewarded.

This opportunity involves building relationships and representing our newspapers to new and existing customers.

Qualifications: The successful candidate must be professional, dependable, energetic, goal-oriented, self-starter, can work within deadlines, well organized and friendly.

Customer service, sales experience and passion is a must. -Strong computer skills, including Microsoft Office

-Excellent communication skills and a genuine love of people -Willingness to learn

-Ability to work independently

If you fit this description please email resume to Bigandcolourful@mts.net





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tskpr:



June 26 to August 25, 2023 (possible earlier start date for one position) The Rural Municipality of Fisher is accepting applications for the above positions:

Requirements:

Must be between the ages of 16 and 24 and returning to school. Must be able to work with minimal supervision. Work in all types of weather. Valid drivers licence. Vehicle is an asset. **Duties:** Grass cutting and trimming along roadways, ditches, riverbank and vacant lots. General garbage cleanup and related light maintenance. Culvert cataloguing. Assisting with other duties as required.

Please submit applications by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 14th, 2023 to: RM of Fisher Box 280, Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 Fax: 204-372-8470 Email: fishercao@mymts.net

Full-time Employment Opportunities

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We are accepting applications for qualified individuals for the above positions.

Position Requirements:

Valid driver's license
 Strong attention to detail
 Able to follow direction and work with minimal supervision
 Ability to work effectively as a team
 Demonstrated reliable attitude, honesty, and integrity
 Experience an asset

Please e-mail your resume to glenko@mymts.net Attention: Don Or mail resume to Glenko Enterprises (1994) Ltd. Box 1000 Arborg, MB ROC 0A0



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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Interlake Forrest Center Grounds Keeper

June 12 – September 29, 2023 (weather permitting)

The Rural Municipality of Fisher is accepting applications for Seasonal Grounds Keeper at the Interlake Forrest Center. **Requirements:**

- Must hold a valid drivers licence.
- Must have transportation to and from the job site.
 - **Duties:**
 - Grass cutting and trimming. Trail maintenance including cutting trees with chainsaw and hauling debris away. Light carpentry experience.
 - General garbage cleanup and cleanup of outhouses and outbuildings, painting, and assisting with other duties as assigned.
 - Required to work outdoors in all weather conditions and able to work alone. Minimum of 18 years of age.

• Hours of work will be 8 am to 4 pm \$15.00 per hour.

Please submit applications by 4:30 p.m. June 6, 2023 to:

RM of Fisher Box 280 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 Fax: 204-372-8470 Email: fishercao@mymts.net



info@eddiesgravel.com 204-389-2023 102086 Hwy 9, Wpg Beach, MB

F/T ASST PARK MGR AUTUMNWOOD RV RESORT

Seeking Mature person to assist in the daily operations of busy Seasonal Campground in Gimli. **Duties:** grounds maint, garbage and washroom maint, small equip operation, and other assigned projects by Park Mgr. Experience in light electrical/plumbing is a bonus. Send resume to Michelle: awmotelmichelle@gmail.com



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Please submit resume to shaunne@charisons.ca or call 204-886-2922 for further information.

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We are seeking a licensed technician to join our busy Automotive team.

Please drop resume in person to Shoreside GM 231 Airport Road at highway 8, Gimli or email to jmichaud@shoresidegm.ca





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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Utility Operator Weekend Part-time

The Rural Municipality of Fisher invites applications for the position of a Utility Operator.

This is a Saturday, Sunday and Statutory Holiday relief position.

Duties include taking readings at water plant and completing daily reports. This position requires successful applicant to be on-call each day of scheduled work. Compensation includes on-call and vehicle allowance.

Applications to be received by: 4:00 p.m. June 6, 2023.

For further information regarding this position, please contact the Rural Municipality of Fisher at 204-372-6393.

Kelly Marykuca, Chief Administrative Officer Rural Municipality of Fisher Box 280 Fisher Branch, Manitoba R0C 0Z0 fishercao@mymts.net Tel: 204-372-6393

NOTICES

SPRING HIRING??? BOOK YOUR 2023 BLANKET CLASSI-FIED ADS NOW in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging to be seen all over the province! Let people know in the Blanket Classifieds! Call 204-467-5836 or call MCNA at 204-947-1691 for more details or to book ads. MCNA Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

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LIVESTOCK

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Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton JOB OPPORTUNITY

LABOURER

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking applications from qualified candidates for the Seasonal position of Public Works Labourer based in Riverton, MB.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Ability to operate a mower to cut grass along roadways and in public green spaces, maintaining proper awareness of surroundings and avoiding hazards such as culverts.
- Weed trimming, flower watering, and other misc. grounds maintenance tasks.
- General labour duties such as such as sign installation, curb painting.
- Assist the Public Works Foreman to maintain and monitor the sewer utility infrastructure.
- Perform equipment maintenance and cleaning.

Training and Experience:

- Minimum 3 years' experience in commercial mower operation.
- A valid Class 5 driver's license. Class 3 with air brake endorsement would be an asset.
- Strong communication skills and the ability to work with others.
- Good problem solving skills and self-motivated.

Mechanical skills and experience operating other equipment will be considered an asset.

This position will be from approximately mid-June to mid-Sept each year. Work shift is Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm with a half hour lunch, with the possibility of some emergency evening/weekend overtime. Benefits include an allowance for the purchase of steel-toed boots. Starting wage based on a salary grid, dependent upon experience, with potential per hour wage increases for certain qualifications.

Position will remain open until a suitable candidate is found. Please submit a resume with 3 references and a current driver's abstract to:

Jason Comeau, Public Works Manager Box 70, 329 River Rd. Arborg, MB, ROC 0A0 Phone: 204-376-2391 Fax: 204-376-2742 pwbifrost@mymts.net

LIVESTOCK

2 year old & yearling Red Angus bulls for sale. Will semen test. Call 204-383-5802.

Grass calves, grass calves and more grass calves for sale – 300 lb to 750 lb Holsteins from \$1.85 lb beef grass calves 350 lb to 750 lb from \$2.90 lb live weight, can and will deliver anywhere. Call or text Darryl 204-216-0931 D.W. Enns Farms, Altona. Mb.

SEED FOR SALE Inoculated certified &

Inoculated certified & common Algonquin alfalfa. \$3.75/lb., 50 lb. bags. Call Carla 204-372-6490 or 204-298-4099.

SILAGE FOR SALE 39 bales of green feed silage mix of wheat and oats. \$45/bale obo. Must sell. Call or text 431-737-0098.

FARMLAND FOR RENT 100 acres of land for rent. 4 miles east of Hodgson. Call Carla 204-372-6490.

MACHINERY

Case IH tractor, model Farmall 40 (2008), 2 hyd. Outlets, cab/air/ heater, loader, snowblower attachment. \$35,000 for both. Call 204-461-5229. 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 stonewood elkranch@mymts.net

HEALTH

Beachside Polish Pioneer Cemetery Hwy 9 Sandy Hook

(1/8 mile north of Beachside Rd) Looking for someone to provide grass care maintenance for the cemetery including cutting grass, trimming around graves, trees, etc.

Contact Bev at 204-651-3594 or 204-389-3709 for more information.

Reporter/Photographer Wanted

Are you a natural born storyteller with an eye for photography and a passion for community news? Carman-Dufferin Standard is currently seeking a full-time reporter and photographer to join its multi award-winning weekly community newspaper.

We are looking for someone who is both motivated and passionate about being the best outlet of interesting and breaking news stories and event coverage in the Carman-Dufferin area and surrounding area communities.

Qualifications:

- A post-secondary degree/diploma in journalism or equivalent experience in a related field
- Strong photography and writing skills with an interest in social media
- Self-starter with the ability to exercise solid news judgement
- Ability to establish professional relationships to consistently source and write a wide range of stories and cover events in a fair, balanced and accurate manner
- Able to work both independently and as a team on a flexible work schedule including both evenings and weekends to meet our weekly editorial deadline
- Experience covering council and school board meetings
- Knowledge of CP Style and about the Interlake and its surrounding communities would be an asset

Please forward your resumé along with three writing and photography samples to: Lana Meier

Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca





SHOWER ANNOUNCEMENT



Jack & Jill Wedding Shower In Honor of Vanessa Kishka and Travis Skorupski on Sunday, June 25, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at 1009 Domino Road or Road #99 Hwy 8 West

All Friends and Family Welcome Registered at myregistry.com or Home Depot/Visa Gift Cards preferred



Lakeshore Family Resource Centre is Hiring An Executive Director

The Executive Director is the senior management position, oversees the day-to-day operations at the Centre, and ensures that the Centre continuously achieves its mission and financial objectives.

Qualifications

- **Education and Experience**
- Demonstrated success in Human Recourses, Program and Financial Management, and Community Development.
- Experience working in a community based setting is an asset · Combinations of relevant education and experience will be considered

Demonstrated Knowledge and Skills

- Exceptional written / verbal communication skills with the ability to interact well with many audiences.
- Ability to work on multiple projects, adjust quickly to shifting priorities, meet deadlines, exercise good judgement, and handle pressure situations with a high degree of flexibility.
- Ability to effectively motivate and lead a team.
- Ability to demonstrate an optimistic attitude, positive energy within a professional setting.Highly motivated, self directed, and able to efficiently plan
- and execute multiple projects.
- Strong time management, organizational, decision making and problem-solving skills.
- Knowledge of the impacts of poverty, addictions, violence, and dependency on people.
- Knowledge of Resources available for people experiencing poverty, homelessness, gender-based violence, and /or addictions
- Strong Computer skills; proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point.
- Strong Financial Skills with Knowledge of QuickBooks an asset.

Additional Requirements

- · Valid Class 5 license with access to a safe and reliable vehicle
- · Satisfactory Current (within 3 month) Criminal Record Check, Adult Vulnerable check and Child Abuse Registry and Adult Abuse Registry Checks

Salary Scale: \$27+ depending on experience

Permanent position with Work Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm (37.5 hours/weekly)

If interested, a copy of your resume, along with 3 references may be sent to hiring.lfrc@gmail.com.

Application closing date: May 25, 2023.

Lakeshore Family Resource Center welcomes applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations maybe available upon request. We thank all who applied with their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Lakeshore Family Resource Center may contact former employers.

SHOWER ANNOUNCEMENT

Please join us for a Wedding Shower in honour of Jodi Dunlop and Kyle Loewen on Saturday, May 27, 2023 from 1-4 p.m. at Minerva Hall, Gimli, MB. Coffee and snacks provided.

A Wedding Social to be held At Gimli Pavillion on Saturday, June 10th from 8 p.m. - 1 a.m.

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Closes May 31 @ 7:00PM Booking On Site Spring Auctions

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Announcements Classifieds

RETIREMENT



After 45+ years as a Bricklayer and 10 years as a Lakershore Division Bus Driver we would like to announce the retirement of our Dad, Bill Westwater. We are all so proud of you. Love ya tons.

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www.lafpfm.ca/hippy

IN MEMORIAM



Mary Antofichuk July 39, 1924 - May 21, 2022 In loving memory of our mom, nanny and baba Mother:

You can only have one mother. Patient, kind and true. No other friend in all the world. Will be the same to you. When other friends forsake you, To mother you will return, For all her loving kindness, She asks nothing in return. As we look upon her picture, Sweet memories we recall, Of a face so full of sunshine, And a smile for one and all. Sweet Jesus, take this message, To our dear mother up above, Tell her how we miss her, And give her all our love.



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Todd



OBITUARY



Stanley Wityshyn August 5, 1938 - May 11, 2023

Peacefully after a brief illness, Stanley Wityshyn of Gimli, Manitoba, passed away with his family by his side.

Stanley was predeceased by his wife Marion, his parents Paul and Hafia Wityshyn, and his siblings Bill Wityshyn, Anne Mudry, and May Sowa.

Left to mourn are his wife, Ruth; daughters Janet (Richard), Joanne (Chris); and grandchildren Mya and Ronin. Stan joined Ruth's family which included children Joanna, John (Whitney), Kathy (Ken), Rob (Mandy) and grandchildren Kennedy, Tristan, Stone, Harper, Anna, and Bobby. He also leaves behind his brothers Steve and John (Olga), his brothers and sisters-in-law, Allan, Lois, Jo, Rob, Michael, Veronica, Pat, and many nieces and nephews.

Stan was born in Teulon, MB and grew up in the Polson area on the family farm. This was the original homestead to the Wityshyn family and he was so proud that he was able to help take the farm to its 100th year homestead anniversary. Stan loved the farm. There was always work to be done and projects on the go. He would have had it no other way.

In 1970, Stan married Marion and they raised their daughters Janet and Joanne in Winnipeg. Stan was able to teach his girls important life lessons such as: the importance of family; how to grow a garden and store carrots and potatoes throughout the winter; how to make home made soup; the joy of a good polka party; how to split and pile wood, use tools and drive a tractor.

Stan was known for always having an interesting project on the go. He was either building something, fixing something, or planning a project for himself or others. If you own a Stashu made loonie bank, napkin holder, leather purse, bird house, ladder golf game, or have been the recipient of homemade soup, pickled carrots, or a head of garlic, you knew that Stan cared.

In 2004, Stan moved to Gimli when he married Ruth who made his life brighter. The town of Gimli was good to him, and with his gift of gab he made many friends. Together Stan and Ruth had lots of adventures including trips to the East Coast, Dawson City, Mexico, Hawaii, and Churchill.

Special thanks to the Gimli Hospital staff who made Stan's stay comfortable and put his family at ease.

Funeral Service will take place on Friday, May 19th at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church in Gimli with Fr. Buduykevych officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Stan's memory to the Polson Cemetery c/o Bob Mac Naughton, Box 95, Inwood, MB R0C 1P0.

Vichnaya Pamyat

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

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.

Gilbart

OBITUARY



Michael Koch

September 1st, 1941 to February 13, 2023 After a lengthy battle with Dementia and Parkinsons, Michael passed away on February 13, 2023.

Michael is survived by his wife Janet; son Craig Sr. (Kim); daughter Melanie; brothers Frank (Lena), Adolph (Phyllis), Eddy (Anna); sisters Matilda, Margaret (George) and Elizabeth; grandsons Craig Jr (Tiffany) and Jeremy and 12 great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his parents, Frank and Anna; brothers Martin and Willy; sisters Annie, Adeline, Holly, Alice and son-in-law Jeff.

Michael was born and raised in Ashern, MB. In 1955 he moved to Winnipeg with his family. During this time, Michael worked a few different jobs.

On December 14, 1963 Michael married Janet Bittner. After they were married, Michael started working as a flooring installer. Michael worked all over the province installing flooring, from Winnipeg to Northern Manitoba, which included Ashern, Moosehorn and Steep Rock area. He installed flooring for over 30 years until he was unable to do the hard work anymore. Michael then worked for Scott Bathgate (better known as Nutty Club) as a foreman, until 1990.

In 1990, Michael and Janet took on a canteen business in a busy bingo hall in Winnipeg. During the 15 years they had the canteen, they made many good friends. They retired in 2005, and spent their summers at their cottage in Steep Rock. After several years, they found the work and up keep of the cottage too hard, so the cottage was passed on to Craig and Melanie.

In his younger years, Michael loved to fish, he especially enjoyed spending time with his brother-in-law fishing at Steep Rock. After they retired, Michael still enjoyed fishing with his grandsons, brother and friends.

Michael loved to watch sports, play cards and spend time with his grandchildren and greatgrandchildren.

Michael, Dad, Papa and friend, you will be missed until we see you again. Your work here on earth is done, it's ok to rest, you deserve it.

The family would like to thank Luther Home in Winnipeg for wonderful care they provided to our dad.

Our hearts and pravers go out to all those who have family suffering from Dementia.

Please join us on Friday, May 26th, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. for a graveside service at the Ashern United Church Cemetery in Ashern, MB followed by a lunch gathering at the Legion Hall in Ashern, Dawn Tober presiding,

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

Classifieds Announcements

OBITUARY

Kristine Gislason (Kristinnson)

November 27, 1921 - November 30, 2022 Peacefully on November 30, 2022, at the Arborg Personal Care Home Kristine (Stina) passed away at the age of 101 years. A memorial service will be held at the Ardal Geysir Church,

Arborg on Saturday, May 27, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to the Ardal Geysir Lutheran Church or any charity they choose.



MACKENZIE FUNERAL HOME ARBORG (204) 467-0024 • info@mackenziefh.com

OBITUARY

Garry Haakon Anderson

On May 11, 2023, Garry Haakon Anderson ended his fight with cancer.

Born November 30, 1942 in Eriksdale, Manitoba to Gladys and Alf Anderson.

Garry was a Red Seal Mechanic and made a career in public transportation with the City of Winnipeg and Province of Manitoba. Garry retired in 1997 and travelled North America, with his wife Grace, in their 5th wheel camper. Eventually settling back down in Mulvihill, Manitoba.

Garry is predeceased by his parents.

Survived by wife Grace; sons Randy (Lise) and Jason (Gen); six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; sister Joan Reshaur and brother Arnold Anderson.

No events are being planned.

OBITUARY

MACKENZIE FUNERAL HOME STONEWALL (204) 467-2525 • info@mackenziefh.com

facKenzíe 🖉



January 16, 2001 - May 10, 2023 It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the sudden passing of Tyler Steven Kauppila, age 22, of Eriksdale, MB.

Tyler Steven Kauppila

He will be lovingly remembered by his mother Lee and her partner Darren; sisters Courtney (Tyrel), Brogan (Glen) and twin sister Taylor (Travis); nieces Leah and Piper; nephew Emmett, and grandmothers Helen and Joanne.

He was predeceased by his loving father Marty, and grandfathers Larry, Sigfried and Tom.

Tyler was a kind-hearted soul with many interests. He could typically be found on his computer learning to code or playing video games. When the weather was nice, he loved going for long drives while listening to music and spending time on the water with his friends. He was an avid cyclist and loved riding his bike

around Regina Beach.

When Tyler was young he could usually be found with his sister Taylor doing what most twins do. When he managed to ditch her he could be found tinkering. He loved to take things apart and put them back together, but not always successfully. He always looked forward to summer get togethers with his extended family. Tyler's favourite thing to do with his cousins was jumping on hay bails and sledding. He loved getting into trouble in the fields and taking long walks in the quiet countryside.

Tyler was a beautiful soul inside and out. He had an infectious smile and was always willing to help others. Once you got past the shy exterior you found the fun loving and caring man underneath. Tyler impacted our lives like no one else could. Until we meet again.

The family of Tyler Kauppila would like to thank everyone for the love and support shown to us during the loss of our loved one. A special thanks to Lee's hospital family for always being there when she needs them and the EMS and RCMP for outstanding help and kindness.

A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 in the Eriksdale Recreational Hall with Dawn Tober officiating. A private family interment will follow in the Nord Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers please make donations to Kids Help Phone.

https://kidshelpphone.akaraisin.com/ui/hostyourownfundraiser/p/ KidsHelpPhoneFundraiserInMemoryOfTylerKauppila

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



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