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WEEKLY NEWS

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Fireside carolling

Carollers Tina, Ryelle, Aurelia, Hadley and Dahlia Brill gathered around an open fire during Arborg's annual tree-lighting ceremony on Nov. 28, filling the evening with music, warmth and holiday cheer.

EXPRESS PHOTO BY CORRINE EINARSSON

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Breakfast with Santa draws families to Arborg Legion



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON

Families gathered at the Arborg Legion last Saturday for the return of Breakfast with Santa. Children enjoyed crafts, photos and visits with Santa while guests were served pancakes, bacon and sausages. The festive morning also collected food items and donations in support of the Arborg & District Christmas Cheer Board.



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Arborg gathers to celebrate annual community tree lighting



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON

The Town of Arborg ushered in the holiday season on Friday, Nov. 28 with its annual Christmas tree-lighting ceremony at the water treatment plant parking lot. Families gathered around the illuminated tree to enjoy treats, carollers and the warmth of an open fire. The festive evening drew residents of all ages and set a cheerful tone for the weeks ahead.

Five fixes to save energy and money for winter

Practical Manitoba-ready tips to prepare your home for winter

By Lana Meier

As temperatures drop and day-light hours fade, fall offers the perfect window to prepare your home for the colder months ahead. With a few simple fixes, homeowners can keep warmth in, drafts out and more money in their pockets. Efficiency Manitoba is encouraging residents to take advantage of practical steps that reduce energy use, cut heating costs and improve comfort all winter.

1. Service your furnace

A well-maintained heating system runs more efficiently, uses less energy and lasts longer. Efficiency Manitoba recommends scheduling an annual service check to ensure equipment is operating safely. Homeowners should replace furnace or air-handler filters every three months, and do the same for heat or energy recovery ven-

Continued on page 8

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Gimli scores as Jets Town Takeover Top 3 finalist

Gimli needs people to overflow with love and cast votes by Dec. 12 at 11:59 p.m. CT

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli scored a win last week when it found out it's a finalist in the annual Jets Town Takeover contest.

Lenni Finnbogason, the RM of Gimli's recreation programmer, decided on a whim to enter the contest to see if she could get Gimli Minor Hockey and town youth in the running for the grand prize.

And she did! Gimli made the Top 3 and is competing against Niverville and Oakbank for glory.

Finnbogason had to make a video explaining why Gimli deserved to become a finalist and write a submission.

"This is my first time ever doing anything like this. I've only been in my role as recreation programmer for about nine months, and this was a shot in the dark I took. My boss and I were talking about it and I thought, 'I'll just do it,'" said Finnbogason. "I honestly didn't have a lot of high hopes as I'm not that good on the video-making side of things. But I went ahead and on Wednesday morning I got a call from the Jets' manager."

The Jets Town Takeover contest makes Winnipeg Jets hockey and pro-

gramming accessible to rural Manitoba communities. The winning town will receive Project 11 mental wellness programming for local students, a pizza lunch, an on-ice game between Jets' alumni and a local hockey team, a free viewing party of the Winnipeg Jets and Boston Bruins game for the whole community, and prizes.

In her heart-warming winning submission to the contest, Finnbogason wrote that Gimli is "overflowing with love" and that the true heart of Gimli lives at the arena, which brings everyone together.

"It's more than a building. It's where people feel at home. It's where kids learn loyalty, resilience and pride. It's where parents find community, friendship and their own place to belong," she wrote. "When I talk to parents about why hockey matters, their answers are powerful — it builds confidence, keeps kids grounded and gives them something meaningful to work toward. It shapes who they are and who they'll become."

Finnbogason went on to say that Gimli deserves to win the Jets Town Takeover as it would not only generate excitement, but it would also give the town a "chance to share the heart of our community with the world — the love, the spirit and the pride that come with being a Gimli Viking."

Finnbogason enlisted the help of video visionary Brittany Isfeld, who

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EXPRESS PHOTO COURTESY OF LENNI FINNBOGASON

The Gimli Vikings Borkowsky U11 team waits patiently to get on the ice at the Gimli Recreation Centre. Gimli's recreation programmer Lenni Finnbogason, with some help from RM of Gimli resident Brittany Isfeld, scored big time with her successful submission to the Jets Town Takeover contest.

Vote For Gimli, MB

If you've ever been to Gimli, you know it's small but you also know it's overflowing with love. Whenever I talk to people in our town and ask them where the true heart of Gimli lives, the answer is almost always the same: our arena.

Vote For Oakbank, MB

We are a hockey loving town! Almost every family has a hockey player in their household. Having the Jets show up would certainly impact the youth of this community.

Vote For Niverville, MB

Our growing community is "The Hockey Community" And we'd love to host our Winnipeg Jets!!

JETS TOWN TAKEOVER

Gimli needs as many people as possible to overflow with love and vote for Gimli on the contest website in order to win. People can vote once per day. The voting closes on Dec. 12 at 11:59 p.m.

Legion

Branch 182
Gimli

100

1926 - 2026

Annual Children's Christmas Party

Ages 12 years and under
Sunday December 7th, 2025
1pm-3pm
Santa arrives at 2pm
(Bring your camera)

Special thanks to Red River CO-OP Gimli, Old Dutch Foods, Pam & Brittany Isfeld for their donations, and to all the volunteers that help make this day possible.

Last Chance Christmas Market

Gimli Art Club & Gallery
3 Centre Street
Saturday and Sunday
December 20th & 21st
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Come and celebrate the season at Lundar's Night of Lights on Dec. 6

Holiday lights shine bright to support Lundar Community Cupboard

By E. Antonio

Two properties just south of Carleigh Road — about a quarter-mile off Highway 6 on Road 106 North — have once again transformed their yards into a dazzling Christmas spectacle. The event spans three acres of festive displays and serves as a fundraiser for the Lundar Community Cupboard.

Cupboard founders Irene Danielson and Linda Fortin say the donations collected during Lundar's Night of Lights play a key role in supporting the local food program.

"We don't expect anything, but we appreciate everything because there is always somebody who will use it," Fortin said. "Everybody is hungry nowadays, and the holiday season doesn't make food any more affordable."

Hosts Craig Sooley and his partner, Rob Einarson, are excited to welcome

guests from near and far.

"We absolutely love Christmas and always wanted to put on a nice display," Sooley said. "We talked with the cupboard and decided this would be a great fundraising opportunity. We want to give back any way we can, especially at this time of year."

Now in its third year, the display continues to grow. Visitors will find multiple photo opportunities, festive carols, a new nine-foot-tall Santa Claus and a Govee tree. Warming pits and a fresh hot chocolate station will help fend off the winter cold, and Santa Claus will be on site for photos.

Several prize draws will be held, including a lottery tree, a one-night stay at the Winnipeg Hilton, a one-night stay at the Winnipeg Holiday Inn, a one-night stay at the Best Western Winnipeg, and two attendance draws for gift cards to local businesses. The hotel stays were generously donated by each of the accommodations and Sooley added they are all grateful for their support.

Sooley says seeing the event grow has been one of the best parts.

"It's just giving back that much more every year. With the cost of living, it's getting harder and harder for people. If we can take a little stress off



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Lundar's Night of Lights takes place Saturday, Dec. 6 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.. Two properties south of Carleigh Road will welcome guests to explore their extravagant displays while they collect monetary and food item donations for the Lundar Community Cupboard.

so they can focus on their own things, that makes me feel good."

He and Einarson began decorating in October and officially turned on the lights after Remembrance Day. This year, Einarson's parents, Kathy and Grant, who live across the road, are also joining in, adding even more to the display.

"When you're able to walk around both yards, it's truly magical — there are so many things we have to offer," Sooley said.

Beyond this event, the pair also support the Community Cupboard by collecting monetary donations while working in northern communities and then purchasing groceries for the program. Both Fortin and Danielson say they are grateful for the continued generosity.

"We have an awful lot to be thankful for from our community," Danielson said. "No one has to support us, but they do, and that means the world to us. We will never forget their support."

The cupboard, located beside the Lundar Community Resource Council (LCRC) office in the RM of Cold-

well building at 35 Main St., is open every Tuesday from 2:30 to 4 p.m. It provides free food to individuals and families in need, relying on both food and financial donations to keep shelves stocked.

"It's no secret that food is expensive these days, and we want to try to stock up on the staples," Danielson said.

While they receive many donations of items like pasta and soup, monetary contributions help them purchase harder-to-access essentials.

"Coffee, peanut butter, bread, jam, canned meat — these are more expensive and they always go very quickly. The cash helps us buy more items like these. It fills in the blanks."

This past summer, the cupboard also began offering monthly meat days and weekly meal packages, two resources that have been extremely popular.

Danielson encourages everyone to come out on Dec. 6.

"Dress warm, have fun and enjoy it. There's nothing better than giving at Christmas to get you into the spirit."

> JETS TOWN TAKEOVER, FROM PG. 4

lives in the municipality. Isfeld took some shots for Finnbogason to put together and edit for the town's submission.

"I took some shots of the Gimli Vikings Under 11 teams on the weekend of their tournament while they were chanting, 'Go Vikings'" said Isfeld, who is fresh off a partial win on the CBC game show *Family Feud Canada*. "I also asked some of the teammates right after their bronze metal winning game what hockey meant to them, and they [said] being able to be with their friends and play and score."

Finnbogason said that should Gimli find itself hoisting the winning cup next March, the town would appreciate having the Project 11 mental well-being educational presentation, a game with professional hockey players and the social.

"Project 11 would happen in all of our schools in Gimli. It's a presentation from the Jets' crew for kids that focuses on mental health. It's helpful for hockey players and other people in sports to make them aware of mental health issues and how to get help. It's important for

our town to have and for everyone to know because a lot of people struggle with mental health," said Finnbogason. "And all of our Gimli Minor Hockey teams would be having a practice with Winnipeg Jets and NHL alumni. That would happen at our arena. Then we'd have a family-friendly social to watch the Jets play on a huge screen, and have food, prizes and Mick. E. Moose. It's big pop-up Jets party."

The winner of the three finalists will be decided by a public vote.

Unlike in political elections, Jets Town Takeover voters are allowed to cast an online vote once per day until voting closes on Friday, Dec. 12 at 11:59 p.m. central time.

And Finnbogason is encouraging everyone to support Gimli. They can live in or beyond Gimli to vote. Previous winners of the Jets Town Takeover are Morris in 2019, Stone-wall in 2022 and Oakville in 2023.

Visit www.nhl.com/jets/community/jetstowntakeover and click on Gimli's entry to cast your vote by Dec. 12. Note: the website, viewed on Nov. 28, shows March 19, 2025, as the day of the Jets Town Takeover event. It should say 2026.

Winnipeg Beach Legion Br. 61
20 Hamilton Avenue Legion 204-389-2660

Christmas Craft Sale - December 6
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Crafters, Vendors, Ukrainian Food, Baking, Canteen & more!

December 19 - Take Home Christmas Dinner
Roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, and Christmas baking!
Pre-ordered and paid tickets are only \$25 ea.
Pick up on December 19 - between 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
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Events are cash only. Tickets are non-refundable.

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WEEKLY NEWS



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NEWS > VIEWS > GIMLI > ARBORG > HIGHWAY 6 > SURROUNDING AREAS

Manitobans urged to stay vigilant as online shopping scams surge

By Lana Meier

With holiday shopping in full swing, Manitoba RCMP are warning residents to be cautious online as fraudsters ramp up their attempts to steal money and personal information.

"Most Manitobans look forward to the holiday season, with many shopping online to find the perfect gift for loved ones," said Staff Sgt. Kevin Cavanagh of the RCMP's Cyber and Financial Crime Unit. "Unfortunately, there are criminals lurking online who are using increasingly sophisticated methods to take advantage of that goodwill and steal people's money and personal information. We strongly encourage Manitobans to be educated about the dangers lurking online, so they can be vigilant in protecting themselves."

Police say scams can range from simple phishing texts claiming a package

is delayed to convincing ads on social media that lead shoppers to fake websites impersonating real retailers and travel companies. Fraudsters have also been known to create sham charities to exploit holiday generosity.

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre urges shoppers to watch for spelling mistakes in messages and on websites, vague references to "the item," overseas buyers wanting to purchase sight-unseen, and sellers using brand-new social media accounts. Manitobans should also be wary of "blow-out" deals or drastically low prices — the product may be counterfeit or never arrive at all.

RCMP recommend several steps to reduce the risk of being scammed:

- Know the market value of the product you're searching for.
- Verify the seller's contact information before purchasing.

- Check customer reviews and ratings from independent sources.

- Use payment methods that include fraud protection, such as credit cards.

- When possible, pay in person.

- Confirm emails are from legitimate senders before clicking links.

- Avoid clicking on ads that seem too good to be true — instead, use a trusted search engine to find the retailer.

Anyone who has been defrauded is encouraged to contact the RCMP or their local police service. Reporting helps investigators identify patterns, link cases and prevent further fraud.

Incidents should also be reported to the National Cybercrime and Fraud Reporting System, which compiles reports from across Canada. Reports can be submitted online at the federal reporting portal.

RCMP reaches 98 per cent deployment of body-worn cameras across Manitoba

By Lana Meier

The Manitoba RCMP says it has nearly completed its provincewide rollout of body-worn cameras, with 98 per cent of front-line officers now equipped with the technology as part of ongoing efforts to boost transparency and accountability.

The only remaining detachment still to receive cameras is Berens River, where a new building — complete with the required technical infrastructure — is scheduled to open next week.

In a statement, the RCMP said the cameras have already proven invaluable in day-to-day policing, evidence gathering and improving public trust.

"The body-worn camera has provided us with many useful tools that make everyday policing a lot easier,"

said Cpl. Jenelle Hulan of the Manitoba RCMP Major Crime Unit. "Taking statements and obtaining photos of scenes, victims and suspects is extremely easy, and the apps are excellent in tracking our movement during an investigation."

"Overall, this is a tool we needed in front-line policing to increase transparency and trust for both police and the public. Having concrete evidence that is uploaded and stored in such an easy manner also makes life easier when completing court packs."

The cameras are supported by a digital evidence management system that stores and organizes the growing volume of footage. With 638 cameras currently in use, the Manitoba RCMP has already collected 174,369 pieces

of digital evidence, including videos, images, audio statements and documents. The service has also shared 1,510 digital case files with Manitoba Prosecutions — figures the RCMP says are increasing daily.

Assistant Commissioner Scott McMurchy, commanding officer of the Manitoba RCMP, said the cameras have already strengthened investigations and helped modernize police work.

"Without a doubt, body-worn cameras have quickly become an incredibly beneficial and important tool for our officers," he said. "The evidence collected through video footage has directly contributed to numerous investigations and has helped our organization become more transparent."

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Shortfall persists in paramedic hiring, EMRs not a solution, says MAHCP

By Patricia Barrett

The Manitoba Association of Health Care Professionals (MAHCP) says rural regions continue to face critical shortages of primary care paramedics despite the provincial government's recent efforts to expand training and rebuild the province's emergency medical services.

On Nov. 19, the province announced it is adding new training seats at Red River College Polytech and the University College of the North (UCN) as part of a broader plan to strengthen emergency response capacity. Premier Wab Kinew and Health Minister Uzoma Asagwara said the move is meant to rebuild a workforce depleted after years of closures, vacancies and recruitment challenges.

A new direct-entry primary care paramedic program at RRC Polytech will add 14 seats, bringing the total to 40. UCN's program will increase to 32 seats, with the goal of drawing more northern and rural students.

"Our government is opening doors for more Manitobans to pursue careers in emergency care," Asagwara said in a news release. "We're committed to supporting workers from their first day of training through to advanced practice."

But MAHCP, which represents rural and northern paramedics, says the announcements fall far short of what's required to stabilize the system. President Jason Linklater said the magnitude of the staffing crisis requires a "proportionate response," yet Shared Health has only seen a net gain of one paramedic over the past year.

"They're losing them as fast as they can hire them," he said.

According to MAHCP's analysis of employer turnover reports, 70 paramedics resigned, retired or were terminated across rural EMS zones between October 2023 and October 2025. The union does not have region-by-region breakdowns, but spokesperson Karen Viveiros said all rural regions have experienced "significant turnover" and difficulty retaining staff due to chronic short-staffing, mandatory overtime, burnout and the lack of opportunities to transfer into other areas.

In the Interlake specifically, the vacancy rate is about 25 per cent, with 40 unfilled paramedic positions — vacancies MAHCP says have gone unposted for more than a year.

"Shared Health does not want to post positions, which would give paramedics an opportunity to leave the west or the north to come to the Interlake," Viveiros said.

Vacancies are only part of the picture. The union says the figures do

not include paramedics who are away from work due to physical injuries or psychological trauma, both of which have been rising in recent years. Long stretches of mandatory overtime and long-distance highway transports — often caused by temporary ER closures — contribute to the strain.

During the 2023 provincial election campaign, the NDP pledged to hire 200 paramedics, reopen three previously closed Winnipeg ERs and rebuild the Eriksdale ER. While plans for Victoria Hospital and Eriksdale are underway, MAHCP says only 18 of the promised 200 paramedics have been added provincially since October 2023.

The consequences of the shortage have been felt across the Interlake-Eastern region. Temporary ER closures in communities such as Arborg, Eriksdale and Teulon have led to lengthier ambulance transports, sometimes more than an hour each way. Several municipalities have also reported issues with 911 call handling, including dropped calls in Fisher and Bifrost-Riverton. In one case, an RM of Fisher man died after his family was unable to dial out to 911 during a medical emergency.

Following the paramedic-training announcement, the province unveiled a separate initiative to help municipalities recruit emergency medical responders (EMRs). The new program will offer in-community training delivered by Criti Care Paramedic Academy, along with a \$5,000 bursary for students who complete the course. Trainees will begin in Arborg this year, and the province expects 50 to 60 EMRs to graduate by fall 2026.

Asagwara described EMRs as an "alternative level of care" that can support rural emergency services and help shorten response times. But MAHCP quickly issued a scope-of-practice comparison outlining the significant clinical differences between EMRs and paramedics. Based on Shared Health's own patient-care maps, the union says EMRs lack the training and regulatory authority to perform many critical interventions, including airway management, IV insertion, defibrillation with rhythm interpretation, administering controlled cardiac medications, or treating hemorrhages, seizures and complex medical emergencies.

"EMRs play an important role in stable patient transport and first response, but they are not a substitute for highly trained primary care paramedics," Linklater said. "Putting EMRs on ambulances for high-acuity calls puts them — and their patients — at risk. Rural Manitobans deserve the level of care the government promised."

MAHCP is urging the province and Shared Health to take several steps: immediately post and fill all paramedic vacancies; expand rural access to paramedic training; cover tuition costs for both EMR-path and direct paramedic students; require newly trained EMRs to complete paramedic training within a set timeframe; and provide incentives for

SCOPE OF WORK COMPARISON		
Emergency Medical Responders & Primary Care Paramedics		
This document is adapted from Shared Health's patient care maps*. MAHCP adaptations include removing the scope of work for Intermediate Care Paramedics and Advanced Care Paramedics and simplifying medical language.		
ASSESSMENT / GENERAL MANAGEMENT	EMR	PCP
Diagnose a patient's illness or injury	X	✓
Recover a patient who has been sedated.	X	✓
AIRWAY & BREATHING	EMR	PCP
Airway device insertion to ventilate	X	✓
Carbon dioxide measurement	X	✓
Continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) ventilation	X	✓
CIRCULATION	EMR	PCP
Defibrillation with rhythm interpretation	X	✓
Perform EKG/ECG	X	✓
TRAUMA & SURGICAL	EMR	PCP
Foreign body removal	X	✓
Urinary catheter irrigation / removal	X	✓
VASCULAR ACCESS	EMR	PCP
Insert an IV	X	✓
Insert a subcutaneous line	X	✓
MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION BY ROUTE OR PROCEDURE	EMR	PCP
Inhalation with nebulizer	X	✓
Give a needle injection into a muscle	X	✓
Give fluid or medications via IV	X	✓
Injection into peripherally-inserted central catheter (PICC) device / line	X	✓
Give fluid or medications via intraosseous line	X	✓
Injection into subcutaneous device / line	X	✓
Give fluid or medications subcutaneously	X	✓
Give controlled medications for nausea & vomiting	X	✓
Give controlled medications for pain	X	✓
Give controlled medications for a heart attack	X	✓
Give controlled medications for anxiety, agitation, psychosis	X	✓
Give controlled medications for hemorrhages	X	✓
Give controlled medications for seizures	X	✓
MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION DURING PATIENT TRANSPORT	EMR	PCP
Prescribed or as needed medications via multiple administration routes	X	✓

MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS
In response to the province's plan to train emergency medical responders for rural areas, the Manitoba Association of Health Care Professionals put together a scope of work practice chart showing EMRs being unable to perform at the level of paramedics.

work in hard-to-staff communities, including paid travel and accommodation.

The Express asked Shared Health how many paramedics were hired in rural regions up to November 2025, how many left, and for details about the new EMR program and enrolment in Arborg. Shared Health acknowledged the request and said it would look into the questions but did not provide answers before deadline.

Community Futures East Interlake Build Interlake Growth Program

Calling all not-for-profit (non-paid share) organizations in the East Interlake region. Grant funding available.

Through the Build Interlake Growth Fund, Community Futures East Interlake (CFEI) will stimulate community and regional economic development by supporting local community organizations undertaking community and regional development projects.

Maximum of \$5,000 grant or 50% of total project costs whichever is less.

Accepting applications now tell December 15 annually.

Full applications and eligibility details at:
https://cfmanitoba.ca/images/east-interlake/Big_fillable_form.pdf

Send your complete application, or for more information contact:
Community Futures East Interlake Inc.
Box 1620, Gimli MB R0C 1B0
Phone: 1-800-378-5106
Email: bcd@eastinterlake.com or gm@eastinterlake.com
www.eastinterlake.com



Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church

54 N Fifth Ave, Gimli, MB

Rev. Fr. Stefan Tyrawski Phone (204) 229-7687

Saturday, December 6 St Nicholas the Wonderworker
Divine Liturgy & Confessions at 10:00

Sunday December 7 Divine Liturgy at 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 9 Immaculate Conception
Divine Liturgy at 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14 Divine Liturgy at 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 21 Divine Liturgy at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 25 Nativity of Our Lord
Divine Liturgy at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday December 28 Divine Liturgy at 11:30 a.m.

Lake Francis producer raises alarm about predation after bear kills young cow

By E. Antonio

A Lake Francis resident is speaking out about rising livestock predation after one of her cows was killed by a bear.

Dianne Riding discovered the dead animal on a Wednesday morning in November—an unexpected and costly loss.

“We have a big predation problem in this province and it’s getting worse and worse,” she said.

Riding has lived in Lake Francis her entire life, and noted she never had issues with predators until three years ago when she first spotted a bear on her property. On Christmas Day 2024, a wolf killed one of her cows. The recent attack has her increasingly worried about the future of her herd.

“Once these predators know there’s food here, they will have an easy meal to come back to,” she added. “Once they start killing the livestock, they are going to keep it up. I don’t want to be that cruel person, but we need to start eliminating some of the problem predators.”

Riding immediately filed a claim

through the Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC)’s Wildlife Damage Compensation for Livestock Predation program. The program compensates producers up to 90 per cent of an animal’s value, to a maximum of \$7,000 (increasing from \$3,000 as of Apr. 1, 2025), when livestock is killed or injured by a bear, wolf, cougar, fox, or coyote.

Although no one witnessed the incident, the MASC adjuster confirmed a bear was responsible, identifying characteristic throat markings and signs that the heart had still been pumping when the cow was attacked.

“She was an extremely healthy cow that I bought earlier this year. She was drinking water on Monday, then just completely gone the next day,” Riding said. The young cow will likely be valued at around \$3,000. Even with approved compensation, she expects to lose out on several hundred dollars.

Riding describes herself as “very wildlife accepting person,” but says that changes when predators threaten her animals.

“If they can take out livestock, they have the ability to harm somebody’s child,” she added. “If someone’s kid gets mauled, then what are we going to do?”

Riding posted a warning on social media after the kill, urging residents to be cautious as bears remain active and food sources diminish. She said predators are affecting livestock well beyond her community, and she’s heard of farmers losing upward of 100 cows a year in other areas of the province.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

A farmer from Lake Francis had one of her cows killed by a bear this November. She wants stronger prevention measures when it comes to protecting livestock from predators.

Even with compensation programs, she says producers are still left with gaps.

“They’ve done studies and these studies show that for every kill compensated, it’s likely you have already lost two more.”

During the 2024–25 fiscal year, MASC processed 2,920 predation claims, with 90 per cent confirmed as predation-related. Coyotes accounted for roughly 75 per cent of cases, wolves about 20 per cent, and bears and cougars the remaining five per cent.

MASC Chief Product Officer David Van Deynze noted to qualify for compensation, a carcass must be present

for inspection.

“Producers have reported losses to livestock where the entire carcass has been removed by the predator. In those instances, the producer is not eligible for compensation,” he said.

Compensation levels vary depending on inspection findings: 90 per cent for a confirmed kill, 45 per cent for a probable kill, and none when there is no evidence.

For claims where compensation is less than 80 per cent of the value lost, the payout is funded 60 per cent by the Government of Canada and 40 per cent by the Province of Manitoba.

Continued on page 10

Community Support Service

AA Arborg

Thursdays - 7:30 pm
Arborg Support Centre
327 Main Street
Contact 204-376-5861

AA Eriksdale

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

AA Winnipeg Beach

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

Gimli Group AA

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd
Industrial Park
Fri & Sun Mtgs at 7:30 pm

Al-Anon

Gimli and Winnipeg Beach

Join us at 17B Loni Beach Road, next to New Horizon building... Gimli at 7:00 pm Wednesday evenings for an hour of support, strength, guidance and Hope. Contact 204-389-4777.
All ages welcome.

AA Riverton Group

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

> FIVE FIXES, FROM PG. 3

tilators. Outside fresh-air intake and exhaust vents should also be cleared to keep systems running smoothly.

2. Seal out drafts

Even small gaps can let warm air escape and cold air enter, forcing heating systems to work harder. Sealing cracks around windows, doors, baseboards and electrical outlets with caulking or weatherstripping can significantly improve comfort and reduce heating bills.

3. Adjust your thermostat

For conventional heating systems such as furnaces and boilers, lowering the thermostat by at least 3 C for eight

hours a day — overnight or while away— can help shave heating costs. Air-source and ground-source heat pumps are most efficient with little or no temperature setback. A smart thermostat can make managing home temperatures easier and more efficient.

4. Make the most of natural heat

Opening blinds or curtains during the day allows the sun’s warmth to help heat your home. Closing them at night helps retain heat. Window-insulating kits and insulated curtains can further reduce drafts and increase comfort near colder window areas.

5. Insulate for long-term comfort

For homeowners ready to take on a larger project, upgrading insulation remains one of the best long-term investments. Adding insulation to attics, basements, crawl-spaces or walls helps keep warm air indoors and lowers heating costs. Efficiency Manitoba offers rebates for qualifying attic, wall and foundation insulation, helping make these upgrades more affordable.

Efficiency Manitoba provides rebates and expert advice to help Manitobans save energy year-round. From small adjustments to major renovations, the organization offers a first stop for those looking to boost efficiency and comfort.

For details on available programs, visit efficiencyMB.ca/my-home.

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Arnes Lutheran Pioneer Memorial Church board resigns, states RM of Gimli controls destiny of church

By Patricia Barrett

The board of the Arnes Lutheran Pioneer Memorial Church tendered its resignation a few months ago, saying the fate of the church now lies in the hands of the RM of Gimli.

The church board's resignation letter was posted under council's Nov. 12 agenda, and council was to vote on whether to accept the ownership of the church.

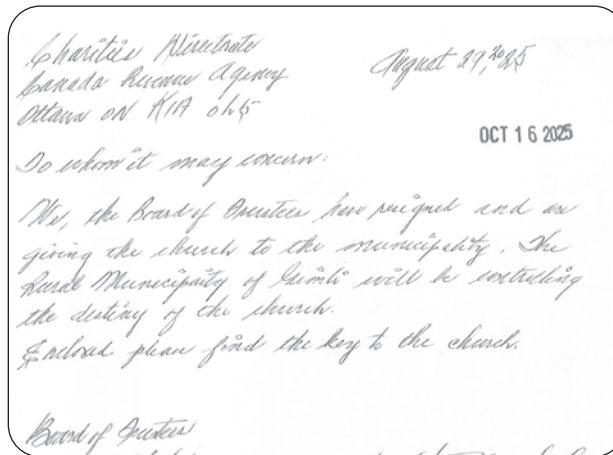
In a handwritten letter dated Aug. 29, 2025, to the Charities Directorate of Canada Revenue Agency (the church is a charity), the board wrote:

"We, the board of trustees, have resigned and are giving the church to the municipality. The Rural Municipality of Gimli will be controlling the destiny of the church. Enclosed please find the key to the church."

The copy of the letter posted under council's agenda shows the letter signed by Harold Thorkelson, Joan Sigurdson and Ken Pete.

Charitydata.ca shows the church had no cash, bank account, short-term investments in the years 2020 to 2023 inclusive (no 2024 and 2025 data are provided). It shows five people on the board — Harold Thorkelson (appointed in 1976), Joan Sigurdson [sic] (appointed in 1980), Kenneth Peterson (appointed in 1976), Phyllis Hurdal (appointed in 2022) and Norman Hurdal (appointed in 1976). The land/building was worth \$57,200 in 2019, the last year data is provided for the land and buildings tax line. Total assets in 2023 were stated as \$56,225.

Designated a municipal heritage building and heritage site in 2009 by the RM of Gimli (Bylaw No. 09-0010), the Arnes Lutheran Pioneer Memorial Church is an example of pioneer baroque style. The front of the church has a square tower and a rectangular wood-framed body. The church was built in 1910 with its interior completed in 1919. The church was moved in 1920 to its present site at the junc-



RM OF GIMLI

The board of the Arnes Lutheran Pioneer Memorial Church resigned in August with a letter to Revenue Canada.

tion of Arnes Road and PR 222 after a family called Peterson donated land for it. The church no longer belongs to the Lutheran synod, but local residents used it to hold church services, family reunions, weddings and funerals.

In 2019 the church board had signed an agreement with the Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village to transfer the church to the museum. Thorkelson had said at a 2019 council meeting that the best way to preserve the church was to move it to the museum in Arborg (see Nov. 7, 2019, edition of the Express Weekly News). A moving company had shown up in September of that year and was preparing to take the church to Arborg when the RCMP was called and the Gimli Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee and a Gimli councillor were alerted. The transfer to Arborg was stopped.

The Arnes church is one of the only original remaining New Iceland churches.

With regard to the church board's resignation



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Arnes Lutheran Pioneer Memorial Church is shown in 2019. The church sits at the junction of PR 222 and Arnes Road. It was built in 1910 and moved to its present site in 1920. The RM of Gimli designated it a heritage building and heritage site in 2009 (Bylaw No. 09-0010). The RM's Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee passed a resolution in 2019, stating the church is an important heritage site in Arnes.

and how Gimli council plans to move forward, the Express sought comment from councillors. It also reached out to Thorkelson for comment.

Community feedback wanted for future Arborg-Bifrost recreation plans

By E. Antonio

The Arborg-Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission (ABPRC) is seeking community input as it plans for the future of its programming.

Recreation director Tom Chwaliboga said the commission has launched a public survey and will use the results to determine whether changes or additions are needed in its current schedule.

"Our community is changing in a variety of ways, and as a recreation department we need to make sure we're keeping up," he said.

The survey is available online at www.townofarborg.com until Dec. 19, with paper copies offered at the town and recreation office. Participants are asked questions about current programming and given opportunities to suggest new ideas.

"The survey is open to anyone who wants to complete it," Chwaliboga added. "We welcome people to share their thoughts on what they'd like to see offered."

All responses are anonymous, and Chwaliboga encourages residents of all ages and backgrounds to participate. This survey follows another released in June that targeted students in grades 6 to 12. The goal is to gather enough input from the broader community to make informed decisions about future programming. Recreation and town staff will compile the data and release it publicly at a later date.

Chwaliboga noted that an additional in-person feedback session may also be held to further discuss options for the ABPRC.

"We hope residents will take part so the Rec Centre can plan to meet everyone's needs — preschoolers, adults, newcomers, businesses, organizations and more," he said. "Sport and recreation should be available to everyone, and our goal is to get as many people involved as possible. The survey results will help point us in the right direction."

We Value Your FEEDBACK!

This survey will identify what programs and facilities are your priorities and help make them our priorities also.

Scan the QR Code to Complete Our Survey

Submission Deadline is:
December 19th

arborgbifrost
Parks and Recreation

Online survey link can also be found at
www.townofarborg.com

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Arborg-Bifrost Parks and Recreation Commission is inviting residents to help shape future programming by completing a new public survey available online and at local offices until Dec. 19.

Health Canada issues recalls for Ibuprofen, hair dye

By Patricia Barrett

Health Canada issued recalls last weeks for an ibuprofen pain reliever and hair dye, among a number of product recalls.

The federal health agency issued a recall on Nov. 24 for Apotex brand Extra Strength Ibuprofen Liquid Gel Capsules 400 mg in affected lots 1570619, 1570621 and 1570623 with a drug identification number (DIN) of 02376601.

Health Canada issued the recall because of the “presence of cloudy capsules in affected lots due to crystallization of ibuprofen into the gelatin shell.”

Crystallization can render a medication unstable as the active ingredient may no longer be evenly distributed. Medication compromised by crystallization can either be ineffective or potentially unsafe.

On Nov. 26, Health Canada recalled various Everpro Gray Away root cover-up products in aerosol containers because of a missing mandatory hazard labelling.

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled products and return them to the place of purchase for a refund, states the agency.

“These products do not meet the Cosmetic Regulations in Canada. Specifically, the products are missing bilingual English/French labelling, as well as the required hazard symbols, signal words, and safety information, which could result in misuse and potential harm to consumers,” said Health

Affected products

Filter items		Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries Show 10 entries			
Brand	Product Name	Market Authorization	Dosage Form	Strength	Lot
Apotex Inc.	Extra Strength Ibuprofen Liquid Gel Capsules	DIN 02376601	Capsules	Ibuprofen 400mg	1570619, 1570621, 1570623

Issue

Presence of cloudy capsules in affected lots due to crystallization of ibuprofen into the gelatin shell.

HEALTH CANADA

Health Canada issued a recall of Apotex brand Extra Strength Ibuprofen Liquid Gel Capsules with specific lot numbers shown here.

Canada.

The following products affected are: Everpro Gray Away Root Cover Up Spray - Black, Everpro Gray Away Root Cover Up Spray - Dark Brown, Everpro Gray Away Root Cover Up Spray - Dark Brown, Everpro Gray Away Root Cover Up Spray - Medium Brown and Everpro Gray Away Root Cover Up Spray - Medium Brown.

The manufacturer of the product is Inspired Beauty Brands Inc. from New York.

The company reported that 4,572 units of the af-

ected products were sold in Canada from June 2025 to November 2025. As of Nov. 18, the company had received no reports of incidents in Canada, and no reports of injury.

The hair-dye recall is also posted on the OECD Global Portal on Product Recalls website.

Consumers are encouraged to report to Health Canada any health or safety issue by filling out its Consumer Product Incident Report Form on the Health Canada advisories-warnings-recalls webpage.

> BEARS, FROM PG. 8

Claims above 80 per cent are fully funded by the province.

Producers must report incidents within 72 hours. Inspectors assess the carcass and site for bite marks, scratches, blood, drag marks, and other indications of a struggle.

MASC and Agriculture Manitoba recommend several deterrents, such as predator-resistant fencing, deadstock composting areas, solar foxlights, electronets, fladry and turbo-fladry lines, and livestock guardian dogs. Partial reimbursement is available for producers who adopt certain measures.

Riding said she has followed many recommendations, including fencing upgrades, foxlights, removing attractants, and keeping donkeys as livestock guardians. But she says the number of predators in the region overwhelms these strategies.

“I try to follow those recommendations, but the problem is we have far too many bears and wolves on the landscape for them to work efficiently,” she explained. “The resources do help, but they are a great expense, and depending on the size of your field, that amount is not feasible.”

She is calling for stronger conservation measures and wants the province to consider introducing a bear and wolf bounty program. She said conservation officers often relocate problem animals, but believes this simply shifts the issue to other communities.

“Mr. Bear will keep coming— they don’t care about where they have lunch,” she suggested. “Bears are becoming too brave around people and one day someone is going to get hurt.”

Carson Callum, general manager of Manitoba

Beef Producers, said many producers across the province have dealt with rising predation over the past decade.

“Losing animals means losing part of your income,” he explained. “It’s stressful for these producers who care deeply about their animals.”

He noted MASC’s compensation program is helpful but does not cover every loss, especially when carcasses are not found. He also noted the 72-hour reporting window can be challenging on weekends or outside business hours, though MASC is working on improvements.

“I think there are areas we can work on — like the photo submission process — but overall, the program has been supportive over the last number of years.”

Callum said management tools such as fencing and deterrents help, but believes the “main solution lies in completely eliminating the problem in the first place.”

Riding also wonders whether Black Bear Rescue Manitoba could be unintentionally contributing to habituation.

“If people are raising these bears and bottle feeding them, the bears are going to expect food from you,” she explained. “The rescue is doing amazing things for these bears...but in a roundabout way we are setting them up for disaster.”

Black Bear Rescue Manitoba founder Judy Stearns said their protocols are designed specifically to prevent habituation.

“Per protocols established in accordance with bear behaviour experts, and authorized by the Province, all necessary steps are taken to ensure that bears who come to BBRM are not habituated, and are released back into their natural habitat as



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Black Bear Rescue Manitoba released three of its rehabilitated yearlings back into the wild on July 29. Pictured left to right are Nova, Oscar and Nahanni — the “apple tree cubs” rescued last fall after they were found orphaned and surviving in an apple tree. Now healthy and thriving, the trio was returned to the wild, while a fourth bear, Quinta, remains in care until she’s ready for release.

wild bears,” she noted.

Riding emphasizes she wants to coexist with wildlife, acknowledging that displaced animals — especially following wildfires — are increasingly moving through agricultural land. But she added producers need more support and more effective long-term solutions.

“This is turning into less of a conservation and agriculture issue and into a people issue,” she added. “Something more needs to be done.”

Province launches interactive CWD Dashboard to monitor chronic wasting disease

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government launched an interactive CWD Dashboard to help hunters monitor chronic wasting disease (CWD) in the province. Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures Minister Ian Bushie said the online tool will help prevent the spread of the disease, which affects deer, elk, moose and caribou and was first detected in Manitoba in 2021.

“The CWD Dashboard is a first of its kind in Canada and showcases Manitoba’s commitment to leading the way in preventing the spread of CWD,” said Bushie in a Nov. 17 news release. “This tool, in partnership with hunters submitting biological samples and CWD testing, will help monitor and manage CWD in our province.”

Chronic wasting disease is a progressive and fatal neurological disease that affects cervids including deer, elk, caribou and moose. Proteins called prions build up in the brain and nervous tissues of infected animals and damage their nerve cells, according to the province. The prions can also contaminate the environment and persist for years, infecting deer and other cervids in the area.

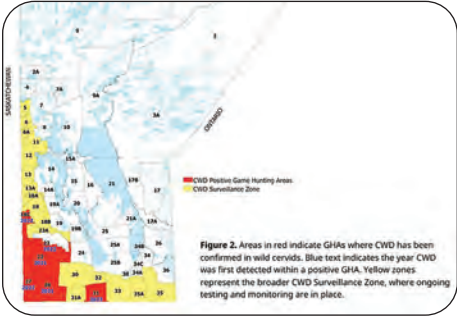
Meat from a CWD-infected animal should not be consumed.

The CWD Dashboard is hosted on the provincial department of natural resources’ wildlife webpage. The dashboard shows detailed CWD data including locations where CWD has been detected, the total number of confirmed positive cases by species (indicated by a red circle), the total number of positive samples by hunting season, and the total number of samples tested by hunting season.

People can filter the map by hunting season, by species and also obtain directions to the nearest CWD sample drop-off location in their respective hunting areas.

The province’s 2024-2025 hunting season CWD Summary Report, released in September, says the Wildlife Health Program tested a total of 3,007 cervids, including deer, elk, moose and caribou.

Four samples — one mule deer and three white-tailed deer — tested posi-



The province’s latest CWD Summary Report for the 2024-25 hunting season shows positive CWD cases by region.

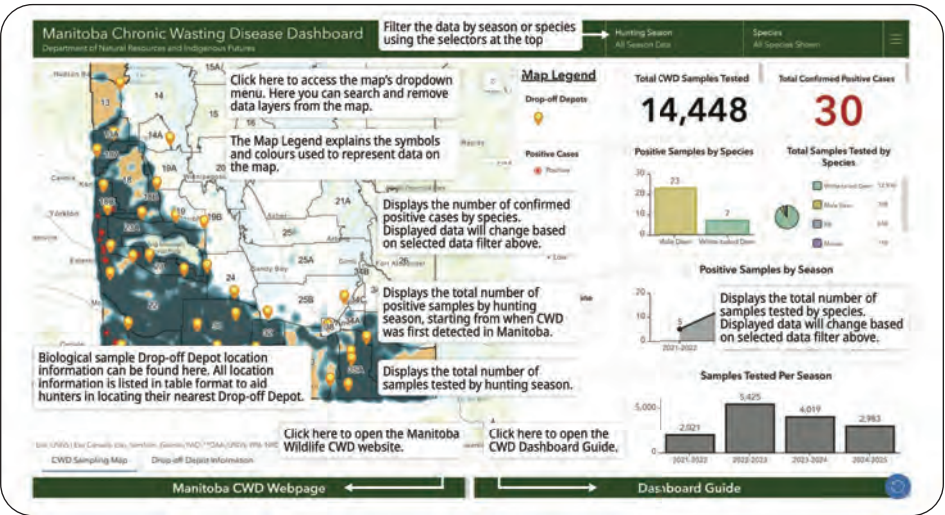
tive for CWD (0.13 per cent positive rate). All four cases were identified through hunter participation.

The province has significantly improved turnaround times for CWD results from 77 days in 2022-23 to 22 days this past hunting season.

To date, 30 positive CWD cases have been identified in Manitoba since 2021 when the first case was confirmed. There were five CWD cases detected in the 2021-22 hunting season, 17 cases in the 2022-23 season, four cases in the 2023-24 season and four in the 2024-25 season. The positive cases were in mule and white-tailed deer.


“Since 1997, Manitoba has taken a

Continued on page 19



MANITOBA GOVERNMENT

The Chronic Wasting Disease Dashboard map is hosted on the province’s natural resources/wildlife webpage.



Evergreen Staff Spotlight

Celebrating the People Who Make Our Schools Work

Meet Krystal Isfeld – Assistant Principal, Music Teacher & Literacy Support Teacher at SSSES

For 28 years, Krystal Isfeld has been inspiring Evergreen students through music, literacy, and leadership. After graduating from the University of Manitoba in 1997, Krystal began teaching in Evergreen the following year — and has never looked back. Over the years she has taken on many teaching and administrative roles, but one constant has remained: her love for teaching music. For the past 15 years, she has served as Assistant Principal, Music Teacher, and Literacy Support Teacher at Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School.

Her inspiration is simple but powerful: children and music. “Once I experienced the magic of student teaching in a music classroom, I knew I had made the right decision,” she says. “To be able to share my passion for music and enrich the minds of young people is something I find most fulfilling and inspiring.”

Krystal reminds us that teachers’ work extends far beyond the school day. “Our job does not end at 3:30. Teachers are constantly thinking, planning, reflecting, and implementing the best practices to help our students learn,” she explains.


Her greatest joy comes in small but profound moments: “My greatest gratification comes when a student simply says, ‘Thank you for teaching us.’”


What Krystal loves most about Evergreen is the people. “The students, their families, the staff, the administration, and the board. I love how much Evergreen cares for our students and families, and the commitment to providing the best education possible.”

She is also passionate about what public education makes possible, especially through music. “Our music program introduces students to life-enriching experiences and skills that impact and change lives. Music isn’t just music — it is language, math, art, and emotion. From basic notes and rhythms in kindergarten to orchestral excellence in high school, you can hear and feel the growth, success, and development of our students.”

Thank you, Krystal, for your leadership, your passion for music, and your unwavering commitment to Evergreen students.

Interviewed by and pictured with Trustee Gladys Kohler





Arborg & District Christmas Cheer Board

Once again, the Arborg & District Christmas Cheer Board is preparing Christmas hampers. To request a Christmas hamper, please contact Courtney at 204-671-0559. The deadline for requests is Monday, December 15th and the Christmas hampers will be available for pick up or delivery on Monday, December 22nd.

Monetary donations can be sent by e-transfer to ADcheerboard@gmail.com, mailed to Box 185 Arborg MB R0C 0A0, or may be deposited at the Arborg branches of Access Credit Union or CIBC. Non-perishable food items and new toys can be dropped off at participating local businesses.

Thank you for your support.

2026 NEW YEARS EVE

MANITOBA SOCIAL

WEDNESDAY

DEC 31

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- 50 / 50 DRAWS
- LIVE MUSIC



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Alix Loiselle is a Gimli-based recipe developer and food creator sharing easy, multicultural comfort dishes on Instagram @frenchkiss.cook and on his website www.frenchkisscook.com.

Gingerbread Cookie Bars

Ingredients

1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted
3/4 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup molasses
1 large egg
1 tsp vanilla extract
1 1/3 cup all-purpose flour

1 1/2 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp nutmeg
1/4 tsp allspice
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/4 tsp salt

Fluffy Frosting (not too sweet)

4 oz. cream cheese, softened
2 tbsp unsalted butter, softened
1/2 powdered sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract

Instructions: Preheat your oven to 350°F and line an 8x8 baking pan with parchment paper. Whisk together melted butter, brown sugar, granulated sugar, molasses, egg, and vanilla until smooth. Combine flour, ginger, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, baking soda, and salt in a separate bowl. Fold the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients until just combined. Spread the thick batter evenly into the pan. Bake for 22-25 minutes, or until the center is set and a toothpick comes out mostly clean. Cool completely before frosting. **Make the Frosting** Beat cream cheese and butter until smooth and fluffy. Add powdered sugar and vanilla; whip until light. Spread onto cooled bars and slice



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Enjoy the Season, It's Christmas in Gimli



RM of Gimli presents:

Christmas in Gimli December 5 & 6

HARBOUR STAGE DECEMBER 5

3-10PM MOONLIGHT MADNESS THROUGHOUT GIMLI

4-9PM CHRISTMAS MARKET NEW ICELAND MUSEUM

4-8PM PICTURES WITH SANTA IN THE LOBBY OF THE LAKEVIEW GIMLI RESORT.

6PM ROMANNA KLYMKIW MUSIC STUDIO STUDENTS PERFORMANCES

6:30PM - WELCOME & CHRISTMAS GREETING FOLLOWED BY TREE LIGHTING & SANTA

6:45PM - PERFORMANCE FROM ADAM T ELVIS

GIMLI REC CENTER DECEMBER 6

8AM-11AM - PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

10AM-3PM - CHRISTMAS MARKET

10AM-1PM - FREE PUBLIC SKATE

11AM-1PM - KIDS COOKIE DECORATING

6PM - GIMLI CHRISTMAS PARADE

11AM - 4PM CHRISTMAS MARKET NEW ICELAND MUSEUM

For more information email
grcprogrammer@rmgimli.com or
call 204-642-6670

Gimli lighting up the festive season with markets, merriment and goodwill

Local shopping will pay off with bargains galore

By Patricia Barrett

Pop a multivitamin or eat a nutrient-dense meal, Christmas revellers, because you're going to need all the energy you can muster for Gimli's launch of the festive season that gets underway on Friday, Dec. 5.

RM of Gimli mayor Kevin Chudd and councillors Andy Damm, Kurt Reichert, Richard Petrowski and Thora Palson are encouraging the community to take part in a plethora of events planned for Dec. 5 and 6 which include Moonlight Madness (the town's local shopping event), breakfast with Santa, a parade and the lighting of the Christmas tree at Gimli Harbour.

"As we welcome the holiday season, the RM of Gimli Council wishes everyone good cheer, health, and happiness. This time of year reflects the unique way our community connects—through unity, generosity, and shared traditions," said communications spokesperson Christine Payne on behalf of council.

Council extended its heartfelt thanks to the Gimli Christmas Elves, a volunteer group that helps decorate the town, the RM's public works team, the RM's tourism coordinator and other volunteers who pulled out all the stops to make "Gimli shine," said Payne. Council is encouraging everyone to shop locally, decorate their homes, share kindness and join the celebrations.



The fun starts on Friday, Dec. 5 with Moonlight Madness from 3-10 p.m. Shoppers can find great deals from local merchants while supporting their own economy. And the New Iceland Heritage Museum kicks off its annual two-day Christmas market that day from 4-9 p.m.

Santa is arriving in town early and will be at the Lakeview Resort to meet the kids and have his photo taken with them from 4-8 p.m.

At 6 p.m. local music teacher Romanna Klymkiw is showcasing her students' performing prowess at the Harbour Stage bandstand before the town's official greeting and tree lighting gets underway. Adam T. Elvis will then take to the stage.

On Saturday, Dec. 6, the Gimli Recreation Centre is the place to be for a number of events.

Santa will be hosting a breakfast from 8-11 a.m., and a Christmas market will run from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. At 11 a.m. kids can take part in a free cookie-decorating event until 1 p.m. The recreation centre is also hosting a free public skate that day from 10

Continued on next page

Enjoy Christmas in Gimli

7th Avenue, Gimli 204-642-5137 Or Toll Free 1-888-424-4654

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Light Up RM of Gimli Decorating Contest

Can you find the balance between great & gaudy? Do friends and neighbours gaze longingly at your home each holiday season? Is Clark Griswold your hero and mentor? Is your home within the RM of Gimli? Would you like a chance to win \$500, \$350 or \$150 in Gimli Gold? If you answer yes to these questions, then you need to register your home today! For a complete list of rules and the registration form please email tourism@rmgimli.com



Continued from previous page

a.m. to 1 p.m.

The New Iceland Heritage Museum's Christmas market run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day.

The Gimli Red River Metis is throwing a Christmas party on Dec. 6 from 1-4 p.m. at the Gimli Waterfront Centre. People can register by emailing: secretary.gimlireddrivermetis@gmail.com and include the number of adults and age of children wishing to attend.

Later that day, crowds will be lining the streets for the municipality's Christmas Parade at 6 p.m.

People wishing to support Evergreen Basic Needs' Christmas toy drive can drop off a new unwrapped toy at various locations throughout Gimli, Winnipeg Beach and Matlock. Drop-off locations in Gimli include Evergreen Basic Needs, Pharmasave, CIBC, Access Credit Union, Sugar Me Cookie bakery, Home Hardware, Interlake Brewing, Hidden Treasures and Red Apple. The Winnipeg Beach Home Hardware and the Matlock General Store are collecting toys on behalf of the food bank.

Homeowners who want to brighten up their neighbourhoods – and earn a chance to win either \$500, \$350 or \$150 in Gimli Gold – are encouraged to take part in the municipality's decorating contest. People can register with the RM's tourism coordinator by emailing: tourism@rmgimli.com

To get everyone in the Christmas spirit, Payne shared with the Express an uplifting poem she crafted using the AABB rhyme scheme:

'Twas the nights before Christmas, and all through the town

The lights had been strung, garlands draped up and down.

The Elves worked in secret with laughter and care While Public Works lifted the décor through the air.

The tourism coordinator and community planned with vision so bright

To make Gimli sparkle on each frosty night.

Moonlight Madness would soon fill the street

With music and shopping and neighbors to greet.



*The tree at the Harbour would shimmer with glow
As voices sang carols soft under the snow.
Then Saturday morning, with joy in the air
Came pancakes with Santa—a feast to share.
The markets were bustling with treasures to find
Free skating and cookies for kids so inclined.
And when evening fell, Oh, what a parade!
A river of lights through the town was displayed.
But Gimli's true magic is not just the scene
It's the unity shining where hearts convene.
From cards for our seniors in Betel's red box
To gifts for Evergreen—fill up those socks!
And don't miss the contest—Light Up Gimli's cheer*

Your home could win prizes to close out the year.

*So follow us online for updates and fun
On Facebook, Instagram—our glow has begun!
For in Gimli we know, as the season draws near
The brightest of lights is the love we hold dear.*

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Enjoy the Season, It's Christmas in Gimli





Moonlight Madness

Friday, December 5th

Live music, festive fun, shopping deals for everyone!



LIGHT UP decorating contest



CAN YOU FIND THE BALANCE BETWEEN GREAT & GAUDY?
DO FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS GAZE LONGINGLY AT YOUR HOME EACH HOLIDAY SEASON?
IS CLARK GRISWOLD YOUR HERO AND MENTOR?
IS YOUR HOME WITHIN THE RM OF GIMLI?
WOULD YOU LIKE A CHANCE TO WIN \$500, \$350 OR \$150 IN GIMLI GOLD?
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RM OF GIMLI



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Festive Fridays promotion "Gifts for Fashionistas" - a curated assortment of fashion and gifts for the fashionistas in your life -
20% off entire collection on Friday + Saturday

ALL DAY - IN-STORE ONLY - Gift Card Promotion
"Gift with Purchase" - purchase a \$50 Johnson's Gift Card and receive a free pair of earrings, purchase a \$100 Johnson's Gift Card and receive a free necklace or bracelet

Moonlight Madness Specials - 3pm - 10pm - in-store only
20% off all Fall and Winter Boots
20% off all Fashion and Winter Accessories

In-store event - in-store only - jewellery Trunk Show
featuring new pieces from Iskin Sisters and White Lotus



Holiday window magic



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Garriock Insurance at 61A Centre St. in Gimli has been busy decking the halls, unveiling a vibrant "Candy Cane Lane"-themed Christmas window display packed with trees, lights and festive décor. Staff hope the colourful scene inspires other local businesses to join in spreading holiday cheer this season. Temperatures on Friday, rose to a chilly -7 C with wind gusts up to 9 km/h.

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-to-
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OR 1 MILE SOUTH ON HWY 7 AND 1.25 MILES WEST ON ROAD 84N (Watch for Stonewood Elk Ranch sign)

2025 Holiday Events

- Fri. Dec. 5** Christmas Market hosted by New Iceland Heritage Museum 4:00pm - 9:00pm #108 - 94 1st Ave Gimli
- Fri. Dec. 5** Fisher Branch Christmas Festivities of the Parade of Lights - Fisher Branch Recreation Centre
Doors open 5:30pm - Parade 7:00pm - Fireworks 8:30pm
- Sat. Dec. 6** Christmas Market hosted by New Iceland Heritage Museum
10:00am - 4:00pm #108 - 94 1st Ave Gimli
- Sat. Dec. 6** Poplarfield Breakfast with Santa 9:00am-12:00pm
- Sat. Dec. 6** Eriksdale Holiday activities and Parade
3:00pm movie 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever', 4:45pm-5:30pm
Photos with Santa and 6:00pm Parade 7:00pm
- Sat. Dec. 6** Breakfast with Santa - Lundar Legion 9:00am-11:30am
Hosted by Lundar Day Care
- Sat. Dec. 6** Night of Lights - South of Clarkleigh Road 106 East - 6:00pm-8:30pm
Two yards to view, hot chocolate and warming pits and a visit with Santa Claus Donations to the Lundar Community Cupboard greatly appreciated
- Sat. Dec. 6** Winnipeg Beach Legion Br. 61 Christmas Craft Sale 10:00am-3:00pm
- Sat. Dec. 6** Christmas at the Bandstand Winnipeg Beach 6:00pm Visit with Santa and Tree Lighting
- Sun. Dec. 7** Annual Children's Christmas Party at Gimli Legion - 1:00pm-3:00pm
- Sun. Dec. 7** Fraserwood Fire Department Breakfast with Santa 9:00am-12:00pm
- Tues. Dec. 9** Gimli Grades 7 & 8 Winter Concert 7:00pm
- Wed. Dec. 10** Gimli High School Winter Band Concert 7:00pm
- Thurs. Dec. 11** Riverton and Arborg Collegiate's Evening of the Arts - Riverton Hall - doors open 6:00pm Entertainment (instrumental, choral, visual arts and dessert reception) 7:00pm Riverton Hall (silver collection, 50/50 and Icelandic Christmas Raffle)
- Fri. Dec. 12** Arborg Christmas Market 5:00pm - 9:00pm
- Sat. Dec. 13** Fisher Branch Breakfast with Santa 9:00am - 11:00am Ukrainian Hall
- Sat. Dec. 13** Lundar Santa Parade 6:00pm
- Sun. Dec. 14** Riverton & District Friendship Centre - Grinchmas Party - Riverton Hall
1:00pm - 4:00pm
- Mon. Dec. 15** Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School Holiday Concerts 1:45pm and 6:30pm
- Wed. Dec. 16** Arborg Early Middle School Winter Concert 11:30am and 6:00pm
Kindergarten - Grade 2
- Tues. Dec. 16** Riverton Early Middle School (Grades K-6) Christmas Concert 2:00pm and 7:00pm
- Tues. Dec. 16** Dr. George Johnson Middle School Winter Concert
Gimli 2:00pm and 6:00pm
- Tues. Dec. 16** Alf Cuthbert School Christmas Concert 7:00pm Moosehorn
- Tues. Dec. 16** Lundar Personal Care Home Christmas Tea 5:00pm - 7:00pm
- Wed. Dec. 17** Ashern Early Years Christmas Concert
- Wed. Dec. 17** Winnipeg Beach School Holiday Concert 1:00pm and 6:00pm
- Wed. Dec. 17** Arborg Early Middle School Winter Concert 11:30am and 6:00pm
Grades 3-6
- Wed. Dec. 17** Fisher Branch Early Years School Christmas Concert 2:00pm and 6:30pm
- Wed. Dec. 17** Lundar Early Years School Christmas Concert 6:00pm

News Tips? Story Ideas?
call the Express 204-467-5836



Holiday cheer filled the Riverton & District Friendship Centre during its annual Christmas Market on Friday evening, where more than 30 vendors and over 300 visitors enjoyed shopping local, bidding on a silent auction and sharing a warm perogy dinner. The centre thanked the community for helping create a festive and heartwarming night. The next market will be held Dec. 12 at the Arborg Community Hall from 5 to 9 p.m.



Pick up days: Thurs., Dec. 11 & 12 from 9AM to 5PM



SERVICE

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ITEMS ARE SOLD AS YOU SEE THEM. Call Now to Consign in Upcoming Auctions. If you require help or do not have internet access please call the office at (204) 434-6519.



Town of Winnipeg Beach holding A Very Merry Holiday on Dec. 6

Fire department hosting a visit from Santa and lighting the tree

By Patricia Barrett

The Town of Winnipeg Beach is celebrating the lead-up to the Christmas holidays with A Very Merry Holiday featuring a Christmas market, a bonfire at the bandstand, a social and 50/50 prize draw, and a visit from the big guy himself, among a number of activities scheduled for Dec. 6.

It will be a jam-packed day. The Winnipeg Beach Community Centre will be the hub of all the action with the Winnipeg Beach Fire Department overseeing some of the “hotter” activities such as Santa touching down in the Beach, a bonfire and marshmallows at the bandstand and the lighting of the Christmas tree.

The day kicks off at 10 a.m. with a Christmas Market at the Community Centre. It will feature a number of vendors selling unique items to help shoppers find that something special for their loved ones.

While shopping at the market, people can purchase a 50/50 ticket and silent auction tickets being sold by the Winnipeg Beach Food Connection.

The winning tickets will be announced later that night at 10 p.m. during A Very Merry Social that runs from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the community centre.

Santa will be ready to meet the kids and hear how nice they’ve been all year long at 1 p.m. at the fire hall. The fire department is providing Santa with one of their fire trucks, and people are encouraged to bring their own cameras for a red-hot photo snap.

After meeting with Santa, people can grab their skates and head back to the community centre for a family skate from 1 to 3 p.m. A sticks and pucks game will start at 3 p.m. and run until 5 p.m.

The Winnipeg Beach Food Connection will be holding meat draws at the Beach Hotel from 5 to 6 p.m.

Crews from the fire department will be hosting a bonfire, marshmallows and hot drinks at the bandstand near the promenade. It gets underway at 5 p.m.

At 6 p.m. the department will light the Christmas tree, thus pronouncing



Winnipeg Beach Firefighters
5d · 🌐

We are pleased to announce that we will be doing Pictures with Santa on December 6th from 1-4 PM at the Fire Hall. ... See more

Take your picture with Santa and a Fire Truck!
Bring your camera and snap a festive picture with Santa at the Fire Hall in Winnipeg Beach.
Saturday December 6th 1:00PM - 4:00PM



WINNIPEG BEACH FIREFIGHTERS FACEBOOK

Santa will be touching down in the Beach on Dec. 6 and will avail himself to kids starting at 1 p.m. The fire department will be making one of its fire trucks available to Santa for holiday photos. People are encouraged to bring their own cameras to pose with the jolly man.

the season officially underway.

> CWD, FROM PG. 11

proactive approach to preventing and detecting CWD in wild cervids. The comprehensive program includes targeted surveillance, import restrictions on potentially infected animals or materials, and regulations to reduce high-risk practices like feeding and baiting,” states the report. “Manitoba’s first confirmed case of CWD was identified in November 2021, a symptomatic male mule deer near Dropmore, a town in western Manitoba, within Game Hunting Area (GHA) 22. A second case was detected in December 2021 near Coulter (GHA 28). Since then, 28 additional cases have been confirmed, bringing the total to 30 across six GHAs (18C, 22, 23, 27, 28, and 31).”

Testing is critical to manage and prevent the spread of CWD in cervids.

Hunters should also practise safe-carcass-handling protocols and not eat any animal that has yet to be tested or has tested positive for CWD.

“Every hunter who submits a sample truly acts as a wildlife hero. In Manitoba, 83 per cent of all positive cases of CWD (25 out of 30) were identified through hunter participation. ... Without hunter harvests, these infected animals might have gone undetected, potentially spreading disease throughout wild cervid herds. Hunters are not just harvesting game; they are harvesting hope for healthy wildlife cervid populations and saving the future of hunting,” states the report.

Visit www.manitoba.ca/cwd to access the province’s CWD Dashboard and the latest CWD summary report.

> TREES, FROM PG. 12

mental organizations.

Trees absorb carbon dioxide (CO2) from the atmosphere and store it in their trunk as they grow. When trees are cut down or die, they release the stored carbon. Planting new trees aims to maintain that balance. In addition to mitigating the amount of greenhouse gases that contribute to the climate crisis, trees in urban areas can reduce air and surface temperatures and contribute to lower energy use in buildings.

East Interlake Watershed District manager Armand Belanger said EIWD will be able to continue administering the 2BT program under its existing agreements. The provincially and federally funded organization worked with landowners in six Interlake municipalities this year to plant trees.

“The East Interlake Watershed District (EIWD) partnered with approximately 15 landowners across six municipalities to plant 30,000 trees in 2025. This initiative builds on EIWD’s collaboration with the Agroforestry and Woodlot Extension Society (AWES) under the federal 2 Billion Trees Program and the provincial GROW program,” said Belanger. “The federal government has confirmed continued support for existing agreements, ensuring EIWD will deliver the program through to 2031.”

In addition to offering the free 2BT program and subsidized tree-planting projects, EIWD supports the agricultural industry by encouraging cover cropping, nitrogen management and rotational grazing, tests surface, ground and storm water quality, maps landscapes and seals abandoned wells.

Breakfast Cookies

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Servings: 12
Cookie Base:
2 1/2 cups old-fashioned oats
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar

1 teaspoon baking powder
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup butter, melted
1/2 cup whole milk
1 egg
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Heat oven to 350 F. Line cookie sheets with parchment paper; set aside.
In large bowl, stir oats, flour, brown

sugar, baking powder and salt. In medium bowl, stir butter, milk, egg and vanilla until well mixed; add to oat mixture. Stir until combined and evenly moistened.
Drop 1/4 cup dough onto prepared cookie sheets. Slightly flatten dough with hand.
Bake 15-17 minutes, or until lightly

browned, firm to touch and baked through. Move to wire rack to cool.
Variations: Add maple syrup and crumbled bacon; sliced almonds, dried cherries and almond extract; semisweet chocolate chips and banana pieces; or peanuts and peanut butter.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Raptors capture Provincial A title with undefeated run in Rivers

By Lana Meier

The Morweena Raptors capped a dominant weekend in Rivers with a straight-sets victory over the host Rivers Rams to claim the 2025 Provincial A Varsity Girls Volleyball Championship on Nov. 29 — a title built on season-long preparation, quiet confidence and the ability to thrive in pressure moments.

Morweena rolled through round-robin play with a perfect 6-0 record, showcasing depth, consistency and late-set poise against a strong field of challengers. Head coach Jake Dyck said the team's entire year was designed with provincials in mind.

"Our plan for the season was geared toward preparing for provincials," he said. "We focused a lot on first-ball contact, consistent serving and running game-like situations in practice to build intensity. We also talked about how volleyball connects to life and faith, helping the girls keep things in perspective and work through the emotions of competition."

The Raptors opened with a 25-16, 25-17 win over Grand Rapids before defeating Reston 25-21, 25-18 — a match Dyck felt helped the group truly settle into championship form.

"That second match against Reston was the moment," he said. "Some players were still recovering from illness, and seeing others raise their game to cover for them really boosted our confidence going into the rest of the weekend."

Morweena continued with a 25-16, 25-19 win over Wawanesa before facing two of their toughest tests. The first came against Gilbert Plains, where the Raptors dropped their first set in nearly a month but battled back for a 21-25, 25-20, 15-12 win.

"There was no pressure from us — we just wanted them to enjoy playing together," Dyck said. "It was reassuring to see their character and how much confidence they had in each other."

A more intense test awaited in the quarter-final against Ste. Rose. Morweena had beaten the Celtics earlier in the season, and Dyck acknowledged that may have added pressure.

"Ste. Rose is a great team, and our players felt that," he said. "We made unusual errors early — missed serves, net touches — and were down six points. But the girls finished the first set strong, carried that momentum and cleaned up the unforced errors. Giving them something specific to focus on really helped."

Morweena closed out the match 20-25, 25-18, 15-12 before securing first place in their pool with a 25-21, 25-20 win over Miami.

In the gold-medal match, the Raptors delivered one of their most complete performances of the season, defeating the host Rivers Rams 25-21, 25-11. The second set, Dyck said, was unlike anything they had seen all weekend.

"Reneisha Kornelson brought her serving to another level," he said. "She handcuffed Rivers with six or more aces. When they did manage a play, we passed cleanly and finished decisively. Everything clicked at once."



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Left to right, back row: Jake Dyck (coach), Ethan Plett (assistant coach), Alyviah Dueck, Marissa McKay, Nia Dyck, Tamika Klassen, Raneisha Kornelsen, Lillanie Klassen, Petrova Klassen, Brittney Dueck, Keirra Reimer (assistant coach); front row: Tamesha Penner and Autumn Plett.

Dyck praised several key contributors, including captain Lillanie Klassen.

"She's been a force for us. Her energy, determination and passing were steady all season and at provincials."

Kornelsen, who was named tournament MVP, was singled out for her all-around performance. All-star awards went to Nia Dyck, whose consistency at the service line was crucial, and Petrova Klassen, the team's relentless setter.

"It's hard to single players out," Dyck said. "All of our players grew in confidence and ability this year, and I'm proud to have coached them — especially the Grade 12s I've worked with for the past four years."

Dyck said the leadership from the team's six seniors was a defining element of their championship run.

"Since I began working with them in Grade 9, they have had an unrelenting desire to get better and to know what the next step is for personal and team improvement," he said. "Five of those six have played club volleyball the past few years, and they've developed the fortitude to battle through tense moments in games. The match against Ste. Rose is an example — being down six points in both of the first two sets in a must-win match can be debilitating, but their resolve and determination to fight for every point, knowing the game isn't over till someone reaches 25, really showed. Our seniors brought both the calm to keep nerves from taking over and the energy to push for the next point."

He said he was equally proud of the team's ability to stay grounded in tense moments.

"It isn't about what happens on one point — it's how you respond afterwards," he said. "We talk a lot about not letting frustration carry into the next play. I'm proud of how they grew in that area, and I hope they carry it into their lives outside volley-

ball."

Dyck also credited the Morweena community for providing a powerful lift throughout the weekend. More than 60 supporters travelled to Rivers to cheer on the team.

"The girls fed off it," he said. "When other teams came up to say they were cheering for Morweena, that really meant a lot."

For the athletes, school and community, he said winning the title was both a celebration and a reflection of steady growth.

"They've worked toward this for a long time. I'm incredibly proud of the result but even more of how much they've developed as players and people."

Team administrator Jason Reimer said the championship also sets a clear direction for the future of the program.

"The success we experienced this year will be important in showing what it takes to compete at the provincial level," he said. "Younger students have seen how much work is required to reach that point — and how fun it is to experience winning. As more of our athletes go through MHSAA sports, we'd love to see them come back as coaches and support staff to keep the program moving forward."

Dyck said this year's roster holds a special place in his two decades of coaching.

"Yes, most certainly this is a special group," he said. "This is my last year coaching my own kids in high school sports, and I will cherish the memories of this season. I hope each athlete knows their value is far greater than a banner."

With an undefeated run and a championship performance defined by resilience, confidence and clutch execution, the Morweena Raptors close out their season as Provincial A varsity girls champions — a title years in the making and shared proudly with their community.

Lott reaches trials final, finishes runner-up in Halifax

By Haley Cvar

Team Dunstone, featuring Winnipeg Beach's Colton Lott, delivered a steady, resilient showing at the 2025 Montana's Canadian Curling Trials, advancing through the round robin and semifinal before finishing second overall in Halifax.

Held Nov. 22–30, the trials featured eight women's and eight men's teams competing for the chance to become Team Canada at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games in Milano Cortina. Teams in each gender played a seven-game round robin, with first place advancing directly to the final and second and third meeting in a semifinal. The winner of a best-of-three final earned the Olympic nomination.

The Winnipeg-based foursome — skipped by Matt Dunstone, third Colton Lott, second E.J. Harnden and lead Ryan Harnden, coached by Caleb Flaxey — posted a 4–3 round-robin record to earn a place in the men's semifinal. Lott said the group found another level as the week progressed.

"I feel like we played well and reached an elite performance level this week," he said.

That momentum carried into the semifinal, where Team Dunstone de-

feated Team McEwen 9–5 to advance to the championship series against Team Jacobs.

When asked how he managed the pressure and atmosphere of an event of this magnitude, he said, "I managed it pretty well, just took in the atmosphere and enjoyed being able to play in a building full of fans. Went into this week very relaxed and focusing on the process for each and every game throughout the week."

The best-of-three final featured narrow margins from start to finish. Team Dunstone fell 9–8 in the opener and 6–5 in Game 2, closing out a determined run at the national event.

Lott said the week highlighted areas of growth both on and off the ice.

"For sure there always is some learning with winning, losing, on and off the ice," he said. "More so knowing the feeling and what to expect in these high pressure situations. That feeling going out there and leaving it all in the ice and the feeling of what's needed to go out there and repeat that process throughout the whole week."

Up next, Team Dunstone turns its attention to the GSOC Canadian Open in Saskatoon, set for Dec. 16–21.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY HALEY CVAR

Winnipeg Beach's Colton Lott talks through the next call with skip Matt Dunstone during action at the 2025 Montana's Canadian Curling Trials in Halifax. The discussion came during a week where the team found another level in round-robin and playoff play. They advanced to the championship series and finished second overall.

Lundar Falcons looking to soar in the CRJHL for December

By Kieran Reimer

The Lundar Falcons will enter December aiming to snap a two-game losing streak.

They have six games scheduled before the Capital Region Junior Hockey League's Christmas break, including three on home ice at Lundar Arena.

Tuesday brings their first chance to get back in the win column with a matchup against the North Winnipeg

Satellites at 8 p.m. at Billy Mosienko Arena.

Lundar will also face the CRJHL's top two teams over the weekend, hosting the Beausejour Comets on Saturday before visiting the Selkirk Fishermen on Sunday.

The Falcons' most recent loss came last Saturday against Beausejour, when the Comets outshot Lundar 47–18 in a 5–2 final at Lundar Arena.

Lundar's goals didn't come until the third period, trailing 4–0, when Gavin Miller scored shorthanded. Daniel Masters added another later in the frame. Beausejour netminder Sawyer Abraham earned the win with 16 saves, while Lundar's Seth Hasker stopped 42 in the loss.

The Falcons' record now stands at 2–8–0–2–2 for 12 points through 14 games, placing them fifth in the

CRJHL.

UPCOMING GAMES

Tuesday, Dec. 2 – at North Winnipeg Satellites, 8 p.m., Billy Mosienko Arena

Saturday, Dec. 6 – vs. Beausejour Comets, 7 p.m., Lundar Arena

Sunday, Dec. 7 – at Selkirk Fishermen, 3 p.m., Selkirk Recreation Complex

Ice Dawgs off-week update: Arborg climbs to sixth ahead of December slate

By Kieran Reimer

The Arborg Ice Dawgs are 2–9–0–2–0 through the first third of the Capital Region Junior Hockey League season.

By winning two of their last three games in regulation they earned some important points toward the standings which moved them into a share of sixth place with the North Winnipeg Satellites.

Arborg however have played one less game than the Satellites, who also took last week off games.

With the schedule now shifting to December the Ice Dawgs will play six games, including two on home ice,

before the Christmas break.

Three of those games will go against the La Broquerie Habs, a team Arborg have played just once this season when they fell 7–3 on Nov. 1 at home.

The month will start with a home-and-home with the Habs this Friday in Arborg and Sunday in La Broquerie before meeting again the following Saturday, Dec. 13 in La Broquerie.

Arborg will host a date with St. Malo in between then on Friday, Dec. 12.

The December slate will then end with a weekend of away games to Beausejour on Dec. 19 and St. Malo on Dec. 21.

Arborg then won't hit the ice again until the new year when they open up the 2026 portion of their schedule at home to the Selkirk Fishermen on Jan. 2.

It will go as the first of 11 games from January to mid-February to wrap up Arborg's 30-game schedule.

They will then enter playoffs in search of their first championship since the 2011–12 season, when they were members of the Keystone Junior Hockey League.

DECEMBER SCHEDULE:

- Friday, Dec. 5 vs La Broquerie

Habs, 8 p.m. at Arborg & District Arena

- Sunday, Dec. 7 at La Broquerie Habs, 4 p.m. at HyLife Centre

- Friday, Dec. 12 vs St. Malo Warriors, 8 p.m. at Arborg & District Arena

- Saturday, Dec. 13 at La Broquerie Habs, 7:30 p.m. at HyLife Centre

- Friday, Dec. 19 at Beausejour Comets, 8 p.m. at Beausejour Sportsplex

- Sunday, Dec. 21 at St. Malo Warriors, 5 p.m. at Ste Agathe Arena

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Einarson's strong trials run ends with semifinal loss

By Haley Cvar

Team Kerri Einarson's push for an Olympic berth came to an end Friday after the Gimli-based rink fell in the women's semifinal at the 2025 Montana's Canadian Curling Trials in Halifax.

Einarson, who is from Camp Morton, steered her team to a 6-1 round-robin record — one of the best in the eight-team women's field — earning second place and a berth in the semifinal. They lost 6-3 to Team Black to close out their week.

The trials, held Nov. 22-30, determine which teams will represent Canada at the 2026 Olympic Winter Games in Milano Cortina. Eight women's and eight men's teams played a seven-game round robin, with the first-place rink advancing directly to the final while the second- and third-place teams met in a single semifinal.

Team Einarson — skip Kerri Einarson, third Val Sweeting, second Shannon Birchard, lead Karlee Burgess and coach Reid Carruthers — qualified for the trials through their 2023-24 CTRS ranking and delivered one of the steadiest performances of the week.

Einarson said the group's support for one another was central to their success.

"What I'm most proud of is how we supported each other and had each

other's backs no matter what, even when the pressure built up at times," she said. "Sometimes we can put too much pressure on ourselves in this event 'cause it only comes every four years. But I felt very comfortable and confident out there and tried to treat this event like any other event."

Although the semifinal loss was difficult, she said the team is leaving with meaningful positives.

"Losing is extremely hard but you learn from other tough losses. I'm incredibly proud of how the team performed," Einarson said. "The biggest positive is how we grew together over the course of the event. We showed passion, grit and determination throughout the whole event."

Family support also played a major role throughout the week.

"It's extremely important to me — having my family there means the world to me," she said. "Without their support I wouldn't be able to do what I love. Seeing my girls before and after the games always puts a smile on my face, makes those tough losses feel a little easier. This is something my girls want to be doing one day, so I try to be the best mom and role model for them."

Reflecting on her own play, Einarson said she leaves Halifax feeling proud



EXPRESS PHOTO BY HALEY CVAR

Kerri Einarson throws a rock during round-robin play in Halifax at the 2025 trials. Her Gimli-based rink finished 6-1 on the week, advancing to but falling short in the semifinal. The team now shifts its focus to the upcoming GSOC Canadian Open in Saskatoon.

of her performance.

"I thought I was very confident and had a pretty consistent week. I had a good handle on what the ice was doing," she said. "Sure, there are a few shots I'd want back, but I gave it my all this week and left it all out there. Unfortunately, we fell short."

Despite the ending, Einarson's rink once again proved to be one of the most composed and competitive teams on the national stage, showcasing depth and resilience.

Up next, the team turns its focus to the GSOC Canadian Open in Saskatoon, set for Dec. 16-21.

Interlake teams battle hard at Provincial A boys championship

By Lana Meier

Three Interlake programs capped their seasons on the provincial stage last weekend, competing at the Boys Varsity Provincial A Volleyball Championship held Nov. 27-29 at Rivers Collegiate. The Fisher Branch Cougars, Morweena Raptors and Riverton Patriots each delivered strong moments against the top A-level schools in Manitoba, showcasing depth, determination and the region's growing presence in boys volleyball.

Fisher Branch Cougars show grit with key wins

Fisher Branch opened their tournament with a solid 25-22, 25-19 victory over the Baldur/Cartwright Cougars before running into a powerful Miami squad in a 10-25, 10-25 loss. The Cougars rebounded with one of their best

efforts of the weekend, edging the Morweena Raptors 25-23, 18-25, 15-10 in a tight three-set battle.

They carried that momentum forward with a 25-17, 25-23 win over the Chemawawin Eagles to finish the round robin at 3-1. Fisher Branch advanced to the playoff round, where they faced the Wawanesa Warriors, falling 25-17, 25-19 to close out their tournament.

Morweena Raptors compete in four nail-biting matches

The Morweena Raptors were in the thick of close sets all weekend. They fell 2-1 in their opener to Baldur/Cartwright (20-25, 25-21, 5-15) before bouncing back with a strong 25-16, 25-21 win over Chemawawin.

The Raptors met the eventual silver-medallist Miami Marlins next, drop-

ping a 15-25, 17-25 decision, then squared off with Interlake rivals Fisher Branch in one of the tournament's most evenly matched contests. Fisher Branch edged the Raptors 25-23, 18-25, 15-10 in a three-set thriller.

Morweena earned a playoff berth against the Glenboro Panthers and pushed the eventual champions to the brink, winning the first set 26-24 before falling 25-19, 17-15 in a dramatic finish.

Riverton Patriots earn a round-robin win

The Riverton Patriots opened with a tight three-set match against Hamiota, winning the first set 25-23 before the Huskies stormed back to take the next two. Riverton regrouped quickly and notched a key win against the host Rivers Rams, earning a 25-23, 25-

23 sweep.

The Patriots dropped their next two matches to Glenboro and Wawanesa, finishing the round robin at 1-3 before entering a playoff matchup with Miami. The Marlins, who went on to reach the gold-medal game, won 25-7, 25-11 to end Riverton's run.

Strong regional showing

While none of the Interlake squads reached the podium, all three delivered strong performances, highlighted by Fisher Branch's playoff appearance and Morweena's near-upset of the eventual champions. The tournament showcased the depth of Interlake volleyball talent and capped the season with competitive matches against Manitoba's best A-division teams.

Huminicki reflects on first Olympic Trials experience

By Haley Cvar

Winnipeg Beach's Elias Huminicki, the youngest curler in the men's field, entered his first Olympic Trials as Team McDonald worked through a demanding week at the 2025 Montana's Canadian Curling Trials.

"Being told that I was the youngest player to play in a trials definitely made me ask myself, 'What am I getting myself into?'" he said. "The atmosphere was so much bigger and active from past events we've been in. Every shot we made got cheered for louder and louder as the event went on."

Huminicki, 21, plays second on Team McDonald, which curls out of the Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club and qualified for the trials by winning the pre-trials qualifier. The rink — skip Jordon McDonald, third Jacques Gauthier, Huminicki at second and lead Cameron Olafson — finished with a 1-6 record in the eight-team round robin.

Off the ice, the response from fans left a strong impression.

"Our first few days we had a handful of people come up to us and congratulate us," Huminicki said. "Later, it became rooms full of people clapping and cheering as we passed through to get to the arena. I've never felt so noticed and cared for by so many people, and it warmed our heart to share an experience with everyone that watched us."

He said the team's chemistry has been a key part of navigating the season, especially after bringing Gauthier into the lineup this year.

"We were so flexible with each other's personalities at the beginning that it made us mold quickly," he said. "At this point we are a very tight bond with our young, jokingly personalities. I can speak for the team that we are like family."

Although the trials field included Olympians, world champions and long-time veterans, Huminicki said familiarity helped ease the intimidation.

"I am thankful for my experience in playing most of the teams beforehand," he said. "Getting to know them and make friends with them eased the intimidation for sure. I quickly found out that the past world champions and Olympians we were playing are just people like me. On the ice they are competitors; off ice they're friends, and that's what curling is all about."

Looking ahead, he says the experience has only strengthened his commitment to the sport and the team's long-term goals.

"The major takeaways are knowing that I made my entire family and my friends proud, along with all the people that were cheering us on," he said. "I love what I'm doing and I know I can compete at the top level."

He said the week also offered a clear



EXPRESS PHOTO BY HALEY CVAR

Elias Huminicki of Team McDonald sweeps a rock during round-robin play at the 2025 Montana's Canadian Curling Trials in Halifax. The Winnipeg Beach second was the youngest curler in the men's field as his team made its Olympic Trials debut. Team McDonald, which qualified through the pre-trials event, finished the week with a 1-6 record.

picture of what lies ahead for their next push toward the Olympic cycle.

"The main takeaway our team got was a taste of what we are going to get ourselves into more often, and the intensity we will face in those impor-

tant moments," he said. "This will just ready us for the next Olympic cycle and send a message to the other teams that they're in for a good run next trials when we are twice as experienced and prepared."

Kodiaks show fight but fall 6-4 to Murdoch MacKay

By Annaliese Meier

The Lundar Kodiaks put together one of their strongest offensive outings of the season but couldn't slow a high-powered Murdoch MacKay offence, dropping a 6-4 decision on home ice in Price Division play Friday at Lundar Arena.

Murdoch MacKay struck first at 12:06 of the opening frame before Lundar answered on the power play. Sigge Bjornson tied the game at 7:42, finishing a setup from Kolten Bell-Sinclair and Daniel Johnson. The visitors regained the lead late in the period to go up 2-1 after 20 minutes.

A three-goal surge by Murdoch MacKay in the second period proved to be the difference. Despite the push against them, the Kodiaks continued to generate chances, and Axel Malcolm responded at 3:42 — assisted by Bell-Sinclair — to keep Lundar within reach.

Lundar made things interesting in the third. After Murdoch MacKay extended the lead to 6-2 on a power-play goal, the Kodiaks mounted a late

charge. Bell-Sinclair scored unassisted at 12:12, then set up Noah Kuzyk just over a minute later to pull Lundar within two.

That was as close as the comeback would get, but the Kodiaks' late push received a strong response from the home crowd.

Bell-Sinclair had a standout night with one goal and three assists, figuring in all four Lundar markers. Bjornson, Malcolm and Kuzyk rounded out the scoring. Erik Johnson made 35 saves on 41 shots to keep Lundar competitive through several extended defensive-zone shifts.

With the loss, the Kodiaks fall to 1-7-1-1 (4 points), sitting 11th in the Price Division. Lundar has scored 21 goals and allowed 56 through 10 games as they continue to chase their second win of the season.

Upcoming home games:

Thursday, Dec. 4 — Lundar vs. West K, 4:30 p.m., Lundar Arena

Friday, Dec. 5 — Lundar vs. Pinawa, 5 p.m., Lundar Arena

Two wins for U13 AA Lightning



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Interlake Lightning U13 AA goaltender Ameria Murdock from Fisher River saved 22 shots in her team's 6-3 victory over the Avros White team in Stony Mountain last Sunday. The Lightning completed November with back-to-back victories. They faced the Avros Red on Dec. 2 and will suit up against the Eastman Selects in Niverville Dec. 7. The Lightning will be back home in Stony Mountain to play the Ice Navy at 7 p.m. on Dec. 9.

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It is that time of year for the Council to commence the process of building the Towns 2026 Budget. Please contact the office or visit our website at www.winnipegbeach.ca for application packages.

Deadline for accepting Grant Applications is January 30, 2026. Late applications will not be accepted.

Applications are to be submitted to:

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Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0 info@winnipegbeach.ca



Rural Municipality of
FISHER

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- Must be 18 years of age or older, hold a valid driver's licence and have a vehicle, minimum grade 10 education.
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The Utility Operator will report to the Chief Administrative Officer and Public Works Supervisor.

Please submit resume, cover letter and 3 references. Position will remain open till filled.

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Auction Sale Ad

The land known as **NE 32-22-7W** and **Portion NE 36-22-6W, RM West Interlake, MB**, as described in Certificate of Title No. 1009064/1 & 1105456/1 will be sold at public auction, on Wednesday, the 7th day of January, 2026 at 10:15 A.M. The auction sale will be held by way of video or teleconference. There will be no in-person attendees at the auction. In order to participate, you must pre-register at least 24 hours prior to the auction by contacting: Donna Riedel (riedel@pitblado.com) or Ashley Storozinski (storozinski@pitblado.com) or 204-956-0560.

The vendor is informed that property consists of **NE 32-22-7W (Title No. 1009064)**: Farmland consisting of 130.46 acres of bush and scrub (conservation land) and 26 acres of bush and pasture. Located 10.5 miles west of Highway 6 on the south side of Highway 68. Property is half a mile to one mile east of Knights Road (Rd 41 west). **Portion NE 36-22-6W (Title No. 1105456/1)**: Farmland consisting of 60 acres of bush and scrub (conservation land), 30 acres of non-arable cultivated and 5.39 acres of slough (conservation land). Located directly east of the junction of Highway 6 and 68 west. To view the parcel, from the junction of Highway 6 and Highway 68 west go 1/4 of a mile north on Highway 6 and turn right (east) on Nystrom Road. Property is the first parcel on the right (south) side. There is a gravel road on the east side of the property.

Prior Encumbrances: NIL

Taxes: Paid to December 31, 2023 (each roll number) subject to any outstanding water accounts and/or property maintenance fees which may or may not have yet been added to the tax roll.

Terms: **Reserve Bids** to be announced prior to the auction sale. Sold "as is where is" in accordance with Auction Sale Conditions. Properties will firstly be offered for sale individually (each address/ title separately). First property offered will be NE 32-22-7W (Title #1009064/1) with a required deposit of \$5,000.00. Second property will be Portion NE 36-22-6W (Title #1105456/1) with a required deposit of \$5,000.00. Any properties remaining unsold will be offered as a "block" with the required deposit being comprised of the deposit amounts listed above as they relate to the unsold properties. The separate reserve bids (one for each lot and one for block sale) will be announced at the time of the sale. All deposit funds must be in form of bank draft, certified cheque or cash (the maximum amount of cash that may be provided as part of the deposit is \$7,500.00) bank draft OR certified cheque and/or cash and the balance according to conditions to be announced at the sale.

Terms of online auction - any interested bidder must pre-register with the law firm prior to the sale date and provide valid contact information. The successful bidder must then provide to Pitblado LLP the signed Auction Sale Conditions and original guaranteed funds deposit payment within **24 hours** of the auction sale. The auction sale will be conducted pursuant to an Order for Sale issued by the District Registrar. Certain parties may be prohibited from purchasing the property, including but not limited to, parties who by virtue of their employment or relationship to a person involved in the sale process would have special knowledge of the circumstances pertaining to the sale. For more information and a list of prohibited purchasers please visit www.teranetmanitoba.ca.

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Contact: **PITBLADO LLP**
2500-360 Main Street, Winnipeg MB R3C 4H6
Lawyer: Aaron Maister
Paralegal: Donna Riedel riedel@pitblado.com
or Ashley Storozinski storozinski@pitblado.com
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OBITUARY

Beverley Ann Fuz

July 10, 1954 – November 23, 2025

With profound sadness, we announce the sudden passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister and auntie on November 23, while at home with her son, Jeff and grandson, Jaden by her side.

Beverley will be dearly missed by her children, Daryl, Jeff, and Lori (Trevor Gard) and her grandchildren, Cody (Dahlia), Summer, Byron, Alex and Jaden.

Beverley loved her children and grandchildren dearly and was always excited to have them visit. She insured that she had every body's favourite food and dessert prepared upon their arrival.

Beverley is survived by her sister Darlene Yaremus (Caroline, Ben). She is predeceased by her parents, Steve and Caroline Shachtay and sister Rose Marie Darch (Derek).

Beverley had a variety of jobs that included waitressing, cooking, advertising, Elections Manitoba and was a caregiver that she provided care to people with disabilities, in which she enjoyed greatly. Beverly was a natural caregiver, and it gave her great happiness to make a positive difference in peoples lives.

Beverley's passion was cooking and baking and anyone that knew Beverley knew she was a fantastic baker. She baked an enormous variety of goods that would cover the kitchen table, counters and every other spot that could accommodate a pan or cookie sheet. Family and friends were lucky to receive her baking platters which were made with an enormous amount of love and pride. It was not until the passing of her mother that her and her sister mastered the famous Icelandic Vinarterta.

Beverly's favourite seasons was spring and summer because she could plant a variety of flowers in her planters that she would nurture, taking pictures of them daily on her iPad and later posting on Facebook. She loved the bright orange tiger lilies that Percy planted along the property bush line, and she would often comment how many there was. Beverley and Percy enjoyed the fall garden harvests and the time they spent canning together. When her children were younger, Beverley and Percy took their children to endless baseball, hockey and other sport practices and games. She loved that her children participated in Ukrainian Dance and loved to see them perform. Indeed, Beverley was a proud mom.

In earlier days, Bev and Percy curled and within the last while she enjoyed floor curling with her girlfriends. She looked so forward to spending time with her girlfriends, and many people would be envious of her many life-long friendships she had. Beverley was blessed to have so many wonderful friends.

Beverley always wanted the absolute best for everyone she knew and was very proud of all her children and grandchildren, wanting them to do well in their lives. Beverley's children and grandchildren brought Beverly and Percy their greatest joy, even when they teased them.

Beverley will be missed enormously by her family and friends, and gatherings will no longer be the same.

You will be missed Beverley!

Vichnaya Pamyat

Funeral Service to be announced at a later date.



204-886-0404

OBITUARY



Lydia Ambrose

On the morning of November 28, surrounded by the love of her family, Lydia continued on her journey from this world to the next.

She will be sorely missed by her husband of 57 years, Tom, their darling children and their families: Dave and Sherrie (Nick and Julia), Chrissie and Chris (Ben and Sam), and Mike (Lilia), and her sister, Anne, nephews Dan, Andrew, and their families. Awaiting her on the other side are her parents, Osypa and Wasyl Lysak and many in-laws.

Displaced by war, Mom was born in Germany and immigrated to Canada at 18 months old. The Lysak family settled in Komarno and worked hard to create a homestead on the land. After high school in Teulon, Mom moved to Winnipeg for Teacher's College. She met her husband, Tom, at a dance and they married a few years later. She taught at Peguis and Carpathia schools before taking a hiatus

to raise her family. Once the kids were old enough, Mom went back to work, teaching K-2 in Inwood, until her much deserved retirement in 2008.

All her life, Mom was strong, determined, and hard-working. Although it was challenging at times, Mom enjoyed many aspects of farm life, like driving the combine and grain truck. She was an amazing gardener and sustained her family year round with her preserves. After retirement, she enjoyed having more time 'patskting' around in her garden and flowers, visiting her grown children, chatting with her sister, and meeting friends for 'harbatka.' The meals she prepared from scratch when we were all gathered together were feasts!

Above all else, Mom loved her family. As we combed through pictures following her passing, there were so many happy memories captured over the decades, a testament to wonderful home she created. She was such a proud and caring Baba to her five grandkids. We all feel so grateful to have had her in our lives and will miss her terribly.

We would like to express our thanks to the nurses and doctors at the ICCU at St. Boniface who cared for Mom during her brief stay in hospital.

Prayers will be held December 4 at 7:00 p.m. at MacKenzie Funeral Chapel in Teulon. Funeral will be on her birthday, December 5, 10:00 a.m. at Holy Trinity Church in Komarno. Interment and lunch to follow.

Thanks for everything, Mom. We love you.



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OBITUARY



Joseph Gula

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Joseph Gula, aged 92, at the Arborg Personal Care Home in the morning of November 27, 2025.

Joseph, known to most people as Joe, was born in Madunice, Czechoslovakia, on February 6, 1933. His family immigrated to Canada in 1938 and settled in the farming community of Malonton, MB. Joe attended the local school where he learned not only adjust to life in Canada, but a new language.

During his high school years, he rode the train from home to Teulon and back. Afterwards, he attended Teacher's College from 1951 – 1952. He was determined to become a teacher, not only for himself but for his father, who encouraged him to pursue his education. He made his dad proud when he graduated with a Teacher's Certificate.

Joe taught in the Interlake and Evergreen School Divisions for 37 years. During that time, he met and married the love of his life, Olive (Ollie) Buchkowski in 1958, who also teaching in the Interlake. They raised four children while he attended Red River College and University of Manitoba to upgrade his Teacher's Certificate. Upon receiving his Class 5 Teacher's Certificate and a degree in Pedagogy, he went on to teach Industrial Arts at Arborg Collegiate.

Joe was an active member of the community and spent many weekends volunteering his time with school children on bus trips. He was a member of the Lions Club and a volunteer ambulance driver and firefighter. He helped with the Christmas Cheer Board and Meals on Wheels and spent many years on the Library Board.

Joe retired in 1989 and continued working and living in Arborg. He spent four years managing Riverdale Workshop and took part in the building of Taylor Home, a residence for intellectually challenged individuals. He also volunteered as a board member for Riverdale Workshop. After retiring from the workshop, he took a job as passenger and worker on the "Honey Truck". Ollie used to pack chocolate bars in his lunch to sweeten his day.

Joe loved travelling and he and his family went on many road trips throughout Canada and the northern states during summer breaks. Many happy memories were created in campgrounds throughout Canada. He also travelled with friends to Arizona and Mexico.

In addition to being a car enthusiast, Joe was an avid angler and loved the outdoors. The north was his passion so when the children were older, he and Ollie travelled to Alaska, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories and fished for salmon in Valdez, Haines and Soldotna, Alaska. In his later years, Joe and Ollie decided to park their trailer at Morden Meadows in Arnes where he spent his time walking in the campground with his brother, Rudy and playing cards with Ollie, Rudy, and Jean.

Joe is predeceased by his brother, Donny (Lorraine) and sister Anne Gill (Pat). Also by in-laws George and Gail Buchkowski and Helen Onyschuk.

He is survived by his wife, Ollie, his children, John (Angie), Jim (Alicia), Joanne (Jon) and Judy (Phil), and his grandchildren, Chloe (Alex), Darby, Bella and Jana. He also leaves behind his brother, Rudy (Jean), their children, Dean and Duane, Anne and Pat's daughter, Denise, and three great-grandchildren, Madden, Ellis and Banks who will miss all the treats he had ready for them. Survived also by brothers-in-law Michael Onyschuk and Archie (Mona) Buchkowski.

Special thanks to the staff of Arborg Personal Care Home for taking care of Joe in his final years. Cremation has taken place. There will be no funeral at this time.

We love you. You were a good husband, father, papa, brother, uncle, and friend. May you rest in peace. You still owe many people a lot of beers.



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OBITUARY



Agnes Bertha Klippenstein (née Welsh)

Agnes passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 20, 2025 at the age of 94, at the Fisher Branch Personal Care Home. She was born on June 29, 1931 in the Burnt Lake (Chatfield) area of the Manitoba Interlake.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Abe; her parents, Edmond and Bertha (Pagee) Welsh; and her nine siblings.

Agnes is survived by her nine children: Lorna, Abe (Charlene), Wanda, Barry (Shelley), Karen (Richard), Lori (Anthony), Andra, Kevin (Katrina), and Dan (Sharon); her sister Rita; 18 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Agnes and Abe were married on May 24, 1950 and shared 41 years of marriage until his passing in 1991.

Mom always said, "When you make your bed, you have to lie in it," and she truly lived by those words. She was always a hard worker. As soon as she was old enough, she found work as a farmhand, then as a nanny, before moving to the city where she held several jobs until marrying Dad and raising their nine children. They established roots in Poplarfield over five decades ago.

She was an independent, strong-willed, no-nonsense woman, protective and proud of herself and her family. She was a sharp dresser and made sure her children looked their best whenever they went out. She took great pride in working hard to pay cash for her furniture, car, and home improvements. She never believed in buying on credit.

Mom loved gardening, and she was always proud to take visitors outside to show them her large garden. With the produce she canned and the berries she picked, she provided enough food to feed us all winter.

She loved spending time with her sisters and friends, laughing, playing cards, going to bingo, or putting a few dollars into the VLTs. She always had a funny story to share about her visits or her luck at the casino. When she and Dad made their weekly trips to the city, we would often meet them at Zellers for coffee, and our friends would come along just to see them. She also enjoyed sewing, quilting, watching curling and the Jets, and reading her magazines, especially anything about Princess Diana and the royal family.

She treasured holiday gatherings and loved to cook for everyone, including those who had nowhere else to go. She prepared for days to make sure there was plenty of food and that everything was decorated beautifully. She was an excellent cook and baker and loved hearing compliments on her meals. She was especially known for her delicious perogies, which everyone loved. She taught some of her children and grandchildren how to make them and called on them for help when she needed extra hands for pinching. Her grandchildren remember her sitting in her corner chair, opening her presents with a big smile, she loved being spoiled just as much as they did at Christmastime and on her birthdays. Afterwards, she would sit at the kitchen table under her lamp and scratch the lottery tickets she received in her cards.

As per Mom's wishes, cremation has taken place. A family graveside service will be held in the spring to lay her ashes to rest beside Dad in Randolph, Manitoba.

We would like to thank the staff at the Fisher Branch Personal Care Home for their compassionate care.

Our family also extends our deepest gratitude to our dear family friend, Dave, for always being there for Mom, checking in on her daily, bringing her mail, feeding the birds, delivering her crosswords, or simply stopping by to say hello.

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OBITUARY



Dewey Jesse Harrison

December 20, 1933 – November 26, 2025

Peacefully surrounded by his family, Dewey passed away at Selkirk Regional Health Centre at age 91.

He is survived by his wife Elizabeth; his children: Jeanette, Vernon (Tamara), Sammy, Teresa, Tricia (Adam); and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

He was a proud gardener and enjoyed time in the garden sharing his life experiences with his children, grandchildren, customers and friends from far and wide.

He was baptized as a Jehovah Witness and dedicated his life to serving Jehovah and attending many meetings and conventions.

Cremation has taken place, and a celebration of life will be held on Monday, December 8, 2025, 1:00 p.m. at Gilbert Funeral Home, Selkirk with Richard Downing Jr officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to areas which impacted Dewey such as Fibromyalgia Association Canada, Anxiety Disorders Association of Manitoba or Chronic Fatigue Syndrome.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY



Gail Marie Mund (nee Farmer)

Born November 16, 1957, passed away peacefully on November 19, 2025 at the Gimli Hospital after a two year battle with cancer.

Born in Langenburg, Saskatchewan to Roy and Marie Farmer (nee Ness), she was raised in rural Saskatchewan where she met and married Charles Mund, her husband of 49 years. They had five children. Their second child, Christal passed away in infancy. They moved to Gimli where she worked at the Gimli Children's Centre, then opened a home daycare which she operated until 2023. She was also active in her local church as a youth leader and eventually, a pastor.

Gail is survived by her husband, Charles; their four children, Windelle (John), Charlton, Jordan (Cathryn), Rebecca (Adam), and their four grandchildren, Alethea (Payton), Marek, Calum, Nile; her mother Marie, and her brothers, Lorne (Elaine) and Lyle.

Gail will be remembered for her unwavering love and dedication to her children. She had the ability to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds, from her daycare children, who will remember her as Miss Gail, to the teenagers in her youth ministry, to her congregants at church. Her empathy, love for people and unwavering faith left a lasting impression on everyone who met her, and her companions will continue to inspire those who knew her. She loved to laugh and make others laugh and her hugs were the most effective remedy to melt away heartache.

The family would like to thank the doctors and staff, especially the nurses and care aides, at the Gimli Hospital for their kindness and professional care.

A memorial will be held at a later date.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



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