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WEEKLY NEWS



RM of Gimli economic development and tourism clerk Brittany Isfeld, left, co-president of the Gimli Chamber of Commerce Cheryl Buhler, middle, and Tara Skivo of the Blue Bombers helped to organize the Winnipeg Blue Bombers football club tour of select Manitoba communities, including Gimli.

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Fisher Branch Library talks heat up

By Evan Matthews

As the calendar's pages continue to turn, so do the chapters in the Fisher Branch Library saga.

On Feb. 13, over 50 community members — including members of the Fisher Branch Library Committee, the RM of Fisher council, representatives from the Evergreen Regional Library, and a representative from Provincial Library Services — packed into the Ukrainian National Home for a public meeting.

"A library in Fisher can be looked at from an economic standpoint. A library will not generate money, but it will help to retain dollars spent in other communities," said Annette Holowka, a retired school teacher and chair of the Fisher Branch Library Committee.

"I go to Teulon to borrow books, but I end up shopping and eating out, and all those dollars are left in Teulon, not Fisher Branch," she said, further emphasizing the library's importance.

The library will offer Wi-Fi and highspeed internet, Holowka said, with access to technical support via a library clerk.

Given not all families in the RM of Fisher have access to Wi-Fi and/or high-speed internet for an array of reasons, the library would obviously benefit those people, she said.

She added the library would also add to the real estate profile of the community.

The potential location has one leading candidate: the old CIBC building at 62 Taché St.

In reference to the old CIBC building, a provincial consultant said it's one of the nicest potential spots for a library.

A community survey showed, depending on the question, anywhere from 70 to 85 per cent of community members found a library in the community to be either "important" or "very important."

Joining the regional library, and paying its levy

The provincial government is encouraging the local library committee to join an existing library system: a "Regional Library." The regional library, according to the committee, that makes the most sense for Fisher Branch to join is the Evergreen Regional Library.

At present, the Evergreen Regional Library is made up of Arborg Library, Gimli Library and Riverton Library.

Part of joining the regional library means paying a tax, also referred to as a levy, according to the committee.

Each regional library in conjunction with its RM figures out levy's based



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The meeting drew at least 50 community members who digested the facts in respect to taxes, levies and joining the regional community of libraries.



Fisher Branch Library Committee, member Lynda Baker addresses the room on Feb. 13.

on population, basing the levy on a per capita system.

Based on the RM's resident total (1,827), the Evergreen Regional Library (Group), and would require a levy of \$18,726.75 from the RM annually, according to the presentation.

The levy covers:

• Hiring and training of library staff (ensured to be a local person, guaranteed 27 hours per week)



Reeve Shannon Pyziak took time to address taxes, and speak to the subject of a new library.

- Rotation of books as needed
- Yearly allotment of new books purchased
- Computer software responsible for recording books checked in and out, usage totals, etc.
- Technical support from library clerk
- Annual provincial audit (can

Continued on page 10



Grant D. Baker

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Same town, same face, new role

By Evan Matthews

The Town of Arborg will have a new chief administrative officer.

Arborg resident Cindy Stansell will begin her new role on Feb. 18.

Stansell had been working with the RM of Bifrost-Riverton since 2010, starting as the assistant CAO and eventually taking over the role full-time in 2016.

"We're very fortunate to have her coming on board," said Arborg's mayor Peter Dueck.

Stansell replaces former-CAO Lorraine Bardarson, who has decided to retire after 34 years of service to the town.

Stansell did not comment by presstime.



Town of Arborg CAO
Cindy Stansell

Riverton Early Middle School helps Australian animals injured in wildfires

Submitted by Alison Lubinski

Students and staff at Riverton Early Middle School worked together on projects to raise money and sew for injured animals in Australia.

Each of the classes in the kindergarten to Grade 8 school contributed to the success of the "We Love Australia" project.

The kindergarten class made cards thanking all the animal rescue volunteers and firefighters. The grades 1 and 2 students cut crate blankets and stuffed them after they had been sewn by a group of volunteer ladies. The grades 3 and 4 class took on the task of organizing and running a very successful bake sale, raising \$1,033.70. They also wrote letters of thanks to the animal rescue volunteers and firefighters. Students in grades 5 to 8 cut out joey pouches which were sewn by volunteer sewers. They also organized an ice-cream float and hot dog sale to raise



The kindergarten class made thank-you cards for the animal rescue volunteers and firefighters.

Riverton Early Middle School students cut and sewed 80 pouches and 36 crate blankets to help Australian animals injured in wildfires.

> global project. We are forever grateful to our community for helping our students gain a greater understanding of no

matter how small the dona-

munity have been part of this

tion, they can make a big difference.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY ALLISON LUBINSKI

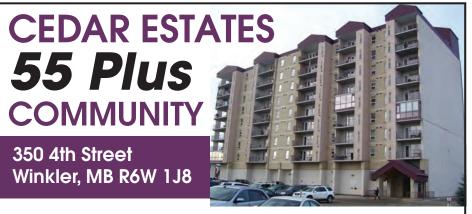
Love REMS Students and



\$378.60. In total we cut and sewed over 80 pouches and 36 crate blankets. We are pleased to say that with the money

raised we will be adopting two koalas for a year. The students are thrilled to be part of the care of Nooka and Maurice.

Our students, staff and com-



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Peter and Julia say "We had no idea what a wonderful place Cedar Estates was. We have lived here for 3 years now and are still oohing and ahhing at how much we enjoy this place. We hope to live here for many more years!!



Gimli youth bowlers knock down competition

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli's youth bowlers pinned down two medal wins during a provincial bowling competition last month.

Tyler Ross, Jake Kowalchuk, Taylor Johnson and Nick Waite earned bronze medals in competition against 10 other teams in the Hi-Low Doubles five-pin tournament at Rossmere Lanes in Winnipeg.

Jake and Taylor formed one doubles team while Tyler and Nick formed the other. They took on leagues from bowling alleys in centres such as Selkirk, Winnipeg, Carberry and Minnedosa.

"Our kids are part of the Junior and Bantam teams and both came in third place," said Dianna Auer, who is director of the Gimli leagues and oversees finances."It was pretty exciting."

There are four youth leagues that practise at the Bowlers Lanes bowling alley on Sixth Avenue. The Bowlasaurus league is for youth aged 4-6, Bantam for ages 7-10, Junior for ages 11-14 and Senior for bowlers aged 15-19.

"Right now we have 17 bowlers in the leagues," said Auer. "We used to have leagues at the old bowling alley

before it closed. When the bowling alley re-opened about three years ago, we got our leagues up and running again."

The youth leagues practise every Saturday morning from September to April. Six parent volunteers, who are registered as coaches, instruct the kids, said Auer. The alley also has two registered adults who would accompany youth to national competitions should teams move up after provincial competitions.

The youth leagues welcome newcomers.

"Kids can sign up anytime they want to be part of the leagues. It's lots of fun," said Auer. "However, it's the kids that start in September that can compete in tournaments."

The bowling alley also offers adult mixed leagues, a senior's league and a Special Olympics league.

Auer said the Gimli youth leagues have a few in-house competitions coming up and two provincial competitions. A combo-team provincial tournament is scheduled for Feb. 23 at St. James Lanes, and a provincial doubles tournament will be held Feb.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY DIANNA AUER

Provincial Hi-Low Doubles bronze medallists Tyler Ross, left, Jake Kowalchuk, middle, and Taylor Johnson. Missing from the photo is Nick

29 at Polo Park Lanes.

"In April we'll also have our Bowler of the Year tournament, which celebrates all Manitoba bowlers who've won Bowler of the Month," said Auer.

For more information on how to join the Gimli youth bowling program, call Bowlers Lanes at 204-642-6837 or email info@bowlgimli.ca.

Speed limit near school reduced in Gypsumville

By Evan Matthews

Parents in Gypsumville can rest a little easier, after the RM of Grahamdale voted to lower the speed limit in two areas near the Gypsumville School.

Grahamdale council gave third and final reading to a bylaw that prohibits drivers from exceeding 30 km/h in the school zone at its Feb. 13 meeting.

The idea to reduce the speed limit was brought forward to council by Gypsumville School principal Shawn Oswald. The school includes kindergarten to Grade 8 students and will add a layer of safety for students, according to administration.

Oswald could not be reached for comment by press time.

The school zone is deemed to 75 metres east of the school property line (where Martin Avenue meets Provincial Route 513) and 80 metres south of the school property line (where Provincial Route 513 meets First Street).

However, because Route 513 is a provincial highway, Grahamdale's administration said signage is the re-

sponsibility of the province. That, in combination with the frozen ground, means new signage won't be put in until the spring once the ground thaws, administration said.

Enforcement will follow suit, accord-

ing to administration, implementing the new bylaw come the spring.

Previously, the speed limit was set at 50 km/h through the community and 90 km/h just outside the community.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY RM OF GRAHAMDALE

The map outlines just where the changes will be located, as the Gympsumville School is pictured in the top left corner of the diagram.

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Protect yourself this tax season from phone scams

By Katelyn Boulanger

As tax season approaches, phone scams and frauds typically increase. Residents should be wary of any phone calls asking for gift cards, bitcoin or money transfers.

"The simplest way to determine if it's a scam is when they start asking for monetary products. For example they'll usually pick gift cards or transfers or bitcoins or something like that. They'll usually ask for those iTunes gift cards, the bitcoins. No government organization that we've ever had has ever dealt with bitcoins or iTunes cards as methods of payment," said Const. David Wong, a community policing officer with Selkirk RCMP.

He explained that these types of scammers spe-

cifically look at using gift cards or bitcoins because it's the easiest way to get money without getting tracked down. Once it's on the internet, tracking these online payments becomes very diffi-

"[If you get a call from a phone scammer] obviously hanging up is the one [thing] that I would suggest doing right off the hop. Also, contacting the RCMP or Canada's fraud line," said Wong.

It's not just individuals that are targeted by these types of frauds. Phone

scammers use technology to randomly generate phone numbers and call until someone answers. The RCMP periodically also receive these types of

"There have been some situations where the scammers have used electronic spoofing to basically hide their phone numbers. The phone numbers that show up aren't the phone numbers that they are using. For example, we had an incident probably about four months ago where someone had thought that they had received a call from a scammer, which was true, it was a scammer but they had managed to spoof the RCMP 'D' Division headquarters phone number," said Wong.

"[The scammers] basically Google searched us, found our phone number, because we have a general inquiry phone number, and they spoofed that phone number so that's what showed up on the caller ID. That person [who received the scam call] actually believed that the scammer was calling from that number and called us and threatened the RCMP mistakenly."

In recent years, to keep Canadians safe the government has passed legislation making telecom companies accountable for preventing these calls. However, despite the technology in place, Canadians are not yet immune to scam calls making it though to residents.

"The best recommendation that I have is to be aware of it and be highly suspicious of anything. We've had instances where we've had people take the correct steps for example, calling the police de-

> partment. They receive a call from someone who claims that they are part of the Canada Revenue Agency, the CRA, saying that the police are going to get involved. They call the police to confirm this and what the scammer has done is actually held the line then actually pretended to be the police picking up the phone," Wong said.

> "They hold that line open so when you hang up you think that you've hung up and go to call the police

but they haven't. They've actually just picked up and they've set you up with another person so you haven't really disconnected and you're talking to another scammer and they go 'Yes, yes we know this file and you are in trouble you should do what that person is telling you to do."

He says that the biggest thing to be aware of is that anytime there's a tax discrepancy it will be in you're income tax refund and that you will always receive a letter, never over the phone.

"[If you do receive a scam call] Canada has an organization that tracks fraud [called Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre]. They generally don't investigate [individual calls] but they do keep track of it and the whole reason for that is that when they see a spike in a type of fraud they'll sometimes issue out a kind of warning, a public address, warning about

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF SCAMS Canadä

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Little Black Book of Scams can be found at competitionbureau.gc.ca.

the current trends of fraud that's happening," said

The CRA also has The Little Black Book of Scams available online in a PDF format. It has everything from simple frauds like telephone scams to even organizational fraud that he recommends that everyone take a look at.

"I just want people to be more aware because income tax season is starting and we will probably see a little bit of a spike in those kinds of [scam] phone calls of the CRA asking for money. The CRA never calls. They will not solicit through the phone it's always through your income tax return," said Wong.

The Little Black Book of Scams can be found competitionbureau.gc.ca/eic/site/cb-bc.nsf/ eng/04333.html and activity involving frauds or scams should be reported to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at antifraudcentre.ca, or by phone at 1-888-495-8501. If you file a report, they ask that you keep any evidence of the fraud in the event that they request the information from you.

Ashern RCMP investigating two-vehicle fatal collision

"THE BEST REC-

OMMENDATION

IS TO BE AWARE

OF IT. "

Submitted by RCMP

On Feb. 12 at approximately 10:15 p.m., Ashern and Lundar RCMP responded to a two-vehicle collision on Highway 6 at the intersection of Highway 68, just north of Eriksdale.

The preliminary investigation suggests that a car travelling eastbound on Highway 68, failed to stop at the stop sign, proceeded into the intersection, and collided with a northbound SUV.

There were five occupants in the car, and all were transported to hospital. A 21-year-old female from Dauphin, who was a passenger in the car, was pronounced deceased in hospital.

There were two occupants in the SUV and both were taken to hospital.

Ashern RCMP along with a forensic collision reconstructionist, continue to investigate.







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It's all about people

By Evan Matthews

When astronauts orbit the Earth while onboard the International Space Station, they see views of the Earth that the rest of us can only fathom through photos.

Some astronauts report a cognitive shift in awareness when they view the world from outer space, through this unique lens.

The phenomena, that cognitive shift, is referred to as the overview effect.

From space, the world's countries appear to have no borders, and commonly understood conflicts - whether political, religious, financial, etc. become far less pertinent.

The overview effect emphasizes a need to create a greater society, with everyone on Earth becoming one community, focused on protecting the planet and its collective interests.

Why is this relevant?

In our current society, we face divisive issues every day. Some of those issues relate to diversity and inclusiveness, financial and political (interests and) gains; the list goes on and

A great example within our country, currently, is the consistent divide between British Columbia and Alberta.

You can look at Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain Pipeline project, which the Alberta (government) fully supports and the B.C. (government) does not.

There is the more obvious and current Wet'suwet'en protests, which is in opposition of the Coastal Gas-

Link Pipeline project. Protestors have blocked CN Rail lines in support of Wet'suwet'en hereditary chiefs.

The specifics are not difficult to read into, so we'll avoid discussing them here.

The point is we do not have to look very far to find divisive issues right here in our own country.

Social media comments, for example, show just how polarizing the issues can be.

There seems to be growing dissent between the political left and right, and a sense that extreme stances, sometimes condoning violence, are in some way acceptable.

Of course, extreme stances often do very little to help a situation.

Words of wisdom from Ron MacLean

Most Canadians are familiar with Ron MacLean.

Long-time host of Hockey Night in Canada and co-host of the iconic "Coaches Corner" segment, MacLean was a part of another divisive topic over the last few months.

Don Cherry, whether consciously or unconsciously, insulted and isolated new Canadian immigrants during one of his segments.

Rogers Sportsnet subsequently cancelled the segment.

MacLean recently appeared on a podcast called Spittin' Chiclets, hosted by Ryan Whitney and Paul Bissonnette, two former NHL players.

Bissonnette asked MacLean, who grew up in a military household, why he is such a proud Canadian.

"Do you attribute your appreciation for Canada, and for so many different places, because of the fact you were able to move around and see those different places?" asked Bissonnette.

MacLean's answer is so pertinent to this topic and worth re-iterating.

He spoke of the people.

"I think, honestly, I actually go away from nationalism because I've moved around a lot. ... You have all these regional fights and feuds. It's silly," said MacLean.

"When you go to any of these places, everyone is great, everyone is lovely. You kind of learn to strip away the flag waving a little bit."

The point?

Society tends to force people to pick sides.

We all have our own views, and sometimes they oppose.

But at the end of the day, we're all just people. Typically, we care about others, too.

Discourse is important, and having our voices heard is important, but not letting our opinions get the best of us is probably more important than any of that.

Whether it's a municipal, provincial or international border, we are all just

We're in this life together, and finding common ground should always be the subtext of any conversation we have with others.

Let us not lose sight of what's important: one another.

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Echocardiography services expanding to Selkirk

Echocardiography services will be offered at the Selkirk Regional Health Centre starting next week, allowing residents living in the region to access care closer to home while continuing to reduce province-wide wait times for the diagnostic scan, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen announced Friday.

"We are committed to providing better health care sooner for all Manitobans," said Friesen. "Adding echocardiography services in Selkirk will build on our work to improve wait times, and allow more patients in the Interlake region to obtain this specialized service where they live."

Almost 3,000 patients per year from the Interlake region travel to Winnipeg to receive echocardiograms. Nearly 24 per cent of residents in the region live with hypertension, higher than the provincial average of 20.7 per cent, making the new site an ideal location for the service to be expanded.

Echocardiograms provide an ultrasound for the heart and can offer a timely diagnosis for various forms of heart disease. Once fully operational, up to 1,620 scans per year will be

performed at the new site, which will begin accepting patients this Wednesday.

All scans performed in Selkirk will be non-urgent and elective, with the results interpreted by cardiologists at Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg (HSC). Urgent or complex scans will continue to be referred to HSC or St. Boniface Hospital.

"This community-led builds upon our health system's capacity to offer specialized services outside of Winnipeg and addresses a regional need for this service," said Ron van Denakker, chief executive officer, Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA). "We are pleased that the Rotary Club of Selkirk worked with us as they undertook their Project Echo fundraising campaign to help more patients receive this service closer to home."

Adding echocardiography services in Selkirk is only the latest in a sustained effort by the Manitoba government to improve provincial wait times for non-urgent and elective scans, the minister noted. Last spring, seven cardiac sonographer positions were added at HSC and St. Boniface Hospital, which has reduced non-urgent and elective wait times by more than 33 per cent since May 2019.

"Echocardiograms are important tests that assist in the diagnosis of various heart conditions," said Dr. Brock Wright, chief executive officer, Shared Health. "Expanding the service to Selkirk will align with recommendations made in Manitoba's Clinical and Preventive Services Plan to build up local capacity for specialized services and enable rural and northern patients the ability to receive the care they need without having to travel to Winnipeg."

Shared Health and the IERHA have hired a full-time cardiac sonographer and clerk to support the new unit, which will be located in previouslyunused space at the newly constructed health centre.

The Rotary Club of Selkirk raised approximately \$200,000 to purchase the medical equipment required to bring echocardiography services to the region. Eleven different municipalities throughout the health region contributed to the project, as did 31 community groups, local businesses, Hutterite colonies and dozens of indi-

"The continued improvement of health services is important to all Manitobans, including those of us who live in the Interlake-Eastern RHA," said Jean Oliver, vice-president of the Rotary Club of Selkirk and cochair of Project Echo."We are thrilled to partner on this meaningful initiative that will have a positive impact on the heart health of Interlake-Eastern communities and all Manitobans."

Manitoba has seen recent success in other specialized services. Wait times for hip and knee replacements and cardiac surgeries have reduced significantly since the fall of 2018, when the government invested an additional \$5.3 million to perform additional procedures. Since that time, wait times for hip and knee surgeries have improved by more than 21 per cent year over year. Similarly, waits for cataract surgeries have improved province-wide.

To read Manitoba's Clinical and Preventive Services Plan, visit www.gov. mb.ca/health/hst/docs/cpsp_over-

Province launches \$3-million flood protection program for municipalities

By Evan Matthews

The province is proactively planning for flooding, as it's encouraging municipalities to ready themselves before it's too late.

Under the new program — titled the \$3-million Flood Protection Program for Municipalities — municipalities can be reimbursed for up to 100 per cent of the approved preparedness or resiliency projects and equipment costs, according to the province.

"We want to help municipalities take steps to prevent the kind of significant damage flooding can cause to their communities," said the provincial Municipal Relations Minister Rochelle Squires.

"Municipalities know best what will work for them, and this program is designed to help them ensure protection put in place this year will benefit their communities for ... years to come."

The maximum funding available for each municipality will be based on the total value of all approved propos-

als, according to the province, but up to \$150,000 may be available for each municipal proposal.

Shelley Napier, owner of Napier Emergency Consulting, works with Interlake communities on their emergency readiness, and she said this program is something to be excited about.

"The ability for municipalities to purchase equipment to protect their infrastructure as well as assist ratepayers in protecting their homes during an emergency is going to be extremely important for those communities who are affected by flood each year," said Napier, noting severe flooding in the RM of Grahamdale in 2011 and 2014.

"There are many issues for communities to manage during a flood event, and having the appropriate equipment at hand will be a huge help for (responders).

"This (program) will enhance community emergency preparedness and bring peace of mind knowing equipment is readily available for use," she said, encouraging municipalities to apply.

Proposals will be reviewed by a panel made up of representatives from the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, and the province, according to the press release.

Proposal evaluations will consider factors including flood risk, ability of the proposal to enhance emergency preparedness or resiliency for future flood events, as well as potential regional benefits, according to the prov-

Deadlines for proposals is Feb. 28.

Additional program details, including program guidelines and the application form, can be found at www. gov.mb.ca/mr/mfas/flood_preparedness_funding_2020.html.

CFRY radio amateur talent show to highlight local talent

By Patricia Barrett

CFRY Radio's amateur talent show is set to go live this Saturday in Fisher Branch to help the town raise money for insulation and other upgrades to the Recreation Centre.

CFRY will be visiting a number of communities this month to help them showcase local talent and raise money for community projects.

Singers and other performers will be given the opportunity to have their voices and music heard across the province.

People are encouraged to come out and support the performers or tune into 920AM, Portageonline.com or the PortageLive App. People can also phone in pledges by calling a number that will be provided during the broadcast.

The show will broadcast live at the Fisher Branch Community Centre on Saturday, Feb. 22 from 8 p.m. to midnight. To be a contestant, call Karen at 204-372-8402.

Gimli spends a day with Blue Bombers and Grey Cup

By Patricia Barrett

Over 600 people in Gimli got up close to the Grey Cup Feb. 11 when members of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers football club swung through town on a tour of select Manitoba communities.

Bomber fullback John Rush took part in a number of events in town, signed autographs, posed with the cup in a specially built ice frame on Lake Winnipeg and visited Gimli High School.

Rush gave a presentation to Grade 10 student in the leadership club at Gimli High School, said Gimli Chamber of Commerce co-president Cheryl Buhler, who helped organize the daylong event that drew over 600 people. Rush talked about working through adversity and his life-long dedication to football.

"It was so inspiring. He had to work through all these challenges in order to get to where he is and help win the Grey Cup," said Buhler. "About 290 students got free tickets to the first game of the season in May."

Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson and Gimli Mayor Lynn Greenberg helped raised a Bomber flag at the municipal office, said Buhler, and Helgi Skulason, who used to work at a Gimli middle years school and is currently the Bombers' stadium operations coordinator, took part of the event.

The tour included an exclusive meet and greet for chamber members and Bomber season ticket holders and a public viewing of the cup, free screening of last year's Grey Cup game and autographs with Rush. About 300 people attended the two events at the Lakeview Resort, which provided a free meeting room.





Bombers' stadium operations coordinator Helgi Skulason (right) with Gimli Coun. Peter Holfeuer.

"It was a great opportunity for the chamber members to network during that time, and seasonal tickets holders got to spend a little bit of extra time with the cup," said Buhler.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CHERYL BUHLER

Rush gave a presentation to Gimli High School students in the leadership club, encouraging them to work hard at overcoming challenges. Following his presentation, Rush signed autographs.



with the Grey Cup in an ice frame built on Lake Winnipeg.



Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson and Gimli Mayor Lynn Greenberg helped raise a Bomber flag at the municipal office.

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklynews.ca

The \$64,000 question

Mr. Bodman most certainly raised some very good points in his interview for the *Express Weekly News* of Feb. 13.

Pam McCallum, executive director of the Interlake Eastman Health Fund (IEHF), should have declared her conflict of interest. She is a board member on a numbered company 10040899 Manitoba Association Inc

that will be developing and be the owner of the proposed clinic.

Therefore the grant application should have been done by someone other than herself. It would appear that the Selkirk and District Hospital fund was never created for capital projects. Have other hospital funds in the region also been used inappropriately? Why would the criteria

of the grant application with the correct signatories not be on the grant proposal?

This also begs the question, Ms. McCallum may not have been party to the actual decision to award her company the contract to develop and own the proposed clinic when this was first brought forward; however, as executive assistant to the CEO she may have also been in a conflict of interest as she could have been party to inside information. Was her conflict declared at this time?

The IERHA has strict conflict of in-

terest guidelines for staff. Both Ms. McCallum and the CEO Ron Van Denakker should be well aware of this as the policy was developed by administration, or is the conflict of interest only for line staff and not administrative staff.

As for the two board members who signed off on the grant application know what your signing and if you should be signing.

- Lois Wales, Selkirk

Winter fun in Eriksdale

By Evan Matthews

For 64 years, the Eriksdale Winter Carnival has been a local staple, and 2020 was no exception.

Eriksdale Community Club board member and event organizer Jerry Saunders said the event's fundraising efforts all go toward "keeping the lights on" in the building, and some renovations that the building — constructed in 1966 — could use.

"The talent night on Saturday raised over \$18,000 toward the new flooring we need in the bar hall," said Saunders. The last fundraiser went towards new roofing for the rec centre's dressing rooms and a heat recovery ventilation (HRV) unit.

This year's winners for the CFRY Radio Talent Show were: First - Loa Thorkelson; Second - Raelene Lucier; Third - Sadie Lindell-Norberg. Top fundrasiers: First - The Third Chins; Second - Josh and Braden Lussier; and Third - Loa Thorkelson. The Most Promising Talent Award was presented to Sadie Lindell Norberg.

"The Carnival Queen ticket sales brought in an additional \$8,000, so a big thank you to those ladies,"he said, adding each Carnival Queen candidate sells tickets, and the person who sells the most is crowned as the win-

Autumn Hanslip was crowned as this year's winner, according to Saunders.

Events over the weekend included a kids curling tournament, movie night, live entertainment (The Third Chins),



a snow hill (and toboggan slide) with a bonfire and hot chocolate, casino night, an adult curling tournament, broomball, a talent competition, crowning of the Carnival Queen, a pancake breakfast (put on by the volunteer fire department), face painting, public skating and a fish fry.

"There is something for everyone in the community, young and old. Everybody pitches in where we can," said Saunders. "We're very thankful for all of our volunteers."

Saunders said while the carnival is a major fundraiser for the Eriksdale Recreation Centre, so too is the Bowl-O-Rama, which was held back in October 2019.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY EVAN MATTHEWS AND SUBMITTED Left to right: Raelene Lucier - 1st princess, Autumn Hanslip - Carnival Queen, Keeley Thorgilsson - 2nd princess.











Manitoba accepts highest number of immigrants in province's history

By the Manitoba government

The number of immigrant landings in Manitoba in 2019 reached 18,905, the highest for any year in the province's 150-year history, Economic Development and Training Minister

Ralph Eichler announced last week.

"As a significant driver of economic and population growth, immigration is shaping the future of this province. It is a critical tool in Manitoba's Economic Growth Action Plan to ensure

we reach our goal of creating 40,000 jobs over the next four years, moving Manitoba forward," said Eichler. "The historic number of immigrant landings in our province last year includes 12,545 arrivals through the Manitoba

Provincial Nominee Program, which our government has improved and streamlined to greatly reduce a backlog of applications with dedicated

CELEBRATE 150

The Manitoba 150 Host Committee Inc. is pleased to celebrate our province's 150th anniversary all year long.

The following communities and community organizations have been selected to receive funds through Celebrate 150.



- Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN)
- Art City
- Assiniboine Park Conservancy
- Baldur Recreation Center
- Bissett Community Council
- Brandon General Museum & Archives
- Centre Culturel Franco-Manitobain (CCFM)
- · City of Brandon
- City of Portage la Prairie
- · City of Selkirk
- City of Steinbach
- City of Thompson
- · City of Winkler
- Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival
- Costume Museum of Canada
- Debwendon Inc.
- Deer Lodge Community Centre
- Festival du Voyageur
- Flin Flon Arts Council
- Folklorama
- Friends of Upper Fort Garry
- Gimli Film Festival
- Gimli Harbour Authority
- Grants Old Mill Museum
- Interlake Tourism Association
- Lakeland Regional Library
- Lawrence Recreation Commission
- Manito Ahbee Festival
- Manitoba Agricultural Museum
- Manitoba Airshow
- Manitoba Cricket Association
- Manitoba Cycling Association
- Manitoba Junior Hockey League
- Manitoba Music
- Manitoba Runners' Association
- Manitoba Summer Games
- Manitoba Theatre for Young People (MTYP)
- McCreary Heritage Advisory Committee
- Musée St-Joseph Museum
- Musée de Saint-Boniface Museum
- Nellie's Homes of Manitou (Nellie McClung Heritage Site)
- Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Education Centre

- Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art
- Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada
- Recreation Connections Manitoba
- Riverton & District Friendship Centre
- · RM of Ste. Anne
- Rossburn Recreation Commission
- Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre
- Royal Winnipeg Ballet
- Sara Riel Inc.
- SDC La Broquerie CDC
- Société de la francophonie manitobaine (SFM)
- Société historique de Saint-Boniface
- South Whiteshell Trail Association
- Special Olympics Manitoba
- St. Adolphe Community Club
- Sun Lodge Village
- Swan Valley Historical Society
- The Manitoba Museum
- The Nellie McClung Foundation
- The Pas Arts Council
- The Sam Waller Museum
- The WRENCH
- Theatre Projects Manitoba
- Thompson Zoological Society (Boreal Discovery Centre)
- Town of Altona
- Town of Melita, Two Borders, Brenda-Waskada
- Town of Neepawa
- Town of Niverville
- Town of Ste. Anne
- Town of Stonewall
- Town of Swan River
- Town of Virden
- Town of Winnipeg Beach
- Treesbank Community Club Inc.
- Turtle Lodge
- Union nationale métisse Saint-Joseph du Manitoba
- United Community Arts
- Wasagaming Community Arts
- Winnipeg Chinese Senior Association
- Winnipeg Folk Festival
- Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra

Visit the manitoba150.com Celebrate 150 page for regular updates.

With support from: Manitoba

> IMMIGRANTS, FROM PG. 9

resources and increased admission spaces."

New year-end federal immigration data shows the record-breaking number in 2019 represents 5.5 per cent of Canada's admissions of immigrants that year. The Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program is the primary pathway for 65 per cent of immigrants to the province.

Close to 75 per cent of newcomers who land in Manitoba are of working age and contribute significantly to Manitoba's labour force growth. Within the past five years, 88 per cent of the labour force growth in the province has resulted directly from immigration in response to Manitoba's increasing demand for workers.

Many Manitoba employers and growing industries such as information technology are increasingly reliant on expertise and talent from outside Canada, as the worker-to-retiree ratio narrows and birth rates stabilize or fall.

"By working in collaboration with the business community, post-secondary institutions, other levels of government and invested stakeholders, Manitoba will continue to spur innovation while developing a competitive edge, growing and attracting top talent domestically and abroad," said Eichler. "Immigration will continue to bring newcomers to the province and build a thriving economy for all Manitobans."

> TALKS HEAT UP, FROM PG. 2

amount to \$3,000 if done individually)

• Organization of workshops and programs

While most in attendance seemed supportive of joining the regional library and paying such a levy, some of the opposition was coming from larger agricultural producers based on the amount of taxable land the producers own.

Yet, sample tax bills showed a mill rate of .209, meaning the impact across the board is minimal.

"If farmers are unhappy (with that), they should take into consideration the Farmland Education Tax Rebate which was implemented by the previous government a number of years ago," said Coun. Tom Nevakshonoff.

"Up to 80 per cent of the education tax on farmland, not including buildings, is rebated to farmers at their request up to a maximum of \$5,000.

"When it was implemented, the idea was to address the over-dependence on property taxes to fund education and the effect this had on the ability of municipalities to raise tax revenue.

"The purpose was not simply to give farmers a tax break, rather it was to enable municipalities to move into this tax void to increase their revenues without impacting farmers directly," he said.

Investing into a library is an "excellent example" of increased funding at the municipal level, Nevakshonoff went on, as he said libraries are an extension of education and learning.

Background

In March 2019, a group of residents approached council with the idea for a library, locally.

Council suggested a petition to gauge community support.

In May 2019, the same group attended another meeting with over 300 signatures in support of the library and 12 letters of support from community

Council suggested a business plan would be needed to help make a decision, to which the group — now the Fisher Branch Library Committee — wrote up.

The committee has spoken at length, consulting with, regional libraries and provincial departments.

The committee sees the library as a potential gathering place in the com-

munity, according to member Lynda Baker, a place for people to take out books, e-books, or provide language kits to new Canadians. Othcommunity events could be hosted such as art displays, local author visits, book clubs, summer programs and a pre-school pro-

gram, she said.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Date: February 27
Time: 7:00pm
Location:
Lakeview Gimli Resort

Keep up-to-date with all the exciting work that is happening in our business community.

We have some exciting events planned in the near future and would love some feedback and input on these new projects.

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For more information, please contact gimlichamber@gmail.com

Hutterite colony to farm over 15,000 chickens plus manufacturing operation

Commercial fishers and environmental organizations raise pollution concerns

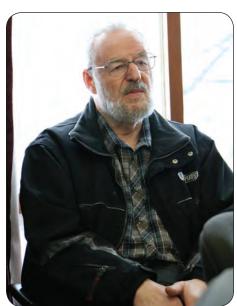
By Patricia Barrett

A new Hutterite colony that will be established on the Armstrong-Gimli municipal border intends to farm over 15,000 chickens, an unspecified number of cattle and sheep and set up a manufacturing operation to make hog barn parts.

Members of the Crystal Spring Hutterite Colony from Ste. Agathe appeared as a delegation at the RM of Armstrong's regular council meeting Feb. 11 to discuss plans for land they had purchased (Section 28-18-3E) on the west side of Road 15E, which forms the border between the two municipalities.

Willow Creek, or its tributaries, runs through the Hutterite-owned land and along Road 107N. It flows east, emptying into Lake Winnipeg between the Siglavik and Miklavik subdivisions in the RM of Gimli.

The meeting drew residents from both Armstrong and Gimli, Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers and representatives from the People for



Crystal Edward Kleinsasser of Spring colony.

the Preservation of the Willow Island Coastal Wetlands (P4P), the Coalition to Save Lake Winnipeg (Coalition) and the Gimli Environmental Advisory Committee.

"For the chickens, we're talking of,



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Armstrong residents Joe and Steve with Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher Bill Buckels (middle) have concerns about the colony operation.

say, a round number of 15,000 layers — that's selling eggs. And then the broilers — meat chickens," said Edward Kleinsasser, who was joined by fellow colony members David Kleinsasser and Jerry Waldner. Kleinsasser didn't say how many "meat" chickens would be raised.

When asked by Coun. Adam Krochenski how many cattle and sheep would be farmed, Kleinsasser didn't have a number.

"It's kind of a hobby farm at this point in St. Agathe," said Kleinsasser. "But here, because the possibility is here, we have more bush and pasture ... so I wouldn't be surprised if we go more into that."

Continued on page 13

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RCMP investigates firearm offences

On Feb. 7, 2020, Gypsumville RCMP responded to several 911 calls reporting that a male was carrying a long gun and walking on the Main Road in Little Saskatchewan First Nation.

Another call was received stating that the male suspect had just pointed the firearm at a victim and demanded his snowmobile. The victim refused and got away safely.

Officers responded and made several patrols in the area. Further investigation led RCMP to an area in Fairford First Nation.

RCMP located the suspect and he was arrested without incident. No firearm was recovered at that time.

Police Dog Services attended the scene and conducted a search. A long gun was located buried in the snow and was seized by police.

Aaron Sumner, 32, of Fairford First Nation, has been charged with numerous offences including robbery with a firearm, pointing a firearm, careless use of a firearm, possession of a weapon for a dangerous purpose



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

RCMP police dog services located a long gun buried in the snow.

and using a firearm in the commission of an offence.

RCMP continue to investigate.

> CHICKENS, FROM PG. 11

The colony does "not intend to build a hog barn," he said, but it does make parts for hog barns, employing 15-20 non-colony people in Ste. Agathe on a full-time basis. And the colony is considering expanding that manufacturing in Armstrong as it already works with Gimli-based Faroex. The new colony would "probably" be hiring non-colony workers.

Reeve Susan Smerchanski said there's a hog-raising stigma associated with Hutterite colonies, and she knows some colonies have added a manufacturing component alongside agriculture. She cited colonies involved in the concrete and kitchen cabinet industry, as well as in fire truck manufacturing (the RM purchased a new truck for its Fraserwood fire department from a colony in the

As to when they plan to build the new colony, Kleinsasser said they'll probably start some digging this summer. They also need to figure out where to place the buildings.

"I guess we would start with where are we going to place the colony, where does it fit?" said Kleinsasser. "There's Willow Creek. We'd probably have the buildings next to the Willow Creek, and further up there'd be barns or the shops, going maybe west from the Willow Creek, more up

In response to Smerchanski's question about population, David Kleinsasser said there will be about 97 people on the new colony.

Coun. Krochenski also raised the issue of how the colony's operations will impact RM roads.

Kleinsasser said the same number of trucks have been hauling grain out of the fields up to now and that won't change, but there may be some extra truck traffic while they're building.

"And we'll get after you guys to

make sure they're in good shape," said Kleinsasser. "Let's face it, in the end you'll have more money because the property tax bill will be huge. So you'll have a lot of more money to fix those roads and keep them up.

Council didn't ask how the new colony intends to manage its animal manures, whether it will be stockpiling it on open fields or using it as fertilizer, and how it will handle any by-products created during its equipment manufacturing processes. But the reeve did say residents are concerned about the environment, the water and

"There are rules to follow regarding the spreading of manure and all the rest of it for any kind of farming operation that you have, whether it's the chickens or hogs or whatever," said Smerchanski."There's always rules to follow to make sure we are protecting that water system."

Kleinsasser said the colony doesn't want to risk the health of its members and is also cognizant of the fishing industry on Lake Winnipeg.

"At Willow Creek we'll have our kids play along there, so we want that to be nice and clean," said Kleinsasser. "We want to be safe and environmentally friendly as much as anybody else."

As for two sections of neighbouring land the colony wants to purchase from the RM (the NW and NE of 29-18-3E), the reeve said council hadn't had an opportunity to discuss it. Council would have to consider all interested purchasers and publicly advertise the sale.

After the delegation wrapped up, the Express asked council what the colony intends to do with the two sections it wants to purchase.

"They just want to leave it to enjoy the beauty of nature," said Smerchanski, "for hiking, biking, skiing trails, listening to the birds, picking berries. Just natural habitat."

CAO Corlie Larsen added the colony told the RM it intends to have no buildings on those sections if it's the successful purchaser.

Fred Veldink of the Coalition asked Smerchanski whether council would have to re-zone the colony's present section from agricultural to industrial in order to accommodate manufactur-

"We'll have to work through that. It's a process," said Smerchanski. "It won't be excluded; we'll work through that."

An Armstrong resident who didn't give his name told the Express the land the colony owns is wet and on a rise. Rain and snowmelt — along with possible manure leakages — flow downhill and make their way to the creek as "everything flows into the creek and out to the lake."

One of the Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers who attended the meeting said by email he has grave concerns about the potential for agricultural and human wastes to enter the Willow Creek watershed and further pollute the lake.

"Every working day I directly witness the downstream damage caused by agricultural pollution and untreated human and animal waste, and the destruction of wetlands and wetland filters by factory farms," said Bill Buckels, who lives in the RM of Gimli.

"I'm completely shocked and firmly against the establishment of any and all factory operations, especially one disguising itself as a farm upstream from one of the best spawning areas on Lake Winnipeg."

Buckels said he's encountered huge swathes of fecal matter swirling around in Lake Winnipeg, negatively affecting the fish, his business and possibly his health.

"I have worked on my boat up to my knees in fecal material for weeks on end in recent years, and the problem is worsening," he said. "It doesn't

need any help by bringing in potential outside polluters."

As well, Buckels said he's concerned about what could likely become a "new town of up to 200 people" just five miles from the lake.

"I don't understand how land that is zoned for agricultural use can also be used for a large population of humans and human waste as well as for a factory, plus animal waste from what could be a 'starter flock' of 15,000 chickens in captivity," said Buckels. "Will they connect to Gimli's sewer system like the rest of us?"

P4P said by email after the meeting it's "extremely concerned" about the proposed commercial chicken operation that will straddle the two munici-

"Are the exceptionally limited tax dollars derived from this operation worth the health of our communities by possibly poisoning drinking water and further destroying the fishing and tourist industry?" said spokesperson Muriel Smith.

Chicken manure increases algal blooms in fresh water, she said, citing research. It contains four times the amount of phosphorous and nitrogen in hog manure.

An operation of 15,000 layers alone, as proposed, produces 1.89 tons of manure per day. That manure contains heavy metals such as arsenic, trace antibiotics and hormones, which contaminate soil and water — both runoff and groundwater, she said.

P4P also has concerns about odour from the chicken operation and emissions of ammonia, hydrogen sulphide and poultry dust, which contains toxins that can cause lung and eye irritations not only to farm workers, but also to residents.

"Why would anyone support the establishment of such an environmentally and commercially destructive enterprise?" said Smith.

Interlake Co-op gas bars still able to provide fuel for drivers

By Evan Matthews

While many in the Interlake have been left wondering when Co-op gas bars will return to "business as usual," so too are the organization's employ-

Jordan Cook, general manager of Interlake Consumers Co-op, said he and fellow employees are getting updates from news channels the same way everyone else is.

"This is totally a corporate matter. From a local perspective, we just want things to go back to normal," said

Reports out of Eriksdale surfaced, as locals noticed the Co-op's pumps' nozzles had bags on them, indicating they were out of fuel.

In Arborg, Co-op is the only gas sta-

tion in town, which could create an array of problems for residents if the gas station were to run out.

However, Cook said there isn't any reason to worry for the time being, as the station has yet to run out.

"We have fuel as of now. We're hoping the matter is resolved soon, and we get additional fuel in the next couple of days," said Cook. "We just want this over with."

Last week, a letter to the editor ran in the Express, indicating Arborg needs a second gas station to avoid potential emergencies. The letter stated Co-op has a monopoly in Arborg when it comes to the food and pump gas busi-

Arborg Mayor Peter Dueck echoed Cook's sentiments, as he said he isn't worried either. In the case of an emergency, he said small towns are known to look out for their neighbours.

"I don't see a (gas shortage) as significant risk. There are communities all around us, too," said Dueck.

"In small communities, we function as such. We look after each other. We look after our seniors and our young families, so there is minimal concern.'

Dueck said while the town isn't actively pursuing competition for the gas station, the market tends to work these situations out on its own.

The reason for the shortage in Manitoba, is a result of an ongoing labour dispute between Unifor Local 594 members — who have set up blockades at refineries in Regina - and Federated Co-op Ltd. (FCL), with

demonstrations going for the past 10 weeks.

Unifor initiated the labour dispute — in order to reach a new collective agreement with FCL, with one of the main issues being better pensions — at the Co-op Refinery in Regina, which is completely owned and oper-

Red River Co-op purchases services and goods from FCL and money made at the refinery is invested back in these co-ops to create local employment, invest in infrastructure, and provide patronage to their members based upon the volume of business they do with Red River Co-op.

- With files from Ligia Braidotti

Horses run wild in Grahamdale

By Evan Matthews

The RM of Grahamdale is asking a local First Nation for help, as 10 horses are now in the RM's possession after running wild in the area.

At its Jan. 23 meeting, the RM of Grahamdale Council decided to send letters to Little Saskatchewan First Nation's Chief and Council, as well as several area residents regarding the ownership of horses. A deadline was also given to corral the horses.

"This is something the RM deals with pretty regularly," said a member of the RM's administration. Whether it's the RM's own residents or people outside the RM, animals tend to roam freely here and there, according to the administration.

"We have farmers all over the region, including Little Saskatchewan First Nation, Lake St. Martin First Nation, and Pinaymootang First Nation.

"The reality is that livestock sometimes escape. ... It's just something we deal with occasionally," said the source.

Because the RM doesn't have access to many of the reserve's residents, administration goes from memory as to who some of the bigger farmers in the region are, and starts asking around as to who is missing livestock.

Writing to the chief and council is a way for the RM to identify who is missing livestock and get the animals back to their rightful owners, according to administration.

"We just want to locate the owners." said the source."The middle of winter can be freezing, so we have an obligation to apprehend the animals, and enforce our animal control bylaw."

The animals are stored at the Ashern Auction Mart temporarily, the source

The RM of Grahamdale's Animal Control Bylaw states "no owner in charge of an animal shall allow it to run at large," and that the owner is liable for "damages and/or any harm an animal causes to a person or property while running at large."

It also states the owner could be charged cost incurred in respect to the bylaw.

In a case such as this one, where livestock has been impounded, the RM will post a notice in a newspaper or another publication and distribute the notice around the municipality, according to the bylaw.

By presstime, an official notice had not been sent out, according to administration.

If the owner is unknown and no person claims the livestock within 10 days of an official notice, and/or if the owner has not paid the associated costs and fines, the animal control officer will report to council and the CAO at the next council meeting.

Council can then review and direct that the "livestock be sold or disposed of without further notice to the owner, the proceeds of which shall be paid to the general funds of the RM," according to the bylaw.

TAKE A BREAK CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

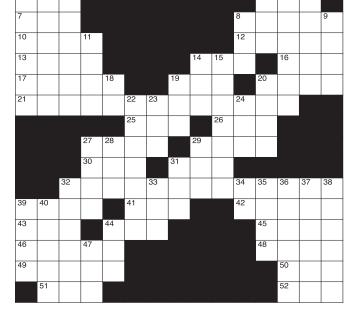
- 1. Expression of disgust
- 4. A place to unwind
- 7. A type of cooking range
- 8. Grasp tightly
- 10. Sea eagles
- 12. Carb dish
- 13. Late-night host
- 14. Revolutions per minute
- 16. Indicates odd or erroneous
- 17. FDR's military chief of staff
- 19. Swiss river
- 20. Norwegian district and river
- 21. A form of motivation
- 25. Car mechanics group
- 26. Once a must-have home theater accessory
- 27. Broken branch
- 29. Apple and pumpkin are two
- 30. Skeletal muscle
- 31. Small Eurasian deer
- 32. Tight-lipped fellow
- 39. Comes after a cut

- 41. A place one lives
- 42. Cognizant of
- 43. Albanian monetary unit
- 44. Carrot's partner
- 45. Famed garden
- 46. Chilean seaport
- 48. Days (Spanish)
- 49. Sudden anxiety
- 50. 100 square meters 51. A type of beer
- 52. French/Belgian river

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Spanish dish
- 2. Concurs
- 3. __and her sisters 4. Patti Hearst's captors
- 5. Used to refer to cited works
- 6. A state of excited movement 8. Advertising term (abbr.)
- 9. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 11. New York art district
- 14. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!

- 15. Pre-release viewing
- 18. Northwestern Canadian territory (abbr.)
- 19. Consumed
- 20. Falters
- 22. Radioactive form of an element
- 23. Catch a wrongdoer
- 24. Breeze through
- 27. Thick piece of something
- 28. Yellowish-brown color
- 29. "The Raven" poet
- 31. Rural free delivery (abbr.)
- 32. Creating
- 33. Supervises flying
- 34. Northwestern state
- 35. Was obligated to repay
- 36. Diverging in lines from a common center
- 37. Bleak
- 38. We all have them
- 39. Hit with the palm of one's hand



- 40. Sea that's part of the western Pacific
- 44. Political action committee
- 47. Famed Spanish soldier El ___

SEE PG. 15 FOR ANSWERS

SDOPES& Pecteation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Bantam Lightning lose close game to Parkland

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning played a solid home game against a very good team in Bantam AAA boys' hockey action Sunday in Warren.

But they still failed to produce a vic-

Interlake played right with the thirdplace Parkland Rangers in a tough 5-3

No scoring summary was on the league website at press time.

On Saturday, Interlake lost 6-1 to the Southwest Cougars in Stonewall.

Adam Vigfusson scored the Lightning's lone goal in the second period, assisted by Rylan Slatcher.

Kyle O'Connor (three), Dawson Andries, Nicholas Cullen, and Ashton Cuvelier tallied for Southwest.

The Lightning will play the Wheat Kings in Brandon on Friday at 7:30

In U17 Prep action, Interlake lost 6-3 to the Winnipeg Wild at the Bell MTS Iceplex on Sunday.

Connor Crosby and Alexander Kaczorowski scored first-period goals for the Lightning and then Evan Calder tallied in the second.

Tazio Cianflone, Jake Bergman, Grant White, Matthew Lizotte, Cole Younger, and Dylan Moon scored for the Wild.

Last Thursday, the Lightning dropped a 4-1 decision to the Winnipeg Thrashers in Stonewall.

Interlake's Koby Smith-Mink opened the game's scoring at 6:13 of the first period.

Caden Zaplitny (two), Easton Lewicki, and Alex Suga scored for Win-

On Feb. 9, Interlake lost 6-5 to the Brandon Wheat Kings in overtime in Warren.

Jackson Jaques scored the game winner in OT.

Interlake goals were scored by Hayden Wheddon, Kaczorowski, Smith-Mink, Andrew Smith, and Stefan Schaible-Schur.

Brandon's other goals were tallied by Callum Halls (two), Mitchell Battersby, Reid Wells, and Jackson Gudz.

The Lightning will host the Wild on Thursday in Stonewall. Puck drop is 7:30 p.m.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's Adam Vigfusson scored the lone goal against the Southwest Cougars last Saturday.

Arborg Ice Dawgs very busy in past week

By Brian Bowman

The Arborg Ice Dawgs have been a very busy hockey club recently.

Arborg played four Capital Region Junior Hockey League games in a five-day period recently.

And the Ice Dawgs were very successful, picking up four out of a possible six points heading into this past Tuesday's road game with the North Winnipeg Satelites (no score was available).

Arborg's only blemish was an 8-3 road loss to the first-place St. Malo Warriors on Monday.

The Ice Dawgs trailed 2-0 after the first period but rebounded to score three in the second. The Warriors, though, broke the game wide open with four unanswered goals in the

Logan Clarke and Shaydon Mous-

seau each had a goal and an assist for Arborg while Kalen Guimond also tallied.

Cayden Onagi (two), Riley Cusack, Brendan Spence, Brayden Jonasson, Maxime Collette, Gavin Pott and Alex Murray tallied for St. Malo.

Last Saturday, the Ice Dawgs defeated the Lundar Falcons 5-2 in Arborg.

Arborg's Josh Roche and Tom Moneyas scored in the first period and then Guimond tallied in the third.

Moneyas' and Guimond's goals came while Arborg was shorthanded.

Mousseau made it 4-0 early in the third before Lundar's Mason Medeiros and Arborg's Dillon Morlas traded goals.

The Falcons' Bryce Allary then tallied with 1:38 remaining in the game.

Clarke had three assists while teammate Daron Monkman added two

Tre Strachan made 23 saves for the

Last Friday, Arborg scored five firstperiod goals and then added two more in the middle frame to edge Lundar 7-6.

Mousseau had a great game for Arborg with a hat trick and two assists while Guimond chipped in with a goal and four helpers.

Dylan Furgala, Jayden Roche and Jesse Hancox also tallied for the Ice Dawgs.

Braden Paulic scored twice and had two assists for Lundar while Josh Wilkinson added two goals and an as-

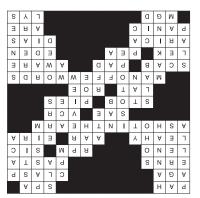
Derek Benson and Riley Wirgau also scored for the Falcons.

Josh Anderson made 25 saves for the

Lundar, in third place with 43 points, will host the second-place Selkirk Fishermen on Friday at 8 p.m.

Arborg, in fourth spot with 34 points, will play the Falcons in Lundar on Saturday. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

It will be the regular-season finale for both teams.



Crossword Answer

Det Sarecreation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

U18 Lightning's lengthy losing streak continues

The Interlake Lightning simply can't shake this lengthy losing streak.

Interlake lost for the 11th consecutive game after dropping a disappointing 10-0 decision to the Yellowhead Chiefs in U18 AAA Hockey League action Sunday afternoon in Shoal Lake.

Colby Wotten (two), Brody Wilson (two), Slade Stanick (two), Owen Wareham, Reece Richmond, Mitchell Collyer and Colby Joseph scored for Yellowhead.

Interlake was outshot 57-11.

On Saturday evening, the Lightning was doubled 6-3 by the Southwest

Carl Ingalls scored for Interlake in the first period and then the Lightning's Lyle Murdock and Aiden Bruce added third-period power-play goals.

Braeden Lewis (three), Kain Shearer, Myles Sobry and Jordan Boyechko tallied for Southwest.

Interlake will wrap up its season with two games this weekend. The Lightning will host the Cougars on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) in Teulon and then will play the Pembina Valley Hawks on Sunday (2:30 p.m.) in Morden.

Peguis extinguished twice by Flames last weekend

The Peguis Juniors were burnt twice by the NCN Flames last weekend.

NCN completed a sweep with an 8-4 win on Saturday afternoon. The Flames led 4-3 after two periods and then added four goals in the third.

Nathaniel Murdock paced Peguis with two goals while Tyrome Spence

and Darian Murdock each added a goal and an assist.

Henry Muchikekwanape (three), Drew Tait-Reaume, Jerome Linklater, Keistin Saunders, Albert Berard and Michael Markus scored for NCN.

Last Friday, the Flames scored six second-period goals and then added four more in the third for a wild 11-7

Spence, once again, had a great offensive game with a hat trick and three assists.

Quinton Flett, Darian Murdock, Ethan Daniels and Nathaniel Murdock also scored for the Juniors.

Jonathan Saunders (two), Linklater (two), Muchikekwanape (two), Saun-

ders (two), Dustin Parker, Markus and Jason Ouskan tallied for NCN.

Peguis, now 12-10-1 and in third place with 25 points, will host the lastplace Norway House North Stars on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday (1:30 p.m.).

Warren, Altona to clash in SEMHL semifinal series

The second-place Warren Mercs will have home-ice advantage in their best-of-seven South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League semifinal series against the third-place Altona Ma-

Game 1 of the series was played Tuesday in Warren but no score was available at press time.

Game 2 is set for Altona on Thursday and then the series returns to Warren

Game 4 will be played next Tuesday in Altona. If necessary, Game 5 is slated for Warren on Feb. 27. Game 6 would be played Feb. 29 in Altona, and a series-deciding Game 7 is set for March 3 in Warren.

All games in the series will start at

Both teams should be well rested as their last games were played way back

Warren won the season series 2-1 between these two closely-matched teams, winning the final two meetings 11-3 and 6-4 while dropping the first matchup 7-5 in November.

Altona's Justin Augert and Warren's Johnny Lazo led their teams with eight points apiece in the three games.

Augert finished the regular season second in the league with goals scored (21) and was fourth in points with 40.

Lazo, meanwhile, was fifth in the

league with 35 points (15 goals, 20 assists).

The two teams combined for 36 goals in the three regular-season games.

In the other semifinal series, the Carman Beavers will take on the Portage Islanders.

Portage defeated the Winkler Flyers 8-3 in a one-game survivor series and then swept the Notre Dame Hawks 2-0 in their best-of-three survivor se-

Local basketball teams busy at tournaments



The Gimli Lakers defeated the Green Valley Pirates 90-71 in the consolation final of the Nighthawk Invitational varsity boys' basketball tournament on Saturday.

Gimli started the tournament with a 77-56 loss to the Dauphin Clippers. The Lakers then rebounded to defeat the Jeanne Sauve Olympiens 83-68.

The Arborg Collegiate Athletics placed second at a varsity girls' basketball tournament last Saturday in Morris.

Arborg was defeated 61-56 by the Rosenort Redhawks in the championship game.

Arborg started the tournament with a dominating 61-29 victory over the Morris Mavericks. The Athletics then beat Immanuel Christian 56-32 in a semifinal matchup.

Arborg, meanwhile, reached the final against the Riverton Patriots at their junior varsity boys' basketball home tournament last Friday.

No score was posted on the MHSAA website at press time.

The Athletics started the four-team tournament with a 61-38 victory over the Fisher Branch Cougars.

Riverton opened action with a dominating 75-39 win over the Lake St. Martin Cougars.

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Rural Municipality of Grahamdale

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a PUBLIC

HEARING will be held to receive representations from any persons

APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE FOR LARGE SCALE

LIVESTOCK OPERATION UNDER THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF

GRAHAMDALE ZONING BY-LAW No. 937-2005, AS AMENDED.

21 Railway Avenue, Moosehorn, MB

430 heifers/steers (903 Animal Units total) within a

8 WPM - 145.8 Acres. Approximately 3 ½ miles

West of Moosehorn on Road 156 N, 1 mile north

Shelly Schwitek, Chief Administrative Officer

Moosehorn Community Hall

DATE & TIME: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

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iron cauldron (AKA feed cooker). Call 1-204-494-0517.

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For sale - purebred yearling Charolais bulls & purebred yearling Black Angus bulls. Ph 1-204-280-0122.

PASTURE WANTED

Wanted - cattle pasture for 2020 grazing season. Preferred within a 20 mile radius of Arborg. Will consider any size. location or terms. Call or text 1-204-642-2249.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of Annie Plett, late of the Postal District of Fisher

Branch, in Manitoba,

deceased. All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, P.O. Box 1400, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0 on or before the 25th day of March, 2020.

DATED at Stonewall, Manitoba this 13th day of February, 2020. **GRANTHAM LAW OFFICES**

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Spring Gun Auction Sat March 28th @ 9:30 AM Vintage Service Station & Coca Cola Sign Sale Sun April 5th @ 10 AM

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- eg: Confined Spaces, CPR, WHIMIS, etc.,
- Familiarity with Manitoba Workplace Health & Safety requirements and procedures
- Minimum Grade 12 Education, or equivalent
- Valid Driver's License

after hours when necessary.

- Physically capable of performing all work tasks
- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work independently or in a team environment · Previous employee supervision would be considered an asset

This position requires standby and on call duties with responses

The Town of Arborg will be offering competitive salary compensation with experience and qualifications as well as a comprehensive

Qualified candidates are asked to submit a resume marked Assistant Public Works Supervisor, with salary expectations, by March 11, 2020 to:

> Town of Arborg CAO PO Box 159 Arborg MB ROC 0A0 caoarborg@mymts.net Fax 204-376-5379

The Town of Arborg thanks all who apply, however only those selected for interview will be contacted.



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Drop your resume at #28 Railway Ave. in Ashern, or e-mail to jason.carpenter@homehardware.ca.

OWNERS: Gall Family Farm Inc., **OWNERS:** David and Mandy Gall, Charles and Evelyn Gall Gall Family Farm Inc. To establish a beef operation of 550 beef cows and

APPLICATION: 04-2019

LOCATION:

APPLICANTS:

PROPOSAL:

confined livestock area AREAS AFFECTED: NE 33-26-8 WPM - 150.61 Acres and NW 33-26-

FOR INFORMATION

CONTACT:

23 Government Road, Moosehorn PO Box 160, Moosehorn, MB ROC 2E0 Ph: 204-768-2858 Fax: 204-768-3374 Email: rm606@grahamdale.ca

RM of Grahamdale

Note: Property owners are responsible for notifying lessee.

at https://www.gov.mb.ca/mr/livestock/trc-12-062.html and paper copies are available at the RM of Grahamdale office (23 Government Road, Moosehorn MB) during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken therefrom, upon request.

A copy of the Technical Review Committee report is available at online

Announcements

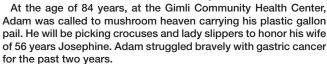


BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Matt and Shawna are very happy to announce the arrival of their baby boy! Emmett Roland was born on January 10, 2020 at 11:18 p.m., weighing 7 lbs, 14 oz and 19" long. Big sister Blair and big brother Kyler also happily welcomed him into our family! Proud grandparents are Scott and Lynne Pawluk and Grant and Sheri Johnson. Great-grandparents are Inez Stratton, Betty Johnson, Betty Thorsten and Ernie and Phyllis Pawluk.

Adam John Banera October 9, 1935 - February 13, 2020



Adam's journey began on the homestead in Rembrandt, Manitoba with his parents and seven sisters. Adam worked hard all his life, he was a self-taught carpenter and farmer. Dad/Grandpa loved his garden and was extremely proud of his flower gardens at the homestead farm. His cooking specialties was pickles (never too much garlic), soup and head cheese. Rummoli and card games will never be the same, but this tradition will continue. He leaves many happy memories for his children and grandchildren. He will

be missed immensely by his six children and 17 grandchildren. Marie Arnbjornsson children Dana, Heida and Jonas; Ed and Vickie Banera children Daniel, Kyle and Lauren; Steve Banera children Linden, Shelby and Leah; Jeff and Joy Banera children Wesley (Sarah), Robin, Tristin and Stephanie; Tim and Brenda Banera children Melissa and Brandon; Nancy and Mark Humniski children Kyra and Tanner. Special family friend Cheryl and Blair Knutson have been along for the journey. Also left to mourn are his sisters Florence Hurak, Julie Peterson, Elizabeth Tymchen, Shirley (Mike) Kowalchuk, Emily (Johnny) Chabluk and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased by his parents John and Ann Banera, sisters Sophie Kozoriz and Olga Romanchuk.

A come and go celebration of life will take place on Saturday, February 22 at the Gimli New Horizons Club, 17 North Colonization Road in Gimli from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

In accordance with Adam's wishes there will be a private ceremony at a later date.

"We were not rich but we had everything we needed. Amen"

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

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



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OBITUARY

Derek Curtis Chudyk April 24, 1957—January 23, 2020

It is with heavy hearts that the family of Derek Curtis Chudyk announce his passing on January 23, 2020 at the age of 62 years. He is survived by his loving wife Candy; his children Natasha (Matt) Saunders, Nikki and Clint and his precious grandchildren Bennett and Naomie; his parents Tony and Elsie Chudyk; brother Brad (Dana); his mother-in-law Marg Liston; sister-in-law Linda Sieben; brothers-in-law Bruce (Ruby), Lyle (Bonnie) and his two favorite aunts Evelyn Quesnel and Marcia Martinson.

He was predeceased by his grandparents Mary and Bill Korbutiak and Teofil and Rozalia Chudyk, his uncles Walter and Benny.

Derek was born in Arborg, Manitoba in 1957 and grew up in Fisher Branch, Manitoba. He began working for Manitoba Hydro at the age of 19. He then moved on to work at Limestone, Artic Circle,

and various communities in the North West Territories and Chicago, Illinois. In 1989 he got a position in Summerland, British Columbia for the municipality where he worked for 30 years until he became ill in 2019. His outgoing personality and sense of humour gained him a multitude of friends at work and elsewhere. He was involved in his community with Kinsmen and Boy Scouts. During his illness not a day went by without a phone call, text or visit to cheer him up from his many friends and co-workers. We are grateful to all of you. A big thank you also for the love and support of his family. He was a loving husband, father, son, brother and brother-in-law. His biggest pride and joy were his three children and his precious grandchildren who learned from him that what is most important is what is on the inside and he was so proud that they grew up to have these attributes—to be kind, thoughtful and generous and to be a loyal friend, to have faith and always try to do the right thing. This is the way Derek lived his life. He was a wonderful cook, loved all kinds of music, especially the blues. He had a lifelong passion for motorcycles and old trucks. He loved travelling and felt fortunate to have made many trips to Mexico, the U.S.A., the Caribbean, Scotland and his annual trips to Manitoba on his beloved Harley Davidson.

Cancer is a terrible disease and so Derek had decided to donate his body to science. Cremation has taken place. A celebration of his life will be held in the spring.

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free; I took His hand when I heard Him call; I turned my back and left it all. If my parting has left a void; Then fill it with remembered joy. My life's been full, I savored much; Good friends, good times, A loved one's touch. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss; Ah yes, these things, I too, will miss. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief; Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. Lift up your hearts and share with me;

God wanted me now, He set me free.

Vichnaya Pamyat

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Rural Municipality of FISHER

INVITATION TO QUOTE The Rural Municipality of Fisher **Hourly Equipment Rates**

The Rural Municipality of Fisher is inviting quotes for hourly rental rates for various equipment for the purpose of establishing pay rates for the 2020 construction and maintenance season.

Quotation forms may be obtained at the Rural Municipality of Fisher Office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba.

Deadline for proposals is March 3rd, 2020.

Rural Municipality of Fisher

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Phone: (204) 372-6393 Fax: (204) 372-8470 Email: fishercao@mymts.net

Sudoku Answer

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

Career Opportunity



Interlake Co-op is hiring for the position of Team Lead Gas Bar Attendant in our Gas Bar location.

Co-op does business differently. As a co-operative, we believe in working together to serve our members, delivering $\underline{\textbf{p}}$ rofits back to our communities and investing in sustainable growth. To learn more about who we are and how you can help bring our brand to life, visit us at interlakeco-op.crs.

What you'll do:

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- Assist Manager with administrative responsibilities as required
- Assist Manager with Supervision and Leadership of all Team Members
- Ensure the department is properly stocked with merchandise and faced at all times
- Follow all Policy and Procedures put forth in the Interlake Co-op Policy and Procedure Manual
- Other duties as required

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Apply in writing Attn: gasbar@interlakecoop.com or contact us at 204-376-2349 for more information.

We thank all candidates for their interest; however, only those selected to continue in the recruitment process will be contacted

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