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Community pride

EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Arborg was buzzing with excitement as approximately 30 young people from the Freedom Worship Centre took to the streets on a mission to clean up their community last Friday. Equipped with gloves and garbage bags, these youth were determined to make a difference in their town with their community clean-up initiative.

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Fisher fire department pays tribute to volunteer firefighter and nurse

By Patricia Barrett

Shortly after attending a vehicle collision and helping with a medical emergency on May 10, volunteer firefighter Jason Butchart with the Fisher Fire Department passed away.

The fire department and the Rural Municipality of Fisher paid tribute to Butchart, 54, who also worked as a nurse at the Percy E. Moore Hospital in Hodgson.

The fire department's deputy fire chief Darcy Plett said Butchart put his medical skills to good use as part of the department's team and was a source of encouragement to other members of the department.

"He was a volunteer firefighter with our department, but he had way more medical training than the rest of our team. His profession was a nurse and he had lots of medical experience," said Plett by phone last week.

Plett wrote a moving tribute to Butchart on the fire department's Facebook, saying Jay, as they affectionately called him, instilled confidence in them as they dealt with seri-

ous emergency situations.

On May 10, the department had been called to a two-vehicle accident on Highway 68 and Road 4W in the RM of Fisher. There were six people injured, one of whom was a 10-month-old baby.

When firefighters arrived on the scene, they found a chaotic situation and were told a ground ambulance and STARS air ambulance were both 30 minutes away.

"JAY HAD TRAINING AND SKILLS THAT FAR EXCEEDED ANYTHING THE REST OF US BROUGHT TO THE SCENE."

"Many of members on scene were senior members that have attended many of these kind of situations, but our department had an ace in our pocket. His name was Jason," wrote Plett. "Jay arrived shortly after our first trucks and immediately took

over managing the 'medical' portion of what was needed. Jay had training and skills that far exceeded anything the rest of us brought to the scene, given his training as a medical professional. Jay gave the rest of us confi-

dence."

After department members extricated the patients from the vehicles and they were provided with medical care, Jay gave his colleagues "customary fist pumps" and said "good job everyone."

About 20 minutes after Butchart left the scene to head back to his nursing job at the Percy E. Moore hospital, Plett wrote that the department received a 911 radio call asking for assistance with a situation near Fisher Branch.

"Little did we know those fist pumps with Jay would be our last," wrote Plett. "We raced back to Fisher Branch, not knowing what had happened but once again with a unexplainable sense of urgency. Only to find out it was Jay that was in trouble. A day that we will never forget. Our friend, our brother, Jay, was gone. We are hurting, it's hard to explain. Jay was only with our department for a short two years, but he immediately fit in and was an invaluable source of experience, wisdom and confidence."

Butchart was found in his vehicle in a ditch on Highway 17, north of Fisher Branch. The cause of death was not provided, but Plett told the *Express* it was not a vehicle collision.

The department expressed its condolences to Butchart's family and thanked neighbouring fire departments that had reached out when they learned of Butchart's passing.

The municipality issued a statement saying Butchart was an integral part



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Firefighter and nurse Jason Butchart passed away on May 10.

of their fire department.

"The Rural Municipality of Fisher wishes to express our sincerest condolences to Jason Butchart's family. Although Jason was a member for only two years, he was an integral part of the Fisher Fire Department team," said the RM in a May 12 press release.

"We also wish to send appreciation to the members of the Fisher Fire Department, Eriksdale, Arborg and Peguis EMS, STARS Ambulance, RCMP, and Percy E. Moore Hospital. Our first responders are a vital part of our community and we would like to thank them for all they do for our loved ones and communities."

Farm animal auction and crafting fun at Green Acres

By Emma McGill

Mark your calendars for a day of farm fun!

Green Acres Hobby Farm Auction and Craft Sale on Saturday, May 27 is an event that will bring together the best of two worlds — farm animals and crafting.

Teulon will be hosting a farm auction and craft sale, with all proceeds going back into bettering the community. The auction will start at 10 a.m. with small animals first: rabbits, poultry, guinea pigs and more. Following lunch, large animals such as horses, cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, alpacas and donkeys will be showcased and sold,

along with tack and livestock equipment necessary to keep the animals fed and healthy.

This is a family-friendly event — bring your kids to see the animals. The food trucks on site will serve Italian street food (The Little Eggplant) and ice cream.

The craft sale will be on site from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the consignment fee will be 20 per cent with reserves available, as well as square readers for a five per cent fee. Visit the Green Acres Farm Auction Facebook page for more information or inquiries.

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Gimli releases short-term rental survey results; council to implement regulations

By Patricia Barrett

After releasing the results of a survey on short-term rentals (STRs) and engaging the public during an open house, Gimli council is moving ahead with a process to implement regulations.

The municipality posted on its website the results of its STR survey, which shows an overwhelming majority of respondents in favour of regulation.

One of the questions asked whether short-term rentals in Gimli should have “some type of regulation(s) and/or minimum standards.”

Out of the 984 respondents answering that question, 698 people (70.9 per cent) said regulation is necessary while 206 people (20.9 per cent) said no change is required. Eighty people (8.1 per cent) said they were unsure.

Gimli councillor Thora Palson said the RM will be moving forward to implement regulations for STRs. The RM also applied for a provincial grant under the Building Sustainable Communities Program and was awarded \$54,000. The money will go towards a review and update of the Gimli zoning bylaw, which will provide the RM with a legal framework to regulate STRs.

If the RM were to implement a by-law regulating STRs before updating its zoning bylaw, it could be challenged in court because the zoning bylaw has no provisions for STRs. The zoning bylaw dictates how land is used and STRs are considered a form of land use.

“This grant was applied for to allow us to take the next step of undertaking a comprehensive review and update of the Gimli zoning bylaw,” said Palson. “Gimli is a resort community that has considerable STRs in operation. We’re taking this next step with the support of this grant to identify and put regulations in place that will be fair, concise and will manage existing and upcoming STRs in Gimli.”

A total of 962 people responded to a survey question asking them to choose three regulations they felt were the most important. A majority of respondents, 492 people (51.1 per cent) were in favour of a density cap, or limiting the number of guests in each STR. A further 464 people (48.2 per cent) cited compliance and enforcement with regulations, and 458 people (47.6 per cent) want owners to hold and pay for an annual STR licence.

Other types of regulations cited included having an STR owner or his/her designate available at the time the STR is rented and a requirement for on-site parking. Of the 962 respondents, 203 (21.1 per cent) asked for a

regulation banning STRs.

“There was so much value in holding a community engagement (open house) because we heard loud and clear the community’s main concerns with the operations of STRs. Those concerns are also identified in the survey,” said Palson. “On-site parking was mentioned but it was at bottom of the list. But it’s something we’ll look at.”

It’s difficult to judge just how many STRs are operating in Gimli. The survey shows 970 people answered a question about why they’re interested in the issue of STRs with 85 people (8.76 per cent) saying they operate an STR. And another question asking respondents whether they rent their property or a portion thereof had a total of 125 respondents saying they did.

The survey asked people to identify the top three harms of STRs to which 588 (59.9 per cent) out of 981 respondents said they cause excessive noise, 488 (49.7 per cent) said they decrease personal and neighbourhood privacy, safety and security, and 395 (40.2 per cent) said they decrease the residential character of the neighbourhood.

They were also asked to identify the top three benefits of STRs to which 545 (55.4 per cent) out of 983 respondents said STRs attract more visitors to the community which benefits the local economy, 479 (48.7 per cent) said they provide more accommodation for visitors, and 319 said (32.4 per cent) they generate secondary income for homeowners to offset mortgage costs and other expenses.

Palson said people who attended the open house told her they were better off financially with the extra income they earned from renting out their property.

“Quite a few people came up to me and said we operate STRs and we operate them responsibly, and the supplemental income has really improved our quality of life,” she said. “That’s what stood out to me — that they do this responsibly. But the other side made it clear that people are operating STRs irresponsibly and have really negatively affected the community. That’s why it’s so important to find a balance.”

Palson said council’s next step is to hire a professional planner to undertake the review and update of the Gimli zoning bylaw. There’s currently no target date as to when that review will be completed.

Other Manitoba municipalities, such as Harrison Park near Riding Mountain, hired a professional planning organization to incorporate regulations for STRs into their bylaw. And other



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

For rent sign on a property in Gimli in 2016 (phone number edited out).

provinces have implemented a framework for regulating STRs. Manitoba doesn’t have one.

Other council updates:

The RM hired a director of operations and an interim assistant chief administrative officer (CAO).

Ron Hahlweg, who worked in a similar position at the RM of St. Andrews, has been hired as the director of operations.

Palson said the new council (elected in 2022) identified a need for a director of operations to support the op-

erations of the municipality and serve the expectations of the community. The position works under the chief administrative officer.

“Primarily, the director of operations will work with public works, utilities and asset management, which are huge areas,” said Palson. “The provincial government wants municipalities to implement an asset management plan to identify assets such as roads, bridges, culverts,

Continued on page 8

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Family helping to raising awareness for rare syndrome

Prader-Willi fundraising walk in Winnipeg on June 4

By Emma McGill

Nine-year-old Darwin Joseph is a caring, adventurous young girl living in Winnipeg with her parents Mark and Jennifer (Carriere), who grew up in Woodlands, and six-year-old brother Edison. She is currently attending fourth grade and, although it doesn't appear so, she stands out from her peers; Darwin was born with Prader-Willi syndrome.

She has dealt with cognitive and physical challenges since she was born, and she has faced these challenges with physiotherapy as well as occupational and speech therapy.

Prader-Willi syndrome is a rare genetic disorder that primarily affects the brain's ability to send signals to the body that tell someone they are full rather than hungry. This leads to something called hyperphagia, the extreme unsatisfied drive to consume food, which in turn can lead to

extreme obesity and even diabetes. It can cause high food-related anxiety and trouble focusing. For Darwin's sake, her family takes precautions like keeping food locked away when unsupervised both at home and at school.

This syndrome occurs in approximately one out of every 12,000 to 15,000 births and can also affect cognitive ability or cause delayed motor skills and speech due to low muscle tone. Other common characteristics of PWS can include small hands and feet and abnormal body composition and growth. These symptoms are likely due to a dysfunction of a part of the brain called the hypothalamus, which assists in many bodily functions such as hunger regulation, body temperature, fluid balance and more.

When Darwin was a baby, she didn't really open her eyes or make noise for several months.

"It was probably almost six months before we heard her actually cry," shares Jennifer.

Though other kids her age may play faster and stronger than Darwin, she always wants to be included. She likes to play games and do Zumba and



Nine-year-old Darwin Joseph was born with Prader-Willis syndrome.

cheerleading. She has also been a part of a Special Olympics downhill skiing team and has participated in adaptive horseback riding.

"She just loves new experiences," says her dad, Mark.

On Sunday, June 4 at 10 a.m., there will be a walk as a part of the One Small Step fundraising campaign for PWS. Participants can meet at Kildonan Park (2015 Main St., Winnipeg). All proceeds raised with this event and through Darwin's Dream Team through One Small Step will go towards research to help take away some of the challenges associated with PWS.

For example, this research will help to develop a medication people



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY TIFFANY MARIE PHOTOGRAPH

Mark, Jennifer, Darwin and Edison Joseph will be participating in this year's One Small Step walk for Prader-Willi on Sunday, June 4 starting at 10 a.m. at Kildonan Park (2015 Main St., Winnipeg). The public is welcome to come out to walk in support of the fundraising campaign.

with PWS can take to help them feel full. There is currently no cure for Prader-Willi syndrome, and most research is used for treating specific symptoms, so it's important to raise awareness for such a rare disorder.

To learn more about PWS, you can visit the websites for One Small Step and the Foundation for Prader-Willi Research.

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New chief administrative officer for Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton

By Patricia Barrett

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton recently hired a new chief administrative officer with years of experience serving different Manitoba municipalities.

Larissa Love took over the full-time CAO position from Jordan Willner a few months ago and likes the municipality's approach to partnering.

"The community is very welcoming," said Love. "Bifrost-Riverton has a number of partnerships with the Town of Arborg. In working with both councils, I see a lot of forward thinking and ideas to complement all

communities in the area."

She said she was attracted to Bifrost-Riverton because it brings her closer to family and friends and has lots of opportunities to get involved in community events.

"The municipality is along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg and offers a ton of community celebrations and events," she said.

Although overseeing a municipality takes lots of time, Love said she enjoys spending free time taking part in outdoor activities such as walking, hiking and gardening.

Love previously served as CAO for

the municipalities of De Salaberry, West Interlake and Grandview.

"My first job as CAO was for the Town of Lynn Lake," said Love. "There I met some amazing people and understood why it was referred to as Manitoba's Sport Fishing Capital."

Love joins a Bifrost-Riverton administrative team made up of assistant CAO Tanis Johnson, finance clerk Krista Wysocki, office clerk Lindsay D'Hont and public works manager Jason Comeau.

Love can be reached at 204-376-2391 or by email at cao_bifrost@mymts.net



Larissa Love, Bifrost-Riverton CAO

Music events scheduled all summer in Eriksdale

First event, a Hee Haw-themed tribute on Saturday, June 3

By Autumn Fehr

This summer, the community of Eriksdale will be packed with music events that will have everyone jamming along.

Derrick McCandless and Dawn Mills, owners of the Eriksdale Music & Custom Frame Shop, will host various musical events from June until the end of August. They will end the summer of music with their annual ROGERKimLee Music Festival.

To kick off the summer music event list, on Saturday, June 3, the owners will host a Hee Haw-themed tribute show with live music and performances. Hee Haw was an American television variety show featuring country music and comedy that ran from June 1969 to June 1993.

"We are going to try and get most of the characters that were involved in Hee Haw, like Roy Clark and Buck Owens," said McCandless.

The event will take place at Eriks-

dale Rec. Hall starting at 7:30 p.m. with a line-up of fantastic acts. There will be a couple of youth showing off their musical talents in the tribute show as well. A cash bar and a silent auction will be available to enjoy.

The tribute show is a fundraiser for the third annual ROGERKimLee Music Festival in Eriksdale from Aug. 18 to 20. The weekend will be filled with live music, a maker's market, a show'n shine, a RAT challenge, a beer garden, food and drinks, kids' activities, workshops and camping. For more information and to buy tickets for the music festival of the summer, visit ROGERKimLeeMusicFest.com.

The music shop's summer concert series on the outdoor stage is kick-starting just two weeks after the tribute show. On June 17, they will welcome The Spectacles on the outdoor stage — Tim Osmund on the banjo, Grant Simpson on the stride key piano, with Jaxon Haldane.

McCandless and Mills said they hope to bring a new act to the stage once a month throughout the summer, but they haven't confirmed all the shows yet.

From July 17 to 21, McCandless, an experienced musician, will teach a summer music boot camp to encourage the spirit and love of music in the Interlake, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

Beginning or experienced players, or anyone in between, are welcome to register.

"I love music and love playing music. I want young people to experience it, start their musical journey, and have fun. It's not about making anyone a star or anything. I think everyone should have music in their life," said McCandless.

At camp, musicians will learn the basics of music theory, and at the end, they will have enough skills to put on their own show.

Musicians will end the boot camp with a concert on the outdoor stage, possibly with a special guest, showcasing to friends and family what they've learned.

To purchase tickets to the tribute

show and the concerts or to sign-up for summer music boot camp, head to the shop's website at <https://eriksdalemusicshop.ca> or go to the Eriksdale Music Shop.

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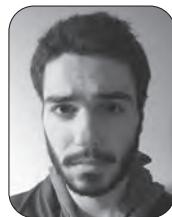
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COVID infections, hospitalizations decrease; 2nd dose of monkeypox vaccine available

By Patricia Barrett

COVID infections and hospitalizations in Manitoba slightly decreased during the second week of May, according to the provincial government's respiratory surveillance report for the period May 7-13 (reporting Week 19).

There were 89 new COVID infections detected by PCR testing. There were 105 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 and rapid antigen tests aren't tracked.

Thirty-nine people were hospitalized with COVID including five patients who needed intervention in the intensive care unit in Week 19. There were 48 people hospitalized the previous week including 10 patients admitted to the ICU.

The government reported two deaths from COVID in Week 19. Two people died from COVID the previous week and six died the week before that.

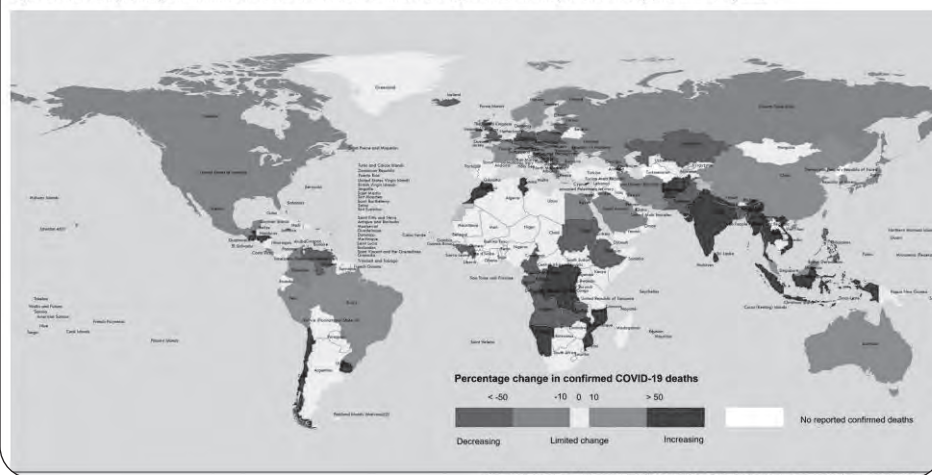
Numbers are calculated using comparisons of total outcome data between the current and the previous week's report.

Wastewater surveillance data for Winnipeg and Brandon to May 9 show sustained COVID activity.

"Older adults continue to have higher risk for COVID-19 infection, associated hospital admissions, and fatalities" states the report.

Manitoba's COVID death toll is currently 2,501, according to the federal government's COVID webpage as of May 6. Canada's death toll has reached 52,301.

Figure 3. Percentage change in confirmed COVID-19 deaths over the last 28 days relative to the previous 28 days, as of 14 May 2023**



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Deaths from COVID in North America have remained stable (neither increasing nor decreasing) as of May 14 but are increasing in some other countries.

There were two new cases of influenza A and five new cases of influenza B and one hospitalization reported in Week 19. There were no deaths from the flu. There were four and five new cases, respectively, reported the previous week along with four hospitalizations but no deaths.

New respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) declined in Week 19 with four new cases reported. There were 10 cases reported the week before and 15 the week before that.

Other health news:

- There were almost 2.6 million new COVID infections and over 17,000 new deaths from the virus reported

over the period April 17 to May 14, according to the World Health Organization's epidemiological update published May 18.

At the country level over that 28-day period, the United States led the world with the highest number of new COVID deaths (5,333) followed by Brazil (1,305 new deaths), France (925 new deaths), Russia (882 new deaths) and India (656 new deaths).

As of May 17, there has been a total of over 6.9 million COVID deaths worldwide reported to the WHO. The WHO considers that an under-

Continued on page 7

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY KELSEY HENRY

It was a beautiful weekend for fishing with temperatures reaching 18 degrees C. on May 21. Four-year-old Addelyn Burdett had fun dropping a line in the Lundar creek with her Auntie Kelsey and Uncle Morgan. 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.

> COVID, FROM PG. 6

estimate of the true number of deaths.

The WHO's infectious disease epidemiologist and COVID-19 technical lead Maria Van Kerkhove said COVID is not over despite the WHO having ended on May 5 the emergency phase of the pandemic.

"The emergency phase is over but COVID is not," said Van Kerkhove in a video posted to Twitter May 12. "We're better at managing COVID-19 but people are getting infected, which is why we have to keep up our efforts to reduce transmission. We have to keep up our efforts to ensure that people who do get infected get the right clinical care so they don't die."

She urged people to get additional doses of a COVID vaccine, improve ventilation and wear a mask in crowded situations.

- COVID outbreaks at Red River Place Personal Care Home in Selkirk (declared on May 1) and at Tudor House Personal Care Home in Selkirk (declared on April 28) continue, according to the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's outbreak

page (viewed May 19).

- The provincial government is reminding those who received a first preventative dose of the mpox (monkeypox) vaccine that they're eligible to receive a second dose.

Manitoba has reported one case to date of monkeypox, but there are current/active cases in other provinces and countries, said the province in a May 19 bulletin. Over 600 people in Manitoba have received a first dose of the vaccine.

Both first and second doses of the vaccine are available to cisgender, transgender or two-spirit people who identify as gay, bisexual and as men who have sex with men, have received a diagnosis of a sexually transmitted infection over the past year, have had two or more sexual partners in the past 90 days, have attended bath houses or sex clubs, have had anonymous sex in the past 90 days, have engaged in sex work, or are staff or volunteers in sex-on-premises venues where they might have had contact with objects or materials contaminated with the monkeypox virus.

- The provincial government announced last week it's expanding CT scan (combined X-ray images) capacity at the Selkirk Regional Health Centre by investing over \$15 million.

"Investing in two new CT scanners and more staff to operate those means residents in Selkirk and the broader health region will have improved access to integral diagnostic services closer to home," said health minister Audrey Gordon in a May 19 news release.

The investment will double the number of CT scans performed from 17,000 to 34,000 annually.

The Manitoba Association of Health Care Professionals, a union representing over 190 allied health disciplines, said the government failed to address a diagnostic staffing plan to run the new scanners.

"Another announcement, another failure to mention a staffing plan. Vacancies in DI [diagnostic imaging] have almost doubled in a year & a new PET scanner sits idle at HSC [Health Sciences Centre] with nobody to run it," said MAHCP on Twitter May 19.

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:

letters@expressweeklynews.ca

Gratitude and concern following 10-hour visit to Selkirk emergency Wednesday

Returning from Winnipeg on Wednesday, I decided to follow medical advice and go to emergency if I felt chest pain. Although the pain seemed minor, it was persistent.

I arrived at 2:00 and left at 10 p.m. The treatment I received was exemplary and I was relieved to know that I am OK. The staff, incredibly busy, were kind, helpful and competent. It is almost beyond belief that under such pressure they performed their duties so very well.

I am grateful.

And I am deeply concerned that we Manitobans are essentially abusing our health-care workers by what has to be extremely poor management decisions and an absurd obsession to reduce costs. There appears to be an unstated intention to privatize health care in Manitoba by strangling our system thereby opening the door to copying the U.S. system. Can there be any other rational explanation for the overall management and funding decisions made?

I have never seen a shred of evidence that the U.S. system provides satisfactory health care to all or even a majority of their citizens. On the contrary, world rankings show they do a poor job. Other countries are doing many times better.

Privatization is the road to a kind of hell where those who can afford it obtain the best care money can buy and those who can't afford the cost wait ... and suffer.

It is deeply puzzling why our governments, not only in Manitoba but also across Canada, are doing so poorly. I was enthused when the federal Liberals years ago promised that they would immediately change our electoral system from the present model of "first past the post" to a ranked ballot that would reduce the power and influence of lobbyists and empower our locally elected representatives. I was profoundly disappointed when he reneged on his promise.

The only reasonable explanation for Mr. Trudeau changing his mind on that is that deep-pocketed lobbyists pulled out all the stops and "put him in his place" — which is as a lackey to them. It is relatively easy for wealthy and powerful lobbyists to influence political parties under our present electoral system. Having our MLAs and MPs directly accountable to the people in their constituencies would make it very difficult for lobbyists to have their way.

This is not my kind of Manitoba.

This is not my kind of Canada.

- Bill Martin
Gimli

Work underway to twin Trans-Canada Hwy: Falcon Lake to Manitoba-Ontario border

Twinning prioritized to improve safety and accessibility

Submitted by Manitoba government

Work is now underway as the Manitoba government begins its next steps on twinning the Trans-Canada Highway from Falcon Lake to Manitoba-Ontario border, Premier Heather Stefanson announced last week.

"It is important for Manitobans to have safe and reliable highways to get around this great province of ours

and also to get to neighbouring provinces," said Stefanson. "That is why we have prioritized this work as it not only serves as a key trade route, but is one of the busiest stretches of highways especially during the summer months for cottagers and travellers.

The Manitoba government has committed to four lanes of traffic on the Trans-Canada Highway between Falcon Lake and the Manitoba-Ontario border and has prioritized twinning 700 metres of the highway nearest the border to align with Ontario's new four-lane highway.

Work is currently underway, including tree clearing and other activities that began last month with an anticipated completion by fall 2024.

The Manitoba government has also commissioned a conceptual design study for full 16-kilometre twinning project and following a competitive request for proposal process has selected Tetra Tech Canada Inc. to complete the study.

"As a major corridor of the national highway system, the Trans-Canada Highway is essential for Manitoba's communities and the province's trade and tourism industries," said Transportation and Infrastructure Minister Doyle Piwniuk. "The 16-kilometre section from Falcon Lake to the Manitoba-Ontario border is the only remaining stretch not yet twinned. Our government is committed to upgrading this important east-west link to improve public safety, enhance the reliability and efficiency of interpro-

vincial and international commerce, and enable future development."

The conceptual design study will include:

- route options for the four lanes on the existing alignment or on a new alignment;
- designs for new or modified interchanges at Provincial Road (PR) 301 and Provincial Trunk Highway (PTH) 44;
- options to eliminate three remaining intersections;
- access requirements at Hunt and Lyons lakes;
- options for replacing the existing flyover at PR 301; and
- assess additional interchanges or grade separations that may be required at additional locations.

The conceptual design study will take approximately two years to complete, with functional and detailed design studies commissioned as the project progresses. All studies will include consultation with Indigenous rights holders and engagement with land and business owners, the public, and stakeholders, to develop a full understanding of the project's implications, noted Piwniuk.

Survey crews are expected at the site in the coming weeks. These surveys, which will include the use of drone survey equipment, are needed to learn about existing conditions while engaging local stakeholders and communities to better inform potential design alternatives.

"The Manitoba Trucking Association

welcomes this announcement and we look forward to the completion of this project", said Aaron Dolyniuk, executive director, Manitoba Trucking Association. "This road improvement will have a positive impact on all road users. It will improve road safety not only for Manitoba's trucking companies, but all carriers who operate across Canada, as well as the general public."

The project to twin the Trans-Canada Highway is one of the major capital projects detailed in the recently released 2023 Multi-year Infrastructure Investment Strategy, noted Piwniuk.

Along with the twinning, the Manitoba government is also planning to invest over \$10 million for improvements on the existing Trans-Canada Highway in the interim including:

- structure rehabilitation on the Trans-Canada Highway over the Falcon Lake access road;
- structure rehabilitation over Falcon Lake Road in Whiteshell Provincial Park; and
- structure rehabilitation over PTH 44 into the community of West Hawk Lake.

The 2023 Multi-year Infrastructure Investment Strategy can be viewed online at www.gov.mb.ca/mit/myhis/index.html.

> SURVEY, FROM PG. 3

buildings and utilities and when they were last upgraded. When we're doing capital planning, this will make it easier for council to see what areas need renewal."

Gimli's assistant CAO Doreen Steg is leaving the administrative team.

"We are grateful for her service and contributions she made to our municipality during her employment. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors," said the RM in a May 11 statement on its website.

DJ Sigmundson has been hired as the interim assistant CAO.

"DJ has a proven track record of implementing modern administrative management practices and served as CAO for the Town of Gimli as well as other diverse municipalities in Manitoba," says the statement. "In addition to serving as the Interim Assistant CAO, DJ will assist the CAO Kelly Cosgrove in identifying and implementing best practices to aid our municipality in being well-positioned to meet the current and future needs of our community."

The RM's administrative costs for the CAO and staff were \$542,784 in 2022. The RM is budgeting \$852,859 for 2023, an increase of \$310,075, according to the 2023 budget released earlier this month.

MRC Matlock Recreation Club
Invites you to join us for our **Annual General Meeting** Sunday, June 4th, 2023 1pm-3pm
Meeting Location: Matlock Rec Club 77 Matlock Road
Light lunch and coffee will be served

Community Support Service

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

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

AA Winnipeg Beach
Lady of the Lake RC Church
Corner of Hwy. 9 and Lake Ave.,
Winnipeg Beach
Meetings are Saturdays
between 7 and 8 p.m.
Contact Ann J 204-389-3417

Gimli Group AA
Bldg 18 Municipal Rd
Industrial Park
Fri & Sun Mtgs at 7:30 pm
Womens Mtgs Thurs at 10:30 am

AI-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.



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Manitoba government invests historic \$220 million in Manitoba parks infrastructure

Submitted by the Manitoba government

More Manitobans will soon be able to enjoy provincial parks thanks to a historic \$220-million, multi-year investment plan by the Manitoba government, Natural Resources and Northern Development Minister Greg Nesbitt and Transportation Minister Doyle Piwniuk announced last Thursday.

"Manitobans care deeply about their provincial parks and have shared how important it is to increase investments in park infrastructure," said Nesbitt. "Our bold plan prioritizes projects that enhance recreational opportunities and protect our precious ecosystems."

As part of the Manitoba Provincial Parks Infrastructure Renewal Strategy, campers will see a 50 per cent increase in yurts, more campsites with electrical service, enhanced interactive experiences along with improved services, and access to nature in each of the 20 busiest provincial parks. This modern strategy will provide Manitobans and tourists an unforgettable parks experience for generations to come, Nesbitt said.

The strategy focuses on two streams that invest \$121 million in parks infrastructure and \$103 million roadway renewal within and around provincial parks over the next 10 years.

Short- and long-term investments to infrastructure will increase park capacity for yurts by up to 4,500 night stays annually, develop trails and boat launches, and enhance climate resiliency and environmental protection with water and wastewater upgrades.

Highlights of the plan include:

Whiteshell Provincial Park: replacement of the Nutimik Museum, reconstruction of the West Hawk Lake seawall, Mantario Trail amenity upgrades, surface upgrades to the Trans-Canada Highway at the Manitoba-Ontario border, and structure rehabilitation on the Trans-Canada Highway at Provincial Road (PR) 301 Falcon Lake Access, PR 301 Overpass Falcon Lake Road and Provincial Trunk Highway (PTH) 44 at West Hawk Lake;

- Spruce Woods Provincial Park:

new campground bay development, group use campsite electrification, surface upgrades to PTH 5 from PTH 2 to 15 kilometres north of PTH 2;

- Birds Hill Provincial Park: Fox Bay campsite upgrades, Lakeview Trail upgrades;

- Hecla/Grindstone Provincial Park: Gull Harbour campsite electrification, minor structure rehabilitation on PTH 8 at the Hecla causeway;

- Assessippi Provincial Park: new yurt village, upgrades to PR 482 leading to park entrance;

- Bakers Narrows Provincial Park: new energy and water-efficient washroom and shower building at campground;

- Duck Mountain Provincial Park: yurt expansion at Childs Lake, culvert replacement on PR 367 at Garland Creek;

- Grand Beach Provincial Park: East Beach washroom replacement; and

- Paint Lake Provincial Park: campground washroom building replacement, wastewater lagoon assessment and upgrade, surface upgrades to PR 375 from PTH 6.

"Our government is committed to enhancing the overall experience for visitors to our provincial parks and campgrounds and this includes ensuring safe travel and welcome arrival," said Piwniuk. "Important investments in infrastructure such as roads and highways leading to and within our parks will help enhance the experience for visitors, now and into the future."

The ministers noted the plan will be flexible and responsive to address

visitor expectations and shifting priorities, as identified in ongoing public engagement opportunities.

In addition, the Manitoba government is investing almost \$200 million to restore and rehabilitate provincial infrastructure damaged throughout Manitoba from the spring 2022 flood event. Projects in and surrounding provincial parks include:

- Manigotagan River bridge on PR 314 in Nopiming Provincial Park: two bridge projects over Rice Creek on PR 315 (east of Lac du Bonnet and south of Nopiming Provincial Park) and on PR 313 (east of Lac du Bonnet and west of north Whiteshell at Pointe du Bois); bridge-sized culverts west of Favel River and Roaring River on PR 367 (north of Duck Mountain Provincial Park) and res-

toration on both PR 366 and PR 367 in Duck Mountain Provincial Park; Whitemouth River bridge on PR 307 (west of Whiteshell Provincial Park);

- bridge replacement at Drunken River near Silver Harbour (north of Gimli); and

- structure replacement at Boundary Creek through Prospect Road at Winnipeg Beach.

Since the Provincial Parks Act was proclaimed in 1960, there have been 92 parks established in Manitoba offering 4,500 nightly campsites, 1,500 seasonal campsites, and programming for residents and visitors to enjoy. Today, the province has the largest cottaging community in provincial parks in Canada with nearly 6,200 dwellings, and the Manitoba government also works with 180 commercial operators to provide unique lodgings and other offerings to park users to complement provincial campsites and services.

"We are encouraged by today's announcement that the Manitoba government will be investing \$220 million for new capital initiatives in and around our provincial parks, enhancing and modernizing our provincial parks for all Manitobans and visitors to enjoy," said Ronald Smith, chair, Manitoba Provincial Parks Cabin Owners Association. "MPPCOA is a coalition of provincial park cottager-owner associations representing over 80 per cent of Manitoba provincial park cottage owners, and we are pleased to have worked collaboratively with the Manitoba government to make positive changes to our provincial parks."

"MANITOBANS CARE DEEPLY ABOUT THEIR PROVINCIAL PARKS AND HAVE SHARED HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO INCREASE INVESTMENTS IN PARK INFRASTRUCTURE."

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of dust control program

Homeowners along gravel provincial roads and main market roads in unorganized territories may apply to have dust control applied in front of their homesites at a cost of \$200 for a single application.

The formal application is available from your local Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure office. The deadline for these applications will be **no later than June 2, 2023**.

For more information, please contact one of the following Transportation and Infrastructure offices:

Steinbach 204-346-6266 Brandon 204-726-6800
Swan River 204-677-6540 Dauphin 204-622-2061



get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Acai Bowl with Whole-Wheat Toast

granola
coconut flakes

Under warm water, thaw frozen acai smoothie pack about 5 seconds.

In blender, combine acai, milk, banana and mixed berries. Blend until smooth.

Toast bread slices to desired doneness.

Pour acai mixture into bowl and garnish with blueberries, granola and coconut flakes before serving. Serve with toast.

1 frozen acai smoothie pack (100 milligrams)

- 1 cup low-fat milk
- 1 medium frozen banana, sliced
- 1 cup fresh or frozen mixed berries
- 2 slices whole-wheat bread
- fresh blueberries



Overnight Oats

1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 tablespoons mixed dried fruit
1 tablespoon walnuts, chopped
1 tablespoon honey

In bowl or jar, combine oats, milk and vanilla extract. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Before serving, stir in dried fruit, walnuts and honey.

- 1/3 cup old-fashioned rolled oats
- 1/2 cup low-fat milk



Buffalo Chicken Dip

vegetable sticks
Heat oven to 400 F.

In bowl, mix shredded chicken, cream cheese, sour cream, 1 1/2 cups shredded cheese, onion powder, garlic powder and dried dill until combined. Add hot sauce; mix until combined.

Transfer mixture from bowl to oven-safe dish. Top with additional shredded cheese, to taste.

Bake until cheese is melted, approximately 15 minutes.

Top with blue cheese crumbles and chopped green onion.

Serve warm with chips and vegetable sticks.

- Servings: 3-4
- 2 cups shredded chicken
 - 8 ounces cream cheese
 - 1/2 cup sour cream
 - 1 1/2 cups sharp cheddar cheese, plus additional for topping, divided
 - 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
 - 1 heavy pinch dried dill
 - 1/2 cup hot sauce
 - 2 green onions, chopped
 - blue cheese crumbles
 - chips

Ask the Money Lady

Dear Money Lady, what do think about reverse mortgages – I own my home but only have a widow's pension and OAS to live on. Now that everything is a little more expensive, I am finding it really difficult to live and pay my bills. Verna

Dear Verna – sounds like you are asset rich, (own your home) but cash poor. A reverse mortgage could be an option.

Reverse mortgages have their place as a viable equity product and there are two primary lenders in Canada that offer them: Home Equity Bank and Equitable Bank. Most of the time this product is sold through a mortgage broker and is designed to meet the need for aging homeowners that cannot qualify for a traditional home equity loan or line of credit because they no longer work or can't make the monthly payments. This type of equity-take-out loan allows someone to access a portion of the value of their primary residence without selling it or making monthly payments to repay the debt. Now before you get too excited, let's discuss the pros and cons of this product.

To be eligible for a reverse mortgage you must be 55 or older and own your home. The matrix for qualification is based on three criteria: your age, home value, and location. Of course, the amount provided by the lender will be higher if you live in an urban center as opposed to rurally, and you can choose to get a lump sum payout or have a scheduled payment setup. There are many different types of reverse mortgage products with some that are fully open and others that are locked in. The interest rates range from 7% to 11% compounded annually and repayment is due upon your death, when you sell the home, or if you decide to end the contract and pay back the loan in full. The setup and cessation fees are quite high and of course you will need to do this through a real estate lawyer because a lien will be placed on your property for the loan. Some additional fees could involve prepayment penalties if you pay off the mortgage before it's due and independent legal advice requirements. Some initial start-up fees can be added to the balance of your loan, (which will incur additional interest over the life of the product), but others may need to be paid up front, to be deducted from your payout.

Obviously, the pros to reverse



Christine Ibbotson

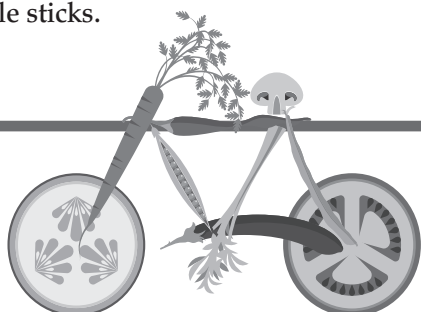
mortgages are that you don't have to make regular loan payments and you can turn the value of your home into cash without having to sell it. The cons would be that it is quite costly to do so, with interest rates so much higher than most other types of mortgages and secured lines of credit. The biggest drawback I see with this product is that the equity you hold in your home may go down over time as you accumulate more and more interest on your loan. The other problem is that when you die, your estate must repay the loan + interest + fees within a set period of time, regardless of how long it takes to settle your estate, leaving the onus on your beneficiaries.

I know there are many retirees that have considered this option. It is definitely an option to "stay and play," but I must caution you on the compounded interest component. Interest is continually added to your loan each month and tacked on to the principal balance. Each month, interest accrues on a larger balance, meaning you are basically paying interest upon interest. If you are looking to this product to shore up your financial resources so you can stop working, pay off credit card debt or travel and enjoy life, I would suggest you either sell and downsize your home or look to a conventional lender with lower lending rates, (rates for a reverse mortgage average 9% - 14%). Think of this product, not as an added benefit to owning a home, but as a tool of last resort to be considered in your older years, when every other resource or option has been exhausted.

Good Luck & Best Wishes,
ATML - Christine Ibbotson

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer, National Radio Host, and now on CTV Morning Live, and CTV News @6. Send your money questions (answered FREE) through her website at askthemoneylady.ca

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Indigenous court worker honoured with the Order of Manitoba

By Autumn Fehr

Every year, Manitoba honours people who have made outstanding contributions to their communities.

On May 12, it was announced that 12 Manitobans will be awarded the Order of Manitoba.

Alvina Rundle, who is Anishinaabe, is a court worker and community advocate for Lake St. Martin and surrounding communities. She was recognized for her diligence in creating representation for Indigenous Peoples in the court system.

"It's totally overwhelming to win this award. There are days I have to shake my head to believe it's happening, but I want to thank the person that nominated me, Margaret Ryle Pollock; she's been a lifetime friend. I also want to thank the judges, crowns and lawyers I've been working with for their strong support," said Rundle.

Rundle grew up in Lake St. Martin but is originally from Fisher River Cree Nation. She has been a band member for 46 years.

"In the community, I'm known as the 'helper,'" she said.

In 2004, Rundle was hired by the provincial government's Manitoba Justice as a court worker.

"I came on board, and I looked at the system that was in place, and I saw a need for our people playing a part within the court system," she said.

Rundle said that when she saw this, she talked with the judge, and he was very supportive of her intentions, as he had worked in community involvement up north before coming to their area.

Next, she began talking to chiefs and recruiting respectable people to sit in the court as court Elders in Lake St. Martin from each of the four communities: Dauphin River, Lake St. Martin, Little Saskatchewan and Fairford.

Then they branched over to Peguis and Fisher River. Rundle established court Elders in the Peguis, Ashern and Lundar courts.

Rundle has also been instrumental in moving courts to Indigenous communities, such as moving Peguis court off Fisher Branch and right into the community.

She said these are her greatest accomplishments in almost two decades of court system work.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED
Chief Christopher Traverse congratulates Alvina Rundle on being awarded the Order of Manitoba on May 12.

Rundle still works in the court system but focuses solely on Lake St. Martin court.

Since she started working in the court system, serving Indigenous communities through her profession, Rundle has seen some lives turned around and people struggling to be healthy.

"The crux of the benefits of my involvement has been having our community people attend court and be a part of the court system. I am really, really proud of that," said Rundle.

Due to Rundle's perseverance and diligence, the Indigenous communities now have program staff and Elders that attend court, ensuring that their people are represented in the justice system.

Still, there are changes to be made so Indigenous Peoples can be fully represented

"IT'S MORE HUMBLING THAN ANYTHING. I THINK A LOT OF THE CREDIT GOES TO THE PEOPLE I'VE WORKED WITH."

in the court system, and Rundle is ensuring these changes happen.

Her next order of business and what she is currently working on is assisting in moving Lake St. Martin court to Fairford First Nation. She said there has also been talk about moving Ashern court to Lake Manitoba First Nation.

The investiture for Rundle and all other 11 Manitobans honoured with the Order of Manitoba will be on July 20. At the ceremony, recipients will be awarded a citation, a medal and a plaque and celebrated with a dinner.

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<p>ELLEN WYKA 204-376-3400</p> <p>Park like private acreage. Family bung., over 1600 sq. ft. double garage, garden sheds.</p> <p>New List. Smell the Lake. Stunning property, private acreage, 1310 sf. family bung.</p> <p>1172 sq. ft. family bung. w/full basement & dble det. garage. This one must be seen</p> <p>KATHY MARKS 204-642-8501</p>	<p>Gimli waterfront 2 bedroom condo. Freshly painted, private deck \$299,900 Ingrid Bennett 204-642-2089</p>	<p>Awesome LAKEFRONT home in Glen Bay just 10 min. N of Gimli. 3 BR, 1 Bath, add. SR, LP\$469k Jasmin Theobald 204-642-8501</p>
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To see more photos of your favourite Interlake Athletes

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Ukrainian music and culture celebrated at Reechka Spring Tea

By Lana Meier

The Reechka Ukrainian Dance Club has been a staple in the community for many years, providing young dancers with an opportunity to learn and showcase traditional Ukrainian dances.

This year's Spring Tea, held last Friday at the Arborg Hall, was a testament to their dedication and hard work throughout the dance season.

The dancers begin their season in September and end with the recital in May.

This year, since the COVID pandemic, the dancers had what they considered a normal season, according to club president Jenna Pearce. They started practising in person in September, celebrated Malanka, travelled to Brandon for a competition and capped off their successful year with the Spring Tea recital.

Pearce thanked the coaches, parents and dancers for the successful year and congratulated the dancers, ranging from preschoolers to adults, who competed in 15 classes and won an impressive 15 medals in Brandon.

Pearce said this achievement wouldn't have been possible without the guidance of experienced instructors like Michelle Rudnicki, Sydney Burak and head instructor Garrett Gottfried, who passed on their expertise over many years.

Ukrainian dance is a beautiful and

lively art form that has been passed down through generations. Each region in Ukraine has its unique style of dance, which is celebrated with colourful costumes and traditional dances.

The different regions of Ukraine have distinct cultures, reflected in their music, clothing and dance styles. The Carpathians region has the Hut-sulka dance, featuring intricate footwork and vivid costumes decorated with beads and embroidery.

In contrast, Polissia's dances are more flowing movements inspired by nature's elements such as wind or water. Meanwhile, Bukovyna's dancing includes powerful stomps on the ground that create a rhythmic beat to the melody.

Ukrainian dancers often wear vibrant colours like reds, blues, yellows and greens to represent their respective regions' cultural heritage during performances.

Each costume detail reflects certain aspects of Ukrainian history or tradition; for example, floral patterns signify femininity while geometric shapes symbolize masculinity.

Ukrainian dance not only showcases the beauty but also amplifies Ukraine's diverse culture around the world through captivating performances by talented dancers wearing elaborate regional costumes blended with historical traditions.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER



Friends of Gimli Betel hosting fundraiser, offering over \$1,000 cash prize

By Patricia Barrett

Friends of Gimli Betel, a volunteer group that helps care for residents of the 80-bed personal care home, is holding a May fundraiser that will give ticket-holders a chance to win some cash.

Pat Nuspl, a longtime volunteer, is helping organize the fundraiser to help with the cost of providing recreational activities, special outings and Christmas gifts for the residents.

"I've been volunteering at Betel for maybe 12 years now. My mother was a resident there and I stayed on as a volunteer after she passed. If it wasn't part of my life, I would miss it," said Nuspl, who runs the Sandy Hook Soap Factory.

Because of ongoing restrictions in personal care homes around respiratory viruses, Betel has had to forgo its spring tea again this year as it has since the start of the COVID pandemic. The teas were opportunities to raise money that went towards enhancing residents' quality of life.

"The money we'll raise through this May fundraiser will go towards things like the home's lovely outdoor courtyard, a green space where residents can plant flowers, shrubs and vegetables. There are umbrellas and a gazebo roof that could be replaced," said Nuspl. "It could also be used to purchase therapy dolls for residents with dementia to help them communicate better or robotic pets. We're also looking to purchase Christmas gifts for the 80 residents. We spend more than \$50 on a gift for each resident."

The care home also takes residents on various outings. They'll be going on a trip soon to buy vegetable plants and perennials, said Nuspl.

The May fundraiser consists of a guessing game that could net one lucky person over \$1,000.

With a generous donation Betel received from an anonymous donor, Nuspl said she filled a two-litre Mason jar with coins and bills, bringing its weight to 11.2 pounds. People are invited to purchase a \$10 ticket and guess how much money there is in the jar (there's more than a grand).

"We're asking people to take a guess over \$1,000. The odds of being bang on are pretty minimal because of the combinations we have in the jar; we have a penny in there," said Nuspl. "I've had entrants, for example, guessing \$1,000.01 or \$1,150 or \$1,420 and so forth. Whoever is closest to the actual amount gets the jar."

Tickets are \$10 per guess (you can buy more than one ticket) and are available for the remainder of May.

People can purchase them in person at Johnson's Fashion and Footwear



Take a guess over \$1,000 at how much money is in the jar and you just might end up taking it home.



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Betel Personal Care Home in Gimli is an 80-bed facility.

in Gimli and at Access Credit Union branches in Gimli and Winnipeg Beach. Nuspl is helping Betel process credit card and e-transfer ticket purchases. People can call her by phone at 204-389-2303 to pay for tickets by

credit card. Those who wish to pay via e-transfer can use her business email: sandyhooksoap@gmail.com The winner will be announced June 2.

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BIG DOLLAR

Eriksdale School gardening club nurtures a love for the land

By Autumn Fehr

As the weather starts to warm up, Grade 1 and 2 students at Eriksdale School are starting to get their hands dirty — for good reason.

Students are working together to put their understanding of mindfulness and science to the test by planting various fruits, vegetables and flowers in the school's garden.

Larissa Rempel, the school's guidance teacher and Grade 5 and 6 learning support, alongside Lindsay Kirby, the Grade 1 and 2 teacher, are facilitating the gardening club, hoping students will bring home more than just dirt on their clothes.

"We are hoping that students develop a passion for gardening and want to share their newfound skills and knowledge with family members at home. In addition to that, we are hoping that the Grade 1 and 2 students will be able to help as leaders for next year when the program continues," said Rempel and Kirby.

The gardening club teaches kids all the basics of gardening. First, the students brainstormed the fruits and vegetables they wanted to plant and began weeding the garden boxes a few weeks ago.

Through the club, students will learn how to identify different plants and show respect and awareness for living things in their immediate environment. They will also learn how to contribute to their environment and build community with one another.

"Our school goal is that we are providing students with the space to experiment with growing plants,

skills and knowledge in creating their own gardens at home," said Rempel and Kirby.

The gardening club at Eriksdale School has been running on and off for several years by various staff and community members.

"We started the program because we wanted students to make a connection between where their food comes from and how it ends up on their plates. We also wanted students to learn about healthy choices, sustainability, contributing to the school, and how they can connect with nature," said Rempel and Kirby.

This year, the club is available to students in Grades 1 and 2 due to the size of the area they are working in and because it aligns with their learning outcomes in science and hones in on their focus on mindfulness in guidance class. The gardening club is a key part of these classes.

"Some of our students come from farming families and have a full awareness of what is required with gardening; however, other students have never been exposed to growing their own crops, and we thought it was important to share that knowledge with everyone. We believe this program is important because it provides students with an opportunity for hands-on learning and has them practise patience during the seeding and growing process," said Rempel and Kirby.

For the Grade 1 and 2 students, it's more than just a gardening club. They have a bigger goal in mind for their crop. At the end of the season, they hope that the fruits and vegetables can be used for the



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED
Students from Eriksdale School's Grade 1 and 2 classes learn about the ins and outs of gardening and practise their skills in the gardening club, a program that has been running on and off for years at the school.

breakfast program and that the flowers will attract various insects to help with pollination in the area.

Local senior warns residents of convincing phone scam

By Katelyn Boulanger

Grandparent scams are once again making the rounds in our community, and an 82-year-old resident wants to share her experience so that others know how convincing these frauds are becoming.

The resident does not want to be identified in this article but is a senior who lives in the City of Selkirk.

"I received a phone call and he said, 'Hello, Grandma. How are you?' And then I said fine. Then he said, 'Do

you know who this is?' And I said his name. And, he started to tell me that he was in big trouble," said the Selkirk resident.

The resident did think that the fraudster's voice didn't sound exactly like her grandson's but thought that he might have had a cold because his voice was quite similar to that of the family member she assumed he was.

The fraudster then ramped up the urgency by saying that he only had one phone call.

"And, of course, me thinking, well, his mother and dad are both working and if you're only allowed one call [it makes sense to call your grandmother who is often at home]," said the resident.

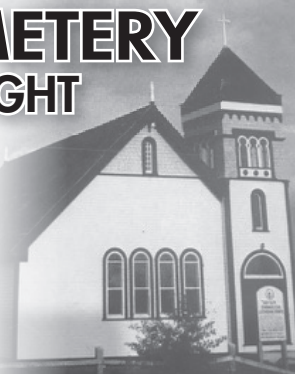
The scammer then went on to say that the grandson and his friend had been caught on drug possession charges and that they were in jail.

"He shared the story and then he said, 'I'll let you talk to my lawyer or a policeman.' I'm not quite sure but I did talk to a 'policeman' and a 'lawyer.' They kept saying, 'You know, I think he's not guilty. He seems like such a nice kid and he's got no record or anything.' Convincing me that he wasn't guilty," she said.

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Gimli chamber, Access Credit Union and community divided and conquered trash

By Patricia Barrett

The Gimli Chamber of Commerce spearheaded a clean-up drive last Wednesday that saw chamber members, Access Credit Union staff, students and dozens of other community members take to the streets, ditches and pier armed with garbage bags and gloves.

The chamber's secretary Kim Giesbrecht broached the idea of holding a community-wide spring clean-up, similar to last year's impromptu event, and the chamber and staff from Access Credit Union eagerly jumped in to help get it organized.

"We had great participation from Access Credit Union. Kathy Sauerborn [from Access CU] is one of the chamber's executive members and she took the idea to Access' branch manager. The credit union jumped on it and brought us a huge number of volunteers," said Giesbrecht. "Access provided us space so that we could gather in a central location and fan out from there and also have a place to drop off our garbage bags. Afterwards, the credit union hosted a barbecue (hotdogs and drinks) for the participants. Their help was greatly appreciated."

Cheryl Buhler, the chamber's past president and current chair of the Destination Committee, took part in the three-hour event and took photos of participants. Other chamber members, including vice president Kristin Strachan, also hit the pavement.

Last year, the chamber encouraged the business community to get out their brooms and dustpans (and also had residents joining in) but it wanted to broaden participation this year. It advertised through posters that the RM of Gimli copied for them and co-ordinated the effort in different parts



Gimli's Viking oversaw the clean-up near Viking Park.

of town.

"This year we did up a map so that we could divide and conquer and make the best use of our people power. In this way, we were able to touch areas all over town," said Giesbrecht. "We had two siblings and their parents offer to clean up the soccer field area and we had a couple that have only been living in Gimli for a month come out."

Participants picked up garbage along the lakefront from the north end of town to the Viking statue, the harbour pier all the way along the rocks to the harbour mouth and the railway tracks from Gimli Park Road to PR 231. They also took to the ditches along Centennial Road that were "pretty dirty, cleaned up around the Gimli Recreation Centre and side streets from First Avenue to Highway 9.

There were at least 25 large garbage bags dropped off at Access CU where



The Mills family joined the effort pick up garbage.



Gimli High School's Enviro Club members Leif, Sofia and Liz.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CHERYL BUHLER

Some of the clean-up participants pose with at least 25 large bags of garbage dropped off at Access CU.



Members of Access Credit Union with chamber member Kim Giesbrecht (holding map).

the RM's public works department put dumpsters (participants may have thrown more bags in dumpsters in other areas of town).

"I think when you see people out doing this it helps inspire others. We all can make a difference. With the number of people we had, we made a difference to the cleanliness of the town in just a couple of hours," said Giesbrecht. "Hopefully, we'll get to the point where if we see something on a sidewalk, we won't just step over it. We'll pick it up and carry it to a garbage bin. Of course, safety first, we have to be cautious about what we pick up."

As a token of appreciation, the chamber offered three prize draws for \$100 in Gimli Gold, which the municipality donated. Gimli Gold is money that can be spent only at local businesses.

Giesbrecht said they held two prize draws May 17 and will be holding the third draw on May 29 for those who continue to pick up garbage on boulevards or other public areas over the next few days. People are being asked



Gimli Chamber of Commerce's vice president Kristin Strachan with a large bag of trash.

to take a selfie and tag Gimli Chamber to have their name entered in the draw.

"I'm proud of our community. We have wonderful people here. It was fabulous," said Giesbrecht.

Celebrate warm weather at Teulon's Family Fishing Derby

By Emma McGill

If you are looking for a fun way to embrace the approaching summer season and get your family outdoors to learn a new skill?

The upcoming Family Fishing Derby put on by Teulon Game and Fish is the perfect opportunity; there will be prizes to win, youth games and activities throughout the day, and hot food and beverages available.

The derby will take place on Satur-

day, June 10 at Norris Lake Campground in the main camping area.

Registration will be at 10 a.m. and the derby itself will start at 10 a.m. and carry on until 3 p.m. No fishing licence is required.

Memberships will be available, since it costs members \$10 to participate, \$20 for non-members and \$5 for youth (15 and under). For more information, contact Doug or Debbie Coverdale at 204-886-3943.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Teulon Game and Fish are hosting a Family Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 10.

> SCAM, FROM PG. 14

This fraud took place on a Friday.

They then told the resident that if her grandson stayed in jail over the weekend that he would have a record but if they could get him released by the end of the day that that wouldn't apply but that her grandson would need a bond.

Initially, they said that they would need a \$50,000 bond but the resident said that she didn't have that kind of money. The fraudsters then told her that they could get a bondsman involved, which would reduce the cost to \$7,000 and that she would get the money back when her grandson

showed up to court.

"[The fraudster] said, 'What I want you to do is go to get the money out of the bank and I'll call you back in 20 minutes.' I said, 'I don't think the bank's going to give me that type of money.' And he says, 'Well, just say that you've got an emergency or you're going on holidays,'" said the resident.

She then said that she didn't know how to ship that kind of money safely to the city where her grandson lives.

The fraudster then made a big mistake that clued the resident into the fact that this was a scam. He asked her how to spell the name of her grandson's city, which is a well-known city in the province.

"I continued eating [my lunch] and I'm thinking, this is not right," said the resident.

She decided to double-check and called her grandson. Her grandson was home safe and sound and she says she was so happy that she would have jumped for joy if her knees were capable of it.

She then went right to the police station to let our local RCMP officers know that this scam happened.

Luckily the quick thinking of this local senior made it so that she didn't get scammed herself but she wanted to share her story so that other seniors who may be in a similar position recognize the scam for what it is without having to worry like she did.

This type of scam, called a grandparent scam, is a variation of an emergency scam that targets grandparents. Residents should be aware that scams like this can target anyone in our community, not just grandparents, as scammers can use the same type of trickery to try to convince people that any relative, friend or loved one is in immediate need.

Emergency scams create a sense of urgency, making the person who is

being targeted feel like they must act quickly instead of thinking the situation through.

Const. Paul Human, community policing officer with the local Selkirk RCMP detachment, says that residents need to "be an investigator."

"These calls will grab at your heart and all you will want to do is help them out. Take a time-out. Recount the story with someone else, hopefully another family member. If the story sounds weird, it is."

His Top 3 tips to prevent grandparent scams are:

- Ask the caller a few personal questions that only a real grandchild would know and an imposter would not.
- After they hang up, verify the story by calling the parents or other relatives of the grandchild.
- NEVER send money to someone under uncertain conditions.

If you would like to report a scam or learn more about recent frauds in Canada, visit the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre website at <https://www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/index-eng.htm>.

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Winnipeg Beach students unveil Seven Sacred Teachings of Mother Earth mural

By Patricia Barrett

Students at Winnipeg Beach School unveiled last week a stunning Indigenous-themed mural they created that shows how intertwined humans are with the Earth and the importance of protecting our planet for future generations.

Titled “Seven Sacred Teachings of Mother Earth [Nimaamaa Aki],” the mural’s soft, blended colours and images and symbols depict a dreamy world of wonders in which humans are only one part. The mural is about as long as 10-12 students sitting shoulder to shoulder.

It was designed and created by students in Makayla Specaluk’s Grade 3-4 class. They worked with the Evergreen School Division’s K-8 Indigenous educational consultant Kelly Milne to tell the story of the Earth from an Indigenous perspective and the spectacular things she gives us, including water, animals, trees and awe-inspiring views of the Earth and the celestial sphere.

Milne, who is also Winnipeg Beach School’s reading recovery and interventions teacher, engages students in discussions about the Indigenous viewpoint of the Earth and the importance of caring for it, as well as teaching them drumming and songs.

The students started working on the mural last month after brainstorming sessions to come up with ways to use visual storytelling to depict humans’ reciprocal relationship with Nimaamaa Aki.

Students told the *Express* what they included on the mural, their favourite part of the process, what they learned from creating it and how they plan to use Indigenous teachings in their everyday lives.

Students Camryn, Brielle, Rilee, L, Emily, Ava, Emma and Nohl provided a list of features that are part of the mural. It contains Indigenous symbols, sacred animals and the stars, the Milky Way, a dreamcatcher, the Sun and the Moon, houses and trees, the northern lights and rivers, and mountains and hills.

Students incorporated seven sacred Indigenous teachings, or guiding principles that prescribe cultural practices and respect for all living things. Those teachings take the form of animals: eagle (love), buffalo (respect), bear (courage), Saabe (honesty), wolf (humility), beaver (wisdom) and turtle (truth). They also incorporated what they learned about Indigenous medicine, which includes more than sacred plants but fundamental elements such as water and air that all living things need to survive.

Many of the students said their fa-

avourite part of the mural was working together to figure out how to combine their individual drawings into a large integrated work.

“I liked how we combined all the pictures together,” said Fox.

Emma said, “I liked how we worked together to create one image.”

“I like how we mixed and matched all the drawings together,” said Alesio.

Ava liked the daytime and nighttime scenes some of the students drew, and Zakk liked the way they incorporated the northern lights and Milky Way.

“I like how it all came together in the end,” said R.

What the students said they learned from doing the mural was probably just as valuable as the beautiful artwork they created and its important message.

“We learned to be flexible with others’ ideas and suggestions,” said Emily.

Mia said they “all collaborated together.”

Carter said they “all worked together well.”

One student compared their teamwork skills to those used by animals that have learned it’s far easier to get a job done by working together rather than separately.

“We all worked as a team, just like a wolf pack,” said Nohl.

Austin liked learning an artistic technique: “We learned how to smudge the chalk to be able to blend our pictures together.”

Zachary perfectly summed up what typically happens to those with the best of intentions and a well laid plan: “Stuff doesn’t always go as planned.”

The students said learning Indigenous teachings will help them in their everyday lives as they interact with others.

“I am going to learn to work together with my sister when we are fighting,” said Fox.

“I am going to learn to show kindness every day,” said Rilee.

Camryn cited truthfulness, just like the turtle teaches, Brielle said being respectful like the buffalo, and Emily said being brave like the bear.

The class as a whole said they’d use Indigenous ways of knowing to appreciate life.

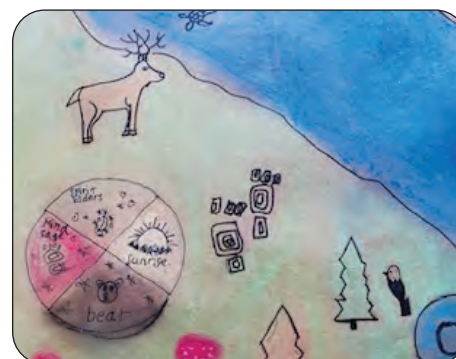
“We can use the Indigenous teachings in our everyday life to balance our medicine wheel and appreciate life around us,” they said.

Shenanigans on the Beach (restaurant) on Main Street will be displaying the students’ mural. The class will be taking it over to the restaurant this week. The public is invited to pop in to see it.



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF KELLY MILNE

Grade 3-4 students at Winnipeg Beach School display their Indigenous-themed mural titled “Seven Sacred Teachings of Mother Earth [Nimaamaa Aki]” that will go on public display this week at Shenanigan’s restaurant. Teacher Makayla Specaluk (right, front) and ESD’s Indigenous educational consultant and teacher Kelly Milne (back, middle).





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Photos by Brett Mitchell

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Miller and her college team win Big Ten championship

By Ty Dilello

Gonor's Leah Miller and her University of Michigan rowing team have won the Big Ten Conference Championship and will be headed now to the NCAA Championships.

Miller grew up in Gimil but moved to Gonor when she was 12. She went to elementary school in Gimli and then East Selkirk. And then went to high school at Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute (MBCI) in Winnipeg.

It was when she was 12 that Miller first got into rowing and she hasn't looked back since.

"I was looking for another sport to try as I was already playing club volleyball," said Miller. "Then my parents signed me up for a Learn to Row at the Winnipeg Rowing Club. And I loved it since the moment I got into the boat."

This past summer, she travelled to Varese, Italy, to compete for Team Canada at the Junior U19 World Rowing Championships. Her four crew team placed 11th in its race at the World event. She then represented Manitoba later in the summer at the Canada Summer Games in Niagara, Ont.

She was also the 2022 female recipient of the Tom Longboat Award, which is handed out annually to recognize Indigenous athletes for their outstanding contributions to sport in Canada.

With many colleges in the United

States offering scholarships to row for their program, Miller settled on the University of Michigan, a powerhouse in the rowing world. And with that, her freshman year at the University of Michigan has gone extremely well.

"It was an adjustment at first to familiarize myself with the university, schedule and new place to live, as well as being away from home. But I'm very happy; the rowing is fast, challenging, and I'm learning a lot."

At the recent Big Ten Championship, Miller and the Michigan Wolverines were victorious after winning three races and finishing second in two others. The Wolverines totalled 174 points to edge Ohio State by five points to win its eighth Big Ten title and third since 2019.

"I'm so happy to be part of this team, and my teammates are the best," said Miller. "We all work together, and it's a good feeling. So experiencing the Big Ten Championship for the first time was exciting, and we are all so happy that we won. It's a great feeling knowing we all worked hard and came out with the win."

Up next for Miller and the Michigan team is the upcoming 2023 NCAA Championships this week in New Jersey.

"We are continuing to train and work hard as we want to do as best as we can and come out with another win."



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LEAH MILLER

Gonor's Leah Miller, far left, and her University of Michigan rowing team have won the Big Ten Conference Championship and will be headed now to the NCAA Championships.

Phillies dominate the diamond at Regina tournament

Submitted

After going undefeated in four games at a Season Kickoff tournament in Regina earlier this month, the U13 Interlake Phillies 'AAA' demonstrated their prowess in both the pitching circle and at the plate by bringing gold back to Manitoba from their first event of the season.

The Phillies beat Weyburn 18-9 and

the Storm 7-1 on Day 1 and then came out on top over the Regina Saints 3-1 and the Storm 10-8 in the final the next day.

The Phillies' pitching staff was a force with 46 strikeouts during the weekend. Collectively, the team had 29 hits over the four games with three home runs to help secure their victory.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Interlake Phillies U13 'AAA' team won gold at a Season Kickoff tournament in Regina earlier this month after a 10-8 win over the Storm in the championship games. Pictured back row, left to right: coach Karli Reimer, coach Jon Reimer, Emma Cassils, Kenzie Myers, Jersey MacMillan, Kara Powroznik, Lily Hammond, Sara Vande and coach Mike Hammond. Front row, left to right: Jordyn Chetyrbok, Olivia Wirgau, Nicole Hutchinson, Paige Bernier, Katie Braid and Kardyn Reimer.

Falcons, Ice Dawgs hand out season-ending awards

Staff

With the Capital Region Junior Hockey League's 2022-23 season in the books, local teams have handed out season-ending awards.

The Lundar Falcons named Jayden Timlick the team's MVP. Timlick scored eight goals and had 25 points in 29 regular-season games. He added four assists in seven playoff games.

Timlick was also one of two winners of a CRJHL scholarship awarded by the league.

Ryan Benson was selected as the rookie of the year. He was great in his first season in the CRJHL, scoring a team-leading 11 goals and 32 points in 30 regular-season games.

In the postseason, Benson scored twice and added two assists.

Other Lundar award winners included Carson Gudmundson (Lorie

Halldorson Most Dedicated Player), Cohen Smigelsky (Top Defenceman), Jayden Timlick (Best Defensive Forward), Ryan Benson (Leading Scorer) and Jordan Armstrong (Top Goalie).

Arborg's most valuable player award, meanwhile, went to goaltender Tre Strachan. Strachan had a solid season, posting a 10-11 regular-season record with one shutout to go along with a 3.27 goals-against average and .912 save percentage.

The Ice Dawgs' other award winners were Jordan Einarson (Coaches Award), Mitchell Wilson (Rookie of the Year), Dylan Woytowich (Fan Favourite), Cadrick Dueck (Top Points and Most Goals), Jake Plett (Top Defenceman), Brody Maxwell (Most Improved) and Tyson Barylski (Leader of the Pack).



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Arborg Ice Dawgs handed out their season-ending awards. Pictured, left to right, are Tyson Barylski, Brody Maxwell, Cadrick Dueck, Dylan Woytowich, Tre Strachan, Jake Plett and Jordan Einarson.

Interlake trio named to Female U18 Top-40 camp roster

Staff

Three Interlake Lightning U18 AAA hockey players — goaltender Rachel Halldorson and forwards Brooke Barylski and Seanna Price — have been named to Hockey Manitoba's 2023 Female Under-18 Program of Excellence Top-40 camp roster.

The camp will take place June 10-12 in Winnipeg.

This camp will be the second phase of the Hockey Manitoba Female U18

Program which is designed to provide high-performance female players with the opportunity to develop advanced skills as well as an introduction to the concepts needed to play at an elite level. Players from the Program of Excellence go on to play at the U Sport, NCAA and international level.

The Top-40 Camp will see athletes participating in skill sessions and intra-squad exhibition games designed

to provide instructions on skills and concepts directly related to the Female Team Manitoba Principles of Play. All programming throughout the duration of the camp will be led by the Female U18 coaching staff.

Following the Top-40 Camp, approximately 25 players will be invited to the Female U18 POE Summer Development Camp, which will be held in July at the hockey for all centre in Winnipeg. An exhibition series with

the University of Manitoba Bisons women's hockey team will be held from Sept. 8 to 10 in Winnipeg at the Wayne Fleming Arena.

The final stage of the 2023 Female U18 POE process will see the team compete at the 2023 National Women's U18 Championship, which is scheduled to take place from Nov. 6 to 12 in Dawson Creek, B.C.

Interlake Blue Jays suffer first MJBL loss of the season

Staff

The Interlake Blue Jays suffered their first Manitoba Junior Baseball League loss of the young season after a 3-1 defeat to the St. James A's last Wednesday at Quarry Park.

Interlake hosted the Carillon Sultans on Monday evening to wrap up a four-game homestand but no score was available.

The Blue Jays will hit the road Sunday to play a doubleheader against the Pembina Valley Orioles in Winkler. Games will start at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

In U18 AAA action, the Interlake Orioles were scheduled to play the St. James A's last Thursday but

no score was available.

On May 16, Interlake was blanked 10-0 by the Bonvital Black Sox.

The Orioles were swept by South Central on May 14 in Altona, losing by scores of 12-0 and 6-5.

Interlake played Carillon this past Monday in a doubleheader and then will host the Winnipeg South Wolves on Thursday (6:30 p.m.) at Atree Field in Grosse Isle.

The Orioles will travel to La Broquerie on Friday (7 p.m.) to play Carillon before hosting the Brandon Marlins in a doubleheader on Saturday. Games begin at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Kodiaks hit the diamond



EXPRESS PHOTO JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Ashern/Fisher Branch/Lundar Kodiaks' Erik Johnson is at the plate against the Warren Collegiate Wildcats during Zone 5 action last Thursday in Grosse Isle. Warren won the game 14-9.

Classifieds



Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca

SCRAP METAL

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

Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. No item too large! Best prices paid, cash in hand. Phone Alf at 204-461-1649.

GARAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE AT ASPEN PARK, JUNE 3, 9-2 P.M. RAIN DATE JUNE 4th.

ADVERTISE YOUR UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE EXPRESS

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

Approx. 1996, 4 bdrm. Best Buy mobile home with addition. Comes with skirting, fridge, stove, dishwasher, electric heat, air conditioning. Located in Gimli. \$80,000. Ph 204-641-8137.

LOT FOR SALE

Subdivided yard site - 17.1 acres, located 9 miles NW of Riverton. Well treed, 4 year old well, septic field, fully wired 36x44 shop. Also fully insulated garage, fully wired with concrete floor. 15 acre pasture with heated waterer. Ready for RTM, mobile home or build on site. Open to offers, call or text 204-642-2249.

FOR RENT

1 bdrm. suite in Winnipeg Beach, fully furnished, satellite TV, hydro and parking spot with plug in included, internet avail., \$850/mo. Phone 204-886-2774.

HELP WANTED

Overland Truck Outfitters, the leader in truck caps and truck accessories, is looking for a reliable motivated person to install truck accessories. Bring resume to Overland Truck Outfitters, 102 Aviation Blvd. St. Andrews. 204-338-4292.

HELP WANTED

Teulon Day Care is hiring! Wouldn't it be cool to choose the hours you work in the summer, we are looking for substitutes who are energetic, flexible, caring individuals to join our team.

We are also looking to fill a summer student 8-week position starting July 4th. This position is funded by the Canada summer grant. If you are 18-30 years of age & love children, this position is for you.

Please send cover letter & resume to teulondc@mymts.net

BUSINESS SERVICES

Private mortgage lender. All real estate types considered. No credit checks done. Deal direct with lender and get quick approval. Toll free 1-866-405-1228 www.firstandsecondmortgages.ca

FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FOR THE POSITION
with an **EMPLOYMENT/CAREERS AD** in **THE EXPRESS**
WEEKLY NEWS
204-467-5836



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 part-time 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



Rural Municipality of **FISHER**

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



Rural Municipality of **FISHER**

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.

Eddie's Gravel Supply Ltd. is Hiring

MECHANIC

Truck/Trailer/Equipment Repair
Competitive Wages, Benefits
Experience required
204-389-2023
info@eddiesgravel.com
102086 Hwy #9, Wpg Beach, MB

Eddie's Gravel Supply Ltd. is Hiring

OPERATORS DOZERS, GRADERS, LOADERS, EXCAVATORS

Experience Required

Competitive Wages, Benefits

info@eddiesgravel.com

204-389-2023

102086 Hwy 9, Wpg Beach, MB

EVERGREEN BASIC NEEDS IS HIRING!

Full Time Store Clerk

35 hours per week

Full Time Warehouse Worker

35 Hours per week

These positions are Summer Student Partnerships with the Manitoba Metis Federation

Those who identify as Metis are encouraged to apply.

The program runs from July 3, 2023 until September 1, 2023 and is open to Full Time High School and University Students ages 15-30 who are returning to school in the fall.

Send your resume to Karen Bowman at ebnoffice@mymts.net or drop off at 71 4th Ave in Gimli. Please indicate the position you are applying for.

Deadline for applications: June 15, 2023



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

JOB OPPORTUNITY - Initial term appointment of 4 months with possibility of permanent appointment

MUNICIPAL SERVICES CLERK

Key Duties and Responsibilities:

The Municipal Services Clerk is responsible for providing reception, clerical and general administrative support to ensure that municipal services are provided in an efficient and effective manner. As the first point of contact, this position provides ratepayer sand/or visitors support and assistance to ensure that their inquiries are addressed in an appropriate and timely manner. Answers incoming calls, issues receipts, permits, and collects payments as required. Handles all incoming and outgoing mail. In addition, prepares draft correspondence, reports and other communications as requested by management.

Qualifications and Experience:

- High school graduate with some additional office administration training an asset, or a suitable combination of education and experience.
- Prior related work experience
- Experience with Microsoft office, including Word and Excel, computerized accounting systems, and previous experience working with other computer programs.
- Knowledge of or experience with website operation and updating
- Ability to work as a member of a team as well as independently.
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to prioritize work effectively and meet required deadlines.
- Strong and effective interpersonal skills, ability to deal effectively with the public, and demonstrate flexibility.

This position is in the Finance and Administration Department Collective Agreement.

The salary range for this position is \$19.68 - \$23.43 per hour

Interested applicants should submit their resume and covering letter to Kelly Cosgrove, Chief Administrative Officer at kcosgrove@rmgimli.com

The deadline for resumes to be submitted is **June 8th, 2023.**

The RM thanks everyone for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be notified.

Classifieds



Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836

Evergreen Foundation Of Manitoba Inc.

SCHOLARSHIPS

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

FARM LAND FOR SALE BY TENDER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF WEST INTERLAKE

Sealed tenders in writing for the purchase of the property described below will be received by McRoberts Law Office LLP as follows:

McRoberts Law Office LLP
200-1630 Ness Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3X1

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Approximately 160 total acres (120 acres natural hay, 40 acres bush)
SW 1/4 26-21-7 WPM
SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS, PROVISIONS AND CONDITIONS RESPECTING MINES AND MINERALS, MINERAL OILS, AND OTHER MATTERS AS THE SAME ARE MORE FULLY SET FORTH IN TRANSFER NO. 51340 WLTO (PP DIV)

CONDITIONS OF TENDER

- Interested parties must rely on their own inspection and knowledge of the property.
- Property is currently rented and renter would remain for 2023 pasture/hay harvest season. Rent is paid at the end of each year and would be pro-rated as of July 9, 2023.
- Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on June 9, 2023.
- A deposit cheque in the amount of \$10,000.00 payable to McRoberts Law Office LLP, must accompany each Tender. Deposit cheques accompanying unaccepted bids will be returned.
- Highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE

- The bidder whose tender is accepted will be required to complete an agreement covering terms and conditions of sale.
- In addition to the deposit, the balance of the accepted tender must be paid on or before the date of closing which shall be July 14, 2023, or evidence provided that the purchase funds will be available under conditions acceptable to the Vendor. If the balance of the accepted tender is not paid within the set time limit the deposit may be forfeited as liquidated damages and not as a penalty.
- Possession is not authorized until acceptable arrangements for full payment are made following acceptance of tender.
- Successful bidder will be responsible for real property taxes commencing January 1, 2023.
- The purchaser shall be responsible for payment of GST or shall self-assess for GST.
- The land is not subject to a first right of refusal.

For further information, contact Andrea Rous
Phone: 204-944-7976
Fax: 204-772-1684
Email: alr@mlo-llp.com

Please Label Envelopes: "RM of West Interlake Tender"



REQUEST FOR EQUIPMENT RATES

RM of COLDWELL

Requests contractors to submit their equipment rates for the 2023 year.

Equipment listing with details and rates should be submitted by June 8, 2023 to:
Box 90, Lundar, MB R0C 1Y0 or coldwell@mymts.net

PESTICIDE NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that the Lundar Co-Op Golf & Country Club intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2023.

- To control noxious weeds & turf grass diseases. The projected dates of application will be from May 1, 2023 to November 1, 2023. The herbicides & fungicides to be used include:
 - Instarata
 - Banner Maxx
 - Vantage Plus Max II
 - Heritage
 - Par III
 - Eagle Wsp

The public may send written submissions or objections within 15 days of the publication of the notice to the department below.

Manitoba Sustainable Development
Environmental Approvals Branch
1007 Century Street, Winnipeg MB R3H 0W4

SUMMER UNIVERSITY STUDENT WANTED GREEN TEAM

TWO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS REQUIRED FOR VESELKA SUMMER CAMP TO WORK AS GROUNDS KEEPERS

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

GRASS CUTTING,
TREE TRIMMING, WEED EATING
AROUND OUT BUILDINGS,
GENERAL UPKEEP OF
CAMP GROUNDS INCLUDING
PAINTING OF CABINS.

DURATION: JUNE 5, 2023 TO
AUGUST 25, 2023

WORK HOURS: 35 HOURS PER
PAY PERIOD, 8:30 TO 4:30
REMUNERATION 14.15/HR

CONTACT:

IAN McCARRON AT 204 223-5595
OR
BILL DUSCHAK AT 204 918-5926

LAKESIDE FLIGHT ACADEMY

Want to learn how to fly? Interested in a career as a commercial pilot? Lakeside Flight Academy is the most affordable in Canada. We have students from all over the world. We offer flight training and ground school (air law, navigation, meteorology, aeronautics general knowledge). Call 204-651-1402.

WANTED

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

WANTED

WANTED: Buying estates, contents of homes, farms, barns, sheds, garages, etc. Buying most anything old & interesting! TEXT/PHONE: 204-918-1607. Junkies Estate, Salvage, Antiques & Oddities.

NOTICES

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

NOTICES

HIRING??? Need Class 1 Drivers or summer help? BOOK YOUR 2023 BLANKET CLASSIFIED 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

LIVESTOCK

Black Angus bulls, 2 yr olds and well grown out yearlings, fed TMR, no self feeders, semen tested, delivered. Phone Ross Jerney, Spruce Ridge Stock Farms, Ashern, 204-768-0333.



Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton Sale of Surplus Land

Pursuant to Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton Policy No. 2022-04, Council Disposal of Surplus Land, and under the authority of Section 250(2)(a) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that until the 6th day of June, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 AM, the Municipality will accept sealed written Offers to Purchase at Box 70, 329 River Road, Arborg, MB for the following properties:

Roll Number	Legal Description	Assessed Value
104008	Balaton Beach, MB Lot 2 Block 2 Plan 10780 WTLO Exc all mines and minerals vested in the Crown (Manitoba) by the Real Property Act.	Residential Land \$16,300
403300	71 River St., Riverton, MB Lot 1 Block 5 Plan 2212 WTLO Exc all mines and minerals vested in the Crown (Manitoba) by the Real Property Act.	Residential Land \$3,400
431800	Riverton, MB Lot 17 Block 2 Plan 13740L WTLO Exc all mines and minerals vested in the Crown (Manitoba) by the Real Property Act.	Residential Land \$4,600
431900	Riverton, MB Lot 18 Block 2 Plan 13740L WTLO Exc all mines and minerals vested in the Crown (Manitoba) by the Real Property Act.	Residential Land \$4,600
434100	160 King St., Riverton, MB Lot 48 Block 2 Plan 13740L WTLO Exc all mines and minerals vested in the Crown (Manitoba) by the Real Property Act.	Residential Land \$6,100

The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any property taxes not yet due. The properties are being sold as is, and the Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning them. The purchaser will be required to enter into a Development Agreement with the Municipality requiring them to build on the property within a certain time frame. Payment must be made in cash, certified cheque or bank draft by June 16, 2023. The Municipality reserves the right to reject all offers for a property.

The Municipal Development Tax Incentive Program offers property owners who add a new single family dwelling, multi-family dwelling, or commercial building a progressive multi-year tax rebate on a portion of the General Municipal Levy tax amount. Additional program details and an informational package for each roll number containing lot dimensions and other relevant information can be viewed on our website at www.bifrostriverton.ca.

Dated this 19th day of May, 2023

Larissa Love
Chief Administrative Officer
Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton
Phone: 204-376-2391
Fax: 204-376-2742

Everything you need to promote your business



Call Today!
467-5836

For all your printing and publishing needs



**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI
INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR
THE FOLLOWING POSITION**

PUBLIC WORKS GARDENER/LABOURER A

This position will work directly with the public works department when performing duties and tasks such as trimming trees, cutting grass and to maintain the town's appearance. The successful candidate will also work with the Gimli Garden Club when preparing and maintaining the flower gardens and planters in the town of Gimli.

Candidate must possess the following:

- High School Diploma, GED or equivalent
- Valid Class 5 Drivers License
- Have knowledge of Workplace Safety Practices

Candidate must be physically fit, able to lift at least 50 lbs. Must be able to work weekends, be available for early start times and overtime when required.

Excellent communication and organizational skills, and a demonstrated ability to work independently and in a team environment are required.

Salary and hours of work is in accordance with the Collective Agreement.

Completed applications stating the position(s) applying for, with resume and references, should be submitted to the Municipal Office located at 62 2nd Avenue by 4:00 p.m. on June 9, 2023.

Ron Hahlweg, C.E.T.
Director of Operations
Rural Municipality of Gimli
PO Box 1246, 62 – 2nd Avenue
Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Email: operations@rmgimli.com
Fax: (204) 642-6660

We thank all applicants; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

**Full-time Employment Opportunities
In Arborg at busy implement dealership**



Shachtays in Arborg is hiring additional staff for the following positions:

- **Officer/Administration**
- **Service Technician**
- **Parts/Counter Person**

*Experience not necessary but a definite asset.
Benefit plan available.*

Apply in person, fax, mail or e-mail resume to: 276 Ardal St., Box 190, Arborg, MB R0C 0A0
shachtays@hotmail.com
Ph: (204) 376-5233
Fax: (204) 376-5234

*Locally owned and operated.
Serving the Interlake for 56 years.*



Classifieds



Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836
or Email classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca

GLENKO ENTERPRISES (1994) LTD.
Box 1000, Arborg, MB R0C 0A0 Phone 376-2340 - 376-5115
Fax (204) 376-5676 glenکو@mts.net

Now Hiring!!
Class 1 Licensed Drivers
Class 3 Drivers – Concrete Mix Trucks
D8 Dozer Crawler Operator
Loader Operators
Heavy Duty Diesel Mechanic

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 glenکو@mymts.net Attention: Don
Or mail resume to Glenko Enterprises (1994) Ltd.
Box 1000 Arborg, MB R0C 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

LIVESTOCK

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.

HEALTH

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

SEED FOR SALE

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

Eddie's Gravel Supply Ltd. is Hiring

SKID STEER OPERATORS WITH CLASS 3

Competitive Wages, Benefits

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

**MIXED
FIREWOOD**

**\$310 per cord picked up
Delivery also available**

info@eddiesgravel.com

204-389-2023

102086 Hwy 9, Wpg Beach, MB

Eddie's Gravel Supply Ltd. is Hiring

**CLASS 1 & 3
DRIVERS**

Must have a valid license

Competitive Wages, Benefits

info@eddiesgravel.com

204-389-2023

102086 Hwy 9, Wpg Beach, MB

Classifieds



RECYCLING NOTICE FOR JUNE/2023

Riverdale Place Workshop Inc. will not be picking up recycling on the below mentioned dates

Tues. June 6
at Arborg curbside pickup

Thurs. June 8
at Riverton curbside pickup

Tues. June 20
at Arborg curbside pickup

Thurs. June 22
at Riverton curbside pickup

Please rinse your containers

Thank you for recycling

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.

McSherry Auctions
12 Patterson Dr, Stonewall, MB

Online Timed Auctions @ iCollector.com

Estate & Moving
Featuring over 75 Guns + Ammo
Closes May 31 @ 7:00PM

House & Building Auction for Muriel Taplin
Closes June 6 @ 7:00PM

Estate & Moving
Closes June 7 @ 7:00PM

Booking On Site Spring Auctions
McSherryAuction.com
204-467-1858
Consignors Welcome!

Danny's

MOVING AND DISPOSAL

- Local & long distance
- Household packing
- Estate clear out & clean up

Small Jobs & Free Estimates

Seniors Discounts

Professional & Courteous

204-298-7578



204-467-5836

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

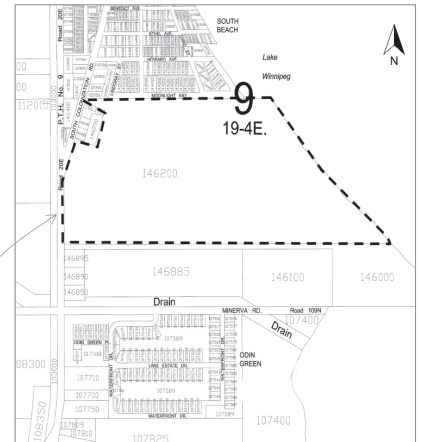
HEARING LOCATION: RM of Gimli Council Chambers
62 - 2nd Avenue, Gimli, MB

DATE & TIME: June 1, 2023
5:15 pm

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".

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 INFORMATION: Nancy Thom, CAO/Development Officer
Eastern Interlake Planning District
62 2nd Avenue, P.O. Box 1758, Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Phone: 204-642-5478 Fax: 204-642-4061
E-mail: ejpd@mmts.net Web: www.interlakeplanning.com



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.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Charisons Turkey Hatchery is currently hiring for GENERAL LABOURER positions.

- Full time and part-time positions available with a competitive compensation and benefits package, including health and dental coverage.
- Training will be provided for the ideal candidate.

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



Rural Municipality of FISHER

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

Summer 2023 Employment Opportunity with Evergreen School Division

Urban/Hometown Green Team

General Helpers for the Maintenance Department

Position Description:

This full-time summer employment opportunity will be based out of the Gimli ESD Maintenance Shop, located adjacent to Gimli High School. Students must have access to transportation so they can report to work in Gimli at this location at 7:30 am, Monday to Friday.

The General Helpers will be required to assist the regular maintenance staff in all aspects of their duties including but not limited to:

- repairs and improvements to grounds and facilities
- moving furniture and other items
- painting

Requirements:

- Strong work ethic
- Physically able to move furniture, do yard work, paint and do other similar tasks
- Steel toed boots required. All other safety wear will be provided.
- Availability Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:00 pm, July 4th to August 31st, 2023
- A strong eagerness to learn new skills
- Able to follow directions and work safely

Preference will be given to students and graduates of ESD who have interests in trades.

Rate of pay: \$14.65 per hour

Interested students may submit their resume and names of 3 references by May 29, 2023 (4:00 pm) to:

Gibby Finnbogason
Buildings Supervisor
Evergreen School Division
Email: applications@esd.ca



Riverdale Place Workshop Inc. requires a

Summer Student

To assist in the recycling department. Help to sort and bale recycling products. Also to cut the yard site grass and minor ground maintenance.

Criminal record check required
Hours 9:00 a.m. to 4:00p.m.

Position to start
July 4 to August 25, 2023

Please send resume to

Alex Janower Manager
Riverdale Place Workshop Inc.
Box 609 Arborg MB. R0C 0A0
Tele-204-376-5584
Fax-204-376-5584
Email riverdalew@mymts.net



INTERLAKE CATTLEMENS CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION LTD.

ASHERN AUCTION MART ATTENTION: FARMERS AND RANCHERS

The last sale will be on June 14, 2023

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, June 19, 2023

AT 8:00 PM

Auditors Financial Report

Election of Directors

204-768-2360

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Announcements



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SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Jack Henry Clark

March 17, 1949 – February 16, 2023

A Graveside Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 27, 2023 in the Grahamdale Cemetery with Dawn Tober officiating. Luncheon to follow in the Moosehorn Community Hall.

Arrangements by:
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME
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SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Celebration of Life
for

George Hibbert

Saturday, June 3, 2023

Remembrances 1 p.m.

Refreshments to follow

Silver Community Hall

Turn off #7 Highway, onto Rd. 125
Approximately 4 miles south of Arborg

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Clifton Arthur Bebber

January 11, 1956 to December 30, 2022

Cliff loved life and our new life here in Silver Harbour Arnes. After a very short battle with a very aggressive cancer he left this world and went on to his next journey.

Cliff didn't want a funeral, but asked us to celebrate his life. Please come celebrate with us on Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 1 to 5 p.m. at our home in Silver Harbour Arnes, 30 Thorwaldsen Dr. We will share lunch with you, memories and celebrate his life.

Please RSVP by June 16. Gina Marie Bebber, 1-431-668-2611. Please text.



OBITUARY

Margaret Janzen

March 28, 1928 – May 22, 2023

May 22, 2023 marks the passing of the remarkable Margaret Janzen, born Margaret Unrau, March 28, 1928 in the Bluebird School District of Saskatchewan.

She was born to Abe (deceased) and Mary (deceased), into a large pioneering farming family, living off the land. She did not receive much formal education, having to leave school in Grade 4 to help on the farm, but became wise nonetheless in learning how to be part of a family and how to get by with little to nothing to do it with.

She married at a young age to her one true love Peter Franz Janzen (deceased 1999), upon his return from WWII Europe and started a family of her own. With a group of family, Peter, and a firstborn daughter, she migrated to Manitoba and eventually to

Clarkleigh. Here she helped Peter claw a homestead out of the alkali and slough bottom land to raise their seven children, Judy (deceased 2012) (Ed), Linda (Lawrence (deceased 2022), Jean (Jim (deceased 2022), Janice (Guy), Jim (Joanne), Darlene (deceased 2019) and Tim (Barbara).

Things were not easy in the early years on the farm and it was soon realized that Peter would have to work away at various jobs, eventually as a foreman for a road construction company. This left Margaret to manage the home front, cream producing operation and massive garden with the kids, which she did proudly and tirelessly for many years. Soon after losing her beloved Peter in 1999 she left Clarkleigh and got a small apartment in Lundar to embark on her next adventure into her seventies. She soon became a fixture in Lundar, seen on Main Street visiting with friends and commuting to every possible yard sale, at first on foot and eventually vigorously chasing a treasure laden walker.

To the end she was a dedicated mother and grandmother, as well as a fiercely loyal friend.

Margaret leaves her remaining children, many grandchildren, even more great-grandchildren and even a few great-great-grandchildren to remember, mourn and honour her.

The family would like to acknowledge the wonderful staff of the Lundar PCH, who cared for her very well and made her final years as comfortable and dignified as they could be.

Margaret was the best Mom/Nana imaginable and always put the needs of friends and family before her own.

Mom, we will all miss you. Give Dad and all the rest of them a hug for us and enjoy everything that comes with your next adventure. You have certainly earned it!

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 28, 2023 in the Lundar Legion Hall with Cindy Thorkelson officiating. A luncheon will be held. Interment will follow in the Clarkleigh Cemetery.

Arrangements by:
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OBITUARY

Gudmundur Brian Tomasson

1942 - 2022

Friends and family of Gudmundur Brian Tomasson (February 19, 1942 - November 21, 2022) are planning to gather at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 16th, 2023, at Neil Bardal Funeral Centre, 3030 Notre Dame Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

We will gather together that we may celebrate a life well lived, and in doing so share stories and memories.

According to his wishes, Brian has been cremated and will rest beside his beloved wife Alys Finlay Tomasson in a family plot at Dundas, Manitoba. Hvíli í friði. A short reception will follow the service, coffee, tea, and sandwiches will be served. Many stories will be shared.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority's Palliative Care Program, Riverview Health Centre, or the Logberg-Heimskringla.



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OBITUARY



David Gislason, O.M.
1941-2023

Surrounded by the people and the voices he loved during his final illness, David passed away peacefully on the morning of April 21, 2023, at the Johnson Memorial Hospital in Gimli.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Judy Richardson; his daughters Kathy and Shelly (William Forsyth); grandchildren Lauren Doell (Derek), Dustin Palsson (Miso Bogdanic), Bailey Palsson (Dave Weber), Morgan Palsson (Nick McGill), and Taylor Palsson (Kobie Barker); Aiden Ari Forsyth (Danielle Shemie), and Elin Forsyth (Yusako Uchino); his brothers Wayne and Lorne (Shirley) as well as many nephews, nieces, and cousins both here and in Iceland.

David was predeceased by his parents Joseph and Guðrún Gislason; his wife of many years, Gladys; his son-in-law Raymond Palsson and his sister Josephine Kristjanson, as well as many other relatives and close friends.

Born at home on the farm Svaðastaðir in the Geysir district on December 22, 1941, David grew up helping with farm work from an early age, in the days when horses were still used for many tasks. Icelandic was consistently spoken at home and was David's first language. He attended the Island School and was an excellent student through his high school years in Arborg and Riverton. Planning to attend the University of Manitoba on a Scholarship in the Faculty of

Engineering, everything changed when his father suddenly died in the early fall of 1960. David found himself in charge of the farm and in helping his mother and younger siblings.

David met and fell in love with Gladys Fisher, who was visiting her sister in the area, and they married in 1962. Together they raised their two daughters and worked on the farm that increased in size over the years. Originally mixed farming with grains and dairy, they sold their dairy herd in 1977, and moved more toward seed production. This added the ability for travel and other hobbies in the off-season.

David was very much a Renaissance man. He had an interest and developed knowledge in a wide range of topics – from agriculture to opera, from public speaking to writing poetry, from photography to translation, and the list goes on. He was also a man with a deep commitment to service and offered his time and energy to serve in many areas during his life. Through it all he remained a soft-spoken and humble man.

David was a man of deep faith and served on the committees of the Geysir Lutheran Church and the Ardal-Geysir Lutheran Church in various capacities. For the last two years of his life, he faithfully attended the weekly Lutheran church service, kindly offered in the Betel home by the Gimli Lutheran Church.

Even his farming years called him to service in various areas. David was an innovator in farming – pioneering the use of leaf-cutter bees for the pollination of alfalfa and being one of the first farmers in the area to move to zero tillage. He served on marketing boards for alfalfa seed, leaf-cutter bees, and oil seeds, and was appointed the farmer representative on the forage seed committee of SeCan, which was responsible for distributing new varieties of seeds nationally.

David was a founding member and a shareholder in Northstar Seeds Ltd., which became the foremost marketer of forage seeds in Manitoba. He also chaired the Manitoba Farm Products Marketing Council, the Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative, and co-chaired the Manitoba Agri-Food Development Council. It was said of David that in his performance on these Boards, he showed wisdom and fair-mindedness.

Together, David and Gladys were a host family for The International Agricultural Exchange Association, welcoming young people from around the world into their home between the years of 1981 and 1994.

He and Gladys received the Red River Exhibition Farm Family of the year in the year 2000. David was inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2009.

While caring for Gladys during her long and difficult illness, David began to think about retiring, and they moved to a house in Arborg. Gladys passed away in 2012, and David sold his land and machinery in 2013.

In local politics, David was elected as councillor and then as reeve of the Municipality of Bifrost between the years 1986-1995.

Always interested in his Icelandic background, David was a life-long member of the Icelandic National league chapter, Esjan, in Arborg, and served as its president for a period of time. He was honoured with lifelong membership in the Icelandic National League of North America and by Þjóðræknisfélag Íslendinga, its Icelandic equivalent. David travelled frequently to Iceland and when asked, would comment that he couldn't count the number of times. He hosted tours for various groups from Iceland, including a number of choirs. He also organized several tours to Iceland by the New Iceland Children's choir. He provided the Toast to Iceland at the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba in 1999 and was heavily involved in the planning and execution of events and cultural exchange for the Millennium Celebrations to honour 1000 years of Icelandic contact with North America. The kick-off to the celebrations came when an exact copy of the statue of Guðriður Þórbjarnadóttir and her son Snorri, the first European child born in North America, was presented to Canada by Iceland's prime minister, Davíð Oddsson. The original stands in Snæfellsnes in Iceland, and Canada's statue stands in the foyer of Library Archives Canada in Ottawa. Some of the other cultural events organized by David included music, plays, and a puppeteer entertaining across Icelandic communities in Canada.

David was presented with the Knight's Cross of the Order of the Falcon in the year 2000, as an honour for his efforts for the Millennium and other ways he helped to foster the link between Canada and Iceland.

For his overall contributions in many fields, David was invested with the Order of Manitoba in 2008, that order being Manitoba's highest honour.

David was very well-read in both the Icelandic and English languages. He loved poetry and often recited his favourites by memory. He wrote his own poems, often as tributes for events, but sometimes lyric poems dealing with deeper issues. He began to translate Icelandic poetry into English, in which he showed a true gift, not only translating the words, but incorporating the spirit of the poem, the rhythm, cadence, rhyming, and alliteration of the original. In doing this, he opened up the world of the poetry of our ancestors for those who may have lost the ability to read Icelandic.

He was named the skald (official poet) of the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba in 2014, writing poems for various events related to the Festival.

David published a book of his original poetry and translations from the Icelandic in 2010, which premiered at McNally Robinson books. It is entitled Fifth Dimension.

David was twice honoured by the IODE (Jon Sigurdsson Chapter) – the first being a Good Citizenship Award. The second was their nomination of him to receive the Joan Inga Eyolfson Cadham Award at the INL Convention in 2018. The award, which was his very last award, is given to an individual who has been outstanding in the promotion of Icelandic Heritage and Culture through Literature or other arts. David was very pleased to receive this honour - so much so that he rose from his hospital bed following surgery to go to Winnipeg to receive the award at the Convention.

During his lifetime, David enjoyed a wide variety of activities. He and Gladys took dancing lessons and in turn, taught dancing lessons. He loved to sing – in the church choir, in the Soley Songmenn, and with an A Capella choir. He skied, snowshoed, and travelled. He became an excellent photographer, leaving wonderful images for all of us to remember.

At the Seattle Convention in 2013, he met Judy Richardson. Although they had worked on several projects together for the Lögberg-Heimskringla, it was always at a distance. Following the Convention, they corresponded through email and phone calls, developing a deeper relationship. By October 2013 they were a couple and married in September of 2015. Together they shared books, taking turns reading aloud to each other, watching classic movies, cooking together, and they travelled to Cuba, France, and Italy. They attended the opera and the theatre in Winnipeg. They faithfully worked the Saturday Free Press crossword each week, and in short, enjoyed each other's company.

Following David's diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, he was able to remain at home for a couple of years, but in January 2021, was taken to the Arborg Hospital, waiting for a bed in a care home. The Betel Home became David's home for the last two years of his life. He loved the view from his window, overlooking the Gimli Viking Statue and the beautiful gardens surrounding it. Difficulties during Co-Vid presented some challenges with restrictions, but David enjoyed being able to get outside to sit in the sun and close his eyes, as he always had.

The family wishes to thank the staff of the Arborg Hospital, the Betel Home, and the Johnson Memorial Hospital for their kind and loving care of David.

If friends so wish, donations may be made in memory of David to the Parkinson's Society of Canada by calling 1-888-664-1973, the Lögberg-Heimskringla Inc, 835 Marion Street, Wpg, MB, R2J 0K6 or the Gimli Lutheran Church, Box 118, Gimli, MB, R0C 1B0.



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IN MEMORIAM



Ed Konopetcki
July 27, 1928- May 28, 2022

One year ago, our precious
Dad and Gigi
gained his angel wings and
said farewell to his earthly life
You held my hand when I was small,
You caught me when I fell;
The hero of my childhood,
And of latter years as well.
Every time I think of you,
My heart just swells with pride;
And though I'll always miss you Dad,
I know you're by my side.
In laughter and in sorrow,
In sunshine and in rain;
I know you're watching over me,
Until we meet again.

-Love you forever,
Connie, Darrell, Megan and Ryan
xoxo

IN MEMORIAM



David P. Blahey
January 23, 1946 - May 21, 2022

In loving memory
It's been a year since we lost David so
unexpectedly,
We carry on but know that you are loved and
missed every day.

-Ruth, Michael, Brad
and their families

OBITUARY

Mohamed El-Sayed Hawash

Mohamed El-Sayed Hawash of Gimli MB, aged 86, passed away on May 11, 2023. Mo is survived by his three sons, Hassan (Soha), Yussef (Stacy), Omar; their mother, Marie Hawash; grandchildren, Johnny, Elizabeth, Jana, Nate, Joud and many family members in his birthplace of Alexandria, Egypt. Mo had a long and impactful teaching career in Gimli, Baldur and Winnipeg, MB. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Condolences may be left on his tribute wall at www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY

James Henry Symynshen
July 7, 1944 – May 17, 2023



Peacefully, after a lengthy battle with lung and heart disease, Jim passed with his wife by his side.

Jim is survived by his wife Mary; sons Steven (Dawn), Corbin and Connor; Philip (Crystal); Jason (Michele), Tamara, Jayden and Jorja; sister Marion Stobert.

He was predeceased by his parents Nellie and Joseph Symynshen, brother Eddie and sister Jean Piche.

Jim loved the farm but after his health issues he sold the farm and moved to the House of Hope in Arborg.

Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 11 a.m. at Ukrainian Catholic Church in Arborg, with interment at Silver Cemetery. Reception to follow at Silver Community Centre.



Announcements

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OBITUARY

James Douglas Marks
1957 - 2023



Jim Marks passed away suddenly at his home in Gimli on Sunday, May 14, 2023.

He is survived by his wife, Irene, and his son, Thomas; by his sister Cathy (Ian Gerrard), brothers Glenn (Diane), Will and Ray (Sarah), and by his brothers and sisters-in-law Kris (Bill Perlmutter), Lynne Erickson (Otto Christensen), Thora (Pascal Delaquais), Karl (Darlene Fridfinnson), Glen (Yumi Kobayashi), Alma (Mark McCaffrey) and Lorna, and their families.

He was predeceased by his parents Lorne and Eleanor Marks, sister-in-law Vicki Marks, his parents-in-law Dr Bjarki and Borge Jakobson, his brothers-in-law Gestur Jakobson and Gunnar Valdimarsson, and his sister-in-law Tracy Jakobson.

Jim had a lot of friends in Strathclair and Newdale, where he grew up, and in Gimli, where he had lived since 2003.

There will be a longer obituary and details about the Celebration of Life on the Neil Bardal Inc. website at neilbardalinc.com as they are available.

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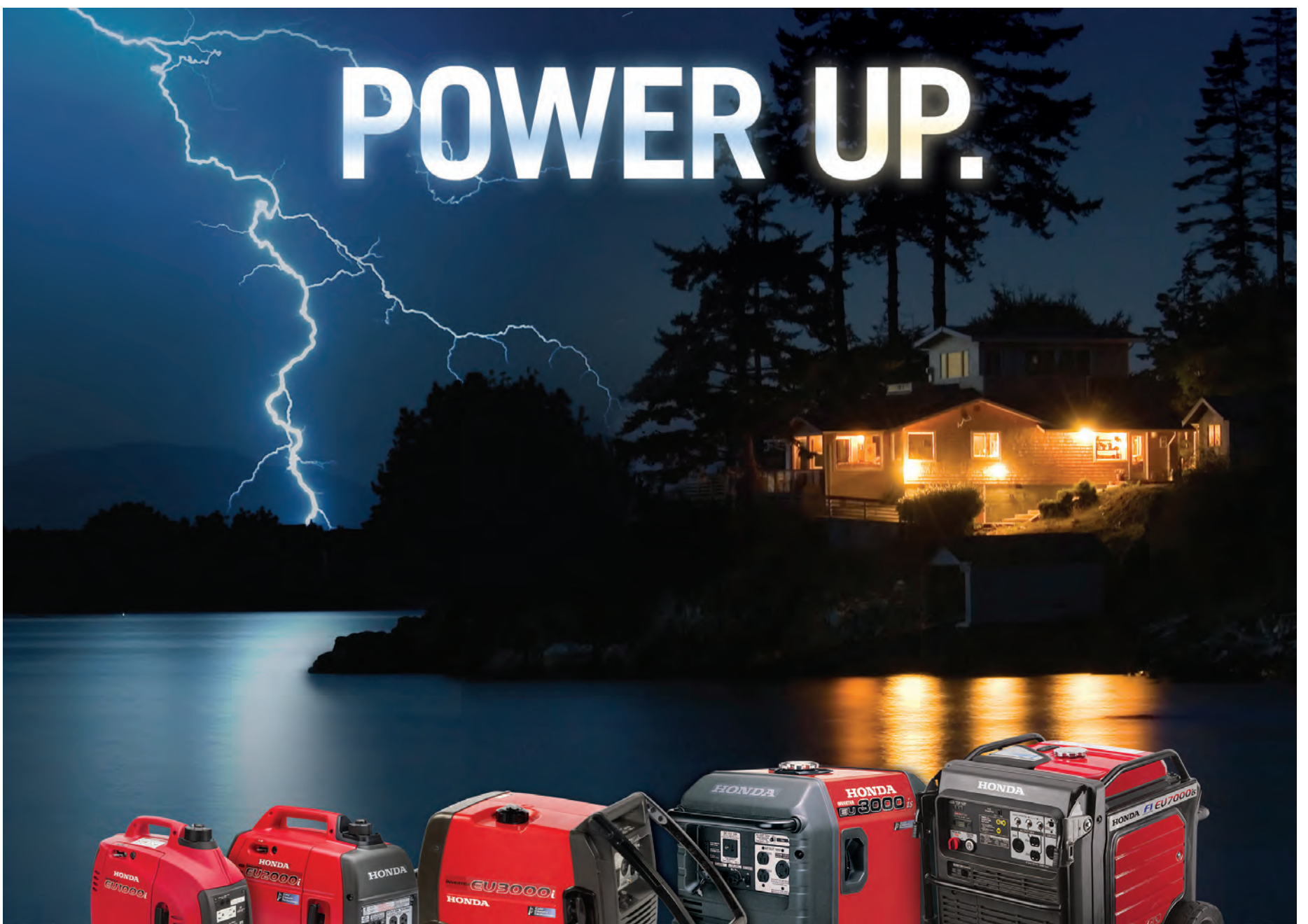
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