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VOLUME 11 EDITION 37 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

LOCALLY OWNED HISTORY BOOK FOR THE COMMUNITY

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Early year Seniors

**EXPRESS PHOTO BY RAYME THOMSON** 

**WEEKLY NEWS** 

Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School Grade 4 students Jax and Jace Basha were excited for their first day of classes on Sept. 5.

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# 2 The Express Weekly News Thursday, September 12, 2024 MAA's low-cost veterinary clinic in RM of Fisher treats 74 animals

## Animal Alliance received outstanding community hospitality in Fisher Branch

#### By Patricia Barrett

The Manitoba Animal Alliance (MAA) held a low-cost veterinary spay, neuter and vaccination clinic on Aug. 24 in Fisher Branch that saw a significant number of animals treated and the community step up to volunteer.

"It was a fantastic clinic," said MAA founder and director Debra Vandekerkhove. "It was a one-day clinic for RM of Fisher residents only that we held at the Ukrainian Hall. We had 46 cats and dogs [for spay and neuter] and 28 vaccination appointments for a total of 74 animals. We were really busy."

She said the hospitality MAA received from the community was "unbelievable," with so many people stepping up to volunteer, including Fay, Michelle, Eleanor and husbands and sons, all willing to do jobs such as unloading the animals and helping



Veterinary staff from Arborg joined MAA's clinic in Fisher Branch.

prepare them for procedures.

"We had so many volunteers helping us. This community was extremely accommodating, and they kept us well fed. Community members pitched in to make lunch and dinner, including on Friday night. Sadie Hamrlik [RM of Fisher employee] and her sister-in-law Shirley and Grace Skavinski did a full Ukrainian dinner for us. They did a huge amount of cooking and baking. We had cabbage rolls, dairy-free perogies and all the fixings. People also made borscht and stew and sandwiches it was just unbelievable. The Fisher Branch Women's Institute hosted our Saturday lunch. Not only did we not have to worry about getting meals,



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EXPRESS PHOTOS BY DEBRA VANDEKERKHOVE

RM of Fisher resident Tess Omer brought her three livestock dogs to the clinic.

but they were fantastic meals," said Vandekerkhove. "And the hall was air-conditioned and it was really nice for us to work in there and good for the animals, too, because it was about 32 Celsius that day."

The clinic was held in partnership with the LUD of Fisher Branch and the Rural Municipality of Fisher, and sponsored by Pearls 365, a social impact company that was founded by an Albertan veterinarian to provide funding to animal welfare programs, including support for dogs on Canadian reservations.

"Pearls 365 covered a lot for us," said Vandekerkhove. "We always have clinic costs over and above that we need to cover through fundraising. We have to fundraise for every clinic because we're offering them at low-cost to communities. The RM of Fisher rented the Ukrainian Hall for



The clinic treated barn and outdoor cats.

us and they covered hotel costs." The MAA is a registered charity that was established in 2013 and is headquartered in Sandy Hook in the RM of Gimli. It offers mobile veterinary

Continued on page 3



Abbigail and Steve Marykuca with the family's one-year-old St. Bernard Marty attended the low-cost vet clinic held by the MAA on Aug. 24.

# > LOW-COST VET, FROM PG. 2

clinics across the province including to First Nations communities. MAA is volunteer-run and it has to hire and pay for veterinarians. In addition to its mobile spay, neuter and vaccine clinics, MAA helps communities deal with homeless, injured and abandoned animals and operates a foster program.

The clinic in Fisher Branch saw lots of "unsocialized" barn cats and outdoor cats brought in, cattle dogs and guardian or livestock dogs such as Australian shepherds and great Pyrenees.

RM of Fisher resident Tess Omer brought her three great Pyrenees to the clinic. These are large, powerful guardian dogs that protect stock from predators such as coyotes and wolves.

"I felt it was important to have them all treated to not only keep them from having puppies but also for their general health," said Omer. "We would have to take them out of the workplace if they were in heat or having puppies and it's important to have them working."

The clinic had vets and vet techs from across the region and the city, as well as veterinary organizations that contributed to their success, said



An RM of Fisher resident with his dog waits to see a veterinarian.

Vandekerkhove. Vet staff included Dr. Aaron from the Centennial Animal Hospital in Winnipeg, Dr. Ray from the Seven Oaks Veterinary Hospital, and a veterinarian who lives in the Fisher Branch area and works for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. They also had vet assistant Angelina from the Dakota Veterinary Hospital, and Shailyne, a veterinarian technician from Arborg, along with other vet techs and MAA's own RVT (registered veterinary technician), Chantelle. The Victoria Humane Society provided parasite medications and antibiotics and MAA had help from



Veterinary staff performing surgery on one of the dogs.

VetStrategy, a vet network that operates across Canada.

"I thought it was a very good clinic for the community itself. We met a lot of people on pretty tight budgets. To be able to get their cats and dogs done at a low cost was outstanding for them," said Vandekerkhove. "And the amount of pet food they got just blew them away (residents received pet food as part of the clinic services). The food cost (around \$100) almost as much as the clinic itself, which was \$125 for spay and neuter. People told us they got really good value and they were really happy."

She said MAA wants to do another low-cost clinic in Fisher Branch next year because of the success they had and the outstanding hospitality they received. They want to see more people bringing in some "fresh new barn cats" to have fixed and vaccinated as well as dogs.

"MAA wants to offer another clinic to this community because we got so many volunteers, we were treated so well and fed so well," said Vandekerkhove. "We're so in for this."



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# Final Hi-Ho Hot Dogs breast cancer fundraiser

#### By E Antonio

Hi-Ho Hot Dogs has been grilling up a tasty lunch in support of CIBC Run for the Cure for 10 years, and on Aug. 31, they bid adieu to their popular fundraiser.

Debbie Palson started the fundraiser with her grandkids when she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"The kids had a little lemonade stand and then we said, 'let's do some hot dogs for the neighbours.' We decided if they make money, they can give it to CIBC Run for the Cure because we had a team who ran," explained Palson.

CIBC Run for the Cure is a yearly fundraising event in which participants across Canada team up to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society.

It is known to be the largest volunteer-based fundraising event supporting breast cancer.

In their inaugural year, Hi-Ho Hot Dogs raised \$300, and donations continued to grow in the following years.

"We have donated \$50,000 to Run for the Cure. This year's amount will take it easily past \$60,000," said Palson.

She added that all funds raised and donated within Manitoba stay in the province once they are donated to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Hi-Ho Hot Dogs held their annual fundraiser in Hnausa on the edge of their lake-front property.

"The name of the property is Hinar Ho and this piece of property has been in my husband's family for 140 years," said Palson.

She continued to explain that there is a tiny beach house on the property, and her kids suggested calling it "Hi-Ho." This is how the famous community-wide event got its name.

"It's a warm and fuzzy community event with lots of support from everyone."

The Hi-Ho Hot Dogs team has been firing up their barbecue for a decade in support of the CIBC Run for the Cure, and for 2024's event, they grilled up their final hot dog.

"It has been a wonderful journey, but it is a massive amount of work. It has almost outgrown our property," Palson explained.

A record-breaking 400 people supported Hi-Ho Hot Dogs with their final fundraiser.

Paulson described the day to be a, "bittersweet ending."

She is humbled by all the support they received from the community.

"Pratts Wholesale donated 400 wieners, and Costco on Regent gave us



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON** 

Hi-Ho Hot Dogs hosted their final hot dog fundraiser on Aug. 31. Debbie Palson and her family have been hosting the breast cancer fundraiser for the past 10 years and have donated over \$60,000 to the CIBC Run for the Cure.

a \$200 card to buy buns and condiments."

Apart from buying all the ingredients, Palson and a group of friends made chili, fresh relish and fried onions so people could build their own gourmet hot dogs. Once Hi-Ho's Hot Dog Day arrived, they sold a hot dog and a drink for \$5 and sold out of their 400 hot dogs in under two-and-a-half hours.

Apart from eating hot dogs, there

Continued on page 5









# > HI-HO HOT DOGS, FROM PG. 4

was lots of fun at the popular event. Community members were entertained with live music, fun games, bouncy castles and exciting silent auction prizes.

Palson thanked all of the people and businesses for their generous donations as they helped make the event possible.

"Everybody chips in," she said. Palson is unsure about what Hi-Ho's future may look like.

"If we are missing it next year, something may happen in the future on a different scale. The dust is just settling for this one."

She added that she would definitely support anyone who takes over the hot dog fundraiser next year.

If you missed Hi-Ho Hot Dogs' final event but would still like to donate, they have an online link where they accept donations for Run for the Cure. You can donate by visiting the Run for the Cure donation website and searching for "The Hi-Ho Hot Dogs" on the team page.

















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# Statement from the Rural Municipality of Grahamdale

## Response to Aug. 24-25 weather event

#### Submitted by the RM of Grahamdale

The Rural Municipality of Grahamdale continues to respond to the Aug. 24-25 severe weather event, which brought high winds and over 140 mm of rain, causing notable flooding in Fairford, St. Martin and Gypsumville.

On Aug. 25, the municipality monitored water levels and found them to be manageable and consistent with previous flooding events. Pre-emptive actions included the removal of small beaver dams and a culvert obstruction through a municipal road. Although most properties were not in immediate danger, one resident voiced concerns on social media. An initial inspection of the property confirmed that they were not under immediate threat, with driveway access maintained despite the water having breached the banks of the provincially owned Partridge Creek Drain.

Municipal staff visited the resident on Aug. 26 at approximately 8 a.m. to explain the municipality's role during an overland flooding event. It was clarified that while the RM provides sandbags and sand, homeowners are responsible for filling and placing them. While the initial offer of sand



**EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF NATASCHA KITCHUR** 

Flood waters surround the Kitchur residence in the RM of Grahamdale. The family, who live on the east side of Highway 6, have 200 head of cattle. They lost their grain and hay (winter feed) to overland flooding on the weekend of Aug. 24.

and sandbags was declined, sand and sandbags were requested later that morning as water levels continued to rise. The municipality arranged for sand and sandbags to be delivered. An additional 500 super sandbags and 10,000 regular sandbags were stockpiled at the Gypsumville Fire Department. Once sandbagging began, pumping operations were initiated with private, municipal and provincial resources.

As a precaution, the RM of Grahamdale declared a State of Local Emer-

gency on Aug. 26, enabling the municipality to use additional powers under the Emergency Measures Act, if necessary.

The RM is now seeking Disaster Financial Assistance from the Province of Manitoba. Affected residents are encouraged to complete and submit a Community Impact Assessment form to support this request. To obtain a form, please contact the R.M. of Grahamdale municipal office at 204-768-2858 or info@graĥamdale.ca.

# NDP must explain financial U-turn at MPI

#### By Lana Meier

The Manitoba Progressive Conservative Caucus recently urged NDP justice minister Matt Wiebe, who is also responsible for the Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation, to reconvene the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations. This step is necessary to address the concerning financial downturns at the provincial auto insurer.

"In March, MPI presented its annual report to legislators and said it was on track to deliver another rebate for Manitobans in line with the near-\$500 million that had been rebated under

PCs over the past couple of years," said Turtle Mountain MLA Doyle Piwniuk, PC critic for MPI. "Now, we've learned that's not the case. Not only is there no rebate coming, but the Public Utilities Board has been asked

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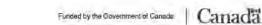
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# Nutrient targets introduced in 2020 by Conservatives approved by NDP in 2024

#### By Patricia Barrett

The provincial NDP government announced at the end of August that it had set the first-ever nutrient reduction targets for improving water quality after officially passing a regulation this summer.

The regulation had initially been introduced by the former provincial Conservative government during the pandemic, and the targets that government had set for phosphorus and nitrogen loading to Lake Winnipeg and four rivers have now been implemented.

NDP environment and climate change minister Tracy Schmidt announced at the end of August the adoption of the nutrient targets, saying they're a "major step forward" to protecting water quality.

"This regulation for Lake Winnipeg and its tributaries sets the first-ever formal nutrient reduction target for improving water quality in Manitoba's history," said Schmidt in an Aug. 27 news release. "Establishing nutrient targets for our cherished rivers and lakes is essential in protecting those waterways for generations to come."

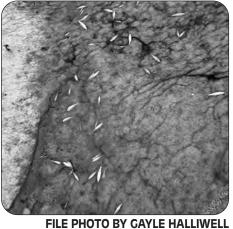
The Nutrient Targets Regulation falls under the Water Protection Act and includes Lake Winnipeg, the Red River, the Saskatchewan River, the Winnipeg River and the Dauphin River.

"It commits Manitoba to report regularly on progress towards implementing the targets and actions underway to reduce nutrient levels in waterbodies in Manitoba," said Schmidt. "This provides a clear, measurable benchmark with the goal of effecting real change in the protection of Manitoba's waterways."

Because there were no phosphorus and nitrogen target numbers provided in the news release, the *Express* reached out to the department to find out whether it had made any changes to the targets for Lake Winnipeg (the Conservative government had proposed a total phosphorus target of .05 mg/L and a total nitrogen target of .75 mg/L).

A spokesperson said the total phosphorus for Lake Winnipeg is now officially set at .05 mg/L and total nitrogen at .75 mg/L.

Total phosphorus load targets in rivers are as follows: the Red River at Selkirk is set at 2,800 tonnes per year. For the Saskatchewan River at Grand Rapids, the total is 340 tonnes per year. The Winnipeg River at Pine Falls has a total load target of 1,050 tonnes per year. And the Dauphin River midway between Anama Bay and Gypsumville has a total load of



A resident took a photo of an algal bloom and dead fish in the Winnipeg Beach harbour in 2023. The bloom hit several Interlake communities along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg, including Gimli and Arnes.

60 tonnes per year.

Total nitrogen load targets in rivers are as follows: the Red River at Selkirk is set at 19,050 tonnes per year. The Saskatchewan River at Grand Rapids has a target of 8,960 tonnes per year. The Winnipeg River at Pine Falls has a target of 19,450 tonnes per year. And the Dauphin River midway between Anama Bay and Gypsumville has a total nitrogen load of 4,550 tonnes per year.

While the government says these targets will improve water quality in Lake Winnipeg, as well as in the four rivers that carry nutrients to the lake, Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher and analyst Bill Buckels says they'll do nothing to protect Lake Winnipeg. And the province's news release, with its lack of detail, obfuscates harms being done to the lake.

Buckels has been hit by severe and extensive algal blooms in the Hecla-Grindstone region where he fishes in the fall. He has also found himself awash in fecal matter that swirls around for weeks in the currents. In 2018 Buckels had samples of browncoloured lake water tested by a Winnipeg laboratory, and it confirmed the water contained feces. Last year several communities along the west shore of Lake Winnipeg were hit by algal blooms and they were also accompanied by

masses of dead fish.

The province's beach advisory for mid-August noted blue-green algae or cyanobacteria being above recreational water quality objectives at Victoria Beach (Red



**EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT** 

A commercial fisher's helper and boats got covered in feces while working in the Hecla-Grindstone region of Lake Winnipeg in 2018.

Location	Total Phosphorus Load Total Nitrogen Load	
	Target (tonnes/year)	Target (tonnes/year)
Red River at Selkirk	2,800	19,050
Saskatchewan River at Grand Rapids	340	8,960
Winnipeg River at Pine Falls	1,050	19,450
Dauphin River midway between Anama Bay and Gypsumville	60	4,550

#### **GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA**

The Nutrient Targets Regulation passed by the NDP government this summer shows total phosphorus and nitrogen loading for four rivers that carry pollutants to Lake Winnipeg.

Cross Dock and Sunset Beach) on the east side of Lake Winnipeg and at Caddy Lake Beach in Whiteshell Pro-

vincial Park. The last provincial advisory issued on Sept. 6 noted that E.

Continued on page 8



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#### > NUTRIENTS, FROM PG. 7

coli counts were "briefly" above the recreational water quality objective at Sandy Bar (east of Riverton) on Lake Winnipeg in early September, and above the objective at Lester, West Grand and Patricia beaches on Lake Winnipeg.

In 2021 Buckels had raised concern about the Conservative government's proposed nutrient targets, saying nutrient enrichment will keep the lake in the eutrophic range, a condition which produces algal blooms and kills fish (see the Feb. 4, 2021, edition of the *Express Weekly News*' story titled "Province's proposed regulation on nutrient targets for Lake Winnipeg misses the mark").

Eutrophication of water bodies is a serious environmental threat that's occurring around the world. Excessive nutrients – phosphorus and nitrogen from agricultural fertilizers and animal waste, municipal wastewater, raw sewage and industrial processes

#### **Community Support Service**

A.A Meeting in Ashern is postponed for August 9th Next A.A Meeting is August 23rd at 6pm. Location: #11 2nd Ave North - Pioneer Manor ( beside the main door entrance of Pioneer Manor) Contact Jackiem.lwrc@gmail.com

**AA Eriksdale** 

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

#### AA Winnipeg Beach

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

Meetings are Saturdays between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact Ann J 204-389-3417

#### **Gimli Group AA**

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd Industrial Park

Fri & Sun Mtgs at 7:30 pm

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> AA Riverton Group 12 Main St. at the Riverton Senior Centre Mondays 7:30 p.m.

– lead to an overabundance of plant growth in waterbodies. Decaying plants then kill fish and other organisms through oxygen depletion. Algal blooms also pose threats to drinking water.

Lake Winnipeg receives water from U.S. states such as North Dakota and Minnesota, and from Canadian provinces such as Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta. That water carries phosphorus and nitrogen and other pollutants to the lake.

Buckels said the former Conservative government failed to stand up to the International Joint Commission, which is a Canada-U.S. body that manages shared waters and resolves transboundary water disputes. That failure resulted in nutrient targets being set too high to protect Lake Winnipeg. The target for phosphorus, for example, should have been set at .02 mg/L, which corresponds to the meso-eutrophic range.

"The nutrient targets were improperly set by the [provincial] Conservatives in 2020. The International Joint Commission shoved those nutrient targets down the throats of Canadians," said Buckels last week as he prepared for the opening of the fall commercial fishing season. "The targets were set too high because they want to send dirty water north. The Province of Manitoba didn't stand up against them, they embraced them. They said, 'OK, let's accept your dirty water,' then they increased the nutrient targets to double what they should be on Lake Winnipeg so that we could accommodate all their pollutants, not to mention all of ours, too."

Never one to shy away from making the government aware of what's happening to Lake Winnipeg, Buckels said he collected samples of filthy water and delivered them to the current natural resources minister Jamie Moses and to environment minister Tracy Schmidt.

"I told Tracy Schmidt that the nutrient targets had been set too high by the previous government, but she didn't seem to care," said Buckels. "I see there were no numbers provided about those targets in the NDP's August news release, no meaningful content and no links to other information. They probably don't want the public to know they've simply gone ahead and recycled the Conservatives' bad nutrient targets, which will do nothing to protect Lake Winnipeg."

Buckels said pollution in the lake is getting worse. It's getting worse because the government is not "fixing the problem, only talking about it." And various programs such as the Lake Winnipeg Basin Initiative to address water quality were created as a diversion to ongoing environmental damage; talking about water quality "costs 10 per cent of the money required to fix the problem."

The *Express* asked the province whether it will have real-time monitoring stations on tributaries to measure phosphorus and nitrogen levels, whether it has cooperation from upstream nutrient polluters to reduce nutrient loading to the lake and rivers that are part of the regulation, what kind of enforcement provisions the government has for those exceeding the nutrient targets, whether the government will be reducing the numbers of hogs and cattle that contribute to nutrient overloading and what timelines are in place to achieve the nutrient targets.

A departmental spokesperson said the phosphorus and nitrogen targets are intended to turn the condition of the lake back to what it was in the early 1990s and the government is working with agricultural producers to reduce nutrient loading.

He added that the government recognizes that collaboration with upstream jurisdictions is critical but doesn't say whether those polluters have taken action to reduce their nutrient contributions.

"The targets are based on the best available science on Lake Winnipeg and its watershed and are intended to improve water quality and reduce algal blooms to conditions similar to those observed in the early 1990s," said the spokesperson. "The Manitoba government is working alongside producers and other agricultural stakeholders to reduce nutrient loads in Lake Winnipeg and its tributaries. Many of these stakeholders have expressed their support for these regulations. Collaboration with upstream jurisdictions is critical component for improving water quality in the Lake Winnipeg watershed."

Regarding enforcement provisions, the spokesperson said that environmental regulation and enforcement for nutrient-contributing activities within the Lake Winnipeg watershed are subject to "their own regulatory and enforcement regimes."

It will take time to reverse the nutrient levels in Lake Winnipeg.

"Manitoba's nutrient reduction targets are intended to guide future nutrient reduction activities and track progress and outcomes over time," the spokesperson said. "Increases in nutrient loading occurred over decades in Manitoba, and reductions in nutrient concentrations in Lake Winnipeg to reach these targets will also take time."

## > MPI, FROM PG. 6

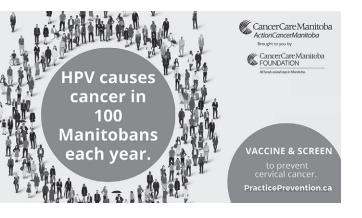
to approve a three per cent rate hike combined with a \$10 premium."

"Somehow, over the last six months, Wab Kinew's NDP have turned a surplus at MPI into a \$130-million loss. This sudden shift raises all kinds of red flags for Manitobans who have questions and deserve answers."

In December of last year, the PUB denied MPI's rate request and instead

implemented a five per cent reduction in light of their financial state. However, with the recent changes in leadership under Wab Kinew's administration, a new CEO has been appointed at MPI and the majority of the board members have been replaced. Piwniuk stated that the interference

from the NDP was causing Manitobans to bear a heavy cost. He urged the responsible NDP minister, Matt Wiebe, to promptly reconvene hearings. This would allow officials from MPI to openly discuss the two conflicting narratives they have presented to Manitobans over a period of six months. Piwniuk also demanded an explanation for the sudden and significant change in circumstances.





# **AMCP** a finalist for The Environmental Stewardship Award

#### By Becca Myskiw

The Association of Manitoba Community Pastures (AMCP) has been named a finalist for The Environmental Stewardship Award (TESA).

After making history as the first nonproducer to win the provincial title, AMCP moved on to be named a finalist for the national award. In March of this year, Manitoba Beef Producers gave the organization provincial recognition with the Manitoba TESA award. In August, they attended the Canadian Beef Industry Conference, where the Canadian Cattle Association (CCA) was named the national TESA winner.

TESA started in 1996 and has recognized producers who "go above and beyond standard industry conservation practices." Nominees show "significant innovation and attention to a wide range of environmental stewardship aspects in their farm operation," extending to benefit other areas beyond land like water, wildlife and

#### air.

AMCP general manager Barry Ross sees winning the provincial TESA and being a finalist for the national award as recognition for the organization's hard work recently. AMCP practices rotational grazing, which improves pastures in the long term by encouraging native plants to grow and eliminating forage waste. The organization also introduced fire to help with brush encroachment, keeping the native prairie plants alive and well.

"The award speaks to what we've been doing for the last 10 years on Crown land available for the benefit of Manitobans," he said. "If we take care of the environment, it'll take care of us."

Ross noted that Manitoba has more than 350,000 kilometres of natural, protected land, and it is essential to ensure that we take care of it.

"[The award] means a lot to us," he said. "The land managers, the riders

out there every day. ... They have a

strong sense of connection with the land. Having other people recognize we're taking care of this and doing it is rewarding to us."

Nominated alongside AMCP for the national title was Taylor Ranches in Alberta, Block's Ranching Ltd. In Saskatchewan, Circle H Farms in Ontario, Ecoboeuf in Quebec and Holdanca Farms in the Maritimes.

Holdanca Farms won the national TESA award for raising grass-fed beef cattle, sheep, pastured pigs and chickens. The father-daughter duo can custom graze up to 150 head of beef cattle and they manage their land to benefit livestock production and environmental sustainability. Of Holdanca Farm's 500 acres, 250 are a managed, biodiverse native woodlot, and the other 250 are in long-term pasture production.

To learn more about this year's finalists, go to https://www.cattle.ca/sustainability/tesa/2024-tesa-nominess.

### **Candle Light Meditation Gimli Community Cemetery**

#### Please join us.

Sunday, September 15th Arrival starts at 6:45 pm Mona Josephson will offer words of inspiration at 7:00 pm. Come and light a candle in memory of your loved ones.

Candles will be provided at main gate. Donations in support of the cemetery are appreciated but are not necessary. A charitable receipt is available for donations over \$20.

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Hosted by the Gimli Community **Cemetery Committee** 

For more information, contact: Cemetery Supervisor at gimlicemeterysupv@gmail.com Cemetery Chairperson at gimlicemetery@gmail.com



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# You're Invited

#### to share your views about the rate application filed by Manitoba Public Insurance

The Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation (MPI) has filed the 2025 General Rate Application before the Public Utilities Board (Board) for approval of Basic Autopac vehicle insurance rates and premiums effective on April 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026.

For further details, please contact MPI at inquiries@mpi.mb.ca or visit the Board's website at www.pubmanitoba.ca.

A public hearing on the proposed rate application will be held beginning:

Monday, October 21, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Please view the hearing via the PUB website link: http://www.pubmanitoba.ca/v1/live-stream.html

If you are interested in learning more about this rate application, you are encouraged to attend the hearing, observe the hearing via live streaming, or provide your perspectives through the Board's online comment tool.

If you wish to speak at the hearing or make a written submission, please contact the Board Secretary, Dr. Darren Christle at 204-945-2638 or toll-free 1-866-854-3698, no later than October 8, 2024.

For more information, visit www.pubmanitoba.ca

**Manitoba Public Utilities Board** 400-330 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0C4 Phone: 204-945-2638 | Email: publicutilities@gov.mb.ca

# 'These Waters' exhibit opens at NIMH, shares importance of Lake Winnipeg

#### By Becca Myskiw

The New Iceland Heritage Museum (NIHM) is now hosting an exhibit on the importance of water.

"These Waters" is the newest temporary exhibit at the local museum, and it features pieces of work by artists exclusively from the Interlake. Curated by Gayle Halliwell, the 30-piece exhibit has works highlighting "the beauty, importance and vulnerability of Lake Winnipeg."

"These Waters' is intended to highlight how that lake affects us in mind, body and soul," she said. "It's our environment, but it's also our soul."

Halliwell noted how Lake Winnipeg ebbs and flows, and even though it's in an ebb right now, preserving and protecting it is still essential. Sharon Cory, a local artist featured in the exhibit, said those who live along Lake Winnipeg plan their lives around the body of water; it is



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**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

On Sept. 22, Gayle Halliwell is running a workshop on the theme of her newest painting, Starry Night at the Beach. The painting is done in the style of Vincent Van Gogh, highlighting the view of Winnipeg Beach at night.

embedded in the local culture.

"I just feel so in tune with Lake Winnipeg and the thought it may not even be possible to swim in it in 10 years because of the algae blooms. ... That's devastating," she said.

Cory has the biggest painting in the show, a six-footwide depiction of a grizzly bear and a woman watching their children (cubs) play on the beach, hands on the hips and all. Cory got the inspiration for it after seeing a photo of a Grizzly bear standing with its paws on its hips like moms often do when looking for their children, showing that they're just like us.

"These Waters" has pieces by eight local artists, including Cory, Halliwell and Julia Penny.

Penny works primarily with oils, specializing in portraits. She recently created a book of 151 portraits of new immigrants to Canada. Penny has one piece in "These Waters" — a painting of Lake Winnipeg by Matlock on

Continued on page 22



#### Graymont invites applications for the 2024 community-focused Carbon Reduction Fund

We are proud to announce that we are accepting applications for the Graymont Carbon Reduction Fund , an innovative, grass-roots initiative designed to support the development of carbon-reduction initiatives in the communities across the globe that we call home.

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- Protecting the environment by the responsible use of resources
- Reducing our carbon footprint through increased energy efficiency
- Developing and maintaining natural, biological 'carbon sinks' such as agricultural land, forests or peat bogs that act as a natural offset for carbon

If you have a project idea that relates to any of these topics, the GCRF is looking for you!

For additional information, please contact Amanda Kelly : akelly@graymont.com

Applications are due by October 25th

Graymont's mission is to deliver essential calcium-based solutions to meet the world's changing needs.



# *The Express Weekly News* Thursday, September 12, 2024 **11** Arborg to celebrate diversity at 2024 Culturama festival

# Arborg Heritage Village to host Culturama Sept. 27

#### By E Antonio

Prepare to travel around the world for a multicultural celebration in Arborg on Sept. 27. The Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village will host its 10th annual Culturama at the Arborg Community Hall, celebrating multicultural life.

The festival offers opportunities for guests to feast on international cuisines from eight different nations.

"It is a jam-packed event with many cultures being represented with a wonderful array of entertainers for the evening," explained Arborg Heritage Village co-chair Pat Eyolfson.

For \$20, you can buy a passport to visit food booths from various cultures, including El Salvadorian, Ukrainian, Indigenous, Canadian, Filipino, Punjabi, Icelandic and Syrian.

"You will take your passport to each booth where they have cooked up a bunch of delicious treats. By the end, you will eat around the world with a plate of delicious eats," said Eyolfson.

The Arborg Heritage Village hosted their first Culturama in 2012 and has continued to grow ever since.

"We saw that we were getting so many people immigrating to Arborg," said Eyolfson. She explained that they wanted to create an event that showcased the people in the community.

"We have these lovely, lovely people in Arborg, and we are so appreciative and want to learn more about their cultures."

It was an easy choice to host Culturama in Arborg, and considering they sell out of passports each yearthe community is very supportive of the event.

Culturama is an opportunity for different cultures to feed, entertain and educate the community about their nations.

Each nation prepares two or three miniature desserts or appetizers for you to try and then puts on a dancing or singing performance later into the evening.

"These wonderful people go through so much work," Eyolfson uttered.

She noted that each booth will prepare over 800 food samples for guests to try.

Each nation will also have a cultural display with unique elements at each booth.

"Ukraine may display their beautifully decorated eggs, and the Philippines may display bowls or hats," said Eyolfson.

The hosts at the booth are happy to tell you more about the dishes they are serving, or what items they have on display. Ensure you ask them more about their culture so you can add some learning into your fun evening.

After you fill your plate with food from around the world, you can grab a seat and watch the lively and colourful entertainment to be had at Culturama.

"There will be an array of dancers and singers and entertainers," Eyolfson added.

From colourful Punjabi dancers to euphonious Filipino singers, the evening will be filled with many interna-





**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Passports are on sale for the 10th annual Culturama hosted by the Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village on Sept. 27.

#### tional memories.

Your passport ticket to Culturama must be purchased in advance from the Arborg Pharmacy. But act fast as there are only 400 passports available and they are selling quickly. You can start to visit the Culturama booths at 5 p.m. so you have enough time to take your seat to see the wonderful entertainment beginning at 6:15 p.m.



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To see if there's an advocate in your community, visit efficiencyMB.ca/CEEP.



EFFICIENCY MANITOBA

## 12 *The Express Weekly News* Thursday, September 12, 2024 Arborg Skating Club hitting the ice next month, welcoming new skaters and volunteers

#### By Patricia Barrett

The Arborg Skating Club is gearing up for a new season of skating excellence after a one-year hiatus, and it's hoping new skaters and volunteers will join.

The club's vice president Jaclyn Dudar said their coach was unavailable last year and the club had to send its students to Gimli for lessons. But the Arborg club will be back in action starting in October and it has a number of new programs that will suit youth skaters of all ages and abilities.

"The Arborg Skating Club's is committed to making skating accessible to all the children in the community. We think it's so important to provide a vital recreational activity for kids," said Dudar. "The club is offering more programs this year so that skating is accessible to all children. In the past we offered just the CanSkate and STARSkate programs, but now we want to have different options for families so that they can build their child's love of skating."

The club is offering the CanSkate program, which teaches basic skating skills, the STARSkate program, which is a figure-skating skills program that includes ice dancing, free skating and synchronized skating, an Intro to the STAR program, Pre-power skating, which prepares kids for hockey skating, and an Adults & Tots program, which involves a parent and is tailored to young skaters who are either new to skating or are in the process of developing confidence on the ice.

Skating improves physical fitness and co-ordination, teaches discipline and helps build confidence, among other benefits.

The club's coach, Beth Ralko, is an NCCP [National Coaching Certification Program] regional certified figure-skating coach who has been teaching the CanSkate and STAR-Skate programs for over 10 years. Ralko began her skating career with the Arborg club in 2001.

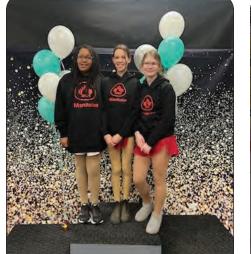
"We are so blessed to have Beth," said Dudar. "She was our coach two years ago and has agreed to come back. It's not easy finding a certified coach."

The club just launched a well designed website that explains what each program entails and what equipment is required. It also allows parents to register and pay for programs online, provides information about fundraising activities and board members.

"The club's website is a key initiative that we hope will bring more visibility to our CanSkate and STAR-Skate programs, as well as the new programs we're offering," said Dudar.

It's not only youth from Arborg that







**EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF JACLYN DUDAR** 

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By Falki Developments

2024 us utilities 199 Center Avenue West, Gimli Manitoba can take skating lessons at the club. Kids from across the Interlake are welcome to join.

"We will take kids from Fisher Branch, Peguis First Nation, Fisher River, Riverton, Okno and Gimli if kids want an extra day of skating; we offer two days of skating. We welcome everybody," said Dudar. The club is also looking for new volunteer members, in-

The club is also looking for new volunteer members, including board members. In addition to Dudar, the board is currently made up of president Lisa Stansell, secretary Amanda Plett, treasurer Brittany Chanda and member at large Jessa-Laine Firman.

"Our club depends on volunteers. Our board is also made up of volunteers and we would welcome anyone who wants to join us. People bring different skills and mindsets that we could benefit from," said Dudar.

The club's vision is to grow its membership, enhance skating programs and create a lasting legacy.

"We're not just focused on today: we're building for the future by growing our membership and enhancing our programs," said Dudar. "We aim to create a lasting legacy of skating excellence in Arborg that will benefit the community for years to come."

The club is trying to keep skating fees as low as it can so that "every child has an opportunity to learn how to skate," she said. But it does face financial challenges including having to pay for ice time and coaching fees. To that end, the club has a number of fundraisers.

"We promote fundraisers and we try to lock down sponsorships so that we can keep skating affordable and accessible for families," said Dudar.

#### The Express Weekly News Thursday, September 12, 2024 13

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# Thirty-two years of rodeo entertainment in Ashern







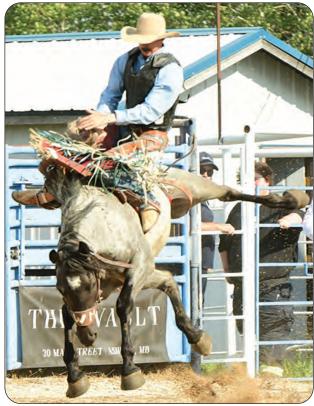




#### EXPRESS PHOTOS BY ROBERT E. WILSON

The community of Ashern came alive over the Labour Day Long Weekend celebrating the last long weekend of summer with the 32nd annual Ashern Rodeo. Friday evening there was a bike rodeo followed by a street dance and fireworks. On Saturday morning the Ashern Fire Department prepared a pancake breakfast, followed by a parade. Saturday afternoon and Sunday, cowboys and cowgirls rode bucking broncos and bulls, wrestled and roped cows and barrel raced.

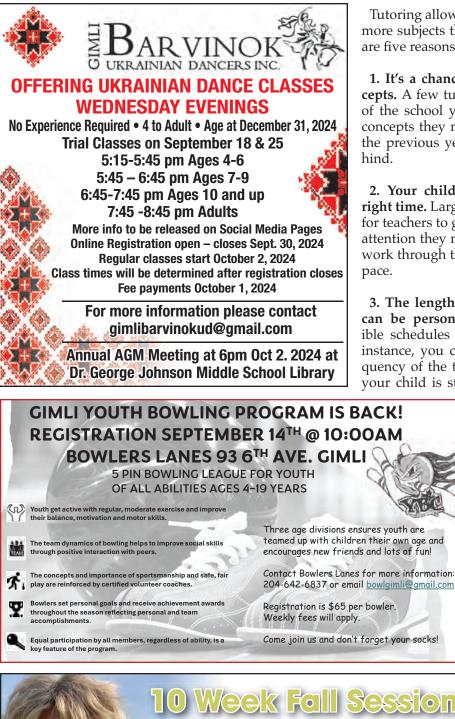








# 5 great reasons to start tutoring right away





Tutoring allows your child to get help in one or more subjects throughout the school year. Here are five reasons to start tutoring right away.

**1.** It's a chance to brush up on difficult concepts. A few tutoring sessions at the beginning of the school year can help your child review concepts they may have struggled with during the previous year to ensure they don't fall behind.

**2. Your child benefits from support at the right time.** Large class sizes can make it difficult for teachers to give each student the one-on-one attention they need. Tutoring is an ideal way to work through the latest concepts at your child's pace.

**3.** The length and frequency of the sessions can be personalized. Tutors often have flexible schedules to suit your child's needs. For instance, you can increase or decrease the frequency of the tutoring sessions based on what your child is struggling with and how they're

progressing throughout the school year.

4. Your child learns how to use educational tools. Tutoring teaches your child to use various tools to help them succeed in school. It also encourages them to develop beneficial working



methods such as discipline and organization.

**5. It can improve your child's academic success.** Your child quickly builds trust with their tutor but also improves their self-esteem and confidence in their own abilities.

Look for tutoring services available in your area.







# Rediscover the joy of ice skating

If you've never experienced the joy of gliding across a frozen lake or simply haven't ice skated in years, consider making time for this activity during the winter months.

Ice skating is a fun and affordable pastime, and since it's a low-impact sport that's gentle on the joints, it can be suitable for people of all ages. What's more, most people can master the basics in less than an hour.

Furthermore, ice skating is great aerobic workout that can improve your balance and cardiovascular endurance, strengthen your abdominal and leg muscles and fine-tune your motor skills. If you want to go ice skating this year, there are plenty of places you can lace up your skates, including indoor and outdoor rinks, forest trails and certain lakes, ponds and rivers.

# Five things to consider when choosing a cooking class

Do you want to sign up for a cooking class? Are you hoping to perfect your skills in the kitchen or discover new recipes? If so, here are five things to consider when choosing a class.

#### 1. Your skills

A beginner will have different needs than someone who's already handy in the kitchen. To get the most out of taking a cooking class, make sure you choose one that's suitable for your skill level.

#### 2. The theme

Cooking classes that cover international cuisine, fine dining, culinary techniques and an array of other themes are available in most places. Therefore, make sure you choose the option that best matches your in-

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3. The timing

Make sure the cooking class fits with your schedule. For example, find out how many classes there are, how long each session is and how many times you have to attend per week. **4. The cost** 

It's important to choose a cooking class that you can afford. It would be unfortunate to have to drop out because the course is too expensive.

#### 5. Your tastes

If you take a cooking class, it's more fun if you can taste your own creations. Therefore, make sure to choose a type of cuisine that you're open to trying.

FLIGHT ACADEMY

Once you've figured out these five do is register. cooking-class criteria, all that's left to



www.EvolutionDance.ca | Selkirk Town Plaza 204-785-1285 Fill your vehicle and support local organizations on Sept. 17

#### By E Antonio

If you need to fill your vehicle with gas, consider stopping by any Co-Op Gas Bar on Sept. 17 for Fuel Good Day.

Fuel Good Day, which debuted in 2017, is a Western Canada fundraising initiative. Proceeds from fuel pur-





Riverdale Place Homes are fundraising for their recreation programs. On Fuel Good Day, Sept. 17, they will host a barbecue from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Arborg Co-Op Gas Bar.

chased at Co-Op Gas Bars on Sept. 17 will be donated to various charities or non-profit organizations.

Interlake Co-op, which has gas bars in Arborg and Eriksdale, will donate five cents of its proceeds to Riverdale Place Homes in Arborg and five cents to the Eriksdale Fire Fighters Association.

Davina Mason, the fire life safety educator for the Eriksdale Fire Fighters Association, is thrilled to have been selected as one of Fuel Good Day's recipients this year.

The Eriksdale Fire Fighters Association specifically raises funds for items that would be excluded from typical municipal funding. In the past, they have held fundraisers for an ORV (off-road vehicle), a fire rescue bike and a Jaws of Life tool.

This year, they are fundraising for a new inflatable fire safety house.

"It is like a bouncy castle, except it has hard floors. There are several rooms, like a kitchen area with a stove, where we will use it to talk about hazards in the kitchen. There is a bedroom window that kids can jump out of, too. It is an interesting and different way to teach students about what I am teaching all the time as a safety educator," explained Mason.

She added that the fire safety house will be wheelchair accessible as she sees the importance of inclusion.

Kathy Finnson, the executive director at Riverdale Place

Continued on page 19

### > ARBORG SKATING CLUB, FROM PG. 12

The club's main fundraiser is a popular community calendar that gives businesses an opportunity to advertise their presence and residents a place to promote personal events.

"The community loves our calendars. We reach out to different spon-



sors and businesses and they can either choose a sponsorship level of gold (\$500), silver (\$350) or bronze (\$250) or make any monetary amount of their choosing," said Dudar. "They'll get their names and telephone numbers listed on the calendar directory. People love the calendar because there are no phone directories made anymore and if they need a plumber or whatnot, they can check the calendar. It's a good source of income for our club and we depend on sponsors."

Gold, silver and bronze sponsors will also get their names listed on the club's ice show program and on a banner in the Arborg arena. People can also add personal dates to the calendar such as anniversaries and birthdays.

The club will also be doing a Little Caesars Pizza and Black Pearl Coffee fundraiser before Christmas.

"Our club is more than just a place to skate – it's a community and we rely on the support of local businesses and families to keep our programs running and provide opportunities for every child to lace up their skates and hit the ice," said Dudar.

The skating programs run from October to March at the Arborg & District Arena with an ice show in March.

For more information about the club and its skating programs, visit www.arborgskatingclub.com or email: info@ arborgskatingclub.com





# COOL Interlake

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### > FUEL GOOD DAY, FROM PG. 18

Homes, is also using the funds raised from Fuel Good Day to create a more inclusive environment.

"We are an agency that provides group homes for adults with disabilities," said Finnson.

Riverdale Place Homes will be raising money for their new recreational programming.

"There are so many things we could spend it on," Finnson added. River-

dale Place Homes has been looking to add entertainment events to their recreation schedule and purchase a karaoke machine for their members. On Fuel Good Day, Riverdale Place

Homes will host a barbecue fundraiser at the Arborg Co-op Gas Bar.

"It is an opportunity for us to be out in the community and it is an opportunity for people who live in our homes to come out and help at the FIRE SAFETY HOUSE OFFICE of the FIRE COMMENT

**EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED** Eriksdale Fire Fighters Association is fundraising for a new inflatable fire safety

house that can be use to educate children about fire safety.

barbecue," Finnson said.

They will be grilling up fresh hamburgers, smokies and hot dogs to satisfy your lunchtime hunger. There will also be drinks available to purchase to quench your thirst. Be sure to stop by the Arborg Co-op Gas Bar

on Sept. 17 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and grab a bite to eat.

Proceeds from Fuel Good Day will be collected all day during Arborg and Eriksdale Gas Bar operating hours.

# Linda reveals the secrets to being happy with your dentures

#### BY ELISHA VANDOR

Linda is a first-time patient who came to see us on recommendation from her brother who had both his partial upper and lower dentures made here at Vandor. We saw Linda at the beginning of June for her initial consultation and had her new partial upper denture finished and ready to wear one month later, at the beginning of July. You'd be surprised to hear that Linda's new partial upper denture is not actually made of metal. During discussions with the Denturist and herself at the consultation appointment, she decided on what's called a flexible partial upper denture, which is a more rubber-like, helping her eat a summer food favourite - corn on the cob.

Two weeks after Linda went home smiling with her new denture, she came back to see us for her follow-up appointment just to reveal why she's so very pleased with her new partial upper denture. She explained it's because of the 2 F's - fit and feel. With the rubber-like material of a flexible partial in terms of eating. There was a denture, the fit really suctions to the bit of difference adjusting to my gums. When we spoke to her about the feel of her new denture she said, this fits perfectly, even how it fits "this partial denture is not exactly the same as my previous denture, it's better, certainly with the fit and feel, but also, it's so natural-looking too. I'm just really impressed with the time you took to make them how they are. My old denture wasn't (CDCP) benefits provided by the sitting properly in my mouth, and I knew I had to come here and I'm really glad I did. The whole experience has been excellent. Your office start in November, which is when staff are extremely courteous and pleasant, I just enjoyed coming here. Everyone is doing a wonderful for partial dentures. For all other iob.

I haven't had any problems with eating, I'm not having any trouble taking it in or out. I'm just thoroughly happy with them and very pleased. Actually, now I'm thinking about getting a bottom partial denture now too.

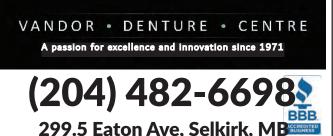
This denture is pretty close to what I had with my natural teeth speech because it is a plate, but over my back teeth. I have no complaints."

If you're like Linda and are wanting new partial dentures (specifically) and plan to use your new Canadian Dental Care Plan government through Sun Life, then we can schedule you in to discuss the treatment and plan to the government dental benefit program starts to provide funding dentures, like full dentures, relines and repair work, we are accepting patients with the CDCP benefits.

As Linda explains, the flexible partial denture was the perfect decision for her, so come and see Vandor for a free consultation to see what's best for you.



Linda shows off her new natural-looking smile with the office staff at Vandor Denture Centre.



# **Thunder Report: Crunchers home opener ends in nail-biter**

#### By Kieran Reimer

#### **CRUNCHERS THUNDER**

The youngest Thunder team got their first taste of Manitoba Minor Football Association action on Sunday.

The Crunchers, ages eight and nine, took on the St. Vital Mustangs at Stonewall Collegiate Field and came up one touchdown short in their first game of the season.

After trading touchdowns in the first half, the Thunder entered the second half tied at 12. After another major from each side, it was the Mustangs in the final minutes of the game that were able to make a quick march down the field to score the game winning touchdown and defeat the Thunder 24-18.

Though they didn't get the victory, head coach Kyle Kauk was still impressed with how his team played in what was the first-ever football game for a majority of the squad.

"Our team played great," said Kauk on Monday. "With only three returning players, a majority of our team is brand new to the game of football. Our quarterback went four for six, our defence made an interception, forced two fumbles and had three quarterback sacks."

The Thunder will be back in action this weekend for their first road game which comes against the East Side Eagles.

Kick-off will go on Saturday, Sept. 14 at 4:30 p.m. from East Side Eagles Football Club in Winnipeg.

#### PEEWEE THUNDER

The Peewee Interlake Thunder lost their fourth straight game to open the season.

On Sunday morning, the Thunder lost 51-21 to the St. Vital Mustangs Black at Stonewall Collegiate Field.

Though the loss brings them to 0-4, the Thunder were able to find positives on the offensive side of the ball.

Their 21 points on Sunday beats their combined offensive output from all three of their opening games when the club combined for only 18 points.

Then there is the defensive side where the club struggled to hold down the Mustangs offence. The Mustangs 51 points scored on the Thunder is the most they have given up in a game this season, the previous being 42 in their last game.

The Thunder will have a chance to get back at the Mustangs sooner rather than later as the two clubs are set to



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER** 

Interlake Thunder's Easton Wozlowski recovers the ball after a St. Vital Mustang fumble in their PeeWee football game in Stonewall last Sunday.

Club.

meet again on Saturday, Sept. 21.

The final scheduled matchup between the two clubs this regular season will take place in Winnipeg this time at St. Vital Mustangs Football

Kick-off will go at 1:30 p.m.

# Storm bringing narrow lead on sixth place into final week

#### **By Kieran Reimer**

Storm FC's hot streak came to an end Monday night.

Playing the league-best Akal FC for the second time this season, Storm FC were shut out 3-0 at Buhler Recreation

#### Park

The loss ended a 2-0-1 stretch that saw Storm FC move out of the basement of the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Division 5 standings and

ing further up.

Ă win on Monday would have given Storm FC a four-point lead on sixth place and brought them within



into sixth place with a chance at mov- three points of fifth-place Borderless Ballers, but the loss washes out any potential for moving up the standings in their final two games of the regular season.

> With 18 points, Storm FC will hope to maintain their current spot in sixth. They are a single point ahead of Hanover United and two ahead of Benchwarmers United, whom Storm FC will play on Tuesday night.

> The match will be one of Storm FC's biggest of the season, and sole possession of sixth place is on the line.

> Kick-off Tuesday, Sept. 10 from Buhler Recreation Park goes at 10 p.m. due to our press schedule the score was unavailable at the time.

# Spontsarecreation

# Weekend golfer turns dream into reality at RBC PGA Scramble

#### By Kieran Reimer

Being a weekend golfer typically means playing a fun, maybe competitive, round or two of golf with friends after the work week is over.

That's the case for 25-year-old Carson Ouellette of Stonewall. He is a talented but not professional golfer who enjoys spending his summer weekends on the course, trying to work on his game while having a good time.

Over the past three years, he and a few buddies have begun participating in a couple of team scramble tournaments to see how well their play compares to that of other golfers like themselves.

Entering the annual RBC PGA Scramble events all around Canada, Ouellette and company found they might be better than average and, in fact, might be at the level of the best golfers not on tour in the country.

Ouellette's team won their local qualifying round last year, sending them to the regional finals of the RBC PGA Scramble.

Though they didn't win at regionals, it was an eye-opening experience that made them want to return.

This year, Ouellette joined a new foursome of golfers entering the event who shared the same aspirations of winning regionals and making it to nationals.

As Ouellette's new team began RBC PGA Scramble events this year, they started dominating play, and the national dream quickly became a reality.

A couple weeks ago, Ouellette along with Interlake locals, Matt Glowa, Chris Plishka and Mark Skibinski dominated the local qualifier at Steinbach's Quarry Oaks to advance to regionals.

Then, at regionals last Monday, with the addition of Colwyn Abgrall, a former U.S. Amateur from Winnipeg, the newly formed five-some shot a 17-under, 53, at Rossmere Golf & Country Club to win the tournament and qualified for the 2024 RBC PGA Scramble Nationals in Cape Breton, N.S.

"It's a huge accolade for me and the team," said Ouellette on Tuesday afternoon. "Really not often in my golf career have I got to experience an event with such a competitive environment. It's really the biggest event that a weekend golfer could possibly find. The organization of it, they treat you like absolute professionals out there. I just think it's really cool to compete. As somebody who's not a professional golfer, being able to compete and play against other teams is a fun thing, the competition is what drives me to play."

At nationals, Ouellette and company will take on the fellow top fivesome's from across the country who won their regional events.

Though nationals is entirely new to Ouellette, teammates Glowa and Plishka were on the team that represented Manitoba in 2023.

For Ouellette, having those guys alongside him has helped him know what to expect for the three-round national final.

"Mentality and confidence the most," said Ouellette. "We're texting each other, doing practice rounds, truly believing we're supposed to win this thing rather than just going in their hoping for the best. It was a mentality of we belong there, and our mentality was going to win it for us."

The team will be tried heavily, not just by competition at the national level. The tournament courses at Cabot Cliffs and Cabot Links offer one of the biggest challenges any golf course in Canada offers.

Both courses, listed as the two best non-private golf courses in the coun-



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

The five-man team, left to right: Carson Ouellette (Stonewall), Colwyn Abgrall (pro from Winnipeg), Chris Plishka (Fisher Branch), Matt Glowa (Stonewall) and Mark Skibinski (Fisher Branch)shot a 53 (-17) to win the RBC PGA Scramble Regional Final at Rossmere Golf & Country Club last Monday. With the win, the team qualified for the 2024 RBC PGA Scramble National Final in Cape Breton, N.S., from Oct. 5-9.

try by Golf Talk Canada, are a long and gruelling challenge with a scenic backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean's waters.

Having only played single rounds in each of the two qualifying events, Ouellette knows that the three rounds on such a course will be a physical and mental test.

"You need to sustain the mental focus for a lot longer," said Ouellette. "Myself, I'm not too worried about the physical nature of it but sustaining the mental focus over three rounds is going to be difficult. We did a 36-hole day yesterday to try to sustain both mental and physical energy over a long period, but just getting the reps and keeping in game shape, and it shouldn't be too much of an issue."

The team will head off to Cape Breton next month for the welcome dinner on Oct. 5 before play begins.

The tournament will wrap up on Oct. 9, and the winning team will be crowned the 2024 RBC PGA Scramble National Champions and awarded a team trip to watch the 2025 RBC Canadian Open at TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley next July.

# Strikeforce needs a win in regular season finale

#### By Kieran Reimer

Selkirk Strikeforce have played their final home regular season match.

The Manitoba Major Soccer League Division 3A club dropped a close high scoring match 3-2 to Bandits FC on Thursday night in Selkirk and now have one match remaining.

Selkirk needed a win on Thursday. Entering the match with a shot at still finishing fifth, the loss was tough, but the club will still have much to play for in their final match.

Strikeforce will play Nova FC, a club they chased in the standings only a week ago. Now, things are a bit different, as Selkirk will need a win if they want to finish eighth in the ten-club division.

The club currently in eighth is Dun-

vegan Castle, which is 4-7-6. They also have one match left against the Bandits, which if they win will eliminate Selkirk's hopes of moving up.

With a loss or draw, Selkirk's fate will be in their own hands as a win in their final match will allow them to jump Dunvegan Castle for eighth p

Selkirk's match will go next Wednesday, Sept. 11. Nova entered the game 5-6-5 and won the one meeting between the two clubs 3-1 back in July.

Now Selkirk hopes to split the season series and finish ahead of Dunvegan Castle for that eighth spot.

Kick-off Wednesday will go at 10 p.m. from Ralph Cantafio Soccer Complex.

# Varsity Thunder ground Falcons in dominant opening win

#### By Kieran Reimer

The Varsity Interlake Thunder officially began the road back to the Rural Manitoba Football League Championship on Sunday.

The Thunder played the Falcons Football Club in a rematch of their pre-season game on Aug. 24, which the Falcons won 26-15.

Head coach Christof Hasselfield and staff used the tune-up game to identify areas on the field where the team needed to work, and Sunday's game showed that many of the improvements had been made.

The Thunder won 34-12, reaching the endzone five times and disrupting the Falcons' offence for most of the game.

The club now sits 1-0 and will have the next week off from league play.

"We definitely came in better having that experience," said Hasselfield. "We started out a bit slow. The tackle wasn't quite there, but we got better throughout the game. The fourth quarter was the best quarter and there was a lot of positives on defence. I was impressed by the improvement of our offensive line since the exhibition. There is still lots to work on but we shored up a lot of problems. The pass protection was quite good."

As planned, junior quarterback Jessie Batenchuk started at quarterback and had a massive game throwing the ball for the Thunder.

Getting his first win, Batenchuk threw for three touchdowns, all to Luke Robertson, who quickly emerged as Batenchuk's go-to target.

"He did a really good job at implementing the game plan," said Hasselfield. "We had gone through a lot of different plays and how they match up against the coverage we had seen from them in the exhibition game. He did a very good job at trusting his reads and taking what the defence is giving him so I was very proud of him for his first start of the regular season."

The Thunder also found success on the ground, as running backs AJ Nadon and Jamie Dandeneau punched in their first rushing touchdowns of the season while wearing down the Falcons' defence throughout the game.

On defence, the Thunder combined for a stellar five interceptions and one fumble recovery, keeping the Falcons' offence limited and looking sloppy throughout.

Off the field, the Thunder also won over the weekend, as Hasselfield was named the Bud Grant Coach of the

Week by the Winnipeg Blue Bombers. The Bud Grant is an award that recognizes Manitoba youth football coaches for their outstanding commitment to their teams, leagues and communities.

Hasselfield was nominated by a parent and selected by the Blue Bombers as last week's award winner.

He was presented with it at the Blue Bombers vs Saskatchewan Roughriders game at Princess Auto Stadium on Saturday where he was given \$500 for the football program.

"It meant a lot honestly," said Hasselfield. "What meant the most to me is that I was nominated by somebody who's kid I coached. It means the world anytime a parent lets you know they appreciate you because the most important thing to them is their kids and if they are supporting you then they like how you're teaching their kids. Not so much the award, just the validation that people are trusting with their kids and appreciating the work I'm doing makes me feel fulfilled."

With a bye week, the Thunder are looking ahead to their next game, a rematch of last year's championship



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER** 

Interlake's quarterback Jessie Batenchuk carries the ball in for a touchdown against the Falcons in Rural Manitoba Football action last Sunday. The Thunder won the game.

game against the St. Vital Mustangs on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 4:30 p.m. from St. Vital Mustangs Field.

Last season, the Thunder's only regular- and post-season losses came to the Mustangs, so Hasselfield and the team's veterans are entering the game with an added bit of motivation.

"We've had the Mustangs circled on our calendar since last season," said Hasselfield. "They are a super talented team, have a lot of last year's core. We're going to be trying a bit of a different look against them."

With the RMFL's recent re-alignment, the Thunder and Mustangs will see each other at least twice this season as they, along with the Falcons, are now in the league's three-team Urban Division.

With the regular season now only four games long, the Thunder plan to use their added by eweeks as intersquad game days.

The Thunder will hire referees for these games, and the team will split into two teams of its players to play against each other.

Hasselfield said this will give the players a more game-like experience and provide the coaches with more game film as they work on adjustments to their team.

This Saturday, the Thunder will play their first intersquad game of the season. The game will go at 1 p.m. from Stonewall Collegiate Field.

### > "THESE WATERS", FROM PG. 10

a stormy day, showing the waves nearly taking out the pier.

"For me, water is fundamental to life, so that's why I live near Lake Winnipeg," she said. "I just wanted to paint an angry day on Lake Winnipeg. Perhaps Lake Winnipeg's angry because of the things we're doing to it."

Though the exhibit is at NIMH until Oct. 29, it was in conjunction with Culture Days, a smaller extension of the larger art show at the hotel. Three workshops will be part of the show, each highlighting the importance of water in some way.

On Sept. 22, Halliwell is running a workshop on the theme of her newest painting, which is in the show — Starry Night at the Beach. The painting is done in the style of Vincent Van Gogh, highlighting the view of Winnipeg Beach at night.

During the workshop, Halliwell will lead people through creating fabric eight-point Nordic stars, a common Scandinavian symbol usually connected with finding your way. Halliwell is doing it to help people find their way to keep Lake Winnipeg "beautiful and useful."

On Sept. 20, Halliwell will be doing another workshop, this time with Rosemary Miguez, on interviewing a painting. Attendees will take in paintings from the exhibit and write prose or poetry based on what the paintings are saying to them. Then, on Sept. 29, Stephanie Sutton will have people experience paint pouring, an art activity that mimics the fluidity of water. The first two workshops are free, and the paint-pouring is \$5 a person.

NIMH is open 12 months a year, and in addition to its permanent displays, it constantly brings in new temporary ones. After "These Waters," an exhibit from the Manitoba Arts Network will be coming in until the end of the year.



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### **Online Farm Sale**

#### For the Estate of the Late **William Robert Ferguson** Neepawa, MB

Sale Starts online: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Closes: soft close starting at 10:00 a.m.Saturday, September 28, 2024

#### To register: go to: www.apro.bid

Included in the sale: 1942 J.D. Mod AR Unstyled, 1975 J.D. 2130, 2002 Yamaha Quad, J.D. X350 Riding mower (only 20 hrs), Misc equip, lumber, shop, tools and household. Partial listing on web site.

From Neepawa - 3 miles South of Hwy #5, turn left. East on 80N for 2 3/4 miles.

Viewing: by appointment only Tuesday, September 17 - 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Contact John Lamport at (204) 841-4136 to set up time.

Lorne (Buddy) Bergner, Auctioneer John Lamport, Auctioneer **Bergner Auction Service** Box 1, Ashern, MB ROC 0E0 Email: bergauct@mymts.net www.apro.bid www.globalauctionguide.com (for sale viewing only)

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Tel: 204-372-6393, Fax: 204-372-8470

**The Local Urban District of Fisher Branch** 

SNOW CLEARING STREETS

Compensation Board of Manitoba. • Equipment must be available upon request.

Snow clearing must be done in a timely fashion after snow accumulation. Priority routes to be completed first.

Sealed envelope to be marked "Snow Clearing Streets".

For further information, call the RM of Fisher Office at (204) 372-6393

Deadline for proposals is 4:00 p.m. September 30, 2024.

Tenders to be dropped off at: Local Urban District of Fisher Branch c/o RM of Fisher 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, MB

Interlake Consumers Co-operative Limited **Petroleum Office** 17 Main St. South Arborg, Manitoba ROC 0A0 fuel@interlakecoop.com 204-376-5201 - office



## SNOW REMOVAL TENDER

The Interlake Consumers Co-op is currently accepting tenders of snow

clearing at our Eriksdale Cardlock and Corporate Bulk Plant, (the corner of PR-417

& Swan Lake Drive).

#### Cardlock

-snow removal from full parking lot. -snow removal and salting of kiosks and around pump islands.

#### **Corporate Bulk Plant**

-snow removal from full parking lot.

-snow removal and salting of both loading and unloading cement pads.

-snow removal from gates and entrance ways allowing for full operation.

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2 million Commercial General Liability Insurance needed.

Shovels and salt will be supplied.

For more information call our Petroleum Manager Ken at 204-214-0051.

-email tender to fuel@interlakecoop.com or drop off in a sealed envelope at our Eriksdale Hardware office at: 18 Railway Ave, Eriksdale, Mb, R0C 0W0.

Lowest tender may not necessarily be accepted.

Deadline for tenders is 4:00pm, September, 27th 2024.



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and Gas Bar location's

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For more information call our Petroleum Manager Ken at 204-214-0051.

Email tender's to fuel@interlakecoop.com or drop off Food Store 253 Main Street Arborg, Mb R0C 0A0

Lowest tender may not necessarily be accepted.

Deadline for tenders is 4:00pm, September 27, 2024.



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### PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD OF REVISION

**Public Notice** is hereby given that the 2025 Assessment Roll for the Rural Municipality of Fisher has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of *The Municipal Assessment Act*:

#### **APPLICATION FOR REVISION**

42(1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of *The Real Property Act*, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, the authorized agent of the person, mortgagee or occupier, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

- a) Liability to taxation;
- b) Amount of an assessed value;
- c) Classification of property; or
- d) A refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under sub-section 13(2).

#### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

43(1) An application for revision must:

- a) Be made in writing;
  - b) Set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
  - c) State the grounds on which the application is based; and d) Be filed by
    - i) delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office of the Rural Municipality of Fisher, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba or
    - ii) serving it upon the secretary,

at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated below.

The Board of Revision will sit on **Wednesday, October 9, 2024** at 10:00 a.m. in the RM of Fisher Council Chambers , 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba to hear applications to revise the 2025 Assessment roll and to revise 2024 assessment changes relating to Sections 300(6) **and** 326 of *The Municipal Act*.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is **Monday, September 23, 2024**.

Dated this 21st day of August, 2024

Kelly Marykuca – Secretary Board of Revision Rural Municipality of Fisher Box 280 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 Phone: (204) 372-6393 Ext. 4 Fax: 372-8470

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### **Board of Revision**

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2025 assessment rolls for the Town of Winnipeg Beach have been delivered to the Town Office at 29 Robinson Avenue, Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of the Assessment Act.

#### Application for Revision:

42(1) a person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

- a) liability to taxation;
- b) amount of an assessed value;
- c) classification of property; or
- d) a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2).

#### Application Requirements:

43(1) An application for revision must:

- a) be made in writing;
- b) set out the roll number and legal description of the property or business which a revision is sought;
- c) state the grounds on which the application is based (referred to in subsection 42(1))
- d) be filed by:
  - i. delivering by hand or electronically to the Town of Winnipeg Beach office.
  - ii. serving it upon the Secretary of Board of Revision, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date as indicated in the public notice.

The Board of Revision will sit on **Thursday, October 17, 2024**, **at 7:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers of the Town of Winnipeg Beach to hear applications.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Dated this 6 Day of September 2024

Sharon Desiatnyk - Secretary Board of Revision Town of Winnipeg Beach Box 160, 29 Robinson Avenue Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0 Phone: 389-2698 Fax:389-2019 Email: cao@winnipegbeach.ca

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#### **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of MALVINA HARRIET SPENCE late of the Village of Ashern, in the Province of Manitoba, Retired, deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with David Gray Law Office, at PO Box 1178, 20 Parkway Dr., Swan River, MB ROL 1Z0, on or before the 18th day of October, 2024, after which date, the estate will be distributed having regard only to the notices then received. Dated this 5th day of September 2024. David Gray, Solicitor for the Executrixes.

25 *The Express Weekly News* Thursday, September 12, 2024



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For a full job description,

please visit www.eastmanimmigrantservices.com/about. Please send your resume and cover letter to Gwen Reimer,

EIS Program Director, at gwen@eastmanis.com. Resumes accepted until position is filled.

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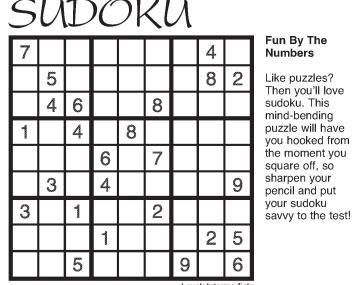
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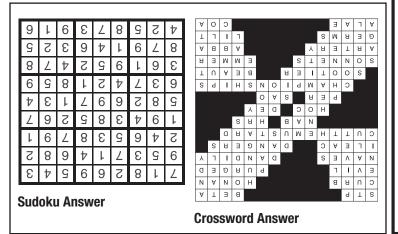
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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

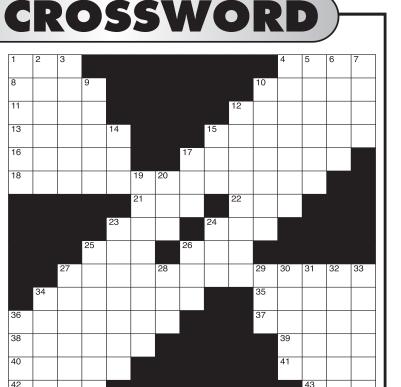


#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Engine additive
- 4. A type of test
- 8. Curtail
- 10. Irish surname
- 11. The opposite of good
- 12. Got rid of
- 13. Central parts of a church buildina
- 15. Stylistically
- 16. Intestinal
- 17. Negative potential
- outcomes
- 18. Lived up to a standard
- 21. Snag
- 22. Time units (abbr.)
- 23. Ad
- 24. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 25. For each
- 26. \_\_ Paulo, city
- 27. League titles
- 34. More intensely black
- 35. Slang for lovely
- 36. Petrarch is known for
  - them
- **37. Old Eurasian wheat**
- 38. Body part
- **39. Swedish rock group**
- 40. They're worth avoiding
- 41. Rising and falling of the
- voice
- 42. Wings
- 43. Enzyme import for respiration

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Idyllic
- 2. South Pacific island nations



- 3. Shrub of the olive family
- 4. Boundaries
- 5. Encircle
- 6. Weights
- 7. Samberg is one 9. Sheep sound
- 12. Respected group of
- people
- 14. Trigraph
- **15. Prosecutors**
- 17. Assign a nickname
- 19. Huge size
- 20. Partner to cheese
- 23. Fastballs
- 24. Principle underlying the universe

- 25. Distinct units of sound
- 26. Title of respect
- 27. Against
- 28. Foot (Latin)
- 29. One point east of due south
- **30. Concerning the blood**
- 31. Type of pentameter
- **32. North American peoples**
- 33. Layers of rock
- philosopher
- - - 34. Georges \_\_, French
    - 36. Lengthy tale

- 10. European country

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#### CARD OF THANKS

Thank you for the gifts of food, words of condolence and acts of generosity (Kevin H) during our recent loss. Sharon T and Vickie, thank you so much for your help and kindness. To the communities, family and friends, thank you for wrapping your arms around Mel and her boys, Ethan and Aiden. We are grateful for the tremendous support.

-Jack and Donna Pool

#### OBITUAR

#### Patricia Taylor (nee Kerr)

Peacefully with family at her side, Pat passed away September 6.2024.

She now joins her parents Peter and Ann Kerr, and her beloved grandson Evan Engbaek.

She leaves behind her loving husband Ken Taylor, her daughters Leah Engbaek and Joanne Lawson (Don); grandchildren Dylan Taylor-Gromniski (Samantha), Chassi-Lea Engbaek (Dylan), Quinn Lawson; great-grandson and wee man Owen Gromniski. Her big sister and best friend Ann Hutchison, siblings Peter Kerr (Shirlee), John Kerr (Pat), Carol Dickin (Rick), Sharon Horner (Doug), Kim Bouchard (Jeff); best friends Bill and Margaret Watchman.

Born in Glasgow, Scotland, November 25, 1949, in March 1967 her family moved to Canada. Pat married Ken in 1968 and started her family. Pat worked at BMO for over 35 years excelling in her career. Pat loved and adored her grandchildren, always spoiling them with life's gifts. Love for

her dog Lola was abundant and they always spent time cuddling while watching their shows. As per Mum's wishes, there will be no memorial service, a private family gathering will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to a charity of your choice in Pat's name. A Red, Red Rose (Robert Burns) O my Luve's like a red, red rose, That's newly sprung in June: O my Luve's like the melodie. That's sweetly play'd in tune. As fair art thou, my bonie lass, So deep in luve am I; And I will luve thee still, my dear. Till a' the seas gang dry. Till a' the seas gang dry, my dear, And the rocks melt wi' the sun; And I will luve thee still, my dear, While the sands o' life shall run. And fare-thee-weel, my only Luve! And fare-thee-weel, a while! And I will come again, my Luve, Tho' 'twere ten thousand mile! -Love you, Kenny. Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



#### OBITUARY

Adeline Irene (Herner) Backman June 14, 1929 - July 21, 2024

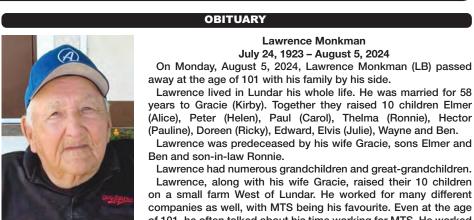
Our Mom, Nana, Great Grandmother Adeline Irene (Herner) Backman took her last earthly breath in the early afternoon of July 21, 2024, at the age of 95 and slipped quietly away.

In her final days Mom was not alone, receiving love and shared memories from her family and friends, be it in person or in written or spoken messages. She felt very blessed. We are all so grateful for those messages.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at the Lundar Legion Hall where we can share our fondest memories. Mom will be laid to her final rest beside our Dad, Harold Backman, at

the Lundar Municipal Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Peace Arch Hospital Foundation, 15521 Russell Avenue, White Rock, BC V4B 2R4. Mom was so well cared for by their nurses, doctors and staff with their abundance of sensitivity and kindness. We thank them. Peace Arch Hospital Foundation | Donate Online Today. (pahfoundation.ca)

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of 101, he often talked about his time working for MTS. He worked there for many years until his retirement.

Lawrence loved to go fishing, hunting, gardening and camping with family and friends. He also enjoyed the many visits from family and friends, especially once he moved into Lundar. His home in Lundar was often referred to as "the coffee shop".

We would like to send a huge "thank you" to all the staff at the Lundar Personal Care Home. Thank you for taking such good care of Lawrence for the past four years.

A private service for the family will be held at a later date.

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#### OBITUARY

#### **Gordon Fedorchuk**

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our dear father, Gordon Fedorchuk, from Silver, Manitoba. He peacefully passed away on August 28, 2024, at the age of 73, surrounded by his loving family and friends.

Gordon leaves to mourn his three children: James, Lorrie, and Darryl. Son-in-law Shane Newton, daughter-in-law Monica Fedorchuk. Grandchildren Chantel, Jaedyn Newton, and Kaylin Boundy. His sister Ruth Blahey, brother-in-law David Wabick, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Gordon is preceded in death by his parents, Sofie and John Fedorchuk, his sister Christine Wabick and brother-in-law David Blahey.

Gordon was born on October 31, 1950 in the charming town of Arborg, Manitoba. As he grew, his nurturing love for agriculture

and passion for farming led him to Winnipeg where he retired from MacDon Industries after 38 years. Gord was an avid hunter, a devoted sports dad and a skilled mechanic. Living on the farm brought him joy as he tended to the land and the deer and reveled in the great outdoors.

Our family is profoundly thankful for the unwavering support and exceptional care provided by the dedicated team of home care workers, paramedics, doctors, nurses and the entire staff at Gimli Hospital. Their tireless efforts and compassionate approach made a significant difference to our father's comfort and well-being.

We wish to convey our deep and enduring appreciation to Deby Geisler, David Wabick and Nancy Woychyshyn for their consistent and invaluable support. Additionally, we extend our gratitude to his friends for their unwavering presence and assistance when required.

As the sun sets and the moon rises, we come together to embrace the beauty of each passing day. Every morning we walk together, navigating life's journey. Times of loss remind us to cherish and celebrate the precious gift of life.

A celebration of life to honor Gordon will commence in Silver, Manitoba, on Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 11:00 am in the Silver Hall. Following the ceremony there will be a solemn interment at the Silver Cemetery, followed by a luncheon.





**OBITUARY** 

Lawrence Monkman

July 24, 1923 - August 5, 2024



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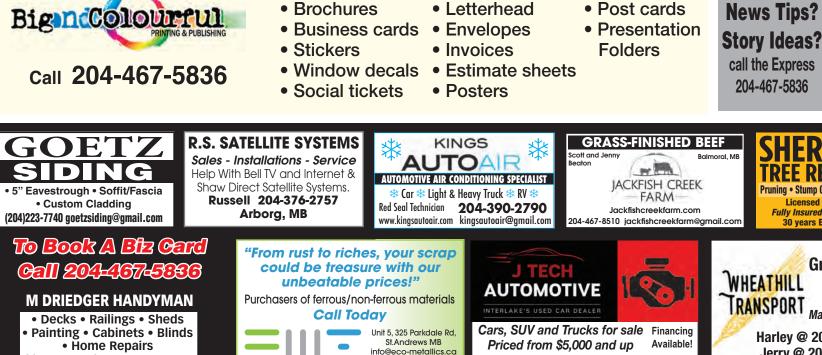
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