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Eight-year-old Joanna Zack, who makes and sells bracelets through her Facebook page called S&J Handmade, raised \$110 in March for the Gimli Humane Society's veterinary costs. She plans to keep fundraising all summer long for the shelter.

EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

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Community to celebrate 100th birthday of Second World War veteran

By Patricia Barrett

A Second World War veteran from the Lundar area will be celebrating his 100th birthday next week, and his family and friends, members of the community and the Lundar Royal Canadian Legion (Branch 185) are holding a COVID-safe, drive-by celebration to honour him.

William Howard Malcolm, who goes by Howard, was born in 1921 and will be celebrating his 100th year on April 14. He helped establish the Lundar legion, which serves members from Lundar, Oak Point, Clarkleigh and Deerhorn.

"He was instrumental in the construction of the legion," said Howard's daughter-in-law, Judy Malcolm. "He likes spending Saturdays with his comrades and other veterans at the legion. He would have an annual call with his fellow veteran, Steini Paulson, just before the Lundar fair to talk about the legion float in the parade. He also likes the Remembrance Day service."

The legion posted birthday wishes to Howard on its Facebook page and is encouraging community members to reach out to him to help mark his milestone.

In addition to legion members taking part in Howard's upcoming birthday parade, the RCMP, the Lundar

Fire Department and the RM of Coldwell's grader (Howard was a grader operator until he retired) will also be part of the parade, said Malcolm.

Howard was born and raised on the shore of Lake Manitoba in a small community called Scotch Bay, about 42 kilometres northwest of Lundar. He is the eldest of 11 children (nine sisters and two brothers) of whom five are still alive.

He enlisted in the Canadian Army and was a 21-year-old private when he was posted overseas to France, the Netherlands and Germany to fight with Allied forces in the Second World War.

Howard's granddaughter Kayla Malcolm penned a tribute to his wartime service. When he was 88, he told her about his experiences during the war and she turned them into an essay for a Grade 8 class. Her story won a school award and a provincial award.

A day before the war ended, Howard was in Oldenburg, Germany, she wrote. He was driving a water truck in front of a convoy of army vehicles. He pulled over to let the convoy pass and ran over a landmine that had been buried beneath the road.

"Suddenly, there was an enormous explosion. It blew him 15 feet through the air and he landed outside the vehicle. Howard was unconscious for



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JUDY MALCOLM

Howard Malcolm watched a drive-by Remembrance Day service last year that was organized by his granddaughter, Kayla Malcolm, and other family members.

days," Kayla wrote. "He woke up in a German hospital and didn't know where he was and he didn't know that he was injured. He tried to get out of bed and fell to the floor. He had a broken pelvis in three different places. Both legs were broken and one heel was also broken. He also had a punctured lung and a broken back."

Howard spent almost two years in European hospitals. When he was well enough to travel, he was put on a Canadian hospital ship named the *Letitia* for the two-week journey home to Canada. The ship had capacity for 1,000 patients and a staff of 200. Howard spent the entire voyage in bed.

"When they arrived in Halifax, he really wanted to see Canada so he stood up to look out of the porthole. Then, in his own words he fell flat on his face. He had still not healed enough to stand up," wrote Kayla. "After he returned back to Canada, he spent the rest of his healing time in Deer Lodge hospital in Winnipeg ... until he fully recovered from his injuries."

After the war, Malcolm said Howard did a variety of jobs, including commercial fishing, bartending and serving as a farmhand before later specializing as a heavy equipment operator.

He met the "love of his life," Helen Margaret Einarson, and they were married on April 16, 1955, said Malcolm. Married for 58 years, they had seven kids, 16 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

After retirement, Howard had plenty of interests to keep him busy. His favourite hobbies were playing guitar, watching the 6 o'clock news, going for Sunday drives, birdwatching, gardening and making homemade wine and beer, said Malcolm. To this day, he still likes to garden.

One of her favourite things about her father-in-law is his gratitude and compliments with regard to her fish-cooking skills.

"He always tells me I'm the best at cooking pickerel, which is one of his favourite meals," said Malcolm.

The parade takes place on Wednesday, April 14 in Lundar at 6:30 p.m. and will go by Howard's house from where he's expected to watch it.

It will start at the legion on 3rd Street South, continue to Railway Avenue then 4th Street South. It will head down 1st Avenue South and continue to Main Street. It will end at the Lundar Hotel.

Everyone is welcome to take part in the parade. Those who want to send a birthday card to Howard can use the following address: William Howard Malcolm, Box 23, Lundar, Manitoba, R0C 1Y0.

A number of people posted messages on the legion's Facebook page, including Debby Chartrand who wrote "Happy Birthday Howard. Have a great day" and Roberta Boyd Townson, who wrote "Thank you for your service Comrade Malcolm, Happy one hundredth birthday."

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Introducing the new April Exhibit at the Gwen Fox Gallery

By Katelyn Boulanger

The Gwen Fox Gallery will have four new artists' works to get your creative juices flowing with many pieces inspired by nature in this month's exhibit.

Patricia Anderson

Anderson's work will stand out to people because of the unique mediums she uses to create her masterpieces. Her work is done primarily in glass and fibre with multilayered works that bring a fun variety to the works on display.

"I have a glass studio and I work with fused glass, and mostly landscapes and then just about three years ago, I was introduced to felt wool. So I work with both felt and glass. I think I just like the tactile [nature of the mediums]," said Anderson.

She initially was inspired by the mosaics on the floors of churches and other building in England, which led to her interest in glass art. However, moving to Balmoral, where she now resides, there were limited options as far as mosaic workshops to learn from so she started with stained glass then moved on to fused glass.

The inspiration for her more recent work comes from nature, particularly her travels throughout Manitoba when she would take photos, which she uses as a starting point for her pieces.

She also finds that learning new skills keeps her engaged with art and is currently pursuing a fine arts degree, which she says is very rewarding as her teachers allow her to complete assignments in her chosen mediums of felt and glass.

"I want [people who come into the gallery this month] to understand that art is not only acrylics, watercolour or oil, which that's what everybody thinks, yeah. But there are other mediums that you can use. And you can just get some phenomenal effects with it," said Anderson.

Sharon Routley

Routley has been interested in art since she was young, having taken interior design classes before obtaining her accounting degree, but started to pursue her art more seriously after her retirement.

Though she doesn't stick to one medium, exhibiting watercolour, acrylic, and oil paintings at the gallery this month, her impressionistic interpretation of her subject matter makes her paintings pop.

Her art inspiration comes from her travels throughout Canada with rural scenery from trips to Newfoundland, Winnipeg and her cottage in Lundar

on the walls of the gallery this month.

She hopes that visitors to the gallery this month get inspired to try their hand at their own art.

"I'd like them to have a nice feeling when they leave and [I hope] they saw something interesting," said Routley.

Elsie Wyspinski

Wyspinski started making art in her early 80s as something to do to pass the time taking classes at the Gwen Fox Gallery.

Her artwork in the gallery stands out for its amazing use of bright colours that draw the viewer towards them.

She also works from photos that she takes or is inspired by things that she sees in Selkirk to create her pieces, which are done in acrylic.

"I took a picture of a bouquet [that was sent to me by a friend], painted it and gave her the picture. After that, a lot of people were sending me flowers," said Wyspinski.

She hopes that newer artists are inspired to just try making art as she says she didn't realize that she could do it until she started. She also thinks that it's important to share your art so that the people around you can keep you inspired to keep up with it.

Patti Simko

Simko's art is the most realistic out of the group of four this month. With beautiful paintings perfectly depicting the views from her home in Lockport, aspects of cottage life, as well as stunning flowers being a treat for visitors to see.

"I've only been painting since really the end of 2017-2018 and I'm self-taught. My daughter one night asked me to come to paint at the table — she's a graphic design student at Red River — she called me over and went, 'Oh, geez, I haven't painted or drawn since I was a kid'. I started painting and I was hooked," said Simko.

She, along with the other artists in this month's series, is primarily inspired by her surrounding and nature.

"Nature is one of those things that you know. I don't often need a reference photo because I can just sort of dream it up in my head. It's familiar. It's comforting and soothing," said Simko.

She also is very specific about the colours in her photos, wanting the mood to be captured by the specific colours that she chooses to use.

She says that because she is a newer artist, there is no particular method to the madness when it comes to how she goes about painting. She loves acrylic paint for its quick dry time and ability to change things if you don't



EXPRESS PHOTO BY KATELYN BOULANGER

Sharon Routley with one of her impressionistic paintings. Below: Patti Simko with one of her realistic landscapes.

like the initial outcome.

"It's very meditative. When I'm in the zone, I don't have to think about all of this stuff that's going on in the world. Even if you can go 10 minutes without thinking about what's happening outside, it's a good 10 minutes. I just find it very calming," she said.

Simko hopes that people who come to the gallery this month are drawn to her paintings and that they come

away with a sense of peace and nostalgia.

She encourages everyone to take some time out of their schedules to visit the gallery this month.

"This gallery is a hidden gem. There is, like, no doubt about it," said Simko. "I think that people would be absolutely amazed to see the quality of the work."



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Pioneering a new path for tourism in Eastern Manitoba & beyond

Submitted by Eastman Tourism

Tourism was one of the sectors most impacted by the pandemic in Manitoba and around the world.

Businesses adapted and altered their tourism offerings, and the industry deserves much credit for their hard work, passion and flexibility. While a more positive recovery outlook is now felt throughout Manitoba, a lot of work remains ahead for the tourism sector. It is estimated that it will take Manitoba's tourism industry three to five years before it gets back to 2019 tourism revenues.

This past year has presented many challenges but also many opportunities. Some areas experienced over-tourism with an influx of visitors, driving a need to develop local plans to address increased visitation and environmental sustainability. Most businesses have increased their on-line presence to reach customers in new innovative ways. Digital marketing and e-commerce have never been more important for sales. These types of challenges and opportunities continue and need to be addressed.

As recovery efforts proceed, knowledge building, strategic collaborations and utilizing existing resources are tools that can help. As such, Community Futures Winnipeg River (CFWR) and Eastman Tourism, in partnership with neighbouring Community Futures offices and key tourism sector agencies, are hosting the biggest virtual tourism development conference in Manitoba this year.

The Pioneering our Future: Eastman Tourism Conference will take place online April 12-15. The conference is being offered at no cost, thanks to funding support provided by Western Economic Diversification.

The conference will bring together rural communities, tourism-related businesses, tourism committees, event organizers, local governments and others with interest in tourism. This conference will motivate and educate communities and businesses to work together to recover and respond to tourism opportunities and future industry growth.

Over four days, you will be treated to 10 education sessions with dynam-

ic trainers, an international keynote speaker, and even Big Daddy Tazz will make an appearance.

Prepare to be inspired by keynote speaker Doug Lansky, a veteran travel journalist, editor and author who has given over 100 presentations on smart tourism concepts all over the world. Learn about experiential tourism from nationally renowned experience designer and training expert Celes Davar. Continue to build your experiential development knowledge with sessions featuring ideas for Indigenous, French and virtual tourism products. Discover the importance of having a local tourism plan and how to develop this.

Anyone interested in starting, expanding or altering a tourism business will want to attend the Growth Made Simple session. On the other end of the spectrum and planning to sell your business in the next few years? Our session on succession planning is for you. Hear about the various supports that exist in Manitoba to help your business, community or agency reach your specific goals.

Attendees are encouraged to participate in the full conference as fabulous door prizes will be drawn intermittently throughout the four days. A few special announcements for Eastern Manitoba will also be made on the final day.

Tourism was growing before the pandemic, and it will thrive again after. We need to be responsive to current conditions and prepare for future growth. Let's forge our own opportunities and pioneer our future together to enhance tourism growth throughout Eastern Manitoba and beyond.

To register or for more information visit www.eastmantourismconferences.ca or contact Eastman Tourism at admin@eastmantourism.ca or 204-451-1757. Registration is open for anyone to attend but closes April 8. Although Eastman is hosting, content will be beneficial for all areas of Manitoba.

We look forward to seeing you at the Tourism Development Conference where information and inspiration will help grow tourism in Manitoba.

Manitoba reaches new COVID-19 vaccine milestone

Submitted by Manitoba government

Significant progress has been made in the battle against COVID-19, as Manitoba has hit the milestone of 200,000 doses of vaccine administered, Health and Seniors Care Minister Heather Stefanson announced Saturday.

"Every day, thousands of Manitobans are protecting themselves and the people they love by choosing to get the vaccine," said Stefanson. "This is an incredible team effort, beginning with the public and extending to the dedicated people who are working at the various super sites, pop-up clinics and Focused Immunization Teams, along with all of our partners."

There are currently five super sites operating in Winnipeg, Selkirk, Brandon, Morden and Thompson, with plans underway for more locations to open in the weeks ahead. Thousands of eligible and consenting residents of personal care homes have received both doses of vaccine.

"This milestone we achieved today is one of many we still hope to achieve thanks to the work of key stakeholders, health providers, as well as the

leadership of our First Nations partners," said Johanu Botha, operations lead of the Vaccination Implementation Task Force. "We still have much work ahead of us and remain focused on putting thousands of needles in arms in the biggest immunization campaign in our history."

Currently, there are four vaccines that have been authorized for use by Health Canada. Moderna, Pfizer and AstraZeneca/Covishield are currently being administered but the single-dose vaccine Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) is not yet available.

"For people still waiting to get their vaccination, your turn will come soon," said Dr. Joss Reimer, medical lead for the Vaccination Implementation Task Force. "Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way for us to get back to the things we love. When it is your turn, make your appointment and be immunized as soon as possible."

Individuals can sign up to be notified when it is their turn to be immunized and find more information on Manitoba's vaccine program at <https://protectmb.ca>.

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Moderna deliveries affecting Interlake vaccination pop-up clinics

Submitted by Manitoba government

Delays in two deliveries of Moderna vaccine to the province from the federal government will affect upcoming appointments at pop-up clinics.

A delivery of 28,300 doses expected the week of March 22 did not arrive until April 3. In addition, 28,400 doses expected this week will not arrive until next week. The exact delivery date is not known.

The province has carefully reviewed all available vaccine supplies in the province to minimize the effects of this supply disruption. It is not possible to use Pfizer vaccine for pop-up clinics because these doses will be used at other vaccine appointments.

Appointments booked at Glenboro (April 7), Matheson Island (April 8), Pine Dock (April 8), Faulkner (April 8), Whitemouth (April 8) and Piney (April 9) pop-up clinics will be honoured, but no additional appointments are being made. Other pop-up clinics scheduled this week will not be affected.

All 24 pop-up clinics scheduled from April 12 to 15 throughout the province will need to be rescheduled due to this supply disruption, with approximately 7,200 people affected. These include:

- Steinbach (April 12, 13, 14 and 15)
- Pine Falls (April 13)
- Stonewall (April 13)
- Flin Flon (April 13, 14 and 15)
- Virden (April 13)
- Russell (April 13)

- Gladstone (April 13)
- Pinawa (April 14)
- Eriksdale (April 14)
- Teulon (April 14)
- The Pas (April 14)
- Swan River (April 14)
- Killarney (April 14)
- Portage la Prairie (April 14 and 15)
- Arborg (April 15)
- St. Laurent (April 15)
- Beausejour (April 15) and
- Dauphin (April 15)

The province will be reaching out to affected people by phone, email and text to advise them of this change. Individuals may choose to book an appointment at a super site or wait for another pop-up to be rescheduled. These pop-up clinics will be rescheduled based on vaccine deliveries.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility to be immunized at a super site or pop-up clinic is unchanged and includes individuals aged 64 or older and First Nation people aged 44 or older. Anyone who has been in Manitoba for one month or more can receive the vaccine at no cost if they meet provincial eligibility requirements.

Appointments

Appointments are currently available at super sites in Winnipeg, Brandon, Thompson, Selkirk and Morden.

Eligible individuals can book their appointment at a super site online at <https://protectmb.ca> with an email address and their health card number.

Appointments for super sites or pop-ups can also be made by calling (toll-free) 1-844-626-8222 (1-844-MAN-VACC).

Individuals who wish to be vaccinated at the same time as their spouse/partner are encouraged to wait until both people are eligible before making appointments. It is not possible to accommodate people without an appointment at pop-up clinics or super sites.

When attending a vaccine appointment, people are reminded to bring their completed consent form (available online at <https://protectmb.ca>), wear a short-sleeved shirt, wear a mask, and bring their health card or other form of identification. To help support good physical distancing on site, people should arrive no more than 15 minutes before their scheduled appointment time.

Additional Information

All data in this bulletin is current as of April 4, unless noted otherwise.

Manitoba's daily maximum capacity measures the number of doses the province could give every day, if vaccine supply was not an issue. Currently, daily maximum capacity is 20,918 doses per day, which exceeds the province's initial target of reaching 20,000 doses per day by April.

Based on scientific evidence of the effectiveness of the first dose, Manitoba is focusing its immunization efforts on providing as many first doses

as possible to protect more people. At this time, only first-dose appointments are available and the province will provide more information about planning for second doses in the weeks ahead. For regular updates, visit <https://protectmb.ca> and sign up for the weekly e-newsletter.

More information about the vaccine campaign in Manitoba is available at www.manitoba.ca/vaccine and <https://protectmb.ca>.

COVID-19 case update

Monday saw the province announce 135 new cases of the virus including cases from the holiday Sunday and Monday. The total number of lab-confirmed cases in Manitoba as of Monday are 34,487.

- three cases in the Interlake-Eastern health region;
- 43 cases in the Northern health region;
- 19 cases in the Prairie Mountain Health region;
- seven cases in the Southern Health-Santé Sud health region; and
- 63 cases in the Winnipeg health region.

Interlake-Eastern began the week with 25 active cases and four hospitalizations (one in ICU). There have been 2,425 recoveries and 37 deaths in the region.

Peguis/Fisher River is the only community showing five active cases on the provincial COVID website while all other communities are reporting zero active cases at press time.

Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village holding Rainbow and Pot O' Gold auctions

By Patricia Barrett

The Arborg & District Multicultural Heritage Village is holding Rainbow and Pot O' Gold auctions this week at the Arborg community centre to help raise money for the museum.

"As we are unable to hold our Dinner Theatre and Dance for the second year, we decided we had to do something to raise some funds to cover operating costs for the 2021 summer season," said ADMHV treasurer Jan Larkin.

The heritage village showcases pioneer buildings and cultures of those who settled in the Interlake.

It has received generous donations from individuals and some businesses, and had auction prizes from last year's event, said Larkin. The museum is featuring some of the prizes on its Facebook page.

Because of COVID, the museum is selling tickets for both auctions rather than letting people bid.

"Since bidding would not be permitted with COVID restrictions — people would not be able to stick around to bid higher for their prize — we are selling tickets for them," said Larkin.

Tickets are \$10 for two sheets for the Rainbow Auction prizes, and \$10 for

one sheet for the Pot'O Gold prizes. The auctions will take place on April 9 and 10 at the Arborg-Bifrost community centre. It will be open from 12 to 6 p.m. on both days.



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Tickets: Rainbow 2 Sheets/\$10
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Covid Protocols Apply

THE EXPRESS WEEKLY NEWS



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Egg farmers support legislation to protect livestock

By Claire McCaffrey, Manitoba Egg Farmers

Manitoba Egg Farmers are in full support of new legislation enhancing the protection of livestock, farm families and the local food supply.

Manitoba Egg Farmers (MEF) fully supports the adoption of Bill 62, the proposed Animal Diseases Amendment Act and Bill 63, proposed amendments to the Petty Trespasses Act and the Occupiers' Liability Act announced this week by Agriculture and Resource Development Minister Blaine Pedersen and Justice Minister Cameron Friesen.

Bill 62 would require a person to obtain the consent of the owner before entering a biosecurity zone, such as a laying hen or pullet barn, or interacting with animals to limit the spread of disease. A biosecurity zone is an area within a livestock operation to which access is tightly controlled to limit the spread of pathogens. Bill 62 would also make it an offence to block or interfere with a vehicle transporting commercial animals.

Bill 63 would amend the law so landowners don't have to issue written or verbal warnings to trespassers if their property is marked or partially enclosed in a manner to keep people off property not normally available to

members of the public. This would include premises used for raising laying hens and pullets.

Amendments to Bill 63 would limit landowners' legal liability for persons who enter properties not usually available or maintained for public use with the intent of committing a crime, including agricultural land. Another provision would eliminate the ability of property owners to arrest someone who is on their property illegally, a function that should be carried out by law enforcement, not landowners.

MEF appreciates that the government is keeping the physical security and well-being of farmers, the biosecurity and safety of animals and Manitoba's food supply top of mind along with Manitobans' right to public expression of opinions including peaceful protest.

"As egg and pullet farmers, our top priority is to protect our animals and of course, our families. Farming is not strictly a business; it is a lifestyle and most of us live on the land we farm on. It's important to recognize that this is not just a barn; it's our home, and we deserve to feel protected," said Catherine Kroeker-Klassen, MEF chair.

"These bills will help our families feel safe in our homes and help farmers to know that our animals are

protected from illness and distress caused by trespassers."

"The threat of biosecurity breaches, which can sicken and kill hens and compromise the safety of our food system, is real when people trespass on egg farmers' premises," said Cory Rybuck, MEF general manager.

"Our egg and pullet farmers take measures every day to protect their flocks. Bill 62 will make a significant difference as an additional measure to limit the spread of disease."

Our mission: To promote a thriving and sustainable egg industry

About Manitoba Egg Farmers

We're Egg Farmers We Love What We Do ®

Manitoba Egg Farmers (MEF) represents 170 regulated egg and pullet farmers in our province. MEF is an independent organization, funded entirely by egg and pullet farmers. Regulated egg farmers are the primary caregivers of their hens that produce over 76 million dozen eggs each year and feed all communities across Manitoba. Eggs are nutritious, versatile and can be eaten with any meal.

For more information about egg farming in Manitoba, hen care or recipes, visit eggs.mb.ca.

Coldwell area to see summer funding

By Staff

The Coldwell area will see some upgrades this summer, thanks in large part to one of its most prominent community groups.

The Coldwell Lundar Community Foundation (CLCF) has awarded funding to five local organizations that serve the community in many important ways, according to treasurer Irene Runolfson.

"It would be an understatement to say that 2020 was a very challenging year. But despite all the restrictions imposed on us by the emergence of COVID-19 — still with more uncertainties entering 2021 — the CLCF was able to carry out its mission," she said, adding the annual granting occurs in March.

The foundation serves the residents of the Rural Municipality of Coldwell

by maintaining a permanent endowment fund aimed at strengthening and improving the quality of life for today and into the future.

In 2021, CLCF awarded five grants:

- \$6,000 to the Lundar Golf and Country Club to assist with an electrical service upgrade. The electrical system will be a major upgrade to the

Continued on page 7

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



EXPRESS PHOTO BY CECILIA TURNER

The proverb “March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb” was anything but true this year. Last week we experienced a lion’s fierce roar of frigid cold and the long white teeth of biting winds that could cut through flesh. An intense cold front brought plummeting temperatures from 19 degrees C. to -15 degrees C., strong, northwesterly winds and flurries causing poor visibility. Environment Canada recorded 15 to 25 centimetres of snow fell overnight Monday into Tuesday throughout the north Interlake. Stonewall’s Cecilia Turner took this photo in Steep Rock on March 30. Help us record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or families enjoying the outdoors. Email: weather@expressweeklynews.ca

> FUNDING, FROM PG. 6

original heating and cooling system, and will provide electricity to the new cart storage building;

- \$5,000 to the Lundar Agricultural Society for permanent signage in the area surrounding its new buildings, campground, and along Highway 6;
- \$5,000 to the Lundar Recreational Park to assist with the completion of the new complex including benches, sidewalk, storage shed, etc.;
- \$5,000 awarded to the Lundar Community Swimming Pool to assist with the addition of a splash pad;
- \$2,000 to the Lundar Museum Society to assist with purchase and installation of stair railing, which will improve safety in one of their outbuildings.

In addition to the aforementioned grants, interest earned on the CLCF named fund, plus two Lundar School scholarships the CLCF will award in June, Runolfson said a total of \$30,878 will be awarded in 2021.

The CLCF awarded its first scholarship in 2011 and first grant in 2014, according to Runolfson, which has resulted in over \$121,800 in community support.

“The generosity and faithful support of so many wonderful donors is the reason for the success of the foundation,” said Runolfson. “Our area is very lucky.”

Runolfson said the CLCF is operated by a board of nine volunteers dedicated to building a better future for the community of Lundar and surrounding area.

For more information or to become a donor, Runolfson said to email clcfdn@gmail.com or call 204-762-5727.

Fire restrictions put in place from the province

Submitted by Manitoba government

The Manitoba Wildfire Service advises that due to high wildfire danger levels, Level 2 travel restrictions will take effect immediately across the southwest and eastern regions of the province.

The boundary of the restricted area is from PR 302 to PTH 12 to PR 317 to PTH 9 and PR 319 east to the Ontario border, and from the U.S. border north to Lake Winnipeg and the Winnipeg River including the Mars Hill Wildlife Management Area.

Similar restrictions are in place for the Turtle Mountain and Spruce Woods provincial parks, Spruce Woods provincial forest and the surrounding Crown land. Also affected are Moose Lake, Birch Point, Marchand, Woodridge, Whiteshell, Whitemouth Falls, William Lake and

Criddle/Vane Homestead provincial parks.

Level 2 travel restrictions include the following:

- motorized backcountry travel, including ATVs and other off-road vehicles, is prohibited unless under the authority of a travel permit;
- camping is restricted to developed campgrounds;
- campfires are permitted only between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m.;
- wayside parks remain open;
- landing and launching is restricted to developed shorelines only; and
- industry and outfitters should contact local Manitoba Conservation and Climate offices for more information.

As a further wildfire prevention measure, provincial burn permits issued under the Wildfires Act within the same areas will be restricted to

only essential agricultural, municipal or industrial operations. Burning within these areas will require the approval of an officer, and include a site inspection with strict conditions. Contact a Manitoba Conservation and Climate office for more information.

Many municipalities have already proactively implemented burning restrictions this spring, so also check with local municipal offices for more information or view the interactive Current Municipal Burning Restrictions at www.manitoba.ca/wildfire/burn_conditions.html. The province will not issue any burning permits within or areas bordering any municipality where the burning restrictions are already in place.

For further information on the fire status, maps, travel restrictions, burning permit cancellations or other re-

strictions go to www.gov.mb.ca/wildfire/ or follow the Twitter account at <https://twitter.com/mbgovnews>.

For areas where ATV use is allowed, riders are reminded they can play a role in protecting against wildfires. Anyone using an ATV is asked to stay on developed trails, ensure the ATV has a working spark arrestor, check areas around the engine and exhaust frequently, and carefully remove and extinguish any debris from these areas. Operators are also reminded to be prepared by carrying a fire extinguisher, axe and shovel.

To report a wildfire, call 911 or the T.I.P. line (toll-free) at 1-800-782-0076. The T.I.P. line is dedicated for reporting fires. All other inquiries should be directed to the other phone lines noted above.

Gimli girl raises \$110 for the Gimli Humane Society's

By Patricia Barrett

An eight-year-old Gimli girl with a fondness for animals set to work a few weeks ago raising \$110 for the Gimli Humane Society, and she plans to continue her fundraising efforts throughout the summer.

Eight-year-old Joanna Zack, who has her own craft store on Facebook called S&J Handmade, set up a display table at the Thai Plaza clothing store/restaurant downtown and sold a variety of hand-crafted beaded bracelets.

She made her donation to the humane society on March 29. The money will go towards veterinary expenses.

Joanna's mom said she's really proud of her daughter's community service efforts.

"I feel very proud. It really surprises me at her age that she can sit at that table all day. I asked her if she wanted to go home and she said, 'No,'" said her mom by phone. "Even her friend called and asked her to play and Joanna said, 'I'm busy, I can't go play with you.' She's very serious about this."

When the humane society needs to take a cat or other animal to the vet, it can use the funds raised by Joanna to help pay the bills, she said. She had spoken to staff to figure out the best

way, at present, to support the shelter's needs.

Joanna and her dad are big cat lovers and they adopted two cats from the Gimli shelter about four years ago, she said. Since then, they've periodically held craft sales and donated the proceeds to the shelter to help it care for its animals.

When Joanna said she wanted to hold "long-term" craft sales to assist the shelter, the owner of Thai Plaza stepped up and donated space in her store and a table to Joanna.

"She's letting Joanna do this every week on Friday, Saturday and Sunday," said her mom.

Generous donors in the community helped make Joanna's fundraiser a success, and the family really appreciates their support. They posted messages of thanks on Facebook.

"I'm really happy everybody was trying to help the animals, and Joanna was very appreciative of everybody helping," said the mom. "It was very generous of people to help us out."

Joanna will be making a donation to the humane society every month and plans to fundraise every weekend until September when school starts.

Several community members took



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Joanna Zack runs a craft store on Facebook called S&J Handmade.

to Facebook to express appreciation for Joanna's service to the community and her dedication to animals.

"Wow you're making a big difference. Good for you and good for all the animals that you are helping," wrote Debra Grenier.

"What a sweet child. So proud of you," added Eileen Hancharek.

The Gimli Humane Society's animal control officer Cindy Salamandyk said the \$110 donation was deeply appreciated as it will help the society provide veterinary care for its animals.

She said the Zack family "has a history" of making donations to the shelter.

"They're really a wonderful, supportive family to have in our community and we totally appreciate them," said Salamandyk by phone. "We just think the world of them. They're a great asset to the Gimli community."

To view Joanna's handmade crafts, visit the S&J Handmade site on Facebook or view Joanna's crafts in person on weekends at the Thai Plaza, 76 First Ave., across from the Lakeview Hotel.

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of

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APRIL 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM

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Registration close: **THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH @ NOON**

The AGM is one of the key ways members can participate in the democracy of Red River Co-op. We encourage all members to attend & participate.

Crown land changes have farmers feeling the heat

By Becca Myskiw

Changes to Manitoba's Crown land leasing program have left some farmers feeling betrayed.

Since MLA for Midland Blaine Pedersen became the minister of Agriculture and Resource Development, he's been part of the Crown land changes MLA Ralph Eichler started.

According to the Government of Manitoba, "provincial Crown lands are lands that are vested with the provincial government of Manitoba." That means it's agricultural land that belongs to the government and farmers can rent it.

Farmers used to be able to rent a quarter (160 acres) of land for upwards of 60 years, and for that they paid around \$5,000 a year. In 2018, the government brought in legislation to modernize the Crown Lands Act, which raised the prices and changed that 60 years to 15 years — something Pedersen said was overdue.

"We needed to bring [the cost of Crown land] in line with what Saskatchewan and Alberta and private land rents for," he said.

Leo Morrisseau has rented Crown land for years. His ranch in Crane River was started by his grandparents, then his dad took it over, and now him. Just three years ago, Morrisseau had 16 quarters of leased land that he was paying \$5,000 each for. The next year it went up to \$8,600 a piece, and it's now \$12,500.

Today, the 73-year-old has six quarters of land. "People in this area are not going to make it," he said. "It's just too expensive."

Morrisseau uses his Crown land to graze his beef cattle. Since giving up over half of the land, he's also sold off half his cows and he worries

within 10 years, he'll have none. Most of the Crown land in the area is of poor quality anyways, he said, so the more you have, the more feed you have for your cattle.

Shelly Dyck came to the area a few years ago from Alberta. She said the Crown land changes have made it nearly impossible for locals to continue farming simply because they can't afford it.

Pedersen said the purpose of the changes is to give everyone, farmers young and old, a fair chance at leased land. He said the problem with someone being able to rent a piece of land for 60 years is that they may not be using it and they may not be taking care of it.

Dyck disagrees. She said if someone has the land for a long period of time, they'll treat it like their own. But 15 years is short in the cattle business and she doesn't think people are going to tend to land that doesn't even feel like theirs.

As for bringing land back into production, Pedersen said there's proof in the numbers. Of the 178 pieces of property auctioned off in February, 124 of them were leased.

"These were all pieces available to be leased that hadn't been and now they're in production," said Pedersen. "Many who were on the younger side were actively bidding."

Among the changes to the Crown land program is the removal of the unit transfers. Three years ago, if a rancher sold their farm, they could sell it with all of their leased land, ultimately raising its value.

"If you sell your ranch, you shouldn't be able to add worth from leased land," said Pedersen.

Daly Myhre from the Dauphin area said that ruined retirement for farmers who depended



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Shelly Dyck, along with her mules Jim and Jed, and her pup Ruby were busy feeding the cattle pellets last week in Ste. Rose du Lac.

on that. Even though the removal of unit transfers is supposed to open land for younger farmers, Myhre doesn't think they'll be able to afford it.

Dyck said unit transfers made the area a desirable place to settle down and farm. Now, she expects the area to be deserted soon.

The changes haven't only been hitting farmers in the wallet, either. When Dyck came to the province, she paid for a leased 27 quarters and a ranch of 10, worth \$1.2 million. All they received were the 10 quarters to feed all of their cattle on.

Myhre had a heart attack the day he gave a speech to the Liberal party about future policies. Morrisseau fears he'll lose his generational ranch.

Manitoba's Alzheimer Society looking for board members

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Want to have a hand in leading an organization that impacts families across the province?

Then the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba wants to hear from you.

The agency has put out a call for two new members for its governing board of directors.

"We are looking for diversity," says Brenda Martinussen, past chair and head of the board's nominating committee.

"Diversity in all areas, not just in gender and culture but also in life experience, diversity in education, diversity in professions," she says. "We're looking for people to, in respectful ways, bring their opinions forward and to contribute."

Martinussen notes the board is a policy governance board, not an operational one. The day-to-day running of the society is handled by its CEO.

"Everything that we do is through the CEO," she says, explaining board members' expertise is used to make decisions at the policy level.

"We are a board that really encourages full discussion of the issues," she says, adding they also spend a fair bit of time at their meetings on stakeholder engagement. "We believe that in order for the board to really make the decisions it needs to make, to really set that vision and make sure that vision is being implemented

... we have to know what's going on out there, what are our stakeholders are experiencing, how are they feeling ... and how can the society pivot to make sure that we are meeting their needs?"

That stakeholder engagement means you don't necessarily have to have personally made use of the society's services for patients and families living with dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

"That's not necessary," says Martinussen. "It really is just wanting to help and wanting to contribute."

The board meets six times a year in Winnipeg, but members are able to attend virtually or over the phone, so don't let distance from the city be a barrier to getting involved.

In fact, having rural representation is a priority for the board, Martinussen says.

"Because we are a provincial organization, we recognize that you need to have representatives from outside of Winnipeg. You need to have rural representation," she says, stressing they want to ensure they are truly representative of the province as a whole. Members are elected for a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms.

If you'd like to get involved, visit alzheimer.mb.ca for more information or contact the society at alzmb@alzheimer.mb.ca. The deadline for applications is April 19.

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The Butter Tart Lady becomes new owner of Sugar Me Cookie bakery

By Patricia Barrett

Look out for a very sweet combination of desserts because Gimli's Sugar Me Cookie Boutique bakery got a new owner last week and there's a treat in store for butter tart fans.

Michelle Wierda, also known as the Butter Tart Lady for the mouth-watering homemade butter tarts she sells through her Facebook page and at farmers' markets and fairs, took over ownership of the Centre Street bakery April 1.

She posted the news on Facebook, adding that it was not an April Fool's Day joke.

"We've already had line-ups today," said Wierda by phone as she tried to keep up with the crowds on her first day last Saturday. "The support has been the amazing."

She said she's not planning to change the bakery's name but will advertise her butter tarts as part of the offerings. The bakery's founder, Carrie Arseneault, will eventually be retiring but is staying on for now to help her transition into her new role.

"Carrie is staying on with me for the next year to train me," said Wierda.

"She has built an amazing business and we want to make sure we maintain the same standards."

After a slice of the bakery's famous Icelandic vinarterta — which is sold in a number of Interlake stores such as the Riverton Co-op as well as at Hildegard's Bakery in Winnipeg — or other delights such as cherries and cream cheesecake, brownies or imperial cookies, customers (female ones) can conveniently pop next door for a 30-minute workout.

Wierda owns the Real Changes Fitness centre, a women-only gym right next to the bakery in the Lighthouse Mall. She'll have her hands full running two businesses. But after operating Curves in Gimli for years, she has got plenty of business experience.

"I'll have a dumbbell in one hand and a vinarterta and butter tart in the other hand," Wierda joked.

Until the May long weekend, Sugar Me Cookie's hours will be Tuesday to Saturday, 10-5. After that, depending on the number of COVID cases and public health orders, Wierda said she'll be open seven days a week.



EXPRESS PHOTO THE BUTTER TART LADY FACEBOOK PAGE
A perfect balance: Michelle Wierda, also known as The Butter Tart Lady, holds a butter tart in one hand and a slice of vinarterta from the Sugar Me Cookie bakery in the other. Wierda now owns the bakery.



The West Interlake watershed District, in partnership with local stakeholders, developed the Southwest Interlake Integrated Watershed Management Plan. A Project Management Team established three watershed goals, based on review of technical information and public input received.

WATERSHED GOALS

- 1. SURFACE WATER MANAGEMENT** - Enhance surface water management while ensuring that practices and activities respect current land use, the environment, and potential for downstream impacts
- 2. WATER QUALITY PROTECTION** - Protect and improve ground water and surface water quality
- 3. FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT CONSERVATION** - Protect, restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat

You can access full IWMP on our website.

West Interlake Watershed District

FUNDING AVAILABLE

Through the Following Programs



Well Water Protection Program: to assist landowners with the protection of ground water supply. Includes Abandoned Well Sealing, Flowing Well, and Well Head Protection up to **\$1,000.00**

Well Chlorination Program: to assist residents with disinfecting well and plumbing systems. Up to **\$250.00** (partial chlorination) and up to **\$500.00** (full chlorination)

Water Testing Days: to assist landowners in the payment and transportation of their water samples, cost and transportation of sample covered by WIWD (sample taken by owner) Days for water samples **May 10 and May 25, 2021.**

Community Tree Nursery Program: to assist residents with the purchase of seedlings. Part of the cost will be covered by the WIWD. Applications can be submitted from **September 1 to October 31.**

Fuel Storage Tank Rebate Program: to reduce the risk of soil contamination from damaged tanks. **\$500.00** rebate provided by WIWD with the purchase of a new Double Wall Stationary Fuel Tank

Growing Outcomes in Watersheds (GROW): to encourage incorporation of beneficial management practices on private land.

Public Education: to educate youth about the environment and conservation. Schools within the WIWD can receive up to **\$500.00** per year

Composters and Rain Barrel: turntable composter and rain barrel sold at **\$50.00** and standing composter sold at **\$30.00** (no tax)

Properties must be in the WIWD boundary to be eligible

For more information on these programs please visit our website wiwd.ca or contact us

Contact: T.204.762.5850 admin.wiwcd@mts.net



The GROW program developed by the West Interlake Watershed District (WIWD) is delivered in the context of the Southwest Interlake Watershed Management Plan.

Growing Outcomes in Watersheds (GROW)

GROW is designed to assist landowners in developing projects that maintain or improve local watershed health. GROW encourages the delivery of ecological goods & services (EG&S), promoting conservation of natural areas and changes to land uses that provide EG&S.

Eligible Project Activities

GROW Activity	Projects	Goals	Contract Length
Wetland Conservation, Restoration or Enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserving class 1 & 2 wetlands on annual crop land (not draining or filling). Re-establishment of perennial upland buffers (inter-pothole seeding) around wetlands to minimize mechanical disturbance. Fencing & off-site watering systems for grazing management. 	To improve water quality and aquifers, enhance recharge and water storage areas moderating the timing and volume of runoff, reduce negative impacts down stream, and increase wild life habitat.	10 Year Contract With WIWD
Riparian Area Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation of existing healthy riparian areas. Exclusion fencing that optimizes grazing impacts. Alternative watering system to keep cattle out of riparian area. Establishment or improvement of stream crossing. Constructed works to stabilize banks & prevent erosion. Re-establishment of riparian vegetation. 	Projects to improve water quality, improve storage capacity to reduce downstream flooding during high water events, stabilize shorelines and prevent erosion and, increase wild life habitat.	5-10 Year Contract With WIWD
Buffer Establishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a new buffer or shelterbelt. Expansion of existing buffer or shelterbelt (adding new rows, inter-planting differing species to add diversity). Re-establishment of buffer vegetation. Pruning or removal of deceased trees. 	To improve water quality and water conservation efforts, increase crop yield and carbon sequestration, add thermal protection for livestock, reduce surface runoff and soil erosion, and to improve wild life and pollinator habitats.	10 Year Contracts With WIWD
Upland Area Conservation, Restoration or Enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conserving native prairie or highly erodible upland areas. Enhancing natural and managed upland areas. Re-establishment of perennial native/tame cover on sensitive lands. Re-forestation of previous wooded areas. Permanent or alternative fencing and watering system to improve grazing strategies that support pasture health. Establishment of Soil Health crops (cover-crops, polycrops, green-manure). 	To improve the ecological function of natural and maintained upland areas, increase soil health and carbon sequestration, reduce soil erosion, and to promote healthy wildlife and pollinator habitat and biodiversity.	3-10 Year Contracts With WIWD

Gimli approves home-based daycare and expansion of Mordens' Meadows

Patricia Barrett

Gimli council approved the establishment of a home-based daycare after a public hearing held during council's regular meeting March 24.

"She can care for up to four kids and that's just great for the community," said Deputy Mayor Richard Petrowski by phone. "The more daycare space we have, the better."

The applicant, Dayna Kroeker, asked to establish the daycare at 143 Fifth Ave., at the corner of Colville Drive. The area is zoned residential single-family, but a home daycare can be established as conditional use should council approve.

"I am making plans to open an unlicensed home daycare, meaning that I will be permitted to care for up to 4 children, including my own," wrote Kroeker in her application. "I am pursuing becoming licensed and as a licensed daycare provider, I will be permitted to care for up to 8 children, including my own."

Kroeker said her daycare will be operated by her and take up less than 50 per cent of the total floor area in the home. It will "not inconvenience neighbours" as she has a fenced-in backyard for outdoor play. It won't generate large amounts of traffic and there's sufficient parking between the driveway and the street.

Petrowski said the home is on a large corner lot that has "a lot of room for kids and parking. It's not cramped in one small lot."

The daycare will operate from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Other council news:

A majority of council approved a request by Blake Morden to expand the Mordens' Meadows Trailer Park and campground by 144 sites.

"We're going to enter into a development agreement with the owner," said Petrowski. "[Morden] said he's expecting to expand over a number of years, maybe five years and with maybe 18 sites per year until he either hits the total number of sites or until there's no demand for them. It's very busy now because of COVID restrictions and people wanting to get away. He may never go up to 144 additional units if there's no demand."

Petrowski said the expansion will fill only a portion of the land Morden owns. There's empty land near PR 222 and another 60 or so empty acres on the northern portion of the site.

Coun. Peter Holfeuer voted against the expansion proposal.

The development agreement includes requirements for Morden to get a highway traffic study and address any drainage issues to the highway, he said, and will likely include a cap on the number of new sites Morden can build each year.

There was a lot of opposition to the expansion from neighbouring residents and cottagers, especially those from Spruce Sands. They cited heavy traffic loads on PR 222, a narrow provincial road with little shoulder room, as well as overcrowded beaches, Sea-Doos too close to swimmers and the possibility there'll be even more mo-



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The former CPR rail line runs parallel to PR 222.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY RM OF GIMLI

Council approved a home-based daycare to operate at 143 Fifth Avenue.

torized recreational vehicles such as golf carts, dirt bikes and ATVs

Continued on page 14

brought to the area.

Health Canada advises Canadians to stop using face masks containing graphene

By Patricia Barrett

Health Canada issued a notice last Friday advising Canadians not to use face masks containing graphene and is removing them from the market until it gathers more data from manufacturers to assess potential human health risks.

Graphene is a nanomaterial (made of tiny particles) with antimicrobial and antiviral properties. In addition to its use in medical devices, graphene is used in the sports, automotive and electronics industries.

There's a danger the particles could be inhaled and pose a health risk.

"Health Canada's preliminary assessment of available research identified that inhaled graphene particles had some potential to cause early lung toxicity in animals. However, the potential for people to inhale graphene particles from face masks and the related health risks are not yet known, and may vary based on mask design," states the agency's April 2 advisory. "The health risk to people of any age is not clear."

Masks containing graphene have been sold in

conjunction with COVID-19 claims and used by adults and children in schools and daycares, states the advisory. The masks also may have been distributed to health-care settings.

A "thorough scientific assessment" of masks containing graphene will be undertaken and the agency will remove such masks from the market until it can establish their safety and effectiveness.

Health Canada is requesting data from mask manufacturers in order to assess potential health risks, and has directed both manufacturers and distributors to recall masks. The agency will continue to take "appropriate action" to stop the import and sale of graphene face masks.

Masks that are labelled as containing graphene or biomass graphene should not be used. Adverse events or complaints should be reported to Health Canada.

For more information, visit Health Canada's recalls and safety alerts website.

**"THOROUGH
SCIENTIFIC
ASSESSMENT"**



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Health Canada is advising Canadians not to use disposable masks containing graphene or biomass graphene.

Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School students share stories, inspire creativity

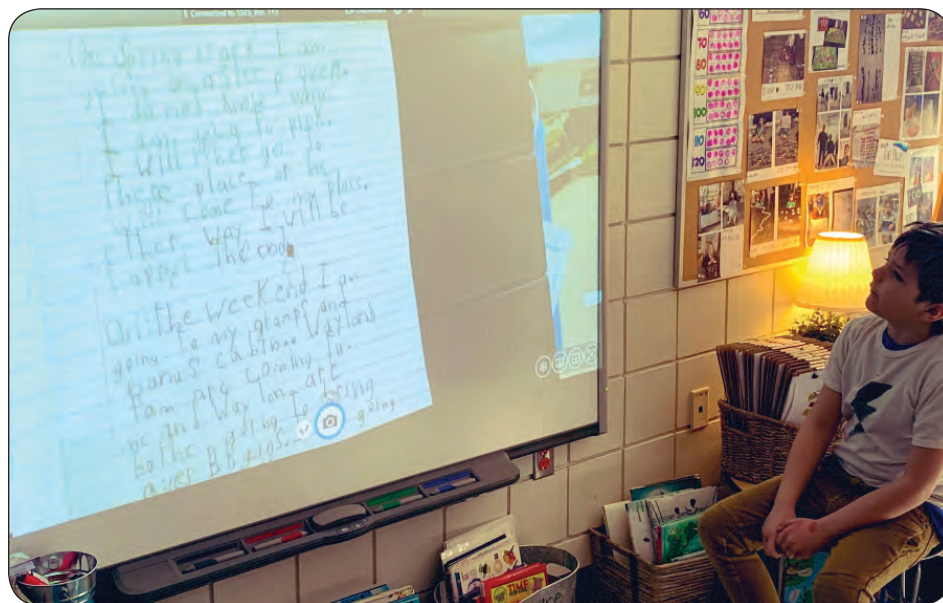
By Patricia Barrett

Students in Room 113 at Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School in Gimli put their imaginations and developing literacy skills to work before spring break by writing stories and publishing them. A “puppy surprise” story

and a “pet dog” series were among the stories they worked on. Sharing their stories inspired their classmates to pick up a pen, with some saying they wanted to write a book. “We love inspiring each other,” the students wrote on their Twitter site.



A student works on graphics.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY SSES TWITTER

A student talks about what they'll be doing on spring break

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APRIL 28, 7 PM

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Stonewall family raises \$3,000 for local organizations helping people with Down syndrome

By Patricia Barrett

To mark World Down Syndrome Day on March 21, a Stonewall family raised \$3,000 for two local organizations that support people who live with the condition.

Alan Campbell, his wife Alycia and their daughters Lucy and Maggie (who has Down syndrome) held their first Down fundraiser last month to support the programs offered by Play and Learn Baby Sign Language (formerly called Little Signing Stars) and Community Living Interlake.

"The reaction we had from our friends, family members and colleagues was just incredible," said Alan Campbell, who is the Interlake School Division's chair of the board of trustees. "We're really pleased to report that we raised \$3,000."

The funds poured in from people in communities such as Stonewall, Selkirk, Teulon, Stony Mountain, St. Andrews and St. Clements, as well as from Winnipeg and those outside the province.

Down syndrome is also referred to as Trisomy 21, which is a triplication of the 21st chromosome that naturally occurs in the human population and causes varying degrees of intellectual and physical ability.

World Down Syndrome Day is a global awareness day that has been endorsed by the United Nations since 2012. Organizations, advocates and families can take part in a number of activities to raise awareness of issues such as the rights of those with the condition to be treated equally and be included in society.

Activities to mark the day include highlighting the contributions made by people with Down syndrome, launching a fundraiser to improve services for them, lighting up landmarks in blue and yellow or wearing a pair of stand-out socks (mismatched, colourful or sporting unusual designs) that will get noticed and spark a conversation about the purpose behind them.

The Campbell family's decision to hold the fundraiser came after a groundswell of support they received last year during the early days of the COVID-19 lockdown. They had "dozens and dozens" of friends and family members share photos of themselves wearing "fun" socks as a way to mark the worldwide event and to show their support for Maggie.

"That proved to be really valuable for us and everyone else in those ear-



Maggie Campbell

ly days of lockdown as a meaningful way to connect. Maggie's smiling face is a great way to brighten someone's day; she's a bundle of positivity and happiness," said Campbell. "This year we decided to build on that incredible reaction and outpouring of love for Maggie by doing a fundraiser to mark the day."

The family raised the money through Epicure, a company that offers an assortment of gluten-free seasonings and recipes. When people purchased a \$25 dinner package, a portion of the proceeds went to the fundraiser.

The family donated \$1,000 to Play and Learn Baby Sign Language, which teaches children — including those with Down syndrome — to communicate using sign language.

"THE REACTION WE HAD FROM OUR FRIENDS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND COLLEAGUES WAS JUST INCREDIBLE."

"We learned that infants and young children with Down syndrome can benefit greatly from learning sign language. It helps with their own vocabulary development and can help them communicate with the world, depending on their level of language skill," said Campbell.

He and wife are confident Maggie can communicate verbally, but there may be words that are easier to learn or express using sign, he said.

The family donated the remaining \$2,000 to Community Living Interlake, which helps adults with intellectual disabilities live inclusive lives in the community through the provision of day programs, housing, job skills and job placement.

In Community Living Interlake runs Something Beautiful, a Main Street café offering salads, sandwiches, snacks and baked goods, a gift shop and a performance venue (pre-COVID). Individuals who are part of ACL's day program can work there to gain job skills and interact socially with the community.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The family of two-year-old Maggie Campbell raised \$3,000 for Stonewall-based organizations serving the needs of people with Down syndrome.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Maggie, Alycia, Alan and Lucy Campbell presented a \$2,000 cheque to Community Living Interlake employee Dustin Barbour and executive director Jimm Simon on March 29. The donation is money that was raised through Epicure "weeknight dinner" spice sales.

In addition to a fabulous lunch menu, Campbell said Something Beautiful is "impressive" in the way it provides meaningful employment and engagement. People with disabilities may not otherwise have an opportunity to interact with the community, especially in a rural setting.

Dining at the café or purchasing a gift is a "contribution" people can make as the funds will support programming. But equally important is the valuable interaction that occurs between the

public and the staff, which is of benefit to both.

"It's an important learning experience for the average community member who goes in there and witnesses firsthand the benefits of inclusion and what that means," said Campbell. "When someone with an intellectual disability is helping you, you are literally immersed in the programming that's helping them learn and contribute and have a sense of purpose."

> DAYCARE, FROM PG. 11

Petrowski said people who stay at Mordens' Meadows tend to use their own beach for the most part and don't "roam around" in Spruce Sands. And the ATVs are coming from all over the

area, not just the trailer park. Morden did a survey of the percentage of their campers who bring ATVs and watercraft and found it was 10 per cent.

"ATVs and other motorized vehicles

come from all over the place, including people who live in Spruce Sands," said Petrowski. "I don't think it necessarily has anything exclusively to do with Mordens' Meadows. Of course, there may be a few people with ATVs that stay at the trailer park and go rid-

ing. But not to the extent that it would stop this project, in my opinion."

ATVs, golf carts and dirt bikes are not allowed to drive on the former CPR rail bed that runs parallel to the highway, but residents have complained to the RM that people do it anyway and sometimes at high speeds. The rail bed is reserved for walking, bicycling and horse-riding, and in the winter, for snowmobiling.

"We've tried to patrol the rail bed. I know I've sent out our bylaw officer several times when people call me up and say there are people driving on it with ATVs," said Petrowski. "But it's so hard to police. By the time the officer gets there, the ATVs are gone because they got to where they were going. We take this seriously and when we get complaints, we let our bylaw officer know, but it's just so difficult to enforce."

There are designated routes that the ATVs and other motorized vehicles are allowed to take to get between certain points, but driving on the rail bed is forbidden, he said.

It might help if people could get the make, model and colour of the motorized vehicles on the rail bed. There is a lot of signage, saying motorized vehicles are prohibited — when they're not being ripped down, he said.

"We keep having to put the signs up all the time. I think some people are pulling them down," said Petrowski. "I've had several calls from people over the last several years letting me know the signs are missing and I would call public works and ask them to replace them."

Unfortunately, there are no designated sites, such as on Crown land, for ATV drivers to ride, he said. And there is no private land that could host them.

"There are two sides that have different needs: there are the cottagers that want quiet and then there are the cottagers who want to get out of the city and have fun," said the deputy mayor.

Petrowski said the issue of motorized traffic on the rail bed is likely to be discussed at council again.

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Pfizer's COVID vaccine research in adolescents shows 100 per cent effectiveness

By Patricia Barrett

Pfizer-BioNTech announced last week that its COVID-19 vaccine is 100 per cent effective in adolescents aged 12 to 15.

The companies made the announcement last week after analyzing data from a trial involving 2,260 adolescent volunteers in the United States.

No cases of COVID developed among the vaccinated group of adolescents (1,131 volunteers) while there were 18 cases of the virus among those in the placebo group (1,129 volunteers). The study was based on a two-dose vaccination regime administered about 21 days apart.

"In participants aged 12-15 years old, BNT162b2 demonstrated 100 per cent efficacy and robust antibody responses, exceeding those reported in [a] trial of vaccinated 16-25 year old participants in an earlier analysis, and was well tolerated," states a March 31 Pfizer-BioNTech news release.

The companies said they hope to [be approved to] start vaccinating adolescents before school starts in September. Vaccinations would help

keep schools open and may prevent children from transmitting the virus to others in the community.

The findings have yet to be confirmed by other medical researchers and agencies such as Health Canada that approve drugs and vaccines.

Pfizer Canada's general manager and vaccines lead Fabien Paquette acknowledged that further investigation of the trial's results is required.

"This is data coming out a couple of weeks following the second dose, but there will be further investigation," said Paquette during an interview with CBC. "In the summertime we should have the full reports about this. These are promising data that will be analyzed by Health Canada. The complete study and results will be made available later on."

COVID-19 infections are trending upwards in younger age groups. In Canada, adults aged 20 to 39 now account for the highest case numbers.

Although children for the most part have not been as likely as adults to develop a severe illness from COVID-19, they are contracting the virus and

have been hospitalized and died.

In Canada over 163,500 (17 per cent) of people aged 19 and under have been infected with COVID and 805 have been hospitalized, according to Government of Canada data as of March 26.

COVID variants, which cause more severe illness, seem to be increasing in transmissibility across all age groups, including children, according to the World Health Organization, and studies are underway to confirm their effect.

Last week Canada surpassed one million cases of COVID. Over 23,000 Canadians have died. British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario are in their third wave of infections, with cases in Saskatchewan and Quebec ramping up, as COVID outpaces inoculations and people tire of practising virus-safe behaviour.

Health experts are predicting that Manitoba could soon enter its third wave.

As of April 3, the province identified 181 new cases of COVID (cases from Good Friday and Saturday). The num-

ber of Manitobans who've died from COVID now stands at 938. There are 270 cases of variants. People are advised to continue practising physical distancing, refraining from gatherings, wearing masks and frequently washing or sanitizing their hands.

Pfizer-BioNTech said it plans to study its COVID vaccine in more children. It began trials in three age groups: 6 months to 2 years, 2 to 5 years and 5 to 11 years to further evaluate "the safety, tolerability, and immunogenicity" of the vaccine.

In addition to submitting their trial data on adolescents (aged 12-15) to Health Canada, the companies plan to submit their findings to the European Medicines Agency and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and request authorization for the emergency use of the vaccine.

Moderna is currently studying its COVID-19 vaccine in 12- to 17-year-old children, and AstraZeneca is studying its vaccine in children aged six to 17.

Province freezes pharmacare deductions for second year

Staff

The provincial government has frozen the Manitoba Pharmacare Program deductible rates for the second year in a row.

Health Minister Heather Stefanson made the announcement last week.

"Our government has implemented a number of measures to help Mani-

toba families while we deal with the pandemic as a province," she said, explaining the rates, which normally increase annually, will remain at the 2019-20 levels.

The drug benefit program is meant to assist Manitobans of all ages whose income is seriously affected by high prescription drug costs.

Each year, program participants are required to pay a portion of the cost of the eligible prescription drugs they need covered, which is considered the annual pharmacare deductible and is based on adjusted family income.

Although deductible rates will not change this year, the 2021-22 deductibles are based on a family's 2019 in-

come, whereas the 2020-21 deductible was based on 2018 income, so a family's rate might change if their income did in that time.

For more details on the program, head to www.gov.mb.ca/health/pharmacare.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Interlake players to compete at hockey nationals

Staff

The Minot State University Beavers and the city of Minot will be hosting the ACHA Women's Division I National Tournament later this month.

The club hockey tournament will take place at Maysa Arena from April 15 to 19 with multiple games on each day.

Minot State, whose roster includes Riverton's Denali Sigurdson, enters the tournament as the two overall seed and will compete in Group B

during pool play. They will square off against Midland University and McKendree University prior to the start of bracket play.

Last weekend, Minot State (14-3-1) swept Dakota College of Bottineau in a two-game series, winning 5-0 and 4-0.

The national tournament schedule is as follows:

Thursday, April 15
10 a.m. – Midland vs. McKendree
1 p.m. – Minot State vs. Adrian

4 p.m. – Liberty vs. Lindenwood
Friday, April 16

10 a.m. – Lindenwood vs. Adrian

1 p.m. – Minot State vs. Midland

4 p.m. – Liberty vs. McKendree

Saturday, April 17

10 a.m. – Midland vs. Lindenwood

1 p.m. – Minot State vs. McKendree

4 p.m. – Liberty vs. Adrian

The Beavers' men's hockey team, meanwhile, played a home-and-home series with the Jamestown Jimmies this week but no scores were available

at press time.

That series was a warm up to the 16-team ACHA Division I nationals in St. Louis, MO, from April 16 to 20.

No. 6 Minot State will face No. 11 Calvin University Knights at 1:30 p.m. on April 17.

The Beavers' roster features several former Manitoba Junior Hockey League players, including Arnes' Wayne Johannesson, St. Andrews' Carter Barley and Teulon's Brayden Pawluk.

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- Gimli (4 locations)
- Winnipeg Beach (1 location)
- Arborg (2 locations)
- Riverton (2 locations)

Please visit <https://www.esd.ca/About/tenders-purchasing/pages/> for more information on acreages and specifications.

**TENDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY
FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2021 AT 4:00 PM.**

Sealed Tenders can be marked "GRASS CUTTING" along with the location(s) bid for and sent to:
**Amanda Senkowski, Secretary-Treasurer
Evergreen School Division
PO Box 1200, Gimli, MB R0C 1B0**



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY ASSISTANT UTILITY OPERATOR

The Rural Municipality of Fisher invites applications for the position of Assistant Utility Operator. This will be a **training position**, with the possibility of transitioning to a permanent position as the Utility Operator in the Summer of 2021. This position demands a high level of accuracy and dependability.

The normal hours of work are four (4) hours per day, Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Candidates must be willing and available to be on-call for emergent situations.

Applicants:

- **MUST** obtain certification in Small systems water works operator certificate and Small systems wastewater works operator certificate. (can be done during training period).
- Must be 18 years of age or older, hold a valid driver's licence and have a vehicle, minimum grade 10 education.
- Strong mechanical skills a definite asset.
- Willing to work as part of a team and may be called upon to help out in other duties within the municipality.
- Friendly, team player, responsible and a strong work ethic is expected.

The Assistant Utility Operator will report to the Chief Administrative Officer. For copies of job description and pay as per CUPE Collective agreement please contact The Rural Municipality of Fisher at 204-372-6393.

Position remains open until suitable candidate is found.

Kelly Marykuca, CMMA
Rural Municipality of Fisher
Box 280 Fisher Branch, MB, R0C 0Z0
fishercao@mymts.net
Phone: (204) 372-6393

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ALBERT EDWARD ROBERT MURRAY, Late of the Town of Eriksdale, in the Province of Manitoba;

ALL CLAIMS AGAINST the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be sent to the undersigned at their offices, on or before the 30th day of April, 2021.

DATED at the City of Brandon, in the Province of Manitoba this 5th day of April 2021.

MEIGHEN HADDAD LLP
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110 - 11th Street
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Attention: W. Bryan Webber
Our File No. 206056
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SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

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

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

Sudoku Answer

V	N	S	T	E	L	V	R	D	E	S	
R	V	G	D	E	I	G	V	R	E	R	S
E	R	V	E	N	E	K	T	I	B	O	
S	I	S	H	T	V	I	D	H	E	H	
H	C	I	T	S	D	V	M	T	C	O	
B	V	N	S	U	S	N	V	V	S		
S	T	E	S	I	N	O	R	V	O	M	
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T	S	T	F	D	V	T	S	T	D	O	T
V	E	L	P	V	M	B	E	S	B	S	
T	V	N	B	E	C	V	S				
U	I	B	I	S	W	U	B	E	R	E	C
O	N	E	L	E	V	A	D	V	A	G	E
N	V	L	E	N	O	L	E	I	V	I	S
S	M	S	D	E	B	E	R	K	E	R	M

Crossword Answer

X CROSSWORD

- CLUES ACROSS**
- One who manufactures
 - Science degree
 - Database management system
 - Desert
 - Inventor Musk
 - Welsh valley
 - Round Dutch cheese
 - Saying
 - Comedian and TV host
 - Uppermost portions of the brain
 - City in Transylvania
 - Where astronauts go
 - Men's hairstyle
 - Indicates position
 - One point east of due south
 - Businessmen may have one
 - Grass part
 - Running back Gurley
 - Unwavering
 - Options
 - Annoy
 - Greek mountain
 - Pastas
 - Fishes
 - Wrap
 - Potentially a criminal (slang)
 - Seize
 - The Constitution State
 - Upset
 - 1991 men's Wimbledon champ
 - Central Chinese province
 - Predisposition
 - A notice of someone's death
 - One-time Kentucky Rep.
 - Swiss river
 - Dried-up
 - Finger millet
 - ___ Allan Poe
 - German river
 - Brew
 - Kenyan river
- CLUES DOWN**
- Millisecond
 - Acts as military assistant

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14					15			
16						17					18			
19					20					21				
					22					23			24	
25	26	27			28				29			30		
31				32		33		34				35		
36					37		38			39			40	
		41				42				43		44		
				45					46		47		48	
49	50			51				52				53		
54		55					56					57	58	59
60							61					62		
63							64				65			
66							67				68			

- Knot in a tree
- Husband-and-wife industrial designers
- The Ocean State
- Point the finger at
- Parts in a machine
- Midway between northeast and east
- Portray precisely
- Blister
- Mental illness
- Nose of an animal
- What students receive
- Semitic peoples
- Beats per minute
- Family of drugs
- Atrocious
- Type of microscope (abbr.)
- ___ or bust
- Icelandic poems
- A citizen of Pakistan
- Very pale
- Metric linear unit
- Sea eagle
- Biblical judge of Israel
- Isaac's mother (Bib.)
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Cool!
- Large hotel room
- Type of boat (abbr.)
- Picked
- Type of hookah
- Attack
- Directs
- Belgian WWII resistance fighter
- Finished negotiation
- Heroic tale
- Middle Eastern country
- Protein-rich liquids
- Malaysian Isthmus
- Spielberg's alien

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Rural Municipality of Armstrong
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ARMSTRONG

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of *The Municipal Act*, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 28th day of April, 2021, at the hour of 2:00 PM, at Fraserwood Hall, 10140 PR 231, Fraserwood, Manitoba, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
119600	ALL THAT PORTION OF THE SE 1/4 23-20-2 EPM DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT A POINT IN THE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF SAID QUARTER SECTION DISTANT ELY THEREON 532 FEET FROM THE EASTERN LIMIT OF RIGHT-OF-WAY ON RAILWAY PLAN 1622 WLTO THENCE NLY AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF THE SAID QUARTER SECTION 208.71 FEET THENCE ELY AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE LAST DESCRIBED COURSE 208.71 FEET THENCE SLY AT RIGHT ANGLES TO THE LAST DESCRIBED COURSE TO THE SAID SOUTHERN LIMIT THENCE WLY ALONG THE SAID SOUTHERN LIMIT TO THE POINT OF COMMENCEMENT SUBJECT TO THE RESERVATIONS AND PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE GRANT FROM THE CROWN - DESC SE23-20-2E	L -\$13,500	\$3,633.62
224400	LOT 8 PLAN 4675 WLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS, MINERAL OILS AND OTHER MATTERS AS MORE FULLY SET FORTH IN INSTRUMENT NO. 8524 WLTO (R DIV) IN LEGAL SUBDIVISION 14 OF SECTION 35-17-1 WPM - 6 1ST AVE	L -\$5,900 B -\$44,100	\$5,424.56

The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft to the Rural Municipality of Armstrong as follows:
 - The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - A fee in the amount \$309.75 (\$295 plus GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 24th day of March, 2021.
 Managed by:
 Corlie Larsen
 Chief Administrative Officer
 Rural Municipality of Armstrong
 Phone: (204) 278-3377
 Fax: (204) 278-3437

Rural Municipality of FISHER

2021 BUDGET HEARING

DATE: April 28, 2021
7:00 PM

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to the sub-section 162(2) of *The Municipal Act*, the Council of the Rural Municipality of Fisher intends to present its financial plan for the fiscal year 2021 at a public hearing on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection to the Financial Plan as provided.

Copies of the proposed Financial Plan will be available upon request, April 19, 2021 at the RM of Fisher Municipal Office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, MB during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may also be directed by letter to the Chief Administrative Officer or through e-mail at fishercao@mymts.net

The Public Hearing will be held virtually and available to interested parties to observe. Please register with the municipal office (204-372-6393) to receive a link or phone number to the meeting platform no later than April 27, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Kelly Marykuca, CMMA
 Chief Administrative Officer
 Rural Municipality of Fisher

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CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to all of our family and friends, near and far for your prayers and acts of kindness in the loss of our Mom/Grandma, Eileen Mazur. It has been very difficult during these times of COVID, but we really appreciated the cards, calls, texts, visits, food, and all the flowers that were sent to us. A special thank you to the home care staff who looked after Mom while she was at the Lodge, the EMS and all the doctors, nurses, and support staff at the Arborg and Gimli hospitals. You will all be in our thoughts and prayers!

--Love to all,
The family of Eileen Mazur
Angela, Don, Karen and Colin
and family

OBITUARY

Ernie Pawluk
On Thursday, April 1, 2021 at the Gimli Community Health Centre, Ernie Pawluk, aged 85 years of Winnipeg Beach, MB, beloved husband of Phyllis passed away.
Full obituary to follow in next week's Express.



Gilbert Funeral Home,
Gimli in care of arrangements.

OBITUARY



Fredrick "Fred" Gasper
August 6, 1934 – March 31, 2021
Fred passed away suddenly on March 31, 2021 at the E. M. Crowe Memorial Hospital in Eriksdale, MB. His son Kevin (Cathy); grandchildren Korissa and Chelsea, along with the many friends he made throughout the years, mourn his passing.
In keeping with his wishes, cremation has taken place and a private service celebrating his life will be held at a later date.
We wish to thank the doctors, nurses and staff of the Health Sciences Centre, Winnipeg, MB, Lakeshore General Hospital, Ashern, MB and the Home Care workers for their care and compassion. Also thanks to Terry and Steven for the friendship they shared with Fred. Special thanks to Art and Lisa Malcolm who were wonderful neighbors that always looked after Fred and to John and Karen Gray of Arnason Funeral Home.

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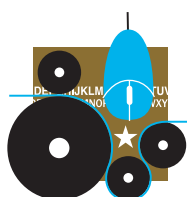
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