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EXPRESS PHOTO BY RAYME THOMSON

Participants gather as organizers announce prize winners during the Hailey's Way Ice Fishing Derby on March 7 on Lake Winnipeg during the 15th annual Gimli Ice Festival. The fundraiser, organized by Hailey's Way Inc. in memory of Hailey Dugay, supports youth programming and recreational opportunities for Interlake youth.

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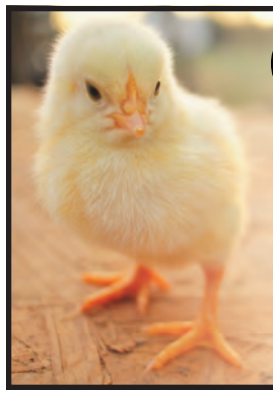

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Young Métis trailblazer named Manitoba's 2026 Champion Child

By Annaliese Meier

Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba has announced eight-year-old Ireland Gault as Manitoba's 2026 Champion Child — a role that will see the young Métis ambassador represent the more than 140,000 children who rely on HSC Children's Hospital each year.

The moment was especially meaningful for Ireland's family and friends, who gathered to cheer her on — a celebration made possible by a life-changing surgery she received as an infant.

Born in March 2017 to Courtney and Will Gault, Ireland appeared to be a healthy baby. But as part of Manitoba's universal newborn hearing screening program, she did not pass her initial hearing test. Further assessments revealed she had profound hearing loss in both ears.

"There were so many unknowns, and we were very scared for Ireland's future," said her mother, Courtney.

At just 10 months old, Ireland became the youngest person in Manitoba to undergo bilateral cochlear implant surgery. The procedure, performed at HSC Children's Hospital, allowed her access to sound during a critical stage of brain development.

"You're letting go of your baby and trusting the process," said her father, Will. "We're grateful that she was able to receive this miraculous surgery in such a warm and welcoming environment."

After a month of healing, Ireland's implants — which she proudly calls her "ears" — were activated. For the first time, she heard her parents' voices.

"The Children's Hospital gave our daughter life-changing surgery and the ultimate gift of hearing," Courtney said. "We went around the house turning on the water so she could hear it. We went outside to listen to the birds."

Ireland Gault as a baby after becoming the first infant in Manitoba to receive bilateral cochlear implants.

Today, Ireland is an energetic Grade 3 student who loves gymnastics, singing and cheerleading. She is also a devoted big sister to Taylor. While she sometimes faces challenges hearing in busy environments, her implants have enabled her to develop speech and language skills alongside her peers.

Her early surgery has also helped change the standard of care in Manitoba. Since Ireland's procedure in 2018, doctors at HSC Children's Hospital have

Continued on page 8

EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Ireland Gault, now eight, has been named Manitoba's 2026 Champion Child and will help raise awareness and support for the children who rely on HSC Children's Hospital each year.

Evergreen Staff Spotlight

Celebrating the People Who Make Our Schools Work

Meet Justin Berthaudin – Head Mechanic, Evergreen School Division

Since joining Evergreen in 2014, Justin Berthaudin has played a critical role in keeping students safe on the road. Hired initially as a licensed mechanic, Justin took on the role of Head Mechanic in December 2022, bringing years of experience, strong leadership, and a deep commitment to safety to Evergreen's transportation team.

Justin's path to this work began after high school, when he spent five years working in a mine before it closed in 2002. That experience led him to enroll in diesel mechanics, where he earned his Red Seal certification in 2005 — a foundation that has served him well throughout his career.

Today, Justin and his team are responsible for maintaining 36 school buses, along with multiple maintenance vehicles across the division. Their work includes oil changes, regular safety inspections, warranty repairs, and responding to service calls and breakdowns. "When we respond to a breakdown or service call, we do so quickly and efficiently," Justin explains, "always keeping safety as the top priority."

While much of his work happens behind the scenes, its impact is felt every day by students, families, and staff. Safe, reliable transportation depends on the careful, consistent work done in the shop — long before a bus ever leaves the yard.

What Justin enjoys most about his role is the collaboration. "I like being able to interact with a variety of different roles — bus drivers, transportation staff, maintenance workers," he says. That teamwork ensures the system runs smoothly and students get where they need to go safely, day after day.

Thank you, Justin, for your expertise, leadership, and dedication to student safety. Evergreen's transportation system runs stronger because of the work you and your team do every single day.

Interviewed by and pictured with trustee Gladys Kohler

Argyle farmer's bull sells for nearly $7,700

By E. Antonio

Argyle farmer Ian Smith saw a record payday when one of his Shorthorn bulls sold for nearly $7,700 at the Winnipeg Livestock Yards on Feb. 27.

Smith, who has been involved in the cattle industry for more than three decades, said it is the highest price he has ever received for one of his animals. He operates Armac Shorthorns, a farm he purchased from his parents in 1993.

The bull, officially registered as Muridale Gallagher, weighed in at 2,965 pounds the morning of the sale and sold for $2.59 per pound — setting a personal record for Smith and marking one of the highest prices for a culled bull at the Winnipeg Livestock Yards.

Smith said he wasn't present when the bull sold, something he now says may have been for the best.

"I think I would have shed a tear or two," he said with a laugh.

He originally purchased the bull seven years ago as a yearling for $4,000 from a breeder in Swift Current, Sask. Since then, the animal has been an important part of Smith's herd, with semen collected for artificial insemination to improve genetics across his cattle.

While Smith expected a strong return due to the current cattle market, he said he was still surprised when he saw the final cheque.

"The prices are extreme right now with there being a beef shortage all over the world," he said. "Cattle is a commodity and the prices are reflective of that."

Smith doesn't plan to hold onto his earnings for long, already having his eyes set on upgrading his equipment.

"Like most farmers, I spend the money as quickly as I make it," he said. "A farmer never keeps his pockets full of money because we're always investing it to make our lives easier."

Smith plans to maintain a closed herd by relying on artificial insemination rather than purchasing new cattle, a practice he says helps limit the spread of disease.

However, he still has three bulls lined up for upcoming sales. Two will be sold at the Douglas Bull and Female Sale on March 28, with another heading to the Lundar Bull Sale on April 4. He hopes the current market conditions will bring strong prices there as well.

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ian Smith, owner of Armac Shorthorns in Argyle, saw his Shorthorn bull sell for a record-setting price of $2.59 per pound at the Winnipeg Livestock Yards sale on Feb. 27. Weighing 2,965 pounds, the bull brought in nearly $7,700.

While Smith believes the market could remain strong for the next couple of years, he knows the industry can change quickly.

"All it takes is some major disease or disaster and everything could plummet," he said.

Despite the uncertainty, Smith said he wouldn't trade the farming lifestyle for anything.

"I can say I've never worked a day in my life because I enjoy what I do," he said. "I love how I feel about farming and I'm proud of this lifestyle I've taken on — it's in my blood."

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"Building a Lasting Legacy"

Four decades of childcare celebrated in Lundar

By Lana Meier

After 40 years of shaping young lives in Lundar, Bonnie Lynn Rae is closing one chapter and beginning another.

Rae was recently honoured for her four decades of service at the Lundar Day Care, where she has played a central role in caring for and nurturing generations of children in the community. Interlake–Gimli MLA Derek Johnson presented Rae with a certificate recognizing her 40th anniversary of employment and her retirement during a special visit on Feb. 26.

The certificate acknowledged Rae's dedication, commitment and care throughout a valued career of service, noting that 40 years of employment is a remarkable testament to perseverance, professionalism and the positive impact of a lifetime of hard work.

In a social media post following the presentation, Johnson described Rae's milestone as "a remarkable achievement."

"Bonnie has helped shape generations of children in our community," he wrote.

Johnson added that what makes Rae's legacy especially meaningful is seeing former children in her care now returning as parents themselves.

"What makes this even more special is that some of the parents who now bring their children to the day care were once in Bonnie's care themselves," the post continued. "That kind of legacy cannot be measured. It speaks to trust, compassion and a lifetime of impact."

Over four decades, Rae became a familiar and trusted presence for countless families in Lundar and the surrounding area. Her work extended far beyond daily routines, helping children learn, grow and feel safe during their earliest years.

Community members also shared their appreciation online. In a Facebook comment, Laura Burdett reflected on Rae's lasting impact across generations.

"The woman that was there for my children when they attended day care and then my grandchildren," Burdett wrote. "Bonnie was always a kind, welcoming face to all who entered the day care. Congratulations on her 40 years and her retirement."

While retirement marks the end of her time at the day care, the impact of her career will continue to be felt for years to come — reflected in the many young people and families she has supported.

Johnson concluded his message by wishing Rae continued happiness, good health and fulfillment as she embarks on her well-earned retirement.

EXPRESS PHOTO FROM INSTAGRAM

Interlake–Gimli MLA Derek Johnson (left) presents Bonnie Lynn Rae with a plaque recognizing her 40 years of service at the Lundar Day Care during a special visit on Feb. 26. Rae was honoured for four decades of caring for and nurturing generations of children in the Lundar community as she prepares to retire.

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The forgotten fishery: wild-caught, freshwater fisheries seemingly ignored in market disputes

By Patricia Barrett

Canada's lobster and crab industry got a break earlier this month from almost a year of Chinese tariffs of 25 per cent after Prime Minister Mark Carney was able to strike a deal with Chinese president Xi Jinping.

China lifted its tariff on the two ocean species — the largest Canadian exports by value to China — on March 1 in exchange for limited access to Canada's electric vehicle market. The deal appeared to leave other sea species in tariff limbo.

It also seemingly failed to consider Canada's freshwater fisheries, which produce thousands of tonnes of wild-caught fish each year. That generates about $135 million in annual sales, according to federal fisheries and oceans' 2023 data.

Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher and analyst Bill Buckels said Canada's wild-caught inland fisheries are being ignored by the federal government as global trade relationships fragment and tariffs are increasingly used to protect domestic production.

Both the federal and provincial governments should be doing all they can to "explore new markets" for Canada's forgotten wild-caught inland fisheries, he said.

"It seems that Global Affairs Canada doesn't care about inland fishers. Everything's about lobster and crab and the east coast and the west coast," said Buckels. "Even here in Manitoba, it seems it's all about pork and canola producers. It's never about other food producers like commercial fishers."

Wild-caught Lake Winnipeg fish such as pickerel, whitefish and pike is shown.

He calls Lake Winnipeg the "hub" of the inland fishery in Western Canada. The lake is the largest wild-caught freshwater fishery in the West, roughly equal to Lake Erie's wild-caught fishery, with American production excluded.

With the uncertainty surrounding CUSMA negotiations this year, Buckels said Canadian political leaders and trade representatives need to explore new markets for "all" Canadian fish. The wild-caught freshwater industry is heavily reliant on sales to America.

"American tariffs have so far not had an impact on us because there is currently no tariff on the fish we export to the United States. But that could change," said Buckels. "And we've lost other markets; our freshwater fish exports are still banned from the Russian market."

Russia imposed an embargo on Canadian fish and seafood products in 2014 after Russia annexed Crimea in southern Ukraine. Canada had placed economic sanctions on Russia in response to its invasion.

EXPRESS FILE PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Commercial fishers at Gimli Harbour.

Buckels said the federal government's Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation knew at that time it "should have found a market for all fish, but it, in fact, failed to find a market for all fish."

FFMC used to be the sole purchaser of Manitoba wild-caught fish before the provincial Conservative government abolished the monopoly in 2017 and created an open market.

In 2024 and 2025, FFMC saw losses of $7.2 million and $7.6 million respectively, according to the corpora-

Continued on page 9

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Flashback... Jan. 1, 2000 - the Y2K scare

By Dennis Young

As the year 2000 approached, global attention was drawn to the so-called Millennium Bug, commonly referred to as Y2K. The issue was anticipated to have significant consequences for technologically advanced nations, with predictions that core infrastructure might fail — including malfunctions in aircraft and automotive chips, the loss of bank account data and disruptions to everyday household appliances.

The term "Y2K" described anticipated computer errors related to the formatting and storage of calendar data for dates from the year 2000 onward. Many programs represented four-digit years using only the last two digits (e.g., 1985 as 85), making it difficult to distinguish between the year 2000 and 1900. As a result, there was concern that computer systems' inability to process dates accurately could jeopardize computer-dependent infrastructure worldwide.

Throughout 1999, media outlets consistently reported on updates, precautionary strategies and potential disaster scenarios. Literature such as Y2K for Dummies aimed to assist the public in navigating these uncertainties, and there were even reports of survival courses and underground shelters being organized.

The Canadian government took considerable measures. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien instructed key cabinet ministers to remain in Ottawa, assembling at 24 Sussex Drive to monitor the situation as midnight approached. Additionally, 13,000 Canadian troops were placed on alert. Locally, the RCMP advised citizens to prepare for possible emergencies, assuring them of continuous policing services.

The RM proactively filled reservoirs at Stephenfield and staffed facilities, including readying generators in case of electrical failure. The Community Hall was designated the Emergency Operations Centre, equipped with a portable generator since permanent backup power had yet to be installed. A detailed advertisement in the Valley Leader outlined comprehensive preventive steps and procedures for utilities, health care, law enforcement and emergency supplies.

Ultimately, the predicted crises associated with Y2K did not materialize on a global scale. Manitoba Hydro reportedly expended $16,000 in preparations but, like local governments, expressed relief at the absence of significant issues.

"Our primary concern was the new water treatment plant, which operated without incident," stated RM CAO Lind Baleja. "We remained cautious and implemented robust contingency plans."

Similarly, Town CAO Cheryl Young and hospital director Betty Park confirmed that operations proceeded smoothly.

International incidents on January 1, 2000:

- Japan: Thirteen train stations temporarily ceased dispensing tickets.
- South Korea: Patient intake forms mistakenly recorded a newborn as 100 years old.
- Hong Kong: Breathalyzers and taxi meters failed at midnight.
- Germany: Childcare subsidies were delayed due to payroll system errors.
- Italy: Prisoners' release dates were erroneously extended by 100 years.
- United Kingdom: An error calculating the ages of 154 pregnant women resulted in incorrect Down syndrome risk assessments.
- United States: More than 3,000 Oregon residents erroneously received jury duty summonses.
- Canada: A daycare inadvertently offered a spot to a woman registered as 105 years old.

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Canola growers express concern about closure of agriculture research stations

By Jennifer McFee

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada recently announced that they will be closing multiple research stations and reducing staff levels across the country, and canola growers are expressing concern about the impacts.

Delaney Ross Burtnack, executive director of the Manitoba Canola Growers Association, said that each research station has its own series of research priorities. As far as they know at this point, the only research station closing in Manitoba is in Portage la Prairie.

"The collective group of locations also worked together as a geographically diverse network to ensure agricultural testing happens in a range of locations and conditions," she said.

"In Portage, work like early-maturity soybean testing, winter wheat variety adaptation for Manitoba conditions, and operating as a central location for extension and reporting of that work were important functions."

She outlined some of the possible impacts of these closures.

"Stakeholders across agriculture have met repeatedly since this announcement to try and assess the depth of the impact," she said.

"Without clarity on how the ongoing research work at affected locations and by affected staff will managed going forward, we can only speculate on the most obvious impacts. These latest cuts compound with ongoing erosion of funding in recent decades to further weaken prairie-wide research capacity."

This situation risks the integrity of the research network and leaves geographical gaps, she added.

"We are not clear how they will be addressed. Public funding continues to shrink, putting more pressure on farm groups like ours to seek out funding for the research work farmers need," Ross Burtnack said.

"That work may not be replaced by the private sector or would benefit from long-term continuity and third-party unbiased oversight. In the current trade environment where Canada is seeking to grow and secure its agricultural sector, this is a step in the wrong direction."

Delaney Ross Burtnack is the executive director of the Manitoba Canola Growers Association.

The role of research is essential in the industry.

"Publicly funded research is the foundation of innovation in agriculture," she said.

"It encompasses so much of the work that happens before a product, crop variety or production technique is commercialized, and much of the work that doesn't have commercial potential because it's too small a market or too regional to be of interest to the private sector, for example."

Across Manitoba, there are about 6,000 canola farms, including 327 in the Interlake region.

EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Across Manitoba, there are about 6,000 canola farms, including this one in the Teulon area.

"Farmers recognize the value of efficient operations. However, there is real and shared concern across the sector that this decision will cause significant gaps and damage to the agricultural research sector at a time when research and innovation has never been more important," she said.

"Manitoba Canola Growers Association is working closely with our counterparts across Canada to get clear on the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada decision and next steps in order to support and protect the research needs of farmers and the industry as a whole."

Warren Ellis, board chair of the Manitoba Canola Growers Association, has a canola farm based in Wawanesa.

"As a Manitoba farmer, I'm concerned about what these Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada decision staff cuts mean for the future of canola research," Ellis said.

"Public independent research delivers real value for farmers, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada decision researchers and support staff have done tremendous work for our industry over many years. Losing this capacity puts long-term innovation and crop development at risk."

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Community rallies support for Fisher Branch CFRY talent night

By E. Antonio

Twenty talented acts put on their best performance at Fisher Branch Recreation Centre's CFRY Radio Amateur Talent night on Feb. 21.

The night acted as a fundraiser for the rec centre with proceeds supporting ceiling renovation and change room shower upgrades.

Rec centre president Danya Ferris said they had a great turnout.

"All the contestants did a great performance," she said. "From the young one to the older ones — they all did great."

They raised approximately in $9,661.50 in pledges along with another $12,850 in sponsorships totalling $23,115, exceeding the boards expectations.

"The audience support helped bring the community together and made the event a success," Ferris added. "Attendees were asking when we are doing this again."

Winners of the evening included: Most Talented: 1- Emiliya Vasyl'yeva; 2- Luke Anseeuw; 3- Lynette and Brandon Letexier. Most Pledges: 1- Tyson Boychuk ($1415); 2- Lynette and Brandon Letexier ($1,195); 3- Kat Vieira and Daniel Lausman $674.50). CFRY Most Promising Talent: Syril Staana and Micah Arevalo.

The board looks forward to hosting future talent nights in the community.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON

Syril Staana and Micah Arevalo were named CFRY Most Promising Talent during the CFRY Radio Amateur Talent Night held Feb. 21 at the Fisher Branch Recreation Centre. The annual event featured 20 performers and raised funds to support recreation centre upgrades, including ceiling renovations and change-room shower improvements.

> 2026 CHAMPION CHILD, FROM PG. 2

performed cochlear implant surgery on more than 80 children, with 12 of those procedures completed before the child's first birthday. Previously, children typically received implants around 18 months of age.

"Our current treatment timeline for children identified with deafness at birth is to have them all implanted well before their first birthday," said Dr. Darren Leitao, a pediatric otolaryngologist. "Starting with Ireland, we give children almost double the head start of listening and language at very critical times in brain development."

As Manitoba's Champion Child, Ireland will serve as an ambassador through the Champion program affiliated with Canada's Children's Hospital Foundations and Children's Miracle Network. She and her family will attend events throughout the year to raise funds and awareness for Manitoba's only children's hospital and child health research initiatives.

"We are so excited to welcome Ireland to represent the 140,000 kids who need HSC Children's Hospital each year," said Stefano Grande, president and CEO of the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba. "Ireland and her family are already making an impact, sharing their story to raise funds and awareness."

Ireland's family has marked her annual "hearing anniversary" by hosting fundraisers through Will's business, Willy Dogs, in support of the foundation.

For Ireland, the message she hopes to share is simple: "Please help kids like me."

Mom, someone's asking me to send them nudes. what do i do?

NOT SURE **WHAT TO DO NEXT?**

Report to cybertip!ca®

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> FORGOTTEN FISHERY, FROM PG. 5

tion's 2025 annual report. It put those losses down to open-market competition rather than to the start of the new tariff regime.

How possible new tariffs could affect the future revenue of FFMC, other Manitoba fish buyers and the commercial fishers themselves is yet to be seen. For now, Buckels said Manitoba's fishery is primarily affected by market access. China is effectively closed to Manitoba fish.

"Manitoba's commercial fishery is under pressure because we have a limited market. I'd like to know what the federal government has to say about that. For all fish, I want to see access to as many markets as possible," said Buckels. "And I want to see support for those markets — especially by our provincial government since commercial fishing is very important to our Indigenous communities."

He added he's not aware of any trade advocacy efforts the provincial fisheries department has carried out on behalf of the Manitoba commercial fishery.

"The province hasn't demonstrated any interest in advancing the interests of the Manitoba commercial fishery. This demonstrates the province's attitude towards the inland commercial fishery, how unimportant they think it is," he said. "We have a viable commercial fishery here. We're a food business the same as any farmer. The provincial government needs to advocate for new freshwater fish markets in Europe and our continuing access to the American market. And we need to have a provincial trade delegation to China."

The *Express* asked the Manitoba department of fisheries what sort of advocacy efforts it has made with regard to the tariff regime. It didn't provide an answer.

The Fisheries Council of Canada (FCC) says it is the "united voice for Canada's wild-capture fisheries industry," and with regard to the 25 per cent tariff China implemented in March 2025, the FCC had warned of a "catastrophic" impact on and "existential threat" to fishing operations across the country.

In January of this year, the council welcomed the lifting of the Chinese tariff on crab and lobster but asked the federal government for "further clarity" on other seafood species. FCC made no mention of wild-caught (wild-capture) freshwater species.

Lake Winnipeg, Lake Manitoba, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario and Great Slave Lake, to mention a few, are considered wild-caught fisheries.

The *Express* reached out to the fisheries council, asking where the council sees other market opportunities for Canadian freshwater fish and seafood, and what it expects with regard to fish when CUSMA negotiations get underway, among other questions. It didn't respond.

Global Affairs Canada didn't respond to questions about the lifting of the Chinese tariffs on only lobster and crab and the impact on the commercial fishing industry since the tariffs were applied in 2025.

The federal department of fisheries and oceans said the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation does not have sales in China; therefore, its sales revenues have not been affected by Chinese tariffs.

Overnight spike hits Manitoba

EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL

Gas prices jumped sharply overnight at service stations, rising from 141.9 cents per litre on March 5 to 149.9 cents per litre in less than 24 hours. The increase reflects a broader spike seen across the province and Canada in recent days, largely driven by rising global oil prices amid escalating conflict in the Middle East and concerns about potential disruptions to international oil supply.

SHARE YOUR VIEWS

About the New Crystal Springs Colony Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Project

You're invited to participate in the review of New Crystal Springs Colony Wastewater Treatment Lagoon Project proposal.

Project Overview

Crystal Springs Colony has proposed a new colony development in the RM of Armstrong, located at SE 28-18-3 EPM. As part of the development, a wastewater treatment lagoon is proposed.

The lagoon will consist of two cells: a primary cell with a capacity of 6,538 m^3 and a secondary cell with a capacity of 21,856 m^3 for a total of 28,394 m^3. The lagoon will include a synthetic HDPE liner and a gas venting system.

The lagoon will discharge into the Road 15E drain and travel north to Willow Creek. The effluent will follow Willow Creek east approximately 15km where it will enter Lake Winnipeg.

The Manitoba Clean Environment Commission, as requested by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, will conduct a public hearing about the potential environmental impacts of the operation of the proposed project.

The hearing will take place in Fraserwood on April 21, 22 and 23, 2026 at the Fraserwood Community Hall at 10140 PR 231. Once finalized, a detailed schedule will be posted on the Clean Environment Commission's website at www.cecmanitoba.ca.

Using information gathered from the hearing, the commission will prepare a report for the minister with recommendations.

Hearing information may be viewed at www.cecmanitoba.ca. The environmental application may be accessed on the Department Environmental Public Registry, which is linked from the Clean Environment Commission's website.

Register Today

An evening session on April 22 is reserved for public presentations. If you, your group or organization is interested in making a presentation at this hearing session, please register at least seven (7) days before the session. All presentations are limited to a maximum of 15 minutes. Please note that this limit may be reduced if there is a high volume of presenters. To register, please complete a presenter registration form available at www.cecmanitoba.ca and submit to the commission at cec@cecmanitoba.ca.

If you wish to make your presentation in French or an Indigenous language, please let us know as soon as possible.

Written Submissions

If you prefer, you may provide a written submission. **The deadline for written submissions is April 7, 2026**. Submissions can be sent to cec@cecmanitoba.ca.

Manitoba Clean Environment Commission
305-155 Carlton Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 3H8
Phone: 204-945-7091 or 1-800-597-3556 (toll free)
Email: cec@cecmanitoba.ca www.cecmanitoba.ca

Manitoba CLEAN·ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

Manitoba

Just Hang Up campaign aims to protect older adults from scammers

By Jennifer McFee

When in doubt, just hang up.

This simple yet succinct message aims to protect older adults from phone scams. It's part of an anti-fraud campaign through the provincial government and Winnipeg Police Service.

Grandparent scams and emergency scams involve fraudsters calling an older adult and impersonating a grandchild or family member in distress, sometimes using artificial intelligence, based on information obtained from social media, public information or data breaches. According to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, Manitobans aged 60 and up reported losing almost $350,000 to these types of scams in 2024.

The Just Hang Up campaign aims to stop scams the moment they begin by encouraging people to just hang up when in doubt about a phone call. The campaign uses a multi-channel approach to reach older adults and their families in an effort to strengthen fraud literacy through clear community messaging that builds confidence to pause, hang up, verify information with family and report incidents.

Deborah Hildebrandt, executive director of South Interlake 55 Plus, said this campaign is a great concept to promote while protecting older adults from these crimes.

"As an organization who serves older adults, we are always looking at various ways to educate community around frauds and scams from these heinous crimes," she said.

"In September, we hosted a Frauds and Scams presentation with the RCMP, which was extremely informative and included sharing ideas on how to protect themselves from fraudsters."

South Interlake 55 Plus, together with CIBC, will host another Frauds and Scams education session on May 14 at 7 p.m. All community members are welcome, and Hildebrandt hopes family members of older adults can also learn about these scams.

"Public awareness is critical to informing older adults about scams; therefore, we utilize social media platforms such as Facebook to share tips around protection from scammers," she said.

"Now the Just Hang Up campaign solidifies another method older adults can use if they are in caught in the midst of being scammed."

Even right here in the Interlake, fraudsters are targeting older adults.

"I have heard of folks in our area being scammed and it has been alarming to hear. The scammers are taking advantage of those vulnerable individuals while in an emotional state," Hildebrandt said.

"Therefore, education is key to eliminating this from occurring, and we will continue with providing education sessions in the future. If anyone in community would like to know more about frauds and scams, they can connect with us directly and we can provide them with the resources needed to protect themselves."

EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Learn more about how to protect yourself from scams at justhangup.ca.

Joie Van Dongen, chair of Age Friendly Stonewall/Rockwood, said she has also heard of older adults being targeted by scammers in local communities.

"It has been a cautionary tale for others," she said.

The new campaign's name "Just Hang Up" is very clear, she added.

"Seniors need to understand that it may seem rude and upsetting, but whomever is calling will call back if the call is important. This gives one time to calm down and phone family or a friend for advice," Van Dongen said.

"At times, one may be expecting a phone call from an unrecognized number and you must answer the call. It is a good idea to keep your contacts up to date so you can see the name of who is calling. Also, having a code name with family is an excellent plan."

A recent TV ad about a grandchild-in-trouble scam is well done, she added.

"It is very easy to panic when confronted by someone pretending to be a grandchild, that your computer has been hacked or you owe money," she said.

"Always ask for a phone number to call back and then hang up."

Through the Just Hang Up campaign, provincial funding will support online resources, promotional materials and advertising to educate older adults, while also empowering victims by challenging the stigma of being scammed. The campaign encourages reporting to prevent further victimization, and it includes an online resource hub at justhangup.ca.

The funding has also enabled the Winnipeg Police Service to develop a presentation that will continue reaching older adults well beyond the campaign's completion. The WPS Community Relations Division, in partnership with A & O: Support Services for Older Adults, will deliver in-person presentations to provide older adults with practical tools and awareness to help prevent victimization. Over the next six months, the campaign aims to engage with more than 700 people during these sessions. Information on how to book WPS and A & O group presentations can be found at justhangup.ca/.

Amanda Macrae, CEO of A & O Support Services for Older Adults, said the organization is proud to partner with Winnipeg Police Service to deliver the Just Hang Up campaign.

"The agency remains committed to empowering older people with the knowledge and tools they need to stay safe and age well in their communities. As increasingly complex frauds and scams continue to target older adults, the need for greater public awareness, education and prevention initiatives has never been more critical," she said.

"The Just Hang Up campaign serves as an important tool in helping prevent older individuals from becoming victims of crime."

The Manitoba government provided $134,000 in funding for the campaign from the Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund (CPF). In 2025-26, the province has allocated more than $643,000 in CPF funding to the Winnipeg Police Service for several projects, including the Just Hang Up campaign. CPF redirects proceeds from the sale of seized criminal property toward law enforcement and community safety initiatives.

March is Fraud Prevention Month in Canada. More tips on how to prevent fraud are available at antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.

Anything is possible: Gimli Ice Festival pays tribute to inspiring community members

By Patricia Barrett

The Gimli Ice Festival honoured outstanding members of the community for their dedication to community service and for showing the world that anything is possible if you set mind to it.

This year, the festival paid tribute to Bruce Benson, Alec Baldwin and the late Everett Lloyd.

Festival co-chairs Peter and Susan Holfeuer hold a recognition evening each year before festival launch day to pay tribute to community volunteers who help set up and run the festival, as well as to those who've provided outstanding service to their community.

Gimli resident Sherry Benson-Podolchuk, spoke about her brother Bruce and her nephew Alec's dedication to their community, achievements and service to the social weal.

"I found the evening inspiring, recognizing people who do little things, not grand gestures, and yet their impact reaches beyond society expectations to spread seeds of hope and connection," said Benson-Podolchuk after the award ceremony on March 6. "It inspires another person to do something equally important and that has a ripple effect around the world."

Benson-Podolchuk delivered tributes to Bruce and Alec during the ceremony, which was held at the Gimli Lakeview Resort.

Bruce Benson, a Gimli resident and commercial fisher who created The Flag of Humanity a couple of decades ago, was recognized for his "global movement" to unite humanity through the flag, sending out "seeds of hope for the future," and for practising environmental stewardship.

"Bruce reminds us that making the world a better place doesn't always begin with grand gestures — sometimes, it starts with something as simple, and as profound, as picking up garbage," said Benson-Podolchuk. "For over 20 years, Bruce has dedicated his life to cleaning our planet, beginning right here in Gimli, where he would walk the beaches collecting garbage — and inspiring others, including his own children, to join him."

Martine Sawanas (middle) was honoured as a Gimli Ice Festival Shining Star and Gimli's Bannock Making Queen.

Kathy King (middle), a Gimli Ice Festival Shining Star and Long Term Dedicated Volunteer.

The Gimli Lakeview Resort was recognized as a valued partner and founding member of the Ice Festival.

Benson has travelled all over the world, including to China, India, Guatemala, Thailand and Laos, voluntarily picking up garbage wherever he went and encouraging people to embrace the commonality of being human. He helped establish a charity, The Flag of Humanity Foundation, to disburse funding to financially disadvantaged schools across the globe and promote environmental stewardship.

"Bruce's vision was simple yet profound: to remind us that we are more alike than different, and that kindness and understanding can transcend borders, religions, and politics," said Benson-Podolchuk.

Alec Baldwin, who has autism, is well known in Gimli for his artistic talent, especially when it comes to dogs, his athletic performances and multiple medal wins at Special Olympics competitions, and his stunningly powerful vocal work at festivals and Winnipeg Jets' hockey games.

His community-mindedness is underscored by his commitment to keeping the environment clean by picking up garbage, lending his artistic talents to painting murals on the Gimli seawall and hosting the town's annual dog party.

Benson-Podolchuk said Alec embraced his abilities, proving the world wrong about people with autism.

"From being told he might never speak or learn, Alec has gone on to graduate from high school and achieve extraordinary success in so many areas," she said. "He has never made excuses for a disability; instead he embraced his abilities. This is something we can learn from and celebrate. We can get out of our own comfort zone, not allowing others to put a ceiling on our ability or dreams."

Beyond Alec's achievements, Benson-Podolchuk said his character shines the brightest, and his love for his community is unwavering.

"His gentle personality, sense of humour and quiet kindness have helped him face bullying and unfair judgments with grace. Alec never complains — instead, he chooses to give back," she said. "He is the only person I know who is authentically happy for the winner. He truly celebrates their win in his competitions at Special Olympics."

Benson-Podolchuk thanked Alec for inspiring others to be compassionate and for his determination to achieve whatever he set his heart on.

"Alec, you remind us all what it means to believe in ourselves, to follow our dreams and to live without limits or judgments," she said. "We are deeply grateful that you are part of our community, showing us every day that with heart and perseverance, anything is possible."

The festival presented Bruce and Alec with commemorative plaques recognizing their individual achievements.

The festival also paid tribute to the late Everett Lloyd, who was a dedicated ice festival volunteer and the inspiration behind the creation of the festival's polar bear mascot, Cooley, in 2013.

Lloyd had recorded a song in the 1980s about a polar bear named Cooley who was serving as Santa's helper. That song turned into the festival's endearing mascot, who greets visitors from all over the world and provides games for the kids at the festival.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY RAYME THOMSON

Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson presented Gimli Ice Festival volunteers with a 15 year plaque.

Everett Lloyd was honoured for the creation of Cooley, the Gimli Ice Festival Community mascot.

EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Bruce Benson (left) and Alec Baldwin were honoured for their achievements and inspiration.

Georgetown Acres & Interlake Garden Centre request land rezoning in Winnipeg Beach

By Patricia Barrett

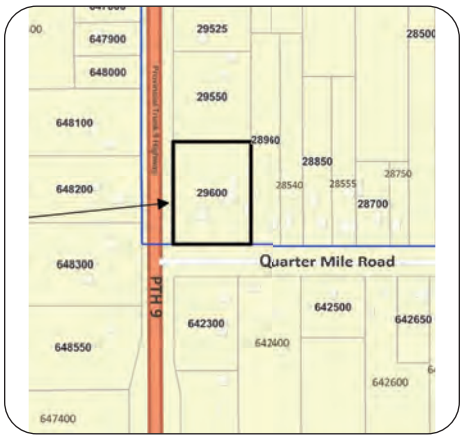
The Eastern Interlake Planning District (EIPD) will be holding a public hearing early next month to consider the rezoning of a parcel of land to better align with an already-established garden centre business on the site.

GRT Consulting Ltd. submitted an application to the EIPD in January on behalf of Georgetown Acres & Interlake Garden Centre.

Gimli-born Rayme Thomson and his wife Michelle took over ownership of the garden centre, which has been serving the community for over 30 years. They modified the name to include "Georgetown" in homage to Rayme's dad and entrepreneur George Thomson.

The couple are considering future development that could see the production of pumpkins, vegetables and cut flowers, according to their website.

The Thomsons are asking EIPD to consider re-designating the land to commercial general — which accommodates commercial development outside of a central business district



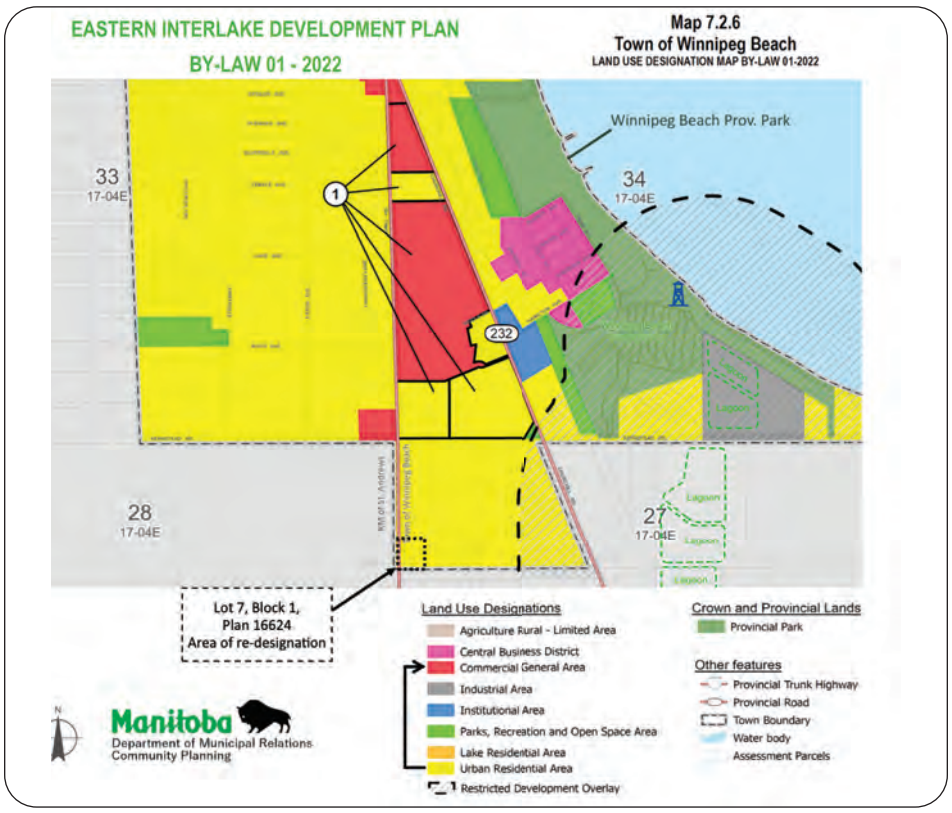
The garden centre is located at the corner of Highway 9 and Quarter Mile Road in Winnipeg Beach.

— so that it better aligns with the current and anticipated scope of their business.

The property is currently zoned urban residential and is located at the junction of Highway 9 and Quarter Mile Road.

"Our intent is not to enhance or capitalize on the physical property itself,

Continued on page 13



EASTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT

A request to re-designate a parcel of land in Winnipeg Beach will affect the area outlined in the black dashed line. A public hearing will be held on April 2.

Try a pit dip this summer at Steep Rock Quarry

By Patricia Barrett

With more and more Manitobans opting to explore the terrain close to home rather than travel abroad, a cool dip in a big limestone pit might just be the ticket to a new summertime adventure.

The RM of Grahamdale's council is embarking on a pilot project to enhance the visitor experience at Steep Rock Quarry, which features chiselled limestone cliffs, a towering rocky island, a long narrow jetty and stunning turquoise-coloured water.

Council wants to create seasonal business opportunities at the quarry and is inviting entrepreneurs to send in their ideas for a temporary operation, which can be run from June to the end of September.

The RM is offering four rent-free sites.

Steep Rock town and Lake Manitoba are shown to the left, with the quarry to the right.

The RM's administrative assistant Sandahl Bauch, who recently returned to working with the RM, is overseeing the quarry enhancement project and a request for proposals (RFPs) on behalf of council.

Continued on page 21

IMAGE COURTESY OF RM OF GRAHAMDALE

An overhead view of the Steep Rock Quarry with four rent-free sites available to prospective entreprenuers. The RM of Grahamdale is inviting proposals for seasonal businesses such as food and non-alcoholic beverages, retail, recreational services and so forth. Proposals must be submitted by April 7.

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Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
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> RE-ZONING, FROM PG. 12

nor to increase any developmental intensity, building scale, or site usage beyond its existing form," states the Thomsons' application, which is part of the EIPD's circulation package. "The rezoning is sought to place the business within a more appropriate and encompassing regulatory framework that accurately reflects its evolving range of activities. As such, the operation of the business has the potential to extend beyond the limitations of residential zoning and are more suitably categorized under a Commercial designation."

As the proposal is administrative in nature, it won't "introduce new impacts related to traffic, noise or neighbourhood character," the Thomsons wrote, "and the existing use and physical conditions of property continue."

The garden centre offers a wide range of plants, seeds and garden accessories, and promotes sustainable gardening practices, according to its website.

Commercial general zone can accommodate larger developments with outdoor displays and storage. In addition to garden centres, businesses can include automobile sales and building supply centres.

On Feb. 5, the EIPD's board passed first reading of a bylaw (No. 01-2026) to amend its Development Plan (bylaw No. 01-2022) in order to allow for the proposed zoning change.

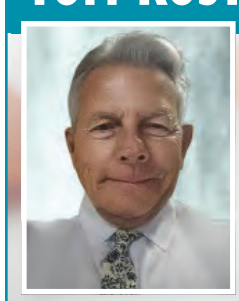
Amendments to the EIPD's Development Plan require three readings and approval from the provincial minister of municipal and northern relations

An administration note in the EIPD's circulation package states that should the commercial general zone be approved, there will be a future proposed rezoning amendment to a commercial highway zone.

The EIPD handles land-use development, building and planning services in partnership with the Rural Municipality of Gimli, the Town of Winnipeg Beach, the Town of Arborg and the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton. Each entity has two members of council that sit on the EIPD board.

The public hearing will be held on April 2 at 5 p.m. in Town of Winnipeg beach council chambers at 39 Robinson St.

TOM KOSTER DENTURE CLINIC



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eiwd

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TO REGISTER: Call Us 204-642-7578 | Visit Our Website www.eastinterlake.ca | Email Us info@eastinterlake.ca

Deadline to Register: Monday March 23rd

eiwd | Manitoba Association of Watersheds | Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada | GROW Manitoba

Funding for this project [in part] has been provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Agricultural Climate Solutions – On-Farm Climate Action Fund.

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Gimli hosts send-off for Team Einarson

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY RAYME THOMSON

Pictured with Gimli Mayor Kevin Chudd are Karlee Burgess, Shannon Birchard and Kerri Einarson. Missing from the photo are Val Sweeting and Krysten Karwacki.

By Haley Cvar

Fans gathered at the Gimli Recreation Centre on March 7 to give a warm community send-off to Team Kerri Einarson as they prepare to represent Canada at the World Women's Curling Championship in Calgary from March 14 to 22. The event featured an autograph session, jersey raffle, refreshments and cake. Supporters packed the second-floor venue to congratulate the Manitoba-based rink and wish them luck on the international stage. Gimli Mayor Kevin Chudd and Interlake–Gimli MLA Derek Johnson were also in attendance to offer their congratulations and best wishes to the team. Several attendees won signed Team Einarson jerseys during a raffle held as part of the celebration. Proceeds from the jersey raffle were donated to Gimli youth curling.

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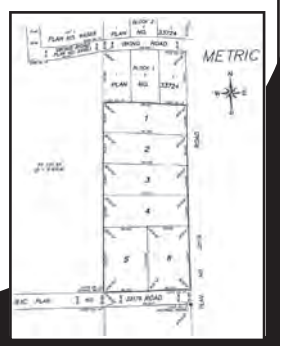

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MARCH ONSITE
Week 2 Consignment Sale
Viewing: March 16-19 from 9 AM to 5PM. Bidding starts: March 19, 2026 at 9:00AM.Lots start closing on March 26, 2026 at 10:00AM. Pick up days: Friday, March 27th & Saturday March 28th from 9 AM to 5 PM

MARCH ONSITE Week 3
Consignment Sale
Viewing: March 23rd -26th from 9 AM to 5PM. Bidding starts: March 26th, 2026 at 9:00AM. Lots start closing on April 1, 2026 at 10:00AM. Pick up days: Thursday, April 2nd & Friday April 3 from 9 AM to 5 PM

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Three decades of service, a lifetime of rest

Rene Sutyla marks 30 years at Smitty's as store nears 50th anniversary

By Lana Meier

As Smitty's Furniture & Appliances prepares to celebrate 50 years in business this May, one of its longest-serving team members is marking a milestone of his own.

Rene Sutyla is celebrating 30 years of customer service at the locally owned business — a career defined by product knowledge, steady professionalism and a commitment to helping customers make informed decisions.

Over three decades, Sutyla has assisted thousands of customers, many of whom return time and again — sometimes bringing the next generation with them.

"It's always been about taking care of people," Sutyla said. "You see families come back generation after generation. That trust means everything."

Sutyla actually began his career at Smitty's on the delivery truck before quickly transitioning into sales, where his primary focus became electronics and mattresses.

His interest in mattresses, however, stemmed from a personal experience that predated his time at the store.

Five years before joining Smitty's, Sutyla was involved in a car accident that left him with lingering back issues. After beginning his training at the store and learning more about sleep systems and proper support, he was able to apply that knowledge to his own situation.

"With the information I was taught after starting at Smitty's, I was able to find the right mattress for me," Sutyla said. "It almost eliminated the issues from my accident."

That firsthand experience gave him a deeper understanding of how the right mattress can affect comfort and overall well-being — something he continues to share with customers today.

From traditional spring mattresses to modern hybrid and foam technology, Sutyla has seen the industry evolve significantly.

"Products have changed a lot," he said. "There are more options now than ever before. My job is to help people understand what works for them."

Current owner Larry Kornelsen said Sutyla's consistency and approach have helped define the customer experience at Smitty's.

"He has been dedicated and loyal throughout the years," Kornelsen said. "He has built many loyal customers through his friendly personality. Customers feel cared for because he listens rather than pushing sales."

That listening approach, Kornelsen said, is what builds long-term relationships in a locally owned business.

"Customer trust is very important," he said. "It is key to long-term success."

Longevity like Sutyla's is increasingly rare in today's retail landscape, where staff turnover can be high and customer relationships fleeting.

"Thirty years is rare," Kornelsen said. "He loves his job, so that helps a lot."

Kornelsen added that Sutyla's strengths extend beyond mattress sales.

"Rene is very knowledgeable in all the products," he said. "He is patient with customers and not pushy."

Over the years, Sutyla has worked under two owners — founder Don Smith and now Kornelsen — witnessing firsthand the evolution of the family-run business while maintaining its community roots.

Kornelsen said Sutyla reflects the values established when the store first opened.

"He does well," he said, noting Sutyla's steady presence and customer-first mindset.

> **"IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT TAKING CARE OF PEOPLE. YOU SEE FAMILIES COME BACK GENERATION AFTER GENERATION. THAT TRUST MEANS EVERYTHING."**

As the retail environment has shifted through economic ups and downs, changes in consumer trends and the rise of online shopping, Smitty's has continued to focus on personal service — something both men say remains the store's greatest strength.

To mark Sutyla's 30 years, Smitty's is hosting a one-day celebration sale on March 27 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Customers are invited to stop in for coffee and doughnuts, sign a banner with a message for Sutyla and take advantage of special anniversary discounts.

The event will feature a minimum 10 per cent discount on all beds and 30 per cent off bedding accessories. The store will also introduce its new 50th Anniversary Edition Mattress with a special introductory offer.

Customers can always expect "friendly service," Kornelsen said.

The celebration comes just weeks before Smitty's reaches its own major milestone.

In May, the business will mark 50 years of serving the community.

"It represents an established business that has been able to weather the ups and downs in business," Kornelsen said. "It's stable, it's here to stay and it will continue to serve the community."

For Sutyla, the focus remains where it has always been — on helping customers make confident, comfortable choices.

"I have enjoyed the opportunity to assist our customers over the past 30 years and look forward to the future," he said. "And keep an eye out for another milestone — Smitty's turns 50 in May."

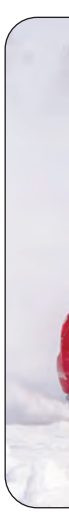
Three decades in, Sutyla's dedication continues to reflect the steady, relationship-driven approach that has helped sustain Smitty's Furniture & Appliances for nearly half a century — one customer, and one good night's sleep, at a time.

A late-winter weekend's dream

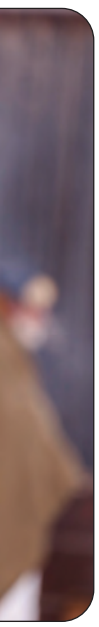
By Patricia Barrett

Winter fans got their fill of ice and snow during the 15th annual Gimli Ice Festival last weekend, with polar games team competitions, a fishing derby, harness dog winter sports, horse-drawn wagon rides and bannock and taffy.

The festival offered timeless favourites including the frozen fish toss, the frozen T-shirt competition, Fire on Ice sports-car racing on Lake Winnipeg and Viking battles. The festival also had a vendor market showcasing Gimli Red River Métis artisans, an ATV show, a journey to Arendelle, festival mascot Cooley's outdoor games and a spectacular fireworks display at the harbour. The festival collaborated with 19 different organizations this year and saw over 100 volunteers pitch in to make it a success.



dream at the Gimli Ice Festival



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY RAYME THOMSON

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS

One-Pot Creamy Shrimp Scampi

Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Servings: 4
1 package (12 ounces) SeaPak Shrimp Scampi
1 1/4 cups half-and-half or milk
1 1/4 cups chicken stock
8 ounces linguine noodles
6 cups fresh spinach
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
4 lemon wedges

In large, high-sided saute pan, add shrimp and cook according to package directions. Remove shrimp to bowl and keep warm.

In same pan with scampi sauce, stir in half-and-half and stock. Bring to low boil. Add pasta. Cook, stirring occasionally, until pasta is cooked al dente, 8-10 minutes.

Stir in spinach and cook just until beginning to wilt. Stir reserved shrimp into pan.

To serve, divide shrimp scampi between four bowls and top each with grated Parmesan. Serve with lemon wedges.

Butterfly Shrimp Bruschetta

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Servings: 6
1 package (9 ounces) SeaPak Jumbo Butterfly Shrimp
1 baguette
3 garlic cloves, divided
6 tablespoons olive oil, divided
3 cups grape or cherry tomatoes, seeded and finely diced
1/3 cup chopped basil, plus additional for garnish
salt, to taste
pepper, to taste

Preheat oven to 425 F. Bake shrimp according to package directions and keep warm.

Slice baguette to match number of shrimp. Rub one garlic clove over one side of each slice of bread. Brush garlic-rubbed sides with 3 tablespoons olive oil. Set aside.

Finely dice remaining garlic.

In medium mixing bowl, stir tomatoes, remaining olive oil, diced garlic and 1/3 cup chopped basil. Season with salt and pepper, to taste, and set aside.

In large, hot skillet, working in batches, add baguette slices oil sides down and cook until browned around edges. Remove from pan.

Top each baguette slice with small spoonful of tomato mixture and one shrimp. Garnish with basil leaf.

Chicken and Rice Bowls with Peanut Sauce

Recipe courtesy of The Produce Moms
Prep time: 7 minutes
Cook time: 5 minutes
Servings: 2
Creamy Peanut Sauce:
1 1/2 tablespoons soy sauce
1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lime juice
2 teaspoons rice vinegar
1 teaspoon honey
1/4 cup creamy peanut butter
1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil
Bowls:
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 cup cooked, shredded chicken
1 cup cooked brown or jasmine rice
1 cup Dandy celery, julienned
1 cup shredded carrot
1/2 medium English cucumber, thinly sliced
1/4 cup unsalted roasted peanuts, coarsely chopped
lime wedges, for serving

To prepare peanut sauce: In small bowl, whisk soy sauce, lime juice, rice vinegar and honey. Add peanut butter and sesame oil. Whisk vigorously until sauce is completely smooth and creamy. Set aside.

To prepare bowls: In nonstick 12-inch skillet over medium-high heat, heat olive oil until simmering. Add shredded chicken and about 3 tablespoons peanut sauce. Stir constantly to coat chicken and heat through, about 3 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside.

To assemble rice bowls: In deep serving bowls, add cooked rice. Top with warm chicken covered in peanut sauce. Arrange celery, carrot and cucumber around chicken. Top with peanuts.

Drizzle remaining peanut sauce over bowls. Serve with lime wedges to squeeze over bowls.

Ask the Money Lady

Dear Money Lady,

I want to change advisors for the New Year because I think I am paying too much. What should I be paying for a portfolio of about $500K. Thanks, John.

Many Canadians worry about the fees they pay their advisors and wonder if they're paying too much regardless of the amount they have saved. Having been an Investment Banker for over 30 years, I can tell you, you do get what you pay for. However, fees, inflation, and future market volatility always eat away at your retirement capital, decreasing your purchasing power, and eventually forcing you to lower your lifestyle as you age. Remember, the key is to maintain a well-diversified portfolio which includes bonds, cash, and high-quality stocks. When you're looking for an investment "partner," try to pick an advisor who really has your best interests at heart and can help you financially plan your future. Ask them what their goals are for your portfolio and how they plan to achieve them. Understand how they're paid and question the commissions they receive on your investments. So, let's talk about that, what should you pay? There are 2 basic fee structures that most advisors adhere to – transactional or fee-based.

Transactional fees are charged with every investment transaction. This is often the case when you buy fixed income investments such as bonds. A fee is charged when you purchase the bond and then again when you sell it. There are not many advisors that still offer transactional fee structures when buying securities. They seem to have left the industry with the vintage old-school stockbrokers who had to do multiple trades every month to make any money. A method we used to call "pump & dump" back in the day. Now we have investment advisors that want to put you in fee-based plans, designed to offer more protection for clients along with a consistent revenue stream for the advisor and brokerage firm.

At the retail level, many financial planners are paid a base salary with a commission matrix based on how they grow their book of business and bring on new clients. Typically, fees are preset and based on the mutual fund you choose ranging from 1% to 2.95%. Investment advisors are usually on straight commission, making them much more motivated to ensure you make a profit of which they in turn are compensated on. Fee-based services range from .75% all the way up to 3%. Some advisors act as personal bankers for ultra-rich clients, doing everything for them, hence they may be able to justify the higher fee structure. But for most of us, we don't need someone to pay our bills and handle our budgets, so if you are paying more than 1.5% for a fee-based portfolio, you may be paying too much. If you have different SMA products, (Separately Managed Accounts) your advisor may increase their fee up to a max of 1.75%.

Really John, the bottom line is, fees are all over the map and vary from one advisor to another. The cost you pay for professional financial advice should be based on your own personal comfort zone. Is your advisor a valued partner that you are willing to pay for, and most importantly are you satisfied with their services? It's always a good idea to periodically check out the competition, talk to your friends and see what they pay. Remember, as you age and move investments into secure fixed income products with lower risk and smaller gains, your number one problem will be fees and expenses.

Good Luck and Best Wishes,
Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer and Syndicated Money Coach on BNN Bloomberg. Christine is also part of the everyday lineup on CTV Your Morning in every province. No AI. Follow Christine on Instagram @askthemoneylady, or on Facebook (Christine Ibbotson).

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Local gymnasts shine at St. Andrews gymnastics competition

By E. Antonio

It was a day full of tumbling, laughter and cheers for several Moosehorn Tumblers gymnasts at the St. Andrews Gymnastics Club competition on Feb. 28.

The athletes joined gymnasts from St. Andrews, Teulon, Grande Pointe and Grandview, with club president Mandy Gall describing the day as a "positive experience for all members."

Every gymnast received at least one medal or ribbon, contributing to a successful competition.

This marks the club's first year operating a competitive program, and the entire season has been a highlight for coaches, gymnasts and the volunteer board of directors on both the recreational and competitive sides of the organization.

The club recently received a grant through the From the Ground Up program, allowing them to purchase new equipment and support their goal of maintaining a safe and welcoming environment.

"A priority for our club is to make our programs as accessible as possible by keeping registration fees as low as we can," Gall said. "We also strive to provide quality programming from amazing instructors by keeping class sizes small and maintaining a supportive environment."

Kayleelynn Sveistrup performs a castaway dismount on bars.

Moosehorn Tumblers welcomes gymnasts from Moosehorn and surrounding communities and currently has about 100 athletes registered this season.

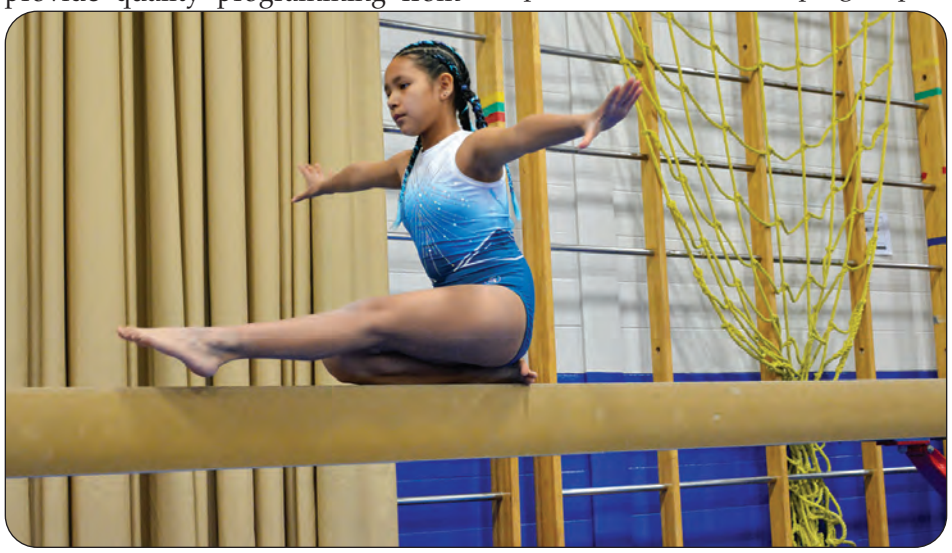
Looking ahead, Gall said the club hopes to continue developing its programs.

"We hope to have our gymnasts continue to reach their highest potential," she said, "and allow our club to evolve to meet their changing needs."

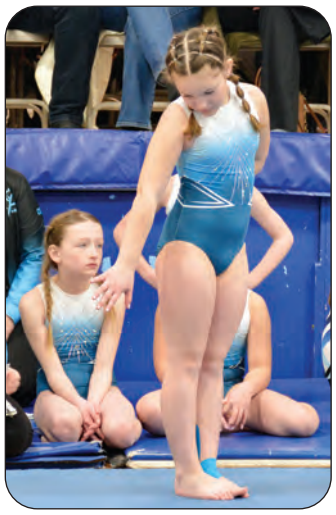
EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Coaches Jordan Granberg and Becky O'Sullivan with Canadian Competitive Program (CCP) level 2 and 3 gymnasts Sara Gall, Ellie Linski, Kennasyn Geisler, Willow Rawluk and Bryce Hoffman.

For more information about Moosehorn Tumblers, email moosehorntumblers@gmail.com.



Ellie Linksi on beam.



Willow Rawluk poses at the start of her floor routine.

Bryce Hoffman in a bridge.

Vivianna Hong on casts on bars.

Kennasyn Geisler and Sara Gall celebrate their second and third place finishes on vault.

Kennasyn Geisler stikes an arabesque on beam.

> TRY A PIT DIP THIS SUMMER, FROM PG. 12

She said the idea is to try to bring more foot traffic to the quarry and provide locals and visitors alike with conveniences.

"This year, we're operating the initiative as a pilot project to gauge business interest and to see if there's anybody out there who would like to set up a small vendor-type business at the quarry," said Bauch. "Although this year is only a pilot project, that may change depending on how it progresses."

Potential businesses can entail food and beverage (non-alcoholic), retail and artisan shops, outdoor recreational services and wellness and leisure services.

The Steep Rock Quarry is located east of Steep Rock Beach on Lake Manitoba. The former limestone quarry operated from 1913 to 1992. Its turquoise-coloured water is created from sunlight hitting green and blue mineral particles in the calcium carbonate, of which limestone is primarily composed.

Bauch said people come to the quarry to sunbathe, swim, drift around on pool floats and kayak to explore different areas of the large quarry. The quarry is not spring-fed or connected to Lake Manitoba; its water comes from snowmelt and rain, and levels can vary from year to year.

To enhance the quarry experience, the RM will be installing a floating dock with a slide attached to it, she said.

People who want a bird's-eye view of the quarry can hit the hiking trails surrounding it, she added. The Steep Rock Cottage Owners Association had created the trails.

There are four prime business locations (named Lot 1, 2, 3, 4) up for grabs at the quarry, and there are no lease fees. Each site measures 20 feet by 20 feet. The operating season will run from June 1 to Sept. 30, and businesses can set their own hours of operation to meet the needs of peak visitor hours.

Successful business proponents won't be able establish a permanent structure at the quarry as this year is only a pilot project.

Businesses must be self-sustainable as no water or electricity is provided and owners must have liability insurance. Waste pick-up, portable washrooms and wash stations will be provided by the municipality.

"We just thought that maybe this is a good time to see what the next step could be because the quarry really is a unique place," said Bauch. "Everyone goes to the Steep Rock wharf, they go down to the water (lake) and that's where they typically swim. But there's also this cool quarry just off the lake with these cool features."

Businesses must submit their proposal to the RM of Grahamdale administration office in person or by email by Tuesday, April 7 by noon. Proposals must be marked "Steep Rock Quarry RFP."

Council will review the proposals at its regular meeting on April 9, and send out notices to the successful applicants from April 10 to 15.

Arborg Curling Club celebrates new milestone at annual Men's Bonspiel

By Kieran Reimer

Decades of curling were celebrated from Feb. 27 to March 1 at the Arborg Curling Club.

The Arborg Men's Bonspiel marked its 80th anniversary edition, with 32 teams competing during an action-packed weekend on and off the sheet.

Friday night's opening events featured a live auction and calcutta, followed by the annual homemade pie auction on Saturday.

On-ice action saw Team Shane Bauch, Team Stewart Floyd and Team Wes Jonasson win the three respective events.

MLA for Interlake-Gimli Derek Johnson helped kick off the event by throwing the opening stone.

"For eight decades, the Arborg Curling Club has been far more than a sheet of ice. It has been a gathering place where friendships are built, stories are shared and community spirit grows stronger with every season. That kind of legacy does not happen by accident. It is the result of committed volunteers, passionate players, loyal sponsors and generations who believed in keeping this tradition alive," said Johnson in a social media post.

Johnson honoured the club with a plaque congratulating it on its 80th anniversary.

"I'm glad the club is doing well," said club president Wes Jonasson. "I would hate to see it close like some of the other clubs in Manitoba, but we're hanging in there. We seem to keep getting good membership numbers right now, and it would be nice to see 100 years."

Arborg has continuously produced successful curlers throughout the club's existence.

Founded in 1946, the Arborg Curling Club has become home to both long-time curlers and those just learning the sport.

Jonasson is excited to see what the future holds for the next generation of local curlers.

"Arborg's always produced a lot of good curlers over the years, and the younger generation seems to want to follow in those footsteps," said Jonasson. "We've been fortunate that it's a fun place to curl with lots of good times, and people keep wanting to come out."

Those attending the bonspiel also had a chance to see all the work that goes into making the event an annual success.

Throughout the decades, volunteers, sponsors and members have kept the club going.

"Without them there would be no club left," said Jonasson. "It takes a lot of work, and there's a lot of good people helping out all the time. When we need help, we ask for it, and somebody always steps up."

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson (middle) presents a plaque recognizing the Arborg Curling Club's 80th anniversary to club president Wes Jonasson during the Arborg Men's Bonspiel held Feb. 27 to March 1 at the Arborg Curling Club.

A-Spire hosting country and rock jams in March

POSTER SUBMITTED

The A-Spire Players are continuing to host Sunday jams for the public. Country and classic rock will feature for its community jams on March 15 and March 29. Musicians of all skill levels are invited to the Gimli Unitarian Church on Second Avenue where they can make music together and celebrate community connection.

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Gimli's Colton Lott captures first Brier title with Team Dunstone

By Haley Cvar

Gimli's Colton Lott is a Canadian men's curling champion.

Lott, playing third for skip Matt Dunstone, helped Manitoba claim the 2026 Montana's Brier title with a 6-3 victory over Alberta's Kevin Koe in Sunday's final in St. John's, N.L.

The Winnipeg-based rink, Dunstone, Lott, second E. J. Harnden and lead Ryan Harnden — capped a dominant week with the championship after finishing pool play with a 7-1 record, their only loss coming against Koe.

For Dunstone, the victory marked a breakthrough after several near misses at the Canadian championship. The 30-year-old skip had reached the final twice before, finishing runner-up in 2025 and 2023, and placing third in both 2021 and 2020.

"The heartbreak that this group has had over the last three years, the amount that I've learned from that, I played free and loose all week."

Team Dunstone earned its spot in the final after defeating reigning Olympic champion Brad Jacobs 7-3 in the semifinal earlier Sunday. The result put Dunstone's team back on track after a 9-7 loss to Team Koe in Saturday night's Page 1–2 game, setting up a final rematch.

Colton Lott with Dale Lott and Florence Lott.

The final remained tight through the early ends, with three blanks in the first six and Koe holding a narrow 2-1 lead heading into the seventh.

That's when the game turned.

After Koe missed a runback attempt, Dunstone saw an opportunity and called for an aggressive approach.

"It's time to dance," Dunstone said after the miss.

His first shot was a tap-and-roll to sit three, and Koe's attempted freeze came up light. Dunstone followed with a delicate tap that nudged Koe's stone far enough to score three — the first time Alberta had given up more than two points in an end all week — for a 4-2 Manitoba lead.

Koe responded with a single point in the eighth after a hit-and-roll to the button, narrowing the score to 4-3.

In the 10th end, Dunstone sealed the victory with a double takeout to run Team Koe out of stones. As the stone slid down the ice, the skip dropped to his knees in celebration.

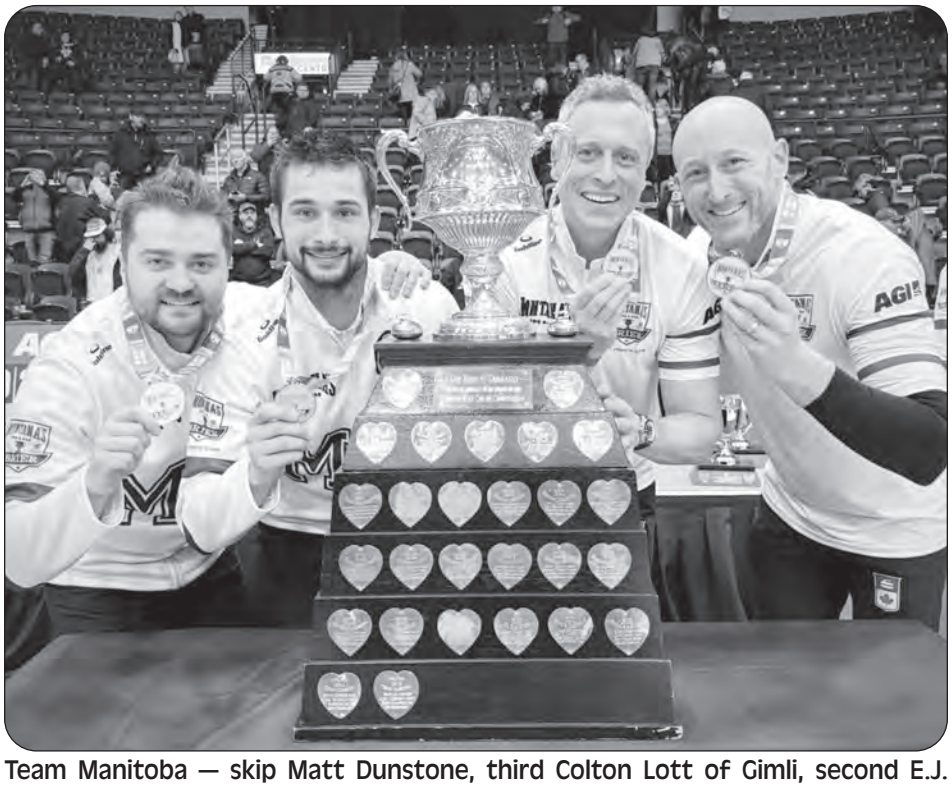
The championship also carries added significance for the team, as E.J. Harnden plans to retire at the end of the season.

"We would have loved to have been the Olympic team, but this was next on our list," Dunstone said. "Given that this group isn't going to be together next year with E.J. retiring, this group owed it to ourselves to put our best foot forward and get a Brier championship."

With the victory, team Dunstone will represent Canada at the LGT World Men's Curling Championship March 27 to April 4 in Ogden, Utah. The team will also return to next year's Brier in Saskatoon as defending champions.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CURLING CANADA

Gimli's Colton Lott raises the Brier Tankard after Team Manitoba, skipped by Matt Dunstone, defeated Alberta's Kevin Koe 6-3 to win the 2026 Montana's Brier on Sunday in St. John's, N.L. Lott played third for the championship rink, which will now represent Canada at the LGT World Men's Curling Championship March 27 to April 4 in Ogden, Utah.



Team Manitoba — skip Matt Dunstone, third Colton Lott of Gimli, second E.J. Harnden and lead Ryan Harnden — pose with the Brier Tankard following their championship victory at the 2026 Montana's Brier in St. John's, N.L.

Vikings win consolation final at Hockey Manitoba U15C Co-Ed provincials

By Lana Meier

Teams from across Manitoba gathered in Arborg March 6–8 as the Gimli Vikings U15C team hosted the 2026 Hockey Manitoba U15C Co-Ed Provincials, sponsored by Cargill Ltd.

The Gimli Vikings captured the consolation title in dramatic fashion, defeating the Cross Lake Islanders 8–7 in overtime after rallying from a 4–0 deficit.

St. Eustache claimed the provincial championship with a 3–2 overtime victory over Reston in the gold-medal game, while the Roblin Stars edged Hamiota 3–2 to secure the bronze medal.

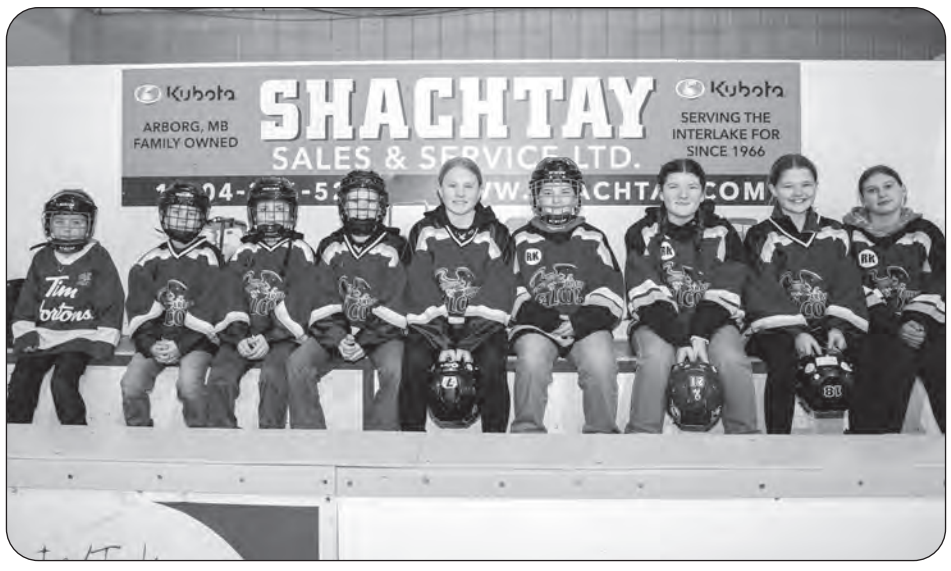
Teams competing at the tournament included St. Eustache, Steinbach, Altona, Reston, Brandon, Roblin, Hamiota, Cross Lake and host Gimli.

Opening ceremonies featured guest speaker Kay Bugg, a Cargill representative from Reston, ceremonial puck drop by Chantel Finnbogason and a performance of O Canada by Kiah Bobbee. Members of the Arborg Falcons carried the flags representing the nine competing teams during the ceremony.

As part of the festivities, a coach from each team also took part in a puck-shooting challenge, attempting to land their shot closest to a pylon at centre ice. The winning coach earned a pizza party for their team.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON

The Gimli Vikings U15C team captured the consolation championship with an 8–7 overtime victory over Cross Lake. Team members include River Harmon, Skylar Robinson, Solomon Hope, Tallet Dueck, Titin Mishtak, Ty Shachtay, Zackary Thompson, Zander Stroucken, Aubrey Bishop, Brady Leger, Brynn Maxwell, Easton Wozlowski, Hayden Sigurdson, Hugh Palen, Ollie Sigurdson, Reilly Buchko, Richard Aspen, Sullivan Naylor and Beau Reichert. Coaches and staff include head coach Lloyd Menard, assistant coaches Nathan Krulicki, Mike Shachtay and Jeff Wozlowski, safety K.C. Hope and manager Heather Wozlowski.



Dominant East boys hockey team captures Manitoba Winter Games silver

By Kieran Reimer

Team East Region finished with 39 total medals at the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games last week in Thompson.

One of them came on the ice courtesy of the U13 boys hockey team, whose thrilling three days of games resulted in a silver medal.

After going undefeated through the round robin, quarterfinals and semifinals, Team East took on Team West #1 on Wednesday for the gold medal.

Team West went on to take it 2-1 at C.A. Nesbitt Arena thanks to a game-winning goal at 8:55 of the third period, handing Team East its only loss of the tournament.

"Winning a silver medal is a significant achievement that often comes with mixed emotions," said East boys head coach Jason Woznesensky. "Typically it follows a loss in the final game, so kids can be pretty hard on themselves, but us coaches were trying to relay to them how they left their hearts out there, they left it all on the ice, and couldn't have been more proud of them."

Team East succeeded particularly in the defensive zone, allowing just six goals over five tournament games.

In Monday's round robin, they allowed zero goals in a pair of 3-0 wins over Team North and Team South #2 before beating the same two clubs with 5-2 and 6-2 performances in Tuesday's quarterfinals and semifinals.

By Wednesday's gold-medal game, Team East had completed the gruelling task of playing five times in three days. They finished with 18 goals for and six against through the tournament.

"The biggest thing with our team and even from what we heard from other coaches and teams was they played as a team," said Woznesensky. "The whole team effort was there from off the ice and the way the boys gelled definitely translated onto the ice. It was pretty clear they were playing for one another, and that constant support, staying positive and encouraging one another was pretty awesome to see from a coaching perspective."

Woznesensky, Russ Reich and Lee Rivard made up the trio of Interlake-based Team East staff members. They picked the team back in December, which ended up having 16 players — three from the U13AA Interlake Lightning and the rest from U13AA Winnipeg Thrashers clubs.

For the players, it was their first and only Manitoba Winter Games experience due to the event being held only once every four years.

"The laughs, the fun times, the new friendships that they made with one another, just again how close they were off the ice and on the ice — definitely something as coaches we couldn't have asked for in a better group of kids and hockey players," said Woznesensky. "I'm pretty sure this will help create a fun, memorable environment that they'll remember and cherish forever."

PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Team East Region's U13 boys hockey team won a silver medal at the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games held March 1–7 in Thompson. The team went 4-1 through five games, losing only the gold medal game last Wednesday, 2-1, to Team West #1 at C.A. Nesbitt Arena. Pictured left to right: Lee Rivard (manager), Owen Mathison, Maksym Chernecki, Oliver Sokolowski, Luka Paulic, Lincoln Rivard, Wyatt Woznesensky, Ryden Mykichuk, Max Boonstra, Xavier Daneault, Locklean Harvey, Rory Ray, Adrian Sinclair, Hudson Reich, Jordan Hallock, Easton Kormylo, Russ Reich (assistant coach) and Jason Woznesensky (head coach).

Team East's U14 girls hockey team had a similar experience, with their tournament running the following three days at Thompson's Gordon Beard Arena and ending in a fourth-place finish.

Like the boys, the girls dominated round-robin play with 8-0 and 4-1 wins over Team North and Team South #2 on Thursday to finish first in Pool B.

Their tournament continued with a 4-2 win over Team West #1 in Friday's quarterfinals before falling 11-3 to Winnipeg Gold that evening in the semifinals.

They then got a rematch with Team South #2 for the bronze medal the next morning, starting with a 1-0 Team East lead heading into the third period.

Team South, however, flipped the game in the third with three unanswered goals to defeat Team East 3-1 and claim bronze.

Later that morning, Team Winnipeg Gold defeated Team Winnipeg Blue 5-1 to win the U14 girls gold medal.

Falcons go down swinging in winner-take-all Game 5

By Kieran Reimer

Games 4 and 5 between the Lundar Falcons and Selkirk Fishermen stole the spotlight of all Capital Region Junior Hockey League first-round playoff action last week.

In Wednesday's Game 4, it was the Falcons who forced a winner-take-all Game 5 thanks to a 1-0 victory at Lundar Arena.

Netminder Dylan Leclair was unbeatable in Game 4, stopping 47 shots, while Dylan Care scored with 6:31 left in the third period to even the best-of-five series at two games apiece.

That set the stage for another tight-checking game with the series — and a trip to the CRJHL semifinals — on the line Friday night at the Selkirk Recreation Complex.

Game 5 stayed scoreless until the third period once again, with both Leclair and Selkirk's Johnny Enns-Demchuk bringing their best in net.

Then, with 11:53 remaining, Selkirk's Ashton Schroeder broke the deadlock with a power-play goal to put the Fishermen ahead 1-0.

His tally was quickly followed by a Connor Bruyere goal, giving Selkirk some insurance in the form of a 2-0 lead.

Things then got chippy, with fighting majors and misconducts handed out to both sides in the final minutes.

Lundar made one last push but was unable to beat Enns-Demchuk, who finished with 35 saves to shut out the Falcons 2-0 and close out the series.

With the win, Selkirk moves on to face the Beausejour Comets in a best-of-seven semifinal series, while Lundar's season comes to an end — along with its streak of seven consecutive semifinal appearances.

The game also officially concludes the junior careers of Falcons players Gavin Miller and Liam Russell, who played a combined 10 seasons in the league.

Ice Dawgs bow out in Game 4 of CRJHL quarterfinals

By Kieran Reimer

The Arborg Ice Dawgs came up short in their effort to keep their season going last Monday.

Entering Game 4 of their best-of-five first-round series against the La Broquerie Habs trailing 2-1 in the series, Arborg was in need of a victory to stay alive.

Their hopes — and season — however, came to an end when they were defeated 7-1 on home ice, despite only being outshot 40-36.

An Ice Dawgs goal scored in the second period by Brody Maxwell was as close as they got to tying the game.

The tally made it 2-1 early in the middle frame before a five-goal La Broquerie onslaught over the second half of the contest secured the series win.

Arborg's Paxton Moore finished with 33 saves in the loss, while La Broquerie's Jaxon Loewen ended with 35 in the opposing crease.

By winning the series 3-1, the Habs will now move on to the Capital Region Junior Hockey League semifinals, while Arborg's campaign officially ends in the opening round for the third consecutive season.

67's GM reflects on club's inaugural season

By Kieran Reimer

The Warren 67's have officially concluded their inaugural season in the Hanover Tache Junior Hockey League.

The 2025-26 HTJHL postseason is currently at its midway point, with six of 11 teams still in the hunt for the championship trophy.

Warren, however, is spending its days off reflecting on a season full of just about everything a first-year junior club could endure.

"It was definitely a lot of lessons learned," said general manager Kasey Riddell on Feb. 23.

The 2025-26 Warren 67's will be remembered as the team that introduced Junior 'C' hockey to the town and gave residents another team to rally behind.

The roster was built almost solely of local 2007-born players, which created challenges at the start of the season.

As the year wore on, Warren picked up its first win and found itself in many more one-goal contests.

Ultimately, the team finished the campaign with a 2-25-0-3 record before being eliminated in the HTJHL's Play-In Round.

Riddell is pleased with how the club's fan base stayed loyal throughout.

"We can't do it without the backing and support of the community, and that's not lost on us at all," said Riddell. "As we build the team, that's our goal — to build the team around local guys and players who are going to be supported by the community, and that will support the team."

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Warren 67's wrapped up their inaugural season in the Hanover Tache Junior Hockey League with valuable experience gained and a young core poised to return next year.

And though 2025-26 wasn't the prettiest season on the ice, the club isn't hanging its head over the problems it encountered.

Instead, it is looking ahead to how it can improve.

"When you've got 17- and 18-year-olds making up the bulk of your roster, that's a challenge, but as the season went on we did get better, we did improve and I think we're going to be better for it," said Riddell.

This year's club was staffed by coaches Cody King, Trey King, Colton King and Tori Patterson, with Riddell and Laura Kapusta sharing GM duties.

The team's top scorer was forward Justin Braid, who posted nine goals and 10 assists in 27 games, while the leadership group was led by captain Evan Roy and alternates Owen Shymko, Gavin Winram and Wade Byle.

All five are eligible to return next season, along with much of the roster.

"It's awesome, and it's a good group of guys too," said Riddell. "Not only having that talented core to work toward on-ice success, but that core is such a good group of character guys that they'll help us as we bring graduating high school players into the team as well. I'm really excited — the future's very bright."

Some of those high school graduates will get their shot at becoming a 67 at tryouts in the fall.

Herb presentation for culinary and garden enthusiasts

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY NICOLE KAPUSTA

Dave Hanson of Sage Garden Greenhouse presents to members of the South Interlake Garden Club at the Warren Memorial Hall on Feb. 26, where 29 culinary and garden enthusiasts learned about herb varieties, growing conditions, seed starting versus direct sowing, soil types, sun and shade requirements, and overall plant care. Participants were invited to "scratch and sniff" fresh herb samples and each took home a cutting from a large Jamaican thyme (broadleaf thyme) mother plant to pot and grow themselves.

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FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD for sale: Pine firewood $280 per cord or $180 per half cord. Dry and ready to burn. Free delivery within 35 km of Arborg; delivery available farther for a fee. For more information, call or text 204-641-8651.

LIVESTOCK

SPRUCE RIDGE STOCK Farms at Ashern has a good selection of 2 yr old and yearling Angus bulls on offer. These are big growthy bulls developed on TMR silage based ration in 15 acre runs to ensure longevity. Perfect feet, strong joints, moderate birth, combined with top of the breed growth. These are hard muscled bulls sired by some of the top A. I. bulls in Canada. Semen tested, delivered when needed, guaranteed. Call Ross and Helen Jermey and Family. 204-768-0333

PROPERTY FOR SALE

For sale 2.5 acres of land located at Fisher Bay completely along the shore of Lake Winnipeg. Priced to sell for $6,000. Contact Austin A. Abas 204-293-8502.

NOTICES

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

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

HEALTH

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

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Tollak 2 is a 55 plus bldg. with river view 2 bedroom apts. available. Central air, F/S, DW & microwave; large storage area off the kitchen and a balcony; utilities and parking extra. Call the onsite office 204-482-2751 for AVAILABILITY.

COINS

Call now for your cash! Your Interlake coin collector – buying old coins & paper money. Phone David 204-798-3045.

WANTED

Firearms wanted. Looking for all unwanted firearms. Fully licensed for both non-restricted and restricted. Anywhere from individual items to estates. Cash buyer, paying top dollar. Please call or text Adam at 204-795-2850.

WANTED: Older gas stove 4 burner with griddle. No electric pilot light, manual. Phone 204-655-3549.

THE EXPRESS WEEKLY NEWS
204-467-5836

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In accordance with S. 41 (5)
***Trustee Act* (R.S.M. 1987)**

IN THE MATTER OF the Estate of Donald Garry Watson, late of Whytewold, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by statutory declaration, must be filed with TRADITION LAW LLP, Estates & Trusts, at their offices at 701 – 310 Broadway, Winnipeg, MB R3C 0S6, Attention: Jennifer Bisch on or before April 13, 2026.

DATED at the City of Winnipeg, in Manitoba, the 12th day of March, 2026.

TRADITION LAW LLP
Estates & Trusts
Solicitors for the Executor

MORTGAGE SALE

The land and building known as 3 Miss Ellie's Drive East, Siglunes, Manitoba, as described in Certificate of Title Nos. 2314830/1 and 2314832/1 will be sold by public auction by a Licensed Auctioneer on April 1st , 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

The auction sale will be held by way of video or teleconference.

There will be no in-person attendees at the auction.

In order to participate you must pre-register at least 24 hours prior to the auction by contacting Matthew Underwood at either (204) 957-8305 or auctions@fillmoreriley.com.

The Vendor is informed that the property consists of a one storey dwelling approximately 1,080 square feet with a living room, dining room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, with a detached garage on a lot approximately 140 feet x 232 feet.

Realty taxes (excluding any accruing water charges) are paid to December 31, 2024.

Prior Charges: Caveat Nos. 1320183/1, 2642770/1 and 2642773/1.

TERMS OF SALE

A deposit of $15,000.00 by way of certified cheque or bank draft payable to Fillmore Riley LLP, or cash (the cash component of the deposit not to exceed $7,500.00), and the balance according to conditions which will be available electronically by contacting the individual below prior to the auction. The property will be sold subject to a **Reserve Bid** of $110,000.00 plus such other additional and incidental costs which may be incurred by the Vendor from the 4th day of March, 2026 to the date of auction and which costs will be announced prior to the commencement of the sale.

The auction sale will be conducted pursuant to an Order for Sale issued by the District Registrar. Certain parties may be prohibited from purchasing the property, including but not limited to, parties who by virtue of their employment or relationship to a person involved in the sale process would have special knowledge of the circumstances pertaining to the sale. For more information and a list of prohibited purchasers please visit: www.teranetmanitoba.ca

Should the successful bidder have attended by teleconference and/or video conference, the bidder will have 24 hours to execute the Auction Sale Conditions and to provide them together with the deposit to our office as set out below.

Further information may be obtained from:

FILLMORE RILEY LLP
Barristers and Solicitors
1700 - 360 Main Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 3Z3

File No. 400784-3982/MTU/lj(car)
Attention: Matthew T. Underwood
Phone: 204-957-8305
auctions@fillmoreriley.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the Estate of **Daniel Fredrick Elk also known as Danny Fredrick Elk**, late of Sioux Valley Dakota Nation, Manitoba, Deceased.

All claims against the above estate, supported by Statutory Declaration must be sent to the attention of: Prachi Goel, Estates Officer, at 155 Carlton St Suite 500, Winnipeg MB, R3C 5R9 on or before the 24th day of April, 2026.

Dated at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this 20th day of February, 2026.

JANA TAYLOR
Deputy Public Guardian
and Trustee of Manitoba
Administrator

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

ARBORG PLAY GROUP INC.

Early Childhood Educator II

Required for Arborg Play Group INC.
Status: Full-time Permanent
Start Date: April 13, 2026

Position Overview

We are seeking a caring, enthusiastic, and reliable Early Childhood Educator II to join our team. The ideal candidate brings creativity, professionalism, and a genuine passion for early learning. This role involves working collaboratively with colleagues to plan and implement developmentally appropriate activities, maintain a safe and nurturing environment, and support positive interactions with children and families.

Key Responsibilities

- Plan and implement play based, developmentally appropriate experiences for children aged 2 to 6
- Foster a warm, inclusive, and responsive environment that supports children's emotional, social, physical, and cognitive development
- Maintain supervision, safety, and well being of all children at all times
- Build positive, respectful relationships with families and colleagues
- Assess the skills, abilities, interests and needs of children
- Document observations and daily communication as required
- Follow centre policies, licensing regulations, and health and safety guidelines
- Contribute to a collaborative, supportive team culture

Qualifications

- Current ECE II classification through Manitoba Child Care Qualifications and Training
- Current First Aid/CPR Level C (or willingness to obtain)
- Clear Criminal Record Check, Child Abuse Registry Check, and Vulnerable Sector Check (or willingness to obtain)
- Commit to Kids Canadian Protection for Children Training (or willingness to obtain)
- Strong communication skills and a commitment to professionalism
- Experience working in an early learning environment is an asset

What We Offer

- Competitive wages based on qualifications and experience - ELCC Wage Grid
- Paid professional development opportunities
- Supportive, team oriented work environment
- Pension Plan
- Health & Dental Plan

How to Apply

Please submit your résumé and a brief cover letter to:
Email: hloweapg@gmail.com
Subject Line: ECE II Application – [Your Name]

Applications will be accepted until March 23, 2026 or until the position is filled. We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Classifieds

THE EXPRESS WEEKLY NEWS

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FARMLAND FOR RENT

Ukrainian Farmers Co-operative Ltd.

CO-OP

Farmland for rent by tender, SW 19-24-1W, approximately 110 crop able acres, tender will be for the 2026 cropping season only, the lease agreement can be viewed at the office. Sealed tender to be delivered to Sandra Lappage, General Manager no later than 6PM March 25th, highest tender not necessarily accepted.

Ukrainian Farmers Co-operative Ltd,
Box 160, Fisher Branch, Mb, R0C-0Z0

VIDIR
vertical storage solutions

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Vidir Solutions Inc., Elevating Careers and Community
"We rise by lifting others" – Robert Ingersol

The Opportunity:
Become a Vidir Hero at our Arborg, MANITOBA facility. Level up your career as a Welder

Summary:
The welder is responsible for welding a variety of Vidir products within a team environment, according to the Production schedule.

Responsibilities:
- Weld all products according to weld drawings, compliant to CWB standards and regulations.
- Monitor parts inventory in respective areas of work and ensures parts are available to meet production requirements.
- Achieve and maintain required productivity levels (efficiency and utilization)
- Adhere to all Safety and Health Standards

Qualifications:
A combination of education and experience will be considered.
- Welding trades certification would be considered an asset but is not required.
- 1-2 years of Welding Experience (MIG) would be considered an asset but is not required
- Strong Math skills and spatial reasoning ability
- Use of hand/power tools
- Basic literacy skills

How to Apply
Apply through our website at www.vidirsolutions.com/careers

Accommodations
Vidir Solutions Inc. is committed to meeting the accessibility needs of all individuals in accordance with The Accessibility for Manitobans Act and the Manitoba Human Rights Code. Should you require accommodation during the recruitment and selection process, please let us know.

Love Where you work – Live where you love:
You lift others every day—now it's time to take your own growth to the next level! At Vidir, we truly care about your family and well-being. We encourage open conversations about work/life balance and offer flexible options to support you.

We regularly review our salary and benefits to ensure we all rise together. Our benefits include a 95% maternity leave top-up for up to seventeen weeks and up to $1,000 annually for mental health practitioner coverage.

We also offer exciting perks like free tickets to sporting events, financial support for your child's summer camp, and fun, family-friendly events at venues like aquatic centers, theatres, and recreational facilities—because we believe recognition and celebration are part of a great workplace. Our locations offer a unique opportunity to enjoy more time in nature and less time dealing with traffic and city stress. Curious about where we're located? Just ask! It's time to rise together and help manufacture a brighter future with us!

Explore our company and products at www.vidirsolutions.com.

Find out about the Vidir experience at
www.youtube.com/watch?v=LplXnfj6Q8c

We thank all candidates for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Direct Support Workers

To Provide Support
to Adults living with an Intellectual Disability
in the Community

Are you a people person with a compassionate heart and a desire to be of service? We have openings for full-time, part-time and casual Direct Support Workers at our group homes and Supported Independent Living apartments in Arborg. Training, including CPR & First Aid, will be provided on the job, no formal post secondary education necessary.

The job of DSW is to work with adults with intellectual disabilities to provide individualized support in all aspects of their lives. This includes assisting with activities of daily living, as needed, including personal care, recreational outings and day-to-day tasks. Other duties include household upkeep, daily cooking and record keeping tasks.

We offer full benefits and pension and a flexible schedule with options for day, evening, night or weekend shifts. If hired, you will be asked to pass criminal record and adult abuse registry checks.

Please apply in writing to: Executive Director
Riverdale Place Homes Inc.
Box 968, Arborg MB R0C 0A0

Or email: kfinnson_rph@outlook.com

Application Deadline: Mar. 25, 2027
For more info contact: Kathy Finnson, ED 204-376-2940, ext. 1

"Building an Inclusive and Caring Community"

Sudoku Answer

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

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EASTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

THE EASTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT BY-LAW NO. 01-2026
being an amendment to the Eastern Interlake Planning District's
Development Plan By-law No. 01-2022

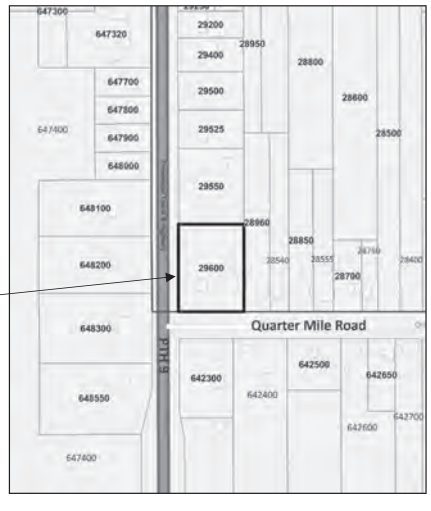
HEARING LOCATION: Town of Winnipeg Beach
Council Chambers
39 Robinson Street
Winnipeg Beach, MB

DATE & TIME: April 2, 2026
5:00 pm

APPLICATION: TWB-26-01A

AREA AFFECTED: Pt. NW ¼ 27-17-04 EPM,
Being Lot 7, Blk 1, Pl 16624
#287 Quarter Mile Road
Roll 29600

GENERAL INTENT: To re-designate an area in the Town of Winnipeg Beach from "Urban Residential Area" to "Commercial General Area".



CONTACT FOR INFORMATION: Nancy Thom, CAO/Development Officer
Eastern Interlake Planning District
62 2nd Avenue, P.O. Box 1758, Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Phone: 204-642-5478 Fax: 204-642-4061
E-mail: eipd@eipd.ca Web: www.interlakeplanning.com

A copy of the circulation package may be provided/inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday; alternatively, a copy may be emailed upon request.
Please note, if you have received this notice in the mail, it includes the circulation package.

E.I.P.D. recommends that property owner's notify lessee/renter if applicable.

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THE EXPRESS WEEKLY NEWS

IN MEMORIAM

Ed and Olive Sielski
Dad: December 7, 1918 - March 8, 1996
Mom: December 16, 1930 - March 12, 2025
Dearest Mom and Dad,
The snow falls and we think of you,
Flowers begin to bloom and we think of you,
Leaves turn colour and we think of you…
Missing you dearly, grateful you are together again…
-Love always…

IN MEMORIAM

Ed Todd
February 14, 1928 - March 18, 2024
Dad, our loving memories of you will never die,
As the years roll on and the days pass by.
We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain.
To walk with us throughout our lives,
Until we meet again.
We love you Dad and miss you so much.
-Lovingly remembered by
children Roger, Camille, and Joan
All of your family and many close friends.

Registered Purebred Polled 2 Year Old and Yearling

CHAROLAIS BULLS FOR SALE

We have a good selection of quality bulls.
Will be semen tested. Delivery & EPD's available.

For more information call Ken at (204) 376-2418 (land line) or Text to (204) 641-3788 KLCC Charolais, Arborg

58th Annual LUNDAR BULL SALE

"Where the good bulls come"

April 4, 2026 1:00 P.M. Lundar Agri-Ed Centre - Auctioneer - Tyler Slawinski

4 - 2 year Herefords	4 - 1 year Angus
9 - 1 year Hereford	3 - 1 year Limousin
13 - 1 year Simmentals	2 - Hereford Heifers
7 - 1 year Charolais	2 Charolais Heifers
Watch and bid online at DLMS.ca	*5 pens commercial heifers*

SALE DAY: Mike (204) 739-3158. Jack (204) 739-3645

For more info contact Jack (204) 739-3645 or Kevin (204) 371-8277
View catalogue online at ***www.buyagro.com***

TOWN OF ARBORG
PUBLIC NOTICE

ARBORG

The Town of Arborg applied to the Public Utilities Board for revised water and wastewater rates for the Arborg Water and Wastewater Utility as set out in By-law No. 7 2024, read the first time on August 28, 2024 and the second time on September 17, 2024.

The Public Utilities Board approved the revised rates in Board Order No. 29/26 as shown below. The rates effective April 1, 2026 will appear on water and wastewater billings mailed at the beginning of July, 2026.

The approved rates are as follows:

	Current	April 1, 2026	April 1, 2027	April 1, 2028	April 1, 2029
Quarterly Service Charge	$ 35.50	$ 37.52	$ 39.54	$ 41.56	$ 43.57
Water (per 1,000 gallons)	$ 9.40	$ 10.30	$ 11.20	$ 12.10	$ 13.00
Wastewater (per 1,000 gallons)	$ 2.85	$ 3.13	$ 3.41	$ 3.69	$ 3.97
Minimum Quarterly Charge*	$ 72.25	$ 77.81	$ 83.37	$ 88.93	$ 94.48
Wastewater Only - Unmetered - Residential**	$ 71.13	$ 62.56	$ 66.82	$ 71.08	$ 75.33
Wastewater Only - Unmetered - Commercial***	$ 71.13	$ 76.65	$ 82.17	$ 87.69	$ 93.20
Bulk Water Sales***	$ 20.00	$ 18.75	$ 22.00	$ 24.00	$ 25.00
Disconnection Requests	$ -.-	$ 50.00	$ 50.00	$ 50.00	$ 50.00

**based on 3,000 gallons*
***based on 8,000 gallons (previously 12,500 gallons)*
****based on 12,500 gallons*

For more information, the full Board Order No. 29/26 may be found on the Town's website at www.townofarborg.com, or you may contact the municipal office at (204) 376-2647.

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ARMSTRONG
REQUEST FOR QUOTE
2026/27 HOURLY EQUIPMENT RATES

The Rural Municipality of Armstrong is seeking quotations from qualified bidders for hourly rates for Private Owned Equipment for the 2026 / 2027 season.

Request for Quotation packages, including specifications and submission documents are available at the Municipal Office, 1094 PTH #17 Inwood or from the Municipality of Armstrong website www.rmofarmstrong.com

Sealed submissions clearly marked "2026 Private Owned Equipment Hourly Rates" will be received at the Municipal of Armstrong office, located at 1094 PTH #17, Inwood, MB up until 12:00pm on Tuesday, March 17, 2026.

All inquires related to Request for Quote should be directed to Angie Dzuba at 204-278-3377.

The lowest or any hourly rate bid not necessarily accepted.

Quotations may be submitted to:
Angie Dzuba, Senior Administrative Assistant
RM of Armstrong
1094 Highway 17
Box 69, Inwood, MB ROC 1PO
Phone: 204-278-3377 Fax: 204-278-3437

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

BIGWAY FOODS

Full-Time Assistant Manager Teulon Bigway

We're looking to hire a hardworking and reliable individual to join our team. Full-time position, including some Saturdays.

Responsibilities include: Lead hand duties, Placing and receiving orders, Stocking merchandise, Inventory control, Working closely with staff and customers

Applicants must be able to lift up to 50 lbs and work effectively in a fast-paced environment.

Annual Salary: $50,000 plus, depending on experience. Health benefits.
Experience not required — willing to train the right person.

For more information or to apply, please send your resume to: ***TeulonBigWay@hotmail.com***
Subject line: Employment – Grocery

THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ARMSTRONG UNDER THE PLANNING ACT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the **R.M. of Armstrong** under the authority of the Planning Act will hold a PUBLIC HEARING at the date, time and location listed below:

Tuesday March 24, 2026
1:00pm.
Armstrong Municipal Office
Civic # 1094 Lot 55 PTH 17, Inwood MB R0C 1P0

Property owners are being notified in order to give them the opportunity to speak in support of or objection to the proposed conditional use and/or variation order.

CONDITIONAL USE: # 2026-A-03

ROLL NO: 0237300.000

OWNER: Wayne & Michelle Hazelton

APPLICANT: CKT Contracting – Tyson Hazelton

AREA AFFECTED: Legal Description: SE5-19-1W
Civic Address: 108032 Road 4W
INWOOD, MANITOBA

ZONE: Agriculture Intensive Zoning District

SUBJECT: R.M. of Armstrong Zoning By-Law No. 6/04
Part 13.3 11 General Industrial – Vehicle Repair

AUTOMOTIVE AND RECREATIONAL VEHILCE REPAIRS: Retail repairs and maintenance services of new or used automobiles, motorcycles, snowmobiles, tent trailers, utility trailers, boats, travel trailers or similar light recreational vehicles or crafts.

CONDITIONAL USE REQUESTED: To allow for the existing shop to conduct public vehicle repairs & Government Safeties.

WE REQUIRE ANYONE ATTENDING THE PUBLIC HEARING TO PRE-REGISTER BY NO LATER THAN 4:30 pm MONDAY MARCH 16, 2026, by calling or emailing the below email and/or number.

For further information, please contact:
Cori Audet – Permit & Planning Services
Phone: 1 (204) 278-3377
Rural Municipality of Armstrong
Fax: 1 (204) 278-3437
Box 69, Inwood, Mb R0C 1P0
e-mail: planning@rmofarmstrong.com

Documents related to the matter to be considered at the hearing may be inspected or copied at the RM of Armstrong Office during normal office hours, Monday to Friday.

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OBITUARY

Margaret Madsen
February 23, 1939 – February 15, 2026

It is with great sorrow that I wish to announce the passing of my mom, Margaret Madsen (nee Price), on February 15, 2026 at the Douglas Campbell Lodge in Portage la Prairie, MB.

Margaret leaves to cherish her loving memory, her daughter Corinne. She leaves her sister-in-law Esther Michaniuk and brothers-in-law Bill Harvey and John Halchuk, as well as, many cherished family members and friends.

Margaret was predeceased by her husband, my dad, Charles Madsen; sisters Martha Bonwick, Irene Harvey, Alice Angus (twin sister), Marlene Halchuk; brother Lloyd Price; brothers-in-law Johnny Bonwick and Henry Angus; sister-in-law Sylvia Price; and her parents Richard and Mary Price (nee Lechner).

A private family graveside ceremony will take place at a later date.

Arrangements by:
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME
Ashern – Lundar
1-204-768-2072
1-866.323-3593

OBITUARY

Lawrence Alfred Dreger
August 17, 1928 – March 6, 2026

Peacefully on March 6, 2026, Lawrence Dreger aged 97 years of Ashern, MB and formerly of Grahamdale, MB passed away at the Ashern Personal Care Home.

Cremation has taken place and a private graveside service will be held in the Peace Lutheran Cemetery in Moosehorn, MB where he will be laid to rest next to his loving wife Mona.

Our family wishes to thank the doctors, nurses and staff of the Ashern Personal Care Home who provided such wonderful care of Lawrence.

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

Arrangements by:
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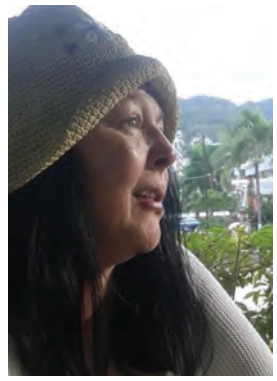
Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

OBITUARY



Kimberley Dawn Johnson
May 19, 1971 – March 2, 2026

It is with great heartbreak, much sorrow, and sadness that we, her loving family, announce the passing of our beloved Kimberley.

She leaves to mourn her presence her beautiful daughter, Hailey Rhae; her mother, Bev Johnson; her sisters, Robyn (Duane) and Candace; her brother, Blaine (Linzy); and her soulmate, Mark Lynch and her loyal companion Cookie; as well as Mark's parents, Charlie and Patricia; his sister, Charlotte (Aaron), and their daughter, Astryd; Mark's son, Devin (Sara); her nephews, Kyle, Dylan (Paige), and Mitch; her nieces, Jori Jayne (Josh), Ella, and Lexi; her great-niece, Millie. All her nieces and nephews loved her dearly. Kimberley will also be greatly missed by her many close and caring long-time best friends and all of the family in Manitoba.

Kimberley was predeceased by her infant brother, Sammy Duane; her father, Halli Robert John; and her grandparents, Siggi and Ruby Sveinson, and Kris and Gudlaug Johnson.

Kimberley was very proud of her daughter "Peaches" figure skating, coaching, and working so hard to accomplish her dreams.

She will be missed. Rest in peace.

We will always love you and remember all the fun family times we shared and all the great memories. She touched many lives with her T.L.C.

Cremation has taken place, and a Celebration of Life will take place at a later date.

SERENITY FUNERAL SERVICE

OBITUARY

Sandra Johannson

Sandra Marilyn Johannson (nee Taylor, Burt) born September 15, 1945, in Toronto, Ontario, passed away on October 24, 2025.

Sandra is survived by her children, Jeffrey (Amanda) Burt and Jennifer (Brunel) Sabourin, her stepdaughter Jessica and four granddaughters—Abigail, Brooklyn, Rebecca, and Stephanie. She is also survived by her sister, Sharon (Phil) Northrup, her brother, Dennis Kaprawy, and many nieces and nephews.

Sandra was predeceased by her parents, Emil and Lillian Kaprawy, and her brother, Ken Taylor and husband Wally.

For full obituary see https://cropo.com

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. in Johnson Hall, Gimli Waterfront Centre, 94 – 1st Avenue, Gimli, MB.

VILLAGE OF DUNNOTTAR

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regarding the

2026 Financial Plan

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to subsection 162(2) of *The Municipal Act* that the Council of the Village of Dunnottar intends to present its financial plan for the fiscal year 2026 at a public hearing on **Monday the 30th day of March, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.**

Council will hear any taxpayer who wishes to make representation, ask questions or register an objection to the financial plan, as provided.

Copies of the financial plan will be available for review and may be examined by any person during the regular office hours of the Municipal Office. A copy of the financial plan will also be posted on the Dunnottar website (www.dunnottar.ca) at that time.

Please contact the office, info@dunnottar.ca or call 204-389-4962, to register to attend this hearing or review a copy of the 2026 Financial Plan.

Dated this 6th day of March 2026.

Sarah Palson, C.M.M.A.
Administrator

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OBITUARY

Stanley Cecil Fowke
October 2, 1935 - February 17, 2026

On February 17, 2026, Stanley Cecil Fowke passed peacefully at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg.

He was predeceased by his wife Edna (nee Thompson), father Lawrence Fowke, mother Florence (nee Timmons) Fowke, brother Dale Fowke and sister Elaine McAllister.

He is survived by his children Donna Bleakney, Dean (Heather), Alan (Lynn) and Keith (Colette) and grandchildren Kyla (Chad) MacDonald, Katie Bleakney (Scott), and Danielle (Kelsey), Sean and Joel Fowke.

Stan was born in Swift Current, SK on October 2, 1935 and grew up on a farm near Neville, SK. He married Edna on May 12, 1958 and they started their adventure together taking them to numerous postings in Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and Manitoba before finally settling in St. Martin, MB. Stan attended St. Andrew's College at the University of Saskatchewan and was ordained as a minister of the United Church of Canada on June 6, 1958. He served in many pastoral charges across SK and MB. In 1971 he joined the Canadian Armed Forces as a Captain where he worked as a Chaplain in the military before retiring and serving as minister at CFS Gypsumville and then the Gypsumville United Church. He was always proud of his military service and his ministry.

His greatest love was his wife, Edna. In addition to raising four children together, they loved their property in St. Martin and enjoyed golfing together all over the Prairies. He missed her dearly when she passed but we rejoice that they are together again. Stan was an excellent carpenter and made high quality furniture and household items which have become treasured family heirlooms. He even built his own Volkswagen engine powered single-seat airplane (CF-BGS). He wanted to share his love of flying with his family, so he purchased a four-seat Cessna 180 (CF-RYV) which they used for many family vacations and trips across the Prairies. Stan had a great love of music and enjoyed many genres. He especially loved attending the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra with Edna. Stan loved the Interlake and took great pride in the people of the region. He and Edna made many wonderful church and community friends who enriched their lives and provided love and support over the years. The family would like to especially like to thank Peter and Ulla Kalden for their support and friendship over the years.

Stan was exceedingly proud of his children and their many accomplishments including nursing, music, carpentry and science. He loved his grandchildren dearly, took great pride in watching them mature into wonderful adults and celebrated each of their accomplishments.

Stan lived his life on his own terms and was fiercely independent right up to the end.

The family would like to thank the physicians and staff of Ashern Lakeshore General Hospital In-patient Unit and Unit WS-3 of the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg who cared for Stan so well in his final months and days.

A Funeral Service for Stan will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2026 at the St. Martin Community Hall with Dawn Tober officiating, followed by interment in the St. Martin Cemetery and a lunch at the hall.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Peace Lutheran Church Memorial Fund, Box 68, Moosehorn, MB R0C 2E0 or the Alzheimer's Society of Manitoba, 10 - 120 Donald Street, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4G2 or a charity of one's choice.

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