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Olympic dreams shine

EXPRESS PHOTO BY CORRINE EINARSSON

Arborg Skating Club members gather on the ice in Olympic-themed attire, proudly wearing medals and Team Canada colours, during the grand finale of their annual skating carnival, "The Olympic Dream," held March 10 at the Arborg & District Arena.

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Good Times
 FINANCING

Manitoba mandates free menstrual products in workplaces

Some employers in favour, some say government overreach

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial NDP government announced last week it's making it mandatory for employers in Manitoba to provide free tampons and pads to all workers who menstruate.

Manitoba will be the first province in Canada to require employers to pick up the tab for the cost of menstrual products to ensure workers have access to "basic necessities" while on the job.

"These changes are about dignity and fairness at work. No one should have to worry about access to basic menstrual products while they are doing their job," said provincial labour and immigration minister Malaya Marcelino in a March 9 news release. "Periods are a normal part of life and workplaces should reflect that reality by making sure workers have what they need."

In addition to menstrual products, an employer "must provide a covered container for the disposal of menstrual products" near each toilet in a washroom.

The new rule comes into effect on Sept. 1.

The government amended the Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) regulation after a five-year review, which was completed in January by the



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Freely available tampons and pads are shown in a women's washroom in the Balmoral Community Hall last year.

Workplace Safety and Health Review Committee. The review also recommends dropping the word feminine from menstrual products and providing

products to genders rather than to just two sexes. Federally regulated employers are already mandated to provide free menstrual products to people who menstruate, regardless of the gender they identify with.

Just as corporate supermarkets have priced some food items beyond many consumers' ability to pay, forcing them to turn to food banks for help, as well as engaging in unfair real estate practices, the manufacturers of menstrual products have set price points beyond the financial means of many people who menstruate, forcing them into "period poverty."

The federal department of Women and Gender Equality Canada says 17 per cent of Canadians who menstruate have experienced period poverty, meaning they couldn't afford the products they needed. For those in lower income households, that number rises to 25 per cent.

Some people may switch to lower priced alternatives such as menstrual cups or reusable period underwear, but others who can't afford menstrual products might not attend school, work or social events.

Karen Bowman, executive director of the Gimli-based Evergreen Basic Needs (EBN) store and food bank, said she applauds the government for addressing the needs of people who can't afford menstrual products.

The charity's staff and volunteers have long been

Continued on page 8



Evergreen Staff Spotlight Celebrating the People Who Make Our Schools Work

Meet Megan Strachan - Student Services & Interventions Teacher and Assistant Principal, Winnipeg Beach School

For the past 14 years, Megan Strachan has been supporting Evergreen students through strong relationships, collaboration, and a deep commitment to student success. This year, she continues that work as part of the Student Services team and as Assistant Principal at Winnipeg Beach School, helping ensure that every student has the support they need to thrive.

Megan's passion for education began early. "I've always loved working with children," she shares. "That passion really started in high school when I volunteered as a coach. Someone suggested I consider teaching, and it immediately felt like the right fit." Since then, she has found purpose in helping students grow, learn, and reach their potential.

Much of Megan's work happens behind the scenes. "Many people don't realize how much collaboration goes into supporting students," she explains. "A lot of my time is spent working with teachers, parents, and clinicians to create individualized plans and ensure each student's needs are met." This teamwork ensures that students receive consistent, thoughtful support both in and out of the classroom.

The moments that matter most to Megan often come long after students leave her classroom. "Seeing former students again - whether they stop by to visit or I run into them in the community - reminds me why this work matters," she says. "When they're excited to share how they're doing, it reinforces how meaningful those connections are."

What Megan loves most about Evergreen is the sense of connection. "Our division is genuinely invested in the success and well-being of students," she says. "Because of its size, there's real collaboration and people feel heard. Everyone works together to make a difference."

She also wants the public to know how much staff care. "Teachers, EAs, and support staff put in so much time, effort, and heart. They truly want every student to feel supported and to have the best chance to succeed."

Thank you, Megan, for your leadership, your compassion, and the difference you make in the lives of Evergreen students and families every day.

*Interviewed by trustee
Amanda Mosher*



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RIVERTON LOCATION
33 Main St. Riverton MB
Open Mon & Wed 9:30-4:30
204-378-5427

Arborg business hit by early-morning break-in



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Shattered glass is seen at the entrance of Shachtay Sales & Service Ltd. in Arborg after an early-morning break-in on Sunday. Several generators, chainsaws and other equipment were reported stolen.

By Lana Meier

An Arborg business is dealing with damage and stolen equipment after an early-morning break-in Sunday.

Mike Shachtay, owner of Shachtay

Sales & Service Ltd., said he received an alert indicating a glass break at the store at about 5:40 a.m. and arrived at the business within four minutes.

By the time he arrived, the suspects

had already fled after smashing the front door and quickly removing several pieces of equipment from the store.

Items reported stolen include Honda generators, Stihl chainsaws and accessories, and water pumps. Shachtay said a large generator that had been sitting near the front entrance was also taken during the break-in.

Despite the circumstances, Shachtay said he was impressed with the emergency response. After calling 911, RCMP officers arrived within about 15 minutes.

Security footage from several nearby locations captured the incident and is expected to be turned over to RCMP on Monday as the investigation continues.

Shachtay said the store plans to re-open as usual Monday, although the damaged front door will need to be replaced and an insurance claim filed.

RCMP were also reportedly dealing with another break-in over the weekend at the local garbage dump, where a Kubota side-by-side and several batteries were stolen.

Photos shared online show shattered glass at the storefront entrance and inside the shop.

The owner is asking anyone who may see the stolen equipment or have

information about the incident to contact them.

Police have not yet released information about suspects.

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THIS IS MANITOBA TOURISM

Moosehorn Community Club hosts lively fundraising concert

By Lana Meier

The Moosehorn Community Club welcomed residents and visitors to the Moosehorn Centennial Hall on March 14 for an evening of classic music and community spirit during a successful fundraising event.

Approximately 70 guests attended the fundraiser, which featured entertainment by Adam T. Elvis and his four-piece band. The group kept the audience engaged with three energetic sets celebrating iconic performers.

The show included tributes to Johnny Cash and Johnny Horton, along with 1950s Elvis Presley hits and a Las Vegas-style Elvis performance, prompting plenty of toe tapping and sing-alongs from the crowd.

The evening began at 7 p.m., with tickets priced at \$25 and including refreshments and snacks. Guests also enjoyed a cash bar and a 50/50 raffle during the night.

Organizer Dianne Bittner said the community club was pleased with the strong turnout.

"We were very happy and thankful for the turnout," Bittner said.

The Moosehorn Community Club extended its thanks to Access Credit Union for its generous monetary do-

nation, as well as to the Moosehorn branch of Access Credit Union for providing three door prize donations.

Organizers also expressed appreciation to the many volunteers who helped plan, organize, set up and run the event.

"The event would not have happened without the dedication of our volunteers," Bittner said. "Each and every person who helped out played an important role in making the evening a success."

Bittner added that events like the fundraiser play an important role in keeping the community hall active.

"These events are very important to keep the hall active and the community engaged," she said.

Funds raised from the event will help offset some of the costs incurred during the community club's annual fall supper. Organizers say the final amount raised is still being calculated as ticket sales are finalized and remaining supplies are returned.

The club also thanked the individuals who purchased tickets and attended the event, noting that their continued support helps keep the Moosehorn Centennial Hall active as a gathering place for residents.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Adam T. Elvis (middle), also known as Adam Tarnowski, performs with his four-piece band during the Moosehorn Community Club fundraiser held March 14 at the Moosehorn Centennial Hall. The group entertained the crowd with classic hits from Johnny Cash, Johnny Horton and Elvis Presley.



Volunteers Colleen Cook (left) and Judy Nickel kept guests well supplied with refreshments and snacks during the Moosehorn Community Club's March 14 fundraising event at the Moosehorn Centennial Hall.

As a gesture of appreciation, attendees were served complimentary coffee, tea and baked goods from the kitchen during the evening.

The next Moosehorn Community Club event planned for the hall will be the community's annual fall dinner later this year.

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Gimli council presenting budget in mid-April

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli council announced last week it will be presenting its 2026 budget on April 15.

The RM posted a notice on its website saying copies of the financial plan (budget) will be publicly available for review on April 10.

People can access the budget through the RM's website or in person at the municipal office on Second Avenue.

The public hearing for the budget will held on April 15 at 6 p.m. in council chambers.

Other council news:

- Council intended to give second and third reading to its new organizational bylaw and new procedures bylaw during its March 11 regular council meeting but decided to table the bylaws for further review.

The two new bylaws will be replacing council's 2023 combined bylaw, the Council Organizational & Procedures Bylaw (No. 23-0010).

When asked why council is considering new organizational and procedures bylaws when the current bylaw is only a few years old, council spokesperson Christine Payne said council had reviewed the 2023 bylaw for currency and to ensure it aligned with best practices in municipal governance.

"As part of this review, council determined that separating the content into two distinct bylaws would improve clarity and transparency. One proposed bylaw would focus on procedural matters, such as meeting conduct, agendas, debate, voting and public participation, while the other would address organizational matters, including governance structure and administrative provisions," said Payne.

"While the existing bylaw remains

valid, separating these provisions would make council processes easier to understand for both council members and the public. The proposed bylaws were tabled to allow for additional review and refinement before any further consideration."

Hyperlinked copies of the new proposed bylaws are under council's March 11 agenda.

The new procedure bylaw (No. 26-0003) states that it will "provide for open and effective local government" by regulating meetings of council and committees, public participation and conduct, among other purposes.

One section addresses rules for electronic council meetings, committees and public hearings.

Council had previously indicated it intended to livestream council meetings, although so far only public hearings on the annual budget have been livestreamed.

The proposed procedure bylaw says council members "intending to participate electronically must notify the CAO" 24 hours in advance of the meeting. It implies council members must opt-in to an electronically held meeting.

The chair (mayor or designate) of an electronic meeting can pause proceedings for up to five minutes to address technical disruption, according to the bylaw. And public delegations "may" be allowed to participate "where feasible."

Under the Delegations section of the bylaw, the chief administrative officer and the chair (mayor or designate) will determine whether the delegation request is "appropriate for council or committee consideration." Delegations are not to be used as "complaint investigations" or "operational service meetings."

The CAO, in consultation with the

chair, may "refuse or defer a delegation where: the matter is before a court or tribunal, relates to active or anticipated legal proceedings, involves a matter already decided and no new information is offered, would unreasonably infringe privacy or confidentiality, or where the request is vexatious, repetitive or otherwise not conducive to orderly proceedings," states the bylaw.

The proposed new organizational bylaw (No. 26-0002) establishes council committees, appointments to the committees and their duties and functions, as well as defines the roles of council and the administration.

The new bylaw proposes to establish two new standing committees — the Audit & Accountability Committee, and the Governance, Integrity & Conduct Committee — to support integrity, financial accountability and transparency.

Council is in the process of reviewing over 40 committees, intending to halve that number, according to former CAO D.J. Sigmundson (see Feb. 19 edition of the *Express Weekly News* online).

As the two new bylaws were tabled at council's March 11 meeting, further amendments could be made to the final drafts.

• Council awarded a one-year fuel supply contract to Red River Co-op.

"Following a public tender process (RFT 2026-02 Fuel Supply), which was advertised on MERX and the RM of Gimli website, five bids were received. After all applicable taxes, discounts and allocation refunds were factored in, Red River Co-operative Ltd. was identified as the lowest bidder," said Payne.

The contract runs from April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027.

"The fuel supply contract primarily supports Public Works, including utility vehicles, fleet and equipment that utilize the bulk fuel system," she added. "Recreation vehicles may also access the bulk fuel system as operational needs require."

When asked if the fire department is included under the fuel supply contract, Payne said it is, although historically the department "has not regularly obtained fuel from the RM's bulk fuel system."

• Council was advised that the provincial Emergency Management Organization (EMO) is holding virtual regional wildfire seminars on April 14, 15 and 16 and that all municipalities are invited to attend.

• The Westshore Community Foundation advised council that it's proposing the creation of the Gimli Community Endowment Fund to provide a source of funding support for recreation, culture and environmental stewardship, according to a March 11 Recap document posted on the RM's website. Council will consider establishing the fund and determining an initial contribution.

• Council approved an application for a home-based computer and phone repair business called This Guy in the Vesturland neighbourhood. Council included conditions such as considerations for the hours of operation, parking and traffic.

• Council awarded a dust control contract to Fort Distributors, a limestone aggregate supply contract to Armstrong Construction and a gravel hauling contract to Armstrong Construction.

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor: news@expressweeklynews.ca

Words matter in reporting

I have noticed over the past couple of years that media coverage sometimes makes assumptions, and I would like to offer my perspective.

First, I am not picking a side, nor am I defending anyone.

I am referring to the recent incident in Winnipeg where both a man attempting to steal items from a grocery store and a security guard were charged.

In some reports, the man attempting to leave the store with a large amount of unpaid merchandise has been referred to as a "victim." In my view, that is not accurate. He was

reportedly attempting to leave the store without paying and was being detained. Police have charged him with robbery and uttering threats, which are serious charges.

He is not a "victim." He is the accused and should be referred to as such.

- Bob Dowd

What's *Your* story?

We want to hear from you.

The Express Weekly News connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at news@expressweeklynews.ca or Phone 204-467-5836

THE EXPRESS
WEEKLY NEWS

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Customer data hacked from Loblaw and Telus

By Patricia Barrett

Canadian companies Loblaw grocery giant and telecom company Telus were the targets of cyber attacks that resulted in the loss of customer data.

Loblaw posted a press release dated March 10 on its website about the data breach.

The company characterized the cyber-attack as a “low-level data breach” with only “basic” information exposed, and said it’s notifying its customers.

“After identifying suspicious activity on a contained, non-critical part of its IT network, the Company has determined that a criminal third-party accessed some basic customer information such as names, phone numbers and email addresses,” said the company in the news release.

It did not specify when the cyber-attack occurred.

Loblaw went on to say that its current investigation has indicated that customers’ passwords, health information and credit card data “were not compromised” nor was PC Financial.

Loblaw Companies Ltd. operates thousands of stores across Canada, including grocery stores such as the Real Canadian Superstore, No Frills, Extra Foods and Dominion, as well as Shoppers Drug Mart pharmacy.

Telus was also subjected to a cyber attack that resulted in customer data being accessed, but it’s unclear when it happened and how serious it was.

No mention of the cyber attack in Telus’ Newsroom site (back to July 2025) could not be found.

In an interview with the *Canadian Press* posted on March 13, Telus said it’s investigating a cyber attack on a “limited number” of its digital systems.

Telus spokesperson Richard Gilhooley said the company will notify any customers who may have been affected.

The story did specify how many customers were or might have been impacted in the data breach nor what type of data were accessed and stolen.

In addition to cyber forensic experts, the company said it’s working with law enforcement.

A group calling itself ShinyHunters contacted an American media outlet last week, claiming it was planning to

release a large amount of data that it claimed to have stolen from Telus in August, and that the group had sent Telus a ransom note in February demanding a payment [unspecified] in Bitcoin.

The group also shared with Reuters news service samples of the alleged data including information about two dozen or so companies, personal data, call data, and FBI background check information. Reuters has not verified its authenticity.

Fuel prices surge in Teulon



EXPRESS PHOTO BY STEPH MARTENS

Gas prices in Teulon have spiked to 164.9 cents per litre, following a sharp jump at local service stations in recent days. Prices rose from 141.9 cents per litre on March 5 to 149.9 cents per litre in less than 24 hours, before climbing further on March 16. The increase reflects a broader surge seen across Manitoba and Canada, largely driven by rising global oil prices amid escalating conflict in the Middle East and concerns about potential disruptions to international oil supplies.

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Riverton Ice Fishing Derby supports local organizations



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Organizers of the 2026 Riverton Ice Fishing Derby recently presented proceeds from the popular Family Day fundraiser to several local organizations. The annual derby, held Feb. 16 on Lake Winnipeg, saw strong participation from anglers and volunteers. Pictured, clockwise from top left: Shane Sigurdson and Wayne Furgala accepting \$10,800 for Riverton Minor Hockey; members of the Djorfung Ladies Aid — Jessa Lane Firman, Louise Schellenberg, Ruth Ann Furgala, Vickie Johnson, Linda Watton and Ross Cooper — receiving \$5,400; and Tanis Grimolfson and Linda Watton for the Riverton & District Friendship Centre, along with Desarae Bilinski and Linda Watton for the Riverton Transportation & Heritage Centre, each receiving \$5,400.

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

Community Support Service

AA Arborg

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

AA Eriksdale

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

AA Winnipeg Beach

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

Gimli Group AA

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd
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Al-Anon Gimli and Winnipeg Beach

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AA Riverton Group

12 Main St. at the
Riverton Senior Centre
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GIMLI AREA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES EASTER SEASON 2026

St. Michael's Church, Gimli, St. Benedict's, Camp Morton
Our Lady of the Lake, Winnipeg Beach

WAY OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Our Lady of the Lake: every Thursday, following 10:00 AM Mass, and at 3:30 PM on Saturdays

St. Michael's: every Friday, following 10:00 AM Mass and at 10:30 AM on Sundays

St. Benedict's: at 8:30 AM on Sundays

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday (Regular Weekend Mass Schedule)
March 28/29, 2026

- Saturday, Our Lady of the Lake, Winnipeg Beach, 4:00 PM

- Sunday, St. Benedict's, Camp Morton, 9:00 AM

- Sunday, St. Michael's, Gimli 11:00 AM

HOLY THURSDAY MASS

- Thursday, April 2, 2026 St. Michael's, Gimli, 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

- Friday, April 3, 2026, Our Lady of the Lake, Wpg Beach 3:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY, EASTER VIGIL

- Saturday, April 4, 2026,

Our Lady of the Lake, Wpg Beach 5:00 PM

- Saturday, April 4, 2026, St. Michael's, Gimli 8:00 PM

EASTER SUNDAY MASS

- Sunday, April 5, 2026, St. Benedict's, Camp Morton 9:00 AM

- Sunday, April 5, 2026, St. Michael's, Gimli 11:00 AM

BLESSING OF FESTIVE FOODS (EASTER BASKETS)

- Holy Saturday, April 4, 2026, St. Michael's at 11:00 AM and at the end of each Easter Vigil (evening of April 4) and Easter Sunday Mass on (morning of April 5, 2026).

CATECHISM FOR CHILDREN

- Every Thursday, at 4:30 PM at St. Michael's, Gimli

For more information call 204-642-5040

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PESTICIDE CONTROL PROGRAM

Public Notice is hereby given that the Province of Manitoba intends to conduct the following Pesticide Control Programs during 2026 within the province right of way.

- To control invasive plants and noxious weeds on Manitoba Provincial right of way.
- The herbicides include: Dicamba, 2,4-D amine, 2,4-D Choline, 2,4-D Ester, 2,4-D, Mecoprop-p, Dichloroprop-p, Aminopyralid, Metsulfuronmethyl, Diflufenzopyr, Fluroxypyr, Imazapyr, Triclopyr, Picloram, Aminocyclopyrachlor, Chlorsulfuron, Saflufenacil, Iron (as FeHEDTA), Glyphosate, Clopyralid, Bromacil, Acetic Acid, LI 700, Non Ionic Surfactant, Flumioxazin, Diuron, Indaziflam, Florpyrauxifen, mineral oil, Methyl Ester & Ethyl Ester.
- The proposed dates of application for this program will be from April 15, 2026 to October 31, 2026.

The public may send written submissions or objections within 15 days of the publication of the notice to the department below.

Manitoba Environment and Climate Change
Environmental Approvals Branch
Box 35, 14 Fultz Boulevard, Winnipeg MB R3Y 0L6
pesticideusepermit@gov.mb.ca



> MENSTRUAL, FROM PG. 2

stocking their washroom with menstrual products for the benefit of all who work at EBN, she said. And to be clear, EBN also receives public donations of menstrual products, but those are distributed exclusively to food bank clients.

Whether or not employee-provision of products is allowed under the government's menstrual-product directive is unclear, she said. Nevertheless, EBN would "foot the bill" for pads and tampons for its staff and volunteers if necessary.

"It wouldn't be a hardship. It would fall under our personal hygiene [budget] line that we already have. We have a first aid kit and an eyewash station and other items for our staff," said Bowman. "I think the spirit of this bill is that the menstrual items are provided. And if we're providing them, it shouldn't matter if they're donated by staff or purchased. That's my opinion. If we're told differently, we'll abide by the rules the government has."

Bowman said she thinks it's a "good idea" for employers to provide menstrual products as this "helps to lower the cost of living for a part of our population."

She doesn't see it becoming a "huge expense" for smaller workplaces to shoulder, she said, but for larger businesses with lots of employees — say the size of Walmart — it might entail more of an expense.

To soften the impact on businesses that will feel the pinch of having to outlay funds for menstrual products, she said the provincial government might perhaps want to consider some sort of incentive.

"When a government comes out with something that will cost businesses money, they should offer something to help mitigate that cost, whether it's a tax incentive or a credit system of some sort," said Bowman. "For instance, let's say your company spends \$1,000 on hygiene products over the course of a year and you can get maybe \$250 back through a tax break. I think something like that would make the pill easier to swallow for some of the larger companies."

Pad and tampon manufacturing is a highly lucrative industry. For instance, Procter & Gamble, which makes Always pads and Tampax tampons, saw net sales of over \$20.3 billion in its "baby, feminine and family care" line in 2024, according to the company's annual report. Always and Tampax brands command 25 per cent of the global market share. The company's total net sales were \$84 billion.

An Interlake business owner with more than 10 staff said the government's announcement last week was the first time she said she heard of the directive, and she thinks the government should have first consulted with the business community before going ahead and amending the WSH act.

The entrepreneur, who's located on the west side of the Interlake, does not want to be identified as

she feels the issue could polarize her customers and some employees.

The financial impact on her business would be fairly minor, she said, as she currently has a limited number of menstruating employees. And her staff bring in various menstrual products and leave them in a drawer in the women's washroom for anyone to use.

She said providing toilet paper and soap makes sense under workplace safety rules, but menstrual products should remain optional because she doesn't view them as a health and safety issue.

Nor should the province be making Manitoba employers assume higher operating costs because a free-market product is priced too highly for some people who menstruate.

"This is over the top," said the entrepreneur. "I feel the province is micromanaging how businesses operate."

For employers with a good proportion of menstruating staff, the mandate will cost them money, she said.

And there's a potential for an invasion of "period privacy" should the more "receptive" employers ask their staff what products work best for them.

She cited the government's FAQ document, which states employers have to provide one type of pad and one type of tampon. But that "one-size-fits-all" approach won't necessarily work in every workplace. She's aware that the menstruating employees in her workplace have different product needs because their menstrual cycles are different.

"Are we going to ask employees what brand they'd like, do they have a heavy or light flow, and what size pad they need? If an employer buys only one type of product to meet the WSH rule, some employees might not use it because it won't meet their needs," said the entrepreneur.

As part of the new mandate, the news release states the WSH branch will be conducting menstrual-product compliance checks in workplaces.

The entrepreneur said that's not a good use of WSH staff time as they "have a job to do."

A potentially irksome issue employers may have to address further down the line is theft. Because menstrual products are so expensive for some people, the temptation to steal may arise.

"Who's to stop employees from taking products home for their children or relatives?" said the entrepreneur. "And what about employees that work from home? Do employers have to provide for them as well?"

Samantha Hampton, who owns the Shoreline Restaurant in Steep Rock in the RM of Grahamdale and is also president of the Gimli Chamber of Commerce, said providing menstrual products is "part of a broader conversation" about treating basic health needs the same way we treat other essentials in washrooms.

She's heard mixed feelings about the government's new requirement, but she said the overall consensus seems to be that the cost will be relatively small.

"The government has estimated it at around \$10 to \$25 per employee per year, which for many businesses isn't a large expense if the outcome is that staff feel they have what they need at work," said Hampton.

She said there are moments when having menstrual supplies available "makes a difference."

With regard to a potential for theft, Hampton said she feels she's hired people who "re-

spect their workplace and won't abuse" a system that's meant to support everyone.

"Like many workplace policies, the key will be implementing it in a practical way so businesses and employees alike benefit from it," she said.

Workplaces with no menstruating employees cannot opt-out of purchasing menstrual products and used-product containers, according to the government's FAQ. It's unclear why a workplace made up of employees who don't menstruate would be required to have them on hand.

Commercial fisher Bill Buckels said he has no employees in his workplace, which is either the ice or a skiff on Lake Winnipeg. But if he did have either menstruous or non-menstruous employees, he assumes he'd have to comply with the government's mandate and purchase tampons and pads for them.

"How about we just buy every hygiene product for everybody — including Depends for seniors who work using provincial funds?" he said. "That would be fair. Or let's have a provincial drug plan for these hygienic supplies. That would probably be a better and more democratic and inclusive plan than this vertical solution, which sounds like a union contract being shoved down the throats of independent businesses."

The *Express* reached out to the Lakeshore School Division and the Evergreen School Division — workplaces with a good number of staff — for their thoughts on the new directive, including how they'd identify the number of staff who menstruate and how the divisions would pay for the products.

"We haven't received any direction on this yet, so I'm not in a position to be able to answer your questions," said ESD Supt. Scott Hill, who added that when they learn more, they'll be able to speak to the issue.

Lakeshore didn't respond.

The *Express* asked the provincial department of labour and immigration why Manitoba businesses have to shoulder the cost of products that pad- and tampon-making companies have priced beyond the means of many Manitobans, how it's defining "Manitoba employers," whether it's considering a tax-break for employers to partially offset the cost of the mandatory requirement, and how often menstrual-product-compliance inspections will be carried out, among a number of other questions.

"Like other employers, the province is working through its implementation plans for this update to the Workplace Safety and Health Regulation," said a spokesperson. "The Workplace Safety and Health Branch will enforce compliance through existing workplace inspections. The branch conducts investigations of workplaces in Manitoba, including proactive inspection activities and in response to complaints."

The spokesperson declined to say how many menstruating employees the Government of Manitoba has and how much it would cost to provide free pads and tampons to them. He referred the *Express* to cabinet communications to find out whether the government is considering a tax break.

As to how the government defines a Manitoba workplace, the spokesperson said:

"According to Statistics Canada, there are 43,792 businesses with employees in Manitoba and 94 per cent of workers are covered under provincial workplace safety and health requirements. Federally regulated industries are exempt from provincial regulations. The Canada Labour Code already includes requirements for federally regulated industries to provide menstrual products to workers."

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Registration now open for free Spirit of Caring course

By Jennifer McFee

Get in the spirit of caring through a training session focused on spiritual health.

A free nine-week Spirit of Caring volunteer education course will run on Wednesdays from April 8 to June 3 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. The location will be determined based on the communities of registered participants. Virtual sessions via Microsoft Teams will also be an option if participants are from different communities.

Through this course, participants will learn about spiritual care in health care. Other topics include death and dying, communication,

spiritual development and spiritual diversity. The course will also touch on understanding suffering and compassion, as well as self-care, prayer, mediation, rituals, trauma and crisis.

"Illnesses and loss are those crisis points where our way of life and seeing things can be profoundly shaken and tested," said Ferdinand Funk, spiritual health services co-ordinator for Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority.

"It is during these moments that we ask questions about meaning, purpose, suffering, forgiveness, hope, resilience, connection with the people

we love and the sacred. The Spirit of Caring course is designed to train spiritual health volunteers to journey with and support people during these crisis points."

Regular attendance and participation are requirements to be considered for a Spiritual Care volunteer position.

For more information, contact Ferdinand Funk at ffunk@ierha.ca or 204-461-3414. Visit <https://forms.office.com/r/KYubUZ5sRx> to learn more or register for free.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Ferdinand Funk is the spiritual health services co-ordinator for Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority.

Gimli RCMP searching for missing 56-year-old man

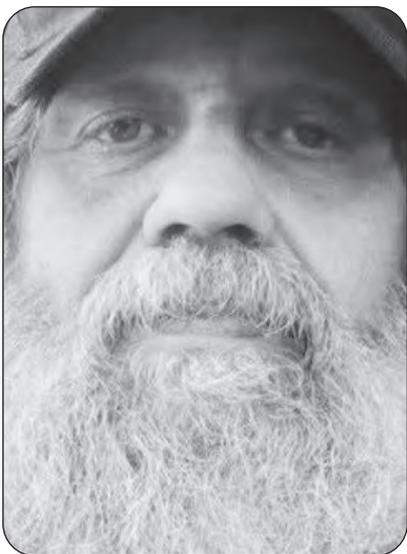


PHOTO SUBMITTED

David Jonasson

By Haley Cvar

Gimli RCMP are asking for the public's help in locating a missing 56-year-old man who was last seen in the Peguis First Nation area.

Police say David Jonasson was reported missing on March 8. He was last seen on Feb. 26 and may be travelling in a borrowed 2018 Ford F-150.

Jonasson is described as about 5-foot-7 and approximately 160 pounds, with grey hair and brown eyes.

RCMP say both officers and family members are concerned for his well-being.

Anyone with information about Jonasson's whereabouts is asked to contact Gimli RCMP at 204-642-5106. Anonymous tips can also be submitted to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or online at www.manitobacrimestoppers.com.

Gypsumville RCMP seize cocaine, charge man



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Gypsumville RCMP seized cocaine, a handgun, ammunition, drug paraphernalia and more than \$1,300 in cash during an investigation on Lake St. Martin First Nation on March 6.

By Haley Cvar

Gypsumville RCMP have seized cocaine, a handgun and cash during an investigation on Lake St. Martin First Nation.

On March 6 at approximately 5 p.m., officers were searching for a person of interest in the community when they attended a residence on Lake St. Mar-

tin First Nation.

During the investigation, police located drugs inside the home, including a vacuum-sealed bag believed to contain cocaine and 10 small individual bags of crack cocaine. Officers also seized drug paraphernalia, a handgun, ammunition and more than

\$1,300 in cash.

A suspect was arrested at the scene. Jared Marsden, 24, of Lake St. Martin First Nation, has been charged with possession of drugs for the purpose of trafficking. He was remanded into custody.

The investigation continues.

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EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON

Olympic dreams

By Lana Meier

Young figure skaters took to the ice earlier this month as the Arborg Skating Club presented its annual skating carnival at the Arborg & District Arena.

The March 10 show, themed “The Olympic Dream,” highlighted the talents of local skaters participating in the club’s CanSkate and StarSkate programs. The Arborg Skating Club operates out of the arena each winter, offering Skate Canada programs for children and youth in the community.

The evening began with a rendition of *O Canada* sung by Caitlyn Whiteway, followed by a welcome and presentation by Jaclyn Dudar.

Throughout the program, skaters performed a variety of solo, duet and group routines inspired by Olympic sport and competition. Highlights included the Green Group’s “Torch Bearers” number, the Blue

Group’s hockey-themed routine set to Stompin’ Tom Connors’ *The Hockey Song*, and the Yellow Group’s patriotic performance celebrating Team Canada.

Several individual skaters also took the spotlight. Leah Dudar performed a Star 2 free skate routine to 2002 by Anne-Marie, while Kristen Orbanski and Luwa Chanda each showcased their own Star 2 free skate programs. Caitlyn Whiteway and Bwelo Chanda teamed up for a Star 1 duet.

The show concluded with a grand finale featuring all members of the Arborg Skating Club performing to the Olympic fanfare before returning to the ice for a final bow and photos.

The annual carnival provides young skaters with an opportunity to perform for family and friends while celebrating the progress they have made during the season.



Access Credit Union named one of Manitoba's Top Employers for 12th year

By Haley Cvar

Access Credit Union has once again been recognized as one of Manitoba's Top Employers, marking the 12th consecutive year the organization has received the designation.

The recognition was announced March 10 by the editors and organizers of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project. Access was also named among Canada's best employers for recent graduates in The Career Directory 2026.

The annual Manitoba's Top Employers competition highlights organizations that lead their industries in offering strong workplace environments and employee support programs.

Access Credit Union president and CEO Myrna Wiebe said the honour reflects the commitment of the credit union's workforce.

"The dedication, support and teamwork demonstrated daily by our employees are what supports the success and continued growth of the credit union," Wiebe said in a statement. "We're proud of our employees' ded-

ication to providing exceptional service to our members and clients, and how well they represent Access both inside and outside the workplace."

The credit union offers a range of employee benefits aimed at supporting staff development and well-being. These include paid training and continuing education opportunities, flexible work hours and locations, matched pension plans, competitive salaries, tuition subsidies and fully paid health and family coverage.

Access Credit Union also emphasizes community involvement and encourages employees to participate in volunteer and community initiatives.

Manitoba's Top Employers is published annually by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers and highlights organizations that offer progressive workplace policies and supportive work environments.

Access Credit Union is the largest credit union in Manitoba, with \$14.1 billion in assets and more than 208,000 members served through branches across the province.

Hailey's Way Ice 1st annual ice fishing derby attracts almost 500 people

By Patricia Barrett

The inaugural Hailey's Way fishing derby in Gimli a few weeks ago was a huge success, with almost 500 people dropping a line into Lake Winnipeg to help support youth programs offered by the registered charity.

The derby took place on March 7, with support from the popular Gimli Ice Festival, which took place on the same weekend.

The derby offered a spectacular line-up of prizes, including \$10,000, \$3,000 and \$1,500 for the top three winners in the adult category and 29 prizes for youth anglers.

Finn Snow, 10, said he loved taking part in the derby. He came home with a second-place prize for a 40 cm walleye (pickerel) he caught.

"I was really excited for most of the time. I was anxious that two people were going to catch bigger fish than me," said Finn in a video address shared by his mom. "But I really liked the prize I got."

Finn held up a Meta virtual reality system that offers gaming and entertainment.

"Excitement and joy [when I won]," said Finn, when asked how he felt about winning a prize. "Thank you

Dana [DesRoches] and Hailey's Way for getting the prize."

In addition to Finn, youth winners were Connor Buellman (first place) for a 42 cm walleye, Sophia McPherson (third place) for a 32 cm sauger, Henrik Vigfusson (fourth place) for a 31 cm walleye, Lily Fung (fifth place) for a 26 cm walleye, and Noah Celestine (sixth place) for a 24 cm sauger.

Prizes for the kids were selected by Hailey's Way youth committee members. Other prizes were drawn by name, and didn't require anyone to catch a fish.

Dana DesRoches, the founder of the Hailey's Way charity, said dozens of businesses and individuals generosity provided the prizes and practical support, and they got scores of volunteers to help out on derby day.

"Our first annual Hailey's Way Ice Fishing Derby was a great success with over 80 volunteers and 42 businesses and individuals sponsoring the events through monetary and in-kind donations, and they donated prizes," said DesRoches. "We could not have done it without their support, as well as the support of the

Continued on page 13



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Potato donation feeds community in more ways than one

By E. Antonio

When life gives you potatoes, turn them into potato soup — and that's exactly what Sugar Me Cookie Boutique did after picking up 75 pounds of potatoes and 50 pounds of onions from Evergreen Basic Needs (EBN) in late February.

The produce was part of a much larger donation. EBN received 2,500 pounds of potatoes and 1,250 pounds of onions from Dunnottar councillor Jim Kotowich, who coordinated the delivery through Second Harvest, an organization committed to reducing food waste.

Kotowich said donating the produce to food banks was an easy decision after learning it could otherwise end up in a landfill.

"It was a wonderful feeling," he said. "To think there was a possibility the shipment would have been sent to landfill, and instead we were able to get it to people who could really appreciate and use it."

Kotowich added the donation was a true group effort involving a generous farmer, a trucking company, Second Harvest staff and volunteers from Winnipeg and the Interlake.

"Sometimes when I read and hear about everything happening in the world, life gets a little sad," he said. "Then you meet all these people and realize there are many kind and caring people willing to step up to help others."

Two local volunteers, Mark and Devin, delivered the produce to EBN after responding to a call for drivers.

EBN executive director Karen Bowman said she knew the shipment was coming but was still surprised by the sheer volume when it arrived Feb. 24.

"My immediate response was, 'That's a lot of potatoes,'" she recalled. "I really didn't have a concept of what it would look like, so when it was unloaded I wondered what we were going to do with them all."



Sugar Me Cookie Boutique prepared more than 100 servings of soup, salads and potato dishes using produce collected from Evergreen Basic Needs. All trays were donated back to EBN for distribution in the community.

Bowman quickly realized there were more potatoes than the organization would typically use and began reaching out to other food banks. Eventually, EBN offered the extra produce to community members to pick up free of charge on Feb. 27.

"It was great to be able to share with our neighbours," Bowman said. "While our primary responsibility is to our food bank clients, if we have a surplus of anything it only makes sense to share it with the larger communities we serve. Keeping food in people's cupboards and pantries is much better than sending it to the landfill."

She added that with food insecurity at an all-time high, sharing the potatoes and onions was another way the organization could support the community.

For Sugar Me Cookie — also known locally as The Butter Tart Lady — the opportunity became a chance to give back.

Using the produce they collected, the team initially prepared 60 servings of potato bacon soup and 57 trays of scalloped potatoes. They also made 60 Caesar salads and donated all the meals back to EBN for distribution. One week later, they made 48 trays of scalloped potatoes, 16 family-sized scalloped potatoes with cheese, 50 mini salads, 10 family-sized salads, 21 mini mashed potatoes and 13 mini roasted potatoes.

"When EBN offered the community potatoes and onions, it really resonated with us," said Deborah, operations manager for The Butter Tart Lady. "Those are simple ingredients, but they can become



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The community came together when 2,500 pounds of potatoes and 1,250 pounds of onions were donated to Evergreen Basic Needs. Local volunteer driver Mark delivered a load of produce after responding to a call for volunteer drivers.



something really nourishing when you have the time and ability to cook with them."

For Deborah, the project also carried personal meaning. She said her family relied on food banks — including EBN — while she was growing up, making the opportunity to help others feel especially meaningful.

"Being able to give back now feels like coming full circle," she said. "We believe strongly in paying it forward and supporting the community that helped shape who we are today."

Production day required a full team effort, involving hours of peeling, chopping, cooking and portioning — what Deborah described as a "messy and labour-intensive process."

But the effort was worth it knowing the food would go directly back to people in the community.

"Our hope was simply that it would make someone's day a little easier,"

she said. "When you're trying to feed your family, a ready-made meal can take a lot of pressure off. The response from the community has been very positive and encouraging, and it reminds us why giving back matters."

Bowman said the meals were extremely well received by food bank clients and disappeared quickly.

"Getting anything fresh and homemade during the winter is always an extra bonus to the basic hamper available," she said.

She added the organization is grateful for the ongoing support of volunteers and local partners, including Sugar Me Cookie, Sobeys Gimli, Red River Co-op, Red Apple and Matlock Village Junction.

"There are good people out there," Bowman said. "Sometimes all you have to do is ask for help and folks respond."

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Harold

Gimli Recreation Centre hosting free Jets Town Takeover viewing party this Thursday

By Patricia Barrett

The Gimli Recreation Centre will be hosting a free Jets Town Takeover viewing party this Thursday night and is inviting people of all ages to join in the fun and win some prizes.

Fans of the Winnipeg Jets hockey team voted overwhelmingly last year for Gimli in True North Sports + Entertainment's annual Jets Town Takeover competition.

Gimli was vying for the trophy with two other finalists, Niverville and Oakbank, and scored a win with over 12,500 votes.

"It was truly overwhelming to see the support we received to win this season's Jets Town Takeover," said the RM's recreation programmer Lenni Finnbogason in a Dec. 15 NHL press release. "The backbone of this community is the people, and to see us come together as one to make this happen was very heartwarming."

The free event on March 19 will include the viewing of a Winnipeg Jets and Boston Bruins' game, the Jets' Mick E. Moose mascot, raffle prizes, a 50-50 draw, a stick and jersey giveaway, jet dogs and a Jets alumni signing session.

The Jets Town Takeover is an annual event that brings NHL-level programming, events and a viewing party to a Manitoba town that receives the highest number of fan votes. The event supports rural hockey fans and youth hockey through alumni visits and mental health workshops called Project 11 at local schools.

The Gimli Vikings got to have a practice with Jets alumni at the Recreation Centre on March 18.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE
The Gimli Recreation Centre is hosting a free Jets-Bruins viewing party March 19 with prizes and food. Doors open at 5 p.m.

> HAILEY'S WAY, FROM PG. 11



EXPRESS PHOTO BY RAYME THOMSON

Dennis Fizmaurice was the lucky winner of the \$10,000 in Hailey's Way fishing derby.

Gimli Ice Festival."

DesRoches set up the charity in her daughter Hailey's name in 2022 to provide Interlake youth with options for participating in safe, organized activities such as sports, art, music and education, and to help them build self-esteem and engage in personal growth.

Her daughter, Hailey Dugay, 20, was killed in 2018 in Fraserwood after a man opened fire on a vehicle she was riding in and fatally struck her. DesRoches set up the charity as a legacy to Hailey and to give back to Gimli and surrounding communities, which supported her and her family after the tragedy.

The RM of Gimli and Adam Stringer of Stringer's Rentals and the Gimli Home Hardware store were a "driving force" in getting the derby site prepared — which included parking — for the charity.

"We got lots of positive feedback about it providing increased accessibility for all ages and abilities," said DesRoches. "Our team of volunteers were able to drill just over 1,000 holes, and we had approximately 470 holes fished. Thirty-nine fish were caught."

For more information about the Hailey's Way charity and youth programs for Interlake kids, visit haileysway.com or Facebook.

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➔ dfo-mpo.gc.ca/sch-ppb/abouta-aproposap/information-eng.html

Ukrainian egg painting – Pysanky workshop coming to Arborg

By Lana Meier

Residents interested in learning the traditional Ukrainian art of pysanky will have the opportunity later this month when instructor Loris Sargeant leads a hands-on workshop at Creative Cocoon in Arborg.

The class will take place March 28 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and will run for three hours. Participants will be guided through the process of decorating traditional pysanky — intricately designed Ukrainian Easter eggs — using wax-resist techniques.

Registration costs \$45 per person and includes all materials needed to complete a pysanky. A maximum of 15 participants will receive an egg to decorate and take home. Sargeant provides the use of a kistka (wax stylus), beeswax, pysanky dyes, a candle for heating the stylus, small jars for dye, vinegar, pencils for sketching designs, spoons for dipping eggs and paper towels to keep the workspace clean. Those interested can register by emailing info@thecreativecocoon.ca.

Pysanky, sometimes referred to as Ukrainian Easter eggs, are a centuries-old folk art tradition that combines storytelling, symbolism and intricate craftsmanship. The word pysanky comes from the Ukrainian verb pysaty, meaning “to write,” reflecting how the designs are “written” on the egg with wax before layers of dye are applied.

Sargeant has taught pysanky classes for a number of years and learned the craft from her mother, whose Ukrai-



Traditional Ukrainian pysanky eggs display intricate patterns and vibrant colours created using a wax-resist dyeing technique passed down through generations.

nian heritage helped bring the tradition to Canada. She was introduced to the technique at a young age and remembers making eggs with natural dyes created from ingredients such as onion skins and beets.

The basic process involves first sketching a design on the egg, then applying melted beeswax using a stylus to protect sections of the shell from dye. The egg is dipped into progressively darker colours, with additional wax layers applied along the way. Once the dyeing process is complete, the wax is removed to reveal the final pattern.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

A pysanky artist uses a kistka (wax stylus) and heated beeswax to apply designs to an egg, protecting sections of the shell as it is dyed in successive colours.

Traditional pysanky designs often include symbols drawn from folklore and nature, with different motifs representing themes such as protection, prosperity, renewal and life.

Sargeant said that although traditional designs are often used as a guide, participants are encouraged to add their own creative touches.

“Every egg, even when people start with the same design, turns out a little different,” she has said in previous workshops. “Everyone puts their own take on it.”

While the art form has deep roots in Ukrainian culture, Sargeant welcomes participants of all backgrounds.

The upcoming workshop in Arborg will introduce beginners to the basics of the craft while also sharing some of the history and symbolism behind the designs.

Organizers say the class is designed to give participants both a creative experience and an appreciation for a long-standing cultural tradition. Sargeant also offers home Pysanky parties throughout the year and is available for private bookings on weekends, giving groups the opportunity to learn the craft together in a relaxed setting.

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Fuel and food support



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Evergreen Basic Needs in Gimli received a \$2,000 grant in gift cards from Red River Co-operative Ltd., helping support fuel and food purchases for the EBN Food Bank. The donation will assist the organization in continuing to provide essential support to residents in need in the community.

TO REGISTER: Call Us 204-642-7578 Visit Our Website www.eastinterlake.ca Email Us info@eastinterlake.ca Deadline to Register: Monday March 23rd

Local veterinary team recognized with provincial honours

By Lana Meier

Two members of the team at Gimli Veterinary Services have been recognized by the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) for their contributions to veterinary medicine and mentorship within the profession.

Dr. Lisa Taylor was named Veterinarian of the Year, while registered veterinary technologist Erin Peters received the RVT Mentorship Award during the association's annual awards ceremony held Feb. 21 at The Gates on Roblin near Winnipeg.

According to the MVMA, the Veterinarian of the Year award recognizes a veterinarian member who has made significant contributions to the profession while enhancing the profession's image among the public. Recipients must be nominated by another MVMA member and are appointed by the association's council.

The Mentorship Award, created in 2021, honours veterinarians and veterinary technologists who demonstrate excellence in supporting colleagues and those entering the profession. The award highlights the importance of mentorship in helping members reach their full potential while promoting collegiality and professional well-being.

Taylor was recognized for her contributions to veterinary medicine in the Interlake region and for being compassionate, kind and skilled in her work. She has been practising veterinary medicine for 39 years and will celebrate 30 years of Gimli Veterinary Services this June, with details of a celebration event to be announced later.

"I was very surprised and very honoured to be considered," Taylor said of receiving the award.

Her passion for animals began early. "My love of animals and various jobs I worked as a teenager with animals inspired me to pursue this career," she said.

Over the years, Taylor said the relationships she has built within the community have been one of the most

rewarding parts of the profession.

"The wonderful clients who love their animals, despite all their shapes and sizes, and the wonderful staff who I work with every day," she said.

Despite the challenges that can come with veterinary medicine, Taylor said the work continues to inspire her.

"The joy of working with animals and all the wonderful people of the Interlake, along with the wild and varied cases that we have the privilege of working with."

Her advice to young people considering veterinary medicine is simple.

"Make sure you love to learn and continue to study your whole life," she said.

Peters, who has worked as a registered veterinary technologist for 12 years, said she was initially surprised when she learned she had been selected for the RVT Mentorship Award.

"My initial reaction was confusion and shock," she said. "Once I read the email over a few times, my emotions turned into excitement and gratitude. I was honoured that my coworkers felt I was worthy of such an amazing award."

Peters was recognized for her dedication to mentoring RVT students and new technologists, helping them build confidence while fostering a positive learning environment within the clinic.

Growing up with pets helped shape her decision to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.

"Being able to experience the special bond and the joy they would bring me daily led me to research careers involving animals," she said. "From there I came across the role of an RVT and was immediately sure it was all I wanted to pursue."

In her daily work, mentorship often involves helping colleagues build their skills and confidence.

"For me, mentorship on the daily looks like answering questions other staff have, assisting with skills and offering tips or tricks I may have when we have RVT students or new staff," she said. "I try to be kind, welcoming



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Dr. Lisa Taylor (left) and Erin Peters of Gimli Veterinary Services pose with their awards during the Manitoba Veterinary Medical Association awards ceremony held Feb. 21 at The Gates on Roblin near Winnipeg. Taylor was named Veterinarian of the Year, while Peters received the RVT Mentorship Award.

and willing to offer all of the skills and knowledge I have gained in the last 12 years."

She added that mentorship is particularly important in veterinary medicine due to the pressures of the profession.

"It's an extremely high-stress, fast-paced and demanding career," she said. "If someone is new and feels frightened or nervous to ask questions or try new skills, they may get discouraged and leave the profession entirely."

Both Taylor and Peters said they are honoured to receive recognition while working as part of the Gimli Veterinary Services team.

Veterinary care also plays an essential role in rural communities such as those in the Interlake.

"Access to care, especially in rural communities, can be a big issue, particularly the further you head north of Winnipeg," they said. "We're glad to be stationed in beautiful Gimli doing what we love — helping animals and providing gold-standard care to the Interlake region and surrounding communities."

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58th annual Lundar Bull Sale set for April 4

By E. Antonio

The Lundar Bull Sale has long been a tradition for cattle producers in Manitoba's Interlake and beyond. Now entering its 58th year, the annual sale returns to the Lundar Agri-Ed Centre on Saturday, April 4, bringing together breeders, buyers and community members for another year of livestock and fellowship.

Lundar Bull Sale president Jack Cruise said he is looking forward to welcoming producers back for the long-running event, which features a variety of breeds.

Cruise recalls attending some of the earliest sales with his father, who was among the event's founders. For him, the sale's longevity speaks to the strength of the region's cattle community.

"We have a good reputation and we strive to maintain that," Cruise said. "We have managed to be successful year after year, and people come from all over the province to buy our cattle — it's a good place to be."

Over the years, the sale has become more than just a marketplace. Cruise said it has also become an annual opportunity for producers to reconnect with friends and neighbours.

"There are several generations of repeat buyers," he added. "It always



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Lundar All Breeds Bull Sale starts at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 4 at the Lundar Agri-Ed Centre. Pictured is the 2024 highest-selling bull, Level Up.

brings back memories of those who have come and gone. There are people who have been involved with the sale since it started — whether as a buyer, contributor or organizer — and while the sale itself is a big component, the chance to reconnect and reminisce is another important part of the day."

Cruise said he is proud of the reputation the sale has built and hopes producers will continue to support the event for years to come.

While the core of the sale has remained largely unchanged over the

decades, the range of breeds available has expanded. In the early years, the sale primarily featured Hereford, Angus and Shorthorn cattle. Today, buyers can choose from a wider selection of breeds that have been introduced to Manitoba over time.

This year's lineup includes 13 Her-

ford bulls, 13 Simmental bulls, seven Charolais bulls, four Angus bulls, three Limousin bulls and one Shorthorn bull. In addition, two Hereford heifers, two Charolais heifers and five pens of three commercial heifers will be available.

Cruise said keeping the sale local is important for Interlake producers.

"A lot of people like that they can come close to home and still find good cattle," he noted.

Behind the scenes, he added, a great deal of work goes into organizing the event each year. Cruise said the sale would not be possible without the support of the board of directors and the community.

Viewing of the cattle will begin at 4 p.m. on Friday, April 3, both in person at the Lundar Agri-Ed Centre and online at www.buyagro.com.

Admission to the sale is free and everyone is welcome to attend. A pre-sale lunch will be available starting at noon on sale day, offering a light and social lead-in to the one-hour sale beginning at 1 p.m.

For more information about the Lundar Bull Sale, contact Cruise at 204-739-3645.

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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Athletics battle through tight games at JV provincials

By Annaliese Meier

The Arborg Athletics were in the thick of several tight games while competing at the Provincial A/AA JV Boys Basketball Championship hosted by Carman Collegiate from March 12-14.

Arborg opened the tournament against the Frontier Raiders in the quarterfinals on March 12. The Raiders pulled away for a 52-43 win, sending the Athletics to the consolation bracket.

The Athletics responded the next day with one of the most exciting games of the tournament. Arborg edged the St.-Joachim Braves 48-46 in the consolation semifinal, earning a shot at the consolation title.

Arborg then faced the Rosenort Redhawks in the consolation final on March 14, where another close contest unfolded. Rosenort narrowly claimed the game 57-55, with the Athletics finishing just short in the final moments.

Several Arborg players earned recognition for their performances throughout the provincial championship. Locklin Pearce was named Arborg's player of the game in their opening matchup against Frontier, while Mason Bardarson earned the honour in the Athletics' win over St. Joachim. Tatum O'Neill was recognized as Arborg's player of the game in the consolation final against Rosenort.

Frontier went on to win the provincial title later Saturday, defeating the Warren Wildcats 71-68 in the championship game.

Eight teams from across Manitoba competed in the three-day Provincial A/AA JV Boys Basketball Championship, including Carman, Warren, Souris, Frontier, Rosenort, Arborg, St. Joachim and Immanuel Christian, with all games played at Carman Collegiate.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Mason Bardarson of the Arborg Athletics earned player of the game honours in Arborg's 48-46 victory over the St. Joachim Braves in the consolation semifinal at the Provincial A/AA JV Boys Basketball Championship in Carman.



Locklin Pearce of the Arborg Athletics was named player of the game in Arborg's opening matchup against the Frontier Raiders.



Tatum O'Neill was named Arborg's player of the game in the consolation final against the Rosenort Redhawks.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Members of the Arborg Athletics JV boys basketball team who competed at the Provincial A/AA JV Boys Basketball Championship held March 12-14 at Carman Collegiate include Mason Bardarson, Carter Buehlmann, Lucas Caldeira, Harvey Jonasson, Eli Klym, Kolby Koomen, Bohdan Kuzma, Sullivan Naylor, Tatum O'Neill, Locklin Pearce, Hayden Plett and Ty Shachtay.

To see more photos of your favourite Interlake Athletes

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Morweena's Reimer helping Senators push toward playoff spot

By Kieran Reimer

The Ottawa Senators' decision to bring in a veteran netminder is paying off as the club pushes for a late-season playoff spot.

In January, the Senators made a goaltending move by signing then-37-year-old James Reimer while starter Linus Ullmark was sidelined.

What initially appeared to be a depth addition — a goalie who had gone more than half a year without appearing in a National Hockey League game — has turned into a low-risk, high-reward situation for the once-struggling Senators.

In eight games with Ottawa, Reimer has provided steady netminding while briefly taking over the starting role before Ullmark returned in late January.

Last Monday, Reimer delivered his best performance of the season in a 2-0 win over the Vancouver Canucks at Rogers Arena to cap a five-game road trip.

Reimer stopped all 16 shots he faced, allowing Senators forwards Brady Tkachuk and Ridly Greig to provide the offence for Ottawa.

"It felt good," Reimer said in Monday's post-game press conference.

"Anytime you win it's one of the best feelings on earth. The boys worked really hard. The last game of a road trip — a long road trip like this — those can be hard. We've been grinding, playing really well, really hard hockey, and the guys gave it everything they had tonight."

The win marked Ottawa's 32nd of the season, moving the Senators within five points of the Boston Bruins for the final wild-card playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

In six games since returning from the Olympic break, Ottawa has gone 4-0-2, making the Senators one of the NHL's hottest teams.

Ullmark had started the previous five games entering Monday before Reimer got the nod for his first start since Feb. 5.

Reimer joked afterward that he had previously asked head coach Travis Green for at least four weeks of rest.

"Just a veteran game," Green said. "It's hard when you haven't played in that long, but when guys have played in the league for a while they keep their game sharp. He's worked extremely hard. I was really happy for him. He made some big saves in the second and shutouts are hard to come



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ANDRÉ RINGUETTE, FREESTYLE PHOTOGRAPHY
Morweena's James Reimer pitched a 16-save shutout in Ottawa's 2-0 win over the Vancouver Canucks on Monday, March 9 at Rogers Arena. The victory improved Ottawa's season record to 32-22-9, which sits them five points back of the final wildcard playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

by in this league — it was nice to see Green's club is now riding a three-him get one."

Continued on page 19

A denture success story after a life changing decision

BY ELISHA VANDOR

Manuela decided it was time for a change after struggling with failing and broken teeth for years. She says, "my dental situation was a nightmare after a jaw bone/gum infection years ago. The only 'fix' from the dentist back in my home country was to pull some of the bad teeth and get partial dentures, but I suffered with the bones in my mouth chipping and sticking out and cutting my gums and so on. I've been dealing with that issue since 2018 and have extremely bad anxiety when it comes to dentists because of childhood dental trauma. However, Brock at Vandor Denture Centre and Dr. Brett at Evergreen Dental saved my sanity, fear of dentists and future."

It all started when Manuela booked a consultation appointment with us. Although she was still nervous about

the entire process, her ability to sit down and talk about her options and come up with a plan together with Denturist Brock subsided her dental anxiety. At the appointment, Brock assessed her full upper and lower dentures and found she was doing well with the upper denture, but wanted a dental implant solution for the lower denture. We often find that the lower denture is the one people struggle with the most because there's usually very little jaw bone to hold it in place. Together, during the consultation, Manuela and Brock decided to make a new upper denture with much improved aesthetics and a tighter fit, and a lower denture that's secured onto 4 dental implants to give her back the confidence to eat what she wants.

Manuela had the dental

implant procedure and actually had the denture secured onto the dental implants that day! She says, "tonight, I'm happy for the first time in 22 years of what my mouth looks like. I feel awesome! I will be able to eat everything again in no time - something I wasn't able to do since I was 17. This is one happy old lady today."

We are so happy for Manuela and the many others who have benefitted from combining their dentures with dental implants. Having a youthful smile that feels like you again and the confidence that comes with it is achievable. We want to help you feel as good as Manuela does now too. If you're inquiring about a dental a implant solution or know your dentures could be better, then call today. We look forward to hearing from and seeing you soon!



- supplied photo -

Manuela is happy with her dentures for the first time in 22 years and shares her story.

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Arborg teams sweep Evergreen divisional titles



Members of the Arborg Grade 8 girls basketball team who won the Evergreen School Division Grade 7/8 divisional championship in Gimli last week, left to right, back row: Addisyn Johannesson, Trisha Dibdib, Skylar Robinson, Aubrey Bishop, Katherine Kornelsen, Leah Dudar and coach Rachelle Burak. Front row: Eliza Stansell, Isabelle Klym, Rory Stansell and Leah Markham. Missing from the photo is Maddison Grant.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Members of the Arborg Grade 7 girls basketball team who were finalists at the Evergreen School Division Grade 7/8 divisional tournament, left to right: back row: Ella Revilla, Bianca Dibdib, Lyla Shachtay, Meadow Naylor, Hailey Koomen; Back row, Jayla Weik, Avery Shaw, Halle Johnson, Kenley Magnusson and Alyse Buchko. Missing from the photo is Rachelle Burak (coach).



Members of the Arborg Grade 7/8 boys basketball team who won the Evergreen School Division divisional championship in Gimli last week, left to right, back row: Jason Skoropett (coach, William Plett, Ollie Sigurdson, Xavier Skoropett, Hunter Masiak, Liam Ewert; front row, Reilly Buchko, Conley Bardarson, Miggs Agpalo, Connor Beuhmann, Athan Del Rosso, Matthew Jonasson and Sean Memoracion.

Teams from Arborg enjoyed a dominant showing at the Evergreen School Division Grade 7/8 basketball divisional tournament held last week in Gimli.

In the girls championship game, the Arborg Grade 8 squad defeated their hometown counterparts from the Arborg Grade 7 team to capture the divisional title. The all-Arborg final highlighted the strength of the school's girls program, with both teams ad-

vancing through the tournament to meet in the gold medal game.

Arborg also claimed the boys championship, as the Arborg boys team finished atop the Grade 7/8 boys division to complete a sweep of the tournament titles.

Schools from Gimli and Riverton also competed in the divisional event, which brought together teams from across the Evergreen School Division for the season-ending tournament.

> REIMER, FROM PG. 18

game winning streak.

Reimer improved his season record to 4-3-1 with a 2.53 goals-against average and a .882 save percentage.

Though Ullmark is expected to make the majority of the starts over the club's remaining 19 games, Reimer has proven to be a reliable option when the starter needs a night off.

Monday's start was also special for Reimer, who had several family members in attendance. Many of them live in British Columbia, the home province of his wife, April.

British Columbia has also become a second home for the veteran netminder, who spends his off-seasons in Kelowna, about four hours east of Vancouver.

"It's pretty special to be able to do it in front of them," Reimer said. "My wife obviously is a huge part of my success and the amount of sacrifice she makes for me to follow my dream, and then our kids get dragged along in the process. So it's awesome when you can have success in front of them. In this case, I had a lot of extended family there too, so it was great to do it in front of them."

Reimer also expressed gratitude for the opportunity to continue playing in the NHL. As the league's third-oldest active goaltender, the months leading up to his signing with Ottawa were filled with uncertainty.

After the 2024-25 season — which he split between the Anaheim Ducks and Buffalo Sabres — Reimer became an

unrestricted free agent and spent the summer practising with several British Columbia Junior Hockey League teams to stay in shape.

In September, he accepted a training camp invitation from the Toronto Maple Leafs, the club where he began his NHL career in 2010.

Despite starting one preseason game, Reimer's reunion with Toronto was short-lived when he was released from his professional tryout contract.

He then went several months without a team before joining Team Canada at the 2025 Spengler Cup in Davos, Switzerland.

Reimer appeared in two games at the tournament, posting a 1-1 record with a 2.52 goals-against average and a .906 save percentage.

His performance led to another pro-

fessional tryout, this time with the Senators' American Hockey League affiliate in Belleville, Ont.

After playing one game with the club, Reimer signed a one-year NHL contract with Ottawa for the remainder of the 2025-26 season.

"I think you're always grateful," Reimer said. "I'm filled with a ton of gratitude for the opportunity to play and thankful to the Lord for the opportunity to play, and for this organization to give me the chance and believe in me."

Since joining Ottawa, Reimer's career NHL totals stand at 229-190-66 with a 2.88 goals-against average, a .909 save percentage and 32 shutouts in 533 games.

The Morweena native celebrated his 38th birthday on Sunday.

Provincial figure skating championships coming to Stonewall



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Skaters from across Manitoba will compete in the 2026 Manitoba Figure Skating Provincial Championships March 20–22 at the VMSC in Stonewall.

By Lana Meier

More than 500 skaters from across Manitoba will gather in Stonewall next weekend as Skate Stony Mountain hosts the 2026 Manitoba Figure Skating Provincial Championships.

The three-day competition, held March 20–22 at the Veterans Memorial Sports Complex (VMSC), is one of the province's largest figure skating events and will feature athletes ranging in age from five years old to adult.

Skaters will compete in a variety of disciplines including singles, pairs and synchronized skating, with events scheduled throughout the weekend in both arenas at the complex.

The event is being organized by Skate Stony Mountain in partnership with Skate Manitoba. Shannon Roy and Nicole Shymko are serving as co-chairs of the local organizing committee.

Shymko said the club is proud to have been selected by Skate Canada to host the provincial championship.

"We're excited to welcome skaters and families from across the province to our community," she said. "It's a tremendous honour for our club."

Along with the more than 500 skaters expected to compete, organizers anticipate over 40 coaches and officials will attend the event. Over the course of the three-day competition, well over 2,500 people

are expected to pass through the doors of the arena.

The host club will also have a strong presence on the ice, with approximately 28 skaters from the Stony Mountain Skating Club competing throughout the weekend.

The athletes, ranging in age from five to adult, include several STAR 5 and higher level skaters who will be competing for medal placements while striving for personal best performances.

An event of this size relies heavily on community support. Shymko said approximately 35 volunteers will be assisting throughout the weekend to help ensure the competition runs smoothly and provides a positive experience for athletes, families and spectators.

"We are grateful for this opportunity and look forward to celebrating the talent, commitment and passion of all the skaters, coaches, officials and volunteers taking part," she said.

In addition to the on-ice competition, the weekend will include several off-ice activities, including seven on-site vendors, a silent auction and a 50/50 draw.

Opening ceremonies are scheduled for Friday, March 20 at 11:45 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial Sports Complex.

A full competition schedule will be available online at mbskates.com.

Interlake throws team itching for spring melt in final days of indoor season

By Kieran Reimer

Cabin fever is setting in for track and field athletes around the Interlake.

March marks the final month of indoor competitions before Athletics Manitoba's spring season begins.

When teams actually step outside, however, will depend on the weather. Predators Athletics Club satellite throwing program coach Justin Charrier hopes it will only be a few weeks until his athletes are throwing shot put, javelin and discus in the great outdoors.

With hints of warmer weather over the past few weeks, his club has continued preparing for the spring season with its final indoor meets.

From Feb. 27 to 28, his throwers competed at the Athletics Manitoba Indoor Age Class Championships at the University of Manitoba's James Daly Fieldhouse.

There, many of his athletes achieved personal bests, including six who won gold medals.

"Overall the performances were really good. They were, I think, where we want to be heading into the outdoor season," said Charrier on Friday.

Predators Interlake-based gold medalists included Jencie Henry (U20 women's shot put and weight throw), Jerika Samborski (U16 women's weight throw), Mackenzie Zahariuk (U18 women's shot put), Hudson Charrier (U18 men's shot put



Jencie Henry won gold in U20 women's shot put and weight throw.

and weight throw) and Alec Baldwin (Special Olympics 3,000 metres and 800 metres).

Samborski's weight throw also set a new meet record.

The meet marked the conclusion of the Predators' indoor campaign, but a majority of the athletes will compete again for their respective high schools at the High School Series Championships on Monday, March 23 at the U of M's James Daly Fieldhouse.

Charrier is the throws coach at Gimli High School and also helps when needed with nearby schools.



Brayden Zahariuk earned a silver medal and set a personal best in U14 men's shot put.

"The nice thing with the indoor season is that we're really working on shot put, and then as we head outdoors we get to move on to those other events," said Charrier. "We're always looking for personal bests, and wherever that lands in the rankings is uncontrollable, but we're always trying to just do our personal best. They're all capable of hitting those marks right now. They've been improving technically and results-wise, so they could all come home with new personal bests, and that would be a fantastic meet."



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Jerika Samborski and Peyton Zubrski both earned medals in U16 women's throwing events at the 2026 Athletics Manitoba Indoor Age Class Championships, held Feb. 27–28 at the James Daly Fieldhouse.

The High School Series Championships are the final meet of the Athletics Manitoba indoor season.

Charrier expects spring throwing practices to begin in April, likely indoors. Their first outdoor competition is scheduled for the Pronghorn Chinoch Throws Gala from May 15 to 17 in Lethbridge, Alta.

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TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH 2024 Audited Financial Report

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, that the auditor's financial report for the 2024 fiscal year has been deposited in the office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town of Winnipeg Beach, located at 29 Robinson Ave, Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba.

Persons wishing to view the report and the municipality's financial statements may view the documents:

- on our website at www.winnipegbeach.ca,
- request a copy by email to info@winnipegbeach.ca
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Dated in Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba, this 12th day of March 2026.

Jodi Mitchell, CMAA
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Winnipeg Beach

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- Contribute to a collaborative, supportive team culture

Qualifications

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Please submit your résumé and a brief cover letter to:

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Applications will be accepted until March 30, 2026 or until the position is filled. We thank all applicants for their interest; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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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

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.

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. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or email stonewoodelkranch@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.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Bifrost Riverton Seniors Resource Council Inc. Full Time Meal Program Coordinator Position

The congregate Meal Coordinator will provide nutritious meals and social support to seniors and persons living with disabilities, in a congregate dining setting, to assist them in maintaining their independence.

Requirements:

- Complete and maintain satisfactory Criminal Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Check, and Adult Abuse Registry Check
- Completion of Safe Food Handler Certificate an asset
- Basic knowledge of Canada Food Guide
- Previous experience working in food handling and/or food services
- Reliable, efficient and able to work some weekends
- Ability to schedule and coordinate volunteers
- Has a valid class 5 driver's license and all-purpose registered vehicle
- Ability to stand for long periods of time and lift up to 25 lbs.

Wages: Starting at \$18.00/hr negotiable depending on experience

Closing Date for Applications: Friday March 27th 4:00 pm

• **Phone Resource Coordinator Brenda Ost 204-378-3103** for more information.

• **Email resumes to: brseniorsresource@gmail.com**

• By mail: BRSRC Inc, P.O. Box 206 Riverton, MB R0C 2R0

• Or drop off at Riverton Community Health Centre during regular hours

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X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Inclined to do
- 4. Sketches
- 10. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
- 11. Atomic #58
- 12. Dorm official
- 14. Small Eurasian deer
- 15. Southern constellation
- 16. Workers' groups
- 18. Former
- 22. Excellent

- 23. Romance language related to Spanish
- 24. Reference
- 26. Equally
- 27. Dirty towels
- 28. A cargo (abbr.)
- 30. Ammunition
- 31. You get one in summer
- 34. Slang for trucks with trailers
- 36. Swiss river

37. Exchange rate

39. British School

40. College teacher

41. Foreign Service

42. Horse gear

48. Cost to fly

50. A salt or ester of boric acid

51. Mocking

52. One who bird-watches

53. Concluding passage

54. A major division of geological time

55. Sodium

56. A way to produce

58. Soak

59. Laughed loudly and harshly

60. Affirmative

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Moth species phalonia
- 2. Quantum of energy
- 3. Break the law
- 4. Location of White House
- 5. Official cancellation of a decision
- 6. Where rockers work
- 7. Cut of beef: __ mignon
- 8. Nocturnal burrowing reptile
- 9. Atomic #62

12. Genus of evergreen subshrubs

13. Flowering plant of the legume family

17. Inches per minute (abbr.)

19. Tropical fruit

20. Hot fluid beneath the earth's crust

21. James __, painter

25. Popular dessert

29. Payment (abbr.)

31. Cuisine style

32. Genus of true flies

33. City in western France

35. Arrogance

38. One holding a position of command

41. Weekday

43. An evening party

44. Print errors

45. Not good

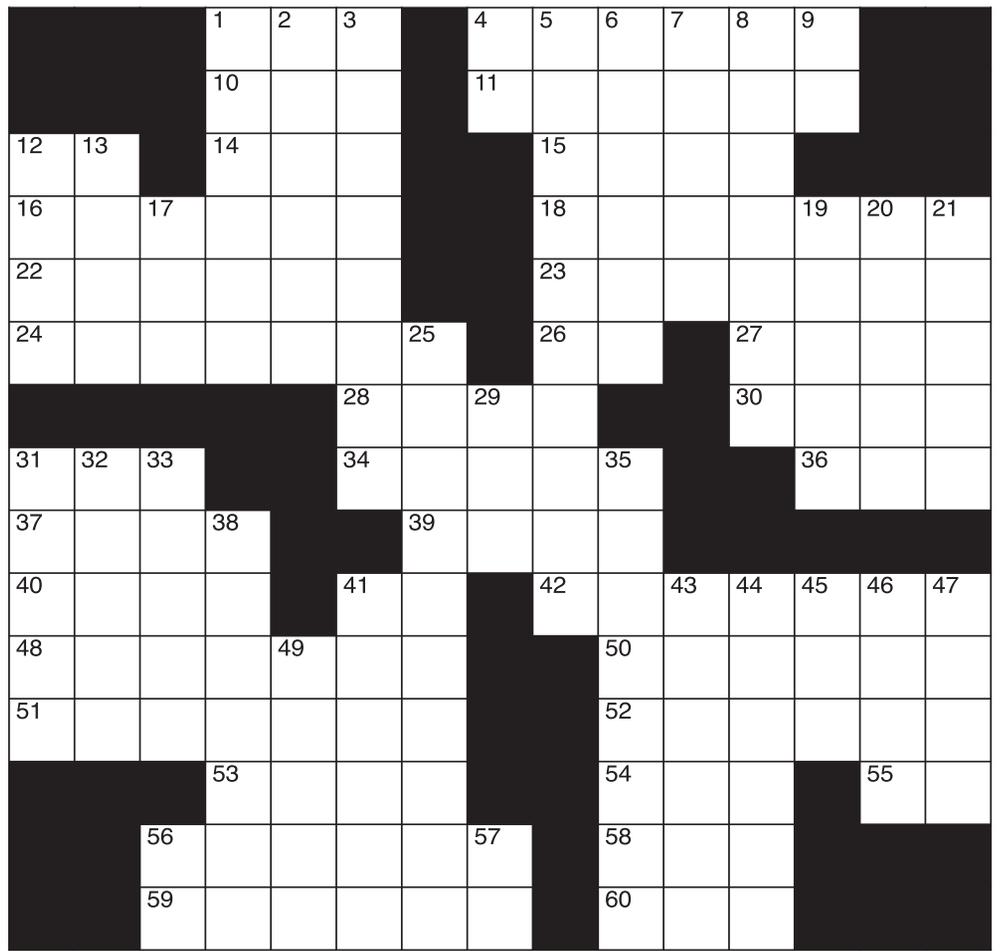
46. Egyptian Sun god

47. East German town

49. Olfactory property

56. Atomic #37

57. "Pollock" actor Harris



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=LpIXnfnj6Q8c

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



NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES FOR THE 2026 GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION VILLAGE OF DUNNOTTAR

Please be advised that a general municipal election will be held on **Friday, July 24, 2026.**

Prospective candidates must register with the Senior Election Official (SEO) during the registration period before they may begin to accept contributions, incur expenses, fundraise or borrow money for their campaign.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, by **appointment only**, I will be receiving candidate registrations at the Village of Dunnottar office, 44 Whytefold Road, during regular office hours:

For the office of **head of council**: Between February 1, 2026, and June 18, 2026

For the office of **councillor**: Between March 31, 2026, and June 18, 2026

To schedule an appointment to receive a registration form, please contact me at the telephone number below at:

Yvette Sundseth, Senior Election Official (SEO), 204-407-0225 (cell) or by Email: ysundseth.vod.seo@gmail.com

Gimli Association for Community Living Annual General Meeting

April 9, 2026 - 7:00 PM
St. Michael's Church Basement
113-7th Ave., Gimli

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www.mcna.com

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www.wgiesbrechthomes.ca



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI
REQUEST FOR TENDERS
Janitorial Services

The Rural Municipality of Gimli invites **sealed tenders** for janitorial services at **208 Dunlop Ave and 235 Tudor Lane.**
Closing: March 26, 2026 at 12:00 PM.
Submit sealed tenders marked **"Janitorial Services"** to:
R.M. of Gimli, PO Box 1246, 62 - 2nd Ave, Gimli, MB ROC 1B0
Attn: Cheryl Buhler
Contract runs **June 1-August 31, 2026.**

Detailed tender package complete with specifications are available on the RM of Gimli website, www.gimli.ca, or at the Municipal Office at 62 2nd Ave between the hours of 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday. Any questions or concerns related to the tenders can be directed to: Cheryl Buhler gimlicdc@rmgimli.com

The RM of Gimli reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein, and to award the tender in the best interest of the RM of Gimli in its sole discretion. Lowest bid may not be accepted. Contractors must comply with Municipal requirements for liability insurance, WCB coverage and business licensing to be eligible to be awarded the contract.



NOTICE OF VOTERS LIST / VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT VOTER / PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION VILLAGE OF DUNNOTTAR

In accordance with Section 36 of *The Municipal Councils and School Board Election Act*, notice is hereby given that a copy of the VOTERS LIST may be reviewed, **by appointment** with the SEO, at The Village of Dunnottar Office, 44 Whytewold Road in the Village of Dunnottar. Updates to the Voters List can be made until June 18, 2026.

Updating of the Voters List including:

- adding names of voters who are entitled to have their names on the list;
- deleting the names of persons who are not entitled to have their names on the list; and
- making such other corrections of errors to the list, as required.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY:
A person is eligible to have their name added to the Voters List if they are:

- a Canadian Citizen and at least 18 years of age on election day; and
- a resident of the local authority for at least six months prior to election day; or a registered owner of land in the municipality for at least six months prior to Election Day.

VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT VOTER:
A maximum of two non-resident property owners per property are permitted to vote in a municipal election. In order to vote, each of these voters must obtain written consent from the majority of the registered landowners and this is to be filed with the SEO prior to June 18, 2026, for inclusion to the voters list.
Note: When voting, you may be required to provide proof of ownership to the voting official.
When voting, proof of identity may be requested by the voting official.
A voter's name must not appear on the voters list more than once.

APPLICATION FOR PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION:
A voter may apply in writing to the SEO (at the address below) no later than June 18, 2026, to have their name and other personal information omitted or obscured from the voters list in order to protect the voter's personal security. The application may be submitted in person, by mail or fax and must include your name, address, and include proof of identity (an official document issued by a federal, provincial or municipal government). Any photocopies must be legible. All changes to the voters list are to be completed by the close of business (16:30) on June 18, 2026, in preparation for municipal election to be held on **Friday, July 24, 2026.**

Yvette Sundseth, Senior Election Official (SEO)
for the Village of Dunnottar
Box 321, Matlock, MB ROC 2B0,
Phone: 204-407-0225 Fax: 204-389-4966

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TENDERS
GRAVEL • MOWING • HAULING

Traffic Gravel Supply Tender
The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton invites tenders for each of the following:
• 1" down crushed limestone traffic gravel, Class "A". Preference will be given to a supply each location near the North East, South West and the Vidir / Rosenberg areas of the Municipality.
The above tenders are to be supplied and to be on site and available for distribution by May 25, 2026.
• 1 year or 3 year agreements will be accepted as per the tender details.

Gravel Hauling Tenders
The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton invites tenders for the following;
• Loading, hauling and depositing of traffic gravel of app. 55,000 Cubic Yrds.

Roadside Mowing Tenders
The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton requires approximately 600 miles of roadway to be cut on both sides (1200 miles total) (per Tender).

Right of Way Mowing Tenders
The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton requires approximately 600 miles of Right of Way to be cut on both sides (1200 miles total) (per Tender).

Each tender should be individually marked. **All TENDER** documents are available from the Municipal Office or on the Website. Sealed and clearly marked submissions will be accepted by the undersigned at the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton office, located at 329 River Road, Arborg, until 12:00 p.m. on April 7, 2026.

The Municipality reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive irregularities and informalities therein, and award the tender in the best interest of the Municipality in its sole discretion.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER of the Estate of **GUNNVOR DANIELSDOTTIR ASMUNDSSON**, late of Gimli, in Manitoba, Deceased.

ALL CLAIMS against the above Estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at the 30th Floor - 360 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4G1, on or before the 29th day of April, 2026.

DATED at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this 18th day of March, 2026.

MLT AIKINS LLP
Per: Grant A. Stefanson, K.C.
Solicitors for the Estate

BUSINESS FOR SALE



204-642-2158

- Comes with service trailer and full tire repair tool setup
- Hundred of tires in inventory
- Complete client list and contact number
- Ready to go business opportunity

For more information call or text 204-963-6583

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 ROC 0A0

Or email: kfinnson_rph@outlook.com

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

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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 R.M. of Grahamdale intends to present its Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2026 at a Public Hearing being held at the RM of Grahamdale Municipal Office, 23 Government Road, in Moosehorn, MB on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to allow any interested person 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 on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 and may be examined by any person during regular office hours at the Municipal Office or on our website at www.grahamdale.ca.

Public participation can be met through interactive technology or by written submission. Please contact our office for more information Ph: 204-768-2858 or email: finance@grahamdale.ca

Dated this 6th day of March, 2026.

Shelly Schwitek, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
R.M. of Grahamdale



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI REQUEST FOR TENDERS

Food Services

The Rural Municipality of Gimli invites **sealed tenders** for Food and Food Services for the Northwest Region Gliding School

Closing: March 26, 2026 at 12:00 PM.

Submit sealed tenders marked **"Food and Food Services"** to: R.M. of Gimli, PO Box 1246, 62 - 2nd Ave, Gimli, MB ROC 1B0 Attn: **Cheryl Buhler**

Contract runs **June 1-August 31, 2026.**

Detailed tender package complete with specifications are available on the RM of Gimli website, www.gimli.ca, or at the Municipal Office at 62 2nd Ave between the hours of 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday. Any questions or concerns related to the tenders can be directed to: Cheryl Buhler gimlicdc@rmgimli.com

The RM of Gimli reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein, and to award the tender in the best interest of the RM of Gimli in its sole discretion. Lowest bid may not be accepted. Contractors must comply with Municipal requirements for liability insurance, WCB coverage and business licensing to be eligible to be awarded the contract.

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2022 GRAND DESIGN 28BH30 REFLECTION 5TH WHEEL



Warranty is good until August 2030

- Sleeps up to 8 people • 2 automatic slide outs
- LED awning • 9280 Dry Weight • 80 gallon fresh water tank • 43 gallon black water tank • 86 gallon gray tank • U-shaped dinette • Dual propane tanks
- Auto level system • 50 amp service • Indoor/outdoor speaker • Roof mounted solar panels
- Spare tire • 34f long, 12f height

The Grand Design Reflection 28BH is a popular, family-friendly fifth wheel with a rear private bunkhouse, featuring 2 slide-outs and sleeping capacity for up to 8-10 people. This unit was purchased brand new, and is still like brand new as we only camped once since the purchase in 2024. Camper would require pickup near Oak Bank. Asking \$70,000.

Please contact Teri Young 204-745-0419 or Kristian Dreolini 204-904-8175 to arrange a viewing. Serious inquiries only.

<https://aem-dev.granddesignrv.com/fifth-wheels/reflection/28bh> - visit this link for further specifications and features

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

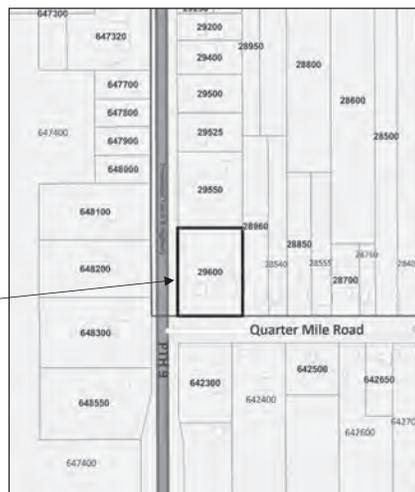
DATE & TIME: April 2, 2026
5:00 pm

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 ROC 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.

Rural Municipality of Gimli

P.O. Box 1246, 62-Second Avenue
Gimli, Manitoba ROC 1B0

Tel: (204) 642-6650 | Website: www.gimli.ca | Email: gimli@rmgimli.com

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 Rural Municipality of Gimli intends to present its Financial Plan for the Fiscal Year 2026 at a Public Hearing to be held in the **Council Chambers at the Municipal Building 62 2nd Ave on the 15th day of April 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

Copies of the Financial Plan will be available for review on the 10th day of April 2026 and may be accessed on the Rural Municipality of Gimli website at www.gimli.ca or in the Municipal Office at 62-2nd Ave, Gimli.

Dated this 12th day of March 2026

Diana Chapman, PMP
Chief Administrative Officer
Rural Municipality of Gimli



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FIVE GENERATIONS



Mary Kowalchuk, at the age of 103 7/8 is pleased to be able to celebrate five generations in our family. Left to right behind her are her grandson Curtis Shupenia, her daughter Rosalie Shupenia, and her great-granddaughter Larysa Epp holding her daughter Winter Rose Epp, 14 months. Thank you Lord. We are so blessed.

IN MEMORIAM



John Chuba
December 8, 1929 – March 20, 2011
Another year has passed,
Since you were called away,
Quietly remembered every day,
Sadly missed along life's way.
No longer in our lives to share,
But in our hearts you will remain.
Thinking of you.
-Your nieces Cathy and Theresa

OBITUARY

Elene Helga Oakley
May 12, 1929 – January 9, 2026

We are deeply saddened to announce the peaceful passing of our beloved mother, mother-in-law, Amma and Langamma, Elene Helga Oakley, at the Hunter Memorial Hospital in Teulon, surrounded by family on January 9, 2026, at the age of 96.

Left to honor her memory are her son David Oakley and his wife Lesley, their children David Jordan Oakley (Amanda), Erin Brady (Matthew), and Meaghan Gale (Darren); her daughter Louise Kahler and her daughter Jennifer Johanna Kahler of Lethbridge. Great-grandchildren Liliika and Skylar Oakley; Emma, Reid and Rory Brady; and Madison, Brooklyn and Brandon Gale. Sister-in-law Barbara Eylands of Phoenix, AZ and many nieces and nephews.

Predeceased by her husband Dr. David Ross Oakley, of 63 years, and son-in-law Brian Kahler; sisters Dolores Lawler, Lilia Day, brother Dr. Jon Eylands and great-granddaughter Jessica Jordan Oakley.

Mom was born in Minot, North Dakota, the daughter of Rev. Dr. V. J and Lilia Eylands. She grew up in Winnipeg but from 1955 onward, Gimli was her home.

Mom had a number of jobs over the years: she worked for a law firm in Winnipeg where she met her husband David, she owned her own business (The House of Fabric) and volunteered in school as a speech therapist. However, her most important role was a stay-at-home mom and housewife where she raised her family.

Mom was very proud of her Icelandic heritage and our home was filled with Icelandic treasures. She loved to garden and was proud of her backyard where many wonderful special occasions were celebrated including Islendingadagurinn. Tradition was important and Mom made sure her grandchildren had their own Pönnuköku pans and knew the secrets of making a good Vínarterta.

Music was her passion. Mom played for pleasure and was the organist at Gimli Lutheran Church for over 35 years. Mom loved to read, play bridge, curl, make puzzles knit and needlepoint. She was light-hearted in spirit and liked to laugh. She loved her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She believed we only have one childhood and it needed to be memorable. She taught us how to use our imagination: to get up, dress up, show up; laugh and have some fun.

"I had a wonderful life, a good life and a happy life. I am never bored.
I look to the sky and get my joy from the wonderful sunrises and sunsets"

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Dr. Loudon, the Teulon Medical Clinic and all the staff of the Teulon Hospital for their compassionate and exceptional care. In addition, a big thank you to all the homecare staff over the years as well as the Thorvaldson Care Center.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be held April 8th, 2026 2:00 p.m. at the Gimli Lutheran Church with a private interment at the Gimli Community Cemetery.

Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us everyday.
Unseen, unheard, but always near, so loved, so missed, and held so dear.

In lieu of flowers if friends so desire, a donation can be made to the Gimli Lutheran Church, Gimli Betel Home, the Teulon Healthcare Foundation or a charity of your choice.

Tributes: www.neilbardalfuneralhome.com

OBITUARY

Eleanor Kauppila
September 28, 1934 - March 9, 2026

The family of Eleanor Kauppila wish to share that she died peacefully on Monday, March 9, 2026, with family by her side, at the Lakeshore General Hospital in Ashern, Manitoba.

She was loved and will be deeply missed by her family and her partner of almost 50 years, Alex Flinta.

The family express their thanks for the kindness shown to her while in Ashern. In accordance with mom's wishes there will be no formal service.

Arrangements by:
Arnason Funeral Home
Ashern - Lundar
1-204-768-2072
1-866-323-3593

OBITUARY

Loreley Jean Nelson (nee Breckman)
May 15, 1930 – March 3, 2026

Peacefully on March 3, 2026, Loreley passed away at the Lundar Personal Care Home at the age of 95.

Loreley is predeceased by her husband Arnold.

She is survived by her children Murray, Garry, Darrell, Craig, Alona and Lyndon along with numerous other family members.

Cremation has taken place and a Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2026 in the Lundar Legion Hall with Cindy Thorkelson officiating. Interment to be held in the Lundar Municipal Cemetery with a luncheon will follow in the Legion.

Longer version to follow closer to the date of the service.

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



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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Junior Administrative Assistant

- Full-time Permanent Position
- Full details on the Town website
- Deadline: March 26, 2026 noon
- Starting Wage \$19.95 to \$21.25/hr based on aptitude & experience

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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
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OBITUARY



Terry Alexander Kostelnyk
July 6, 1950 – March 9, 2026

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our dear brother, Terry Kostelnyk, on March 9, 2026, at the age of 75 years. Terry will be deeply missed by his partner, Sandra Spence, and will be lovingly remembered by his five siblings, Tom (Angele), Deloris (Ric), Peter (Tanice), Karen, June (Peter), as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and neighbours.

Terry was predeceased by his parents, John and Olga Kostelnyk. Terry was born at the Women's Pavilion in Winnipeg and was raised in the Van Dusen area near St. Martin. He attended Van Dusen School from grades 1 through 8 and Gypsumville School for high school. In his younger years, Terry enjoyed playing fastball with the early version of the Hijackers. We have a great photo of Terry and his two brothers in their Hijacker uniforms, where they played second base, shortstop and third base – the Kostelnyk connection!

Terry spent most of his life on the family farm, initially farming with his dad and then later with his brother Tom. He spent many winters as a commercial fisherman on Lake Manitoba. He also worked at Jenpeg on the Hydro project near Norway House for a couple of winters. When his parents moved to Ashern, Terry decided to stay on the farm on his own. He retired from farming in 2016 and moved to Ashern, where he met his partner, Sandra Spence. Terry enjoyed living in Ashern, being close to all the conveniences.

Terry had a laid-back personality and was never in a rush. If a family gathering was being held, we often had to tell him it was starting an hour earlier than it actually was, just so that he would arrive in time to join us. His schedule ran on "Terry-time". His mom often said that he reminded her so much of her own father, Tom Trochanowski, both in his personality and looks.

From his life on the farm, Terry developed a strong appreciation for nature. He enjoyed gardening, and even when he moved to Ashern, he set up tubs outside the window of his apartment so that he could continue to grow vegetables. Terry also enjoyed listening to music and had a great singing voice.

Terry had many health issues during his later years, but he tried to deal with them as best he could. He could often be seen driving around Ashern on his scooter, either heading off to meet his friends for coffee, or going to visit his mom.

Terry's memory will live on in our hearts forever and may he rest in peace.

If so desired, donations may be made in Terry's memory to St. Martin Cemetery, c/o Corleen Halkowich, PO Box 17, St. Martin, MB. ROC 2T0.

Cremation has taken place, and a private family memorial service will be held.

Arrangements by:
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME
Ashern - Lundar
1.204.768.2072
1.866.323.3593

OBITUARY



Kimberly Dawn Bartman
July 21, 2963 - March 5, 2026

With great sadness and heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our daughter Kim at the Selkirk Hospital.

Kim was predeceased by grandparents Mike and Rose Bartman, Peter and Katie Stasuik, sister Ronda and uncle Richard Stasuik.

Left to cherish her memory are parents, James and Carol Bartman, brother Michael and wife Mary, nephew Daniel, niece Brittany and husband Travis and their boys Hudson and Noah, sister Cayla, niece Jami and daughter Navy, as well as aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

Thanks to Selkirk Hospital for her care and a very special thank you to her Hearthstone family for their compassion and care they showed Kim.

A celebration of her life and burial to follow later.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY

Nancy Ann Bahrey

Peacefully, on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at the Arborg Hospital, Nancy Bahrey, aged 61 years, of Meleb, MB, passed away.

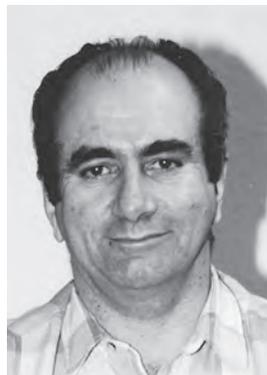
In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. in the Park Cemetery, Meleb, MB.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY



Gilbert Sigurdur Vigfusson
October 6, 1940 – March 12, 2026

Slowly, and then suddenly, cancer took Gil from us on March 12, 2026. He was 85 years old.

Gilbert Sigurdur Vigfusson was born in Howardville, north of Riverton, on October 6, 1940 to Jon and Jonina. The sixth of 10 children, he grew up hearing Icelandic at home. Being a middle child, he still could speak it as an adult.

Young Gil worked on the family farm, including tending the chicken coop, which resulted in him having both a strong work ethic and a lifelong disdain for poultry. During his youth, he trapped muskrats for pocket money, had his first ice cream cone in Winnipeg at 12, and saw electricity come to the farm in 1953.

Gil spent the late 1950s and 1960s working around Manitoba – installing telephone poles for MTS, maintaining draglines

for Monarch Construction, digging the Winnipeg Floodway, hauling freight over a frozen Lake Winnipeg, and cutting meat at Canada Packers. While working with MTS, a trip to Brandon with a buddy turned into a blind date with the love of his life, Betty. In 1969 he found his place at the Seagram's distillery in Gimli, where he worked as a millwright for nearly 30 years. While at Seagram's, in the early 1970s he worked with Raymond at the Skidoo shop, and between 1979 and the early 1980s, he owned and operated Gimli Septic Service, first with Jimmy Robinson and then alone.

The house he built, much with his own hands, just outside of Gimli on Highway 9 was a point of pride. He enjoyed being by the lake and he loved to get out on a boat. Favorite trips included picking blueberries on Black Island, fishing at the Narrows, and water skiing with his family.

In 2003, Gil and Betty moved to Brandon to be closer to her sisters. He enjoyed his time there, especially the golf, but Gimli remained close to his heart. Age did not slow him much. As recently as the summer of 2024, he and Betty built a large backyard fence in a week, a project that impressed neighbors half their age.

Gil traveled across Canada from Whitehorse to PEI, through much of the US including extended stays in DC and a month in Hawaii, and overseas to France, Sweden, and the Netherlands. Even with all that travel, he still knew home was best. He watched the news, enjoyed hockey on TV especially the Jets, and took real pleasure in his garden and yard. His front yard looked like the finest putting green. On the actual golf course, he and Jim Lamport once won the men's senior league, and he enjoyed playing weekly golf through 2024.

With 36 nieces and nephews, Gil was the quieter uncle with a bemused smile, not the loudest or most talkative, but good for a one-on-one conversation.

Gil is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Betty; their sons Rob (Christy) and Trev (Irene); and their four grandchildren John, Nina, Luke, and Ira.

He is also survived by his siblings Doreen, Raymond (Lorraine), Shirley (Les Kudor), Donald (Peggy), and Barb (Ken Rindall), and brother-in-law Elert Isfjord (Darlene). On Betty's side, he is survived by her sisters Lyn (Barry Shannon) and Joan; and sisters-in-law Bev (Charlie's widow), Joan B. (Bob's widow), and Shirley (Jim's widow).

Gil was predeceased by his brother Johnny; his sisters Thora, Margaret, and Daisy; brothers-in-law Hermundur Jonasson, Rudy Geske, and Lorne Magnusson; and nieces Kendra Isfjord and Cindy Johnson (née Magnusson). On Betty's side, he was predeceased by her brothers George, Charlie, Bob, and Jim; her sister Pat; and brothers-in-law Harry Fraser and Don Hodgson.

A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, March 31, at 11:00 a.m. at Gimli Lutheran Church. Burial will follow at Gimli Cemetery, in the shadow of Seagram's, where he worked for many years.

OBITUARY

Winona Shupenia (Srutwa)

It is with heavy hearts the family announces the peaceful passing of our mom and grandma, Winona Shupenia (Srutwa) of Komarno, MB at Gimli Hospital on Sunday, March 15, 2026 with family by her side.

www.klfuneralservices.ca



204-886-0404

OBITUARY



Martha MacIver

Peacefully on March 9, 2026, Martha made her final move. Over the years she had changed residences 12 times, her family often joked that moving was her favorite hobby, but each home reflected her willingness to embrace new chapters in life, and she made many friends along the way.

Martha was predeceased by her parents, Howard and Lois, and by her brother Fred.

She will be remembered and deeply missed by her sons John (Lanette) and Andrew (Lisa); her sister-in-law Heather Caloren; her nieces and nephew Claire, Marc, and Noelle; her grandchildren Ryan, Jessica, Kurt (Jes), Haley, and Sydney; and her great-grandchildren Cassie and Fred.

Martha will be remembered for her adventurous spirit, her humour, her devotion to family, and the many memories she

created throughout her life.

A special thank you to the caring staff at Betel Home in Selkirk for their compassion and support.

Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts



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