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Celebrity selfie

EXPRESS PHOTO BY ROGERS HOMETOWN HOCKEY

Peguis' Cyndi Prince poses for a selfie with Ron MacLean for Rogers Hometown Hockey on Feb. 28 to March 1, 2020.

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Diageo anticipating millions in losses from coronavirus

By Patricia Barrett

Diageo says it's expecting to suffer a significant financial hit as Asian countries ban or voluntarily cancel social gatherings and conferences and close restaurants in a bid to try to contain the spread of coronavirus, or COVID-19 as it has been officially named.

Diageo, which is headquartered in the United Kingdom and is one of the world's largest alcoholic beverages company, released a trading update Feb. 26, saying it expects operating profit losses for fiscal 2020 will be between £140 million and £200 million (C\$240-C\$343 million) and net sales losses in the range of £225-£325 million (C\$386-C\$557 million).

"Public health measures across impacted countries in Asia Pacific, principally in China, have resulted in restrictions on public gatherings, the postponement of events and the closure of many hospitality and retail outlets," states the update.

Over 90,000 people worldwide have been infected with the virus as of March 2, according to World Health Organization data, with the vast majority of infected and dying people in China. The virus has spread to more than 65 other countries, including Canada, and has killed over 3,000

people.

Twenty-seven cases have been confirmed in Canada as of March 1. Ontario has 18 cases, British Columbia has eight and Quebec has one, according to the Government of Canada website. There have been no deaths in Canada as of that date.

The WHO named the virus COVID-19 on Feb. 11 to distinguish it from other coronaviruses such as SARS and MERS. Coronaviruses, of which there are hundreds, are derived from animal sources. The viruses jump to humans and cause respiratory tract illnesses.

The virus was first reported in the city of Wuhan, on mainland China, at the end of last year and was linked to a public market selling wild animals for meat. The WHO is working with global experts to track the spread and virulence of the virus, for which there are no antivirals or vaccines.

Diageo said the duration and extent of the outbreak both in Asia and beyond cannot be predicted, and it has "made assumptions" on the business performance of bars and restaurants in China that have been closed and where banqueting has been reduced. It has seen "significant disruption" in China since the end of January and expects that to last into March.



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Diageo distillery in Gimli makes the Crown Royal brand.

In other Asian countries such as South Korea, Japan and Thailand, conferences and banquets have been postponed and tourism has dropped, the company noted. International passenger traffic has also declined.

Diageo has numerous alcohol brands, including Crown Royal, John-

nie Walker, Smirnoff, Captain Morgan, Baileys, Tanqueray and Guinness, which are sold in over 180 countries around the world.

The company said it expects to see normal consumption by the end of its fiscal year in June.

Garbage left behind on Lake Winnipeg



EXPRESS PHOTO FROM ICE FISHING MANITOBA FACEBOOK

Someone forgot to take their trash with them after ice fishing on Lake Winnipeg. A woman posted photos on a social media site of a pizza box, plastic liners, plastic water bottles and beer cans scattered on the ice.

"An unbelievable amount of garbage all over Lake Winnipeg this morning," said the woman in a Feb. 25 post. "Sad. We could have filled the back of the Ranger with garbage, but ran out of room."

Plastic and other waste can be ingested by wildlife and fish, causing death. Littering is prohibited under the Environment Act and offenders can be fined. Liquor is also prohibited in ice fishing shelters or vehicles taken on the ice.



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Students teaching horses and horses teaching students

By Evan Matthews

An old Spanish proverb says, “a horse is worth more than riches,” but in Eriksdale, one teacher is proving a horse can be worth as much or more than a traditional lesson.

Tess Nesca, who is in her first year of teaching at Eriksdale School, introduced equine facilitated learning to select students in early February. Equine, meaning, related to horses.

“The horses are helping me to teach the kids social skills more so than actual academic skills,” said Nesca, adding emphasis is placed on problem solving, teamwork, communication and other things of the like.

“Horses are really good for mirroring the kids’ behaviour and thoughts, so we use the horses to set up problems.”

Equine facilitated learning is an educational and experiential program facilitated within a group format or one on one. It focuses on ground activities rather than riding horses.

Students are encouraged to find solutions and answers to situations —

situations that may be allegorical in their own lives — and move forward with newly acquired (problem-solving) skills. Nesca said, in a way, the teachers are the horses.

“It’s not an adult telling them what to do. I give the students a problem, and they have to figure it out by themselves, so it sticks with them,” said Nesca.

“You can tell by the way a horse reacts, how the students are coming across. So even if a student may sometimes say, ‘Oh, I wasn’t doing that,’ or ‘that’s not what I meant,’ you can tell by the way the horse reacts how the student is coming across.

“That mirrored reflection helps the students to understand things that are happening with the horse and relate those (behaviours) back to school, and how the other kids interact with them,” she said.

Last week’s lesson focused on goal setting, according to Nesca, so the lesson began in the classroom by dis-

Continued on page 4



EXPRESS PHOTO BY TESS NESCA

Students Gavin Sweetland, Seth McLeod, Kayden Hillyer and Tobey Shand worked on problem solving, teamwork and communication, as they worked to have a horse kick the giant green ball into a soccer net.

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Prince drops new album

By Evan Matthews

A local man from Peguis First Nation has released his second studio album, with themes of love, loss, dissolution and finding peace.

On Feb. 7, William Prince, 23, released his sophomore album *Reliever*, almost five years after his debut and Juno-winning album *Earthly Days*.

"This is quite the contrast to when *Earthly Days* came out," said Prince in a CBC radio interview.

"My dad just passed away before the record came out, and it changed everything."

Prince, father to three-year-old Wyatt, said parental reflection is a huge theme in the new album.

Reliever is a what Prince labels a "transition piece," dealing with the grief and dissolution of the relationship with his own father while also focusing on the relationship he has with his own son.

"It was an odd sandwich to bite into at the time, with these two contrasting (situations)," said Prince to Marcy Markusa.

"Now that we're here, when people are paying attention to the music — and there is any anticipation (for my music) at all — it's very affirming."

"That's all I was after. A place I belong, with this thing I like to do," he said.

Prince called *Reliever* one chapter in

a "lifelong art project," a very important chapter, and he said he's excited for the future but is also excited being immersed in and enjoying the moment.

Prince said he largely credits Johnny Cash and Kris Kristofferson with influencing his sound, as he brings together country and folk sounds in his music.

Prince's new 11-track album, *Reliever*, can be found on iTunes, Spotify or purchased from williamprincemusic.com.

Rogers Hometown Hockey

Last weekend, Prince participated in Rogers Sportsnet's Hometown Hockey, which selected Peguis First Nation as its location for the Sunday, March 1 broadcast, hosted by Ron MacLean and Tara Slone.

"I can't tell you what an honour it is to have William Prince join us. He's a Juno award-winner," said Slone. "But today, he's just a kid playing in his hometown."

Prince played *Reliever* to the local audience had his song "That's All I'll Ever Become" featured prior to the Vancouver Canucks versus the Columbus Blue Jackets game. He also had his song "7" used in the broadcast's introductory scene.

Prince did not respond to the *Express*' requests for an interview.

> OPEN FARM DAY, FROM PG. 3

cusssing how to create and achieve a goal, and how to measure success.

Then the students went down the road to Jackie Torgerson's facility and set up a big soccer net for the horses, Nesca said, with the goal being to have the horse kick a big soccer ball into the net.

"The students had their plan and thought it was going to be easy, but then they couldn't get the horse to touch the ball," said Nesca, adding every time the horse got near the ball, it would choose to walk around it as opposed to kicking it.

"They had to work together, and problem solve. They had to relate back to the fact that sometimes you think your goals are going to be easy, but things come up and get in the way. How do we work around that?"

"In the end, they were successful, and we bring the conversation back to the classroom to set goals for school, both behavioural and academic."

As it stands now, Eriksdale School's Equine Facilitated Learning program is a pilot, so the pro-

gram's continuance will depend on its measured success, according to Nesca.

Four students from grades 5 to 8 are currently going through the eight-week program. After that, Nesca said she'll be running another eight-week program and will get started with four students from kindergarten to Grade 4.

"We want to see how the different students react to it," said Nesca. "I'm gathering feedback from parents, students and teachers to see if we notice behavioural differences in class."

From a safety standpoint, Nesca said there isn't much for parents to worry about, as Nesca is Equine Canada certified. Having been around horses the majority of her life, Nesca teaches show jumping and has been through extensive first-aid and emergency training.

"Kids go skiing with school, they do all sorts of activities that have safety concerns," said Nesca. "We're not riding horses, just working with them. It's very safe."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY EVAN MATTHEWS

William Prince performed his new album, *Reliever*, at Rogers Hometown Hockey, hosted by Ron MacLean and Tara Slone. Peguis First Nation was selected as the host community for the March 1 broadcast.

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IERHA aligning with provincial mandate for health system transformation

By Patricia Barrett

The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA) is in the process of changing the way it delivers services in keeping with the provincial government's mandate to make the health system more efficient and cost-effective and to improve patient outcomes.

IERHA chief executive officer Ron Van Denakker said the transformation underway — which includes rural health services — is of a magnitude never before seen in Manitoba's history.

"This is an entire health system transformation initiative that was started by this government [provincial Conservatives] based on a KPMG review that basically said we're spending a ton of money and our outcomes are very poor relative to other jurisdictions," he said.

The cost of health-care funding in Manitoba rose 97 per cent between 2003 and 2016, yet the province "remains at or near the bottom of national rankings," states the IERHA's latest annual report, citing data from the provincial department of Shared Health.

In addition to KPMG's health system review, the overhaul is being guided by several studies, including an EMS system review, a mental health and addictions report, Shared Health's clinical and preventive services plan and a wait times reduction report. The transformation won't happen overnight as there are multiple phases to implement, and some changes will require the government to pass legislation.

As part of the transformation, the provincial government created Shared Health in 2018. The new legal entity is co-ordinating the integration of clinical and preventive services across the province. The department of Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living, meanwhile, will develop policies and oversee funding.

Improving access to primary care is a priority, considered by Shared Health to be the "foundation of an effective health system."

To that end, the IERHA has plans to build a new 30,000-square-foot pri-

mary care clinic in Selkirk with an attached clinical teaching unit (CTU) where new graduate physicians can complete a mandatory two-year residency training program.

The clinic project is "fully aligned" with the direction in which Shared Health is moving, said Van Denakker, and "we have been in constant discussion [with government] that the work we're doing is aligned with the provincial work."

The clinic will fill a physician gap in Selkirk, he said, and help relieve pressure on the hospital emergency room where patients end up when they don't have a place to go.

"Believe it not, the [IERHA] area where we have the greatest need for physician providers, where the greatest number people are unattached to a nurse practitioner or a doctor, is Selkirk by far," said Van Denakker.

To date, 10 Selkirk physicians have committed to the proposed clinic, and as more come on board, they'll be looking after unattached patients and doing rounds at the hospital, he said. Looking to the future, as the Selkirk and area population grows, there will be a need for about 25 physicians at the clinic.

As for the CTU, medical residents will train alongside physicians in the new clinic while others will complete their training in Interlake communities such as Gimli, Arborg, Eriksdale and Ashern, as well as in communities in the eastern half of the RHA.

IERHA vice-president of corporate services Ron Janzen said Interlake-Eastern was the only RHA (until December 2018) without a clinical teaching program for residents, and as a result the region was seeing a "fair bit" of physician turnover and an "unusually high reliance" on international medical graduates.

"It's well known in the literature that clinical teaching is the way to recruit and retain physicians for a health region," said Janzen. "Physicians who

are given an opportunity to do their residency in a particular community have a much higher



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The IERHA is in the process of changing how rural health care is delivered. Shown here is the Selkirk Regional Health Centre.



From left: Ron Janzen, Ron Van Denakker and Selkirk physician Ian Alexander, who is overseeing medical resident training.

chance of settling down and putting roots into that community, and committing to a medical practice in the areas where they get residency experience."

In addition to improved access to primary care and resident training in Interlake communities, the way patients are cared for is in the process of being modified.

Shared Health is moving towards establishing My Health Teams, made up of several health-care providers who

will see individual patients. Under the present system, patients see a family doctor and get referred up the chain to specialists, which can entail delays and the need to attend multiple

Continued on page 8

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Celebrating 150 years of history, heritage and culture

By Evan Matthews

It feels like just yesterday that we rang in the new year, but two months have passed and we are in full swing "2020."

As of next week, it's 150 years of Manitoba history, heritage and culture.

It was March 9, 1870, that a lack of attention regarding Métis concerns caused Louis Riel, leader of the Métis people, to establish a local provisional government which formed into the Convention of Forty and the subsequent elected Legislative Assembly of Assiniboia.

Our province has come a long way since then and has so much to celebrate.

This province has culture, and multiculturalism, unrivalled anywhere in the country — First Nations, French, English, one of the largest Filipino populations outside of the Philippines, more immigration happening

every day.

Our diversity, from our Indigenous peoples to our newest citizens, is what binds us together in this cultural mosaic.

We see it year-round — Folkorama, the Filipino Street Festival, the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba, Manito-Ah-bee Festival, or the recently concluded Festival du Voyageur.

The list goes on. We celebrate.

With Manitoba 150 funding announced a couple of weeks back, the Interlake is represented well with the Gimli Film Festival, the Gimli Harbour Authority, the Interlake Tourism Association, the Riverton and District Friendship Centre, and the Town of Stonewall all receiving funding.

Outside of that funding, we know of communities like Warren and Woodlands, Teulon and Arborg all getting set to celebrate each respective community's local history and heritage.

Peguis First Nation just hosted Rog-

ers' Hometown Hockey. During the event, we learned how the First Nation's history and heritage is closely aligned to the sport and how the community's people celebrate those aspects of life.

These notions should make us wistful.

The point is this: The Interlake's culture — its history and heritage — are as diverse as anywhere in the province of Manitoba.

As our province nears the spring thaw and goes from white to green, we enter into a time of celebration. Let us all band together once more and begin the planning and execution of what could be our province's greatest year yet.

As we move to the future, let us remember it is our people — our diversity and our differences — that unite us and make us stronger, not our similarities.

Let us celebrate together.

letter to the editor letters@expressweeklynews.ca

Calling on our youth to make a difference

Young people today are faced with a world that is changing more rapidly than most of us could have imagined at their age. Globally and locally, there are plenty of challenges that can be addressed through many small actions. Here at home, young people are stepping up and doing something that is truly making a difference in our community.

The "Rooted in Community" program at the Riverton and District Friendship Centre is one example of how our youth are stepping into a leadership role for their community. Their new program offers support

and guidance in the areas of mental health and well-being, traditional teachings, dance, drumming, sewing sacred clothing, beading and more. This youth-led program began making an impact in their community when they recognized a need and created a program to not just support the need but allow all participants an opportunity to thrive.

The Westshore Community Foundation is proud to have helped support this work thanks to the RBC Future Launch Community Challenge. Shifting power into the hands of young people is an important way to

make sure we are prepared for the future.

The initiative of the RBC Future Launch Community Challenge was a huge success, and now Westshore Community Foundation wishes to extend its own challenge to the youth of our community. Find something missing in your town, find a non-profit agency that shares your vision and passion, and get involved in making a difference. For more information, please visit our website at www.westshorefoundation.com

Sincerely,
Tim Arnason, President
Westshore Community Foundation

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Welcome, fishers and anglers.

It's such a pleasure being back with you after a few weeks away. During that time, however, I was able to get onto the ice. When talking to anglers, I couldn't help being surprised when they kept offering summer outdoor experiences instead of ice fishing tales. I'm fairly sure, though, that you'll be as amused with them as I was.

Steven Tyhy is a big, young guy with a full, brown beard and intense eyes. He towered over me as I approached him when he was ice fishing on the south Lake Winnipeg ice fields early last week. He was standing beside two holes with the lines of his short rods slightly frozen in crusts of ice.

"Anything today?" I asked of our new friend.

"No, nothing all morning," he replied.

We talked casually as we surveyed the overcast, misty endless stretches of ice and eventually I asked him if anything unusual had ever happened when he was fishing.

He raised his eyes to the sky smiling, deep in thought for a moment, then said, "I'm from Clandeboye and when I was in high school our class went on a camping trip to Big Whiteshell. One afternoon I was in a canoe with a few other students fishing and paddling around and the waves were so choppy, they were overlapping the side of the canoe. Suddenly I saw a dark line along the top of a wave. It splashed over the side of the canoe falling onto the floor and began wriggling about.

"It was a huge, long garter snake! Flailing about, it slapped against the feet of Candice, a thin, blond-haired 14-year girl. She sprang up screaming in horror and jumped overboard. The water wasn't deep and as soon as her feet touched the lakes bottom she half-waded, half-swam for shore as fast as she could. That night Candice slept in a car instead of her tent!"

A few days ago I was driving on #320 across from Sugar Island and nestled on a patch of flat ice far down on the Red was an encampment of portable

ice shacks with ice fishers scattered amongst them. Folks could be seen munching on hand-held food as they watched their fishing rods while chatting with friends. Kids were chasing each other playing in the snow. Off to the side, a high, sturdy pole held up a flag with the letters PCL emblazoned on it. I parked Old Red and made the long, steep trek to the gathering.

"Who's in charge?" I called out when I made it to the group.

"Justyne," a half-dozen people called out. From beside one of the tents a petite, blond, young lady came toward me with a big warm smile. "Hi, I'm Justyne Biy. How can I help you?" she said in a strong capable voice.

"Hi, I'm Arnie Weidl. I write the fishing column in the *Selkirk Record*, the *Express* and the *Stonewall Teulon Tribune*. This appears to be a company ice fishing outing. Would you or anyone else here have a fishing story for our readers?"

She stood silent, her head cocked to one side thinking, and then said, "Yes, we're with PCL Constructors and I remember a time when my friend and I had a little trouble with a boat when fishing on the Red River."

It seems she and her friend, Emily, were in a small aluminum boat fishing downstream of the locks at Lockport with a small anchor that couldn't hold the boat in one place. A pickerel took Justyne's baited hook. Since it didn't feel big, she reeled in quickly. She lifted her rod high and the fish glistening in the sunlight cleared the water slapping against the side of the boat. She bent over, and with her rod still high and her net in the other hand, she landed it. By then they had drifted back from their fishing hot spot, so Emily pulled up the anchor while Justyne cranked up the outboard motor and took them closer to the "locks."

Neither noticed that the fairly long anchor rope had slipped overboard. Suddenly Justyne felt the tiller of the outboard shake and the motor struggle.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL

Justyne Biy, a true outdoors lady, with one of her many catches.

Then with a squealing crunch the motor stopped. The rope! Justyne was able to tilt the little motor up just enough to see the anchor rope was holding the prop fast. Emily exclaimed, "We need a knife!"

"I've got my filleting knife," Justyne responded.

Emily took it and, bending over the transom, began cutting away the troubling rope. Justyne, looking up across the water, was struck by the chilling realization they were drifting downstream in the fast current toward other anglers' boats. She grabbed an oar and, bracing her feet against the ribs of the boat, began steering and paddling, guiding it. Emily sawed with the knife cutting the rope.

Suddenly she sat up shouting, "The prop's free but I lost the anchor!"

Dejected, she tilted the motor into the water. It started on the first pull but without an anchor, their fishing was done for the day and they made for the boat landing!

Until next week, friends. Bye for now.

Manitoba government releases third quarter financial update

Province slightly ahead of schedule to balance budget

Submitted

The Manitoba government released its third quarter report for the 2019-20 fiscal year, which indicates the province is on the right track to financial recovery in uncertain economic times, Finance Minister Scott Fielding announced Tuesday.

"Manitoba is showing continued progress toward balancing the budget and steadily reducing the deficit," said Fielding. "The third quarter report pro-

vides a clear picture of the fiscal year and is indicating revenues are higher than anticipated due to our resilient economy."

At this point, the deficit is projected to be \$325 million, about \$35 million ahead of the government's target. The province remains ahead of schedule to eliminate the deficit.

Revenue is up \$248 million compared to budget projections, mainly related to an increase in income taxes. Expenses are also up \$118 million compared to budget projections, as the forecast includes over \$150 million for new green initiatives, partially offset by a reduction in debt-servicing costs.

Fielding noted the report proves the province is

delivering on the infrastructure promises made as part of Budget 2019, which committed at least \$1 billion in strategic infrastructure spending on priorities such as roads and bridges, flood protection, hospitals, schools, universities and colleges. The third quarter report forecasts \$1,227 million on infrastructure spending. The minister noted the province continues to ensure value for money on procurement and has centralized many capital delivery functions to create efficiencies.

Manitobans can view the third quarter financial report online at:

www.gov.mb.ca/finance/publications/financial-reports.html

getinformed

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

Clocks spring forward this Sunday for daylight savings

Staff

Daylight Saving Time goes into effect on Sunday, March 8, when clocks will “spring forward” by one hour beginning at 2 a.m.

The shift will essentially make it darker in the early morning hours,

while leaving one extra hour of light in the evening.

It also means that March 8 will only be 23 hours long, and you’ll lose sleep if you have fixed times for waking up on the weekend. Regardless, you’ll probably feel a bit discombobulated

over the following days as you adjust to a different sunlight schedule.

Clocks are pushed ahead one hour in spring to what’s commonly called “daylight saving time,” an idea first used in Germany during the First World War with the goal of saving

energy. It aims to take advantage of daylight hours in the spring so that people don’t sleep through the first few hours of sunshine.

When the daylight period gets shorter in the fall, the clocks are readjusted to the proper “local standard time.”

Farmers encourage to register now for Open Farm Day 2020

Staff

Site registration is now open for the Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies’ Open Farm Day 2020.

This year, Open Farm Day will take place on Sept. 20, providing a chance for visitors to learn more about Manitoba’s agriculture industry and feel

more connected to the source of their food.

To participate as an Open Farm Days host site, the individual or organization must operate a farm or an agricultural industry or business. If there is livestock on the farm, biosecurity steps must be in place to prevent

the spread of disease and exposure to potential pathogens. Proper food handling regulations must also be followed.

An Open Farm Day staff member will visit the host sites in August to review and address issues such as liability insurance, animal safety, equip-

ment operation safety, food handling and safety, and emergency plans for the day.

Registration closes Thursday, April 20. More information is available by calling 204-761-3705 or emailing info@openfarmday.ca.

> IERHA ALIGNING, FROM PG. 5

health appointments.

The new Selkirk clinic will be based on a team model, fundamentally different from privately run clinics where several doctors typically purchase or rent a space and work individually under a fee-for-service arrangement, said Janzen.

The proposed clinic is destined to become the “home base” for a My Health Team, he said. It will include doctors and allied health-care providers such as nurse practitioners, mental health workers, pharmacists and occupational and physical therapists, who will spend more time with patients to improve health outcomes.

“That means you don’t, for instance, just line up 35 or 40 patients for a day and have 10-minute consultations with them, prescribe medications and move on to the next one. [The patient] will sit down with a whole team of caregivers who’ll review their chart,” said Janzen. “This means the physician is not going to see as many patients. But it means your outcomes are going to be much stronger and you’re going to have much better care for the individual.”

The proposed clinic will be built, owned and operated by a non-profit corporation, 10040899 Manitoba Association Inc., which is currently composed of the 10 physicians who’ve

agreed to work as a My Health Team, and a board of directors, many of whom are municipal council representatives. The association will share with the IERHA services such as security, maintenance and information technology until more physicians move in and assume the costs of running the clinic.

There will be “big savings,” said Janzen. “The only way you can do [shared health teams] is under a non-profit model; you have to have a registered charity. A for-profit, private clinic can’t do that.”

My Health Teams are appointed by and governed by Manitoba Health. To join a team, physicians have to submit a practice model, show what the outcomes will be and how they’ll track their performance. If approved for a team, physicians will enter into a formal agreement with the province.

Because the province will be funding each team, Van Denakker said they’ll have to prove their effectiveness through “rigorous” reporting.

Over the past four years, the IERHA has been working with the government to satisfy requirements for establishing My Health Teams, Van Denakker said. In addition to the Selkirk-based My Health Team, the IERHA will soon have a My Health Team established for Highway 6 (Eriksdale, Ashern, First Nation communities).

“This is government-driven and it’s fully integrated into [Shared Health’s] clinical and preventive services plan,” he said.

The estimated cost of the proposed clinic and CTU has been pegged at \$15 million. The IERHA’s fundraising arm, the Interlake-Eastern Health Foundation, has been tasked with raising over \$5 million for the project, and the Association will be borrowing the remaining \$10 million.

Because the teaching unit will ultimately benefit communities in the RHA’s catchment area, the IERHA had pulled together a task force made up of municipal representatives, including First Nations, to look at ways to establish it. The task force had initially considered taking out debentures that would be paid off by municipal ratepayers, but eventually settled on a non-profit clinic model in partnership with the group of Selkirk physicians.

“We didn’t make this up,” said Van Denakker, referring to the model. “There are variations of this in three or four different locations across the province. We’ve just basically made this an IERHA brand, if you will.”

Now that it has established the association, the task force will shift its focus to recruitment and retention and the implementation of Shared Health’s clinical and preventive services plan, he added.

The task force shares its minutes with all towns and municipalities in the RHA area, and a number of communities have asked to take part.

The IERHA shared its membership list with the *Express*. Currently represented are the RM of Alexander, Town of Powerview-Pine Falls, RM of St.

Andrews, RM of St. Clements, Town of Arborg, RM of Bifrost-Riverton, RM of Brokenhead, Town of Beausejour, RM of Gimli, Town of Lac du Bonnet, RM of Lac du Bonnet, Pinawa Local Government District, RM of Springfield, Town of Stonewall, Town of Teulon, RM of West Interlake, RM of White-mouth, RM of Grahamdale, Town of Winnipeg Beach, Sagkeeng First Nation and Fisher River First Nation.

The City of Selkirk is not part of the task force.

The land on which the proposed clinic will be built is owned by the province and the clinic will have to seek a lease agreement. Van Denakker said he hasn’t yet asked the province for a lease agreement as they’re still in the process of “dotting all the I’s and crossing all the T’s.”

While the clinic project has been forging ahead, physician coverage in hospital emergency rooms across the region has improved, according to statistics the IERHA shared with the *Express*.

Between 2017 and 2019, physician coverage (hours worked in nine hospitals with emergency departments) has increased from 75 to 88 per cent. Van Denakker said at one point it had been less than 50 per cent.

The ultimate goal of the health system transformation is to ensure everybody, especially Indigenous people, has access to primary care and to improve health outcomes, he said.

Provincial budget cuts topic of discussion at Lakeshore School Division



Lakeshore School Division superintendent of HR and alternative program director Don Nikkel

By Evan Matthews

Though it isn't time to hit the panic button, Lakeshore School Division is feeling the effects of provincial budget cuts, according to one of the division's top employees.

The division hosted its annual budget forecast — labelled the Vision and Voice Divisional Ratepayers Public Meeting — on Feb. 25 at its Eriksdale office.

The topic of discussion and line of questioning from ratepayers largely centered on how provincial budget cuts are affecting the division.

"The cuts are not catastrophic yet. Though there will be changes and cuts to our staff in the coming year. We've encouraged retirements, and we're in good shape as a division," said Don Nikkel, Lakeshore School Division's superintendent of HR and alternative program director.

"But the provincial budget cuts are a huge collective concern, both for our

boards and our rural municipalities, when we look at this and ask, 'What does this mean for equity in education?'

"Our ratepayers feel strongly that a child born in Lunder, Fisher Branch or Ashern should be privy to the same opportunities as a child in Winnipeg would have," he said.

While many of the same options are currently available rurally as in urban centres, Nikkel said continuing to offer those same options becomes increasingly difficult every year.

Since 2016, the Brian Pallister-led Progressive Conservative Manitoba Government has cut the division's annual budget by two per cent each year, according to Nikkel.

In addition, Nikkel said economic inflation is also about two per cent annually, meaning the division gets hit on both ends, financially.

Most of the division's funding comes from the province, but Nikkel said the division also receives funding through RMs' property taxes.

The division is asking RMs to look at raising property taxes slightly — by about two per cent — to help offset some of the losses at the hands of the provincial government.

"It won't make up for the provincial cuts. To give a sense, a two per cent increase to property taxes across our divisional tax base gives us about an additional \$108,000 of income," said Nikkel.

"With the (cumulative) provincial cuts, and without the increase to our tax base, we're looking at over an \$800,000 shortfall for the coming year."

Eighty per cent of the division's budget goes to staffing, according to Nikkel, and many of the division's other costs are "fixed." Things like hydro and electricity, gas costs, fuel costs (for buses), those costs are fixed and the division cannot change them, he said.

When looking at ways to make a budget work during these provincial cuts, Nikkel said the division is forced to decide where it can cut staff with the least negative impact on its students.

"They aren't easy decisions," said Nikkel. "It brings up questions related to equity between rural and urban areas."

If a class size increases in an urban area, often it means a teacher is still teaching the same class and/or curriculum but to more students, Nikkel said, which can be manageable.

However, in a rural setting, adding students to a class may result in a teacher being forced to teach chemistry and biology at the same time, Nikkel said, or teaching different age groups simultaneously.

"It's hard to be a specialist in that many areas, especially at the high school level," said Nikkel.

"Our Early Years Schools have already have combined age groups, now we're looking at maybe having to combine even more of those.

"We want to get (ratepayers') input on where we're going, both in terms of the vision but also the budget. Ultimately, it's the public we're accountable to," he said.

Despite the provincial budget cuts, Nikkel said Lakeshore School Division has typically been able to maintain a balanced budget. In 2019-20, the division ran a deficit, Nikkel said, using roughly \$300,000 from a reserve fund.

The \$800,000 shortfall in 2020-21 is cumulative, Nikkel said, and includes the \$300,000 used from reserve funds in 2019-20, as well as the additional 2020-21 budget cuts.

"It's tough times for school divisions, especially rural school divisions. We're having our funding reduced while costs on the other side of things continue to go up," said Nikkel.

"It gets increasingly difficult as a school division to figure out and decide how to work best with the funds we have available. Every year becomes more and more challenging."

Nikkel added the division is thankful for the funding it does receive.

What is the division's vision?

Nikkel has stated time and time again that the division's focus is literacy and numeracy, and Lakeshore School Division will continue to focus on those aspects.

However, project- and student-based learning have also become major topics of discussion over the past couple of years, Nikkel said, and sharing those projects and learning methods with ratepayers is important to the division.

Student-based learning broadly encompasses teaching methods that shift the focus of instruction from the teacher to the student, according to Nikkel, largely by putting the students' interests first.

Student-based learning aims to develop student autonomy and independence by putting responsibility for the learning path in the hands of students, according to Nikkel, by imparting them with the necessary skills to self-educate in order to measure up to the specific performance requirement.

Student-based learning instruction focuses on teaching skills and practices to students that enable lifelong learning and independent problem-solving.

Examples of student-based learning over the last year include equine facilitated learning in Eriksdale, Lunder School's high-altitude balloon (HAB) project, Fisher Branch Collegiate's industrial arts program, Alf Cuthbert School's sensory path, and Inwood School's entrepreneurial program.

Criminal charges laid against suspected fraudsters

Submitted

A total of 14 charges have been laid against five individuals this year who allegedly committed separate frauds against Manitoba Public Insurance.

"Following extensive investigations, these files were forwarded to the provincial prosecution office for review," said Curtis Wennberg, vice-president, Customer Service and COO, MPI.

"These charges fall within either the Criminal Code, the MPIC Act or Highway Traffic Act. A conviction of any nature carries a very serious consequence. A criminal record can

affect travelling across the border, employment or business opportunities. Insurance fraud is not a victimless crime and this fraudulent activity affects honest Manitobans through their premiums."

The 14 charges range from Making a False Statement, Fraud Over \$5,000, and False or misleading Claim Information. The individuals, whose names are not being made public as they are presumed innocent until proven guilty in the courts, range in age from 30 to 55.

MPI remains committed to reduc-

ing auto insurance fraud. Recently, MPI announced that auto insurance fraud costs every Manitoba Public Insurance ratepayer about \$50 a year on their annual vehicle insurance bill and honest Manitobans are helping MPI more than ever. Last year MPI received a record-high 594 calls to the TIPS Line.

Anyone with information about auto insurance fraud is encouraged to call the Manitoba Public Insurance TIPS Line: 204-985-8477 or toll-free 1-877-985-8477. All calls are anonymous. Suspicious claims are handled

by MPI's Special Investigation Unit which continues to enhance its investigative methods, saving Manitobans nearly \$12.8 million in fraudulent claims last year,

More information about insurance fraud

Fraud Prevention Month is an annual campaign held in March that aims to prevent Canadians from becoming victims of fraud. Insurance fraud — automobile, home or health care — costs Canadians more than \$3 billion a year in premiums, according to the Insurance Bureau of Canada.

RCMP statistics for east Interlake communities show uptick in crime

By Patricia Barrett

RCMP statistics show an overall increase in crime in towns and municipalities in the eastern region of the Interlake.

Staff Sgt. Rob Gray of the Gimli RCMP detachment prepares quarterly and annual reports for municipal officials, and meets with local councils every quarter to update them on crime and discuss local concerns.

The reports, which Gray shared with the *Express Weekly News*, cover crimes in Arborg, RM of Bifrost*, Village of Riverton*, Gimli (town), RM of Gimli, Winnipeg Beach, Pine Dock, Matheson Island and RM of Armstrong.

RM of Armstrong statistics for 2016-2018 are not included in the report because the Gimli detachment just recently took responsibility for the municipality, which had formerly been covered by the Teulon detachment, said Gray. Statistics for Matheson Island and Pine Dock are low because the communities may not always be reporting crimes. The RCMP conducts regular patrols of those communities. The service also patrols all cottage subdivisions between Winnipeg Beach and Matheson Island.

Seasonal residents can help the RCMP deter crime in cottage country by finding a trustworthy permanent resident willing to keep an eye on dwellings, said Gray. And recreational vehicles such as quads and jet skis shouldn't be stored at seasonal dwellings over the winter months. Local farmers may be willing to store vehicles or cottagers can inquire about a rented compound in the town of Gimli.

Last month Gray organized a Town Hall at which area officers and residents, organizations and municipal officials came up with strategies for dealing with increasing crime, which has been linked to methamphetamine addiction.

Officers and residents working together can help deter and solve crimes. Residents can also volunteer to patrol their neighbourhoods through the West Shores Citizens on Patrol Program (COPP), which will provide training to patrol teams.

The service encourages residents to be the eyes and ears of their communities and to not hesitate to call the RCMP if they feel there is suspicious activity in their area.

The Interlake is part of a rural crime trend. The prairie provinces are experiencing higher rates of crime in rural areas than in urban centres, according to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, which represents 137 municipalities. And that comes with

higher policing costs for municipalities.

The following are select crime statistics from 2016 to 2019.

Crimes Against the Person

Arborg: 14 in 2016; 6 in 2017; 13 in 2018; 17 in 2019

RM of Bifrost: 6 in 2016; 15 in 2017; 15 in 2018; 27 in 2019

Gimli (town): 39 in 2016; 36 in 2017; 26 in 2018; 36 in 2019

RM of Gimli: 33 in 2016; 24 in 2017; 41 in 2018; 50 in 2019

Winnipeg Beach: 19 in 2016; 13 in 2017; 11 in 2018; 21 in 2019

Pine Dock: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Matheson Island: 3 in 2016; 2 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 3 in 2019

Riverton: 11 in 2016; 9 in 2017; 13 in 2018; 19 in 2019

RM of Armstrong: 15 in 2019

Crimes Against Property

Crimes against property include theft, mischief, fraud. Examples include someone stealing garden decor or driving across your lawn. The metric doesn't include break-ins, which are tracked separately.

Arborg: 29 in 2016; 37 in 2017; 24 in 2018; 20 in 2019

RM of Bifrost: 42 in 2016; 45 in 2017; 44 in 2018; 42 in 2019

Gimli (town): 102 in 2016; 82 in 2017; 82 in 2018; 76 in 2019

RM of Gimli: 88 in 2016; 114 in 2017; 94 in 2018; 99 in 2019

Winnipeg Beach: 41 in 2016; 75 in 2017; 67 in 2018; 57 in 2019

Pine Dock: 1 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 1 in 2019

Matheson Island: 3 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 3 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Riverton: 25 in 2016; 25 in 2017; 26 in 2018; 29 in 2019

RM of Armstrong: 23 in 2019

Break and Enter

Arborg: 3 in 2016; 7 in 2017; 4 in 2018; 13 in 2019

RM of Bifrost: 10 in 2016; 13 in 2017; 10 in 2018; 18 in 2019

Gimli (town): 6 in 2016; 3 in 2017; 5 in 2018; 8 in 2019

RM of Gimli: 26 in 2016; 30 in 2017; 11 in 2018; 25 in 2019

Winnipeg Beach: 41 in 2016; 75 in 2017; 67 in 2018; 57 in 2019

Pine Dock: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Matheson Island: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Riverton: 4 in 2016; 3 in 2017; 5 in 2018; 6 in 2019

RM of Armstrong: 11 in 2019

Motor Vehicle Theft



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

copy

Arborg: 2 in 2016; 1 in 2017; 1 in 2018; 4 in 2019

RM of Bifrost: 4 in 2016; 4 in 2017; 5 in 2018; 15 in 2019

Gimli (town): 2 in 2016; 2 in 2017; 2 in 2018; 3 in 2019

RM of Gimli: 7 in 2016; 15 in 2017; 12 in 2018; 10 in 2019

Winnipeg Beach: 5 in 2016; 2 in 2017; 1 in 2018; 1 in 2019

Pine Dock: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Matheson Island: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Riverton: 2 in 2016; 2 in 2017; 1 in 2018; 3 in 2019

RM of Armstrong: 6 in 2019

Drug Enforcement

Arborg: 0 in 2016; 3 in 2017; 4 in 2018; 5 in 2019

RM of Bifrost: 0 in 2016; 1 in 2017; 1 in 2018; 2 in 2019

Gimli (town): 6 in 2016; 5 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 2 in 2019

RM of Gimli: 2 in 2016; 4 in 2017; 3 in 2018; 4 in 2019

Winnipeg Beach: 1 in 2016; 2 in 2017; 1 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Pine Dock: 0 in 2016; 1 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Matheson Island: 1 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Riverton: 4 in 2016; 3 in 2017; 5 in 2018; 2 in 2019

RM of Armstrong: 0 in 2019

Criminal Code Traffic

Offences under Criminal Code Traffic include impaired driving (alcohol, marijuana or other substances) and being prohibited from driving a vehicle because of criminal or medical reasons.

Arborg: 5 in 2016; 4 in 2017; 3 in 2018; 10 in 2019

RM of Bifrost: 4 in 2016; 7 in 2017; 9 in 2018; 19 in 2019

Gimli (town): 17 in 2016; 15 in 2017; 16 in 2018; 13 in 2019

RM of Gimli: 16 in 2016; 25 in 2017; 21 in 2018; 32 in 2019

Winnipeg Beach: 6 in 2016; 7 in 2017; 13 in 2018; 9 in 2019

Pine Dock: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 1 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Matheson Island: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 0 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Riverton: 3 in 2016; 8 in 2017; 2 in 2018; 5 in 2019

RM of Armstrong: 8 in 2019

Provincial Offences

Provincial offences include driving an unregistered vehicle, speeding, failing to wear a seatbelt, building code violations, excessive noise, public intoxication, trespassing.

Arborg: 44 in 2016; 46 in 2017; 34 in 2018; 73 in 2019

RM of Bifrost: 46 in 2016; 95 in 2017; 48 in 2018; 90 in 2019

Gimli (town): 120 in 2016; 101 in 2017; 82 in 2018; 175 in 2019

RM of Gimli: 176 in 2016; 177 in 2017; 152 in 2018; 214 in 2019

Winnipeg Beach: 72 in 2016; 46 in 2018; 42 in 2018; 47 in 2019

Pine Dock: 0 in 2016; 1 in 2017; 1 in 2018; 1 in 2019

Matheson Island: 0 in 2016; 0 in 2017; 3 in 2018; 0 in 2019

Riverton: 9 in 2016; 19 in 2017; 20 in 2018; 24 in 2019

RM of Armstrong: 84 in 2019

The Gimli RCMP detachment can be reached at 204-642-5106. The Arborg RCMP detachment can be reached at 204-376-5253. For emergencies, dial 911.

*For crime-tracking purposes, the RCMP compiles separate statistics for the amalgamated RM of Bifrost-Riverton.

A great celebration of hockey and Peguis First Nation

By Evan Matthews

Peguis Chief Glenn Hudson welcomed Canadian Rogers Hometown Hockey icons Ron MacLean and Tara Slone to the First Nation with the spirit of the eagle, representing love, and the two hosts graciously reciprocated.

Slone said the television cast and crew came to the First Nation in the spirit of the wolf, which is humility, so to learn and stand together, as Peguis hosted Rogers Sportsnet's Hometown Hockey from Feb. 28 through March 1 on Treaty 1 Territory.

"When we went for the opening ceremony on Friday, it was at the beautiful SunLodge (Village). Elders welcomed us," said MacLean to a national audience.

The opening ceremony included Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Grand Chief Arlen Dumas and Manitoba Keewatinowik Okimakanak Grand Chief Garrison Settee standing with Peguis Chief Glenn Hudson.

"We received a drum and some pies, and it had to be the highlight. Stew

and moose pies, followed by round-dancing for an hour," he said, later discussing his experience ice fishing at Gull Harbour as another highlight.

Hometown Hockey travels across the country, stopping in 25 different communities for what Rogers has labels as "the ultimate NHL fan experience."

The event celebrates local hockey stories, brings in some of the game's biggest stars, and wraps festivities up with a live broadcast of an NHL game on the Sunday night, with this past week's game being the Columbus Blue Jackets versus the Vancouver Canucks.

The Peguis edition of Hometown Hockey featured many Manitoba — and Peguis — success stories, including Senator Murray Sinclair (Peguis), William Prince (Peguis), Reggie Leach (Riverton), Arron Asham (Portage la Prairie) and Doug Gilmour (Kingston, Ont.).

The Stanley Cup even made an ap-

Continued on page 12



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY EVAN MATTHEWS AND ROGERS HOMETOWN HOCKEY
Peguis First Nation chief Glen Hudson with Rogers Hometown's Hockey Tara Slone and Ron MacLean.



Rogers Hometown Hockey three game stars between Vancouver vs Columbus Blue Jackets presented by Emma and Zach from Peguis First Nation: Zach Werenski, Elias Pettersson and Emil Bemstrom.



Ron MacLean, Jamie Leach, Tara Slone, Reggie Leach and Arron Asham.



William Prince and band members with Rogers Hometown Hockey's Ron MacLean and Tara Slone. The band performed "That's All I'll Ever Become."

> HOMETOWN HOCKEY, FROM PG. 11



Ceremonial drummers led the way, as elders and residents followed to the main stage, before William Prince performed for Sunday's Hometown Hockey broadcast.

pearance over the weekend.

Peguis players participated in a game versus NHL alumni following the opening ceremonies, with Frank Beaulieu doing colour commentary for the game in the Ojibwe language.

Paul Maurice, head coach of the Winnipeg Jets, also ran a practice on the Sunday morning after Chief Hudson purchased an auction item at a fundraiser last year.

"This community is quite proud of its influence. Sports are one the community's biggest areas of growth," said Senator Sinclair.

"Our people need to think of themselves as leaders. Athletics really give you a sense of why you're here. It's a way of taking pride in your community."

Peguis, the largest First Nation community in Manitoba, has a rough population of 10,300 people — 3,521 on reserve and 6,504 off reserve.

Of that population, 200 kids are enrolled in minor hockey, and 58 of those 200 are girls.

"An event like this means so much to our community," said Pam McPherson, a resident of Peguis and event volunteer.

"It's about celebrating our culture, and hockey is a big part of that." Hometown Hockey shared local hockey stories such as Chief Hudson being the first captain of the Peguis Juniors team and the story of the old arena burning down in 2007. Other

stories included how an arena is more to a First Nation than just an arena, and the construction of the state-of-the-art multiplex in 2014.

The broadcast highlighted that the Peguis Juniors, of the Keystone Junior Hockey League, has won seven league championships since 1994, most recently winning in 2019.

MacLean made mention of Linden McCorrister, who is from Peguis, playing four years with the WHL's Brandon Wheat Kings before moving on to the University of Regina.

"Our First Nation has more post-secondary graduates than ever before," said Senator Sinclair, adding that Peguis is one of the only First Nations to have its own high school.

"We have lawyers and doctors practising in their own community, working for their own people."

Local boy William Prince shared his music all weekend, even having his song "7" used as the introduction to the Hometown Hockey broadcast.

Through Rogers Hometown Hockey, Ted Rogers Community Grants have been awarded to local educational programs that enable Canadian youth to succeed inside and outside the classroom. Peguis First Nation has been awarded \$15,000 in support of the Peguis school land-based program, which addresses the challenge of language retention and promoting their ancestors' knowledge and values from living off the land.



Winnipeg Jets head coach Paul Maurice (second from the right), along with other Jets coaching staff, signed autographs for fans on Sunday morning after running a practice at the Peguis Multiplex.

GIMLI *Ice* festival

9TH EDITION



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GIMLI Ice festival

9TH EDITION





Saturday, March 7

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

9:00am – 3:00pm	Fire on Ice Car Race
	Practice from 9am
11:00am – 3:00pm	Kids Fun Time Ice Skating
	Kubota ride to Ice Skating
12:00pm – 3:00pm	ICE MAN Motorcycle Race
Mid-Day Arrival	A Viking's Challenge

EVENTS AT OTHER LOCATIONS

10:00am – 4:00pm	Arts & Crafts Show
	At the Lakeview Recreation Centre
10:00am – 4:00pm	The Freeze Outdoor Skating
	Near the Gimli Art Centre
11:00am - 11:45pm	Kids Story Telling
	At the New Iceland Community Centre
11:00am – 12:30pm	Frozen Fish Toss
	At the Gimli Harbour
11:00am – 2:00pm	Snow Castle on the Lake
	Info & Registration
11:00am – 3:00pm	Bannock & Tea on the Lake
	Near the Visitor Centre
11:00am – 3:00pm	Gimli Art Club Fair
	At the Gimli Art Centre
1:00pm – 3:00pm	Falcons 100th Anniversary
	At the Gimli Harbour
2:00pm – 2:30pm	Live Viking Combustion
	At the Gimli Harbour
7:30pm – 11:00pm	Variety Entertainment
	At the Lakeview Recreation Centre

Friday, March 6

Festival Kick-Off Event for Volunteers & Partners

FALCONS 1920-2020 COMMEMORATIVE POND HOCKEY EVENT



Photo Courtesy Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame & Museum

MARCH 7TH 1-3 PM GIMLI HARBOUR

The Falcons was a hockey team of the early 20th century that was made up almost solely of players of Icelandic heritage. They won the first-ever Olympic Gold Medal in hockey! Come and watch a Special Pond Hockey Event to commemorate this incredible feat that took place 100 years ago!

SPONSORED BY 



Variety Entertainment

*The Homecoming Show

*The Homecoming Show

\$5 Admission with Festival Ticket

March 7th 7:30pm - 11:00pm

Lakeview Recreation Centre

March 7

Car Racing

Practice 9am - 11am Racing 12pm - 3pm

Family Ice Fishing

Kubota ride to Ice Fishing location with Festival Pass

Motorcycle Ice Racing Demo

Challenge - 30k Lake Wpg Run Finish Line

JS

Fits Show

Lakeview Resort - Ballrooms A-C

Outdoor Art Exhibit

Gimli Art Club

Telling

Iceland Heritage Museum

Fish Toss

Gimli Harbour

Competition on the Beach

Registration at Visitor Centre - Festival Headquarters

Tea on Open Fire

Visitor Centre by the Harbour

Club Family Fun Activities

Gimli Art Club ... Face Painting, Arts & Crafts and more!

10th Anniversary Pond Hockey Event

Gimli Harbour next to the Pier

Live Combat by Sons of Lugh

Gimli Harbour

Entertainment Night

Lakeview Resort - \$10 admission or \$5 with Festival Pass

Sunday, March 8

EVENTS ON THE LAKE

9:00am - 3:00pm

11:00am - 2:00pm

12:00pm - 3:00pm

EVENTS AT OTHER LOCATIONS

9:00am - 11:00am

10:00am - 2:00pm

10:00am - 4:00pm

10:30am - 11:15am

11:00am - 12:30pm

11:00am - 2:30pm

11:00am - 2:30pm

11:30am - 2:00pm

12:00pm - 2:30pm

1:00pm - 1:30pm

2:00pm - 2:30pm

Fire on Ice Car Racing

Practice from 9am - 11am Racing 12pm - 3pm

Kids Fun Time Ice Fishing

Kubota ride to ice fishing location with Festival Pass

ICE MAN Motorcycle Ice Racing Demo

Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

At the Gimli Rec Centre \$2 with Festival Pass

Sons of Lugh Viking Village Life

At the Lakeview Resort Ballrooms

The Freeze Outdoor Art Exhibit

Near the Visitor Centre by the Harbour

Kids Story Telling

At the New Iceland Heritage Museum

Frozen Fish Toss

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Winnipeg Falcons 100th Anniversary Olympic win to be celebrated at Gimli Ice Fest

By Teresa Carey

The Winnipeg Falcons made history when they won Canada's first-ever Olympic medal in hockey in 1920. This year, the Gimli Ice Festival is paying tribute to the team, marking the 100 year anniversary of their gold medal win with two pond hockey games at Gimli Harbour, Mar. 7.

The Falcons, a team comprised almost exclusively of Icelandic immigrants, is still remembered in the Interlake to this day. Most of the original players had roots in the Gimli area, and many locals remember them with pride.

"People are still walking around wearing Falcon hats," said Kim Malchuk, organizer of the pond hockey games for the Gimli Ice Festival.

Steve Perkins, grandson of Slim Halderson, an original Falcon member, will be coming in from Winnipeg to drop the puck to kick off the first game, which begins at 1 p.m.

"He is just tickled pink," Malchuk said.

The 68-year-old, who was about 13 or 14 when his grandfather passed away, thinks it is "just super" and is happy to be taking part, although he had no idea he was descended from one of the famed Falcons.

"I knew (my grandfather) played hockey but I never even knew he was in the Olympics until he passed," Perkins said during a telephone interview. "It was never talked about. It struck me as kind of weird. Today it would be a big deal."

"When he passed, they gave me the medal," he added.

The history of the Winnipeg Falcons is a case study in the importance of persistence. The original members,

Wally Byron, Slim Halderson, Frank Fredrickson, Konnie Johannesson, Mike Goodman, Huck Woodman, Bobby Benson and Chris Fridfinnson, were discriminated against for being "foreigners".

"They tried for many years to get into the Winnipeg league, but they were discriminated against. Six out of the eight players were of Icelandic descent," said Malchuk. "They just kept trying and trying, year after year, to get into the league."

"In the 1919-20 season (after World War I), they finally got accepted. The very first season they ended up winning the division, they ended up winning the province and were invited to the U of T where they would win the Allan Cup to represent Canada for the Winter Olympics in Antwerp, Belgium," Malchuk explained.

"Five days after winning the Allan Cup, they found themselves on a ship. They were welcomed to Belgium with open arms."

The Falcons' performance was stellar from start to finish. They won the first game against Czechoslovakia, 15-0. Then they played the US team in the semi-finals and beat them, 2-0. For their final game, they beat Sweden, 12-1.

"This was the first time hockey even was a part of the winter Olympics. Their first year entering a league and they end up winning a gold medal. It was pretty special," Malchuk said.

A rink measuring 50 ft. by 100 ft., reminiscent of what would have been played on a hundred years ago, is being cleared by local business owner, Travis Toomey, who is also supplying the warm up shack for game day. The Gimli Recreation Centre staff will be

painting the lines, while the rink is being flooded by the Gimli Fire Department.

Participants of this Special Pond Hockey event, some of whom are descendants of the original Falcons, will receive a complimentary Falcons 1920-2020 hockey jersey and also be presented with a commemorative medal (replicas of the originals) after their game. Players, as well as all of the Falcons' descendants attending the festival will also receive copies of "Falcon Gold", authored by Gimli writer Kathy Arnason, and donated by the family of Dr. Irvin Olafson.

"This tournament is not about who wins and who loses," Malchuk said. "It's all about paying tribute to the Falcons."

"Everything is unfolding so beautifully. I think it will definitely be a celebration that won't be forgotten soon," she said.



Haldor "Slim" Halderson

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Gimli council approves farmstead-farmland subdivision and lot size reduction

By Patricia Barrett

An application to subdivide a 5.05-acre farmstead from a 114.66-acre holding was approved at Gimli council's regular meeting Feb. 26.

The property, located at NE 1/4 18-19-04 EPM, is about a mile west of Gimli at the junction of Highway 8 and PR 231. It has driveway access to PR 231 and is bordered by the Gimli Diversion Provincial Waterway to the east.

Subdivision applicant Joan Petrowski — who Coun. Richard Petrowski said is a relative — also requested approval to reduce the lot size from the minimum 200 feet to about 55.45 feet.

Mayor Lynn Greenberg said Joan Petrowski's father had passed away and "there's farmland that they're breaking away from the farm."

The property is designated a Restricted Agriculture Area under the Eastern Interlake Planning District. The subdivision of an existing farmstead is generally allowed if it has been in existence for at least the past five years, has been rendered surplus and will not have a negative impact on the adjacent farm operation, according to the planning branch.

The mayor and councillors Petrowski, Peter Holfeuer and Thora Palson (attending by phone) voted in favour of the application. Coun. Cody Magnusson was absent.

Other council briefs:

- Council gave first reading to Bylaw 20-0005, which will amend borrowing Bylaw 16-0013. Council wants to borrow \$2,586,574.93 from the Royal Bank to pay for the cost of work completed on the water treatment and distribution upgrade projects (i.e., drinking water) in Gimli, the industrial park, Aspen Park and Pelican Beach.

"The work's been completed. Now we have the actual costs and we're going to borrow," said Acting CAO Kelly Cosgrove. "We've had to pay the contractors."

The total cost of the drinking water project was \$7,316,459, with the RM covering \$2,066,459, the province chipping in \$1,750,000 and the federal government providing \$3,500,000.

The wastewater treatment plant expansion project is anticipated to cost \$18 million.

- Council tabled a decision to install a new alarm system in the municipal building and will seek more competitive rates.

- Council tabled a decision to purchase a part for a backhoe and will seek further information.

- Asphalt for roads in Pelican Beach will begin likely in May. Maple Leaf Construction will carry out the work. The company had installed a new base on Aurora Way and Mercury Drive last year.

Coun. Petrowski said bad weather prevented asphaltting.

Cosgrove said the RM has an estimate at this time only on the cost of asphaltting Mercury, which will be about \$309,785.

- Council applied for flood funding from the province. Cosgrove said the grant is capped at \$150,000.

"We always try to apply the grant to a project that's already on the radar," she said. "We have a drainage project from last year we didn't get completed. If we can get the funding, that'd be great."

- Council authorized RM staff members Jennifer Little, Brenna Philp and Brittany Isfeld to attend an All Net (a municipal management system) training session on April 20 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg and agreed to cover the cost of their registration, mileage and applicable expenses.

- Council agreed to not charge Gimli Minor Hockey for use of the recreation centre's lounge and foyer on March 23 and also granted Skate Interlake free use of the lounge on March 24.

- The Gimli West apartment building, which is run as a non-profit housing corporation offering residents subsidized rents, has 109 people on its waiting list for a suite, according to



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Petrowski subdivision.

it Feb. 12 management report. The building has 28 suites ranging from one to three bedrooms.

Coun. Petrowski said the new 55-plus Manitoba Housing project being built just off North Colonization Road will offer 40 suites when it's completed.

- The RM is hiring a public works foreman as a re-organization is taking place.

Coun. Holfeuer said they're "realigning the public works department overall and we're reallocating positions."

- Councillor absences — in person or by phone — from regular and special council meetings were questioned. Absences from committees on which councillors sit are unknown.

Cosgrove said councillors are allowed to miss two council meetings in a row but need permission to miss a third.

Coun. Holfeuer said there are no bylaws or policies in place that specify how many council meetings in total a councillor can miss.

According to the provincial government's Council Members Guide, councillors have a "legislated responsibility to attend council meetings" and must resign his/her seat if absent from three "consecutive" meetings without council's permission.

Council meetings can be conducted over the phone or through video-conferencing, states the document.

In 2018 City of Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman announced he was cracking down on councillor absenteeism, citing it as "an accountability measure."

- Gimli councillor compensation and expenses as of Dec. 31, 2019, were \$170,395.08.

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> MEAL IDEAS



Recipe courtesy of the North American Meat Institute on behalf of the Beef Checkoff

Yield: 2 rolls (16 pieces)

Hand Vinegar:

1 cup water

1/4 cup rice vinegar

Rice:

1/2 cup mixed olives, patted dry and finely chopped

2 teaspoons capers, patted dry and finely chopped

1 clove garlic, minced

3 cups sushi rice

freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Rolls:

8 thin slices beef salami

3 thin slices part-skim mozzarella, cut into sticks

3 thin slices provolone, cut into sticks

1/4 cup chopped celery leaves

toasted sesame seeds

shaved celery

Muffarolletta

To make hand vinegar: In small bowl, stir water and rice vinegar.

To make rice: In small bowl, mix olives, capers, garlic and rice; season with pepper, to taste.

To make rolls: Lay sushi mat on clean surface and cover with plastic wrap. Lay four slices salami on mat, overlapping by about 1/2 inch, to create surface 7 inches wide and 6 inches deep.

Moisten hands with hand vinegar and shake off excess. Cover salami with 1 1/2 cups sushi rice, leaving 1 inch empty at farthest end.

Arrange half of each cheese along center of rice crosswise, covering half of rice closest to you. Sprinkle cheese with 1/8 cup celery leaves.

Securing cheese with fingers, use thumbs to push end of mat up and over filling until one edge of rice meets opposite side. Press firmly on roll.

Lift top of mat and roll firmly until tight and round. Squeeze gently to shape roll. Press ends in carefully to secure loose rice. Remove mat, peel off plastic and set roll aside.

Repeat to make second roll.

Slice each roll into eight rounds, arrange on sushi platter and sprinkle each slice with sesame seeds. Serve with shaved celery.



Recipe courtesy of the North American Meat Institute on behalf of the Beef Checkoff

Yield: 2 rolls (16 pieces)

Hand Vinegar:

1 cup water

1/4 cup rice vinegar

Futomaki:

2 sheets nori

3 cups sushi rice

2 teaspoons caraway seeds

6 thin slices corned beef

4 teaspoons horseradish, well-drained

4 thin slices Swiss cheese, sliced into thin sticks

Dijon mustard

To make hand vinegar: In small bowl, stir water and rice vinegar.

To make futomaki: Lay sushi mat on

New York Deli Roll

clean surface and cover with plastic wrap. Place one nori sheet on mat, shiny-side down. Moisten hands with hand vinegar and shake off excess. Spread 1 1/2 cups rice across nori. Sprinkle with 1 teaspoon caraway seeds. Turn nori over so rice side is down.

Cover half the rice crosswise with three slices corned beef. Spread corned beef with 2 teaspoons horseradish. Cover corned beef with two slices cheese.

Securing meat and cheese with fingers, use thumbs to push end of mat up and over filling until edge of nori meets rice on opposite side. Press firmly on roll.

Lift top of mat and roll firmly until tight and round. Squeeze gently to shape roll. Press ends in carefully to secure loose rice. Remove mat and set roll aside.

Repeat to make second roll.

Use thin, sharp knife to cut each roll into eight slices. Arrange on sushi platter and serve with Dijon mustard.



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all mortgages or loans secured by the property revert to his name including legal title.

Now that you are free, do you have money for a down payment? Alimony can be taken as income but most banks to mitigate risk will only use 80% and only 50% of child support. If you have employment income to add to this, you will be highly favored by the Banks who will want to wrap themselves around you as a brand new single professional client.

Becoming divorced or widowed sets you back not only financially, but emotionally. It is easy to let your finances take a back seat to your future planning since retirement is generally viewed as a "couple's" event. The reality of having to plan on your own can be challenging and often creates too much complexity at a time when it is necessary to simply bring order to one's life and create some sense of normalcy. Sometimes it is better to wait a little before getting into a long-term financial commitment. Take your time to find your way as a new single. After everything you have been through it's "YOU-TIME" so look after yourself! Talk to your financial advisor, do your homework and plan for your new future when you're ready.....you'll be stronger for it!

Good Luck and Best Wishes,
Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author of *"How to Retire Debt Free and Wealthy"* Follow on Facebook & Instagram

If you have a money question, please email: askmoneylady@gmail.com

My husband and I just signed our legal separation papers, but I still live in our matrimonial home that is now up for sale.

I have two questions: I want to move out, so should I buy another home by myself? Even though I haven't actually received it yet, does child support count as income? I do work part-time but think I need the extra income to qualify.

What do you think?

Sincerely,

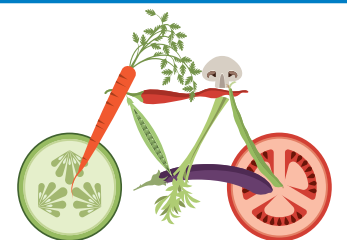
Jill XXXX (desperately seeking a new life!)

Dear Desperately Seeking a New Life!

Good for you for getting your separation agreement signed and finalized. I know this can be an enormous emotional undertaking for all involved. To answer your questions, first about the money: When you separate and apply for credit on your own, please ensure all credit cards and loans that were once joint have now been terminated or at least released from your spouse as a co-applicant. If you are walking away with a cash payout before the matrimonial home is sold, make sure your legal separation agreement indemnifies you of any joint loans or mortgages on the property. Of course, it goes without saying that if you are moving out and your husband is staying in the home that

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Lightning to host Bantam AAA female provincials

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning cannot wait for the opportunity to host this year's Bantam AAA Female Hockey Provincials which will take place in Arborg from March 13-15.

"We're very excited," said Lightning head coach Charlene Bodnarchuk on Monday. "It will be nice to have the home-ice advantage. The last couple of years, (the provincials) have been in Garson and Portage so to host it will be nice because we get to stay at home."

Interlake will be in the Black Pool along with Westman South and Parkland. The Gold Pool will consist of Yellowhead, Pembina Valley and Eastman.

Interlake will begin action on Friday at 11:15 a.m. when it plays Westman South. The Lightning will then battle Parkland later that day at 3:45 p.m.

Interlake hasn't played ei-

ther team since during try-outs. The Lightning were shut out in both games.

"It will be interesting to see how we stack up this time," Bodnarchuk said. "At the end of our season we started to pick up the momentum. We started to get more shots on net and our systems really came together."

Saturday will consist of games at 11 a.m., 1:15 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. A banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m.

On Sunday, the bronze-medal game will be played at 10 a.m., followed by the gold-medal contest at 12:30 p.m.

"We have a great organizing committee with lots going on," Bodnarchuk noted. "We have some great sponsors. Chicken Chef has sponsored all of the food and we have lots of games and activities and really good door prizes."

To prepare for the provincials, Interlake played Eastman in an exhibition game in



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Interlake Lightning Bantam AAA female hockey team had an opportunity to pose with the Stanley Cup in Peguis last Saturday. Interlake played Eastman in an exhibition game that day and will be hosting the provincials in Arborg from March 13 to 15.

Peguis last Saturday.

"The atmosphere was great," Bodnarchuk said. "It's a really nice rink and the people there gave us great hospitality. They were very welcoming and there were lots of people in

the stands."

Lightning players had an opportunity to meet former NHLers Reggie Leach and Grant Clitsom among others. They also had a rare opportunity to pose for a team picture

with the Stanley Cup.

"That was pretty cool," said Bodnarchuk. "We want to thank Peguis for letting us come out and play in that rink because it was an awesome experience."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Interlake Lightning Bantam AA goaltender Alex Myers watches the puck during a scramble in front of his goal last Sunday. Interlake was defeated 3-2 in overtime by Kenora to end its league season before heading to provincials.

Interlake competes well at Atom B female hockey provincials

Staff

Interlake finished with a 1-2-1 record at the Atom B female hockey provincials last weekend in Deloraine.

Interlake lost 2-1 to Brandon on Sunday as Bethiney Flett scored in the losing cause.

Interlake started the provincials with a 2-0 loss to Grand Plains last Friday.

On Saturday, Interlake edged Macdonald 4-3. Karen Caumartin led the winners with a goal and an assist while Bethaney Bear, Nicole Hutchinson and Flett also scored.

Later that day, Interlake played to a 1-1 draw with Neepawa.

Interlake's Brooklyn Waldbauer scored a first-period goal, assisted by Hutchinson.

Dolphins swimmers perform well at provincials

Staff

The Selkirk Dolphins had a great time - and some great results - at the provincial swim meet at the Pan Am Pool on Feb. 14-16.

The Dolphins were named the top Middle Sized Club in the province for the second year in a row.

Fourteen Dolphins' swimmers competed at the three-day event.

Highlights for the Dolphins included: *Oakbank's Gabby Alyvea, 13, achieving 85 personal best times.

*Winnipeg's Hannah Andrusyshyn, 12, winning a silver medal in the 50m free (making Man/Sask qualifying time) and a bronze in the 800m free (taking 47 seconds off).

*Winnipeg's Levy Andrusyshyn, 10, won seven gold medals in the 10-and-under category. He was also the high point winner in 10 and under.

*Lockport's Adam Armstrong, 14, 100 per cent personal best.

*Selkirk's Harrison Douglas, 12, 100 per cent personal best.

*Selkirk's Lily Douglas, 13, was closest to a medal. She was fourth in the

50m breast and had 100 per cent personal best.

*Arborg's Sonja Friesen, 15, won a silver in the 200 IM and bronze in the 50m free.

*East Selkirk's Ian Gurney, 15, captured gold in the 50m back, silver in both the 50m and 100m free. He had top-eight finishes in all of his other races.

*Stonewall's Haylee Kimball, 14, posted 85 per cent personal bests.

*East Selkirk's Cate Liebrecht, 9, swam 100 per cent personal bests. She had top-eight finishes in four of seven races.

*East Selkirk's Mason Liebrecht, 12, 100 per cent personal bests. He took 25 seconds off in the 200m free.

*Stonewall's Julian Murdock, 16, won three gold, two silver, a bronze, and also had a fourth-place finish.

*Beausejour's Tanner Sanders, 15, won six gold medals and was the high point male in the 14-15 age group.

*Stonewall's Natasha Schultz, 12, posted 75 per cent personal bests.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY KELLY KIMBALL

Back row, left to right: Michelle Stamm (head coach), Ian Gurney, Adam Armstrong, Julian Murdock; front row, Sonja Friesen, Hannah Andrusyshyn, Haylee Kimball and Levy Andrusyshyn (holding the large banner).

Merces force Game 7 against Maroons in SEMHL action

By Brian Bowman

Game 7 was needed in the Warren Merces' South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League semifinal series against the Altona Maroons.

That game was played Tuesday in Warren but no score from the game was available at press time.

The Merces were hoping to carry the momentum from their victories the past two games in Game 7.

Warren forced the seventh and deciding game after whipping the Maroons 9-2 in Altona last Saturday evening.

Warren dominated the game from start to finish.

"We came out as a coaching staff prepared for a tight game," said Merces' coach Matt Figur Sunday afternoon. "But right off the bat, Chase scored one, Braydon MacDonald scored one, and the boys started getting some confidence. You could see the confidence starting right from having an emergency goaltender. It gave guys a sense of security back there and they can focus more on their game."

MacDonald led Warren with two goals and an assist while Brenden Luschinski and Chase Faulkner also tallied twice.

Braden Groot, Trent Genyk and Travis Bobbee also scored for the Merces.

Kyle Lundale and Kyle Luschinski each had three assists while Dylan



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Brenden Luschinski tallied twice for the Merces against Altona Saturday evening.

Hykawy added two helpers.

Steve Doell and Nolan McGuire scored for Altona.

Reed Peters, an emergency goalie, was fantastic, stopping 54 shots.

"He's been phenomenal," Figur said. "Getting an emergency goalie from another team, guys, to be honest, we're worried what a guy from another opposing team was going to bring but Reed has been outstanding. He's fit in the dressing room and he's joking around with the guys and he's having fun."

The Merces staved off elimination with a thrilling 3-2 overtime victory over the Maroons last Thursday in Warren.

Brock Genyk was the hero, scoring the game winner in OT.

After the first two periods were scoreless, both offences came alive early in the third.

Trent Genyk gave Warren a 1-0 lead 1:03 into the final frame and then Altona's Caleb Suderman replied at 3:48.

Just 49 seconds after that, Brenden Luschinski tallied to give Warren a 2-1 lead.

Altona's Nolan McGuire then tied the score at 11:29.

Peters made 42 saves - some of them brilliant - for the victory.

On Feb. 25, the Maroons skated to a 5-2 win over the Merces in Altona.

The Merces lost both of their goalies -

Hayden Dola and Bryce Spittal - due to injuries. That forced Warren to put forward Brenden Luschinski in goal for the final 32 minutes of the game.

"For a guy to step up like that for his teammates in a situation whether it's either you throw the towel in or someone straps the pads on (was impressive)," Figur said. "For a guy like that, who's leading our team in points, to strap the pads on and go in net, even though we didn't win that game, it showed the entire team that we're going to do what it takes to get to the final."

Brock Genyk gave Warren a 1-0 lead and then Faulkner made it 2-0 early in the second.

But Altona's Dane Crowley answered with a goal at 5:40 of the middle frame and then the Maroons scored four unanswered goals in the third period.

Doell, Crowley, Justin Augert, and Caleb Suderman scored for Altona.

Suderman's goal came at 16:44 of the third while Brenden Luschinski was pulled for an extra attacker.

Suderman and Augert each finished the game with three points.

In off-ice news, Warren had three players selected to SEMHL all-star teams. Dola was named a first-team all star while forward Johnny Lazo and defenceman Travis Bobbee were selected to the second all-star team.

Ice Dawgs drop Game 1 of CRJHL semifinal series

By Brian Bowman

The Arborg Ice Dawgs gave the first-place Selkirk Fishermen all that they could handle in Game 1 of their Capital Region Junior Hockey League semifinal series.

But it still didn't result in a victory.

Selkirk took a 1-0 series lead with a 6-4 home win on Sunday evening.

Reece Tessier led Selkirk with two goals and an assist while Travis Spratt also tallied twice.

Cole Wasnie and Evan Bedard also scored for Selkirk.

Preston Seymour, with a pair, Kalen Guimond and Cameron Sinclair scored for Arborg. Seymour had a three-point game while Guimond finished with two points.

The Fishermen scored three short-handed goals while the Ice Dawgs tallied twice on the power play. Special teams are tremendously important in a playoff series and they definitely were in Game 1 of the series.

Riley Bannerman made 23 saves for the win. At the other end, Tre Strachan stopped 31 Selkirk shots.

Game 2 of the series was played this past Tuesday in Arborg but no score was available at press time. Game 3 is set for Friday in Selkirk and then Game 4 will be played the next evening in Arborg.

If necessary, Game 5 will return to Selkirk next Tuesday while Game 6 is slated for Arborg on March 14. A series-deciding seventh game will be played in Selkirk March 15.

Puck drop for the remaining games is 7:30 p.m.

Arborg swept the North Winnipeg Satelites 2-0 in their best-of-three series after a 6-4 victory in Game 2 last Friday.

Arborg trailed 3-2 in the third period but scored four goals in the final frame.

The Ice Dawgs were 2-for-5 on the power play while the Satelites finished 2-for-3.

Logan Clarke (two), Dylan Furgala (two), Seymour, and Carl Ingalls scored for Arborg.

Josh Berger, Josh Roche, and Cadrick Dueck each had two assists in the game.

Damian Bates (two), Nicholas Doerkson, and Derian Ames replied for North Winnipeg.

Strachan stopped 27 Satelites' shots for the win.

On Feb. 25, the Ice Dawgs defeated the Satelites 7-2 in Winnipeg to take a 1-0 series lead.

Arborg, which held period leads of 2-1 and 6-2, received a two-goal and an assist effort from Shaydon Mous-



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Ice Dawgs' Kalen Guimond scored against the Fishermen in Arborg's 6-4 loss Sunday evening.

seau while Josh Roche and Guimond also tallied twice.

Jesse Hanxon scored the Ice Dawgs' other goal. Lyle Murdock and Blaze Bezecki each had two assists in the game.

North Winnipeg's James Chatyrbok opened the game's scoring with a power-play 5:56 into the game and then Reis Wasmuth tallied in the second.

Strachan made 27 saves for the victory.

In off-ice news, Arborg had two players - Teulon's Josh Roche and Bezecki - named to the CRJHL all-star team.

Josh Roche played 31 games, leading the Ice Dawgs with 26 points, including 13 goals and 13 assists.

Bezecki, meanwhile, played 24 games, finishing third in team scoring with 24 points (15 goals, nine assists).

Falcons trail Warriors in CRJHL semifinal series

By Brian Bowman

The Lundar Falcons are in some serious trouble against the St. Malo Warriors in their Capital Region Junior Hockey League semifinal series.

Lundar trails St. Malo 2-0 in their best-of-seven series after a 4-1 home loss Sunday evening.

Tyler Cormier gave St. Malo a 1-0 first-period lead and then Gavin Pott and Owen Kemball tallied in the second to put the visitors up three goals. Kemball's goal came with just eight seconds remaining in the second period.

Cayden Onagi scored early in the third to make it 4-0 before Lundar's Mason Medeiros scored with 6:35 remaining in the game.

St. Malo took a 1-0 series lead with a 5-2 home win last Saturday.

The Warriors led 3-2 after the first

period and then added two more goals in the third.

Rustyn Lodon and Brody Southby each had a goal and an assist for Lundar.

Onagi (two), Alex Murray, Maxime Collette and Brayden Jonasson scored for St. Malo.

Game 3 of the series will return to St. Malo on Friday (8 p.m.) and then Game 4 will be played the next evening at 7:30 p.m. in Lundar.

Meanwhile, Lundar had two players — Stonewall's Braden Paulic and Eddystone's Josh Wilkinson — selected as CRJHL all stars.

Paulic played in 30 regular-season games, leading the Falcons with 52 points, including 23 goals and 29 assists.

Wilkinson suited up for 27 games, finishing second in team scoring with 44 points (26 goals, 18 assists).

Zone 5 basketball champions



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Gimli Lakers won the Zone 5 varsity boys' basketball banner last week. Gimli defeated the Warren Collegiate Wildcats 81-43 in the zone final and now advances to play the Green Valley Pirates in a 'AA' provincial qualifier on Saturday.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Arborg Curling Club hosts annual bonspiel



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The Arborg Curling Club hosted its annual ladies bonspiel from Feb. 14 to 16 with 16 teams taking part in the tournament. Participants rekindled their competitive curling spirit against friends from other clubs, while enjoying a fun day of curling and other activities. Left to right: First-event winners from Gimli — lead Kenna Sahaidak, second Kadriana Sahaidak, third Stacey Johnson, skip Amber Isfeld; Second-event winners from Riverton — lead Anna Lea, second April Wilson, third Annie Ballantyne, skip Agnes Furgala; and Third-event winners from Arborg — lead Deanna Sewell, second Jenn Vigfusson, third Cindy Stansell, skip Shannon Brown.

Rakowski commits to Midland University



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Lightning's Ally Rakowski has committed to playing women's hockey with the Midland University Lady Warriors.

Staff

Midland University Lady Warriors' women's hockey head coach Jason White announced the signing of Ally Rakowski for the 2020-21 season.

Rakowski played for the Interlake Lightning in the Manitoba AAA Female Hockey League this past season.

"Ally is a strong, skilled forward with a knack to score big goals," White said on the team's website. "Her speed and hockey sense, combined with her offensive creativity, will make her one of the top freshman in the ACHA Women's Division 1 next year."

Over the past two seasons for the Lightning, Rakowski has been one of the top-point producers on her team. In 31 games this season, she scored 13 goals and assisted on 10 others. She ranked in the top 10 in goals in the MFHL and led her team in points with 23.

Midland, located in Nebraska, is 15-13-1 this season and currently ranked 10th in the ACHA Division 1. The Lady Warriors are in the hunt for their second-straight berth to the ACHA National Tournament after reaching the final site and the top eight in 2019-20.

OCN Storm sweep Peguis Juniors

Staff

Peguis First nation had a lot to celebrate as Rogers Hometown Hockey paid a visit last weekend.

But the Peguis Juniors did not have much to celebrate on the ice.

Peguis was swept by the OCN Storm in their two-game weekend series.

OCN completed the sweep with an 11-7 win on Saturday evening.

Tyrome Spence and Nathaniel Murdock each had a hat trick for Peguis while Michael Spence also tallied.

Dian Fontaine (four), Blake Lahonen (two), Cheechoo Lathin, Troy Head, Bryson Werbicki-Mallett, Noah Butler and Derek Kovisto scored for the Storm.

On Friday, Peguis lost 8-5 to OCN as the Storm scored five third-period goals.

Tyrome Spence (two), Marcus Crate, Evan Thickfoot and Ethan Daniels scored for the Juniors.

Quinton Flett had three assists for Peguis while Daniels had two helpers.

Werbicki-Mallett (two), Chavez Constant (two), Dray Garrick (two),

Kovisto and Blaine Dorian tallied for OCN.

Peguis will visit the Cross Lake Islanders this Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday afternoon (1:30 p.m.).

ARBORG BIFROST PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

BASEBALL & SOCCER REGISTRATION

March 9: 9am-5pm & 6pm-8pm

March 10: 9am-5pm

March 11: 9am-4pm & 6pm-8pm

March 12: 9am-4pm

BASEBALL

7U, 9U, 11U,

13U, 15U, 18U

SOCCER

U6, U8, U10, U12

U15, U18

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Heima Er Best Inc. offers a variety of services for men and women living with an intellectual disability through all stages of their adult life. We are looking for someone to lead our office team. The successful applicant will oversee all operations of the organization, should be a team player, well organized, creative and enjoy working with people.

All interested parties must have a valid driver's license and be at least 18 years of age. Criminal record check and Adult Abuse checks are mandatory. Benefit and Pension available. Only those considered for interview will be contacted. Salary dependent on qualifications.

Resumes can be emailed, mailed or dropped off to:

Jackie Sigurdur
Vice President of the Board
P. O. Box 1949
Beachview Professional Centre
66B - 1st Ave.,
Gimli MB R0C 1B0
email: jackie.sigurdur@gmail.com
Phone: (204) 642-9707

Heima Er Best
Home Is Best!
We are currently looking for:

SUPPORT STAFF

Currently hiring for permanent and casual positions, benefits for any permanent position over 40 hours biweekly.

Heima offers a variety of services for men and women living with an intellectual disability through all stages of their adult life. We are looking for positive, reliable and hardworking individuals to assist the people we support in all aspects of their lives.

We offer paid onsite orientation; Group Benefits and Pension after appropriate qualifying time; Trained in First Aid/CPR and NVCI is an asset, but we will train. Criminal Record and Adult Abuse checks are mandatory Adult Abuse checks done by Heima. All interested parties must have a valid driver's license and be 18 years of age. Only those considered for interview will be contacted.

Resumes can be emailed, mailed or dropped off to:

Jessica Favell
Residential Coordinator
P. O. Box 1949
66B - 1st Ave.,
Gimli MB R0C 1B0
email: heimalead@mymts.net
Phone: (204) 642-9707 Ex:1

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Gimli Aquatic Centre - R.M. of Gimli is now accepting applications for the positions of Head Lifeguard, Lifeguard, Instructor, and Cashier. Interested applicants can view the job postings in full at the R.M. website www.gimli.ca

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Gimli CDC is hiring Full and Part time housekeeping positions for the Cadet Camp Dormitory located in the Gimli Business Park. Typical working hours are Monday to Friday, 8:00AM to 4:00PM and occasional weekends.

Please contact Dennis at (204) 641-0078 or gimlicdc@rmgimli.com with inquiries on the housekeeping position.

Completed applications stating the position(s) applying for, with resume and references, should be submitted to the Municipal Office located at 62 2nd Avenue by 4:00 p.m. on March 25, 2020

Kelly Cosgrove, CMMA
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Gimli
PO Box 1246, 62 - 2nd Avenue, Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Email: gimli@rmgimli.com Fax: (204) 642-6660

We thank all applicants; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



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BARWASTE AUTHORITY CO-OP INC.

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Fax: (204) 762-5107 Email: sfoster@sigfusson.ca



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TEAM LEADER

Heima Er Best Inc. offers a variety of services for men and women living with an intellectual disability through all stages of their adult life. The Team Leader will oversee the day to day operations of our residential homes. This includes overseeing the staff team in the homes who work directly with the participants. Responsibilities include but are not limited to, in home training for support staff, as well as administrative and financial responsibilities. Criminal record check and Adult Abuse checks are mandatory. Benefit and Pension available. Only those considered for interview will be contacted.

Resumes can be emailed, mailed or dropped off to:

Jackie Sigurdur
Vice President of the Board
P. O. Box 1949
66B - 1st Ave.,
Gimli MB R0C 1B0
email: jackie.sigurdur@gmail.com
Phone: (204) 642-9707

Grounds Manager Aspen Park Condo Community, Gimli

Winnipeg Condo Corp 208 (Aspen Park) in Gimli is looking for a Grounds Manager. This person will report to the Board of Director's responsible for grounds.

Duties to include supervising and monitoring the grounds staff and procuring contractors for various maintenance provided by the Corporation.

This is a hands on position as well as some administration duties. The successful candidate should have basic knowledge of building maintenance as well as familiarity with email and the internet and hold a valid driver's license. This individual must be able to communicate effectively with Board Members, owners in the park and other staff members and provide written reports to the Board when required. Knowledge of various garden equipment, tractor operation as well as basic swimming pool operation would be considered an asset.

This is a full time position from mid April to mid November and part time during the winter months to coordinate the snow clearing for the park.

Salary will commensurate with experience. Please submit resume with work experience and references.

Winnipeg Condo Corp 208 (Aspen Park)
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Coupons expire December 31, 2020

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LAND FOR LEASE

Tenders will be accepted for the lease of approximately 110 acres of cultivated land for the 2020 crop year. The board will also consider offers for a three to five year lease.

Location: NE 1/4 8-22-3E

Deadline for submission of tenders:

March 16, 2020 @ 4:30 p.m.

Highest of any tender not necessarily accepted.

Nancy Nosaty, Secretary-Treasurer
BAR-WASTE AUTHORITY CO-OP INC.
329 River Road "Municipal Office"
Box 70 Arborg, MB R0C 0A0

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ENGAGEMENT



Gulay – Argue

Brenda and Ivan Gulay along with Fran and Dale Argue are very pleased to announce the engagement of their children Cara and Brad. A community shower will be held March 28, 2020 and social to follow in the evening at the Arborg Community Hall. A July wedding is planned.

IN MEMORIAM

Ed Sielski

December 7, 1918 - March 8, 1996

Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day;
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
So loved, so missed, so very dear
-Loved and remembered....
Olive and family

OBITUARY

Johann (Joe) Fjeldsted

Johann Edmund Fjeldsted passed away on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at the E. M. Crowe Memorial Hospital in Eriksdale, MB.

Joe is survived by his wife, Kathy; sons Gordon (Heather), Rhys and daughter Kirsten (David) Reasner; grandchildren Ashley, Alexis, Bailey, Braydon and Henry and great-grandchildren Logan and Bruce.

Thank you to all the staff at the hospital for their prompt response and the kindness and support during Joe's difficult last days.

At Joe's request no formal funeral will be held. A family gathering and interment will be held at a later date.

Arrangements by:
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME
Ashern - Lundar
1.204.768.2072
1.866.323.3593

OBITUARY

Joyce Johnson (nee Zabirka)

October 6, 1926 - February 28, 2020

Our Mother and Amma peacefully passed away at the Gimli Betel Home with her family present sharing their stories. She lived a long life and was cherished by family and highly regarded by friends.

Mom leaves a loving and grateful family, daughter Olena Valgardson; son David Johnson (Pat); grandchildren Kim and Shawn, Erin (Brett) and Matt, Teressa and Kevin (Jody), Arielle (Kurt) and Jesse; great-grandchildren Dawson, Mackenzie, Emily, Riley, Brody, Ostyn and Tytan; daughters-in-law Hazel and Sally.

Predeceased by her husband Olafur; sons Donald and Van; son-in-law Dale and grandson Geir.

Joyce was passionate about baking and cooking. She was always trying new recipes and enhancing ones that family loved. Her glazed donuts were a family favourite. Requests were made



and mom's response, "It's no problem!"

She worked as a cook for Orbanski and Erickson Construction Companies, CN Rail, Luther Village, Sunrise Camp, Camp Arnes, and Camp Neustadt. Mom never complained about her busy schedule, the long hours that she worked or the health problems that she encountered.

A special thanks to her sister-in-law, Lorraine for her love and support and to Gunvor her good friend.

Thanks to Arborg Assisted Living and Gimli Betel Home staff for their care and compassion. Cremation has taken place and a private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Goda nott elskin mamma

Till we meet again-Love you forever.

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

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



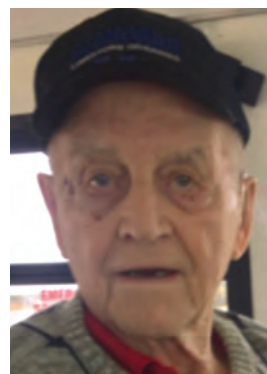
OBITUARY

Joseph Barylski

October 6, 1930 - February 27, 2020

It is with great sadness that the family announces the passing of Joseph Barylski. He passed away peacefully at the Arborg Personal Care Home surrounded by love. He will be missed greatly by his wife Louise; sons Ronald (Alison), Jeffrey (Tracey); daughter Joanne Feakes (Rusty); and his grandchildren Andrea, Cohen, Brenna and Carter. He also leaves behind to mourn his brother Harold and his family Norman (Darlene), Laurie, Mark, and great nieces and nephew Brittany, Riley and Brody. Joe was predeceased by his sister-in-law Deanna and brother Peter.

Joe was born on the family farm in Okno, Manitoba. He grew up on the farm with his parents (Peter and Nettie) and his two brothers. Together they expanded the farm. As young boys they hunted and trapped and at an early age became very important in



the day to day operations on the farm. On May 1961 he married Louise Seidel. The three brothers went to the bush to cut wood to supplement the farm. Lucy and Deanna looked after the animals on the farm while they were gone. They later took to

road construction and brush cutting all while still running the family farm.

Anyone who talked to Joe knew how proud he was of the roads he built in the area. His first Cat was a TD14 and he loved to talk about it. He didn't want to tell you, but he may have been the best operator in Manitoba!

Together Joe and Louise raised their family on the farm until they moved to town with the brothers in 1979. Joe continued to farm until a stroke took him away from the farm at the age of 87. His heart always remained on the farm.

Joe spent time at the Gimli Hospital where he received great care from all the nurses an physiotherapy staff. He lived in Stony Mountain for a few months where he received great care from the Home Care Staff at the Stonewall Hospital. He later moved to the Arborg Personal Care home.

The family would like to thank the wonderful staff at the Arborg PCH. They showed Joe much love and compassion especially in his final days.

A private family Celebration of Life will take place at the family farm in Okno at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Joe's memory to the Arborg Community Cemetery (Box 713 Arborg MB. ROC 0A0)



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