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Dino-mite find



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

I got a dinosaur! SSES student Kaven, left, and Olex were pretty pleased with their purchases during a garage sale the school held to help raise funds for a new playground.

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Sigurbjorg Stefansson students clean out the garage for new playground

By Patricia Barrett

Students at Gimli's Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School got down to some serious haggling last Friday morning during an in-school garage sale to raise funds for a new playground.

Members of the Terrific Kids Club, a Kiwanis-led fundraising club for grades 3 to 4 students, organized and helped staff the event, which saw great deals on new and gently used items that the 290 or so students donated to the event.

"They're not into the heavy fundraising like the bigger kids are in junior high and at the high school," said Kiwanian Margaret Stanicky, who provided a little bit of organizational know-how and guidance during the sale.

Last year, the school unveiled tentative plans for a nature-themed playground estimated at about \$200,000 for the play structures, landscaping and trees.

"Even a regular play structure costs over \$100,000," said principal Rosanna Cuthbert, who attended the garage sale. "We're going to do things on a smaller scale to try to get started with a little forest area."

The school has, thus far, raised \$85,000.

"I'm waiting on a grant right now,



Abby (left), who's a member of the Terrific Kids executive, and Olivia sold stuffies.

said Cuthbert. "And we'll keep raising money because they're just so expensive."

Students were happy to rifle through their closets and drawers for items they could donate to the cause.

In the gym, the Terrific Kids executive set up rows of tables displaying books, DVDs, stuffed animals, jewelry, decorations, bags, purses and toys ranging from 25 cents to \$1.

Grade 2 student Justice was thrilled to find a Live to Dance tin lunchbox, and Rilla nabbed a pair of stuffed li-

Continued on page 5



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Kiwanian Margaret Stanicky, Terrific Kids executive members Ava, Abby, Lily and principal Rosanna Cuthbert pose in front of a Canada 150 display containing messages students wrote about how they helped others.



Ava, a member of the Terrific Kids executive, drives a hard bargain on a piece of jewelry.



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Cuts to coast guard's inland search and rescue service will leave Gimli high and dry

By Patricia Barrett

Recreational boaters and fishers on Lake Winnipeg may be left high and dry if the federal government closes coast guard bases in Gimli and Selkirk.

The Union of Canadian Transportation Employees and the *Winnipeg Free Press* indicated last week that the department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) will be focusing its priorities on Canada's ocean coasts and withdrawing search and rescue and navigational aid services from Gimli, Selkirk and Kenora at an undetermined date.

DFO has not confirmed the closures on its website. It did not respond to the *Express*' request for information by press time Monday.

Rumours of the closures rippled through Gimli last week, upsetting members of the boating and fishing community and raising the ire of Mayor Randy Woroniuk, a retired provincial conservation officer with experience on Lake Winnipeg.

Woroniuk spent a week trying to verify the rumours after being contacted by CBC News. He said he placed calls

to the federal government, local politicians and the RCMP, spoke with local coast guard members — who told him they received "re-deployment" notices — and fielded calls from members of the fishing and boating community.

"We have the largest recreational boating and commercial fishing fleet in Canada based out of Gimli, plus all the First Nations," he said last Friday morning at the municipal building. "We're talking some pretty remote stretches. You go up to the North Basin of Lake Winnipeg, and there's parts of that lake where you can't see the shoreline on either side of you. If you get mechanical breakdowns and weather-related events, the coast guard's important. People have been relying on them to help in dire situations and now they're not going to be there?"

He said it's believed that the coast guard responded to 200 incidents last year on Lake Winnipeg between May and September.

As of Friday, Woroniuk had not received word from the federal government about the closure.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Gimli Mayor Randy Woroniuk (left) and Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton vowed to fight the federal government's decision to close Gimli's coast guard base.

"No consultation, no heads-up," he said. "I find that a total lack of respect for our community, not just for myself but for the boaters and users of this lake. They're [DFO] going to tell me on the last day of September that 'Oh,

we're not coming back?'"

Woroniuk's primary concern is for the safety of tourists and recreational boaters on a lake he calls "terrifying."

Continued on page 9



The RM of Gimli gave DFO municipal land last year so that it could build a slab for the Vakta search and rescue vessel and renovate the base's buildings.

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Loosening hog and manure legislation could put water at risk (Part 1)



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Lake Winnipeg at Valhalla Beach on April 19, 2017.

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government's proposal to allow hog barn expansion and change manure spreading legislation through its Red Tape Reduction and Government Efficiency Act (Bill 24) has raised the indignation of one Interlake resident and prompted calls from the opposition and the Lake Winnipeg Foundation to carefully weigh the implications of the proposal.

The province intends to modify the Environment Act by repealing Section

40.1, which deals with manure storage facilities and numbers of pigs, Section 40.2, which prohibits winter spreading of manure, and the schedule.

"A general prohibition on the construction or expansion of manure storage facilities for hog operations across Manitoba is eliminated. Also eliminated is the prohibition on winter spreading of livestock manure," states the bill's explanatory note.

Peter Marykuca, who has lived in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton for about 20 years, said hog manure spreading



Ditch along Road 124N at the junction of 17 E. on April 19, 2017.

is "a filthy business" and he has endured years of it.

He's concerned that Bill 24 will take the Interlake back to the Dark Ages.

From his home, he can smell area hog barns if the wind blows in his direction, and fields next to and nearby his residence were once layered with hog manure.

"When they were starting to spread years ago, trucks would come down with the tankers and spread it around these fields," said Marykuca, who took the *Express* on a tour in late April of the

back roads in the RMs of Bifrost-Riverton and Armstrong close to where two different hog companies have massive barns and manure-holding lagoons. "And they also had what they called the big gun. They were shooting it into the air, spreading it around, showing us how wonderful this state-of-the-art technology was. This is crazy. This is the Interlake."

And the Interlake is a spongy, flood-prone tract of land situated above underground waterways that bubble to the surface when the area is hit by a deluge.

In addition to what the removal of legislation may mean for the expansion of hog operations and manure spreading in Manitoba, Marykuca is concerned about runoff.

"Everything ends up in Lake Winnipeg. These lands are saturated," said Marykuca. "This is insanity, spreading millions of gallons of waste around. Our wells are good here, but there were places northwest of here where people were sick. Their wells had crap in them."

As if to prove his point about the flood-prone nature of the Interlake, we encountered several roads in the two RMs pitted with deep fissures from ditches that had spilled their banks, as well as roads that had been completely washed out.

All it takes is a good rain or a flood to wash the manure applied to land into the ditches, he said.

As we headed west between highways 8 and 7, he pointed out ditches thick with algae, which may be a sign of phosphorus overloading.

"Look at the algae starting to accumulate," he said. "This field was used as a spread field, I don't know for how

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Continued on page 8

Learn homesteading skills at upcoming festival

By Jennifer McFee

An upcoming festival offers a hands-on approach to old-school skills geared for a modern-day world.

Manitoba's DIY Homesteader Festival is coming to Teulon on June 24 for a full day of opportunities to learn valuable skills to lead a more sustainable lifestyle.

Held every second year, the event began in 2013 as a joint effort between husband and wife duo Mike Berg and Kris Antonius and their friends Adrienne and Trevor Percy.

"We were all hanging out together at their farm and talking about how grateful we are for the people in our lives who shared skills with us," Antonius said.

"We started talking about how it would be really fun to pay that forward and have a big community event where other people could come and connect and learn. So we decided to create our own dream festival."

The first two DIY Homesteader Festivals were held in 2013 and 2015 at the Percys' farm near Fraserwood. Now that the co-founding couple has relocated to Saskatchewan, the third rendition will take place in Teulon at Green Acres Park, with activities in Green Acres Art Centre, the rodeo grounds, the arena and the town hall.

The festival will feature more than 20 workshops and demonstrations on topics that range from beekeeping and butchering to tree tapping and composting toilets.

"We realize that people really have a desire to reconnect with the land and with these skills that our grandparents held. There are still people who hold the skills and we just have

to look around for them. More often than not, we find that they're very willing and eager to share their skills," Antonius said.

"It's about reconnecting with the land and those skills and finding inspiration. And even though you might feel kind of strange being a kombucha brewer or a mushroom cultivator in your backyard, you're not alone. There are actually quite a few people who are doing the same kind of things on a similar journey, so a lot of fest-goers love it for the connection to others."

Workshop leaders include Chris and Lindsay Kirouac, who own a property near Gimli where they keep beehives for their business Beproject Apiaries. In addition, Matlock-based Lori Frejek, also known as The Roving Spinner, will be hosting a pop-in wool-spinning workshop. Chris Friesen and Jennifer Leeck of Warren-based Eddlewood Farm will also be speakers at the festival, while other workshop leaders are coming from as far as Alberta and Ontario.

The family-friendly festival will include a DIY Kids' area with workshops and crafts. Musical entertainment will add to the overall festival atmosphere.

The event will also feature a market and food trucks, which will both be accessible to the public for a \$3 fee.

"I think it would be fun for anyone who doesn't want to attend the whole festival to come down anyways," Antonius said. "They could shop at the market and food trucks, supporting local producers and growers."

For her own family, they enjoy tackling DIY projects and using various skills they've acquired over the years.

"We're in the city and we have an ur-



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JANINE KROPLA AND JOSH DOOKHIE
Husband and wife duo Mike Berg and Kris Antonius and family are organizing the DIY Homesteaders Festival in Teulon on June 24.

ban homestead with a lot of fruit trees, bushes and a vegetable garden. We do wild crafting as well, so we'll harvest the plantain and chickweed and nettle from our yard and areas around our house to make herbal salves and teas," said Antonius, who used to work as a high school teacher.

"We homeschool, so a lot of our homeschooling involves trial and error. It's a pretty fun thing to do with kids. When they see a tiny seed has the capacity to grow into a giant pumpkin plant, they get more invested in wanting to eat these foods that are really good for them."

Until June 18, tickets for the DIY Homesteader Festival cost \$87 plus

GST for adults, half price for teens aged 13 to 18, and free for kids 12 and under. After that, the cost goes up to \$97 plus GST for adults, half price for teens and free for youngsters.

Tickets are available online at www.homesteaderfest.ca or in person at Generation Green at The Forks or Pollack Hardware at 550 Osborne St. and 1407 Main St. in Winnipeg.

Tickets must be purchased in advance, although some tickets might be available at the gate for walk-up attendees. The gate opens at 8 a.m. on June 24 and workshops start at 9 a.m. The day wraps up at 5 p.m.

For more information, visit www.homesteaderfest.ca.

> NEW PLAYGROUND, FROM PG. 2

ons.

Some students broke into spontaneous happy dances after they made a purchase. One student bounded across the entire length of the gym floor swinging her purchase high above her head while two others performed a graceful waltz.

The garage sale did more than raise much-needed money for the playground: it taught the members of the Terrific Kids Club the basics of democracy and instilled in them a sense of responsibility for the overall community.

"Each year we have a president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer," said Cuthbert. "It's a good opportunity for them to learn the democratic process. And I've been very impressed with them. You're not voting for your friends or for a popular person, but you're voting for somebody you think would do a really good job."

Assistant principal Krystal Isfeld said vying for positions on the Terrific Kids Club, which has about 42 members, essentially constitutes their first experience with democracy.

The garage sale will also serve as a vehicle for improving

students' English and communications skills.

"We use Twitter a lot," said Cuthbert. "When we're writing on Twitter, it's shared writing. They're editing, they're talking about punctuation and spelling and word choice. You write it together on a Smartboard. And the kids are so engaged in it. With Winnipeg Beach School, the kids are tweeting back and forth about their learning experiences."

The students are expected to tweet about their garage sale endeavour.

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getfishing

RED RIVER > CHALET BEACH > LAKE WINNIPEG

> ARNIE WEIDL Anything men can do, women can do too

Hi guys and gals.

I wanted to find us some different fishing stories somewhere along the Winnipeg River last Thursday and thought the pier in Lac du Bonnet might be a pretty good bet. The warm, sunny, fresh morning was beginning to bring the sunbathers out to the sandy beach that lay before the long dock. I strolled to its end where two old-timers, their fishing rods stuck in the handlebars of their scooters, swapped stories. Beside them, a tall grey-haired chap who would only give his name as "Bob" had the stance and presence of a vital energetic man. Soon we fell to talking of local fishing when Bob mentioned that in addition to the unique "tiger trout" in The Ponds north of town, they had just seeded 200 fingerling "albino trout" (which are actually gold to white coloured rainbow trout).

I wanted to visit with anglers at McArthur Falls, too, that morning, so I shook hands with the guys and not much later was scaling a huge rock outcropping beside the Winnipeg River near the hydro dam. Soon, I saw a lone angler clad only in shorts sitting on a flat rock shelf, basking in the sun. As I came up to him I inquired, "Did you catch anything yet?"

His solitary peace broken, a thin vigorous fellow sprang up with a large smile. "Only a small one," he responded. "I threw it back."

He said his name was Lynn Reykdal as we shook hands. We chatted about the fish, water and weather until a funny little story popped into his mind. Not long ago, he related, he was fishing with his four-year-old grandson, Scott, on the Red riverbank.

With their lines in the water, Lynn was looking around and enjoying his surroundings when he was snapped back to reality as he saw their dead bait minnows floating past him. Shocked, he looked down at Scott to see the little tyke tossing them into the drink, saying, "We let them go, papa?" Lynn didn't know quite what to say!

There's another great fishing story involving a little guy that came our way a few weeks ago. Interlakers Beckie Breidinger and her hubby took their son Lukas to fish at Chalet Beach. He's a two-and-a-half-year-old with a full, strong body, happy eyes, perpetual wide smile and short brown hair. On the beach, our junior angler became fidgety because he wasn't getting any action on his Spiderman rod. Suddenly, the rod tore from his hand. A giant carp surfaced, with Lukas's baited hook in its mouth. Mom reacted immediately, wading into the water grabbing the rod. She trudged back to shore and offered Lukas his rod so he might bring the giant in but he just shook his arms in rejection and scampered for higher ground. Mom and dad landed it, and as they measured, took pictures and released it, they couldn't help smiling as Lukas knelt in the sand by the fish, patting it saying, "Bye bye. You go in the water."

I was driving over the in-town Selkirk Bridge last Wednesday when I saw two gals riverbank fishing upstream. Turning onto the wooded area between the road and the river, I wobbled and bounced my way over the ruts to see if they had caught anything. I no sooner met sisters Corrine and Jennifer Lamarre from Winnipeg than Corrine's rod bent hard over as a



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL
Corrine, left, and Jennifer Lamarre of Winnipeg with the giant carp they caught on the Red.

master-sized carp (yep, another carp) appeared on the water rolling and showing its belly. I stood back as they worked together, one reeling in and the other with a huge net. They knew what they were doing, and with deft precision, they landed, measured and released the beast. After things settled down, Corrine recalled yesterday when they were fishing off the Selkirk pier. Some guy came along and, without being asked, grabbed Jennifer's rod, saying, "Here I'll show you how to cast!" He swung the rod out with great force but lost his grip and stood there embarrassed as it flew out of his hand, shooting like a rocket well out into the water. Corrine pushed him aside and cast out with stunning accuracy, snagging Jennifer's rig! The pushy guy turned head down and left. See you next week.

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Lake St. Martin First Nation displaced families receive 25 new homes

By Jeff Ward

The journey home will begin for displaced Lake St. Martin First Nation families as 25 new homes are expected to reach the community by the end of July.

It's been six years since the devastating flood of 2011 destroyed the First Nation community with nearly 1,400 evacuated. First Nation Chief Adrian Sinclair said that most evacuees now live in rented homes in Winnipeg but some are still living in hotels. Matix Lumber of Headlingley is building the 25 new homes, and Sinclair said 190 homes will be in the community by November.

The chief said he doesn't have the words to truly express how happy he is that this is finally happening for his people and that the road to get to this moment, when families and elders can start returning home, has been very difficult. Sinclair credits the new provincial and federal governments with finally getting the job done and doing what was needed for his community to return home.

"We still haven't negotiated our set-

tlement yet, but the homes were our top priority," said Sinclair.

"This is just the start, but the grand finale will be when the 190 homes are in the ground and ready for our families. The previous government gave us the run-around, but this new government helped get it done."

It's not all good news, unfortunately, since Sinclair said the community has suffered another loss. Another community elder passed away last week and it has added to an increasing list of Lake St. Martin residents who won't return home. CBC reported in April that at least 92 community members have died since the 2011 evacuation.

"Our community has been struggling to this environment in the city. We're not really adapting to city life. Many of us are having a hard time budgeting our finances because on the reserve we never had to pay for rent or water or things like that. It's been very hard, but I don't want to dwell on the past. I'm glad things are moving forward," said Sinclair.

He added that there would be a culture shock when families begin to re-



EXPRESS PHOTO VIA CBC

Twenty-five new homes will be in Lake St. Martin First Nation ready for families to move by the end of July, with another 190 expected by the end of November.

turn to the community and that they must remember they're not returning to the old community but rather they're returning to a new one with a

fresh start.

Sinclair said that an additional 130 homes would be added onto the 190 at some point next year.

Selkirk to host 4 Doors Aboriginal Art and Film Festival

By Maggie Wysocki

To help celebrate Canada's 150th, the Gwen Fox Gallery and Gaynor Family Regional Library are teaming up to present The 4 Doors Aboriginal Art and Film Festival on June 17 and 18.

"We really want our community to understand Indigenous experiences and we think this is a great way to do that," said Charley Waters, a committee member for the festival with the Gwen Fox Gallery.

The name for the festival was inspired by the Indigenous connection to the number four, says Waters, explaining the number is sacred because it represents power from the four directions.

"I think people will learn a lot from this festival," she added.

The festival will screen four films from Indigenous filmmakers, including Manitoban filmmaker Jackie Traverse, who is best known for her Indigenous art work and colouring book.

Since seating in the library's theatre is limited, the program will repeat over the two days to allow for as many people as possible to watch.

"We want everyone to be able to come and watch ... no matter what

their economic status is," Waters said.

In order to accomplish Waters' goal, the gallery has decided to make the tickets donation based from \$10, \$5 or free, depending what an attendee can afford.

The four films vary in length from three to 98 minutes, but all tell a story about Indigenous history in Canada. The Sixties Scoop, residential schools and land ownership are a few of the many themes the films explore.

Elder in the Making is the 98-minute award-winning film that follows two unlikely friends as they make their way across Blackfoot territory, learning from modern elders along the way.

Meanwhile, *Empty* is a five-minute animated film showing the relationship between a daughter and her estranged mother.

The festival won't only showcase films either. Other events to honour the Indigenous culture are scheduled, too, including a drum circle and smudge, a blessing from Elder Bill Shead and open-discussions following each film.

To secure a spot, Waters suggests picking up tickets for the festival in advance at the Gwen Fox Gallery during open hours.



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Students take part in bird finding expedition

By Jeff Ward

Fisher Branch Early Years School (FBEYS) Grade 4 students and Marble Ridge Colony School students explored the outdoors in a search of many different varieties of birds for a citizen scientist project.

The outing was part of Bird Studies Canada Schoolyard Bird Blitz that tasks students each spring to get out in their schoolyards and count the birds.

Joanne Smith, an avid bird watcher and music teacher, organized the blitz. Smith said the students had fun on their hunt and colony students were able to identify 19 different species of birds.

Marble Ridge had their blitz on May 12 and FBEYS conducted their blitz on May 19. Once their lists were tallied, Smith and the students submitted their findings to the Bird Studies Canada website through a tool called eBird. The bird tally asks for the date, location, latitude and longitude, temperature, wind, and if there was any precipitation. The data is used to help scientists monitor the health of bird populations.

"We did a Christmas bird count as well, so it was nice for students to see the difference in species in the spring," said Smith.

**"SINCE JAN. 1
IN OUR AREA
HERE, I'VE SEEN
210 DIFFERENT
SPECIES OF BIRDS
AND THERE ARE
STILL MORE TO
SEE."**

"Since Jan. 1 in our area here, I've seen 210 different species of birds and there are still more to see. The students got really excited when we started spotting birds and marking them down. I don't think many people realize how diverse the birds are in our area."

Avibase is a website that hosts "bird checklists of the world" and, according to their metrics, Manitoba has 403 difference species of bird and counting as of Jan. 8, 2017.

Smith said that much of the fun of bird watching comes from the rush you get when checking another one off your list. She explained that the students felt that rush and many of them were excited to find more.

"You have to be patient, of course, which can be difficult with 19 students. But I think it opened their eyes to something new and I think they also understand why it's important to stop and look at what's around us," said Smith.

Becoming a "citizen scientist" is the main goal, Smith said, and having them notice the natural beauty and diversity around them will likely make them more passionate about wanting to help preserve it.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY SHEENA LETEXIER
Joanne Smith took students at Marble Ridge Colony School and Fisher Branch EYS on a journey to find and catalogue bird species as citizen scientists.

> HOG, FROM PG. 4

many years, and we asked Conservation about it. I don't know if they ever fined anybody."

If you travel the back roads west to east right down to the shoreline of Lake Winnipeg, you'll see ditch water in a multitude of colours. At Valhalla Beach in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton, and at the end of Fifth Avenue North in the RM of Gimli, the water making its way into the lake had red, yellow and brown hues.

The RM of Gimli banned hog operations in the mid-1990s. But runoff from the west — and whatever it may contain — flows through the municipality and winds up in Lake Winnipeg.

"The coloured water may indicate a number of things," said retired University of Winnipeg scientist Eva Pip. "It is hard to say without taking a look at it — it may be waste, it may be iron oxides, it may be dissolved organic matter such as humic acids [or] it may be a type of haematochromic alga (a red Euglena) that turns the water this colour. However,

if it stinks, it is likely waste."

Pip said she wrote a report and submitted it to the province regarding Bill 24.

"It's unbelievable that changes of such magnitude will have no public discussion," she said.

The "wholesale" spreading of waste on fields has a number of drawbacks.

"The nutrients like phosphorus and nitrogen escape into ditches and streams: our own work has demonstrated this," said Pip. "This results in algal blooms that may be toxic to animals and people, and promotes eutrophication and eventual ecosystem degradation. Nitrate in well water can make people ill (methemoglobinemia)."

She also cited organic matter escaping into the water and depleting oxygen, and heavy metals and salts in waste, E. coli and various other pathogens and pharmaceuticals making their way into the water.

"Groundwater aquifers may be irreversibly contaminated."

In addition to the smell of pig barns, Pip said air-

borne contaminants can make people sick.

"The volatile gases like hydrogen sulphide and ammonia [from hog operations] can make downwind residents ill," she said.

Marykuca said the 1990s under Gary Filmon's government were akin to the Wild West as far as manure spreading and environmental health monitoring went, and it took a few years to convince the incoming NDP government to implement legislation to limit the size of hog operations and ban winter manure spreading.

"The NDP started tightening up," he said. "Now Mr. Pallister wants to make it easy again."

Marykuca said it is "plain dumb" to even think about permitting the spread of waste on frozen or snow-covered fields.

The province's proposal to amend the Environment Act has the Lake Winnipeg Foundation and the opposition NDP concerned (see Part 2 in a forthcoming edition of the *Express*).

Thank you!

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Touch a Truck family friendly fundraiser

By Jeff Ward

The St. Laurent Aboriginal Head Start Program is hosting a first-time fundraiser that will feature large construction vehicles, fire trucks and even a helicopter for young children to climb inside.

The event is called Touch a Truck, and organizer Myrna Lavallee said that it is a family-friendly event that will give children the opportunity to get up close and personal with some very impressive machines.

The event takes place Saturday, June 17 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the parking lot of the St. Laurent Recreation

Centre and tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for a family.

Lavallee, who is the assistant director of outreach for the program, said that among the many vehicles will also be other fun activities including horse-drawn wagon rides, a pancake breakfast, barbecue, canteen, face painting and more. Lavallee hopes that the attendees will be excited at the prospect of being able to climb up inside these massive vehicles and explore.

The Head Start Program provides a much-needed service in the Interlake that focuses on improving the quality of life for Aboriginal families through

positive contemporary and traditional teachings.

The program focuses on a successful transition into kindergarten and elementary levels of education and also provides community members with information that is designed to enhance their Aboriginal pride.

Lavallee said that she is very excited to bring a new exciting event like this to the area.

"I think especially the helicopter will be something to bring people out," said Lavallee.

"We're always looking to do new events in our community for our fun-

draising and figured this would be a great way for kids to see these trucks up close and also a nice community-building event between our local contractors and families."

For many children, these vehicles aren't going to be sitting in their driveway, so the chance to satisfy their curiosity about them is a fun experience, said Lavallee. She hopes it will be an event that is educational and fun for families.

Tickets can be purchased at the gate during the event.

> CUTS TO COAST GUARD, FROM PG. 3

"If anybody knows the water, it's the commercial [fishers]. These guys grew up on the water. They know when not to go out and they have a pretty good internal safety-net," he said. "But it's the recreational boaters, those are the ones that may take risks, who may not know the places where they shouldn't go ... where the reefs and shoals are located. A recreational boater, because of his [lack of] time on the water, may not know where those are. He may get himself into trouble through no fault of his own and somebody may have to go rescue him."

Woroniuk said he was told by members of the local RCMP that they've been tapped to assume responsibility for search and rescue operations.

"In my opinion, I don't think they're [RCMP] prepared at all," he said. "Their boat isn't large enough and I don't believe they have the staffing. Even their experience — maybe on a nice calm day they've got certified people that can run their boat. But what if there's a search and rescue

that's not in calm conditions? Do they have the people capable of running Lake Winnipeg during a tempest? I would say they don't."

The RCMP did not respond to the *Express'* request for comment.

The *Free Press* indicated last Saturday the province and municipalities will be expected to "step up and fill the gap."

Woroniuk had said Friday there are very few conservation officers in the department of Sustainable Development capable of carrying out a dangerous rescue operation.

"It's not their mandate," he said.

That was the position of Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton when asked whether the province would consider providing the service.

"It's federally mandated," said Wharton, referring to Lake Winnipeg during a joint press conference he held with Woroniuk Friday afternoon at Gimli Harbour.

Calling the lake "volatile," Wharton said recreational boaters and fishers

"need the assurance that the coast guard will be there."

"Being a fellow boater myself out of Winnipeg Beach, I can appreciate their concerns," he said. "This lake blows up in a matter of 20 minutes. And what that means is that it can go from a calm day to six- to 10-foot swells."

Wharton reiterated the concerns he had put to pen in a June 1 press release.

"Lake Winnipeg is a hub for both commercial fishers and a vibrant tourism industry in our area..." he wrote. "My constituents and the thousands of visitors we welcome every year depend on the Canadian Coast Guard to ensure their safety while on the waters of Lake Winnipeg."

During the press conference, he criticized the federal government for a lack of communication about the closures.

Woroniuk said the federal government made an announcement last year in Gimli about upgrades to the coast guard's base and that the RM had agreed — despite some local op-

position — to hand over a parcel of land for the expansion.

"They spent a million-plus dollars on a building, and we went through a whole land transfer with them," he said. "The slab is for the Vakta boat. We've got this nice big building. What are they going to do with that?"

Both Wharton and the mayor said they'll advocate to keep the coast guard afloat in Gimli.

"We're not going to give up without a fight," said Wharton. "This is a huge issue of safety."

For now, the mayor said there's a sense of uncertainty about what will happen if there's an incident on the lake.

"How is it going to be dealt with?" said Woroniuk. "That's my question."

He said he'll be working with council, the province and stakeholders to convince the federal government to keep the base open.

"I hope they'll listen to us," said Woroniuk. "To be honest with you, just the way they've sprung this on us, I can't see a lot of co-operation, which is very disappointing."

Dust control program deadline looming

By Jeff Ward

The deadline to have any section of gravel road treated for dust control within the RM of West Interlake is quickly approaching, and any applications for the program need to be submitted to RM offices by next Friday.

The dust control program is an optional gravel treatment handled by Fort Distributors of the RM of

St. Andrews. The company applies a treatment of magnesium chloride that reacts with the surrounding air and resists evaporation. The magnesium coagulates with the fine dust particles from the gravel to stabilize the soil and reduce the need for road repairs.

Dolly Lindell, administrative assistant for the Eriksdale office, said that many of the highly trafficked rural

roads become very dusty over the summer and residents purchase the application of the magnesium chloride to keep it out of their homes and yards.

Perhaps more importantly, Lindell said, is that residents don't want their visibility impaired when leaving their property, and the dust can be a significant hazard on busier roads.

The application is purchased at a cost of .33 cents/litre and any resident looking to take part in the program has to pay the RM up front for the costs. Applications can be obtained at either the Eriksdale or Ashern RM offices or from the RM website at www.rmofwestinterlake.com.

The deadline for applications is Friday, June 16.

His fiddle was his voice

By Jeff Ward

Following the passing of local musician Emile Lavallee, his wife is remembering him in his brightest and most powerful moments.

Lavallee spent nearly his entire life playing music on his fiddle. The instrument not only brought joy to Lavallee's life but to those who surrounded him. His wife Marcelle describes it as his joie de vivre and a passion that is deeply rooted in his Métis heritage.

Lavallee might be best known around the Interlake for his involvement in the band Country Pride, which he played with for 23 years. Lavallee's family was very musical since his mother played the piano and his brother and sister played guitar and fiddle.

"He started playing when he was five years old, and when he was 10, people started asking him to play at house parties. His parents would have to come pull him away and tell him that there was school the next day," said Marcelle.

His passion for the fiddle and music in general led Lavallee on a journey that would take him all over the country. In 1992, he was asked to represent the Métis nation in Ottawa at the Parliament Building and at Rideau Hall. He was asked to play for Radio Canada in Regina with a group of Métis fiddlers to a record an album titled *Drops of Brandy* to help keep traditional fiddling music alive.

Lavallee was also asked to play at the Smithsonian Museum when the community of St. Laurent was asked to represent the Métis nation in a new exhibit. During this time, Lavallee played at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., and his first fiddle was displayed in the exhibit at the Smithsonian.

Since 2002, Lavallee has been honoured with many awards including the Queen's Gold Medal for his involvement in the community and the Prix Louis Riel for Arts and Culture. He is also on St. Laurent's Wall of Fame and in the Morden Hall of

Fame, among other honours.

"I think he was living to play music. It was his passion to play. We've been married for 25 years and I think I fell in love with him because of his music. It was so peaceful to listen to him play, and the way it moved people was amazing. He would come home after a night of playing at 3 a.m. and I would wait up for him and ask how it went. He would say, 'People danced and it was great,' and I felt great to hear those stories," said Marcelle Lavallee.

His wife describes him like many others did — a gentle and kind man who was a bit shy. But when Lavallee had his fiddle in his hands and got on stage, he shone brightly and could get even the most stubborn people up and moving to the music.

That, of course, made it all the more difficult when Lavallee had to put down his fiddle for good two years ago due to his battle with Alzheimer's.

"He would play with [Country Pride] and would start on a different note than he was supposed to and then go into an entirely different song. [His bandmates] asked him to

step aside and I think he knew it was coming. You could tell it was very hard for them to ask him to do that, but it was the right decision. When I think about it, I'm ready to cry," said Marcelle.

Tragically, the disease took Emile's life on March 21. He was 86.

"We had his funeral and played music from his CD and it was really heartwarming. Emile had a wonderful life, a full life. It's tough without him, but I take it one day at a time," said Marcelle.

It's very fitting for those who knew Emile Lavallee so well and were often brought joy from his music to be once again be lifted up and comforted by those same songs. To be the soundtrack at your own funeral might be the perfect way to say goodbye.

Lavallee's impact on those who heard his music will be remembered through his many albums and live shows. But his impact on those who knew him

"HE WOULD SAY, 'PEOPLE DANCED AND IT WAS GREAT,' AND I FELT GREAT TO HEAR THOSE STORIES."



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Emile Lavallee left an indelible mark on those who knew him well and those who heard his music. Through his trusty fiddle, he was able to bring joy and love in the melodies he played.

best in St. Laurent leave much stronger memories behind. Lavallee managed Rice Sportswear in St. Laurent for 10 years and had 37 employees working for him at one point. He eventually became a building inspector and was even elected to council.

"My grandson was asking me about Emile the other day because he never got to hear him play. He said that he was sad knowing that Emile's passion was his fiddle and that when he had to leave it behind, it was the end of an era for him," Marcelle said.

"But he played until he was 84 years old. He had a full musical life. He always wanted to be involved in the community and was very generous with his time, especially when it came to music, and I think he lived for that."

Auditions underway for Interlake Youth Choir

Staff

The search is on for young singers who would like to participate in the 2017 Interlake Youth Choir.

Auditions are underway in person or by video submission for singers who will be in grades 9 to 12 this fall, with a deadline of June 14.

Choir members will spend one weekend together at Camp Arnes from Oct. 13 to 15 along with conductor Justin Odwak. After that, they will wrap up by performing two concerts on Sunday, Oct. 15, with one in Stonewall and one in Gimli.

Recently, a fundraising concert brought in nearly \$1,000 for the 2017

Interlake Youth Choir (IYC). The May 25 event brought together members of the Quarry Choristers, the Selkirk Community Choir and the IYC 2016 Reunion Choir.

The 2016 IYC made history as the first regional youth choir in the area. In total, 27 singers participated in the Camp Arnes weekend in 2016, followed by concerts in Arborg and Selkirk. The group benefited from the talents of guest conductor Scott Reimer and accompanist Beth Emmers.

For more information about how to audition for the Interlake Youth Choir, visit www.iychoir.wix.com/home or email iychoir@gmail.com.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Premier to make pit stop in Arborg during mid-June bike tour

Staff

Premier Brian Pallister will be making a pit stop in Arborg June 16 during a bike tour he's undertaking from Hodgson to Selkirk in honour of the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Selkirk Treaty.

In March, the premier announced he'd cycle 160 kilometres over the course of three days (June 16 to 18) carrying messages from Manitobans that express gratitude for the role In-

digenuous people played in the formation of the province.

"The legacy of an extraordinary friendship between Lord Selkirk and Chief Peguis laid the foundation for what would later become Manitoba," said Pallister in a March 20 news release.

Chief Peguis helped provide food and shelter to Scottish and Irish settlers between 1812 and 1815, and Lord Selkirk signed a treaty with five In-

digenuous leaders to grant each land, including land for Chief Peguis' band at St. Peter's in East Selkirk, states the release.

Pallister will be hosting a dinner June 16 at the Arborg Hotel from 5 to

7 p.m. The food will be sourced from Manitoba producers. Tickets for the dinner cost \$100. If unable to attend the dinner, people can donate \$50. RSVP to Heather at 204-641-2983.

Lundar RCMP respond to missing boaters on Lake Manitoba

Staff

Lundar RCMP received a call about four missing boaters on Lake Manitoba at approximately 11:45 p.m. on June 1. Information was received that they had launched earlier the same day near Oak Point, off Highway 6, and were overdue to return.

RCMP, along with local emergency services, conducted multiple shore searches overnight without success.

The following morning, the RCMP, along with assistance from commu-

nity boaters, began lake patrols.

Three survivors, all residents of Lundar — two men, ages 36 and 53, and a 37-year-old woman — were eventually located on the eastside lakeshore, north of their launching point.

A 54-year-old woman from Oak Point was found deceased nearby. The boat was later found submerged near the shoreline.

It is unknown at this time if any of boaters were using life jackets.

The investigation is continuing.

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AT OUR NEW LOCATION

RCMP work with local fire departments for car seat checkstop

By Jeff Ward

Lundar RCMP teamed up with Eriksdale and Lundar fire departments to hold a public service checkstop for child car seats last weekend.

Lundar RCMP Sgt. Richard Marshall said he set up the check stop to offer an important public service to the many families in the area. Highway 6 is a busy highway, and Marshall wants families to be as safe as possible.

He was in contact with the Lundar and Eriksdale fire departments and took an MPI course to learn the ins and outs of car seat safety. Marshall explained that with so many manufacturers of car seats and all the different makes and models of vehicles, it can be a very difficult prospect to safely and correctly install a car seat.

The checkstop was held this past Sunday at the Havakeen Lunch in Eriksdale and saw eight vehicles come by for inspection.

"We would've liked more to come by, but we're happy to help those who did," said Sgt. Marshall.

"We're there to give advice and show

the techniques that we've learned about how to properly use the safest equipment possible. Regular car seats aren't made for kids; they're made for adults. So this was a good opportunity for us to be out in the public, give some good information and help keep people safe."

Craig Pottinger, fire chief for the Eriksdale fire department, echoed Marshall's desire to help keep families safe on the road. He explained that there is no shortage of people who could use a service like the one they provided over the weekend and that it was a learning experience for everyone.

"We made sure to check the seats and straps, make sure they're tight and show them how to straps work. It was great to work together with the RCMP and Lundar fire department on this, and I think we'll definitely run this again in the future and hope to draw in more people," said Pottinger.

Marshall said that anyone looking for assistance who wasn't able to attend over the weekend can call Ashern and



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CRAIG POTTINGER

Members of the RCMP and Eriksdale and Lundar fire departments were on hand last Sunday to help install and look over car seats during a public service checkstop. From left: Const. Malcolm, Jen Heroux, Const. Ducharme, Craig Pottinger and Randy Mason.

Lundar RCMP detachments for help. Alternatively, contacting Lundar and Eriksdale fire departments will also

connect families with those who can double check if car seats are installed correctly.



Summer pit stops in the Interlake



ERIKSDALE

Events to look forward to in Eriksdale.

This August 18, 19 & 20th Eriksdale will be having their 13th Annual Creamery Days held at the Eriksdale Creamery Museum.

Activities include a pancake breakfast (at the Eriksdale Recreation Centre), parade, guest speakers, BBQ, live entertainment and kids activities.

Fair and Rodeo is held at the McEwen Park Rodeo Grounds. Events include, Barrel Racing, Horse Shoe Tournaments, Tractor Pull, Heartland Rodeo, Beer Gardens and Canteen.

Saturday evening entertainment by Rob McLane & Against The Grain. This is just one of the great reasons to stop in to Eriksdale this summer.

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Your Wedding

Bridezilla BE GONE



Bride-to-be, are you struggling to keep your cool as you plan for your rapidly approaching big day? If so, take a look at the top five potential sources of wedding-day drama and our tips to on how to deal.

Potential drama source #1: the planning

It is completely normal to want everything to be perfect for what may be the happiest day of your life. But there's a difference between irritable at times and disagreeable all the time!

Our tip: If you can afford to hire a wedding planner, drop everything and do so right away before skipping to #2. Otherwise, start early — as in, not the month before D-day. Make an exhaustive to-do list and be willing to delegate some tasks to people you trust — but stand your ground and don't let anyone else take control of your day.

Potential drama source #2: the dress

You've always dreamed of a fairy-tale ball gown with all the trimmings, but a look in the fitting room mirror reveals the cold, hard truth: you could be mistaken for the wedding cake.

Our tip: Don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone, and trust the advice given by trained boutique staff — it's their job

to make you look and feel great, after all. When it comes to dresses for your bridal party, just remember the cautionary scene in Bridesmaids. To avoid having your BFFs wish they'd never met you, let them choose a style that suits both their silhouette and their budget. You have final say on the colour, though!

Potential drama source #3: the other half

Ever since you announced your engagement you've been sending out rather mixed messages. You want your fiancé to add his touch to the wedding, but you keep shooting down his ideas. You won't stop saying that all that matters is to have fun on the big day, but keep reminding your soon-to-be husband that his buddies better be on their best behaviour — or else.

Our tip: Instead of wasting precious time and energy on bickering, take a deep breath and remember that a wedding involves two people. The big day should be a reflection of you as a couple (of which you're both equal parts).

Potential drama source #4: social media

Are you a tad obsessed with turning your online followers green with envy at the sight of your picture-perfect wedding posts?

Our tip: It takes more than a vintage filter (or four) to achieve professional-worthy results to share on your feed. It also takes more than a DSLR camera to be a wedding photographer, so do your homework and hire someone worthy of the title. And about those DIY decorations that bloggers and magazine writers always advertise as "super-easy to make": run a few trial sessions with some of your artistically gifted friends, and refrain from angrily ripping up your creation because it's not identical the Pinterest post you were trying to emulate. Not everyone is an arts-and-crafts wizard — you can hire a decorator, you know.

Potential drama source #5: your mirror

The thought of waking up on your wedding day with a huge zit (or a cold sore, or a sunburn, or massive dark circles or a creepy third eye) might keep you up at night, but these things do happen (well, most of them anyway).

Our tip: To avoid feeling like you should keep your veil on all day (or worse, take flight à la Runaway Bride), have your beauty team — hair whisperer, makeup queen, et al. — by your side to doll you up before you walk down the aisle. And don't sweat the small stuff! No blemish in the world is big enough to steal your thunder.

You'll see — your wedding is going to be absolutely beautiful. You know why? Because it'll be yours. And, most of all, because you'll have successfully preserved both your loved ones' sanity and your own — that's what we'd call a happy ending.

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Your FARM



Fight continues with PED virus

By Harry Siemens

The count now is up to 10 cases so far of the PED virus in the Manitoba hog industry.

Dr. Glen Duizer of the Office of Manitoba's Chief Veterinary Officer said there are multiple factors in play with the recent spread of PED in the southeast.

"There are certainly linkages to things such as staff movement to transport, potential contaminations on areas such as load outs," he told a telephone town hall Friday. "We also have some external service providers that may be a link, and we're following up with some of those."

"So far, I would say that things such as feed and feed movements and deadstock have not been linked to the spread of the disease, but we're

continuing to follow up. As far as the bigger areas, maybe not associated with movements particular to a given premise, we've looked at things such as drainage and weather patterns, equipment movements, manure application, shared areas such as transport scales.

"We're following up on that type of situation as well. There may be some linkages there."

Duizer said the industry has some risks associated with movement of partial loads where a load is filled at one site then moved to another to complete the load.

"Transport routes themselves, because these areas are close to high-risk high traffic sites such as provincial packing plants and assembly yards, but even then, the transport routes associated with those sites that

we did a fair bit of work changing last year, they don't quite match up to the full pattern here either," he said.

Duizer said definitely they're looking at a spread that appears to be happening primarily within geographic areas.

"Six of those farms are in one rough geographic area in what we call roughly a five-kilometre boundary from each infected farm," he said. "That five-kilometre boundary encompasses 33 other premises. Of the six farms in that area, two are farrowing operations and four are finisher operations."

"This is the same area that broke with PED ... relatively close to the same area that broke with PED in the spring of last year in 2016."

Duizer said there is a second area that has three farms break in it. Those

are two farrowing operations and one finisher operation, and there are 12 other operations in that area.

"Three of them are cell operations, but I would also add that four of the 12 operations in that area are currently empty. They don't have any pigs in them. This second area is an area that broke with PED in the fall of 2014 and the fall of 2016. We have one additional premise that is outside either area but has a direct animal movement from one of the cell barns in the second area before that cell barn observed clinical signs," he said.

"We actually linked that finisher operation that's outside the two areas back to the second area. We don't consider it a third outbreak area."

Continued on page 15



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> PED, FROM PG. 14

Duizer said currently all sites are under biocontainment and control procedures. They are at various stages of cleanup and moving forward with taking infected animals off those sites.

In the cases of the finisher operations, the vast majority of those animals are being moved to the U.S. for slaughter to avoid contaminating packing plants here in Manitoba. As well, the weanlings from the farrowing operations are being moved directly to packing plants in the U.S. and not moving into any assembly yards here in Manitoba.

"Life would be a lot easier if we fully understood how this organism is getting into the farms," said Andrew Dickson, general manager of Manitoba Pork.

"It doesn't walk in itself. It's being brought in. It's being brought in by humans in some way, and of course,

there's always this thought of rats bringing it in. Or is it getting in in bird droppings, in feed or something," said Dickson.

"The thinking right now is that it's in the environment somehow, and it's being walked into the barns.

"The producers are stepping up the whole security issue around their barns, like where employees park their cars and that sort of thing ... the whole procedures of going into a barn in terms of the various stages that you go through to get clean. Then there is the issue of how do employees in multiple farm sites move around the facilities without bringing contamination in."

The industry is setting up a disease management area that could involve 30 to 40 farmers in the area between Niverville and Steinbach.

Ashern Pioneer Museum to host annual multicultural day

By Jeff Ward

A community-building event that is about sharing the wonderful differences between cultures are only weeks away and organizers are hoping for a good turnout.

The second annual Ashern Pioneer Museum Multicultural Day will take place on June 16 from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and is being organized by museum board members and Fieldstone Ventures Education Centre staff.

The goal of the event is simple: to share and learn about different cultures in the area while celebrating what makes them special. And what better place to host the event than a place built around recognizing the cultural significance and history of what made Ashern what it is today.

The event will feature a culinary exhibition, tour of the museum, scavenger hunt and other activities, and admission is only \$2.

Museum board vice-president and organizer June Price said that with so many new people immigrating to the area, she wants them to feel welcome. She wants to learn and celebrate their culture, and an event like this is a

great way to do it she said.

"Ashern is a hodgepodge of all different cultures and we should be celebrating that," said Price.

"It's always fun to learn about the culture and heritage of someone else. I want to taste their food and hear their music. If someone chooses to move here and work in the hospital or start a business, we have to work to make sure they feel welcome. We want to grow as a community."

Ashern, in Price's eyes, isn't a place where newcomers will be assimilated, but rather their cultures will be appreciated and given room to flourish. If Winnipeg can have thriving Hindu, Filipino and Korean communities, why can't Ashern?

Price said that the goal of the event is to begin fostering that sense of passion about other cultures.

"It's a great way to get the community together for a fun event and some good food. And that's what it's all about," said Price.

Anyone wanting to submit a dish for the culinary exhibition is asked to contact Gwen Thorlacius at 204-768-3255 for more information.

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* Theoretical Productivity is based on the full operating width of the machine at an average speed of 10MPH (16KM/H)



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JULIE BERGNER

Ashern Multicultural Day last year was a big hit with locals seen here sampling cuisine from around the world. The event returns to the Ashern Pioneer Museum on June 16.

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SIX RENOVATION PROJECTS to tackle during the summer

The sunny season is finally back! With its high temperatures and long, clear days, summer is the perfect time of year to tackle those outstanding tasks that you’ve been “meaning” to get around to. Take advantage of the pleasant days ahead to accomplish these six home renovation projects.

1. Repave the driveway

If your driveway is in (very) bad condition and showing signs of wear like cracks or crevasses, it’s high time to take action. Did you know that summer is the best season to repave? Indeed, high outdoor temperatures are necessary to achieve optimal results that will stand the test of time. So, give your driveway some much-needed attention this summer!



2. Repair the roof

It’s a fact: bad weather (rain, wind, snow, ice, etc.) can cause serious damage to your roof. This summer, enlist the help of a professional to determine if your roof is in need of repairs (or a complete overhaul). Have your roofer check for damaged or missing shingles, mould, clogged gutters, etc. Regular inspections are essential to prevent water leaks and other inconveniences that can result from poor roof maintenance.

3. Replace the windows and doors

Are you all too familiar with infiltration (water or air) or insulation problems? If your windows and doors have served their time, or if you simply wish to modify the look of your home with newer units, keep in mind that summer is the ideal time to replace them. In addition to not having to worry about heat loss, you won’t have to sacrifice home comfort during the installation phase since outside temperatures are (almost) always agreeable at this time of year. If your windows and doors don’t need replacing, take advantage of the warmer days to make them sparkle.



4. Refresh your home’s facade

Is your home’s facade looking a little lacklustre these days? This summer, take the opportunity to give it a well overdue facelift! If you don’t have the budget for major renovation work, a simple high-pressure cleaning and a fresh coat of paint can significantly rejuvenate the look of your humble abode.

5. Restore your deck

Is your deck a little on the tattered side? Make it look as good as new with a fresh coat of stain or varnish. For longer lasting results, always opt for a special weather-resistant product. Is your deck damaged beyond repair? Why not take advantage of the beautiful weather to build a brand new one?

6. Revamp the landscaping

When it comes to working on your yard, pleasant summer weather is your greatest ally. Does your home’s landscaping leave a lot to be desired? Embellish your outdoor space by planting colourful flowers, trimming your hedges, building a stone walkway, etc. In short, take advantage of the summer months to transform your yard into that beautiful oasis you’ve been dreaming of!



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Home & Yard

Three helpful tips for cleaning your garage

If you're dying to spend hours cleaning out the garage this summer, raise your hand! Nobody? How surprising! Jokes aside, this chore can prove to be much less of a burden if you follow these three helpful tips. So, roll up your sleeves and let's get to work!

1. **Unclutter.** Have you accumulated a collection of disparate items over the years, telling yourself that they may one day come in handy? Chances are, you've long forgotten about most of those objects that now overcrowd your garage. If they're still in good condition, donate them to charity or organize a (real) garage sale. Any broken or potentially toxic objects should be thrown away. Check with your municipality to find out where, when and how you can safely

dispose of hazardous waste.

2. **Clean.** Before cleaning your garage from top to bottom, make sure to put on gloves, safety glasses and a dust mask — there's nothing luxurious about the task at hand. Using a broom, scrape the ceiling and walls to loosen debris and cobwebs, and then scoop everything up with a broom or vacuum cleaner, making sure to get into all those easy-to-miss nooks and crannies. Next, wash the walls, floor and other surfaces (shelves, cabinets, etc.) with a powerful cleansing solution that's suitable for use on the affected surfaces. Once the cleaning is done, open the windows and doors to allow the space to air-dry quicker.

3. **Organize.** A well-organized garage isn't just visually pleasing —

it's a lot safer! Optimize your floor space by installing shelving units, hooks and any other type of storage system you can find at your local hardware store. Similarly, to make the most of your wall space and keep things clutter-free, tools, seasonal equipment and other materials should each have their own designated spot up on the wall.

And there you have it: your garage is as clean and organized as ever! Now, all that remains is to admire the end result before you resume your summer activities.



Do you have a garage to clean? Listen to your favourite music to make the task almost enjoyable.



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Dogs and their owners needed for world record

Bark in the Park event is planned for June 17 at Shaw Park in Winnipeg

By Natasha Tersigni

In an attempt to break the Guinness Book World Record for the most dogs to attend a sporting event, Stonewall Veterinary Hospital needs your help and the help of your furry friend.

On June 17, the Winnipeg Goldeyes Baseball Club and the Winnipeg Veterinary Care Group, which the Stonewall Veterinary Hospital is a member of, are presenting the second annual Bark in the Park event.

Bark in the Park invites all dog owners (no cats) to come to the Shaw Park and take in a baseball game. With the purchase of a \$14 Bark in the Park ticket, owners will receive one free seat for their dog in a special section.

With the success of last year's event, the Goldeyes are hoping to claim the World Record for the most dogs in attendance at a professional sporting event, which is currently held by the

Chicago White Sox for hosting 1,122 dogs and their owners.

"The Winnipeg Goldeyes applied and got accepted by the Guinness Book of World Records to attempt to have the most dogs at a professional sporting event, and their organization is pretty excited about it. They expect their number to double the number of dogs from last year," said Winnipeg Veterinary Care group administrator Andrea Render.

"It is a great opportunity for us as veterinary professionals to meet clients outside of a clinic environment. We will have a booth there where they can meet our team members. We really like events like these that help support that relationship between pets and their owners."

For more information on the event or to purchase tickets, go to goldeyes.com.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Stonewall Veterinary Hospital, a member of the Winnipeg Veterinary Care Group, and the Winnipeg Goldeyes Baseball Club will be hosting the second annual Bark in the Park on June 17. Organizers are encouraging dog owners to take in the game with their pet with hopes of breaking the Guinness Book World Record for the most dogs at a professional sporting event.

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Driving Tips for Summer Trips

More fatalities occur on Canadian roads during the summer months than at any other time of year, including the winter holiday season. Alcohol, fatigue and aggressive driving are often implicated in these tragedies. Whether you're out for a day trip, travelling to the cottage or on a cross-country holiday, the Canada Safety Council urges all Canadians to put safety first when you set out on your summer travels.

Prepare your vehicle

Before leaving on vacation, have your vehicle checked by your local service provider to make sure everything is working properly. Get them to repair or replace worn parts to avoid the worry and time-consuming costly repairs that could ruin your trip. Have them check fluid levels and tire pressure and make sure all lights work, including signal lights.

Keep your passengers safe

Make sure all your buckles in your car are working properly. Buckling up is the single most effective thing you can do to keep yourself and your passengers safe while on the road.

Be sure to also have your air bags checked, nobody likes to think about what could happen but you should always be prepared.

Visit your local service provider to have your car checked out and when taking a summer road trip be safe.

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Steep Rock author self-publishes book as tribute to mother's passion

By Jeff Ward

A self-published author from Steep Rock has taken her mother's artistic passion and turned it into a creative new children's book called *Gramma's Rocks: Fossil's Adventure*.

The book, written by Ruby Unger, whose pen name is Rubee Potter, is about a rock dog named Fossil who is looking for his lost bone, which is also a rock. The book details Fossil's journey meeting other rock animals in his search for his missing bone.

Unger explained that the idea for the story came from one of her mother's biggest passions, collecting rocks. Unger's mother, Jean Potter, was a big fan of rock collecting and turned her passion into a creative outlet. Unger's mother would often see the rocks as animals and would glue eyes onto them to bring them to life. The anthropomorphizing of these rocks brought character into an otherwise simple object, and it's that creation that Unger hopes to capture in her book.

"Her passion is what is behind the start of the book," said Unger.

"It's funny how a set of eyes can make you see an animal in a rock, but it really did. I remember seeing this rock and thinking it looked like a dog with its nose in the ground. Maybe he could be looking for a bone. And the idea took off from there."

Unger said that the process of writing her story came quickly and that with some help from a friend, Fairford School teacher Randi-Leigh Michaniuk, the language was punched up and sent away to FriesenPress for printing.

Unger also hand-painted the backgrounds and photographed her rocks for the book.

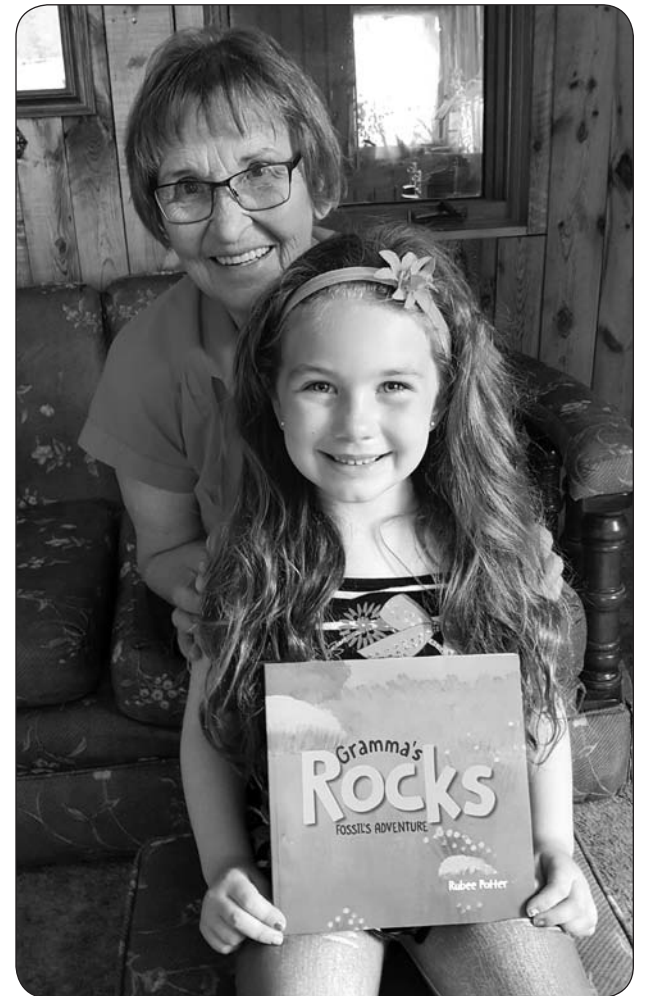
She is planning to read her book to Fairford School Early Years students over the next few weeks. She wants to tell students that the imagination is a wonderful thing and you're never too old to learn and try something new.

"It's such a wonderful thing for children to use their imaginations, and this book is just that. I would love to do another book where I have the children decide what they see in a rock and have that be the character of another story," said Unger.

So far, the community support has been great and Unger said she has sold more than 70 books.

What Unger's story does is showcase the power of imagination and how even the simplest things around us can have their own incredible story.

For those curious to know if Fossil ever finds his bone, Unger's book is on sale on amazon.ca or available from her directly. A softcover copy is \$12 and a hardcover is \$22. To contact Unger directly for a copy, you can email her at rubeeing@gmail.com or call her at 204-449-2362.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY RANDI-LEIGH MICHANIUK
Ruby Unger poses with a Olivia Michaniuk, a close family friend and happy reader of Unger's new children book *Gramma's Rocks: Fossil's Adventure*.

Manitoba archers practice their aim in East Selkirk

By Lindsey Enns

As the wind whips through the trees and the warm sun beads down on her back, Taylor Lafflin clears her mind, zones in on her target, slowly pulls back her bow and then releases an arrow.

While those around her watch in silence, her arrow shoots through the air and connects with the soft part of a 3D target of an animal.

"It's not as easy as people think it is," the 15-year-old from Virden said while practicing her aim at the outdoor range in East Selkirk on Sunday afternoon. "It involves a lot of concentration, balance, being able to judge the yardages."

Lafflin was among the roughly 40 other eagle-eyed archers of all ages from across Manitoba taking part in the Heartland Archery Triple Crown 3D Tournament Series in a densely forested area in East Selkirk on Sunday.

Organizers behind the annual gathering said it took about 200 hours to set up the course, which included long walks into the bush to set up a wide range of 3D targets for participants.

"There's a lot of people who shoot in Winnipeg but they don't have an out-

door range so this is a good opportunity to practice," said Roger Garrod of the Selkirk Archers and Bowhunters Club. "It's very competitive for some people and we actually have some national champions here."

Lafflin said she has been competing since her dad first introduced her to bowhunting nearly five years ago.

"It's just fun," the 15-year-old said. "I like to practice anywhere I can."

Kara Richards of Winnipeg also picked up archery after her dad took her bowhunting one year for her birthday.

"I just loved it and I bought my own bow," the 12-year-old said with a smile.

The Selkirk Archers and Bowhunters Club has previously hosted provincial and national events. In 2015 and 2016 the club hosted the Manitoba Provincial Target Championships and was the venue for the 2015 Canadian Field Archery Championships.

Garrod said the club currently has approximately 22 members and they practice year round.

During the spring and summer months they practice at their outdoor range located off Harold Avenue in East Selkirk and during the win-



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED
Twelve year old Kara Richards picked up archery after her dad took her bowhunting for her birthday.

ter months they head indoors at the Comp.

"We set up a shooting range in there," he said, adding they are always looking for more interested members to join their club.

Those seeking more information about the club can visit their Facebook page by searching "Selkirk Archers & Bowhunters" or by emailing sab@highspeedcrow.ca

Miss Interlake to be chosen at Lundar Fair this Saturday



Bobby-Lee Pearson
Lake Francis

My name is Bobby-Lee Pearson and I'm 17. I live in Lake Francis with my Mother Sylvia, sister Michelle her son/ my nephew. I love to sing, it's a past time of mine. I'm a student at École Communautaire Aurele-Lemoine. I work at Chester's Chicken in St.Laurent. My hobbies are listening to music and having a good time. I've done alot of community volunteering especially with the flood that happened a couple years ago. I also have done tons of volunteering through activities and events with my school. When I'm done Highschool I plan on heading out to the pipeline and working there. My dream is to become a mechanic.



Ruby Bruce - St. Laurent

Hello, my name is Ruby Bruce. My parents are Edgar & Maryann Bruce, owners of St.Laurent Market Square. I'm 19 years old. I'm an artist, or so I believe and I'm a student at École Communautaire Aurele-Lemoine. I work casually at St.Laurent Market Square as an Art teachers aid for am after school art progress. I also work as the Vice-president and secretary at the Young Parents Movement of Winnipeg at the Univer-

sity of Winnipeg. My hobbies include painting, studying paganism, and volunteering. I'm interested in many varieties of volunteering especially in cleaning up the community, youth activities and anything involving Métis/Aboriginal activities and events. I love working in my community, and communities like mine, like the north/west end of Winnipeg. I also have done a variety of fundraisers supporting natural disasters for global support and social issues such as We-day, the ladybug Foundation, Pink ribbon, etc. I plan on becoming a highschool art teacher and school guidance counselor when I start university, hopefully within the next two years.



Kierra St.Goddard-Bennett
Lundar

My name is Kierra St.Goddard-Bennett, I am the daughter of Cyril St.Goddard (Krystal St.Goddard) and Katie Sweetland (Michael Sweetland) and I am 17 years old. I grew up in Lundar and I am very grateful to have the Lundar Legion Auxiliary as my sponsor for the pageant this year. I am a senior at Lundar School and I will be attending the University of Manitoba in fall 2017, with a conditional offer into Agribusiness. I am currently a cleaner for Sigfusson Northern, and I also work for my Grandfather on his farm. In my spare time you will find me quadding, camping or horseback riding; I also enjoy figure skating, volleyball and countless other sports. I am an active volunteer both in my school and in my community. I was a member of my schools newsletter as well

as the yearbook committee for two years. I am currently on our schools athletic council where I have helped with various fundraisers. I have been one of the volunteers at Lundar Lutheran Church who help with decorating or spring clean up. I have volunteered to help work in the Lundar Arena Canteen and assisted with Canskate. I am also on my graduation executive committee. I have been given the honour of being this year's Valedictorian. I was an active member of 4-H. I was also a member of Lundar Skating Club. I have participated in the community's baseball and soccer teams. This year is my fifth year as a member of the Lundar Lutheran Youth Group. I am proud to represent my community in the Miss.Interlake Pageant. I'm excited for this experience and to make new friends.



Kaylee Weatherburn
Eriksdale

My name is Kaylee Megan Weatherburn and I am 18 years old. My parents are Toni and Jamie Weatherburn. I grew up in the community of Eriksdale and I am sponsored by the Eriksdale Legion. While growing up I danced with the Eriksdale Dance Troup, taught by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet and my talent will be a jazz dance. I am currently enrolled in the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Engineering and will be starting my second year in the fall. Over the summer, I am working for Manitoba Infrastructure. I enjoy curling, dancing, and reading. When I graduated, I was awarded the Governor-General Bronze Medal award, the Chown Centennial entrance

scholarship, and the second level university of Manitoba entrance scholarship. My community involvement has included volunteering at various events around the community of Eriksdale. Some of these events were rodeos, Creamery Days, Bullorama, working in the rink canteen, various teas, and luncheons, the daycare, Eriksdale skating club, as well as being a soccer coach, and running for carnival queen. I worked at the Eriksdale Museum for 3 summers and curled out of the Eriksdale Curling Club for many years. I am also I member of UMES (University of Manitoba Engineering Society) which is the engineering student council, and I along with 3 other students will be planning the 2018 engineering grad.



Christine Kilpatrick
Teulon

My name is Christine, I am seventeen years old, and currently in grade eleven at Teulon Collegiate. I live in Teulon on a farm with my parents, Ian and Karin Kilpatrick, and my two brothers. We run a small sheep operation. I am so lucky to live in such a supportive community, so supportive that the Town of Teulon has decided to sponsor me. I like to do a lot of things, and keep very busy. I am the president of my local 4H club, and was a project leader this year too. I really like listening to and making music. I take part in some of my school's sports. My favourite is basketball, but I also enjoy volleyball and cross country running. I also spend a lot of time outside, hunting, fishing, and camping with my family and friends. Between all of these activities I work at my local

grocery store, where I get to interact with some of Manitoba's friendliest people. This year I was also able to work at the Narcisse Snake Dens. I like to help out with volunteering events in the community with friends. I volunteer at the Teulon Rodeo, and the Tractor Pull. I am in my school's helping hands group. Through this group I was given the amazing opportunity to travel to the Dominican Republic to help build a school. I was so inspired by what I learned, did, and the people I met, that I am going on another volunteer trip. This summer I am going to rural India to work with youth from across the country on a project to help end the poverty cycle in the community. I hope to continue my volunteer work and other activities as I move on to post secondary. I am not entirely sure what career I would like to have, but I plan on going to university and taking science courses. I am very excited to participate in this year's Miss Interlake pageant, and hope to learn a lot about myself, the fair, and other participants.



Selena Peixoto
Woodlands

A hard working student that works at the Hitch n Post ranch at as a server, CCA at the woodlands daycare and babysitting on the side all while going to school. My hobbies are art, snowboarding, playing basketball for Warren Collegiate on the varsity team and also connecting with nature and going for hikes when on camping trips! I am the daughter of Liz and Arthur Peixoto and a sister to four siblings! I will be showing all my art through my grade 12 year.

Gimli-based Toastmasters moving to Ponemah



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Gimli-based Toastmasters in the Arts club will be holding meetings in Ponemah starting this Wednesday. The club formerly met in the Gimli Multi-purpose building.

"Toastmasters in the Arts is moving on June 7 to the summer location in the Ponemah Art Centre from 10:30 to 12," said author Sherry Benson Podolchuk, one of the club's members.

The club was formed in 2013 by Matlock author Doreen Pendgracs, who attracted 20 new members from towns such as Riverton, Gimli and Fisher Branch. It became an official chartered club with Toastmasters International.

Toastmasters helps improve communication and leadership skills through its nearly 16,000 clubs in 142 countries. Membership is free. Fun is mandatory.

West Interlake council raises mill rate, plans big projects for 2017

By Jeff Ward

The mill rate will rise for RM of West Interlake residents as the council plans for a few large-scale projects in both ward's this year

With total municipal revenue for 2017 at \$2,887,180.67 and expenditures at \$2,887,202.07, there will be a small deficit of \$21.40 for 2017. Mill rates have risen this year to accommodate the increased costs in doing municipal business and to cover some infrastructure projects, according to Reeve Randy Helgason.

The mill rate for Ward 1 will rise from 15.293 to 16.104, which on a home assessed at \$100,000 will increase from \$1,554 to \$1,723. Residents of the LUD of Ashern in Ward 2 will see an increase in their mill rate from 10.179

to 11.773, which will increase taxes from \$1,612 to \$1,755 on a home assessed at \$100,000. Rural residents in Ward 2 will see their mill rate increase from 10.256 to 11.066, and on \$100,000 taxpayers will see an increase from \$1,615 to \$1,724.

This was the first budget presented to ratepayers without significant delays since the West Interlake amalgamation, and Helgason said that a lot of that has to do with having a full-time CAO and council working together.

Helgason pointed to a few projects to explain the increases. Some of the costs of the recent addition to the municipal building and shed in Eriksdale are included in the 2017 capital costs.

"We're also looking at road construction and Ward 1 is wanting to

purchase a new scale for their waste disposal grounds," said Helgason.

"They'll also be doing some sidewalk work in the town of Eriksdale. For Ward 2, we have to repair the town sign and we're investing in expanding a fourth cell of our lagoon and increasing the capacity of our waste disposal grounds."

Helgason estimated the cost of the lagoon expansion at \$350,000 and the waste disposal grounds expansion at \$750,000. He added that a debenture might be taken for the waste disposal grounds to help cover the cost. Both of these projects, Helgason said, are important to accomplish this year because they're being pushed to the limits of what they can handle.

"One of the reasons our waste dis-

posal grounds filled up so fast was because of the debris from the flood of 2011," said Helgason.

The reeve explained that council worked hard to look ahead and plan for the future while also taking into consideration what ratepayers could afford. He said that this budget was the most ambitious for the RM of West Interlake to date and that council had a number of meetings to distill the budget down to what the most important projects were.

"We can't do it all at once and we have to have the best interests of our residents in mind. But there's no doubt that this kind of long-term investment will be good for both Wards," said Helgason.

Past the Perimeter prepare to release new CD

By Jennifer McFee

Talented local musicians will be taking the stage at the Park Theatre for CD release party later this month.

On Friday, June 23, Past the Perimeter will release its new CD *Lost With You* with a lively show at the Park Theatre, located at 698 Osborne St. in Winnipeg. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 7:30 p.m.

The country rock group got its start in 2008, but band members Derek Peters (guitar and vocals), Evan Taplin (bass and vocals), Devin Biy (drums) and Lachlan McLean (guitar and vocals) created connections during their

time at Stonewall Collegiate Institute.

The new CD was produced by Murray Pulver, formerly of Doc Walker and the Crash Test Dummies.

"He basically sat down with us and fine-tuned our songs," Peters said. "We recorded them at two different studios in Winnipeg, and it's probably the best thing we've done yet."

The CD features seven songs, including the well-received tune "Shotgun Beauty Queen" that was released earlier this year.

"Our writing has really advanced. There are two songs on the CD that we didn't write, but they really com-

pliment one another," Peters said. "It's going to be seven songs, and as a whole, they all go together really nicely as a package."

With a further focus on local talent, Joe Bailey will provide the opening set at the CD release.

"I do a little bit of everything, more along the lines of a country-blues kind of feel. I got my start in the Stonewall band program with Don Horbas. I started playing guitar at around age 11 and just kept going from there," said Bailey, who grew up in Stonewall. "I'm really looking forward to the show. It should be a good time."

Tickets cost \$10 each and are available by contacting Bailey at 204-461-3634 or by contacting Past the Perimeter band members through their Facebook page. Tickets are also available at Rita's Salon at 323 Main Street in Stonewall.

For those who can't make it to the June 23 show, they will still have the chance to purchase the CD through iTunes and GooglePlay. They can also catch the band live at the upcoming 2017 Dauphin CountryFest.

More information on the musicians is available at www.pasttheperimeter.com and www.joebaileymusic.com.

You can drink whiskey then walk Gimli the next day

Gimli walking club to meet at New Horizons every Monday at 7 p.m.

By Patricia Barrett

It might not be a good idea to lounge in a hot tub drinking whiskey and scarfing back dainties the night before your inaugural 3.5-kilometre walk through Gimli and its environs.

But Gail was unapologetic. She freely admitted to what she got up to last Sunday night with her family in Winnipeg. She's living the high life, but cognizant of the health benefits of getting a little exercise now and then.

"I'm a lazy [ribald language]," she said, explaining why she joined the new Gimli walking club led by Carol Simonson of New Horizons 55+ Activity Centre.

Chelsey seconded that.

The walkers bonded before they left the parking lot for their first walk June 5.

They don't have a name for their walking club as did their predecessor, the Lake Run Club, and have no idea when it will disband; details don't matter.

"Start it and they will come," said Simonson, who's biking everywhere this month to raise money for children's cancer research in the Great Cycle Challenge.

The RM of Gimli sanctioned the walking club in order to encourage its citizens to get fit.

Gritty gravel roads, grass, ankle-turning sand and unforgiving mixed aggregate is their lot as they wind their way through scenic Loni Beach then head south to town centre and Bill's Hill before turning up Third on the final stretch.

"If you're at a high level of fitness, you can run in the sand at the beach," said Simonson.

That prompted a chorus of "No, thanks."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Members of the new Gimli walking club, led by Carol Simonson (third from left), held their inaugural walk June 5.

The walkers will meet every Monday at 7 p.m. at New Horizons. Membership is free.

"I'm doing it for free because I want to get people walking," said Simonson. "You won't do any more than you can do."

Participants have to indicate what their fitness level is and whether they have heart or diabetes issues so that Simonson can tailor exercises – oh, yes, there are warm-ups and something called "exercise breaks" and "towel exercises" en route – to their

needs.

And if the walkers are game, she'll develop a longer route.

Eight walkers showed up for the first walk. But there's plenty of room for more. And it doesn't matter what sort of shenanigans you get up to the night before.

New Horizons is located at 17 North Colonization Road. For more information about the walking club, call (204) 642-7909.

Gunton artist displays paintings

By Jennifer McFee

At the home of Gunton artist Brenda Tarrant, the walls are uncharacteristically bare this month since most of her paintings are on display at three different venues.

Her artwork will be reaching a wide audience with pieces available for viewing in Teulon, Stonewall and Selkirk all at the same time.

To start, Tarrant is the artist of the month for June at the Teulon branch of the South Interlake Regional Library. There, she will display approximately 13 of her acrylic and mixed media paintings, with many depicting landscape scenes in an impressionist style.

Also during the month of June, Tarrant will have paintings on display at a members' show at the Gwen Fox Gallery in Selkirk, where she is a board member.

Adding to the reach of her work, she will have a couple paintings on display at The Rock in Stonewall throughout June and July.

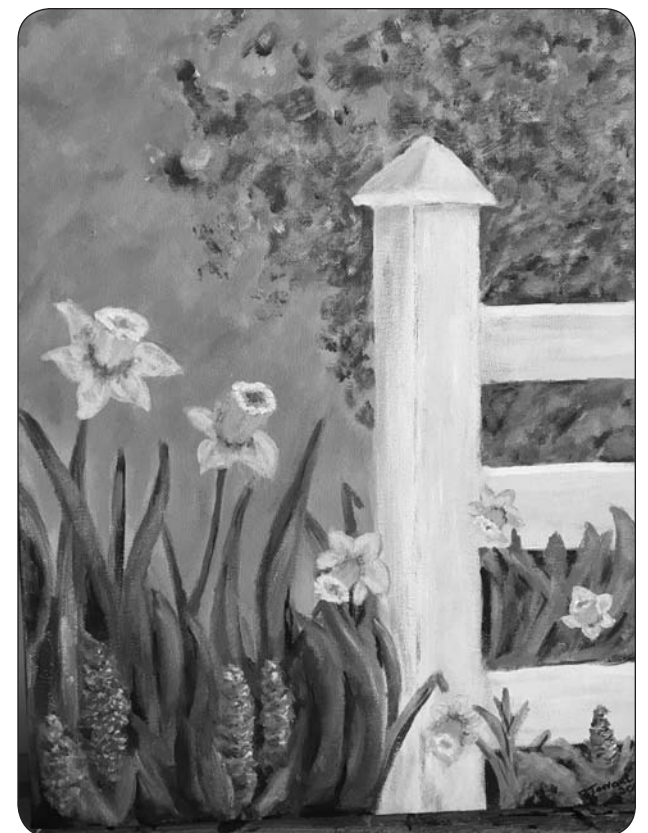
"My house will be empty of paintings," said Tarrant, who has always been interested in artistic endeavours.

In the 1990s, she taught ceramics and painting at her own ceramics studio. She is also interested in working with clay and has taken pottery classes in the past.

In 2010, she began learning from art instructor Graham Clarke at the Green Acres Art Centre in Teulon.

"He is an awesome teacher and I have progressed a lot," she said. "I like the relaxation and enjoyment of painting, as well as the satisfaction when you're finished a painting. I love outdoors and nature, so trees and landscape scenes are something that I really enjoy doing."

For a taste of Tarrant's talents, drop by the Teulon library at 19 Beach Rd. or the Gwen Fox Gallery in Selkirk (250 Manitoba Ave.) throughout the month of June. In Stonewall, her works are also available to enjoy at The Rock in June and July.



sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Blue Jays chirping loudly in junior baseball league

By Brian Bowman

With summer finally here, the birds outside have been loudly chirping.

So, it was only fitting that the Interlake Blue Jays did a whole lot of chirping last week in the Manitoba Junior Baseball League.

The Blue Jays capped off a tremendous week — which saw the club roll to three straight wins — with an impressive road sweep over the Pembina Valley Orioles on Sunday.

Interlake doubled Pembina Valley 6-3 in Game 1 and then pounded the Orioles 13-3.

"It was a pretty good week for us," said Blue Jays' head coach Adam Kirk. "We had a real rough start (to the season) while we were trying to figure some things out and trying to find our identity."

In Game 1, Pembina Valley scored a run in the fourth and then added two more in the sixth. But Interlake battled back with six runs in the seventh for the comeback win.

Derek Petrasko led the Blue Jays with four hits while Baily Proctor and Martin Knutson had two hits apiece.

Emerson Klimpke pitched all seven innings for the win, scattering six hits while striking out four.

Game 2 saw the Blue Jays trail 3-1 after three innings but their offence caught fire in the final three innings. Interlake scored twice in the fifth and

then added five runs in both the sixth and seventh innings.

Interlake hosted the Brandon Marlin's last Friday but that game was postponed due to inclement weather with the score tied at 2-2 in the fourth inning. That game is scheduled to resume June 23.

The Blue Jays won their first game of the season May 31 after they edged the St. Boniface Legionnaires 6-5 in a thriller in Stonewall.

St. Boniface took a 5-3 lead with a pair of runs in the top of the seventh but Interlake came right back with three in the bottom half of the inning for the walk-off win.

"Instead of rolling over and losing the game, the boys came back and had a walk-off win," Kirk said proudly. "The St. B game boosted everyone's confidence. The guys were pretty down on themselves after we got pumped pretty bad by a couple of teams."

St. Boniface started the game by scoring three runs in the first inning but Interlake came back with runs in the second, third and fifth innings.

Lane Holden and Brennan Cheasley led the Blue Jays with two hits apiece. Holden also scored a run while Klimpke (two), Chayce Topolnitsky, Ethan Garrett and Tanner Good each crossed the plate.

Petrasko pitched the final inning —



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Interlake's Chayce Topolnitsky gets safely back to first base. The Blue Jays won their first three games of the season last week.

giving up two runs — but still picked up the win.

With the three victories last week, Interlake improved its record to 3-5 and the Blue Jays were four games back of first-place Brandon (8-2) heading into this week's action.

Interlake hosted the Carillon Sul-tans (5-3) last night (no score was available) and then the second-place

Elmwood Giants (6-2) will visit Stonewall on Friday.

The Blue Jays will continue their five-game homestand by hosting the Altona Bisons in a doubleheader this Sunday (1 p.m. and 4 p.m.) and then Carillon will be here again next Wednesday. First pitch is 7 p.m. for the Carillon game.

OCN selects Manningway in MJHL Bantam draft

By Brian Bowman

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League's annual Bantam draft took place last Sunday in Winnipeg.

Peguis First Nation's Ayden Manningway was selected in the fourth round (42nd overall) by the OCN Blizzard. Manningway played last season for the Rink H.A. Nationals Bantam Prep program.

Stonewall, meanwhile, proved to be a popular choice among MJHL teams as three players were selected.

Defenceman Carter Bateman was picked in the third round (33rd overall) by the Steinbach Pistons while goaltender Chris Fines was selected in the fifth round (51st overall) by the three-time defending MJHL-champion Portage Terriers.

Two picks later, defenceman Nicho-

las Finnson was selected by the Blizzard.

All three Stonewall players spent last season with the Interlake Lightning.

Staying in the Interlake, the Selkirk Steelers' first-round pick (eighth overall) was Oakbank centre Caiden Gault. Gault played last season for the Eastman Selects.

In the second round (19th overall), Selkirk selected Winnipeg forward Adam Krestanowich, who played last year for the Monarchs.

With their third pick (fourth round, 41st overall), the Steelers grabbed Oakbank defenceman Ethan McColm. McColm was a teammate of Gault with Eastman.

Selkirk then looked west to pick Oakville's Cody Blight in the fifth

round. Blight, a centre, played last season for the Rink H.A. Nationals Bantam Prep team.

With their final pick of the draft, the Steelers snagged Winnipeg Hawks' forward Tyrone Willan.

The Steelers' two local auto-protect players were Carl Ingalls of St. Andrews and Jordan Donald of Selkirk. Both played last season with the Winnipeg Hawks.

This year's No. 1 overall pick belonged to the Waywayseecappo Wolverines, who selected right-winger Jake Poole of the Yellowhead Chiefs.

The MJHL draft consisted of six rounds with each MJHL team allocated one pick per round with the draft order being based on the order of finish by teams in last season's standings.

The team that finished last in the standings received the first pick in the draft and the selections followed in that same order for the rest of the draft.

The MJHL draft is very important for teams to stock up their talent pool for future years.

"The annual draft for the league is always a special event in that it propels teams forward when they select young players who will develop into stars on their MJHL clubs," MJHL commissioner Kim Davis said on the league website.

"The draft is also the final major event in the league's annual calendar so it's a great way to wrap up the season."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Interlake to be well represented at track and field provincials

Staff

The Interlake will have a multitude of talented athletes competing at the MHSAA track and field provincials at the University of Manitoba this week.

Several schools will be represented in both individual and relay events during the three-day provincials which begin today and wrap up Saturday.

Arborg Collegiate will be very well represented with 25 individual entries and two relay teams at provincials.

The known individuals competing at provincials will include: Austin Adair, Brenna Barylski, Cadrick Dueck, Nathan Harding, Bret Huta, Eva Jensen, Sarah Jensen, Jamie Johnson, Jessica Monkman, Kaitlin Nichol, Nolan Paulson, Jared Sweetland, and Connor Yarema.

Gimli High School will have 11 individual entries and one relay team. Gimli's athletes feature Jayda Campbell, Aaron Dryburgh, Brock Heapy, Eric Heglin, Jillian Henry, Carley Matkowski, Owen Roberts, and Kevin Yablonski.

Inwood School will be represented by Tyson Hazelton, Luke Hendrick-



River Abas of Fisher Branch Collegiate threw 35.54m to win the varsity boys' discus. With that throw he qualified to compete at the MHSAA provincials this week.

son, and Graham Moore while Lunder School will proudly send Lane Holden, Daron Monkman, Ashley Sigfusson, and Kierra St Goddard.

Peguis Central School will have Joshua Cameron represent them in the junior varsity boys' javelin.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

The Gimli Lakers' Kevin Yablonski, middle, won the varsity boys' 100-metre dash in 12.25 seconds followed by Warren's Alex France, right, at 12.52 and Tristin Janke at 12.53.

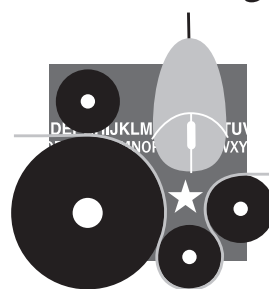


Jillian Henry of Gimli won the varsity girls' outdoor pentathlon, earning 2,101 combined points in shot put, long jump, high jump, the 100m and 800m runs.

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FARMERS MARKET

Wild West Ranch Farmers Market - Grand Opening Saturday, June 24. Open Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Vendors, Tea House, antiques, wagon rides, fresh vegetables and handmade items. Vendors wanted: handmade/homemade products only. 732 Clandeboye Road, Clandeboye, MB. 204-738-2113.

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MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON RIVERTON WATER TREATMENT AND SUPPLY PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING JUNE 14, 2017 7:00PM RIVERTON CURLING CLUB

TAKE NOTICE THAT The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton has undertaken a Water treatment and Supply Study for the community of Riverton.

An Open Information Meeting will be held Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Riverton Curling Club. All are welcome to attend.

Cindy Stansell, CMMA
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Interlake Cattlemen's Co-op Association Ltd.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday June 19, 2017 8:00 P.M.

ASHERN AUCTION MART

Auditors Financial Report
Election of Directors
Manager's Report

Dainties and coffee will be served.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

GRADUATION



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Mike, Steve and Keely

ANNOUNCEMENT

SHOWER ANNOUNCEMENT



Garry and Isabel Peterson
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Clancey
Are happy to announce the engagement
of our children,
Todd and Suzanne
The wedding will take place later
in the summer.
A shower for Suzanne will be held on June 11
At the Matlock Recreation Hall,
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OBITUARY

Stanley William Davis
October 29, 1930 – May 28, 2017

It is with deep sadness and heavy hearts we announce the passing of Stanley William Davis at Red River Place on May 28, 2017. Forever remembered in their hearts are his three sons Darryl, Dale (Lisa), Darrin and Stan's sister, Beatrice. He also leaves behind numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased and now reunited with his loving wife Anne and daughter Ruth. Also reunited with his mother Gratia, father Arthur Glen and brother Gilbert.

Stan was born in Winnipeg in 1930 and later moved to Fisher Branch where he spent most of his childhood. Because both of his parents passed away when Stan was very young, he, his older sister Beatrice and younger brother Gil, were raised by their grandparents Henry and Clara Mabb on the family farm. Stan attended Maidstone school and later joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1948. After going through his basic training in Esquimalt BC, and taking a few tours in South America, Stan went to Halifax to train in communications. In early 1952 he was shipped to Korea to join with Canada's Commonwealth Allies who were aiding the South Koreans in their war with the North. During the Korean War he served on the HMCS Cayuga and Crusader as the ship's signalman in charge of radio, Morse and semaphore communication until the middle of 1953. Stan was discharged from the RCN in 1955 and began his career working for the Federal Government in the Department of Communications until his retirement in 1985.

Stan and Anne (Reimer) married in Winnipeg in 1954 and had four children. While working for the Government, he and his family relocated a number of times to places including Port Arthur Ontario, Churchill, Thompson and finally landing back in Winnipeg. In 1974 Stan and his family moved to Stonewall where they resided for the next forty years being very active in the community and involved in hockey, curling and baseball. He and his wife Anne were also members of the local Legion. Stan first signed up with the Legion in Esquimalt during his Navy training back in 1951 and again with the Stonewall branch in 1974. Over the years he had served as President and has worked on various committees. He received the Meritorious Service Medal, which is the Legion's highest honor, and his Lifetime Membership.

Stan and his beloved wife Anne, of over 60 one years of marriage before her passing in August of 2015, moved to Selkirk for their remaining days. Family and community were very important to Stanley and he devoted a lot of his life to helping others. He was a warm and loving man that will be missed by all who knew him. Rest in Peace.

Many thanks to the staff of Woodland Courts, The Selkirk General Hospital, and Red River Place in Selkirk.

Memorial Service has taken place at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, June 5, 2017, at MacKenzie Funeral Chapel, 433 Main Street, Stonewall, Manitoba.

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OBITUARY



Theresa Marie Dupuis

Theresa passed away peacefully on Thursday, June 1st, 2017 at the Gimli Community Health Centre with her family by her side. Theresa was born on October 30, 1934 in Jogues, Ontario. She is survived by her children, Joann Droux (Ron), Ronald Dupuis (Maricris); grandchildren Dylan (Aleksandra) Talia (Chris), Danielle (Jason) Tyler, Alyssa and Jessie; great-grandchildren, Dyson, Kolton, Ava, Daunte and sisters Laurette and Ida. She was predeceased by her husband Joseph; daughter Suzanne, and son Robert.

A Memorial Mass will take place on Thursday, June 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Stanislaus Roman Catholic (Kostka) Church, 702 Old Henderson Hwy, East Selkirk, MB. Interment of ashes will follow in the Corpus Christi Cemetery in Naro, MB.

The family would like to thank the nursing staff at the Gimli Community Health Centre for the compassion and care of our mother and grandmother. It was greatly appreciated and we are grateful for the care she received from you.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the Asthma Society. Condolences may be left at www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



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