



Poplarfield's King Buck gets a new coat and spring in his step

By Patricia Barrett

Poplarfield's King Buck monument got a shiny new coat a few weeks ago after members of the Poplarfield Community Hall board found an artist versed in painting 24-foot-high statues.

The leaping white-tailed deer sits at the junction of highways 68 and 17 in a small park across from a restaurant, small grocery store and gas station.

"We've been wanting to refurbish the buck for quite a few years. He's been in dire need of painting," said Bernice Smith, who sits on the hall board. "I'm really proud of this project. I've been waiting a whole year to get it off the ground and now it's finally finished."

The monument was erected in 1991 by the Poplarfield Development Corporation to pay tribute to the abundant deer that fed pioneer families and now attracts recreational hunters. In addition to the statue, the park has monuments commemorating the families who settled in the area, as well as a monument to the Dehowa School (1913-1968), named after a village in Ukraine.

The buck was designed and built by sculptor Wayne Arthur, who also created the Caring Hands monument at the Deer Lodge Centre in Winnipeg, the Mallard monument in Petersfield and the Mushroom monument in Meleb.

Smith said she was tasked with finding an artist to re-paint the buck. She found out Jennifer Mosienko of Jen Mosienko Design did the sharptail grouse in Ashern and contacted her about the buck.

"She came down to look at the buck

and was excited about doing the project," said Smith.

Mosienko, who's originally from Ashern and married into the Eriksdale-Lundar area family of hockey great Billy Mosienko, started working on the buck July 2 and finished July 8, said Smith.

"She had a great big lift and she would come down periodically to see how he looked from the ground. The first thing they did was take all the old paint off and seal-coated it underneath so water couldn't get it. Then they primed it before she painted and she clear-coated it so the paint won't fade."

Mosienko, who lives in Winnipeg, would work on the buck sometimes until 11 p.m. then drive to the Eriksdale area to stay with her in-laws, said Smith. The next morning, she'd be back on her lift.

Smith said the refurbishment was a community effort, with different tasks allocated to different people, including Linda Podaima, who applied for a provincial government grant under the Building Sustainable Communities program.

"The grant only covered half the cost of the buck's refurbishment and we [hall board] have to pay the other half," said Smith.

The hall board also decided to spruce up the park. People have painted buildings and Smith herself said she's going to paint the flagpole.

She said the community can take pride in the restoration effort.

"When you see the buck, it's just unbelievable. Jen's a fantastic artist. She really is," said Smith. "I am so pleased because he's has been a sorry sight for



Mosienko applying the finishing.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY BERNICE SMITH





The buck needed a new coat. so long. Now we can be proud of what

Mosienko painting the deer's flank

of what we've got."

Gimli's off-leash dog park will include wooded trails

By Patricia Barrett

The Gimli Dog Advisory Committee has made progress on developing an off-leash dog park that will include wooded trails in addition to a running field.

The park is located in the northwest corner of the sports field in the town's north end.

Although COVID-19 delayed some of the work, the committee noted that significant progress has been made on preparing the site.

"Working with Tyler Yellowega, the director of parks and recreation, and though discussions with Mayor Lynn Greenberg and hard work from Coun. Thora Palson, we were able to increase the fence line to the south and to the west, which significantly increased the overall layout of the fenced area," said the committee in a July 3 press release.

Adhering to physical distancing guidelines set out by public health, a small group of volunteers cleared and marked walking trails through the woods, said the committee. Property owners Dennis and Laura Leger, who border the park on the north, cleared the property line so that fencing can be installed.

The committee also held a funding drive earlier this year for Phase I of the project. Private donations were matched by the RM of Gimli. The committee didn't note how much has been raised to date.

It's currently waiting to hear from the province regarding its request for a fence line along the west side of the park, which runs parallel to PR 222.

"Once the permit is in place, we are ready to proceed with fencing and signage," said the committee.

The site is not yet ready for off-leash dogs, but dog owners are invited walk their pets on leashes through the area.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT It will be worth the trip to the dog park.

Ashern woman running Islendingadagurinn's 5K race during a fight for her life

By Patricia Barrett

Talk about a difficult year.

Angel Johnson from Ashern is dealing with thoughts of her own mortality after having been diagnosed with Stage 3 breast cancer, driving hundreds of kilometres across the Interlake for chemotherapy treatments and anticipating a mastectomy and multiple rounds of radiation. Throw the COVID-19 pandemic on top of all that.

But Johnson, who spends a lot of time in Gimli where her boyfriend lives and where she receives chemotherapy at the Gimli hospital, said she's determined to stay strong for her children and not let cancer and COVID completely disrupt her life.

That's why she's decided to take on the challenge of the Icelandic Festival's five-kilometre race, the first time she's participated in the popular running event.

"I have to laugh a little bit. I'm dealing with two teenagers. I'm a single parent. I have cancer and the world has COVID," said Johnson. "Which one's the best today?"

Cancer doesn't discriminate between people who've led a healthy lifestyle and those who are more sedentary, she said. She's led a healthy lifestyle and has always been an active person with a love for running and intense workout programs such as Tony Horton's P90X. She was "floored" when she got the cancer diagnosis.

"It shook me and my family to the core. But being hit with cancer doesn't mean I should lay in bed. I don't know what my future is going to hold and we're praying it's going to be a success story," said Johnson, who is 47. "But I'm not going to lay around and wait to find out. I'm trying to make the best of everything and every day we have."

Throughout her chemotherapy treatments, she said she's been keeping up with her running and workouts despite not having as much stamina as she used to have. Being of Icelandic descent, she was excited to see the Icelandic Festival moving ahead with "virtual" runs to get around COVID-imposed public gatherings. Participants will be able to complete a race on their own time using a timing app.

Johnson said she's aiming to complete the 5K run in Gimli next week, a few days before taking her fifth of six chemotherapy treatments, and with a small cheering squad (she has to avoid mingling with people because chemotherapy has compromised her immune system).

Johnson said she detected the lump herself and within about 12 weeks, it grew from the size of a pea to eight and a half centimetres when the surgeon cut it out. She also had five lymph nodes removed, four of which contained cancer.

She's appreciates having the opportunity to take her chemotherapy treatments at the Gimli hospital, she said. After that she'll have to undergo a mastectomy and reconstructive surgery then have at least 25 rounds of radiation. Following that, she'll have to take medication for a

year to suppress a hormone that accelerates the growth of cancer cells, then other hormones for an additional five to 10 years.

It wasn't easy hearing the diagnosis, she said. She cried for about a month then turned things around after receiving "amazing support" from the community, family, her boyfriend, her two teenagers (13 and 17 years old) and friends, who supplied her with music scores so that she could continue to play guitar. She also drew on her own faith-based beliefs for strength.

"I had decided I was going to shave my head before I lost my hair to the chemo. We watch all those movies where it falls out and it's terrifying. I didn't think I could handle that very well. So my daughter, who's 13, gave me multiple different hair cuts," said Johnson, who became emotional."I can't imagine how they felt when they heard the news that I have cancer."

During chemotherapy, she said she actually gained some weight because she didn't experience the really terrible side effects such as nausea, vomiting and diarrhea although she did develop bad mouth sores, numbness, fatigue and muscle and joint pain. But she's been fortunate she's been able to stay active.

"I didn't think I'd be able to do anything so I'm super excited that I can do this virtual race," said Johnson."When I look back on this, I want to say I beat cancer, I made it through COVID and I ran a race all in the year 2020."

The Icelandic Festival's virtual races open on July 19. Runners have until Aug. 2 to submit their time. Winners will be announced Aug. 3 on the Icelandic Festival website.



Submitted by RCMP

On June 29, Manitoba East District Crime Reduction Enforcement Team, along with Gimli RCMP, executed a search warrant at a residence on 18 Road East in the RM of Gimli.

Officers seized a stolen enclosed trailer and a flat bed car hauler. Officers also seized a 2018 GMC Sierra and a 2019 Suzuki ATV, both of which had been used in a flight from police and prohibited driving investigation.

Warren Wright, 22, of the RM of Gimli was arrested and charged with possession of property obtained by crime x2, failing to comply x3, flight from police and drive while disqualified x2 (under the Highway Traffic Act.)

RCMP continue to investigate.

The Crime Reduction Enforcement Support Team focuses on intelligence-based investigations into drugs, rural property crime and serious prolific offenders within our communities.



Angel Johnson shaved her head before she started her chemotherapy.

to your needs.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED Johnson is training for the Icelandic Festival's virtual 5K race.

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Brett Mitchell

"Those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it."

It's one of the most famous quotes from Spanish writer and philosopher George Santayana.

Many others have said since, whether we remember history or not, we repeat it anyway. Writers such as former New York Times columnist Frank Rich make the point, "history is cyclical, and it would be foolhardy to assume culture wars will never return."

Can both be true? By remembering the past and acknowledging societal flaws, are we as humans capable of altering future outcomes?

Or are we doomed to a perpetuating cycles of human rights abuse?

The 2017 documentary LA92 attempts to educate us about the past to change the future but unfortunately highlights the fact that — at least in the United States — our society seems doomed to repeat historical human rights atrocities.

The documentary begins in 1965 in the Watts neighbourhood of Los Angeles, Calif. After pulling over Marquette Frye, an African-American man (on parole for robbery at the time), a fight broke out with police. It was alleged police injured a pregnant woman in the altercation, and six days of civil unrest and rioting broke out.

The California National Guard was brought in to help suppress the rioting and unrest. It's reported that the unrest resulted in 34 deaths and over \$40 million in damage.

Flash-forward to 1992, while relying 100 per cent on archival footage, the documentary showcases the '92 L.A. riots a mere 27 years after the Watts neighbourhood incident.

The events that unfold leading to the riots include the unnecessary shoot-

ing of 16-year-old Latasha Harlins by a store clerk, the inhumane beating of Rodney King, and the subsequent acquittal of the four officers who committed the heinous act.

struck by kicks or hits from billy club 56 times — was caught on camera and

The beating resulted in King suffering a broken right leg, his face badly cut and swollen (with blood vessels in his eyes bursting from being beaten with a billy club), severe bruising on his body, and a burn area to his chest where he had been jolted with a 50,000-volt stun gun.

Not unlike 1965, in 1992, six days of civil unrest broke out when, at one point, 916 actives structural fires raged in southwest Los Angeles.

It's reported now that the unrest resulted in 63 deaths, 2,383 injuries, and 12,111 arrests, as well as over \$1 billion in damages. As of 2017, it was the most monetary damage resulting from civil disturbance in American history.

The irony of the documentary? While showcasing the repetitive nature of racism and police brutality in American culture, LA92 was made in 2017, three years before the murder of George Floyd; before 209 black people were shot by police in the United States in 2018; 235 in 2019; and, so far, 105 in 2020.

today, a seamless third chapter could be added to its finale. Yes, this documentary is American. No, Canada is not immune to its own issues.

There is an over-representation of Indigenous interaction with law enforcement in this country, and subsequently violent interactions as well. Such has been the case for many,

> Got news? Call Evan Matthews at 204-990-9871 evan@expressweeklynews.ca



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Is history cyclical? **By Evan Matthews**

The beating — which involved being released to the public.

Had the documentary been made

many years.

Many Indigenous families recall the Sixties Scoop all to well — Indigenous kids ripped from their homes and placed in white schools and homes with the last residential school closing its doors in 1996, just 24 years ago.

Yet, the present-day over representation of Indigenous people in Manitoba's Child and Family Services, as well as jails, is staggering. Are Indigenous kids still being taken from their homes? Are Indigenous fathers being ripped away from their kids? In some ways, yes.

Of course, there is nuance to this subject, involving socioeconomic issues, intergenerational trauma, substance abuse, as well as many other types of abuse. But nonetheless, in ways, we see history — and associated issues — repeating cyclically.

What can our society do to write the next chapter with a fresh perspective? To bring the conversation full circle, those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it, but to avoid altering societal actions moving forward means an unavoidable return to our cyclical history.

It would be foolhardy to assume our cultural issues — or wars — will never return.

Correction Staff

In the *Express Weekly News* last week we published information about Riverton graduate banners with names and photos of each student being erected by the municipality.

In actual fact, the banners were purchased by the graduates themselves. John Weedon of Wicked Welding N Fab welded the metal brackets required to hang the banners while a small group of parents hung them with the use of a zoom boom provided by Corey Palsson of Palstein Developments Ltd.

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IERHA opens new primary clinic in Gypsumville

By Evan Matthews

Gypsumville now has a new clinic in a familiar location.

Residents in the Gypsumville area now have another way to access primary care, according to Paul Barnard, primary health-care director for the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, as family doctors from Ashern are making the trip northwest.

"We know having an easily accessible and continuous, regular care provider can help people avoid more serious or urgent health problems," said Barnard.

"Clinics like this one are important in helping people address their everyday health-care concerns."

Both male and female family doc-

tors from Ashern, Dr. Armin Sabri and Dr. Samina Nishat, started taking appointments on June 16 at the clinic in Gypsumville, with weekly service starting July 7.

Though the building doesn't have an exact address, IERHA communication associate Jason Permanand said many years ago the Gypsumville Health Clinic was located in a building on First Street. The new primary care clinic is located in the same building, he said.

"Primary care tries to provide care to people where they are, in their own communities," said Permanand.

"This new clinic is part of that strategy. Transportation and location are key factors to accessing health care, and both doctors know that by providing weekly care in Gypsumville, the community will more easily access that care."

Both doctors will continue to maintain their practice in Ashern, according to Permanand, and will rotate weekly service in Gypsumville.

Permanand said previous IERHA experience has shown when people receive care closer to their home, they are more likely to access care earlier instead of waiting, which leads to better health outcomes.

In addition, he said families in neighbouring communities who were affected by the 2011 floods are now returning to their communities, and the IERHA wants to ensure those families



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED Though the First Avenue clinic does not have an exact address in Gypsumville, it will operate out of the same building as the old clinic from years ago.

have accessible care.

Letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklynews.ca

To make an appointment with Dr. Sabri or Dr. Nishat, call 204-768-3821.

Education savings redirected to Manitoba classrooms

Submitted by Manitoba government Manitoba school divisions will have almost \$48 million to cover unanticipated costs of the COVID-19 pandemic and to reopen classrooms in September after the suspension of

classroom learning during the past

school year, Education Minister Kel-

vin Goertzen announced last Tuesday. "Our government's goal is to focus school funding on classrooms to ensure Manitoba students can thrive and excel," said Goertzen. "This is even more important as our province gradually emerges from the grip of COVID-19, and as we continue our plans to return to in-class teaching and learning this fall."

School divisions, along with Manitoba's entire summary government, took steps to limit non-essential spending during the early days of the pandemic. Some of the funds saved were used to cover new costs for improvements to technology for remote learning and the remaining savings will go toward adapting to reopening classrooms in September as well as for public health measures that may be in place.

Continued on page 6

letter to the editor

Where did our piers go?

Evidently trust and transparency are not qualities to be associated with Mayor Tony and council currently at Winnipeg Beach.

At a "recent financial plan public hearing" funds to build the three community piers north of downtown on Prospect Avenue were removed as a response to the COV-ID-19 pandemic: "it was felt that due to the size and structure of the piers it would be difficult to maintain social distancing. ... Council's No. 1 priority is the safety of all."

This was the response from the CAO on behalf of council when a number of tax-paying cottagers and

permanent residents living north of the downtown tourist area requested council revisit this decision.

For over 70 years, I have watched children learn to swim, families safely play in the water and seniors like myself enjoy evening sits on the pier. Children and families stressed by months of lockdown and isolation now have no safe public access to the water within their own community. Apparently, this mayor and council would have you believe that tax-paying long-term cottagers and residents are incapable of respecting provincial guidelines while using the community piers and must

be protected.

However, in their infinite wisdom, they have deemed it perfectly safe to have all children's play structures and the skate park wide open for use unsupervised and, according to their own website, not regularly sanitized. Additionally, all downtown public washrooms are open. The main beach in town is basically self-regulated and attracts hundreds and hundreds of day tourists as well as visitors from the provincial campground to enjoy the sand and water.

Shame on this mayor and council. You can't have it both ways. If the main beach, which is attracting large crowds, is safe to use then so are the family piers! Which is it? Disappointing but not surprising that neither the mayor or any of the councillors contacted one concerned citizen that sent letters seeking this council to revisit their decision.

The only thing transparent about this decision is that the very serious COVID-19 situation is a smokescreen and excuse to redirect money from the very important water access that so many families depend upon for fun and for their physical and emotional well-being during these uncertain times.

- Jim Beaque Winnipeg Beach summer resident







Cattle killed by lightning strike

By Evan Matthews

People say lightning never strikes the same place twice, and one family hopes that is true.

But if you are the unlucky one, once is enough, as a family near Moosehorn is reeling economically after a rare occurrence.

Jason and Jilene Yanke, third-generation cattle farmers west of Moosehorn, have a cattle herd of about 200. The couple said that a lightning strike on the evening of July 3 killed 14 bred cows and seven calves that were roughly five months old. They discovered the remains on July 4.

"We don't think it hit the cattle directly, though. It looks like it hit the fence wire and just fried everything along the fence," said Jason.

He added that the worst part of the incident is that it was the herd's youngest cattle that were hit. The future of the herd, the replacements, were the cattle affected by the strike.

"The cattle themselves didn't have any burns. ... We think they were standing along the wire. ... They were all standing when they were hit, and then they toppled over top of one another," he said.

The monetary loss, according to the Yankes, is estimated at about \$40,000. However, the ripple effects of the strike are compounding, as some of the cattle killed were mothers to young calves.

Once full-grown, those calves will be underweight without their mother's milk and worth less when they eventually go to market.

Upon finding the remains, the Yankes called Dr. Walter Olson of the Ashern Vet Clinic — where Jilene works for part-time — in order to help the couple document the event as if they were going to submit an insurance claim.

"We started a claim ... and we got the unfortunate news that our insurance would not cover the incident. We didn't have insurance specific to lightning," said Jilene.

"Regular farm insurance covers structures from fire and water, etc., but not cattle themselves from 'acts of God' like lightning, specifically," she said, adding that perhaps the couple should have been more familiar with the insurance policy.

However, the Yankes are still in talks with AgriStability about whether or not the program can provide any aid or compensation.

But even if the Yankes had been more familiar with their insurance policy, they aren't sure whether or not they would have had the proper insurance

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY JILENE YANKE

Ashern Vet Clinic Dr. Olson surveys the damage caused by a lightning strike that killed 14 bred cows and seven calves, roughly five months old, on the Yanke farm on July 3.

anyway, as a fatal lightning strike is so rare.

Jason said he recalled his father losing a couple of cattle to a lightning strike over 30 years ago, but it was one or two cattle, not 21.

Echoing Jason's sentiment, Dr. Olson said while he has seen fatal lightning strikes over his 39 years of veterinary practice — 13 of which have been in Ashern — he had never seen an incident on this scale.

"The number of affected animals was (staggering)," said Olson. "I've seen one or two affected by a lightning strike in the past, but nothing like this."

In storms, Olson said often cattle will crowd together and move as a

unit in one direction until they come to a physical barrier that stops them.

Whether a violent rain or thunderstorm or even a blizzard, Olson said cattle will group together to wait out the storm.

Though the immediate loss is economically devastating and resulting in emotional trauma, the Yankes said farming is not an industry that has immediate pay off; it's about the longgame.

"Hopefully we can find cheap bred heifers in the future to replace some of the herd, or you take a hit, and have the herd recover in about three or four years," said Jason.

"Farming is a long game, never a short game."

> SAVINGS, FROM PG. 5

In addition, once fully implemented, more than \$4 million per year will be redirected to classrooms after Manitoba school divisions identified this sum in annual savings as part of an executive management streamlining initiative across multiple public-sector organizations, Goertzen noted.

The fiscal sustainability measures have involved executive compensation, management streamlining and staff efficiencies. School divisions were directed to reduce their executive and senior management complements by 15 per cent by Sept. 1.

"This is good news for students and parents as it will mean more spent on improving classroom learning," said Goertzen. "The government measures ensure fiscal sustainability will make a positive impact on Manitoba schools and the education of students across the province."

Medium-sized and large school divisions with more than four executive or senior management positions were expected to reduce their numbers of positions by 15 per cent, the minister said. Smaller school divisions, with fewer executive or senior management positions, were directed to reduce managerial salaries and operating costs by 15 per cent, he added.





A falcon at Hecla-Grindstone Provincial Park.



Arborg Heritage Museum.



Find your HEART in the INTERLAKE

From nature at its finest to heritage dating back 3,000 years, the Interlake is set to be your playground in 2020. Perhaps the greatest place to view a sunrise or sunset in Manitoba is while on the shore of one of our inland oceans – Lake Manitoba and Lake Winnipeg.

Engage with nature! Discover more than 400 species of birds, from eagles to songbirds, Canada geese and pelicans that flock to and from the area. Destinations like Oak Hammock Marsh and Hecla Grindstone Provincial Park are top choices to watch some feathered friends. Head to Steep Rock cliffs rising up from Lake Manitoba. Explore the ancient limestone for skeletal imprints of creatures from long ago. Go fishing, boating, swimming and more at this perfect summer destination.

Unearth our heritage at a pioneer village (like the ones in Arborg or Ashern), explore fur trade life with a visit to Lower Fort Garry National Historic Site and delve into the history of notable families that helped build Manitoba with a drive along River Road. Wander through an open field – now an outdoor art gallery as 21 large concrete statues depict artist Armand Lemieuz's view of life (head just south of Grahamdale on Hwy 6). Stroll along the longest outdoor gallery over water with a visit to Gimli's Seawall Gallery. The Seawall murals, painted by local artists, depict stories and history of the Interlake.

Embrace our culture. Discover the heart of New Iceland in Gimli. Visit the Viking statue and explore more at the New Iceland Heritage Museum. Delight in the Ukrainian culinary heritage with some authentic favourites, maybe some pyrohy (perogies), pyrizhky (cabbage buns) or even holubtsi (cabbage rolls) at a local restaurant. Selkirk is a hub of Scottish heritage while Métis and Indigenous roots run deep in the region.

REALIZE WHERE YOUR 2020 HEARTS BEATS! IN MANITOBA'S INTERLAKE REGION. LEARN MORE AT **INTERLAKEHEARTBEATS.COM**





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Gimli Viking Park.

NIHM showcases stuff we threw away and became treasure

By Patricia Barrett

One person's trash is another person's treasure, the old saying goes and that's certainly true for a new travelling exhibition by Candace Lipischak titled *Deterre/Unearthed* that opened at the New Iceland Heritage Museum this month.

The show features 17 cast-off objects that Lipischak found and turned into art.

"I've always had an affinity for bygone objects. Walking my property, which dates back to the early 1900s, I discovered many discarded items along the embankment of the Rat River," Lipischak is quoted as saying in the exhibition text.

With each item discovered, Lipischak began asking questions about who used them, their purpose and why they were discarded. She also realized Mother Nature had adapted to and thrived within the debris, and incorporates elements of nature into many of the newly transformed objects.

Lipischak is a multidisciplinary Franco-Métis artist who worked in



This abandoned item became a dreamcatcher.

graphic design for about 10 years before branching out into jewelry design and launching Fat Daug, which features hand-

carved antler jewelry with nature-inspired themes and images.

Owl saw.

Lipischak also began creating visual art, using antler, recycled tin and other materials to raise awareness of environmental and social issues.

The exhibition aims to prompt discussion about the adaptation of na-



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY NEW ICELAND HERITAGE MUSEUM Lipischak turned several items into art.

ture to human activity as well as issues impacting society.

Unearthed runs until August before moving on to other towns across the province. The NIHM is located at 94 First Ave. in the Waterfront Centre. Call 204-642-4001 for more information.

Arborg's Thorsteinson celebrates 25 years on council

By Evan Matthews

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities and the Town of Arborg recognized Coun. Rob Thorsteinson for his 25 years of municipal service and his long-standing commitment to the community at its July 8 virtual meeting.

Thorsteinson is a lifelong resident of Arborg and was first elected to council in October 1995, serving for 25 consecutive years (or seven terms).

"I've always been interested in local politics, and politics



NOTICE OF RETIREMENT

To the Residents and Ratepayers of the Rural Municipality of Grahamdale.

I wish to inform you that I will be retiring from my position as Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Grahamdale effective June 30, 2020, due to health issues.

For over 23 years I have represented Grahamdale both as Councillor and for the last 6 years as Reeve. My time here has been marked by both challenges and triumphs. I want to thank everyone that has supported me during my time on Council. I would also like to say how much I have enjoyed working with Council and RM Staff, both past and present.

Sincerely, Clifford Halaburda Reeve RM of Grahamdale in general, so I just thought I would throw my name in the hat and see what I could contribute to the town," said Thorsteinson.

He's been a chairperson for the public works department for a number of years and is proud of the efficient street cleaning, paved streets and sidewalks.

Arborg residents will see Thorsteinson and his wife Debbie almost every day on their walks throughout all seasons of the year.

"I've seen our community grow, and it's been nice to be part of that. Our





EXPRESS PHOTO BY JAN LARKIN Town of Arborg Coun. Rob Thorsteinson was recognized for 25 years of service on July 8.

population seems to increase every census," he said. In November 2010, Thorsteinson accepted the role of deputy mayor and served in that capacity until November 2018.

He continues to serve his community as a councillor.

"You just want to see the town run smoothly on a day-today basis, but our staff does such a good job that you hardly have to do anything. They just look after everything," said Thorsteinson, crediting the administrative and public

Arborg Collegiate graduate accepted into veterinary school

By Sydney Lockhart

Veterinary school is right around the corner for Arborg-raised Sarah Jensen, who has been accepted into the Western College of Veterinary Medicine starting this upcoming fall semester.

Each year, the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan only accepts 15 students from Manitoba. It is the only school in Canada that Jensen could apply for because vet schools are regionbased, making the rate of acceptance low for a first application student.

Growing up, Jensen was always hanging around her dad and their cattle. This is where her interest in being a vet started.

"I got to see the vets come out and interact with my dad and see how it was going face to face," she said.

After graduating from Arborg Collegiate Institute in 2017, Jensen went on to study in the faculty of science department of biological sci-

ences at the University of Manitoba.

She plans on practising large animal medicine in rural Manitoba after becoming a doctor of veterinary medicine and eventually furthering her studies in epidemiology or pathology.

Jensen has been awarded the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council award (NSERC), the University of Manitoba Emerging Leaders Award and is a semi-finalist for the Canadian Cattlemen's Young Leader Award.

She received the NSERC award after working on a project to increase the sustainability of beef cattle production.

Jensen said her parents reacted with pride when she told them her big news.

"They were super excited as well. They knew how hard I had worked for this. They've always been so supportive and I'm really thankful for that," she said, "I'll miss some parts of U of M but I'm so excited that I'm going to Saskatoon. I'm looking straight into the future."



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED Soon-to-be veterinary student Sarah Jensen with her horses.

RCMP looking for youth to join the National Advisory Committee

Submitted by RCMP

Canadian residents aged 13 to 21 can now apply to become a part of the RCMP's National Youth Advisory Committee (NYAC).

Applications must be received by Sept. 11. Those who apply by July 31 will be a part of the first selection round and get a better chance of being selected.

This is an online opportunity for youth to connect, have their say and make a difference. NYAC members interact with participants from all over the country and discuss important issues they face in their respective communities. They share their thoughts about youth crime and victimization grams and initiatives. NYAC members can also receive reference letters and volunteer hours.

Youth voices matter. For all the details regarding this opportunity, visit the RCMP website. Quick facts

Youth are a priority for the RCMP.

topics, and help shape RCMP pro- The NYAC helps the RCMP create relevant youth programs and strategies. The deadline to apply for the 2020-21 NYAC is Sept. 11.

> To request an application form, send an email to RCMP.Youth-Jeunesse.GRC@rcmp-grc.gc.ca.

Patients are talking about their teeth

By Elisha Vandor

other end explained that she lost my smile. I truly cannot thank her partial denture. To say she them all at Vandor Denture was 'in a pickle' is an understatement because she had a family we're prepared to help in any way. Having an on-site laboratory really gives us the upper hand because we are able to do repairs, relines, and even make a new denture within a day or two. So, we were able to have a new partial denture (for a panher Sunday afternoon festivities. She said, "I lost my partial plate Friday morning in a panic, got it replaced, it was ready before the weekend was over!! It fit better than my old one and looked 10x!! Brock is truly amaz-

On Friday afternoon a phone ing. From how comforting he is functions properly! What about call came in and the lady on the to how talented he is to recreate Centre enough!!" - June 9, 2020

While we're on the topic of getfunction happening only 2 days ting new dentures, a patient came later, and needed her teeth back! to see us because she had her par-It's never an ideal time to have tial upper denture for quite some something like this happen, but time. Due to the uncertainty regarding the strength of the partial from natural wear and tear over the years, she decided it was time for a new one. Since she's had the denture, she stated, "A great experience. I love my new teeth. My friends and family just love them as well, lots of compliments! They icked patient) made in time for love the natural colour I chose. Matthew and Brock treated me so good. The impressions and fit-I called Vandor. Well I not only how they did them. I highly recommend you to come to Vandor Denture Centre!" - June 2, 2020

It's always nice getting a new

someone who's had their teeth for a while? Do we ever hear back from former patients in regards to how they're doing? The answer is yes! Catrina comes in every year to have her permanent denture taken out and professionally cleaned and polished. She came in a few weeks ago to update us in regards to how she's doing with her denture that's fixed permanently to implants. She said, "Oh, it's really nice to have. I am really pleased with it. I've had no problems since I got the teeth done years go. I can eat anything, whatever I like and have no problems. There's no doubt I would recommend getting dental implants." - May 21, 2020.

To read what people have tings were very comfortable with been saying, just Google Vandor Denture Centre and read our reviews. If you any have questions, we are on call 24/7 and happy to help with your densmile that looks natural and ture and dental implant needs.



Denturist Matthew has a good laugh (behind his mask) with a patient after she receives her new partial denture. What she says about the denture is featured in the article



Bifrost-Riverton honours councillors for years of service

By Evan Matthews

The RM of Bifrost-Riverton is acknowledging two of its councillors for years of service.

At its July 8 meeting, RM of Bifrost-Riverton Reeve Brian Johnson presented the Association of Manitoba Municipalities 2020 Interlake District Service Awards to councillors Frode Andersen for five years and Gordon Klym for 10 years.

Both councillors Anderson and Klym declined to comment for this story. Reeve Brian Johnson also declined to comment for this story.

Quoting AMM, Bifrost-Riverton CAO Jordan Willner said due to CO-VID-19, AMM was focused on health and safety and therefore held its June meetings virtually. As a result, 2020

Service Award recipients had their pins sent to municipal offices to be presented by leaders of each respective council.

The AMM also announced to the RM of Bifrost-Riverton it will present a delegation at the RM's Aug. 6 meeting.

"The purpose of this meeting is to allow council to discuss the issues that specifically affect their municipality with the AMM delegation," said Willner in an email.

"It is also an opportunity for the AMM to update the council on some of the issues the AMM board has been involved with during recent months, and what the organization is working on for the future."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY CAO JORDAN WILLNER

Inside the RM of Bifrost-Riverton council chambers, Reeve Brian Johnson, right, presents Frode Anderson, left, and Gordon Klym, middle, with their five-year and 10-year service pins, respectively.



Saskatoon berries have many benefits

Did you know that Saskatoon berries are also known as June berries and Serviceberries? Saskatoon berries have many benefits. They have more protein fibre and minerals than blueberries. The purple colour are "anthocyanin's" which help keep cells healthy. The name 'Saskatoon' comes from the Cree work "Mis-sask-quahtoo-mina"

The Saskatoon bushes produce the most fruit when they are 12 to 15 years old. When picking be sure to check out the whole tree, berries grow all over the bush so be sure to pick top from to bottom and inside too. Pro pickers attach their ice cream pails to their belt in order to have both hands free for faster berry picking.

When Handling berries it is best to be careful as they are perishable. Place in refrigerator immediately for

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use within 3 to 7 days. Rinse in colander and enjoy fresh. To freeze Saskatoons place in air tight container or freezer bag. They freeze individually and it is easy to grab a small amount for recipes, smoothies, or cereal topping.

Saskatoon's can be used in any recipe instead of blueberries.

RECIPE IDEAS: Saskatoon & **Strawberry Smoothie**

2 handfuls frozen Strawberries 2 handfuls frozen Saskatoons 1 handful kale or spinach Top up blender with milk Combine in blender and blend.

White Chocolate **Saskatoon Muffins**

1³/₄ Cup flour

3 Tsp baking powder ¹/₂Tsp salt

1/2 Cup granulated sugar ¹/₄ Cup melted butter 1 Egg

³/₄ Cup milk 1Tsp vanilla

1 cup Saskatoon Berries

¹/₂ Cup white chocolate chips

1. Whisk together dry ingredients in a large bowl.

2. Combine milk, beaten egg, vanilla

& butter in small bowl.

3. Pour liquid into the dry ingredients and stir until combined.

4. Add white chocolate chips and Saskatoons. Stir gently.

5. Fill 12 lined muffin tins.

6. Bake @ 400 degrees for 20-25 mins. 7. Cool & Enjoy



> THORSTEINSON, FROM PG. 8

works staff.

"Younger families, and families from the Philippines and from Syria, are moving into town more often over the last number of years. The population when I got onto council was just below 900, and I think the last census has us over 1,250, which is fantastic," he said.

Arborg Mayor Peter Dueck said he and Thorsteinson have only shared two years on council together, suggesting some in the community may personally know Thorsteinson better. But the mayor said a lot of respect is due to a person who has committed 25 years of service to the community.

"We are very grateful to Rob and proud of his long commitment. He is an incredibly valuable councillor because of those years, and his knowledge of past decisions and the rationale for those decisions," said Dueck, adding the currently council is a good blend of new ideas and energy coupled with a steady leadership.

"Rob has served on practically every sub-committee and has amazing recall. He continues to be a councillor who is willing to make the right decision and is able to do so relatively quickly. I find Rob is the correct balance between managing but never micro-managing."



Sports&recreation

15U Orioles blast Red River in 'AAA' baseball action

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Orioles 15U "AAA" baseball team picked up their first win of the season last Friday at Transcona Stadium.

And they did it in very impressive fashion.

Interlake played extremely well in blasting Red River 10-0 in five innings.

"It was a good pitching effort and there weren't a lot of hits against us," said Orioles' head coach Dave Myers. "It was a good game. They just played well and we hit the ball so that was good."

Rylan Slatcher earned the completegame victory on the mound for the Interlake.

"He had good control, for the most part," Myers said. "I think he only walked two kids the whole game. He was making them put the ball in play and our guys were making plays so it was good."

Leading 3-0, the Orioles broke the game wide open in the top of the fifth inning, scoring seven runs.

Tessa Stewart had a huge hit in that big inning, ripping a bases-loaded double that cleared the bases.

Last Wednesday, Interlake lost 7-1 to the North Winnipeg Pirates in Balmoral. The Orioles were leading 1-0 heading into the bottom of the fifth.

"They tied it up in the fifth and then we made a few mistakes," Myers said. "They scored something like four in the fifth and we made a few errors that cost us some runs. They have to learn not to make those kinds of mistakes."

Interlake, now 1-2, will host the Balmoral Black Sox on Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. in Balmoral.

The Orioles will then visit the St. James A's Friday (6:30 p.m.).

In 13U "AAA" action, Interlake lost 21-14 to the North Winnipeg Pirates last Thursday in Balmoral.

On July 7, the Orioles were defeated 15-1 by the Bonivital Black Sox in Winnipeg.

Interlake hosted Bonivital this past Tuesday but no score was available at press time. The Orioles will then play Winnipeg South on Thursday in Balmoral.



Interlake's Matt Good makes the tag on a North Winnipeg player. The Orioles were defeated 7-1.

18U Orioles slay Elmwood Giants

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Orioles 18U "AAA" baseball team played a great game against the Elmwood Giants last Friday at Koskie Field in Winnipeg.

Interlake snapped a three-game losing streak with a solid 9-6 comeback win over Elmwood.

"We've had competitive games with them in the past so it was nice to see us get rewarded," said Orioles' head coach Eric Swanson. "Earlier in the week against Winnipeg South, we put ourselves in positions to win and then shot ourselves in the foot. It was nice to see us get rewarded later."

Interlake definitely deserved to be rewarded.

The Orioles trailed the Giants 5-0 after giving up five runs in the second inning. But Interlake came right back with three runs of their own in the top of the third and then added four in the fifth and two more in the sixth. "We had three pretty big innings and we gave up a big inning, too," Swanson said. "(The comeback) says a lot about our group. We're pretty competitive and it would have been easy for anyone to pack it in at that point but it was nice to see us battle back and get rewarded."

Connor Smith picked up the win on the mound for the Orioles.

On July 7, Interlake lost 13-9 to Winnipeg South in Stonewall. Interlake (2-4) visited the Bonivital Black Sox (3-3) on Tuesday but no score was available at press time.

The Orioles will battle last-place Elmwood (1-6) again on Sunday at 7 p.m. at Koskie Field. It's a nice break in the schedule for the Orioles, who played two doubleheaders in just five days to start the season.

"It definitely helps on our arms," Swanson said."We can plan our week normally."

Interlake sweeps Elmwood in MJBL Sunday doubleheader

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Blue Jays had a very good day last Sunday.

Interlake improved its record to 6-3 after sweeping the defending-league champion Elmwood Giants in a Manitoba Junior Baseball League doubleheader on Sunday in Stonewall.

Interlake won games by scores of 7-2 and 11-3.

Last Wednesday, the Blue Jays were

outslugged 13-11 at home by the Altona Bisons.

Interlake, now in a three-way tie for second place with Elmwood and Altona in the eight-team league, will hit the road for four straight games. The Blue Jays will visit the St. James A's on Wednesday (7 p.m.), the Pembina Valley Orioles Sunday (1 p.m. and 4 p.m.), and the Carillon Sultans on July 22 (7 p.m.). In Winnipeg Senior Baseball League action, the Stonewall Blue Jays were edged 4-3 by the Elmwood Giants last Thursday at Koskie Field.

Stonewall scored single runs in the second, third, and fourth innings. Elmwood scored one in the bottom of the first inning, added two more in the fifth, and then plated the gamewinning run in the seventh for the walk-off win. On July 7, Stonewall pounded the Boni-Vital Brewers 13-5.

The Blue Jays, now 2-1, will host the St. James A's this Thursday (7:30 p.m.) and then play a pair of home games against two different teams on Saturday.

Stonewall will battle the St. Boniface Legionaires at 11 a.m. and then will take on Boni-Vital at 2 p.m.



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Town of Arborg COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE

The Town of Arborg is seeking the commitment of a community-minded individual interested in serving on the Board of Directors of the Arborg Bifrost-Riverton Community Development Corporation. The business of the Corporation is to foster social and economic development of the Town of Arborg and the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton.

Applicants must be 18 years of age or over and a resident or business owner within the boundaries of the Town of Arborg.

To be considered for this appointment, written expressions of interest must be submitted to the Arborg Town Office by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, July 21st, 2020.

Cindy Stansell, CAO 337 River Road, Box 159, Arborg, MB ROC 0A0 caoarborg@mvmts.net Phone: 204-376-2647 Fax: 204-376-5379

NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

The Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking

TENDER APPLICATIONS for

Canteen Operations: Arborg & District Arena & Arborg Curling Club

The Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission is requesting tender applications from qualified individuals, organizations, or businesses for the operation of canteen facilities for the arena and curling rink commencing September 15, 2020.

There is an added opportunity for interested parties to operate the facility as a year round canteen/restaurant. If interested in operating the facility throughout the year, the tender must include a detailed outline of days and times that it would be operational.

Amenities included: deep fryer, grill, freezer, stove, oven, storage

Interested parties can contact the Recreation Office at 204-376-5576 for more information or set up a time to view the arena and canteen facilities. Tenders can be dropped off at the Recreation Office or submitted by August 15, 2020 by 4:00pm to:

Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission Box 555, Arborg, MB, ROC 0A0

Email: tom.abprc@mymts.net

The Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission thanks everyone for their interest and tender submissions, but reserves the right to decline any and all of the tenders.

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ARBORG BIFROST PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY Facility Attendant**

The Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission has a position available for Facility Attendant. This position will be from September 21, 2020 - March 26, 2021 with the possibility of becoming a full time opportunity.

The candidate should be able to:

- · work weekdays, weekends, and evenings
- able to stand/walk for periods of time
- able to lift and carry items up to 50 pounds occasionally
- · maintain a clean working environment for staff and users good communicator
- mechanically inclined

• have knowledge of ice making and maintenance (will be trained) Salary Range: \$14.00-\$18.00 depending upon experience and qualifications

Please send resume with references to:

Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission

Box 555 Arborg, MB, ROC 0A0

Email: tom.abprc@mymts.net

The Arborg Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission thanks applicants for their interest, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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CARD OF THANKS

Evergreen Basic Needs would like to take this opportunity to thank all those in and around our community who have supported us through the uncharted waters of the COVID-19 Pandemic. To the sewing warriors who stitched together a wide assortment of masks for our clients, staff and volunteers and those who purchased masks and supported EBN with their donations. To the individuals who responded and continue to respond with cash donations and food donations purchased through Sobey's and Red River Coop. To the local businesses who continue to support us in all of our efforts to provide a safe and sanitized work place. To those who offered their time to help in any way they could. To the Westshore Foundation, The RM of Gimli, the Provincial and Federal Governments for their tangible support in navigating these trying times. To our staff and volunteers who have risen to the challenge of a new way of doing business. We appreciate the community having our back and we look forward to working with all of you. together as we move cautiously into the future.





BIRTHDAY

Willie Dueck Happy 97th Birthday You are invited to a 97th COME AND GO birthday celebration for Willie Dueck on Sunday, July 19 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Location: East end of House of Hope in Arborg. Please remember to observe physical distancing



Angela (Nellie) Graboweski 1925 - 2020

OBITUARY

Peacefully, on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at Gimli Community Health Centre with her loving family by her side Angela passed away at the age of 94 years.

Angela is survived by her children Ben (Gladys), Victoria (John), Irene, Angie (Mike) and Joe (Lois); grandchildren Rosayln (Tom), Mark, John (Melissa), Josh (Cher), Jaymes (Ashley), Jordan (Nicole), Melissa (Darcy), Arianna, Garrett, and Hailey; great-grandchildren Lydia, Brandt, Adelyne, Jack, Nevayah, Makenna, Preston and Sutton. She is also survived by her brother Andy Yablonski and sisters-in-law Pat Yablonski, Irene Tataryn and Marie Graboweski.

Angela was predeceased by her husband of 57 years, Emil Graboweski; parents Anthony and Katherine Yablonski; sons-inlaw Terry Allen and Chi Man; brothers John, Walter, Frank, Joe and Peter Yablonski; sisters Mary Michaluk, Jean Nickarz and Anne Kozera.

She was born August 2, 1925, in Malonton, Manitoba. Emil and Angela married in 1951 and they started the dairy farm in 1952, where they resided and raised their family. In 1978, they sold the dairy and established the present day Graboweski Concrete, a business from which she never really "retired." Angela was a long time member of the parish at Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic Church in Winnipeg Beach.

Her hands were never still - cooking, baking and gardening - but her true passion was her family. There was always room for you at Angela's table and nothing made her happier then having everyone together at Sunday gatherings after church.

Mass will be invitation only at Our Lady of the Lake Church on Friday July 17, 2020 in Winnipeg Beach. Interment will follow at

11:15 a.m. in the Polish Pioneer Cemetery (#9 Hwy, Winnipeg Beach) where everyone is welcome, respecting COVID-19 restrictions. In lieu of flowers, donations in Angela's memory may be made to the Polish Pioneer Cemetery.

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

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY

Valdine Bjornsson

The family of Valdine Bjornsson has decided, due to the recent circumstances, the family will be holding only a small immediate family graveside ceremony at this time.

The family hopes to have a celebration of life ceremony next summer, which will include all family, extended family and friends. Please everyone, stay safe.

-Love Valdine Bjornsson's family

Following his wishes a cremation has taken place and a private family burial will be held at a later date.

FISHER FUNERAL HOME INC. Entrusted with arrangements 204-372-6803 or 204-372-6271

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Mildred Harms

OBITUARY

On June 30, 2020, our dear wife and mother passed away peacefully at the Gimli Hospital, and entered her eternal home in heaven. Mildred was the firstborn of Henry and Tina Reimer. She was born in the Steinbach Hospital on August 30, 1945. In 1959 the family moved to Mennville to join the newly founded farming community.

At the age of 14 she was baptized in the Mennville EMC Church upon putting her trust in Jesus Christ for her life here and the life to come. Her interest in nursing led her to move to Gimli at the age of 19 to work in the hospital as a nurses' aid. In later years she worked as

a bookkeeper for Riverdale Place Workshops. On May 6, 1967, she and Paul Harms were married. They were

blessed with three children: Kim, Ken and Karyn (Doug).

Mildred enjoyed life on the farm and was active in volunteering with the Mennville Church. She volunteered at the Riverton Thrift Store for many years and enjoyed interacting with the customers there.

Mildred will be remembered for her servant heart, her unwavering trust in God's plan and care for her family. She was always ready to welcome people into her home regardless if they were strangers, family or friends. Her faith in God and incredible strength during the past 15 months since her cancer diagnosis, have spoken loudly to all she came in contact with.

Left to mourn her loss are her husband Paul, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We would like to thank our friends and community for the support they have shown us during this time. We would also like to thank the homecare staff and the staff at the Gimli Hospital and Cancer Care for providing excellent care for Mildred. Thank you to Friends Funeral Service for making the funeral arrangements.

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OBITUARY **Dale Warren Fedorchuk** Suddenly at his home in Chatfield, MB Dale passed away at the age of 58.

The Express Weekly News Thursday, July 16, 2020 15 **CLUES DOWN** take <u>a brea</u> 1. Artistic dancing 2. Plenty 10 3. Act leisurely 12 4. Serve as a warning 5. Admired lovingly 13. Northern Zambia peoples 13 **CLUES ACROSS** 6. Leftover oil from distillation 15. Central 1. Sound unit process 16 16. Collector of birds' eggs 4. Trim by cutting 7. Company officer 17. Misbehavior 8. Small buffalo 18 9. Egyptian unit of capacity 19 20 18. Top of the line **10. Ancient manuscript 10. One transmits information** 21. Political action committee 22 11. Look angry or sullen 12. Middle layer of an embryo 22. Have already done 12. Glum 14. Form of "to be" 23 23. Al Bundy's wife **15. Cairo Regional Airport** 24. Entertainment channel 17. Partner to cheese 25 25. Holiday (informal) E E b 19. Sample 26. The common gibbon A 1 5 30 31 32 33 29 20. A shirt may have none 27. Legendary actress 23. Public gatherings 34. Seasoned sausages 24. Disallow 35. Bluish greens 25. Overnight suitcases 37 36. Ridiculed 26. French river 37. Three-dimensional arrangement 38 39 27. Where boats dock 38. Emerged 28. Top of a pot 40 41 39. Type of protein 29. Type of drug a N N -40. Denmark natives 30. City along the Rhine 42 41. Leak slowly through ONA 31. Animal disease 42. Expression of sorrow or pity 32. They go in martinis 43. Midway between south and 34. Intermediate ecological stage 36. Baby term for father **Crossword Answer** 33. A way to break away southeast **Stephen's Handyman Service** INSUL **JEFF'S** pampered chef **MBIN** Carpentry BALMORAL, MANITOBA Electrical SERVICES INC. Spray Foam INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT Plumbing RESIDENTIAL
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