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EXPRESS PHOTO BY ALLYSON GIARDINO

Eva, Sammie, Emma and Haley's button designs were picked to represent the Gimli Running Club's Dancer Dash fundraising event for Evergreen Basic Needs on Nov. 25. Participants will receive a free button.

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Excitement builds on surrogacy journey

By Jennifer McFee

It's been more than a decade since the Hills took their first baby steps on their surrogacy journey, and now they're preparing to welcome a bundle of joy to their family in the new year.

After Katie and Russ Hill married in 2011, they received a referral to a fertility clinic. Katie had previously undergone a hysterectomy for health reasons, but doctors were able to make embryos that are biologically related to them.

Following two unsuccessful embryo transfers, they spread the word about their search for a gestational surrogate last summer. Dana Meyers, who lives near Stonewall with her husband and three children, stepped forward for this important role.

In May 2022, the first attempt at transferring an embryo to Dana was a success, and now they're in the third trimester.

"There was a lot of prep for Dana, a lot of paperwork for everyone, and a lot of a positivity that got us to that embryo transfer in May. We were beyond happy to learn that little bean stuck after a long 10-day wait to find out," Katie said.

"At the moment, we are getting the house ready for this little miracle's arrival. We continue to accompany Dana to any appointments for baby — one of us has been able to be at each appointment — and are still amazed we are where we are on our journey."

Adding to the excitement of a lifetime, they recently discovered the gender of their little one.



An ultrasound photo from early September.

"The gender-reveal party was a success. The 'gender keepers' — Katie's girl gang — were able to keep the gender under wraps for a long three weeks. We had no idea, until that moment on Sept. 24 at the party, when we opened the cabinet full of baby girl clothes, bows and balloons," Russ said.

"Dana, her husband Thomas and their three kids joined us. They were able to meet a lot of our family and friends. It was so special to be able to share the exciting moment with all of them. There is an entire community we call our village that cannot wait to meet this baby girl. There were many happy tears at the party."

For Dana, she shared that she's been feeling great since entering the third trimester — and she can't believe the baby will soon be here.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Katie and Russ Hill celebrated together at a recent gender-reveal party.

Continued on page 13

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Outdoor hockey club expands to documentary series

Submitted

This winter, take a journey to some of Canada's most incredible hockey hot spots with the Outdoor Hockey Club documentary series.

The 10-episode series will be directed by filmmaker Randy Frykas, whose recent work has been featured on various NHL broadcasts. The journey will feature stunning rinks on scenic lakes, frozen rivers, extraordinary backyard rinks, local community clubs and more.

"I was reminiscing about my favourite hockey memories, and most of them were on outdoor rinks," Frykas said. "Whether it was in our backyard, on the Stonewall outdoor rink, or skating on Lake Winnipeg — those were all my fondest memories. My goal with this documentary series is to utilize my filmmaking experience to present other people's outdoor hockey memories and experiences."

The sponsored series will debut on the Outdoor Hockey Club YouTube channel in early 2023 with generous funding provided by OMNI Hockey.

"OMNI Hockey is excited to support the efforts to highlight incredible places to play hockey," said Becky Kolberg, manager of communications



and digital media. "We believe that hockey and environmental sustainability go together, which is why we will be launching our Green Light Program in the coming months. This program will promote and recognize



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Filmmaker Randy Frykas visited this outdoor rink at Lake Louise, Alta., while he was in the area filming for another project.

the green environmental initiatives of individuals, arenas and communities across Canada."

Continued on page 11

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EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JACKIE SAURETTE

Every few years, a perfect storm of sorts comes to the shoreline of Lake Winnipeg. Extreme cold temperatures and winds from the north blow across the unfrozen lake, pushing the water to cover everything from plants to rocks with a thick layer of ice. Local photographer Jackie Saurette captured these spectacular photos on the morning of Nov. 15.

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Gimli High School art students design Dancer Dash buttons for running club

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli High School's digital media class were tapped for their creativity and design know-how to create buttons for the Gimli Running Club's upcoming fundraising event for Evergreen Basic Needs.

The club has organized two events, a one-kilometre, family-friendly Dancer Dash walk on Nov. 25 and a five-kilometre Rudolph Run on Nov. 26.

The buttons were created for Friday night's Dancer Dash. Over 30 students took part in crafting a prototype button, said art teacher Allyson Giardino.

"Every submission was unique, creative and festive, but only four could be chosen. After long deliberation, Eva, Sammie, Emma and Haley's designs were picked to represent the Gimli Running Club's Dancer Dash," said Giardino. "GHS staff members

are incredibly proud of these four talented novice graphic designers and the many high school students involved in community projects."

Running club members will be handing out a free button to people who bring a non-perishable food item, new toy or monetary donation to the Friday evening walk, which includes an outdoor stop at the Betel Personal Care Home to greet residents and a stop at the harbour to watch the lighting of the town Christmas tree.

Giardino said the four student designers are excited to see community members sporting their Dancer Dash buttons.

The Dancer Dash takes place on Friday, Nov. 25. Participants are asked to meet at 6 p.m. at Evergreen Basic Needs at 71 Fourth Ave. in Gimli. The walk starts at 6:30.



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

One of the Gimli Running Club members is seen dashing across the bridge into Loni Beach during the 2021 fundraising event, which raised \$840 in cash, 79 pounds of food and a shopping cart full of toys for Evergreen Basic Needs. Participants taking part in this year's event on Nov. 25 will receive a free Dancer Dash button designed by four Gimli High School art students.

After-school dodgeball program a hit in Ashern, Eriksdale

By Autumn Fehr

After-school programs are something many kids look forward to after a day in the classroom.

On Nov. 8 and 9, the RM of West Interlake launched its first after-school program for students.

Sam Bayer, recreation director for the West Interlake, kickstarted the dodgeball after school program for the kids at Ashern Early Years School and Eriksdale School.

The same program is run for all school students on different weekdays.

The program in Eriksdale runs on Wednesdays after school from 3:30 to 5 p.m. When December hits, the program will switch to Thursdays for Eriksdale School students.

In Ashern, the program takes place on Tuesdays after school from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Bayer said he came to the schools and talked to some kids who asked him to start doing an after-school program for them.

"The first thing I thought of was a dodgeball program, but whatever the kids want to play, we'll play," said Bayer.

The program offers dodgeball by name, but Bayer said they would be playing whatever games the kids want to

play during the hour and a half.

"They always tell me games they play in the gym, and we end up switching the dodgeball games around and playing different variations," he said.

On the first Tuesday of the after-school program in Ashern, 55 kids came out, and the second time, around 40 to 45 kids came.

The program gives students a place to go and hang out with friends after school in an active way.

The program will continue until Dec. 27, with hopes for more programs like this one in the new year.

Bayer said he hopes to continue to offer similar programs like these once a week in the future but with different sports options.

"I just want to see kids have some fun and interact with other kids. Due to COVID, people haven't been doing that,

so it's good to see all these kids out and having fun," he said.

"Hopefully, more parents will volunteer and get involved so we can have more of these after-school programs."

To register your kids for the after-school program, email Bayer at rec@rmofwestinterlake.com.

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New trade priorities

By Cam Dahl, general manager of Manitoba Pork

COVID-19 has caused the word pivot to be overused and abused, but I will use it again anyways. It is time for a significant trade policy pivot from the Government of Canada to counter rising economic nationalism actively, address disruptions caused by the pandemic, and fix existing trade agreements that are not living up to expectations.

Since the "free trade" election in 1984, Canadian trade policy has been revolutionized. We have gone from being reluctant partners in negotiations, leading with our defensive and protectionist positions, to a country with free trade agreements that span the globe. Canada is the only country with trade agreements that bridge Europe, North America and Asia. Embracing trade liberalization has been good for every region of the country and virtually every sector of the economy, including agriculture. This sector continues to play an increasing role in the Canadian economy because of new markets and growing international access.

The pork sector in Manitoba delivers a prime example of the benefits of trade liberalization in agriculture. Ninety per cent of eight million pigs raised by Manitoba farmers are exported annually, either as pork products or as live animals to the U.S. There has been approximately \$250 million of private equity invested in new barns or upgrades of existing infrastructure in the last five years. This growth in primary agricultural production has attracted investment in processing (making Winnipeg the bacon capital of Canada) and genetic services. It has resulted in significant development for our towns and rural communities. However, the world has changed, and the trade policy that

facilitated this expansion must be adjusted if growth is to continue.

What needs to happen? First, we must ensure that the signed trade agreements are working as advertised. For example, let's take the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) with the European Union (EU). CETA was supported and welcomed by the 90 per cent of Canadian agriculture that depends upon exports for market access and price determination. The agreement is five years old, yet we are still waiting to realize the potential celebrated when it was signed.

What is the problem? While EU food exports to Canada are up substantially, EU countries use non-tariff barriers to block our products. As a result, increased Canadian agriculture and food exports to the EU remain negligible at best.

What is the solution? Canada needs to put additional resources into fighting against unjustified regulations, and we need to use dispute mechanisms built into trade agreements to challenge EU impediments. Before negotiating different trade deals, we need a strong policy commitment from the Government of Canada that there will be enforcement of the agreements we already have.

Canada also needs to proactively respond to potential importer concerns on animal or human health matters. These issues need to be quickly resolved before they become trade barriers. Often, irritants percolate for months (or even longer) before they turn into full-blown trade barriers. How do we prevent irritants from becoming barriers? One tool would be to place scientific and regulatory expertise from the Government of Canada in key trade regions. For example, scientists from the Canadian

Call Patricia Barrett
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Cam Dahl
Manitoba Pork general manager

Food Inspection Agency could rapidly respond to questions from growing markets like Vietnam or the Philippines if they were already centrally located in South Asia. Let's strategically place our technical resources to ensure small trade fires are put out before they become a blaze.

Strengthening the regulatory capacity of key trading partners is a second tool that the Government of Canada should explore. More than one trade battle has erupted because of a lack of understanding of the science behind Canada's regulatory system and how this scientific rigour can benefit importing countries. Canada's science-based regulators have a great deal to offer countries expanding their regulatory expertise. Let's make scientific, regulatory exchanges and regulatory infrastructure development key components of our trade and international development policies.

The Government of Canada has announced the development of a new Indo-Pacific policy. This is positive as the region holds the largest potential for growth in demand for Canadian agricultural products. However, the plan must include specific targets for the expansion of agricultural trade. Not only will this provide growth opportunities here at home, but Cana-

Continued on page 7

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Manitoba Government introduces bill to formalize plan to increase minimum wage

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba government has introduced the Minimum Wage Adjustment Act, which would raise the minimum hourly wage to \$14.15 on April 1, 2023, as the second phase of a plan to further increase the minimum wage to \$15 on Oct. 1, 2023, Labour, Consumer Protection and Government Services Minister Reg Helwer announced last Friday.

"Extraordinarily high inflation in recent months has made it increasingly difficult for Manitoba families to make ends meet," said Helwer. "This phased-in approach to raising the minimum wage would help relieve some of the economic pressures on Manitoba workers while lessening the impact on small businesses' bottom lines as much as possible."

This past summer, because of unusual economic circumstances during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Manitoba government passed amendments to the Employment Standards Code to allow minimum wage increases above the rate of inflation when inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) exceeds five per cent in the first quarter of a calendar year.

The provincial hourly minimum wage was raised on Oct. 1 to \$13.50 from \$11.95 after government consultations with labour groups and businesses. Through this new bill, the Manitoba government plans a further increase to the minimum wage of 65 cents on April 1, 2023, to raise it to \$14.15, Helwer noted.

In August, the Manitoba government committed

to raising the minimum wage to approximately \$15 by Oct. 1, 2023. This is expected due to another regularly anticipated increase based on the CPI.

"This increase to the minimum wage would assist lower-income Manitobans in dealing with the current economic realities as appropriate and necessary," said Helwer. "We will continue to tie the wage to economic indicators, and in this way maintain purchasing power, stability and predictability for employers."

The latest minimum wage changes follow recommendations made by the provincial Labour Management Review Committee this past summer, Helwer noted. Information on Manitoba's minimum wage and other employment standards is available at www.gov.mb.ca/labour/standards/.

Christmas craft sale to raise funds for handivan

Staff

The Ashern Country Xmas Craft Sale is planned for Friday, Dec. 2 at Ashern Centennial Hall from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Living Independence for Elders is partnering with the Lakeshore Handivan Association this year to bring over 35 vendors to the sale.

"We took over organizing the craft sale approximately 12 years ago, and this has become our fundraiser for the year. All proceeds from the craft sale this year will go the Lakeshore Handivan Association," said Julie Bergner.

The group is currently fundraising for a New Handivan for the Eriksdale area and the construction of a storage unit.

"Grants have been applied for and we are waiting to hear on whether we will be successful in receiving one," said Bergner.

They asked for \$300,000 through the Rural Infrastructure program, which would cover the cost of a new van and the start-up costs for the garage. The Lakeshore Handivan Association covers the RM's of West Interlake and Grahamdale, and both vans are on the road almost daily or weekly.

In addition, they are working with the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority and providing non-emergent transportation for patients to medical appointments in Winnipeg, Selkirk and, in some cases, Dauphin. This allows the ambulances to be available for more urgent calls. Anyone interested in driving for the Handivan can contact the LIFE office for more information.

The Ashern Horse Association will run this year's canteen, and all proceeds will go to the Horse Club.

"We like the fact that we are able to have another non-profit group benefit from this day also. Everyone from the LIFE Program to the Handivan Association to the vendors all come out ahead," said Bergner.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and enjoy the day

and see what the vendors have to offer.

"There is a good variety of items on offer. We

have a few new vendors this year, which is always nice to see."

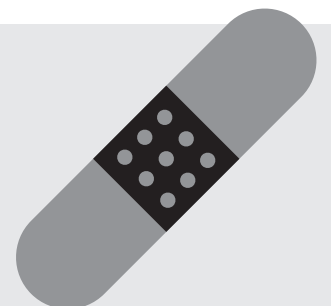
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> TRADE, FROM PG. 6

dian farmers can also help enhance regional food security while deepening ties with significant emergent economies.

To accomplish these goals, the Government of Canada needs to be practical. The Indo-Pacific policy needs to include specific objectives for science-based trade facilitation to prevent trade barriers from developing. Canada's Indo-Pacific policy should also embrace the idea of regulatory capacity building in key markets to help stabilize our trading relationships and ensure that the trade rules for goods moving both in and out of Canada are science-based. It is time our national policy moves beyond broad agreements and takes practical action that delivers results for Canadian farmers and the value chains they support.

Triple virus threat has doctors asking public to mask

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government combined its weekly COVID surveillance report with an influenza report and has changed the way it reports total infections, hospitalizations and deaths.

Both reports show new weekly infection numbers, hospitalizations, admissions to intensive care and deaths. The combined report will be released on Fridays and are in a new location on the government's website, separate from previous reports.

For the period Nov. 6-12 (Week 45), the COVID portion of the report shows 111 people admitted to hospital for the virus, of which 11 people required intervention in the intensive care unit.

The province's report doesn't show the total numbers of people in hospital and the ICU on any given day or week, making it difficult for the public to assess COVID's pressure on the health-care system.

There were 273 new COVID infections reported in Week 45 based on laboratory testing, with a positivity rate of 24.5 per cent.

Provincial COVID data is an undercount as the government restricts lab testing and rapid antigen tests aren't tracked.

In terms of overall infections, hospitalizations and deaths to date, the new report shows vastly reduced numbers. The difference reflects a shift in statistical reporting from the "start of the current season" — the date of which is not stated in the new combined report — to the "end of the reporting week."

The province's previous weekly COVID report (Week 44), for instance, showed total hospital admissions for COVID at 13,336, ICU admissions at 1,844 and deaths at 2,256. Its Week 45 report, by contrast, shows dramatically reduced numbers: total hospital admissions for COVID are now showing 1,730, ICU admissions are now at 187 and deaths are at 159.

Weeks ago, the province stopped providing in its surveillance report the names of hospitals and personal care homes with COVID outbreaks.

- There were 54 new cases of Influenza A and zero cases of Influenza B in Week 45, according to the influenza half of the report. Influenza A positivity increased to 7.4 per cent. The increase is earlier than expected for this time of year. Children account for about one third of influenza cases and hospital admissions.

New cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) increased to 5.5 per cent in Week 45. It was three per cent in Week 44.


There were 10 hospital admissions, zero ICU admissions and fewer than [exact number not provided] five deaths in Week 45; it's unclear whether these data refer to only influenza cases, only RSV cases or a combination thereof.

Other health news:

- Doctors Manitoba is asking Manitobans to help slow the transmission of COVID, RSV and influenza, a "triple threat" that has overwhelmed hospitals in parts of the country, including the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg.

"Physicians are very concerned

Address Physician Burnout



Recommendation 3

Address physician burnout and mistreatment, as this is currently the single biggest contributor to physicians leaving practice.

This can be achieved by:

- ✓ Striking a paperwork reduction task force to streamline and decrease unnecessary paperwork and administrative burden.
- ✓ Reviewing workload and on-call expectations, ensuring a safe and fair expectation for physicians and their patients.
- ✓ Expanding locum coverage opportunities to support both professional and personal short breaks from practice, such as education or vacation.
- ✓ Creating a constructive expectation for RHAs and Shared Health to communicate with, consult and engage physicians about changes or issues that affect their ability to practice, and leverage Doctors Manitoba's expertise in physician engagement.
- ✓ Working together with RHAs and local communities to address racism and mistreatment of physicians, including by patients, colleagues and leadership in the health system.

DOCTORS MANITOBA AND MANITOBA CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

The single biggest contributor to physicians leaving practice is burnout. Doctors Manitoba and the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce released a joint report with five major recommendations and supporting actions to recruit and retain physicians.

about the triple virus threat to Manitobans' health and well-being," said Doctors Manitoba president Dr. Candace Bradshaw in a Nov. 16 news release. "... This fall and winter, an important way to help is by following research-backed medical advice to stop the spread of flu, RSV and COVID viruses."

The organization is encouraging Manitobans to wear good quality medical or KN-95 masks in crowded or poorly ventilated public places, stay home when they're sick, wash their hands frequently, get a flu shot and a COVID booster and develop a household plan to prevent family members who fall ill from spreading the virus to others in the home.

Political leaders across the country have refrained from issuing orders requiring the use of masks indoors.

- A COVID outbreak declared on Nov. 4 at the Betel Personal Care Home in Selkirk continues, accord-

ing to the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's website (as of Nov. 19).

- A spokesperson for the IERHA said the Betel Personal Care Home in Gimli is "not using" its external visitation shelters [converted shipping containers beside the facility] despite the viral triple threat, but some PCHs might use theirs in future.

"The RHA is not retaining the externally located visitation shelters at the RHA owned personal care homes. We are in communication with Manitoba Health about plans to remove them from our sites," said the spokesperson. "That being said, the affiliate personal care homes of Red River Place and Tudor House located in Selkirk may retain their external visitation shelters for future use. Details have not been confirmed yet."

- The Canadian COVID-19 Hazard Index (expected excess deaths from

Continued on page 9

Community Support Service

Al-Anon Gimli and Winnipeg Beach

Meeting place
17B North Colonization Rd.
Gimli (Next to the New Horizons)

Meetings are Wednesdays
between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact 204-389-4777

AA Winnipeg Beach

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

Meetings are Saturdays
between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact Ann J 204-389-3417

Gimli Group AA

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd
Industrial Park

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

Treherne Clothing pop-up sale in Teulon Nov. 24 and 25

By Autumn Fehr

For two days only, on Nov. 24 and 25, Treherne Clothing is having its annual clothing sale.

The sale will take place at Rockwood Centennial Hall in Teulon from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The factory-direct business sells various clothing items, including jeans, parkas, hoodies, work shirts, thermal underwear and socks, all of which will be available at the sale.

Clothing items will be on sale for different prices, such as insulated flannel shirts for \$49.99, vests from \$34.99 to \$59.99, and lined Tough Duck hoodies for \$99.99.

Every year for the past 10 years, the company has run the sale, said Dwayne Ennis, owner of Treherne Clothing.

Every fall, around this time, they pack up the store into a trailer and go around to eight other towns in Manitoba, including Teulon, to run the sale.

All of Treherne Clothing's regular stock in their shop will be available at their pop-up in Teulon at the end of the month.

To get the best selection of stock for your shopping experience, come early, as items are subject to availability.

CLOTHING SALE

BUY NOW
SAVE
\$\$\$\$\$\$

POLY OXFORD PARKAS 174.99

POLY OXFORD BIB PANTS 174.99

TOUGH DUCK BIB PANTS 189.99

TOUGH DUCK WORK JACKETS 129.99

TOUGH DUCK HYDRO PARKAS 189.99

WORK KING BIB PANTS 99.99

KID'S COATS 29.95

LINED TOUGH DUCK HOODIES 99.99

BOOT LINERS 29.99

BATTERIES 2.29/PACK

LIGHTERS 2.79

FACTORY DIRECT
MOST ITEMS MADE IN WINNIPEG

JEANS 19.95

3-PACK SOCKS 4.99

T-SHIRTS 4.99

TOQUES 9.99

LINED WORK GLOVES 24.99

HOT PAW SKI GLOVES 12.95

LADIES COWGRAIN GLOVES - MITTS 19.95

GOLF SHIRTS MADE IN CANADA 9.95

SWEATS 19.99

INSOLES 4.99

COME EARLY FOR BEST SELECTION
ITEMS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

2 DAYS ONLY
Thursday, November 24
Friday, November 25
Rockwood Centennial Hall
Teulon, Manitoba
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

REFUNDS EXCHANGES

ITEMS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

TOUGH DUCK SOFT SHELL JACKET 89.95

THERMAL UNDERWEAR TOPS OR BOTTOMS 19.99

THERMAL LONG UNDERWEAR 49.99

INSULATED FLANNEL SHIRTS 49.99

WORK SHIRTS 19.95

VESTS 34.99 - 59.99

PRO TEAM HOODIES 39.99

INSULATED COVERALLS 129.99

COVERALLS 79.99

TOUGH DUCK OVERALLS 79.99

& MUCH MUCH MORE

FLEECE LINED JEANS 49.99

STRETCH JEANS 29.95

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Casera Credit Union members approve recommended merger with Access Credit Union

Submitted by Access Credit Union

Casera Credit Union is pleased to announce that its members approved a recommendation by the board of directors to merge with Access Credit Union. Voting took place between Nov. 10 and 15, and the results were announced at a virtual special meeting of members.

The membership vote followed the completion of due diligence and a subsequent recommendation to merge from the boards of both organizations. The favourable vote means that the two credit unions will unite under the Access Credit Union name and brand on July 1, 2023.

According to government regulations, Casera required a majority of two-thirds of votes cast to allow the merger to go forward. Access members were not required to vote since Casera represents less than 10 per cent of Access' total assets.

"We're pleased that our members accepted the board's recommendation," said Robert Riddell, Casera's board chair. "Throughout the merger process, our goal was to deliver a proposal advantageous to our members, employees, and communities."

Becoming operationally larger will help secure a financially stronger future for the merged credit union. The

new entity will also continue delivering local, personalized financial services to individuals and businesses.

"We are excited for our future with so much in common. Working together, we will be able to offer more than just products, services, locations, and continued great rates. It is confirmation of our commitment to continue serving our members and communities with excellence," said Access Credit Union board chair Kevin Beresford.

Under the Access banner, the credit union will have more than \$10 billion in assets, over 168,000 members, more than 900 employees and 56 branch

locations. The organization is well-positioned to operate effectively in today's competitive marketplace and offer a flexible patronage program to reward members for their loyalty.

About Access Credit Union

Access Credit Union was incorporated in 2009. In 2021, Access Credit Union merged with Crosstown Civic Credit Union and later in 2022, merged with Noventis and Sunova Credit Unions to become the largest credit union in Manitoba. Today, Access Credit Union remains a financial institution that puts its members first. For more information about Access Credit Union, visit www.accesscu.ca.

> MASK, FROM PG. 8

the virus) remains "very high" across Canada as of Nov. 11. Manitoba is at a "severe" level.

- There were 18,820 new COVID infections reported across Canada between Oct. 30 and Nov. 5, according to federal government data. Canada's death toll from the virus was 47,118 as of Nov. 5.

- Globally, there have been 6,596,542 deaths from COVID reported, according to the World Health Organization as of Nov. 16.

- The federal government's Flu-Watch report for the period Nov. 6-12 (Week 45) shows a "sharp increase" in influenza-associated hospitalizations among the pediatric population, levels normally seen at the peak of the influenza season. Fifty-six per cent of influenza cases during Week 45 — for which age information was reported — were among those aged 19 and under.

- The Manitoba Chambers of Commerce and Doctors Manitoba released a joint report with five recommendations to attract and retain physicians in the north and rural regions of the province. The recommendations are based on feedback from a rural health summit held in September.

"Manitoba has one of the biggest physician shortages in Canada and this is hitting particularly hard in many rural, northern and Indigenous communities," said Doctors Manitoba president Dr. Candace Bradshaw. "It must be a top priority to recruit and retain more doctors, and this is going to require an 'all-hands' approach if Manitoba is going to succeed in an intensely competitive national and global environment."

The report titled *Manitoba's physician shortage, physician recruitment and retention recommendations from the rural & northern health summit* says Manitoba has one of the biggest physician

shortages in Canada, and a recent survey shows a significant number of them planning to retire, reduce their hours or leave Manitoba altogether.

"With 43% of physicians planning to retire, leave Manitoba, or reduce their clinical hours over the next three years, there are and will continue to be considerable implications for rural and Northern communities if these trends continue," states the report.

Manitoba has the lowest number of family physicians per capita in Canada, at 108 per 100,000 residents, and the third lowest number of specialist physicians per capita. Physician numbers per capita in the Interlake-Eastern health region is 92 per 100,000 residents.

The acute physician shortage in rural and northern regions of the province led to widespread service disruptions.

"This past summer, ERs at two thirds of rural hospitals were closed full time or part time, and access to care in First Nations communities has deteriorated significantly," states the report.

The report includes quotes from physicians outlining the stresses of rural health care: "Working conditions, especially in rural ERs, are difficult and stressful. No support, minimal diagnostic tools, working alone, without possibility of consultation, difficulty transferring sick patients to larger facilities, difficulty accessing the patients' medical records."

The report calls for an "all-in" collaborative approach with five major recommendations that include expanding physician training, providing financial supports, addressing physician burnout by reducing administrative burdens and on-call expectations, providing better peer support and engaging local communities, chambers of commerce and Indigenous leaders to help recruit and retain physicians.

It also notes other issues causing "in-

stability" in rural and northern health care, including shortages of nurses, technologists and other health-care

workers, as well as a "lack of transparency about the future of health-care services."



PUBLIC NOTICE



Manitoba Hydro 2023/24 & 2024/25 General Rate Application

Manitoba Hydro has applied to the Public Utilities Board for a 3.5 per cent average increase to electricity rates effective September 1, 2023 and a further 3.5 per cent average increase effective April 1, 2024. As part of this application, Manitoba Hydro is seeking final approval of the interim rate increase of 3.6 per cent implemented January 1, 2022. Manitoba Hydro is requesting increases to obtain the revenue needed to run the electric system, perform maintenance, and rebuild and expand the system as needed to continue to provide reliable, safe and effective service to customers.

For a residential customer without electric heat (using an average of 1,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month), the average impact of the proposed increase is approximately \$4 per month after September 1, 2023 and an additional \$4 per month after April 1, 2024.

For a residential customer with electric heat (using an average of 2,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per month), the average impact of the proposed increase is approximately \$7 per month after September 1, 2023 and an additional \$7 per month after April 1, 2024.

Further details of Manitoba Hydro's Application are available at: www.pubmanitoba.ca

HOW DO I SHARE MY VIEWS?

You can share your views on the proposed rate increases with the Public Utilities Board in three ways:

- **As a Presenter** – If you want to make a virtual or in-person formal presentation to the Public Utilities Board on this matter and are willing to respond to questions about your presentation, please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and apply to become an approved Presenter. Presentations are limited to a maximum of 10 minutes.
- **Written comment** – If you would like to comment in writing on the rate increase, please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and provide your written comment.
- **As an approved intervener** – If you want to actively participate in the public hearing as an Intervener, please go to www.pubmanitoba.ca and apply for Intervener status. Interveners are required to represent the interests of a significant group of customers and may be required to combine their intervention with others representing similar interests.

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

Available in accessible formats upon request.



Five days notice required. Wheelchair access is available.



Economic, climate pressures on cattle producers lead to sell-offs, retirements

By Patricia Barrett

Manitoba is continuing to see a downward shift in the number of cattle producers, and Ashern's auction house has several upcoming complete herd dispersal sales from Interlake producers.

A combination of factors such as the climate crises' deleterious impact on agricultural production, an inability to profit from cattle-raising and producers nearing retirement are responsible for the decline.

Archie Thompson, who farms between Arborg and Fisher Branch, is one of the producers selling off his entire herd and getting out of the business. Thompson is selling 330 beef cattle up at the Ashern Auction Mart in a few weeks. His farm has been in the family for 110 years and he himself has farmed for 44 years.

He said each producer has his or her own unique challenges and reasons for leaving the industry, and for him it was a combination of factors that led him to call it a day.

"This is a 24-7 job and with expenses going up, it all takes a toll. It's actually almost impossible to make a living doing this. You're working all the time and you don't see the benefit in the long-term," said Thompson last week. "I love doing this. If I could, I'd keep going."

The excessive moisture Manitoba saw this past winter, and the three or four years of severe drought before that — which resulted in higher costs for feed and other expenses — "added to" Thompson's overall decision to sell.

"Your expenses went up during that time yet your income didn't. Yes, the price of cattle right now is up, but fertilizer prices have doubled. Everybody talks about high inflation, including the 11 or so per cent inflation on food. Well, our production inflation is almost in the triple digits. How do you make this work financially?" he said. "Young guys wanting to get in to the business would look at this and say, 'Why?'"

The provincial government's offer [in September] of a temporary rent reduction for Crown land will help some producers "a little bit," he said, but in the end, it won't act as a big enough bulwark against industry pressures. He himself doesn't rent Crown land.

"Expenses are so high that the little bit of money some producers will

save renting Crown land won't help in the long run," said Thompson. "It's not an answer to the overall issue. The overall issue is that production is so costly. Why stay in this business if you're not getting paid for it in the end?"

The amount of money that goes into cattle production just "doesn't come back to the farmers" from meat sales, said Thompson, and it's a situation that has been going on for years.

A study commissioned by the Beef Farmers of Ontario, covering 2016-2021, showed beef producers in that province losing money on each head of cattle produced, but the packing sector making record profits charging grocery stores, according to *Farmers Forum Newspaper*. That resulted in higher prices for consumers by the end of 2021.

In addition to a lack of profitability, high production costs and extreme weather events, Thompson said the denial of disability insurance by an insurance company also factored into his decision to sell up. A definitive medical diagnosis for impaired breathing took four years to make but Manitoba legislation has a limit of two years to appeal.

"THIS IS A 24-7 JOB AND WITH EXPENSES GOING UP, IT ALL TAKES A TOLL. IT'S ACTUALLY ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE A LIVING DOING THIS."

"It would have been a big pay-out. It's not every insurance company that does this. But I never expected to hear that we have legislation in place to protect insurance companies," said Thompson. "It really shocked me when the lawyer told me that because there was no diagnosis, they don't have to pay you. Once I got the diagnosis,

well, you only had two years to appeal. Well, it took four years to find out what was wrong."

After being a "workaholic" his whole life, Thompson said he will find something else to occupy him.

Richard Ching from Moosehorn is another cattle producer getting out of the business. He sold 22 calves a few weeks ago and is selling his remaining 25 cattle this Saturday at the Ashern Auction Mart. As the auction mart will preg-test them, there could be a couple more.

Ching said the reason he's leaving is that he's ready to retire from the cattle business. He does, however, want to continue to work a sideline in construction. Severe weather and lack of profitability didn't affect him.

"It was just time for me to retire. The



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Bull and cows in a drought-ravaged field in August of 2021 in the RM of Armstrong.

drought hadn't affected me a whole lot up here. I have a lot of pasture," said Ching, who moved to the area from southern Manitoba about three years ago. "I've had cattle for the last 50 years but I've always been in construction. I've got my own cat and hoe and other construction equipment."

The Moosehorn region did all right throughout the excess moisture events this year, he said, and crops like alfalfa, soy beans and canola were fairly decent. Other parts of the Interlake, however, got hammered.

Ching said he's going to keep busy and focus on his construction business.

"I'm not about to sit down at the corner of the couch yet," said Ching. "I've been busy in this country: I've been doing fence lines and cat work around here."

Manitoba has the country's third largest beef cow herd, or 11 per cent of the national herd. In 2021 Manitoba sold 440,485 head and reported \$629 million in cash receipts for cattle and calves, according to the provincial government's beef cattle sector profile report.

But the three- or four-year-long drought took a toll on herd size.

Auction marts in the province, which provide facilities for selling cattle to buyers across North America, saw increased sales in July and August of 2021 as producers downsized.

"As of July 1, 2021, there were 1.02 million head of cattle on farms including 372,700 beef cows. As of January 1 2022, there are 915,000 cattle and 363,300 beef cows on farms. The herd size is showing contraction due to the 2021 drought conditions," states the report.

Manitoba Beef Producers general manager Carson Callum said climate

challenges and an aging demographic have led to a decline in the sector.

"The challenges our industry has experienced over the last number of years, whether it's drought, floods, snowstorms or market pressures, all these different things have led to some folks getting out of the business, unfortunately. We've seen that in the last couple of years a little more than previously, and that was related to the challenging years producers went through," he said. "But it's also related to demographics: a lot of producers are getting to the age where retirement is looming and they've made a decision based on some of those extreme factors to either downsize their herds or completely disperse them. The unfortunate reality is those challenging years became the tipping point for some producers."

It's not just the Interlake that's seeing a loss but other areas of the province as well, said Callum.

The province's attempt to mitigate the loss of cattle production through incentives such as a rent reduction on Crown land over the next three years is a "positive step forward," said Callum. There will be a 50 per cent rent reduction in 2023, a 33 per cent reduction in 2024 and 15 per cent reduction in 2025.

That said, producers look at a number of different factors affecting their operations.

"The cost of inputs has gone up in many instances so that adds pressure on producers' bottom line and causes them to make decisions to downsize or leave," he said. "And the market price for animals is particularly important. We've seen an upwards trend in prices but that needs to con-

Gimli RCMP investigate robbery

Staff

On Nov. 15, at approximately 9:55 p.m., RCMP responded to a robbery at a business on 1st Avenue in Gimli.

It was reported that at approximately 9:45 p.m., a male entered the store with a machete, threatened the

employee and left with items. He returned to the store minutes later and demanded cash. He then fled on foot with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Officers made extensive patrols in the area but did not locate the suspect. The male suspect is believed to be

between 35 and 45 years old, had his face covered, was wearing sunglasses, a bright yellow/green hoodie with "zoo york" on the front and was carrying a tan backpack.

If you have information on this incident please call Gimli RCMP at

204-642-5106, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477 or secure tip online at www.manitobacrimestoppers.com.

> OUTDOOR HOCKEY, FROM PG. 3

One of the many stops will be in Maniwaki, Que., to spend some time on the backyard rink with 11-year-old hockey phenom Washiyyeh Jeannotte and his dad Andrew.

"Like for many others, hockey saved my life, gave me discipline, motivation and a sense of belonging," said Andrew. "Building this outdoor rink every year is my way of giving my boys the opportunity to feel absolute freedom — something that is not so easy to accomplish in today's world."

Other featured locations include the stunning prairie rink on Beaver Creek Farms in southern Manitoba, a visit to Moosomin and its phenomenal community rink, the work of art Jeff Nash creates in his Edmonton backyard, a trip to the Ottawa Valley to visit with Moe as she continues her annual rink-making tradition, a trip north to the community-run Hillcrest rink in Whitehorse, the winning community rink recently voted through CARHA Hockey's The Next Stride and their outdoor rink campaign, a special event in Frykas' hometown of Stonewall and more!

"There are great people and heartwarming stories around every outdoor rink," Frykas added. "I am excited to capture and share these

experiences in the series — and shoot the puck around, of course!"

Updates and more locations will be announced at <https://outdoorhockey.club>

Scenic Flight Tour

\$119 FOR A 3 PERSON FLIGHT TOUR
Book Today!

LS Airways Flight Academy | 311 Anson St, Gimli, MB | 204-642-4799



ALL COVID RULES APPLY

Lic #318

Fraserwood Hall

Friday Nights 7:15 PM

November 25, 2022

Breakopens 50/50

5 Share The Wealth Games

15 Regular Games @ \$60.00

(reduced games with low attendance)

JACKPOT	\$3,400.00
FIRST SPECIAL	\$31.00 +
BONANZA	\$1,955.00 +
LUCKY 7	\$341.00 +
STAR	\$1,560.00 +
WEEHOUSE	\$1,878.00 +
HOUDINI	\$590.00 +
LOONIE POT	\$79.00 +

(Estimated amounts at time of publication)

CASH BAR

"CHASE THE ACE"

Lic # LGA 318-RF

Tickets sold 5:00 - 7:00 PM

with draw to follow

\$2.00/ticket Current Accumulator - \$1,044.00+

CANTEEN - OPENS @ 5PM

Perogies, hamburgers, hotdogs, desserts, etc

INFORMATION - 204-642-9392 or

204-643-5541 or www.fraserwoodhall.com

Hall Rental & Commercial Kitchen Rentals

Please contact Amanda at 204-847-0677

Old Time Dance

Sunday Dec. 11, 2022 1pm to 4pm

Music - Ambrose Brothers

\$20 - Reserve tickets by calling

Lois 204 643 5541 or Brandy 204 643 5230

FIND YOUR HEART IN MANITOBA

Find unique accommodations with stunning views—inside and out.

Whether you're looking for a little luxury or a cozy weekend adventure at a cabin or lodge, Manitoba has plenty of options for unforgettable stays with breathtaking views.

↑ Riding Mountain National Park

DISCOVER UNIQUE STAYS WITH BED & BREAKFASTS

Bed & Breakfasts bring you closer to Manitoba's best sights and experiences, often located in charming small towns or on the water. Aaron's On The Lake near Gimli is a cozy spot with lakefront views and easy access to ice fishing and hiking trails. Or stay at Bell Aura in Carman, an 1898 church restored into a B&B, featuring eight antique-themed guest rooms and a bistro.

FIND FAMILY FUN AT A HOTEL

Hotels offer a wide variety of experiences—from luxurious suites to pet-friendly stays and options for families that include waterslides and pools. Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre has a dinosaur-themed pool area sure to delight young ones and is near CF Polo Park in Winnipeg. Travelling without kids? Try Mere Hotel in downtown Winnipeg, walking distance from The Forks and Canada Life Centre, home of the Winnipeg Jets.

RURAL OVERNIGHT STAYS

In a perfect mix of adventure and rejuvenation, Manitoba is home to accommodations off-the-beaten path and nestled in the wilderness. Try Glamping InStead for an overnight eco-friendly glamping adventure by booking Bear's Den—a geodesic dome nestled among the trees. Or stay in a winter otEntik (an A-frame style cabin) at Riding Mountain National Park.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE STUNNING PLACES TO STAY.

Manitoba
CANADA'S HEART BEATS

Adagio Acres adds buckwheat flour to their growing line-up

By Autumn Fehr

Adagio Acres is an organic farm in Clarkleigh where the Nikkel family grows and mills naked oats. The family farm has come a long way from growing oats in 2011, milling those oats a year later.

The decision to start growing and milling organic crops came naturally to the family at the time.

Donald Nikkel grew up on a horse ranch in the Interlake, and food was a passion for his wife Amy. Growing up with a huge garden, she wanted a deeper understanding of where food came from.

It was the right fit for the couple when they were starting their own family and wanted to give their kids a taste of what they had growing up.

Adagio Acres is truly a family operation.

Their three kids, Alexis (13), Eli (11) and Mowat (5), are all involved in some capacity with helping out on the farm.

"There's always a little bit of a balancing act of having the kids involved, seeing what you are doing, and always trying to keep everyone safe because it can be dangerous work. But, as all farmers know, you



Apple-brie-buckwheat crepes made from Adagio Acres' buckwheat flour, which was grown this summer by organic farmer Andrew Bryce near Portage la Prairie.

want to have your kids involved, see what you're doing and appreciate what a hard day's work might be," said Amy Nikkel.

Year-round, Adagio Acres grows organic, naked oats, a unique variety of oats as they naturally thresh free from the husk when combined.

The oats are milled into oatmeal, rolled oats or steel-cut oats that they sell in retail and restaurants in Winnipeg, primarily in Manitoba but also a bit in Western Canada.

However, mainly what they mill stays here in Manitoba.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED
Don and Amy Nikkel with their children Alex, Eli and Mowat on their farm, Adagio Acres, taken in 2021.

Month after month, week after week, they are growing oats in the summer and milling them right through the year.

Every week they are sending off about a pallet of oats to Winnipeg to different retailers and restaurants, said Nikkel.

A couple of years ago, the farm started something new, taking up all its time at this point in the year.

After harvest, in the fall and early winter, they reach out to organic farmers around the province and find out what products they've grown. They see those farmers have something they want to see in the market in Manitoba.

In this way, the farm can work with a much greater variety of products and use its equipment to mill other types of grain.

"When we talk to farmers, there's

a dissatisfaction with growing crops and then seeing that crop sold as a global commodity. Many farmers want to see people connect with the food they've grown. They want to see their crop as food and see that being used and cooked by people in their home province," said Nikkel.

At Adagio, using their farm processing, they can process some of the other crops and keep them in Manitoba so that other farmers can see the fruit of their labour in the same province.

They sell the grains they process from other farms directly to individuals through their Winter Grain Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), where they take all the different crops they've milled and sell bundles of grains.

"Someone will come and pick up 90

Continued on page 16



Black Friday \$100 instant rebate

ST124 Two Stage Snow Blower

3 YEAR BUMPER TO BUMPER WARRANTY

Regular Price \$1,058⁸⁹

\$100 Instant Rebate

SALE PRICE \$958⁸⁹

Countryside Home building centre

Lot 1, Hwy 17 S, Fisher Branch, MB 204-372-8501

Valid only at participating Husqvarna independent dealers from Nov. 24 - 27, 2022. Offer valid on ST124 only.

Husqvarna's compact and high-performing ST124 is ideal for driveways and paths. Easy maneuverability, an innovative remote chute rotator, and powerful engines with electric start help you take the bite out of winter snowfalls.

Technical Specifications	
Cylinder displacement, cc	212
Net power, ft-lb, Gross torque*	4.5
Fuel tank volume, gallons	0.58
Working width, in	24
Intake height, in	21
Auger diameter, in	12
Impeller veins	3
Tire size, single axle, in	13
Bumper to bumper warranty	3-Year

Features

- ✓ Two-stage system
- ✓ Friction disc transmission
- ✓ 212 cc Husqvarna engine with electric start
- ✓ Robust auger housing
- ✓ 13" snow terrain tires
- ✓ 12" steel auger
- ✓ Quick-turn remote chute rotator
- ✓ All steel chute
- ✓ 3 blade weldment impeller
- ✓ Molded console with no stickers

> CATTLE, FROM PG. 10

tinue in order to keep producers in the business and keep them striving forward."

With declining numbers of cattle, the demand for them may result in higher prices even if Canada enters a recession next year, he said.

"I think the supply issue will be a major issue across North America with cattle supply numbers down," said Callum. "I'm hoping the price producers receive will hold strong."

The provincial and federal governments could help the industry by ensuring business risk management

tools are equitable to the beef sector.

"If the federal and provincial governments can ensure there are proper tools to manage risks such as floods or droughts and ensure beef producers are well supported like other agricultural industries, that that would be a really important step," he said.

Richard Ching's cattle will be sold on Saturday, Nov. 26 at 1 p.m. Archie Thompson's cattle will be sold on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 1 p.m. For more information about cattle sales, contact the Ashern Auction Mart at 204-768-2360 or visit ashernauctionmart.com

Provincial government provides \$260,000 for arts, cultural celebrations

Investing in Our Communities

Arts, Culture and Sports in Community Fund



By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government announced last week it awarded \$260,000 in funding to 59 community events across the province.

The celebratory events are being supported through grants under the Community Celebrations program, which falls under the Arts, Culture and Sport in Community Fund that was established in August. The Community Celebrations program supports events that bring Manitobans together to celebrate culture and heritage.

Sport, culture and heritage minister and MLA for Lagimodiere Andrew Smith made the announcement last week.

"Celebrations, festivals, fall suppers and similar community-based events offer a unique opportunity for Manitobans to come together to celebrate their culture, heritage and community," said Smith in a Nov. 14 news release. "Our government is proud to support community organizations through the Arts, Culture and Sport in Community Fund, allowing them to innovate and respond to emerging community needs."

"CELEBRATIONS, FESTIVALS, FALL SUPPERS AND SIMILAR COMMUNITY-BASED EVENTS OFFER A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY."

The deadline for applying for a grant from the Community Celebrations program was Sept. 15. The next intake is open until Dec. 15.

The September intake award recipients from the Interlake are as follows:

- Teulon and District Agricultural Society received \$3,000 for the Teulon Pumpkinfest, Sept. 17.
- Interlake Art Board, Secret Path received \$5,000 for a mural unveiling and honouring of Elder Ruth Christie, Oct. 22.
- Green Acres Art Centre Inc. [Teulon] received \$5,000 for Winter Wonderland, Nov. 19-20.
- Red River North Tourism received \$5,000 for Holiday Alley, Nov. 24-27.
- Madeline's Closet Inc. [Inwood] received \$5,000 for Winter Solstice Around the World, Dec. 16.
- Riverton and District Friendship Centre received \$5,000 for a multiculturalism celebration, March 10, 2023.
- RM of Gimli received \$5,000 for the Gimli Blues Festival, June 16-17, 2023.
- \$5,000 will be granted to Les Petits Dorés Inc in support of their Raising Our Tipi project, Nov. 10, 2022.

2022.

The ACSC Fund provides grants to support the arts, culture and amateur sports sectors in communities across Manitoba to help enhance opportunities to access quality facilities in the province.

Over the next three years, up to \$100 million in funding will be provided for large and small capital projects as well as community celebrations.

A second wave of intakes for the ACSC Fund will be available soon. For more information, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/acsc

The deadline for Community Celebration intake is Dec. 15, 2022.

> SURROGACY, FROM PG. 2

"My family has been extremely supportive during this journey. My husband especially has been my rock throughout this pregnancy," she said.

"The question I get most is how are my children handling it. We have been open with them from the very beginning — we read a book called *The Kangaroo Pouch* to open up the conversation about surrogacy — and they are very excited for Katie and Russ."

At the same time, this remarkable experience has created unexpected connections with others.

"I feel like I've had so many amazing people open up to me and share their own struggles with infertility," Dana said, adding that some people have even expressed openness about becoming a surrogate themselves after hearing the Hills' story.

"I just hope sharing our story helps others share their stories and helps those considering surrogacy to may-

be take that next step."

The soon-to-be parents continue to share their story through their Instagram page @the.hillbeans.

"We give weekly updates on how Dana is doing, how baby is growing and how we are keeping busy. We also hope to keep spreading the word about surrogacy and infertility. It really isn't spoken about enough. While sharing our story, we have had friends, family and followers from our Instagram page that have reached out and opened up about their own struggles with fertility," Katie said.

"We feel sharing our story opens up the conversation and creates a safe space for others to share and feel. There are huge feelings that come with infertility and loss. We're thankful we can connect with others and offer a bit of positivity and hope. Surrogacy is giving us a way to grow our family, to hear a little voice call us Mom and Dad."

By sharing their story, and their process, the Hills are also hopeful it

might help others take the leap to see if surrogacy is an option for them.

And their excitement continues to build as their baby's arrival approaches.

"After such a long journey, holding this little one in our arms is going to be the greatest moment," Katie said.

"It's still quite surreal — we're going to be parents!"

At the same time, they express deep gratitude to Dana for her integral role in the whole process.

"We really are over the moon to be two short months away from welcoming our baby girl into the world. After a decade of 'maybe this year' and 'it will happen,' we're here — and it's surreal," Katie said.

"We are beyond grateful and still in awe that Dana reached out to us. She chose us and hopped on the journey with positivity, love and strength. Our little girl is so lucky to have Dana caring for her right now."

Their baby girl is due to be welcomed to the world in January 2023.

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Oak Hammock Marsh earns international award

By Jennifer McFee

Oak Hammock Marsh is making waves on an international level for having one of the best wetland visitor centres in the world.

The Harry J. Enns Wetland Discovery Centre at Oak Hammock Marsh earned accolades through the inaugural Star Wetland Centre Awards that recognize best practices in wetland education and visitor centres.

Located off Highway 67 between Stonewall and Selkirk, the Wetland Discovery Centre welcomes 100,000 visitors each year and is an active member of Wetland Link International, which organized the awards.

Connor Walsh, a U.K.-based international engagement officer for Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, said their panel of judges was really impressed with the local wetland visitor centre.

"The judges — from three different continents, with decades of experience in wetland education and visitor centres — had no hesitation in recognizing it as a Star Wetland Centre," Walsh said.

"The purpose of this award is to encourage best practice in wetland visitor centres — because by educating people of all ages about how wetlands protect us from water disasters and buffer us against climate change, we give hope to communities and nature."

Oak Hammock Marsh achieves this goal through a complete and comprehensive offering, he added.

"The diversity of exhibits, the accessibility and the very Canadian way to enable year-round activities helped earn it a Wetland Centre Star," he said.

"The judges also noted the sensitive architecture, quality habitat management and biological research."

At the same time, the Wetland Discovery Centre stood out for its simple provision of sightings boards and comprehensive approach to digital learning during COVID restrictions, he added.

"Their sharing informs and inspires other members of Wetlands Link International in their wetland communications and education work," Walsh said.

Award recipients were announced on Nov. 9 in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

In total, 23 global recipients earned Wetland Centre Star awards, with seven in North and South America (including the Wetland Discovery Centre), two in Africa, six in Asia, five in Europe, and three in Australia and New Zealand.



PHOTO BY OAK HAMMOCK MARSH
Dipping for water bugs is the Wetland Discovery Centre's most popular program and a great way to learn about wetland biodiversity. Pictured, Emma Eftekhar is enjoying the activity.

Nathalie Bays, manager of the Wetland Discovery Centre, said it's an honour to receive the recognition.

"The team at the Wetland Discovery Centre works hard to make wetland education fun and engaging for all ages," Bays said.

"That, along with the environmentally sensitive building and the fact we are located on a Ramsar site (Wetland of International Significance), makes it a special destination."

A joint project of Ducks Unlimited Canada and the provincial government, the Wetland Discovery Centre aims to connect people with wetlands today so they will conserve them for tomorrow.

"Our goal at the centre is to connect people with wetlands by providing interactive, immersive experiences. We provide a strong training program and constantly strive to improve our services so that our visitor experience exceeds expectations," she said.

"This has resulted in overwhelmingly positive feedback from students, educators and guests."

Bays points out the range of engaging and authentic programming available for guests of all ages, with everything from water-bug dipping for school children to star-gazing for international visitors during astronomy sessions.

"We are excited at the prospect of re-envisioning the centre in the next couple of years," she added, "with both structural improvements as well as the installation of brand-new exhibits."

She also stressed the importance of making efforts to conserve wetlands and educate people about their sig-



EXPRESS PHOTO BY VIVIAN FU/EAAPF

Elena Sanchez McCauley, policy and programs advisor for the wetlands office for Environment and Climate Change Canada, received plaques for the two Canadian winners at a ceremony at Ramsar COP14 in Geneva.



PHOTO BY OAK HAMMOCK MARSH

Experiential "Wader Walks" provide visitors with an up-close exploration of the wetland and its inhabitants. Pictured: Jacques Bourgeois (left), Cindy Greg (front) and Melanie Swenarchuk (back).



PHOTO BY TYE GREGG

During migration season, the number of waterfowl using the marsh can exceed 100,000 daily.

nificance.

"Wetlands protect us from flooding, drought and climate change. They protect wildlife biodiversity by providing hundreds of species with safe places to eat, sleep and raise young,"

Bays said.

"They give us natural places to play, learn and explore. They also clean the water we enjoy at beaches, lakes and rivers. Education is key to their protection."

Marble Ridge Colony School's global giving through Operation Christmas Child

By Patricia Barrett

Students at Marble Ridge Colony School north of Fisher Branch just wrapped up another season of global giving by putting together shoeboxes full of gifts for children living in Global South countries.

With donations from the community, students filled 19 shoeboxes last month with gifts and practical items for the Operation Christmas Child program, said kindergarten to Grade 8 teacher Sheena Letexier. It's the school's 14th year participating in the program.

"Our kids have done this every year for 14 years, and the joy it brings them to give gifts and pack that box its pretty phenomenal," said Letexier.

In addition to the joy of giving, students are also learning the importance of being a global citizen to help those less fortunate than themselves.

"We teach our students citizenship at the local, national and global level. Operation Christmas Child ties into global citizenship because the gift boxes are destined for overseas countries in Africa and can also go to South America," said Letexier. "Every year our community really rallies for this cause. We've done about 280 boxes since we started collecting items. The kids really love doing this."

Operation Christmas Child is co-ordinated by Samaritan's Purse International Relief. The program's mission is to "demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world," according to the evangelical Christian organization's website. Every year the organization collects shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies and hygiene items. Since 1993 over 198 million children in more than 170 countries have received an Operation Christmas Child shoebox.

Letexier said items such as stuffed animals, dolls, crayons, colouring books, paper, facecloths, soap, brushes and combs are collected from community donors and put into each box, with the "wow" item – typically a toy – packed at the top of the box so that

it's the first thing a child sees when he or she opens the box. Items such as food, liquids such as hand lotion or war-themed toys cannot form part of the gift boxes. The students also make Christmas cards for each box.

To help Marble Ridge's students understand what it's like for an overseas child to receive a Christmas shoebox, the school watched videos.

"We watched a few videos because our students want to see what it's like for a child to open a box, to see their reaction," said Letexier. "I think that was very powerful for our kids to see that."

The decorated boxes are supplied to the school by Fisher Branch resident Sara Plett, said Letexier. The students put the boxes together, fill them, label them "boy" or "girl" and provide an age range such as 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14 years of age.

In addition to providing the shoeboxes, Plett helps collect donated items for the fundraising drive.

"The children at Marble Ridge did a tremendous job this year," said Plett.

As the shoeboxes have to be completed by the beginning of November in order to arrive overseas in time for Christmas, Plett said items for next year's fundraising drive should be in by mid-October. And as part of the drive, monetary donations are welcome to cover the cost of overseas shipping.

"Each box has a \$10 shipping fee on them. Whatever monetary donations we get from the community we use for shipping the boxes. The monetary donations are part of our shoebox drive," said Plett.

The shoeboxes are taken to Winnipeg from Fisher Branch for free then flown to Calgary. From there they're



EXPRESS PHOTO BY SHEENA LETEXIER

With donations from the community, students at Marble Ridge Colony School filled 19 festively decorated shoeboxes with Christmas gifts and practical items donated by the community for children living in Global South countries.

"WE WATCHED A FEW VIDEOS BECAUSE OUR STUDENTS WANT TO SEE WHAT IT'S LIKE FOR A CHILD TO OPEN A BOX, TO SEE THEIR REACTION," SAID LETEXIER. "I THINK THAT WAS VERY POWERFUL FOR OUR KIDS TO SEE THAT."

Correction

Staff

In the article "Massive tract of globally rare grasslands now protected" that was published in last week's paper, we incorrectly published the amount of money required to secure the project into the future. Along with other iconic grassland landscapes in the province, Nature Conservancy of Canada is looking to raise \$25 million to protect endangered habitats.

The Express apologizes for the error.

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For more information about Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, visit samaritanaspurse.ca

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Gypsumville RCMP respond to overdue fisherman on Lake Manitoba

Submitted by RCMP

On Nov. 13 at 9:15 p.m., Gypsumville RCMP received a report of a 70-year-old male having gone out ice fishing near Fairford earlier in the morning and failed to return home.

His pickup truck was found near Cook Road, located west of Highway 6 in Fairford, where a local search party began their search.

The search party departed by snowmobile out onto the lake to an area

believed most likely to be where the 70-year-old would fish from. After a short ride out, they observed foot-wear protruding out from the ice.

The search party approached closer by foot, due to the thinning ice, where they located and recovered the body of the 70-year-old male, who was pronounced deceased. No criminality is suspected in his death.

Gypsumville RCMP continue to investigate.

> ADAGIO ACRES, FROM PG. 12

or 100 pounds of grain, and it comes from 15 different farmers and all the different flours and

seeds and pulses that they might need for their winter supply," said Nikkel.

Based on the concept of a vegetable CSA, Nikkel created a grain CSA, which is the first of its kind in Canada.

The program functions in a way that allows the food being grown to dictate what you will get.

For example, if one year there are a lot of great crops of beans, there may be more of those bundles rather than another grain that may not have had a good growing season.

At this time of year, in November, she sells bundles of grains on her website. When the bundles are ready in January, buyers will pick up 15 or 20 types of grain.

Everyone brings their containers, so the process is completely zero waste, said Nikkel.

When people pick up their grain bundles, they meet the farmers growing their crops.

"The organic farmers who grew all the different products there can talk to people and answer their questions about food and farming and life in general, and just being able to connect people who are eating with those who grew those crops," said Nikkel.

Through its brand, Manitoba Rotation, Adagio also sells its product to other retailers like Sobeys, Safeway, Red River Co-ops and Family Fares.

Every season they bring two different products to that rotation.

Currently, individuals can purchase cornmeal and yellow peas through Manitoba Rotation, but later in the winter, they will sell the buckwheat they are milling now.

Buckwheat is a new seed Adagio Acres has introduced to their menu this year.

Organic farmer Andrew Bryce grew buckwheat this summer near Portage la Prairie.

The farm uses its oat mill to clean the buckwheat. In addition, they just purchased a new stone flour mill this summer to mill the buckwheat into gluten-free flour so more people can enjoy their product.

The buckwheat will be included in their Winter Grain CSA this January and, potentially, later in the winter.

Adagio Acres has been working on this new buckwheat flour for the past two weeks, but at the same time, they've also been milling flax, cornmeal, navy and pinto beans, french lentils, black lentils and oats for their CSA program.

"What we want to be doing as a farm is thinking about how our whole food production system works. We want to be dabbling in everything we can to help people think about eating locally, reducing our environmental impact and making sure we tread lightly on the earth. One of the best ways we can do that is with the food decisions we make every day," said Nikkel.

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Selkirk Record **Tribune** **EXPRESS**

Giving Tuesday – gifts tripled – help kids like Pacey

Staff

GivingTuesday is the world's largest generosity movement.

Whether it's making someone smile, helping a stranger or giving to those who need our help, every act of generosity counts, and everyone has something to give.

This year donations made on #GivingTuesday will have triple the impact, thanks to Qualico, which has generously agreed to triple match gifts up to \$100,000. So a gift of \$25 becomes \$75, \$100 becomes \$300 and so on. These gifts will help revitalize the Children's Hospital emergency department and enhance research focused on pediatric emergency care around the province. <https://goodbear.ca/areas-of-need/childrens-hospital-emergency-department/>

All gifts donated at www.goodbear.ca/givingtuesday on Nov. 29 will have triple the impact to help kids like Pacey who need Children's Hospital emergency department.

After more than 30 surgeries, five years of testing and countless days in hospital, Winkler's seven-year-old Pacey

Wall's digestive system still won't work.

"Even though it sounds like it's hopeless, it's not. We have an amazing team here. We trust them and we have a really great relationship with them," says Kim Wall, Pacey's mom.

Pacey has intestinal failure, but what's causing it is unclear. Pacey's condition started when he was two years old and has progressively gotten worse. He's had a wide range of surgeries to help his digestion and has now had his colon removed and a colostomy placed. He can't eat solid foods, so he relies on total parenteral nutrition (TPN), which is a

solution of essential nutrients given through an IV.

Since 2017 Pacey has been in and out of HSC Winnipeg Children's Hospital as complications came up, with his longest stay lasting six weeks. In 2020 he was in hospital for both Christmas and his birthday, so he's really gotten to know the Child Life team.

"Until you have a child in hospital for as long as Pacey has been you just can't truly understand what it's like," says Kim.

Child Life specialists are experts at helping kids cope with life in hospital. They provide music therapy, put on fun programs like the Good Day Show on Children's Hospital TV and tend to kids' emotional and developmental needs.

When Pacey is in hospital, he spends about three hours a day in the play room, watching CHTV and doing other activities organized by Child Life.

"It's three hours a day he has to look forward to. No matter how yucky his day is, he knows he has that time (with the Child Life team) to just do fun things," says Kim.

Pacey has faced many painful and uncomfortable procedures. Kim remembers one particular day that had been very difficult. Child Life specialists came to check on Pacey and help him express what he was going through. They asked him to write all the things he hates about being in hospital on a target so they could squirt paint at those words to make them go away. But because Pacey loves the people and activities at Children's Hospital so much he didn't have anything bad to write down; he just wanted to put numbers on the target for points.

"That's the type of kid he is — he doesn't see anything bad here ever," says Kim.

Kim is thankful the Child Life team has so many ways to help Pacey enjoy just being a kid and says when he's feeling good he's unstoppable. Pacey loves training to be a ninja and is so fierce he popped the punching bag he has at home.

"You wouldn't know he was sick. He always looks amazing and he's chatting it up with everyone he passes in the hall, waving to everybody who walks," says Kim.

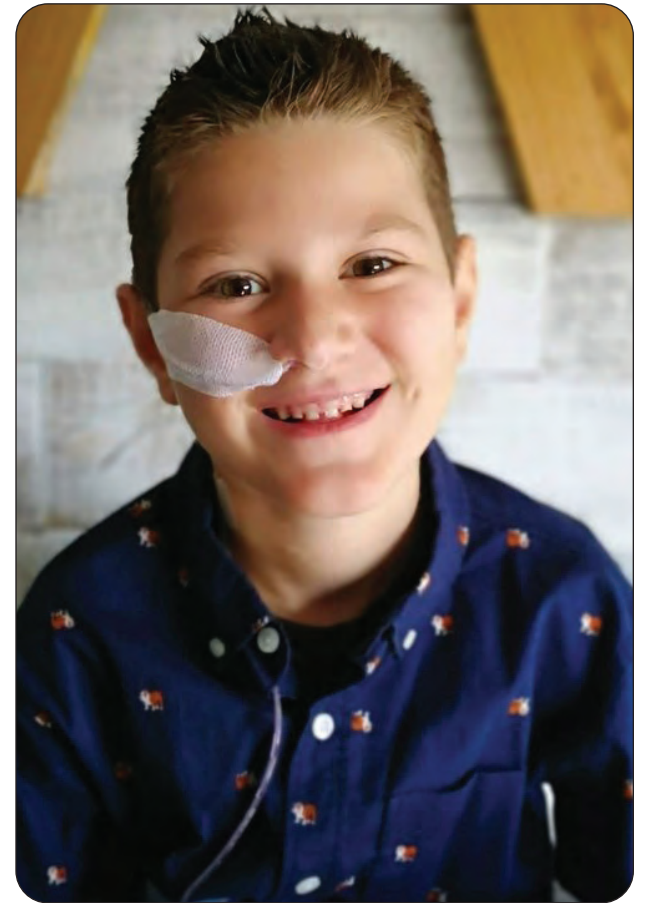


PHOTO SUBMITTED

This year on Nov. 29, Qualico has agreed to triple match gifts up to \$100,000 to help revitalize the Children's Hospital emergency department to support children like Winkler's Pacey Wall.

Kim says the Children's Hospital team has become like family to her, Pacey, his dad Benji, and his three sisters Addison, Bailey and Savannah. Pacey is so close to some of his surgeons he will play pranks on them, like taping a fake spider to his belly right before they begin a procedure.

Kim is grateful to the Children's Hospital team for continuing to support Pacey and searching for answers about his condition.

"It's been a battle for five years but we still have hope."

"IT'S THREE HOURS A DAY HE HAS TO LOOK FORWARD TO. NO MATTER HOW YUCKY HIS DAY IS, HE KNOWS HE HAS THAT TIME (WITH THE CHILD LIFE TEAM) TO JUST DO FUN THINGS."



Kids in emergencies can't wait for care.

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Local rower wins prestigious Indigenous award

By Ty Dilello

Gonor's Leah Miller is the 2022 female recipient of the Tom Longboat Award, which is handed out annually to recognize Indigenous athletes for their outstanding contributions to sport in Canada.

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

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

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

In 2019, Miller stopped playing volleyball to focus on rowing as she wanted to get faster and stronger.

It turned out to be the right decision as, over the past summer, she travelled to Varese, Italy, to compete for Team Canada at the Junior U19 World Rowing Championships. Her four crews team placed 11th at the World event. Miller then represented Manitoba later in the summer at the Canada Summer Games in Niagara, Ont.

"It was a great experience to be able to help represent Canada. The training was intense, as we trained a lot,



Leah Miller

but it was super awesome. I met new teammates from other provinces, and now we're all good friends."

Miller was ecstatic when she learned she was the 2022 female recipient of the Tom Longboat Award. The award is presented annually by the Aboriginal Sports Circle.

The Tom Longboat Awards are named after the legendary Onondaga runner from Six Nations in Ontario. Longboat was considered one of the world's fastest long-distance runners in his prime. He won the 1907 Boston Marathon and competed in the men's marathon at the 1908 Summer Olympics in England.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

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

Miller is a proud member of the Pimicikamak Cree Nation, as is her mom, while her dad is Métis.

"I was so happy and honoured to hear that I was this year's recipient of the Tom Longboat Award. He was an amazing athlete, and this award is something I'm proud to receive. It was awesome to attend the awards ceremony and see all the amazing athletes."

After graduating from high school, Miller had many colleges interested in offering her scholarships. However, she chose the University of Michi-

gan, one of the top rowing programs in the United States.

"I chose Michigan because it's ranked one of the top public universities in the U.S.A., and it has a really strong rowing team where it will push me and challenge me to become a better rower. I plan to major in biology and then eventually go to medical school. My time in college is going well so far as a first-year student, and I'm there with some fellow Canadian rowers. My goal is to keep working at becoming a stronger rower."

Langrell to be inducted into Baseball Manitoba's Hall of Fame

By Brian Bowman

The Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame will host its 25th induction banquet on the evening of June 3, 2023, at the Access Events Centre in Morden.

Eight individuals and four teams will be inducted. The individuals are Corey Billaney of Boissevain, Jeff Bouchard of Winnipeg, Junior Brake of Boissevain, Keith Carriere of Winnipeg, Patti Hacault of Holland, Laurie Langrell of Warren/Winnipeg, Thomas Smith of Steinbach (deceased) and Todd Smith of Hamiota (deceased).

The four teams are the Minnedosa Mavericks 2006-2015, the Reston Rockets 2009-2013, the Hamiota Ju-

venile Royals 1966, and the Norwood Community Club Juvenile/Junior Baseball Team 1953-1956.

Langrell is very proud to get the induction nod.

"It's an honour and I'm pleased that it happened," he said Monday evening. "It goes back to my old days in Warren, Manitoba, where I played a lot of baseball. I also played up in Balmoral for two or three years and also in Stonewall a couple of years."

Langrell, born in 1939, was raised in Warren and started to play organized baseball there at the age of 13. At age 16 he played some games for Warren

Seniors. Langrell also played with Warren Juveniles.

In 1957, the Juveniles beat Columbus Club for the city championship. The deciding game went 17 innings. Langrell had five hits and stole third base five times.

"We had a really good team in Warren," Langrell recalled. "Our team was mostly local guys from Warren."

Langrell then played two years with the Warren Juniors in the Winnipeg Junior League and two years in the Parochial League.



Laurie Langrell

Continued on page 19



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Lightning captain Tessa Stewart gets control of the puck in Interlake's 3-1 loss to the Pembina Valley Hawks Saturday night in Manitoba U18 AAA Female Hockey League action.

Capitals down U18 AAA female Lightning

Staff

The Interlake Lightning lost 4-1 to the Central Plains Capitals in Manitoba U18 AAA Female Hockey League action on Sunday afternoon in Arborg.

Tessa Stewart scored for Interlake, assisted by Camryn Falloon and Emily Gagne.

Capitals' goals were tallied by Liberty Aime, Izzy Colatruglio, Courtney

Dupois and Phoenix Freis.

Last Saturday, Interlake lost 3-1 to the Pembina Valley Hawks in Stonewall.

Shelby Staples scored a third-period goal for the Lightning.

Interlake will play Eastman on Saturday (1:30 p.m.) in Niverville and Central Plains Sunday (3 p.m.) in Portage la Prairie.

U17 Lightning iced by Westman

Staff

The Interlake Lightning lost 7-2 to the Westman Ice Bandits in U17 AAA action on Sunday.

Jayden Edwards and Evan Deprez scored for the Lightning.

Theo Pratt (three), Gavin Drake, Linden Gould, Sage Hall Vermette and Connor Hoesman replied for Westman.

Last Thursday, the Lightning were defeated 7-2 by the Winnipeg Bruins in Stonewall.

Lightning goals were scored by Dominick Collins and Cole Swanson in the third period.

Interlake will host Eastman Thursday (7:30 p.m.) in Stonewall and then visit Brandon Saturday (7:15 p.m.) and Westman Sunday (2 p.m.) in Elkhorn.

In U15 AAA action, Interlake lost 5-2 to the Central Plains Capitals on Sunday in Portage la Prairie.

Interlake's goals were scored by Brody Slatcher and Mason Bernier in the third period.

Capitals' goals were tallied by Dylan Spak, Jazz Mousseau, Melvin Mercredi, Mathias Sibilleau and Lawson O'Ray.

Last Friday, the Lightning were shut out 6-0 by the Pembina Valley Hawks in Winkler.

The Hawks, which held period leads of 2-0 and 6-0, received goals from Cole Secord (two), Cohen Lewko, Casey Magarall, Nathan Froebe and Parker Henderson.

Interlake played the Winnipeg Thrashers Gold this past Tuesday but no score was available. The Lightning won't play again until Dec. 1 when they host Pembina Valley in Stonewall.

The next night, Interlake will play the Winnipeg Wild Red in Warren. Puck drop for both games is 7:30 p.m.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Interlake Lightning's Justin Braid checks a Winnipeg Bruins' player during U17 AAA action last Thursday in Stonewall.

> HALL OF FAME, FROM PG. 18

He later joined the Balmoral Orioles in the Winnipeg Senior League. Langrell's best year with the Orioles was in 1967 when he was both the league batting champion and MVP. He hit .407 and stole 25 bases.

Langrell then played with Stonewall in the Winnipeg Senior League and with Warren in the Interlake League. He was also an excellent hockey player, a member of the 1959

Winnipeg Braves, the last team from Manitoba to win the Memorial Cup.

Meanwhile, Gladwyn Scott, who used to live in Warren, will be recognized by the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame as an honorary life member after the Hall of Fame's induction banquet in the spring of 2022.

The board of directors of the Hall of Fame had decided that next year

they would announce that Scott had been selected an honorary life member.

However, by August of this year, it became clear that Scott's health was failing quickly and they could not wait. They quickly arranged for a small celebration on Gladwyn and Marguerite Scott's front lawn. They informed Gladwyn that he had been chosen for this honour. He was the man most responsible for the establishment of the Hall of Fame, and a tireless worker on behalf of

the organization. They will present the memorabilia associated with this award to Gladwyn's family on June 3, 2023, and Gladwyn's name will be added to the plaque in the Hall of Fame's museum that lists all honorary life members.

Tickets for the banquet are available through the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame website, www.mbhof.ca. Follow the links to the 2023 banquet.

Lightning lose to Bruins, Thrashers

Staff
The Interlake Lightning were defeated 7-2 by the Winnipeg Bruins in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action on Sunday afternoon.
Winnipeg's Reeve Sukut, Peyton Allard, Carter Wilson and Hayden Moore scored in the first period.
Wilson and Ethan Bibeau made it 6-0 early in the third before Gavin Holod put the Lightning on the board at 8:12 of the final frame.
The Bruins' Maxx Hamelin and Ian Buors then traded goals midway in the period.

Last Friday, Interlake lost 3-1 to the Winnipeg Thrashers in Teulon.
Nathan Leclerc gave Winnipeg a 1-0 lead in the middle frame but Interlake's Adam Vigfusson tied the score midway in the third period.
The Thrashers' Cole Bilous and Brandon Corde closed out the scoring.
Interlake's next game is Wednesday at 8 p.m. when it hosts the Winnipeg Wild in Teulon.
On Sunday (2 p.m.), the Lightning will visit the Wild.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER
The Lightning's Adam Vigfusson scored a goal in Interlake's 3-1 loss to the Winnipeg Thrashers in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action last Friday in Teulon.

Weekly curling recap Ice Dawgs whip Warriors

By Ty Dilello
One of the premier junior cash spiel events in Canada, the Sun Life Financial Junior Challenge is an annual invitational event in Brandon that was held last weekend and featured some of the best up-and-coming young curlers from across North America.
Altona's Dayna Wahl carried on their momentum from winning the Canada Games Trials by having a deep run in the Sun Life Junior Challenge. Wahl went 2-1 in the round robin to advance to the quarterfinals, where they defeated East St. Paul's Morgan Maguet. In the semi-finals, Wahl lost a tough battle with Winnipeg's Katy Lukowich.
Lukowich went on to win the final over Manitou's Cheyenne Ehnes by a 5-1 scoreline.
Carman's Shaela Hayward also participated in the event but didn't fare as strongly. The Carman rink went 1-2 and failed to reach the quarterfinals. Moosehorn's Tansy Tober also went 1-2 and didn't reach the playoffs.
On the boys' side, North Dakota's Ethan Sampson took home the event by defeating Saskatchewan's Logan Ede in the final.
Morden's Nash Sugden competed and went 1-2, missing the playoffs.
At the Mid-Canada Fasteners Classic in Winnipeg, Team Corey Chambers (featuring St. Claude's Julien Leduc at second) were victorious after defeating Winnipeg's Ryan Wiebe 5-4 in the championship final. Chambers earns some cash and a berth into the Viterra Championships for the win.
St. Claude's Justin Twiss, who throws lead stones for Team Riley Smith, reached the semi-finals of the event before falling 7-3 to Ryan Wiebe.
The women's event was won by Mi-

ami's Jennifer Clark Rouire, who defeated Thompson's Jennifer Briscoe 7-3 in the final.
The DEKALB Superspiel in Morris is the next major men's and women's World Curling Tour event in Manitoba and it will run from Dec. 2 to 5, featuring 40 top rinks from around the world.

Staff
The Arborg Ice Dawgs scored four second-period goals in a solid 6-2 home win over the St. Malo Warriors in Capital Region Junior Hockey League action on Saturday evening.
Cadrick Dueck had a great game with three goals while Ashton Fisher, Tyson Barylski and Kaydyn McMahon also tallied.
Teagan Fillion and Cole Holdnick replied for St. Malo.

Tre Strachan stopped 31 St. Malo shots for the win.
Arborg, now 7-5 and in second place in the six-team league, will host North Winnipeg this Saturday at 7:30 p.m.
The Lundar Falcons, meanwhile, did not play any games last week. Lundar visited North Winnipeg on Tuesday and then will host Selkirk Friday (7:30 p.m.) before visiting Beausejour Sunday (3:30 p.m.).

take a break > GAMES

SUDOKU

			8					9
	4	8						
			3	2	7			
1	7							8
	8		1	6	3			5
			2	3	5			
6	5				1		7	4
	1						3	

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
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!

5	3	6	9	7	4	2	1	8
4	7	1	2	8	9	6	5	3
9	8	1	5	6	2	7	4	3
7	5	4	3	9	1	6	8	2
8	6	3	2	4	5	9	7	1
2	1	9	8	6	7	4	3	5
1	4	8	7	2	3	9	5	6
3	2	9	6	1	9	8	7	4
6	9	7	4	5	8	1	2	3

Sudoku Answer

S	E	S	S	E	S	S	E	S
I	H	L	N	V	O	Y	E	L
Y	L	E	W	I	L	E	O	V
N	E	O	R	V	N	Y	N	S
V	E	H	V	L	V	S	V	O
T	S	V	W	N	O	V	S	L
S	E	O	V	N	S	O	H	V
E	N	O	I	N	N	V	X	V
N	O	J	O	H	N	V	J	S
I	L	V	S	E	L	W	O	S
H	W	S	L	N	V	H	E	T
S	E	W	N	S	E	O	V	O
S	E	L	V	H	M	L	V	O

Crossword Answer

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS
1. India's "City of Lakes"
7. Large marine mammals
13. Used to carry belongings when traveling
14. Rechristens
16. Equally
17. Heavy plant-eating mammals
19. Millihenry
20. Japanese immigrant to N. America
22. Deep, red-brown sea bream
23. Norse gods
25. Peppermint and pekoe are two
26. Auguste __, founder of positivism
28. Self-immolation by fire ritual
29. High-resolution microscope (abbr.)
30. Wide metal vessel used in cooking
31. V-shaped open trough
33. People of southern Benin
34. People of southern Ghana
36. It's a significant creed
38. Period between eclipses
40. Furies
41. Emerged
43. Philippine Island
44. Where wrestlers battle
45. Unhappy
47. Central European river
48. Language
51. Semitransparent gemstone
53. Forming in a bottom layer
55. Distinct region
56. Broad blades
58. Leavened bread
59. Influential cosmetics exec
60. Exclamation of surprise
61. Era free of war
64. One who helps professors
65. Idealistic
67. Ornamental plants
69. Grouped
70. Kids love this street
CLUES DOWN
1. Beloved hound
2. Equal to 100 grams
3. S-shaped moldings
4. Hawaiian cliff
5. Everyone has one
6. Subatomic particle
7. Ghost
8. Adult female bird
9. Greek temple pillars
10. Emits coherent radiation
11. Measures the width of printed matter
12. Musical interval
13. Tantalizes
15. Places of worship
18. An unskilled actor who overacts
21. One who volunteers to help
24. Precaution
26. Beverage holder
27. Very long period of time
30. Bullfighting maneuvers
32. More critical
35. Sends packing in a boxing match
37. Taxi
38. Decorative Russian tea urn
39. North American Great Plains natives
42. Seize
43. A passage with access only at one end
46. Cut a rug
47. Devil rays
49. Bubble up
50. Veranda
52. Outcast
54. Car mechanics group
55. Realm
57. A place to get off your feet
59. Popular music awards show
62. Consumed
63. A way to make cooler
66. Thus
68. Indicates it's been registered

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

NOTICES

BOOK YOUR CHRISTMAS ADS NOW! Advertise NOW in the 32 Weekly Manitoba Community Newspapers to get your messaging to be seen all over the province! Seasonal hiring? Have a service to offer? Selling something? Grand opening? Have an on-line store? Let people know in the Blanket Classifieds! Call 204-467-5836 or call MCNA at 204-947-1691 for more details or to book ads. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association. www.mcna.com

WANTED

WANTED: Old advertising dealership signs, gas pumps, globes, pop machines, light ups. White Rose, Red Indian, Buffalo, North Star, Case Eagles. etc. Collector paying TOP PRICES. 306-221-5908.

HEALTH

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

HAY FOR SALE

Large round hard-core bales of alfalfa & brome grass. Call 204-461-0722.

Quantity of round bales, net wrapped, first cut alfalfa, second cut alfalfa and wild hay. Call 204-461-1717.

LIVESTOCK

F Bar Ranch Herd Reduction: Bred heifers, young cows and open heifers available. Red and Black Angus, excellent genetics, quiet, easy-handling stock. Price range \$1400 to \$2500. We also will have bulls for sale in December. For further info, contact Allen or Marilyn Staheli, 204-447-0737 or 204-448-2124, Eddystone, MB. or email: amstaheli@inethome.ca

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204-467-5836

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- A valid class 5 Driver's Licence and access to a vehicle.
- An aptitude for learning.
- A punctual, professional demeanor and a high level of personal integrity.
- A valid level 1 Insurance Broker's licence is preferred, but not required. A commitment to obtaining a level 2 Insurance Broker's licence in a timely fashion will be required.
- Experience working within a customer service-based industry, office, or sales environment is preferred.
- Fluent with Microsoft Office (Outlook, Word, Excel) and other Windows based programs, as well as experience troubleshooting computer/networking issues.
- A criminal record check will be required.

Freedom West Insurance Solutions would like a new member who enjoys small town life and is eager to serve their local community by joining our family run and team-based brokerage. We offer competitive wages and mileage reimbursement for site visits, with paid holidays and sick days included as well. We are willing to work with new hires to help you obtain pertinent licensing and begin your career in the insurance industry! For more information on our brokerage, please visit our website at www.freedomwestinsurance.com. If you believe yourself a good fit for this position, please submit your resume to dsmith@freedomwestinsurance.com.

Dwayne Smith - Owner/Manager

Deadline for applications: December 31, 2022.

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those under consideration will be contacted.



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

Dredging at the Winnipeg Beach Harbour on Lake Winnipeg, Manitoba

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Small Craft Harbours Branch (DFO-SCH), will be undertaking dredging work at the Winnipeg Beach Harbour during Winter/Spring 2023.

The dredging work is planned to occur from January to March 10, 2023. The timelines are subject to weather conditions and the results of the tender process.

DFO-SCH hereby gives notice that a submission has been added to the Common Project Search Registry (online registry) pursuant to the Canadian Navigable Waters Act described herein.

Pursuant to paragraph 4(1) of said Act, DFO-SCH has submitted the notification of a minor work in accordance with the requirements set out on the External Submission Site, on the online Common Project Search Registry (<https://common-project-search.canada.ca>) and under registry number 6523.

The description of the work is as follows:

Winnipeg Beach Maintenance Dredging, Winnipeg Beach Manitoba. The project includes dredging of the harbour bottom at the entrance to the harbour, extending approximately 67m north.

During the work, the harbour will be closed to the general public.

For inquiries, please contact:

Small Craft Harbours
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
431-337-3041

Canada



EASTMAN IMMIGRANT SERVICES IS HIRING

Eastman Immigrant Services - Interlake Division is currently hiring for one Settlement Workers In Schools (SWIS) position and one Settlement Facilitator position. Both positions are full-time, operating out of Arborg, MB.

For the full job descriptions, please visit www.eastmanimmigrantservices.com/about.

Resumes and cover letters can be sent to Gwen Reimer, EIS Program Director, at hiring@eastmanis.com.

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VILLAGE OF DUNNOTTAR - Municipal Clerk Position

The Village of Dunnottar invites written application for the position of Municipal Clerk. The municipal office is located in the southeast Interlake, on the shores of Lake Winnipeg. Under the direction of the CAO, the Municipal Clerk is responsible for secretarial support for the Municipal Office.

The successful candidate will possess the following:

- Computer experience with Microsoft Office, the Internet and website maintenance. Experience working with All Net Municipal Solutions considered an asset.
- General Accounting knowledge
- The ability to communicate effectively with the public, employees and external stakeholders.
- Graduate of or enrollment in the Manitoba Certificate program for Municipal Administration.
- Salary range is dependent upon qualifications and experience. An attractive benefit package is also provided.

Applications should be marked "Application for Municipal Clerk" on the outside and should contain a full resume with three references. Applications to be forwarded to the undersigned no later than 4:00 p.m. on December 9, 2022.

Sarah Palson - Administrator
Village of Dunnottar
P.O. Box 321
Matlock, Manitoba
R0C 2B0
Phone: 389-4962 Fax: 389-4966 E-mail: info@dunnottar.ca

We thank all applicants in advance, however, only those considered for interviews will be contacted.



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Plan to attend the following bred cow
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Saturday, December 3, 2022

Complete dispersal for Art & Jackie Jonasson

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Ashern Auction Mart 204-768-2360
Buddy Bergner 204-768-0018
Kirk Kiesman 204-768-0019

View pictures on our website
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Reporter/Photographer Wanted

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

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

Qualifications:

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

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

Lana Meier
Email: news@stonewallteulontribune.ca

The Carman-Dufferin
STANDARD

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Waste Disposal Grounds Manager BAR WASTE AUTHORITY CO-OP LTD.

B.A.R. Waste Authority Ltd. is seeking a qualified individual to fill the position of Waste Disposal Grounds Manager.

This position reports directly to the Board of Directors and requires working some holidays and week-ends. This full-time position involves operation and maintenance of the facility, equipment operation and maintenance, supervision of one BAR Waste employee, and any other duties as may be required.

In addition to a strong work ethic driven by initiative and positive attitude, the ideal candidate will possess strong problem-solving skills, some mechanical skills and a proven ability to work closely as part of a team. This position requires minimum a Class 5 Driver's License. The ideal candidate will possess a Manitoba Landfill Operation Certificate and Manager of Landfill Operations Certificate from the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), or have a willingness to obtain.

A complete job description is available at the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton office during regular working hours or by calling 204-376-2391.

Starting salary for this position will be dependent upon qualifications and experience, and a municipal comprehensive benefits package is provided.

Written applications including a resume, cover letter and three work related references to be submitted in confidence by **4:00 pm Wednesday, November 30th to:**

BAR WASTE AUTHORITY CO-OP INC.

Box 70, Arborg, MB R0C 0A0

Fax: (204) 376-2742

Email: cao_bifrost@mymts.net

*We thank all who apply and advise that only those selected for
further consideration will be contacted.*

FISHER ARMSTRONG PLANNING DISTRICT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

RM of Armstrong Zoning By-law No. 5/2022 Being an AMENDMENT to the RM of Armstrong ZONING BY-LAW NO. 6/04 (AS AMENDED)

HEARING LOCATION: RM of Armstrong Council Chambers
Lot 55 Highway 17, Inwood, MB

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, December 13, 2022,
at 1:00 PM

GENERAL INTENT:
AMENDED

To:

1. Add definition for "Ecovillage"; and
2. Add regulations for "Ecovillage"; and
3. Allow "Ecovillage" as a Conditional Use in the "A1" Agricultural Intensive Zoning District.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Corlie Larsen, CAO
RM of Armstrong
Lot 55 Hwy 17 Inwood, MB
R0C 1P0
Phone: 204-278-3377
Email: cao@rmofarmstrong.com

A copy of the above by-law and supporting material may be inspected at the Rural Municipality Armstrong Municipal Office, Lot 55 Highway 17, Inwood, Manitoba during normal office hours (8:30 AM to 4:30 PM), Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.

Note : Property owners are responsible for notifying lessee.

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Shaunne at 204-886- 2922 ext 205 or
email resume to shaunne@charisons.ca



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ARMSTRONG EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ASSISTANT CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

The Rural Municipality of Armstrong is accepting applications
for the position of Assistant Chief Administrative Officer.

Under the direct supervision of the Chief Administrative Officer,
the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer responsibilities shall
be to oversee the finance and administration operations of the
RM including general accounting, tax and assessment, accounts
payable/receivable, payroll, financial reports, building permit
applications, zoning requirements, significant involvement in
all day to day operations including public works duties and
assumes the responsibilities of the Chief Administrative Officer
in their absence.

The ideal candidate will have a minimum of five years office
administration experience. Completion of a recognized
certificate in the Manitoba Municipal Administration Program is
preferred.

The Assistant Chief Administrative Officer will assist in the
management and implementation of all aspects of daily
municipal finance and administration. We are seeking an
individual that has advanced skills in accounting, and computer
experience with a municipal software program, preferably
Asyst, and demonstrated abilities with Windows, Microsoft
Office 365; including Word, Excel, Power Point. The Assistant
Chief Administrative Officer will require a high level of ability
to communicate and assist staff, council, and the public. The
ability to develop, interpret and administer agreements, statutes
and by-laws will be required.

Salary is negotiable depending upon qualifications and
experience. Interested individuals may submit a cover letter and
resume with three references to:

Corlie Larsen, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
Box 69, Inwood, MB R0C 1P0
Fax (204) 278-3437
Email: cao@rmofarmstrong.com

Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled. We thank
all that apply and advise that only those selected for further
consideration will be contacted.

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RECYCLING NOTICE FOR DECEMBER/2022

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

Mon. Dec. 5/2022 at Riverton business places
Tues. Dec. 6 at Arborg curbside pickup
Weds. Dec. 7 at Arborg business places
Thurs. Dec. 8 at Riverton curbside pickup

Mon. Dec. 19 at Riverton business places
Tues. Dec. 20 at Arborg curbside pickup
Weds. Dec. 21 at Arborg business places
Thurs. Dec. 22 at Riverton curbside pickup

**The Workshop will be closed on
Monday, Dec. 26 and Tuesday, Dec. 27
& Monday, Jan. 2/2023**

The Workshop will do Arborg Curbside
pickup on Wed, Dec. 28 and Riverton
Curbside pickup on Thurs, Dec. 29

**The Workshop does not collect
Christmas Wrapping paper and styrofoam**

**Thank You for recycling
Happy Holidays
Please rinse your containers**



ATTENTION FARMERS AND RANCHERS

Plan to attend the following bred cow
sale At the Ashern Auction Mart

Saturday, November 26, 2022 at 1:00pm

Complete dispersal for John-Paul Avison

58 Black Baldy cows
Average age 2 - 4 years
Bred Black Angus (Hamco Bulls), start
calving March 24, 2023
Full Health Program Express
Formerly Tim Clarke's herd

Robert Truthwaite

35 Hereford Cows bred Hereford
Average Age 4-8 yrs old
Full herd health program

Edmund L Russell

35 Horned Hereford cows bred Hereford
Most Age 3-4 yrs old, rest 5-7 yrs old
Start calving March 20, 2023
Bulls Pulled Sept 20th
BVD, Ivomec, Vit A&D

Richard Ching

25 Black cows bred Black

Complete dispersal from The Pas

25 Mixed cows coming from The Pas

Please contact for more information

Buddy Bergner 204-768-0018

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UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

**APPROVAL OF A REVISED ZONING BY-LAW FOR THE
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GRAHAMDALE - BY-LAW
NO. 1065-2022 and REPEAL OF RURAL MUNICIPALITY
OF GRAHAMDALE ZONING BY-LAW NO. 937-2005**

LOCATION: R.M. of Grahamdale Municipal Office
23 Government Road,
Moosehorn, MB R0C 2E0

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

GENERAL INTENT: To adopt a new Zoning By-Law for the Rural
Municipality of Grahamdale to manage land
use and development as per Section 68 of The
Planning Act.

AREA AFFECTED: The Zoning By-Law applies to all lands within
the Rural Municipality of Grahamdale.

DOCUMENTS: The Zoning By-Law and all associated maps are
available on the R.M. of Grahamdale's website
at www.grahamdale.ca. Copies can be made
at the R.M. of Grahamdale Municipal Office and
extracts taken by request during normal office
hours.

**FOR INFORMATION
CONTACT:** Shelly Schwitek, Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Grahamdale
Box 160, 23 Government Road,
Moosehorn, MB R0C 2E0
Phone: 204-768-2858
Email: rm606@grahamdale.ca

To participate via phone or videoconferencing,
please contact the R.M. of Grahamdale Municipal Office
at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the hearing.

Announcements Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Sawmill Workers required immediately.

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Spruce Wood Loggers is looking for an energetic person who is physically able, punctual, promotable, trainable and can work with others. Must be at least 18 years of age have a class 5 drivers license and dependable transportation.

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Email resume to: swl@sprucewoodloggers.ca or call 204-378-2997 References required.



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- Monitors equipment (excavators etc.) to ensure facilities are not damaged
- Creates drawings using Visio
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

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- Team player with both excellent communication skills both written and verbal
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- Must be a computer savvy, able to manage multiple computer applications
- Maintain a valid provincial driver's license (Class 5) and must provide a driver's abstract
- Ensure vehicle, test equipment and tools are maintained in excellent condition
- Must be fully vaccinated and provide valid COVID-19 vaccination record (unless you have a legitimate recognized medical or religious reason for not getting vaccinated)

Work Conditions:

- Van and major tools supplied
- Occasional on-call, including some overtime and weekend and/or holiday work may be required
- Work environments include diverse types of terrain (grass, gravel, ditches, etc.) in and around construction zones and residential, commercial, industrial and rural areas
- Able to meet the physical requirements of the position which involves sitting, standing, bending, in all types of weather conditions

Contact: John Colville, Senior Recruiter-Ledcor
john.colville@ledcor.com

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IN MEMORIAM



Robert William Arnason

November 21, 1948 - November 27, 2021

A year ago we lost our beloved husband and father.

He was a good and beautiful man and is missed everyday.

-Always in our hearts
Ruth, Erik and Luke

OBITUARY

Anthony (Tony) Thomas Yurchi

May 18, 1955 - October 15, 2022

With deep sadness, we announce Tony's sudden passing.

He was predeceased by his parents, Frank and Emily Yurchi. He leaves behind his sisters, Margaret and Shirley, brother David, and other close and extended family. Then there are the many friends that he made over the years who will deeply miss him and cherish their memories of him. He also leaves behind his faithful companion Sporty.

Tony was born and went to school in Gimli, Manitoba. He worked at Seagram's (Diageo) Distillery for many years until his retirement. For a brief stint, he also tried his hand at long haul trucking.

In his earlier years, Tony enjoyed going out hunting, especially for moose. He was actively involved in competition shooting and excelled at it. He took up Cowboy Action Competitions, and enjoyed the camaraderie with the friends that he made during these events. Later, he gave up hunting and instead enjoyed watching the deer on his property and nature at its finest.

Tony was a hard-working man with a heart of gold. He was very particular about things; he had a place for everything and everything in its place. He was a sincere and genuine person, and he will be missed.

A service will be held at a later date with an announcement at that time.

Tributes can be left online at the MacKenzie Funeral Home's web site: mackenziefh.com

If one wishes, a donation can be made in Tony's memory to a charity of your choice.

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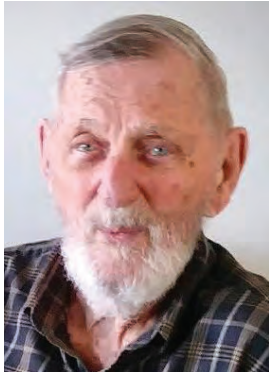
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OBITUARY



Herbert (Herb) Amey
1930 – 2022

Herb passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 10, 2022 at the age of 91 at Betel Home in Gimli.

He will be lovingly remembered and missed by his wife Joyce of 66 years, son David (Diana), son Todd, granddaughter Kate (Jean), grandson Daniel (Justine), and great-granddaughters Charlotte and Rosalie.

Herb was born to Herbert and Teresa Amey and raised in Winnipeg. His working years were spent with the CNR, Hudson Bay House, Charter House Hotel and Eatons both Downtown and St. Vital Center. Herb was kind, honest and very patient.

When Herb and Joyce both retired they moved to Silver Harbour and enjoyed many years of country life. They became members of the New Horizon's 55+ Centre and made many new friends and

enjoyed the club activities. Herb loved the outdoors and took up golf and lawn bowling. They also loved to travel and spent winter months in Yuma, Arizona.

The family would like to express our gratitude to the nurses and staff of Betel Home in Gimli for their kindness and compassionate care of Herb.

In accordance with Herb's wishes, cremation has taken place. No funeral will be held. A private family gathering will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to Betel Home Foundation (Gimli).

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

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY



Jack F. Kelly
October 13, 1935 – September 27, 2022

Jack passed away peacefully at Selkirk Regional Health Centre at the age of 86.

Jack was predeceased by his parents Mike and Betty Kelly; siblings Jean (Ivor), Barney (Helen), and Jim (Betty); mother-in-law Marjorie Pyper, father-in-law Thomas Pyper, and brother-in-law David Pyper (Bev).

Jack is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Gail Kelly (nee Pyper), brother-in-law Bob Pyper (Elaine), and many nieces and nephews.

In his early years Jack was employed by Building Products and Westroc Industries and enjoyed playing softball and curling in his spare time. Jack was an incredibly skilled woodworker and spent many hours in his workshop making beautiful intarsia pieces. Jack

was an avid sports fan and enjoyed watching hockey, football, baseball, and curling. Jack and his wife Gail spent many years RVing all throughout the U.S. and Canada and were members of the Good Sam Club. They were also active in the community and enjoyed spending time at the Selkirk Legion. Those who knew Jack well knew that he had a good sense of humour and always had a clever comeback.

A private service is to take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jack's memory to The Salvation Army.

Friends and family are invited to visit Jack's memorial page @interlakecremation.ca, where memories and condolences may be shared.

Arrangements entrusted to:

*Interlake Cremation
& Memorial Services*
204.482.1040

OBITUARY

Harold Springer
August 21, 1931 - November 16, 2022

'A Golden Heart Stopped Beating'

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father and grandfather Harold Springer, age 91, of Faulkner, MB after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

He was a farmer by day and music DJ by night and was well known in the Interlake region as Harold's Light & Sound.

Harold is survived by his wife Karen; daughters Celina (Kirby), Della and Susan; and grandchildren Cora and Vincent.

He will be dearly missed but our memories and his legacy shall live on.

As per his wishes, there will be no funeral service.

Our family wishes to express our deep felt gratitude to the Eriksdale Personal Care Home for their kind and compassionate care of our Dad.

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

OBITUARY



John Garry Szklaruk
March 31, 1952 – November 13, 2022

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I announce the sudden, accidental passing of my husband and best friend on Lake Manitoba on Sunday, November 13, 2022.

John was born in Winnipeg on March 31, 1952 and grew up in the small town of St. Martin. While playing with his buddies on the only street in town, one could see that he had talent as a backcatcher in the game of fastball. Together, with his brother as pitcher, along with others in town, they formed a fastball team known as the Hijackers and delighted fans around the area at many fastball tournaments.

In early to mid-1970's, John showed a keen interest in Polaris snowmobiles and began competing in oval track racing throughout Manitoba culminating with being awarded Manitoba Driver of the

Year in his racing category in 1976.

John attended Karpaty Elementary School and graduated from Gypsumville High School in 1971. His careers changed a few times during his life but he never left his home area. The first five winters of his life were spent on Lake Winnipeg where his parents did commercial fishing. As a teenager, he worked on the family farm and in his family's construction business as a Caterpillar operator building roads in the area. After graduation, he started his own cattle farm on the homestead near Gypsumville where he resided until his passing. During this time, he also drove a school bus of high school students to Ashern from 1973-1976.

In the 1980's grain farming replaced cattle farming and later, an alfalfa/leaf cutter bee operation. This allowed more time for his first love, that of commercial fishing, which took him from Lake Manitoba (1974-1989), to Lake Winnipeg (1989-2007), and back to Lake Manitoba in the last few years, an occupation which spanned almost 50 years.

On June 29, 1974, John married me, Linda, his high school sweetheart. Together, we operated a restaurant/truck stop/gas station commonly known as Johnny's Esso from 1979 – 1994. This truckers' stop on Hwy #6 became known for its delicious home cooked meals and friendly service.

Throughout summers, John spent many hours perfecting and manicuring the farmyard, massive garden, fruit trees, and a small nine hole golf course, as well as travelling in the motorhome throughout the northern USA and Western Canada. He also enjoyed cooking, with his specialty being fried pickerel. John was a very hard worker and a perfectionist in every endeavour he undertook.

Next to fishing was his love of travel. Together, we have visited every Caribbean island, travelled to many destinations in Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, and Columbia, as well as enjoying numerous cruises and winter trips to Florida, Texas, and Arizona.

I, Linda, his wife of 48 years, am left to mourn his untimely passing with the support of our extended family and many friends, those relatives being: his mother-in-law Esther Michaniuk; sisters-in law Shirley (Jim) Knowles and Debra (Bruce) Olender; nephew/godson Chad (Janyne) Szklaruk; nieces Kayla (Brian) Szklaruk, Kari (Matthew) Jordan, Nicole Lindell, April (Jimmy) Bejjani, and Tiffany (David) Bergin; great nieces and nephew Kelsey and Kadence Lindell, Kemery Szklaruk, Haleigh and Max Jordan, Dior and Capri Bejjani; adult great niece Tory Atkins, adult great nephew Quaid Atkins; as well as, many friends and relatives throughout Canada and the USA.

John was predeceased by his parents John and Mary Szklaruk; his brother Bob Szklaruk; his father-in-law Nick Michaniuk; and his great nephew Burke Szklaruk.

Thank you to everyone who had helped during this tragic time, especially my sister Shirley Knowles, Chad Szklaruk and honorary nephew Jason Budge for everything you have done during and after the rescue attempt, Bruce Olender, Derrick and Blaze Gould, Cody Helgason, Gypsumville RCMP and DNR for all of their assistance in the recovery effort. Thank you to family members and friends for their support and encouraging words at this time. Also, thank you to Anderson Funeral Home for attending the scene and taking care of all the arrangements. A plaque of remembrance will be placed at the St. Martin Cemetery at a future date. No funeral service will be held at this time, in keeping with John's wishes.

I, personally, wish I could thank Johnny once more for being a thoughtful and caring husband, a great companion, and a wonderful travelling partner for almost 50 years. May you rest in peace.

I did not know that morning,
What sorrow the day would bring,
The bitter grief, the severe shock,
To part with one I loved so dear.
You bid no one a last farewell,
No chance to say goodbye,
You were gone before we knew it.
And no one knows why.
I only hope that when you left us
That you knew how much we all cared,
Today, tomorrow, our whole lives through
We will all cherish our memories of you.

Arrangements Entrusted to
ANDERSON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME
Ashern, Manitoba
204-768-3606

Announcements Classifieds

OBITUARY



Deborah Helen Amelia Labossiere (nee Mitchell)

Deborah Helen Amelia Labossiere (nee Mitchell) passed away on Friday, November 11th, 2022 in Winnipeg after a short and courageous battle with cancer.

She is survived by her sons Barrett (Janice), Shaun (Carly) and Derek (Alyssa) Labossiere; her sister Beth (Bob) McDowell; brothers Wayne (Sharon) Mitchell and Garth (Kim) Mitchell as well as numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Bob and her parents, William and Berniece Mitchell.

Born July 16, 1954 in Elkhorn, Manitoba, Debbie was raised on the family farm where her love of nature began. She graduated from Virden Collegiate in 1974 and married Bob Labossiere in October 1975. A few years later, they moved north to Thompson where their three sons were born. They moved to Arborg in 1988 and Debbie lived there until August 2022 when she excitedly moved into a new

apartment in Sage Creek in Winnipeg. Unfortunately, due to her sudden illness, she did not get to enjoy her new home for very long.

Sports were a big part of Debbie's life. She loved playing softball and hockey growing up and was a proud member of the Elkhorn Ladies hockey team - this fall, she hung her #11 patch from her hockey jacket on the fridge of her new apartment. Debbie also loved golf and it was the perfect opportunity to use some of her favourite words (like "pigdog!") after a less than perfect shot.

Debbie took great pride in creating memorable traditions for her family. From appetizer feasts to card marathons to the singing Christmas frog, she made sure the Labossiere house was full of laughter.

A celebration of Debbie's life will be held on Friday, November 25th at 1:00 p.m. at Trinity United Church in Elkhorn, Manitoba.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to CancerCare Manitoba's Wheels of Hope program can be made in Debbie's memory.

Messages of condolence may be placed at www.carscaddenfuneralchapel.com

Carscadden Funeral Chapels Ltd - Virden
in care of arrangements

OBITUARY

Norma Evelyn Caskenette (nee Stefanson)

January 15, 1933 - November 15, 2022

Norma passed away peacefully at the Ashern Personal Care Home.

Norma was born in Ashern and raised in Steep Rock, Manitoba. Norma led a good life full of adventure that started in Steep Rock and took her to Winnipeg, Edmonton, Vancouver, and then Whistler, where she took on many roles including marketing for the local newspaper. She also wrote a social column, which was no surprise given her magnetic and charismatic personality. Norma's commitment to and love of family was remarkable.

She leaves to mourn a son Alan Gregory Harper (Nellie) and grandson Nicholas of Hadano, Kanagawa, Japan; sisters Ann Stefanson of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Patricia Stefanson (Bill McVeigh) of Calgary, AB. Norma had numerous nieces and nephews and will be fondly remembered as Auntie Norma.

Norma was predeceased by her sister Jonina Klingbell, parents Steve and Alice Stefanson, brother Douglas Stefanson and good friend and companion Les Ivaniski.

Heartfelt gratitude to the support staff at Ashern Pioneer Manor (particularly Loretta Meisner) and those who took such good care of her in her last years at the Ashern Personal Care Home (Helen Webster and all the hard-working staff).

Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held later at a date to be announced.

Thank you, Norma, for demonstrating throughout your life what perseverance and resilience look like. We will miss you!

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Norma's memory to the Ashern Personal Care Home, Recreational Use, c/o Darlene Hargot, PO Box 110, Ashern, Manitoba R0C 0E0.

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

OBITUARY

Carol Mathews

December 3, 1934 - November 18, 2022

Peacefully at home with family by her side, Carol Mathews aged 87 years of Lundar, MB and formerly of Oak Point, MB passed away.

Longer obituary will follow in the earlier months of 2023 when a gathering date will be announced.

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

OBITUARY

Leonard (Barry) Waller

August 15, 1932 - November 11, 2022

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our dear father, Umpa, father-in-law, and friend.

Barry passed away at 11:11 a.m. on Friday, November 11, 2022 at the age of 90 years. It is fitting that he departed our world on a Friday so that he could celebrate Rye Day Friday with Mom and all of our family and friends in heaven.

Barry was born on August 15, 1932 in Brandon, MB. to Dorothy and George Waller. Barry and his big brother Gregory (Bud) spent their childhood in Lenore, Carberry, Brandon and Dauphin where Dad met his soulmate Elizabeth (Bette). Mom and Dad were married on September 24, 1952 and began their family in Winnipeg raising their three children, Brenda (Ken), Richard (Val), and Colleen (Darryl).

In 1968 the family moved to Gimli where Barry soon became very involved in the community with the Knights of Columbus, curling, and forming the Gimli Muskalungs Diving Club. He was employed by the Manitoba Highways Department but spent his free time land surveying, traveling to various diving events and island destinations, golfing, and enjoying a good cigar. One could say that Barry found more pleasure searching for lost golf balls while puffing on a cigar than the actual game of golf. The family's annual sunrise Hecla golf outing and backyard gatherings will be remembered fondly for years.

Barry found great joy in his grandchildren, Garth (Jenn), Nathan, Meaghan (Shawn), Matthew (Kelsey) Dylan (Sofia), Jessie, and Devon; and great-grandchildren Noah, Rylie, Liana, and Dustin.

Of all the gifts you have given us, we treasure most the memory of all the special times we have spent with you. We love you and will miss you so much, rest in peace Umpa.

Special thanks to the staff at Sturgeon Creek 2 Retirement Residence, Grace Hospital and Victoria Hospital for the excellent care Dad received and special thanks to Father Art.

A service to celebrate Barry's life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Cancer society, Alzheimer's society or charity of your choice.

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

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY

Harold "Hallie" Hallson

March 2, 1949 - November 12, 2022

Hallie, beloved husband, Dad, Afi, brother, uncle, cousin and friend, passed away peacefully at home on November 12, 2022 with family by his side, after a short courageous battle with cancer.

He is survived by Valerie, his loving wife and best friend of 50 years; daughters, Michele (Chris) and Jennifer (Wade), and his grandchildren Garrett (Amy), Hanna, Hayley, Abbey, Colby, Wyatt and Avah; sisters Jean and Ellen; brother Carl (Pat); sisters-in-law Fran, Betty, Doris, Ruby (Joe), Linda (Rick) and Carol; brothers-in-law Oluf (Wendy), Dennis (Wendy) and many nieces and nephews.

Hallie was predeceased by his parents, Robert and Helga; in-laws Oluf and Louise; brother Bob; brothers-in-law Clarence, Albert, Brian, Sonny, Ken, Fred and sisters-in-law Vicki, Janet and Helen.

Hallie was born on March 2, 1949 at the Eriksdale Hospital. He attended Mary Hill School in his early years and Lundar School in his later years. After high school, Hallie took on various jobs in different locations such as BC, Northern Manitoba and locally. He grew up on a dairy farm, and after his father passed away in 1971, Hallie returned to farming with his mother and eventually took over the family farm with Valerie in 1977. Hallie took pride in celebrating the Homestead's 125th anniversary this year.

He loved going to auction sales, hunting with family and friends, buying antique John Deere tractors and fixing them up with his family and friends for the parade, plowing and slow races. He also enjoyed morning coffee with his friends at Chicken Chef and Sunday morning coffee with Einar at the farm.

Hallie had a great sense of humor and loved teasing people, especially his nieces and nephews. His first love was his family. Hallie (Afi) absolutely adored his grandchildren and was so proud of all of them and would travel to Winnipeg any chance he got to watch their activities and cheer them on.

Bless from the Homestead.

The family would like to express a heartfelt thank you to Beryl, Cynthia, Kirsten, Donna and Christine Skakum for all their sincere support, care and compassion, and to all the family, friends and others who stepped up to help Val on the farm during this time. Also to Arnason Funeral Home of John, Karen and Leanne, we thank you.

A Celebration of Life and Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at the Lundar Legion Hall with Leanne Kell officiating. Interment to follow in Lundar Municipal Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the CancerCare Manitoba Foundation Inc., 675 McDermot Ave., Room ON 1160, Winnipeg, MB R3E 0V9 or to the Coldwell Community Foundation, PO Box 154, Lundar, MB R0C 1Y0.

Arrangements by:
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME
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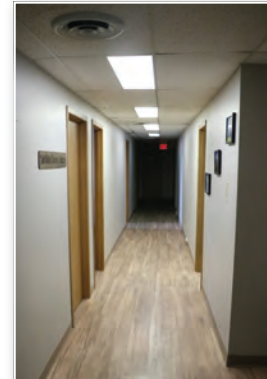
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