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EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT
Recreation co-ordinator Karen Melnychuk (standing) thanked volunteers (from left) Norma Smolinski, Gertrud Hauser, Jackie Kozera and Rosemary Buehlmann for contributing their time to help care for patients at the Arborg Personal Care Home. See story pg. 4.

news > sports > opinion > community > people > entertainment > events > classifieds > careers > everything you need to know



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Fisher Branch students raising funds for Humboldt

By Jeff Ward

Fisher Branch Collegiate Grade 11 student Laine Vandersteen is working to raise money for the Humboldt Collegiate that can help pay for counselling resources for students affected by the tragic bus crash.

When Vandersteen heard of the tragedy in Saskatchewan last week that took the lives of 16 people, including 10 hockey players between the ages of 16 and 21, she knew she had to do something. She said both of her brothers played hockey and she imagined what that situation would be like if her family was involved. The grief and the heartache of such a sudden, irreversible tragedy filled her mind. Vandersteen said that less than 12 hours had passed after hearing the news when she formulated a plan to begin collecting money.

"I talked to my mom about it on the Saturday and she ended up texting our principal," said Vandersteen.

"She asked if it would be OK to raise some money around the school to donate and [principal Greg Thomas] said it was a fantastic idea."

Vandersteen got to work requesting only a dollar from students and staff in the building, but she was being handed \$5 and \$10. As word of the tragedy spread, staff and students opened their wallets to give what they could. At the time of writing this ar-



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY GREG THOMAS

Students at Fisher Branch Collegiate joined thousands across the country wearing hockey jerseys on April 12 to show their support for players, family and friends of the Humboldt Broncos.

ticle, Vandersteen had raised \$237 in just four days.

Her goal is to raise \$300, a modest sum considering the GoFundMe page for the team's family has now raised over \$11.6 million from all around the world. That fundraiser is why Vandersteen wants this money to go towards the school.

"A lot of the guys that died had family there and if any of those students need help with counselling, they'll have the resources. Giving the money to them will mean more," said Vandersteen.

Vandersteen said that this tragedy is an emotional thing for the whole country and it hasn't even fully hit



Grade 11 student Laine Vandersteen is collecting money for the Humboldt School with hopes to help students access counselling services following the tragic bus accident.

her yet just how terrible this tragedy really is.

"You see, the NHL teams coming together and donating money now too. Any tragedy is hard on a community. More than half of the people on that bus died. We go on buses all the time for school events or sporting events; you don't think something like this is possible," she said.

Vandersteen said that students at FBC wore jerseys last Thursday like many throughout the country to show support for the Broncos.

"I look at my youngest nephew who is only six. He doesn't realize what happened. But he wore a jersey today and put his hockey stick outside the door," said Vandersteen.

The fundraiser doesn't have an official end date, but Vandersteen said she wants to donate the money as soon as possible.



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Dr. Donnelly celebrates opening of Icelandic River Health Clinic

By Patricia Barrett

An Arborg doctor forced to move out of the building housing his primary care clinic at the Arborg Hospital celebrated the grand opening of his new location April 9.

Dr. John Donnelly, who's been practising medicine in Arborg for about 13 years, moved his Icelandic River Health Clinic to a unit in the Arborg Mall after the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority told him in February it would not be renewing his medical contract and building

lease, and would instead be setting up a Home Clinic at his former site.

Donnelly had told the *Express* at the time that the IERHA would not tell him why it failed to renew his contract, but he suspected it was linked to the eventual closure of the Health Centre's emergency department. The IERHA's chief medical officer Myron Thiessen had said Dr. Donnelly will continue to have medical privileges with the IERHA.

To welcome him to his new location, nurses and staff at the Arborg Hos-

pital presented him with a painting depicting the winding Icelandic River.

"All the staff at the Icelandic River Health Clinic are absolutely delighted with the picture that was presented to the clinic by the nurses and staff at the Arborg Hospital," said Dr. Donnelly last week. "It was a marvellous surprise for us. It has now been placed in a prominent position on the wall in the clinic so that everyone can enjoy it. The clinic would like to express their deepest appreciation for such a wonderful gift."

The Icelandic River Health Clinic is located at the junction of Highway 68 and PR 326 in the Arborg Mall, the same complex housing the Oakley Vision Centre and Arborg Family Dental.

"We would like to remind everyone in the Arborg area that our clinic is open," said Dr. Donnelly, "and we are thrilled to welcome all our clients to our new practice."

For more information about medical services, call the clinic at 204-376-2587.



EXPRESS PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. DONNELLY

Nurses and staff at the Arborg Hospital presented Dr. Donnelly (left) and his clinic staff with a painting depicting the Icelandic River to help celebrate the opening of the Icelandic River Health Clinic in the Arborg Mall.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Although the sign isn't up yet, Dr. Donnelly's Icelandic River Health Clinic is open for business at the Arborg Mall.



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Arborg Personal Care Home volunteers thanked for compassionate care

By Patricia Barrett

Health-care volunteers can enhance the comfort and quality of care patients receive and help reduce the anxiety many patients and their families experience when faced with critical health crises. And every year the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority honours its legions of volunteers.

Last Thursday, the health authority and staff at Arborg's Personal Care Home hosted a tea for about 40 volunteers.

Arborg PCH recreation co-ordinator Karen Melnychuk told them how much they're appreciated by both the residents and the staff.

"There's no end to what you contribute to these people's lives. You enrich them and make them better. You are selfless," said Melnychuk. "During our birthday party of the month, one of the ladies came in and said, 'I think my husband's having a heart attack and we may have to go to Winnipeg. I can't stay but here's the cake.' That's the kind of people you are."

Norma Smolinski, Gertrud Hauser, Jackie Kozera and Rosemary Buehlmann were among the volunteers treated to a light lunch consisting of sausage, cheese, crackers, fruit and dessert, as well as a take-home gift of blueberry tea, representing the "true blue hearts" volunteers bring to their work.

Father Harry Chuckry of the Ukrainian Catholic Parish District of Gimli/Interlake was among the honoured guests. For the past 23 years, Fr.

Chuckry has been providing spiritual care and church services to residents of three PCHs — Betel Home in Gimli and the Arborg and Fisher Branch facilities.

PCH staff unable to attend the tea sent letters of appreciation, thanking volunteers for helping with church services, birthday parties and the provision of entertainment.

"Your kindness and compassion make a long-lasting and meaningful impact in our facility and we appreciate your time and efforts immensely," wrote Sheri Brennen, the care home's clinical team manager.

Over the course of April, the health authority will be hosting volunteer appreciation teas in 14 health-care facilities, including personal care homes, hospitals and independent living facilities, to thank over 800 volunteers for their support.

The IERHA provides yearly workshops to teach volunteers about their role in a palliative care setting, skills for interacting with patients and their families and how to help people cope with dying, loss and grief.

IERHA vice-president of human resources Randy Dallinger thanked the volunteers for their compassion and dependability and for helping patients get through times of stress.

"We certainly do celebrate your value, not just today but each and every day that you touch the lives of our patients, clients and residents, and the generous donation of both your time and your hearts," said Dallinger. "And it does take incredible heart to be a



IERHA vice-president of human resources Randy Dallinger said it takes incredible heart to be a health-care volunteer.

volunteer."

IERHA board member Ruth Ann Furgala spoke about the volunteers' selfless desire to help those in need and their ability to create a better health-care experience.

"Your reliability, your compassion, your dedication and a generous donation of your time and effort reminds us that what we do is not just a job," she said. "In our work at the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, we are touching the lives of people who are often experiencing challenging, stressful times. With your compassion



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT
IERHA board member Ruth Ann Furgala complimented the volunteers for their selfless desire to help those in need.

and your calming presence, you help us create a better experience for our patients, our residents, our staff and everyone who visits our facilities."

Furgala said even a smile — such as the one she received from a volunteer when she arrived at the PCH — can make a "huge difference" and make someone's day.

"We can never say thank you often enough," she said.

The IERHA will be holding appreciation teas in Ashern (April 19), Selkirk (April 20), Gimli (April 25) and Lunenburg (April 26).

Eriksdale Rec Centre to host annual 160 Club Dinner and Dance

By Jeff Ward

Live music by Sol James, a roast beef dinner by Broad Valley Catering and a chance to win \$1,000 are all on the itinerary this weekend at the Eriksdale Recreation Centre.

The 160 Club Dinner and Dance used to be called the 200 Club, which was the name because of the amount of tickets sold for the event. Organizer Jerry Saunders said that they've low-

ered the number of tickets this year to 160 due to a declining interest but also to have a less congested event.

Saunders said last year there were only 28 tickets not sold and the event saw nearly 400 attendees as each ticket permits two people to attend. The space was a bit cramped but still enjoyable; however, Saunders said the decrease in tickets should allow for people to stretch out a bit.

Tickets sell for \$70, up from \$60, which Saunders explained will help cover rising costs.

"Our costs keep going up and the event is about raising money for the building to keep the lights on," said Saun-

"WE DO FOCUS ON KEEPING THE COST AS LOW AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE WE DO HAVE SENIORS AND PEOPLE ON FIXED INCOMES AND WE WANT EVERYONE TO ENJOY THE EVENT."

ders.

"We do focus on keeping costs as low as possible because we do have seniors and people on fixed incomes and we want everyone to enjoy the event. But we've been making less and less money each year."

Saunders thinks they made about \$2,200 last year, although he couldn't remember the exact figure.

Part of the fun is the possibility of winning the cost of your ticket back, or more, Saunders said. He explained that every ticket gets thrown into a pot. Every 10th ticket wins their tick-

et money back; the 80th ticket drawn wins \$250 and the last ticket drawn wins \$1,000.

"It gets pretty exciting and people have a pretty decent chance of winning their money back," said Saunders.

At the time of writing this article, tickets were nearly sold out but Saunders said that there are last-minute cancellations. Anyone interested in tickets can call him at 204-739-3490.

Doors open at 5 p.m. and dinner is served at 6 p.m.



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Pallister reaffirms commitment to Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel

By Jef Ward

In a short announcement made Monday made at the St. Laurent Recreation Centre, Premier Brian Pallister reaffirmed his government's commitment to building two outlet channels to better regulate the water level on Lake Manitoba.

Pallister spoke briefly about how his government is still committed to getting shovels in the ground this year on a project he said Lake Manitoba residents have waited far too long for.

The project is two separate 23-kilometre channels that will help reduce water levels on Lake Manitoba. The first channel will take water from Lake Manitoba and drain it into Lake St. Martin and the second will drain the water from Lake St. Martin into Lake Winnipeg.

Pallister explained that the alignments displayed during the meeting and that have been circulating are still not final. He added that the consultation process is still ongoing.

"The fact remains that the consultations have to conclude before we can

move ahead with the project," he said.

The premier also said he empathized with the residents and land owners in the RM of Grahamdale, a municipality that will lose a sizeable portion of land through expropriation.

"I have great sympathy for anyone who is going to have their land expropriated, in particular farm families that have invested their lives in that land."

Pallister fielded many comments from many affected RM of Grahamdale farmers. These farmers have been and still are living in a state of limbo as their futures are decided by how much of their fields will be turned into the channel.

He explained that he wants the process to be respectful of the concerns of farmers.

"But let's not kid ourselves — there's no doubt going to be disruption on some of those farms because when you build an outlet like this and a channel like this, it does divide your field in some cases. It requires more movement of hay. There's a lot of planning that needs to be done."

Residents have been waiting for this

"THE FACT REMAINS THAT THE CONSULTATIONS HAVE TO CONCLUDE BEFORE WE CAN MOVE AHEAD WITH THE PROJECT."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JEFF WARD

Premier Brian Pallister listens to concerns from Grahamdale farmer Christopher Banker, who could lose up to 70 per cent of his land depending on how the channel alignment goes.

channel for a long time, and although the flood of 2011 is now seven years in the rearview mirror of many municipalities, it's still visible and the effects are long-lasting.

This is an announcement that has been made before. In March 2016 on the still-frozen shore of Johnson Beach, Pallister and MLA candidate Derek Johnson made a commitment to see this channel built. In March of this year, Infrastructure Minister Ron Schuler announced the construction of the access road, which is slated to

begin in just a few days, according to Pallister. However, the project, which the province still estimates to be more than a half-billion dollars, still doesn't have a completion date. During the news conference in 2016, Schuler said that best case scenario is that all work is completed by 2025.

Pallister committed that the actual building of the channels themselves would go through the open tendering process, which includes no requirement that only companies willing to pay union dues could submit a tender.

RM of Gimli supports World Human Values Day

By Patricia Barrett

The RM of Gimli council announced its support for the upcoming World Human Values Day and an accompanying Walk for Values, which takes place April 24 in communities around the world.

Entering its 16th year, the walk is designed to raise awareness of five universal human values — love, peace, truth, non-violence and right conduct — and to educate people on the importance of practising them daily,

states the Walk for Values website. The pledge is not monetary but one of commitment to practise a value of one's choice.

"The RM is in full support of Human Values Day," said Mayor Randy Woroniuk a few days after council's regular meeting April 9. "We're all citizens of the earth and we need to stop bickering among ourselves."

Ron Naidoo, who is part of the Human Values advisory team, wrote to the RM asking it to support the event,

which will take place across Canada and in 30 cities around the world. In 2017, the organization received 90 Human Values Day proclamations from municipalities, cities and provinces.

"We will continue to work diligently to spread your message of living in harmony, caring for each other and our environment in every city in Canada and around the world," wrote Naidoo. For more information about the Walk for Values, visit www.walkforvalues.com.

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Province announces minimum wage increase Oct. 1

Submitted

The Manitoba government is improving wages for working Manitobans and increasing the minimum wage on Oct. 1, 2018, Growth, Enterprise and Trade Minister Blaine Pedersen announced last week.

"Our commitment is to provide sustainable and predictable increases to Manitoba's minimum wage," said Pedersen. "Last year we passed legislation to index minimum wage with the rate

of inflation through a fully transparent formula. We are improving wages for working Manitobans and providing predictability for businesses that create jobs and generate growth in our economy."

Pedersen noted the increase of 20 cents per hour will raise the current minimum wage to \$11.35 from \$11.15 and ensure that Manitoba remains competitive with other provinces. This adjustment is based on Manitoba's 2017 inflation rate of 1.6 per cent and

rounding up to the nearest five cents.

Amendments were made to the Employment Standards Code in 2017 that provide a consistent and predictable way of indexing Manitoba's minimum wage based on the change in the previous calendar year's Consumer Price Index, Pedersen noted.

Information on the minimum wage and other employment standards is available at www.gov.mb.ca/labour/standards.

RM Bifrost-Riverton changes advertisement on \$4-million farmland levy

By Patricia Barrett

The RM of Bifrost-Riverton changed an advertisement it had initially placed in a local newspaper March 22 announcing an upcoming May hearing before the Municipal Board on a bylaw to establish a \$4-million levy on farmland, which will affect about 1,348 ratepayers.

The modified announcement removed a statement that would have allowed witnesses to make presentations to the Board.

"The municipality advertised the reconvened hearing by public notice on March 22, 2018. The public notice incorrectly stated the scope of the reconvened hearing," said Municipal Board spokesperson John Neufeld by email Monday. "Upon discovery of the error, a corrected notice of public hearing was issued on April 12, 2018."

Last November, the Municipal Board held a hearing at the Riverton Hall to hear support for and objections to the \$4-million levy, which will take the form of a loan the RM will take out and pay back with interest over the course of 20 years. The RM intends to give the money to Bifrost Agricultural Sustainability Initiative Cooperative (BASIC),

a local farmer's organization, to carry out drainage work.

The RM had hired a lawyer to examine witnesses testifying about a lack of financial transparency from both BASIC and the RM, inflated crop-loss statistics BASIC presented, the wording of the bylaw itself and a number of perceived conflicts of interest, among other matters, during the five-hour hearing on Nov. 16, 2017 (see the Nov. 23, 2017 online edition of the Express).

In December, the Board wrote to the RM stating it could not make a decision as to whether to approve the drainage tax until the municipality supplied it with critical information about BASIC's scheme. That effectively postponed the hearing.

"The Board closed the hearing after being presented with evidence from the municipality and the public," said Neufeld. "In preparing its Order, the Board determined that some of the municipality's evidence was unclear so the Board asked the municipality to clarify some of its evidence."

Neufeld said the public will be permitted to address the municipality at the May hearing after it provides responses to the Board's request.

In its letter dated Dec. 22, 2017, the Board had asked the RM for specific details on (1) how the proposed water management project will unfold (staging of drainage work); (2) how the municipality intends to draw funds from the approved borrowing; (3) how the RM intends to levy potential taxpayers; and (4) to provide an audit trail of the \$1,002,052 it had received under a federal-provincial Growing Forward 2 grant.

"The sole purpose of the May 3, 2018 reconvened hearing is to hear, in a public forum, the municipality's response to the Board's questions under oath," said Neufeld. "The public will also have the opportunity to ask the municipality questions about the clarified evidence."

He added that the hearing will be limited to the RM's clarification of the evidence it had provided in November.

"The Board will not hear further evidence from any party in support or in objection to the proposed bylaw," he said. A copy of the bylaw is available for review at the RM's office in Arborg.

The May 3 hearing gets underway at 6:30 p.m. at the Riverton Hall, 175 Regie Leach Dr.

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Welcome, my friends.

I remember a couple of brothers who kind of stood out amongst the contestants at the Grand Marais ice fishing derby about a month ago. They waved at me with big smiles as I was about to drive past them on the ice. Needless to say, I don't need much of an invitation to stop and shoot the breeze with any angler about fishing.

They were jovial guys, just my kind of people. I nosed Old Red their way, and with my driver's door open, I jokingly hollered, "Are you in the prizes yet?"

The two of them were totally covered in snowmobile suits, which only allowed me to see their round pleasing faces and short brown hair. I slipped off the seat and out of my truck, my spiked shoes digging into the ice.

"We haven't even had a bite," the shorter chap exclaimed. "By the way, my name is Chris Fedak from Winnipeg and this is my brother Andy," he continued.

"Might you have a good fishing story for your fellow anglers?" I asked.

Chris, more talkative than Andy, gave a half laugh and quite naturally began a story that happened to him when he was 10 years old.

He and Andy were fishing at the Portage Diversion when he caught a small goldeye. He hadn't caught that many fish in his young life, so the sight of his quivering silver prize ex-

cited him to the point where he was shaking. He reeled the fish in so fast it was skidding toward him on the top of the water, and that was like a magnet to a nearby Pelican. It broke into action, swooshing like an arrow at the fish, nipping only its tail.

That big billed bird wasn't fast enough. Chris raised his rod with lightening speed, screaming in defiance that the monster might rob. The goldeye took flight landing on dry land with the squawking, wing-flapping pelican right after it. Chris dropped his rod and ran at the bird, his arms flailing. The pelican waddled sideways away from the flopping fish as Chris screamed at the top of his lungs. It got a look that seemed to say, fine, I'll go find food elsewhere, and it took off.

About a mile off the southwest shoreline of Lake Winnipeg, I saw a large ice shack when I was going out to fish last month. As I came to its door side, the chap that you see in this week's picture was standing outside. I stopped, got out of my truck and struck up a conversation with Doug Thomas from Peguis First Nation. He was very obliging and invited me into his shack to check out his underwater camera in action. He showed me how, with a battery of LED lights, he could see a few feet around his baited hook on a flat screen monitor. He explained how he caught the fish he's holding

in the picture by jigging his baited hook as he watched it approach on the screen.

Get ready for a little chuckle now, my friends.

Generally, I don't like to write folks' stories unless they give me their last names, but this is a good one and I didn't want to embarrass Kim.

Some weeks ago, I met Roy and his son Nick on the Red upstream of Selkirk. They were tailgate fishing in the bright afternoon sun. After we got to know each other a bit, Roy, an upbeat and rambunctious sort, offered us this story for our amusement. Last year at the same spot where we were now standing, he and his girlfriend Kim were fishing in his portable ice shack. In the dim, cozy cover of their shack, relaxing to easy music on the radio after lunch and sitting side by side in their folding chairs, they started kissing.

The third kiss was great. Their eyes were closed as they tenderly touched each others' cheeks when suddenly the darkness around them became blazingly bright. Looking up, they were amazed to see their shack taking flight on a terrific gust of wind. They were further startled to hear a large family tailgate fishing beside them laughing and soon teasing them for having caught them kissing when their shack took to air. Embarrassed, Nick and Kim captured their tent and



EXPRESS PHOTO ARNIE WEIDL
Doug Thomas with a fish he caught "on camera."

left for home amid gentle kidding from their neighbouring anglers.

Kim and Nick had always liked that spot where their little interlude had happened, so the next winter they went right back there — and, don't you know, that same family that caught them kissing the year before was also there. Our kissing couple were not about to be pushed from their spot so they set up their tent. Just as they were going inside, the father of the "peanut gallery" shouted, "No smooching this time, you guys!"

So-long, gang. Be good.

letter to the editor

Letters to the Editor:

letters@expressweeklynews.ca

Manitobans have a right to know

Editor:

The article "\$11 million sole-source contracts for Lake St. Martin flood road raises questions" in the April 12 *Express Weekly News* by Patricia Barrett certainly calls into question the lack of transparency practised by our Conservative government.

Running for office, the Conservatives promised "openness," "transparency" and "value for money" as recently stated by Ron Schuler, minister of Infrastructure, and his legislative assistant MLA Derek Johnson, Interlake.

Having had the privilege of serving

the people of the Interlake and Manitoba for over two decades, I did gain a bit of knowledge on the workings of good government.

Our current Conservative MLA Derek Johnson is being accused of a possible conflict of interest.

That is a very serious accusation.

His statements publicly thus far only muddy the waters even more. Mr. Johnson needs to publicly explain his role in this affair.

I, like Mr. Larry Lindell, have no ill will towards the contractors who obtained what appears to be a sweet-heart deal.

It is Mr. Johnson and Minister Schuler who need to explain away this fiasco.

Single source contracts, if ever, can only be justified if there is only one local (Manitoba) supplier for a required service or product or some exceptional event (flood-fire) or situation.

Secondly, the statement that using "local" and in this case indigenous workers and trainees justifies this sole source contract.

I recall that as far back as the 1970s under Ed Schreyer's government, those conditions were part of the normal tendering requirements for contracts in areas where indigenous people were living.

Thirdly, is Mr. Johnson serious when he says "the contract was given to the First Nations and they chose who they dealt with."

Mr. Johnson certainly needs to explain why he and his minister would give away and estimated 11 million to a third party. What are the conditions?

Mr. Johnson and Minister Schuler need to provide answers to Manitobans.

Surely they have more justification than what they have thus far stated. What are they?

Manitobans have a right to know how much "value for money" we really have received.

- Bill Uruski

Fisher Branch Women's Institute celebrates 70 years

Submitted by Patricia Witzke

The Fisher Branch Women's Institute hosted a spring convention celebrating their 70th anniversary at the community hall last Saturday. The festivities were open to WI ladies across the province and any interested community members.

This year's theme was "A New Me" and focused on innovative ways to improve and maintain a healthy lifestyle. Female RCMP officer Aayesha Dean was the morning speaker and provided attendees insight about scams. Dean's advice was to not open fraudulent emails or call back unfamiliar numbers; never give any personal or financial information to an unknown person even if they say they work for the government; report fraudulent incidents to the local police or the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888 495-8501 and use security software on your phones and computers.

The ladies appreciated the important information and felt better prepared to deal with future occurrences.

"I will get security software on my phone now," said guest speaker Sue McKenzie.

Sheena Letexier, a local teacher, led the morning exercise break and taught the group the Macarena dance.

The ladies enjoyed the chance to stretch and found Letexier to be a vivacious leader.

Former Fisher Branch resident Ann Skuba led the afternoon exercises.

A delicious lunch was provided by caterer Marianne Neault and her assistants.

A celebration of life service honoured deceased WI members who had passed away over the last year, including Stephanie Hyde, Ruth Grosjean, Frances Blahey and Sally Strogon.

A representative from each WI brought a carnation and shared an anecdote about their deceased member. Ida Draper sang "Go High on the Mountain." The memorials were touching, and the ladies enjoyed learning of the accomplishments of the members. The flowers were provided by Stacey Gard, the owner of the Blossom and Bouquets.

Sue McKenzie from Active Living Coalition for Older Adults was the featured speaker in the afternoon.

The participants focused on new methods to develop physical and mental health. McKenzie's insights were that physical wellness improves your cardiovascular system, reduces the risk of cancer, provides you with more energy, gives you stronger muscles, bones and better posture and balance.



RCMP officer Aayesha Dean spoke about phone and computer scams and how to avoid them.

She said when you are mentally well, you have less cortisol that causes stress, you're socially engaged, confident, feel well and believe that you can make positive changes in your life.

According to McKenzie, 60 per cent of people don't get enough physical activity and she believes that you can reduce your chance of getting dementia by 33 per cent by being active. Getting 150 minutes of exercise per week is important for older adults. Include 10 to 15 minutes of muscle work and flexibility as well as 10 to 15 minutes of balance training. Try to utilize all parts of the brain when exercising for maximum benefit.

McKenzie's presentation was enjoyed and provided insight to assist the WI members and their guests in the development of their physical, mental health and their brain power.

Eileen Stapleton is looking forward to improving her health.

"Now I know what to do to further improve my health. It is never too late," said Stapleton.

Local member Ida Draper led a singsong and included popular tunes like "This Land is Our Land" and "The Happy Wanderer." The group enjoyed singing ballads that brought back memories of their youth.

Two of the WI Fisher Branch ladies performed a hilarious comedy skit about two old friends sharing stories of their spouses, growing older and their daily life experiences. It was enjoyed by all.

The conference was enjoyed by all and the table centres, made from blue wine bottles with white



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY TANNIS CHUDY
Cutting the cake is Fisher Branch WI president Tannis Chudy and Rosie Barrett (60-year member).



Fisher Branch WI members Rosie Barrett and Elanore Nosad performed a skit about two old friends sharing stories of their spouses, growing older and their daily life experiences.

lights, were given away along with a grab bag containing a fidget spinner, a notepad and miscellaneous items. Cake and beverages were served at the end of the day to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the WI in Fisher Branch.

Fisher Branch WI did a great job of hosting their 70th anniversary spring convention. The ladies should be commended for their excellent efforts, organizing and hosting.

House passes Johnston's resolution on eye health and examinations

Submitted

Scott Johnston, MLA for St. James, is pleased that his private member's resolution on the importance of the national vision program Eye See, Eye Learn was passed unanimously by the Legislative Assembly on April 10.

"It's important that all parents know to take their children for regular eye examinations," said Johnston.

"There is no better time for a comprehensive eye examination than before a child is starting school."

Johnston pointed out that one in five children will begin school with a vision problem that is not readily apparent, and many such kids are unaware their eyesight is not the same as that of other students. Many eye problems can't be corrected if par-

ents wait until a child is older and could result in serious long-term effects.

The Manitoba Association of Optometrists participates in the national Eye See, Eye Learn program, which strives to inform parents that thorough eye examinations are critical to the learning process and necessary before children enter school.

Offered by the association since 2008, the program currently has the participation of 18 public school divisions and 12 private/independent schools in Manitoba. The Legislative Assembly passed the resolution to recognize the program's work and to encourage all parents to take their children for regular eye examinations.

Minister Cox 'holding back' on Government Notices bill

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial Conservatives will not be moving forward just yet on the Government Notices Modernization Act (Bill 8), which will eliminate the government's legislated requirement to issue legal notices and other notices of public concern in newspapers.

Cathy Cox, River East MLA and Minister for Sport, Culture and Heritage, announced the delay last weekend after backlash from media organizations concerned about government transparency and the ability of the public to access information that's vital to a functioning democracy.

"We are holding back on proclaiming the aspects of Bill 8 that pertain to government notices in newspapers, which means that public notices will continue to be printed," said Cox during the Manitoba Community Newspapers Association's 99th Annual Better Newspaper Competition awards banquet April 14 in Winnipeg where she was a guest speaker.

Cox did not say whether the government will axe the bill or amend it, leaving open the possibility that it could be passed at a later date.

Introduced by Cox, Bill 8 received first reading in the legislature on Dec. 4, 2017, and gave rise to concerns that it will shield the government from scrutiny and make information about its doings difficult to find.

Manitoba Community Newspapers Association president Ken Waddell released a statement last month saying the association "wants to make it perfectly clear that by doing away with requirements to publish government notices in newspapers, the Progressive Conservative government of Premier Brian Pallister will make it even more difficult for Manitobans to monitor its activities and business."

If passed as is, the bill will affect 24 existing pieces of legislation, such as the Environment Act, the Endangered Species and Ecosystems Act, The Corporations Act, the Municipal Board Act and the Cooperatives Act, all of which make it mandatory for the government to publish notices in newspapers.

The public and the media would have to consult a digital-only version of the Manitoba Gazette, which publishes legal and government notices on a weekly basis. The Gazette is accessible only through a subscription fee, but Cox's bill would make it free of charge.

The government's goal is to "modernize communications technology," said Cox, and it will be looking at alternative ways of delivering information.

"We're working on an email subscription option where a weekly round-up of notices can go directly into your email box," she said. "Going forward, we will monitor the roll-out of the free online Gazette. And, importantly, we look forward to hearing feedback from Manitobans on modernization efforts."

In addition to removing legislated requirements to publish notices in newspapers, Bill 8 has an opt-out clause, making it an "option" to publish a notice in the Gazette.

"Several requirements to publish a notice or document in a newspaper are replaced with the requirement or option of publishing it in The Manitoba Gazette," states the bill. It's not clear what types of notices will be exempt.

Also of concern is the Planning Amendment Act (Bill 19), introduced March 19 by Gimli MLA and Municipal Relations Minister Jeff Wharton.



Cathy Cox, Minister for Sport, Culture and Heritage



NDP leader Wab Kinew

Like Cox's bill, Wharton's bill will eliminate notice requirements for appeals concerning large-scale livestock operations and aggregate quarry operations that come before the Municipal Board.

"Notice of a hearing is not required to be published in a newspaper or posted in any location if the notice (a) is posted on a publicly accessible website of the applicable planning district or municipality; and (b) remains posted on the website throughout the 27-day period before the hearing," states the bill.

Although Cox said she and Wharton have had "many conversations" with the both the public and newspapers, she did not indicate whether the government will also "hold back" on Bill 19.

"We've heard from Manitobans how important notices are to them," said Cox. "Manitobans have the right to know about the government's initiatives that affect their lives."

NDP leader Wab Kinew, who was also invited to speak at the MCNA awards gala, said his party has its eye on both bills.

Calling media coverage "critical" and "fundamental to democracy," Kinew stressed the importance of a free press that holds federal, provincial and municipal governments to account.

"And it's also important for people in your community to have a good grip on the facts, and all the cities and towns and First Nations across Manitoba," he said. "As the opposition, we'll be there on bills 8 and 19 and we'll have questions figuring out what [they] exactly mean and ensuring Manitobans can stay informed."

He dismissed the notion that the public can get all the information it needs using select communication platforms, stressing the importance of having the government continue to publish notices in print media.

Price takes on new role as Grahamdale's fire chief

By Jeff Ward

The RM of Grahamdale has a new fire chief after former chief Keegan Russell stepped down last month.

Mike Price, who has been with the fire department for 18 years, said that he and a few others expressed interest in taking over the fire chief role once Russell let his crew know of his intentions.

Russell explained that his day job driving a truck, sometimes 12 to 16 hours a day, keeps him away from the community and makes being available difficult. Russell said that he

didn't want the department to suffer because he can't be in town as often and decided to step down. Russell will remain on the fire department and will help Price transition into his new role. Price, who started on the fire department when he was 18, said that Russell is helping him with anything he needs to know for the job.

"With his help, the transition will be a lot easier," said Price.

"We just got a new jaws of life last fall. That was on [Russell's] hit list that he wanted to get done and now we can start on a new project, but we're

not sure what that is yet. It could be working on a newer tac truck that could haul more water."

Price said that his responsibilities will change a little bit. With his new role, he'll be more in control of the scene and directing the team rather than being in the action. He said that is something he will miss as he likes being the person running towards the fire. In situations where the department is short of help, he will provide backup.

Russell, who was the fire chief for eight years, said that sometimes hav-

ing someone new in that role is a good thing.

"I'm sure a lot of those older members have ideas on what they want to see and this is the right time for that. I appreciate Mikey stepping up," Russell said.

The Grahamdale Fire Department has 15 regular members that Price hopes to see maintained as an optimal amount. He said that there will be some retirements soon and he would like to see some new blood on the team to help transition those retiring members out.

Evergreen School Division comes together for Humboldt survivors

By Patricia Barrett

Staff and students at schools throughout the Evergreen School Division relayed messages of support to the families and survivors of the Humboldt Broncos bus crash and have raised money to help Broncos team members injured in the tragedy.

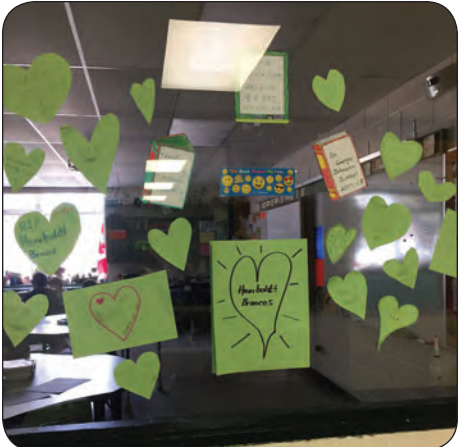
Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League team the Humboldt Broncos were en route to a playoff game when their bus collided with a transport truck near Tisdale, Sask., on April 6. Sixteen people died in the crash, including players aged 16 to 21 years, the coach, assistant coach, athletic therapist, the bus driver and radio station personnel. A GoFundMe campaign has raised over \$11.6 million to date.



SSES message of support.



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF EVERGREEN SCHOOL DIVISION
Riverton Early Middle School



Dr. George Johnson Middle School.



Arborg Collegiate



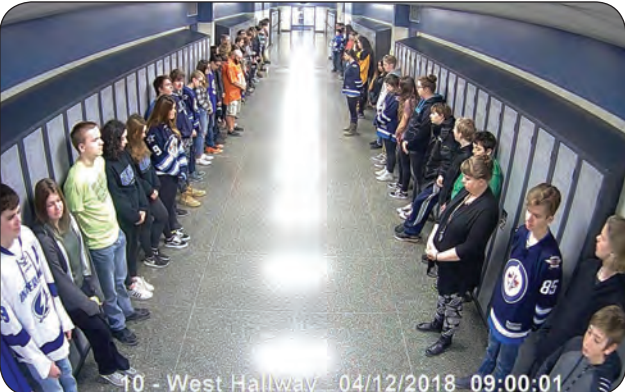
Arborg Early Middle School



Riverton Collegiate



Beverley Braga's Room 7 students at Winnipeg Beach School.



Gimli High School



Riverton Collegiate

Interlake Relay for Life calling for teams and volunteers

By Patricia Barrett

The Interlake Relay for Life committee is gearing up for the Canadian Cancer Society's annual fundraising memorial walk and is calling for teams and volunteers to sign up.

Relay for Life is a 12-hour community event that remembers family members and friends who've lost their battle with the disease and celebrates and supports cancer survivors.

"Our committee has been working hard to make Relay a big success in 2018," said prostate cancer survivor Bill Martin, who's once again part of the organizing committee.

The committee is in the process of revising its program to add more events, which will include a band, inflatables for the kids, games, face painting, a 50-50 draw, poker derby and an honour guard to salute survivors. A candlelight walk will take place during the last lap of the relay.

The committee is holding an Open House at the Winnipeg Beach Community Centre on Monday, April 23 from 7 to 8 p.m., and a pancake breakfast in Gimli on Saturday, May 5.

The relay is scheduled for June 16 in Winnipeg Beach.

"We are actively looking for more teams and volunteers and survivors to participate," said Martin.

To register for the relay or to volunteer, call chairperson Betty Loewen at 204-589-5835 or Bill Martin at 204-276-2899.



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Student action group organizes special event to inspire fellow students

By Jeff Ward

Members of the Students Taking Action at Ashern Central School (STA-AACS) group spearheaded the planning of an event at their school last week called Live Different in which multiple speakers discussed how they got through difficult parts of their lives.

The speakers — Austin Gauthier, Makenna Mix, Will Leone, Jaymi Weishar, Rasec Ortega, John Htun and Katrina McPherson — discussed a variety of topics last Thursday.

Gauthier detailed his difficulties fitting in with others and discussed how money and material possessions do not dictate a person's worth. Ortega shared how he, at one point in his youth, believed he would turn out to be a nobody and talked about his struggles with depression.

The common thread from all stories was perseverance. Grade 9 students Casey Keeley and Faith Nickel are two members of the STAAACS group who worked to organize the event. Live

Different members travel the country by bus to visit dozens of schools, singing, playing videos and spreading a message similar to that of We Day — inspiring youth.

"It's kind of like We Day but smaller. [The speakers] actually make contact with you," said Nickel.

Jennifer Ellis is one of the teachers involved in the STAAACS program at the school. She said that she witnessed the Live Different event at a school she worked at previously in Thompson. She said that while she floated the idea of having them visit here, the students bore the brunt of the work and were the ones to reach out to the organization via email. Students raised \$700 through a home-made cookie dough sale to donate to the organization.

"Every time you go to one of those things, you come back with something. At We Day, you always learn something about yourself or someone else," said Keeley.

Nickel added that the whole school



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER ELLIS
STAAACS group members, from left, Elizabeth Sinclair, Mrs. Ellis, Mr. Ellis, Casey Keeley, Sam Jones, and Faith Nickel. Also pictured, Live Different members, Austin Gauthier, Makenna Mix, Will Leone, Jaymi Weishar, Rasec Ortega, John Htun and Katrina McPherson.

was invited to the presentation and every student will take away something different from it. And while it may not inspire everyone equally, she said she hopes that these types of stories will reach someone.

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Express wins premier awards at community newspaper competition

By Lindsey Enns

The *Express Weekly News* earned two awards in the premier category during this year's Manitoba Community Newspaper Association's (MCNA) Better Newspapers Competition.

The awards were handed out at the 99th annual awards banquet at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg last Saturday evening.

The *Express Weekly News* won first place in Best Advertisement for a piece done by Sandra Barnes and third place for Best First Nations Coverage by reporter Patricia Barrett.

The annual competition recognizes the best community journalism has to offer from the MCNA's 49 member weekly community newspapers across the province.

In the 10,000 and over circulation category, the *Express's* sister newspaper the *Selkirk Record* received first place for Best in Class, Best Layout and Design, and took home first place for Best Front Page. Photographer Robert E. Wilson also won first place for Best Sports Photo.

The *Winkler Morden Voice*, received a second place award for Best in Class and third for Best Front Page in the 10,000+ circulation category. Reporter Lorne Stelmach clinched first in the Best Tourism Story for his piece on the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre's new interactive app. Also honoured



EXPRESS PHOTO BY HALEY CVAR

Members of the *Express Weekly News*, *Selkirk Record*, the *Winkler Morden Voice* and the *Stonewall Teulon Tribune* hold up their awards following the Manitoba Community Newspaper Association's 99th annual Better Newspapers Competition at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg last Saturday. This year the locally owned publishing company took home a total of 18 awards.

was Peter Cantelon, who was named Best Columnist for the third year in a row, and photographer Rick Hiebert, who won second place for Best Sports Photo for a shot he snapped at the Miami Fair and Rodeo and came in third overall in the Photographer of the Year category.

The *Stonewall Tribune* received third place for Best Layout and Design, second for Best Front Page in its class, and third for Best Agricultural Section. *Tribune* reporter Jennifer McFee received first place in the Arts and Culture Story category and third in the Best Column or Feature Article

on a Business Topic, while Jo-Anne Procter won third place for Best Spot News Photo.

Publisher and Interlake Graphics owner Lana Meier said winning these awards is a huge honour for our staff.

"The staff at the *Express Weekly News* work extremely hard week in and week out bringing the most up to date and relevant news as possible. I am proud of the work and the papers we publish," Meier said. "The awards recognize the hard work and professionalism of the newspaper industry." The *Express* would like to thank all of our staff members for their hard work and dedication as well as our readers and local advertisers for their ongoing support.

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Correction

In the story "Farmers Hall near Gimli to showcase vintage wedding dresses" in the April 5 edition of the *Express Weekly News*, we accidentally transposed two digits of Elaine Klym's (and the Farmers Hall) phone number. The correct phone number is 204-296-0540. We apologize for the error. The vintage wedding show takes place May 27. Please call Elaine at the above number for tickets or visit Tergesen's General Store or Johnson's clothing store in Gimli.

Sliding to the top at Vidir Vertical Storage Solutions

By Patricia Barrett

There are a number of things Vidir Vertical Storage Solutions does exceptionally well, but the company's main claim to fame lies in the design and manufacturing of automated storage units which use vertical space that often goes to waste in manufacturing plants, large retail outlets and warehouses.

At the press of a button, built-in shelves rotate and raise and lower, making the loading and retrieval of just about any item you need to store – from paint cans and carpeting to tires and cartoon character heads – a snap.

"Typically, it's always been static racking that people use," said executive assistant Carissa Rempel, who took the Express on a tour of the Vidir complex April 4. "With our machines you don't have to lift anything off the ground and there's no risk of stuff falling. If you want a specific shelf, you program it into the computer and it comes down onto a forklift. Nobody's having to lift anything. It's a safety feature."

On first sight, you might mistake the 60,000-square-foot Vidir complex for a sprawling farm operation given the fact it's surrounded by vast fields smack-dab in the heart of Bifrost-Ri-

verton farm country. Located about 18 kilometres north of Arborg near the hamlet of Vidir, the company started off with farmers' needs in mind, but within the space of a decade the company branched out and is now the pre-eminent North American manufacturer of automated vertical storage units.

Referred to by staff as simply the "machines," the storage units were the brainchild of company founder Willie Dueck, who established what was known as Vidir Machine in 1979.

"My grandfather started it as a machine shop. It was one little building

on his farmyard here to help farmers in the area. At that time they only had the manufacturers to go to for help with fixing their farm machines," said Carissa. "But then he started realizing they – and even himself – had storage needs."

In 1986 the company really took off after Carissa's uncles asked Willie to come up with a way to maximize square

footage and efficiently store carpeting they were selling at their then Arborg-based business, Dueck Builder Mart.

The company currently employs about 90 people at the Vidir site and another 40 at a 20,000-square-foot complex in the town of Teulon. The Teulon site has been in operation since about 2007 and is currently un-

"MY GRANDFATHER STARTED IT AS A MACHINE SHOP. IT WAS ONE LITTLE BUILDING ON HIS FARMYARD HERE TO HELP FARMERS IN THE AREA."



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF VIDIR VERTICAL STORAGE SOLUTIONS
A painter powder coats one of the custom-ordered units.

dergoing renovations.

Vidir manufactures several standard or built-to-fit automated machines that range from about 8 to 30 feet high. They include a shelving carousel for storing parts used in manufacturing facilities, tire and bike carousels, carpet, wire and textile carousels, a garment carousel and bed lifts for hospitals.

"A lot of hospitals have to keep a certain number of extra beds in the area,

but they don't have room. So a lot of times they were piling up in the hallways, which was a hazard and not efficient," said Carissa. "So we designed a bed lift which stacks the beds."

Vidir's machines are now a fixture in major retailers such as Canadian Tire, Walmart, Home Depot and Menards. Companies such as Coach (fashion), Hershey, General Electric, Boeing and

Continued on page 16



Vidir's robotic welder allows for precision welds.



The tire carousel is used by major retailers and the U.S. military.

> VIDIR SOLUTIONS, FROM PG. 15

SpaceX are also customers. Vidir has even caught the eye of the U.S. military, which uses its tire carousels on air force bases, and Walt Disney.

"We have a paint carousel at Disney and a machine that stores the costume heads, like Mickey Mouse's heads," said Carissa.

And there's virtually no spot on the globe Vidir hasn't touched, judging by the colourful pins stuck into large world maps decorating the hallways outside the engineering, design and sales departments.

Aside from Canada and the U.S., Vidir's machines can be found in 40 countries, including Mexico, Iceland, Ireland, Australia, China, Saudi Arabia and Israel, and in countries in regions such as Europe, Central America and the Caribbean.

"We have someone who works for us in Santiago, Chile," said Stan Plett, who's worked in sales for 21 years. "He looks after our South American markets. We've got machines in Argentina, Peru, Colombia and Brazil."

The company's main competitors are centred in Europe, which has struggled with space issues for decades, said general manager Ernest Rempel, who took the Express through the plant where staff were cutting sheet metal, making parts, welding, wiring, painting and packaging orders.

"There are companies doing things that are similar, but not quite like this. We've carved out a niche with our customization," he said. "We can tweak things and we're able to customize a little more uniquely for our customers."

It's not uncommon for staff to come up with ideas about how to solve their own workplace storage needs. They've maximized floor space and improved their workflow and safety at the same time. They built, for instance, an automated loader that lifts and sends heavy pieces of sheet metal through a laser cutter. The loader has now become one of Vidir's product lines.

"What we find in the Interlake are people that love to do this innovative

sort of thing. And why not? They don't have to load the laser by hand now and it saves their backs," said Ernest. "It's all designed and built in-house with the expertise we have here."

To the best of his knowledge, Ernest said Vidir is the only Manitoba manufacturer that meets a U.S. welding standard for seismic zones.

The final step in the manufacturing process is painting the parts in whatever colour the customer wants, then curing them with heat. Although Vidir uses a dust paint containing no toxic materials, Ernest said staff wear protective masks to keep the dust out.

Unlike IKEA, which sells products its customers have to put together, Vidir sends out an assembly team from its service warehouse in Pennsylvania to a customer's facility anywhere in the world to put the machines together and test their operation.

To ensure the company's – and its employees' – success, Vidir provides training to those who don't have all the required skill sets. And those who express an interest in working in another part of the plant will be trained on the job.

"None of this is possible without our people," said Ernest. "We were founded on having very capable people. Willie did a great job ensuring great people worked here, and we're still successful today because of the abilities of all our staff."

The only things hampering the smooth-running operation are provincial roads 326 and 233 leading to and from the plant. Although part of 326 is paved, there are seasonal weight restrictions on it (as well as on 233) because the road gets too soft. And the remaining route is gravel, which becomes rutted and dusty. The dust coats the trucks and the product. For years, successive provincial governments have discussed paving 326.

"We need that paved road. It is such a huge problem for us. Right now road restrictions are on and we can't even take the two highways that are here. We



The Vidir Pan Carousel has rotating shelves and is used to organize small parts. Through a computerized system, the shelf you want swings around with the items. The system also tracks when parts are added or removed from a shelf.

have to travel on municipal roads all the way to 68 highway," said Vidir president Sid Dueck, who's been with the company since its inception and co-owns and manages it with his brother-in-law Peter Dueck. "There's about 10 miles to do. And they'd have to re-do the pavement because it isn't up to snuff because of the poor base."

Two miles of road to the company's Teulon plant were paved by that municipality, and that prompted management's decision to expand its operation there.

"We had bought the Teulon building as an expansion facility and hadn't done a lot of expansion," said Carissa, who's currently overseeing the renovations. "But now with the paved road, we can really utilize that facility."

During its 2016 election campaign, the Conservatives promised to pave PR 326. The Department of Infrastructure did not respond to several Express requests for information about the status of the promised project.

Even though travel to and from work may be a bit dusty for employees, the perks of working at Vidir seemingly outweigh that. Carissa

said the company offers higher than average wages compared to Winnipeg and other Canadian cities, generous benefits and pensions, and flex-hours for people facing challenging personal situations.

After analyzing Statistics Canada and other manufacturing data, Carissa said Vidir pays 25 per cent more for an assembly position than Winnipeg, and 13 per cent higher than Edmonton and Calgary, the highest paid locations for that position across Canada. "A position as an industrial painter at Vidir gets you a 28 per cent higher salary than the same position in Winnipeg, and 14 per cent higher than Calgary, which is the next highest paying city."

But providing staff with a quality of life is paramount.

"We want people to have their weekends and evenings off, and often in the city you don't get those options," she said. "You can live in a place like Arborg where you don't have to fight traffic, noise and light pollution and your rent or housing costs are much lower. You've got the lake in your backyard and hunting and fishing. It's important to give people a real quality of life."

Coldwell renews special service plan for garbage pickup

By Jeff Ward

The RM of Coldwell renewed their bylaw setting the rates for garbage pickup in the town of Lundar and rural areas with no change in the cost of the service.

Coldwell CAO Nicole Christensen explained that the structure of the bylaw hasn't been changed and is the exact same as the previous year.

Residents can expect to see the same amount as they did last year for garbage and recycling pickup.

The per-parcel rate for a single dwelling will be \$190 to \$200 per year for the next three years, until the bylaw is reviewed again. Christensen said that this year's price is \$190, and the range is to ensure that the RM has breathing room if their expenses

go up. Christensen said seven residents attended the April 6 meeting to ask questions of council about the levy. The discussion ranged from why the rates are what they are and if council had considered restructuring it and providing the service in a difference manner.

The bylaw states that the actual costs for garbage pickup in 2017

was \$155,480. The estimated costs for 2018 is \$150,100. The costs for 2019 and 2020 are estimated to be \$154,050 and \$158,000 respectively.

All residents are allowed two bags of garbage pickup per week. Additional garbage tags can be purchased for \$3 per bag.

Dreams can come true

Teams encouraged to register for River City Dragon Boat Festival on June 1 and 2 in support of Dream Factory

By Jennifer McFee

Dreams really can come true through the Dream Factory, which gives sick kids a reason to smile.

The Manitoba-based charitable organization fulfills dreams for kids who are afflicted with life-threatening illnesses.

And now even more children will have the chance to become a Dream Kid since The Dream Factory is the new charitable partner of Manitoba Paddling Association for its Dragon Boat Festivals.

Howard Koks, executive director of The Dream Factory, is pleased with the new partnership.

"It's very exciting and we're doing more and more dreams, so the chance to work with another non-profit to raise more money and make more dreams come true is really something special. It's quite amazing," he said.

"It was just one of those things that felt right and it was just meant to be. It's working great."

The Dream Factory has been growing very quickly over the last few years, Koks added.

"We did 36 dreams last year and our previous record was 31, which was in 2016. Five or six years ago, we were doing 20 to 22 dreams, so we've gone through a lot of growth in the last few years. We're getting more requests for dreams and our policy is to never say no to a qualified kid — and we never have said no and we have no plans to," he said.

"We have more requests but we always have met them. Getting the Dragon Boats on our side will help us raise money for those dreams and get more people involved. It's coming together very nicely."

Candace Schellenberg knows first hand how important these dreams can be to the kids and their families. Her three-year-old daughter, Brenna, has brain cancer and is currently in remission.

At the end of January, their family was able to take a break from the stress and go to Disney World, with everything arranged and paid for through The Dream Factory.

"You truly get the red carpet treatment. They pull out every stop and cover every base and think of every little thing," Schellenberg said.

"It is just incredible. You're treated like royalty and nothing is overlooked or not covered."

Young Brenna was diagnosed on July 28, 2016, sending the family on an emotional roller-coaster ride for the next year and a half.

"We've experienced every emotion, every feeling. We were told we weren't going to be leaving the hospital because her cancer was growing so quickly and was taking over," Schellenberg said.

"Then there were days she was doing really well and they thought she had pneumonia. You would think you were in the clear and things were going well and then all of a sudden something else would pop up and you were scared and terrified and worried again."

But after Brenna arrived at Disney World, along with her parents Candace and Jason and siblings Keira and Caleb, she had the chance to feel like a carefree kid again.



Brenna Schellenberg has brain cancer and is currently in remission.



A group hug with Mickey Mouse.

"There's something about being on that trip that just reunited us as a family and made us feel whole again. Money can't buy that," Schellenberg said, adding that the kids don't even have to wait in line for anything.

"They provided our own little villa for the family so we felt at home and had our own space. Brenna is still on maintenance chemo, so sometimes she's still down and out from her medications. So Jason could take the big two kids and I could stay home with Brenna or vice versa."

When Brenna's illness began, the family was living in Selkirk. Since then, they've moved to St. Andrews. Brenna's grandma, Crystal Braybrook, lives in Balmoral, so the impact is far-reaching.

"We were on call waiting for something bad to happen so it really, really affects the family," Schellenberg said. "It's really hard as a family going



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Brenna, right, and her siblings Keira, left, and Caleb enjoyed a trip to Disney World through The Dream Factory.



The Dream Factory is the new charitable partner of Manitoba Paddling Association for its Dragon Boat Festivals.

through that, so those special things that create positive memories are absolutely priceless."

The Disney trip brought some relief from the ongoing stress and brightened their children's eyes again.

"We were just in awe of the magic that was happening as they were seeing their favourite characters and going on rides that you could only dream of. To watch them experience that and their eyes light up, it makes your life as a parent to see them so happy," Schellenberg said. "It was a trip of a lifetime and memories that we will keep with us for the rest of our lives. We are very grateful."

Individuals, groups and companies are encouraged to participate in the River City Dragon Boat Festival on June 1 and 2, which will raise funds for The Dream Factory.

For more information, visit www.dreamdragonboat.ca or to register a team, contact Dave McKnight at dave@thedreamfactory.ca.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Peguis wins KJHL title for third consecutive season

By Brian Bowman

For the third consecutive year, the Peguis Juniors are the Keystone Junior Hockey League champions.

Peguis completed the hat trick after downing the St. Malo Warriors 4-3 in Game 5 of their best-of-seven league final on April 11.

The final three games of the series finished with identical 4-3 scores.

"There were some close games," said Juniors' head coach Kevin Monkman. "We had a great crowd (for Game 5), I think it was our biggest gate ever, and it's always good to win at home."

"Last year, was the first time ever that they won at home."

Game 5 saw Peguis trail 3-0 just 10:51 into the game but the Juniors battled back with four unanswered goals.

"We were ready before the game started but they were beating us to the puck," Monkman recalled. "They got the three quick ones but we called timeout and regrouped."

St. Malo's Robert Guimond struck on the power play for a 1-0 lead and then Dustin Wiebe and Haden Hildebrand tallied.

The Warriors' third goal was a fluky one that went off a skate and in.

"I thought the only time that they had chances was when they had the power play," Monkman said.

Keegan Daniels-Webb started Peguis' comeback with a shorthanded goal at 15:10 of the first period. Storm Swan and Christian Cochrane, with a power-play goal, tied the score at 3-3 in the second period.

Cochrane then scored the game winner at 3:57 of the third period.

Luke Penner made 31 saves for the win.

St. Malo was 1-for-10 with the man advantage while Peguis was 1-for-4.

The three straight league titles by the Juniors is an impressive accomplishment.

"I have always thought of Peguis as being probably one of the top organi-



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY BRETT MITCHELL

The Peguis Juniors won their third consecutive Keystone Junior Hockey League championship on April 11 at home in front of one of their largest crowds.

zations in hockey altogether with all of the leagues," said Monkman. "The way that they treat their players is pretty amazing."

Both Peguis and St. Malo will now advance to the Keystone Cup, which begins today and continues through Sunday in Thunder Bay.

The two other teams in the tournament feature the host Thunder Bay Northern Hawks and Thunder Bay Fighting Walleye.

Peguis has a real good chance at winning the Keystone Cup this year under the new format.

"We have a real strong team this year," Monkman said. "I'm not sure what the Ontario teams have to offer but I know St. Malo has a good team as well this year, too."

"It should be a good tournament."

The Juniors will play the Fighting Walleye today at 2:30 p.m. and then the Northern Hawks Friday at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, Peguis will wrap up its three-game round robin against St.



Christian Cochrane, middle, celebrates his game-winning goal with teammates.

Malo on Saturday at 8 a.m.

In such a short tournament, winning early is a key to reaching the gold-medal game.

"Every win and every game is important," Monkman said. "Getting

that first win out of the way, getting that first period out of the way, I think will be huge for the guys to build some confidence."

Continued on page 19



sports & recreation

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> KJHL TITLE, FROM PG. 18



Storm Swan scored a power-play goal in the second period.



Keevan Daniels-Webb, pictured with his family, started Peguis' comeback with a short-handed goal.

MJHL honours Broncos

Story courtesy of the MJHL

The Humboldt Broncos were honoured prior to the resumption of the Turnbull Cup final last Thursday in Virden before the game between the Steinbach Pistons and Oil Capitals.

"Canada's hockey community continues to honour the Humboldt Broncos and the unimaginable pain the organization is now dealing with in the wake of the horrific collision between their team bus and a semi-trailer unit," said MJHL commissioner Kim Davis on the league's website.

"While the MJHL and SJHL have had an intense rivalry on the ice, there has always been a mutual respect shared between both leagues. Now is a time for the hockey community to come together and pay our respects."

The pre-game ceremony began with the lights dimmed when both teams skated onto the ice and lined up on their respective bluelines.

Players on both teams wore yellow laces and used yellow and green sock tape in honour of the Broncos, whose team colours are green and gold.

Both the Pistons and Oil Capitals wore the name bar "Broncos".

On-ice officials also wore yellow skate laces.

Two minor hockey teams from Virden also skated onto the ice, with one team wearing jerseys from a Steinbach minor hockey team as a show of unity within the hockey community.

Also participating in the pre-game ceremony was a billet family from both Virden and Steinbach, in addition to first-responders from Virden.

Fans were able to make a donation to the Broncos and received a memorial green ribbon. On sale for fans were special commemorative 'Humboldt Strong' T-shirts, with the proceeds going to assist the Bronco organization and families affected by the tragic bus crash.

Through the various fundraising efforts \$18,135.20 was raised.

Game 3 in Steinbach on Saturday also featured a similar pre-game ceremony with another \$5,000 raised for Humboldt, raising the total to over \$23,000.

Pistons, Oil Capitals tied in MJHL final

Staff

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League final is now down to a best-of-three series.

Steinbach evened the best-of-seven series at two wins apiece after a 4-0 road victory Monday evening in Virden.

Mark Taraschuk scored midway in the first period and then Darby Gula and Austin Heidemann tallied in the middle frame.

Brady Tatro closed out the scoring in the third.

Matthew Thiessen made 23 saves for the shutout.

The Pistons won Game 3 by a 5-3 score last Saturday in Steinbach.

Bradley Schoonbaert led Steinbach with two goals and an assist while Tristan Culleton, Daniel McKittrick and Drew Worrada also tallied.

Worrada finished the game with three points.

Justin Lee, Graeme Hore and Kirklan Lycar replied for Virden.

The Oil Capitals took a 2-0 series lead after defeating Steinbach 2-1 and 4-3.

Game 5 is set for Thursday in Steinbach while Game 6 will be played Saturday in Virden.

If necessary, Game 7 will go Monday in Steinbach.

All three games will start at 7:30 p.m.

Ashern accepted into Interlake Minor Baseball league

By Jeff Ward

After a strong showing of support last year, the newly revamped Ashern Minor Baseball was accepted into the Interlake Minor Baseball league last week.

Organizer Tyler Geisler said last year served as an experiment to see if there was any interest in playing organized ball in the area and to see what kind of staying power it would have the following year. Geisler explained that last year he got far more players than he had anticipated with 41 coming out to registration day with 35 signing up to play on three teams in three age groups.

Geisler approached Interlake Minor Baseball about joining the league and last week. Ashern Minor Baseball was

voted into the league unanimously.

"It felt really good to see them bring us in and I think we have a strong group of people who want to play," said Geisler.

"Baseball is very accessible for parents and it's a great summer sport. It only costs \$10 to register for the season so it's a low cost as well."

Geisler said that this season the Ashern teams will play against teams from other areas of the Interlake but they will not be ranked games. Geisler requested that they only play exhibition games so that the Ashern players, who are still learning the game, can get their feet wet.

Baseball is a complicated game with rules that can seem obtuse. The infield fly rule, when to run after the ball is

hit, what constitutes a forced out and many other concepts that are tough to learn in a season.

"We also don't want to drop kids into situations where they have to pitch to each other either without learning how to do so. I think it's just better for our players if we have another year of games where they can still learn the game and have fun," said Geisler.

Registration for this season is already underway with 30 players signed up. The first practice will be April 24 at the Ashern Central School gym and parents can bring unregistered kids to that practice and still make the team.

For more information on how to register, you can contact Tyler Geisler at 204-314-0087.

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Bifrost Riverton Seniors Resource Council Inc. EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

PART TIME COOK POSITION

Under the Direction of the Resource Coordinator, the successful applicant will be responsible for the preparation, cooking and serving of nutritious meals for seniors and persons with disabilities as part of a Congregate Meal Program and Supportive Housing Dining Program at the Icelandic River Lodge in Riverton, Manitoba.

Qualifications:

- Successful Completion of Safe Food Handlers Course
- Complete a Criminal Record Check & Adult Abuse Registry Check
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- Knowledge and understanding of Canada's Food Guide
- Experience in Safe Food Preparation
- Punctual and Reliable
- Effective Communication Skills
- Ability to work independently as well as with a group
- Able to organize volunteers, create supply orders, and maintain records of various information

Interested applicants are invited to submit a written application by May 11, 2018 to:

Bifrost Riverton Seniors Resource Council Inc.

Attn. Jennifer Kehler
PO Box 206 Riverton, MB R0C 2R0 or drop off your application at the Riverton Community Health Center, or email to brseniorsresource@gmail.com

For more information, please phone Jennifer at 204-378-3103 or 204-378-0506

INSTRUCTORS, PRACTICAL NURSING

Peguis, Manitoba

Competition # 59-17/18

Part-Time Term or Casual

Salary: \$30.53 to \$45.35 per hour

(Educational supplement: Masters \$145/hour, PHD \$2.89/hour)

Assiniboine Community College strives to create Exceptional Learning Experiences for our students. We place a high priority on student success and are committed to building an environment that creates and supports a high level of student engagement. We are committed to contributing to First Nation, Metis and Inuit prosperity by having the highest college participation rate in the province.

Be Passionate. You will be an engaging and forward-thinking Instructor, ready to share your passion and knowledge of the nursing profession with our Peguis students in our Practical Nursing program. Enthusiasm that can be applied to classroom management, student evaluation, academic advising and related administrative duties will be essential.

Take Initiative. We are looking for someone who loves to communicate, wants to share their knowledge and is committed to creating exceptional learning experiences for our students. With your relevant post-secondary nursing education and significant industry experience you will be able to contribute to an unparalleled student experience for our nursing students. Teaching experience in an adult environment is highly desirable, experience using Moodle an asset.

Deliver Results. In order to deliver quality programming, you will need to possess highly developed communication skills, strong organizational skills, and be able to work effectively as part of the Practical Nursing team. You must be registered with CRNM, CRPNM or CLPNM. Well-developed technical skills, particularly in Microsoft Word, are essential.

If you are up to the challenge of creating a truly remarkable experience for our Peguis students and the community then we look forward to your application.

This competition will remain open until filled.

Assiniboine Community College campuses are located on traditional territories of treaty No.1 and Treaty No.2, the shared traditional lands of Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene and Anishinabek/Ojibwe peoples, and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

If you are interested in this career opportunity, please forward your resume and cover letter to:

Assiniboine Community College
c/o Human Resources
1430 Victoria Avenue East,
Brandon, Manitoba R7A 2A9
Fax 204.725.8736 or
Email humanresources@assiniboine.net

We thank you for your interest. Those selected for further consideration will be contacted.



PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Practical Nursing Program

Peguis, Manitoba, Part-time, Term

Competition # 58-17/18

Salary: \$38.02 to \$48.16 hourly

Education Administration Consultant

Assiniboine Community College strives to create Exceptional Learning Experiences for its students. The college places a high priority on student success and is committed to building an environment that creates and supports a high level of student engagement. We are committed to contributing to First Nation, Metis and Inuit prosperity by having the highest college participation rate in the province.

Be Passionate. With your years of diverse experience in the nursing profession, you will bring passion about nursing education; ensuring student success and engagement in the Practical Nursing program. You will coordinate the delivery of the practical nursing program Peguis that will be delivered through contract training. Coordination responsibilities will include providing leadership on program delivery, curriculum content, practicum coordination, student policies, report writing and enrolment. You will also liaise with industry, indigenous community representatives as well as funding agencies.

Take Initiative. You are independent and self-motivated for this role and your energetic attitude and collaborative spirit will build the groundwork for success. In addition, you possess the experience, drive, and determination to further our relations with our Indigenous partners.

Deliver Results. You have the drive and determination to ensure the successful delivery of our Practical Nursing programming. To deliver quality results, you must be current with the health industry in Manitoba and be able to establish collaborative relationships. You have strong interpersonal communication, public relation and written communication skills and value being part of a dynamic team and an ambassador for the college in the larger community. If you subscribe to the values above, have relevant education/ training, hold an active and relevant nursing credential and have several years of current industry experience, we want to hear from you.

This competition will remain open until filled.

Assiniboine Community College campuses are located on traditional territories of treaty No.1 and Treaty No.2, the shared traditional lands of Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene and Anishinabek/Ojibwe peoples, and the homeland of the Metis Nation.

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Fax 204.725.8736 or
Email humanresources@assiniboine.net

We thank you for your interest. Those selected for further consideration will be contacted.



Executive Administrative Assistant

Central Interlake Chamber of Commerce Inc. is looking for an experienced

Executive Administrative Assistant

to assist in the following:

- Managing of our organization;
- Scheduling meetings and events;
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Confidentiality, accuracy and attention to detail are important qualifications for this position, as well as the ability to communicate clearly via social media and with members. The ideal candidate for this position is a skilled multitasker, who is reliable and is committed to consistently meeting deadlines. Experience with computers and bookkeeping systems preferred.

Part-time hours to approximately 32 hours per month, with one evening a month. Starting rate of pay dependent on work experience and knowledge.

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TOWN OF ARBORG PUBLIC NOTICE 2018 Financial Plan

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 162(2) of *The Municipal Act* that the Council of the Town of Arborg shall hold a Public Hearing to present the Financial Plan for the fiscal year 2018 on:

Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 10:00 A.M.
Town of Arborg Municipal Office
337 River Road Arborg, MB

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested person to make representation, ask questions or register an objection in respect to the Town of Arborg's 2018 Financial Plan.

Copies of the 2018 Financial Plan are available for review at the Town Office during regular office hours.

Dated this 19th day of April, 2018.

Lorraine Bardarson, CMMA
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Arborg



Rural Municipality of
GRAHAMDALE
www.Grahamdale.ca

JOB POSTING – Economic Development Officer

The Rural Municipality (RM) of Grahamdale has an opening for a part-time Economic Development Officer.

The R.M. is an agricultural area with emerging tourism development opportunities. Located two and a half hours north of Winnipeg on PTH #6, the 1350-person population is disbursed throughout a number of small hamlets and the rural area.

The Economic Development Officer (EDO) reports directly to the Chief Administrative Officer, and indirectly to the Community Development Corporation. The EDO is responsible for facilitating community and economic development planning and initiatives; identifying and fostering economic development opportunities; securing funding for economic development activities and programs; assisting local organizations, businesses and individuals with establishing economic development plans and projects; and promoting the community in order to expand economic development opportunities.

The ideal applicant will have a combination of:
Personal characteristics:

- Strong inter-personal and communications skills
- Ability to function well in a small team environment
- Ability to take direction and work with a volunteer based organization
- Positive and opportunity focused self-starter

Education and/or Experience (an asset, but not required):

- Community Economic Development diploma or degree
- Business Development training or experience
- Municipal or business administration

Demonstrated Core Competencies:

- Understanding of the purpose, functions and structures of Community Economic Development
- Understanding of data analysis & how the local economy works
- Understanding of CED Strategies & suitability to the community
- Ability to facilitate, develop, manage and monitor strategic plans
- Ability to develop & implement communications plans
- Ability to facilitate, develop, manage and monitor community marketing plans
- Ability to identify to plan, implement, manage & evaluate projects

Hours:

The position is based on part time hours each week, to be determined. Limited evening and weekend work is required related to meetings, events, training, conferences. Travel is required throughout the municipality and a valid Class 5 driver's license is required.

Please submit your cover letter and resume to The R.M. of Grahamdale by 4:00 p.m., on Wednesday, May 2, 2018.

By email: rm606@tcmsnet.com

By mail: Attention: Shelly Schwitek
PO Box 160, 23 Government Rd.
Moosehorn MB R0C 2E0

For more information, please visit: www.grahamdale.ca



PUBLIC NOTICE OF VOTERS LIST / VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT VOTER/ and PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

In accordance with Section 36 of *The Municipal Councils and School Boards Election Act* (MCSBEA), Notice is hereby given that a copy of the VOTERS LIST may be revised at:

The Municipal Office at 62 2nd Ave. in the R.M. of Gimli between May 1, 2018 and September 18, 2018 during regular business hours.

At this time an Election Official will be available to update the voters list by:

- (a) adding the names of voters who are entitled to have their names on the list;
- (b) deleting the names of persons who are not entitled to have their names on the list; and
- (c) making such other correction of errors to the list as required.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY: Subsection 21(1)

A person is eligible to have his or her name added to the Voters List if he or she is:

- 1) 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.
Subsection 22(1)

VOTING AS A NON-RESIDENT VOTER: Subsection 22(2)

For municipal elections only, non-resident land-owners are eligible to vote in an election. In order to be eligible, the person must be:

- A Canadian citizen;
- At least 18 years of age on Election Day;
- A registered owner of land in the municipality for at least six months on Election Day.

A maximum of two non-resident property owners, per property, are permitted to vote in a municipal election. Subsection 22 (2). In order to vote, each of these voters must obtain written consent from a majority of the registered land-owners, and file this with the Senior Election Official prior to September 18, 2018. Consent forms can be obtained from the RM of Gimli Municipal Office, and must be presented at the time of voting if they have not been filed by September 18, 2018.

When voting as a non-resident owner, and you have not filed the consent form prior to September 18, 2018, you must bring the consent form as well as proof of ownership to the voting official during voting hours . Ensure you bring proof of ownership with you when voting.

APPLICATION FOR PERSONAL SECURITY PROTECTION: Subsection 34 (3)

A voter may apply in writing to the S.E.O. (at the address / fax number below) no later than Sept. 11, 2018 to have his/her 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.

All changes to the voters list must be completed on or before September 18, 2018.

Dated at; the R.M. of Gimli, in the Province of Manitoba, on April 10, 2018

The next General Election for the R.M. of Gimli takes place on: October 24, 2018.

Maureen Martin Osland
Senior Election Official (S.E.O.) for the R.M. of Gimli
62 2nd Ave.
Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Phone: 204-642-7343
Fax: 204-642-6660
Email: elections@rmgimli.com

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NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

Please be advised that a general municipal election will be held on October 24, 2018.

Prospective municipal election 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 I will be receiving candidate registrations:

For the office of Mayor: From May 1, 2018 to September 18, 2018

For the office of Councillor: From June 30, 2018 to September 18, 2018

at the R.M. of Gimli Office, 62 2nd Ave; Gimli, MB. by appointment with the S.E.O. up to September 18, 2018.

Registration forms are available from the R.M. office or by contacting the S.E.O. at the telephone number listed below. Please call the S.E.O. to arrange an appointment to file these forms.

Dated at the Rural Municipality of Gimli, in the Province of Manitoba, April 10, 2018

Maureen Martin Osland
Senior Election Official (S.E.O.)
R.M. of Gimli
Phone: 204-642-7343
Fax: 204-642-6660
Email: elections@rmgimli.com



RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Rural Municipality of Gimli is accepting proposals for the North Beach Concession Stand

Proposals must include the following information:

- Expected start date
- Expected closing date
- Days and hours of operation
- Previous food services experience
- Types of food to be offered
- Proposed annual rental payment
- Building improvements (if planned)
- Listing of operators equipment

The Agreement will be for a one-year period; with the option to renew for an additional one year period, at Council's discretion.

- Highest or any bid not necessarily accepted
- Local preference will be considered
- Experience in food service preferred
- RM of Gimli business licence required
- Liability Insurance in the amount no less than \$2,000,000 required
- Must hold or obtain a valid Food Handler's Certificate
- Operator is responsible for Utilities

Sealed submissions clearly marked **"Beach Concession"** will be received by the undersigned at the address below until noon on **Thursday, April 26, 2018**
Late submissions will not be accepted.

Rural Municipality of Gimli
62 - 2nd Avenue, PO Box 1246
Gimli, MB R0C 1B0
Attention: Kelly Cosgrove, Assistant CAO

OBITUARY

John Walter Chudd

With immense sadness, the family of Johnny Chudd acknowledge his sudden death in Gimli, April 9, 2018, age 85.

Johnny was predeceased by his wife, Gladys and son Calvin whose far too early deaths were losses from which he never fully recovered. He is deeply mourned and missed by his son Blair, daughter Cheryl Bailey, son-in-law Ross and grandsons Neil (Kym) and Craig (Zoe); Cal's family: granddaughters Chantal (Devon) and great-granddaughters Hayley and Dylann, Kristen (Andreas) and grandson Tanner (Tamara).

Our Dad grew up and lived his entire life in Gimli. He farmed from his early teens, running and then purchasing a dairy operation. Hard work, determination and drive propelled him. Dairy is a 24/7 job and, with cropping and other field work, he truly worked from sun-up to often long past sun-down. Because he worked so hard, he expected those around him to also work hard; that was who he was. He made many friends and had all kinds of connections, and that led him to be asked to manage the Canada Agricultural Employment Services Office in Selkirk, which he did for over 15 years. He always joked that he could quit that job at any time because he still was a full-time farmer. His energy was amazing.

Our home was always a hub for family occasions and daily visits for coffee by neighbours and friends. In our home at any time, there would be at least one live-in hired hand and assorted young cousins who spent summers working on the farm. When we were in our teens, our parents had foreign exchange students from around the world live and work with us and most of them are still "family" who have been back to visit and visited in return by Dad and Mom and us over the years. Dad always made a great impact on these relationships as he was full of knowledge, loved to tell stories about people and places in the area, and was open-hearted and generous.

He had a life-long love of horses, and buying, selling and keeping horses became his "hobby" and business, especially after Mom died and he sold the dairy. He operated his first riding academy in Gimli at age 13 and we grew up with a working team, ponies when we were little, and riding horses later on. He enjoyed his horse business dealings with Amish people in Pennsylvania and Indiana, where he made many long-time friends and associates. He was appreciative of their way of life, to which he could relate having grown up in simpler times himself. He has many friends in the "horse community" in Canada,



making numerous trips to the tracks in Edmonton and elsewhere.

He taught us the importance of being truthful, of caring and of doing one's best. He dealt with many difficult and challenging things throughout his life and had a very strong sense of justice and amazing resilience. He was fiercely loyal once his trust was earned and his memory was acute. He was proud of many deals made on the honour of a simple, firm, handshake. His stories, especially over Sunday Suppers, brought the history of our community to vivid life and there was always much laughter. He was an independent, stubborn, strong, intelligent, tough and loving man with the best laugh ever. His death has left a void in our hearts forever, and we cherish having had him in our lives. He was a really, really good Dad and a much-loved Gpa who grew profoundly in his ability to show and express his love as his life progressed.

Sincere thanks for the care and compassion of Dr. RC Patel and dialysis staff at Selkirk, SOHC and HSC and to EMS.

A celebration of his life will be held at the Waterfront Centre in Gimli, Manitoba at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 21. Condolences, pictures and videos may be left on John's tribute wall at www.gilbartfuneralhome.com.

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



ANNOUNCEMENT

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to extend our sincerest thank you to our friends and family who contributed to our bridal shower. We have been completely overwhelmed by the love and support from the community during such a special time in our lives.

-Love,

Adam Beaton and Lauren Olafson

ANNOUNCEMENT

IN MEMORIUM

Schwitek

In loving memory of
our dear sister and aunty
Dorothy,

who passed away April 30, 2006

There is a bridge of golden memories,
From here to heaven above;
That keeps you very close to us,
It's called the bridge of love.
Your memory is our part;
God has you in His keeping,
We have you in our hearts.

-Lovingly remembered,

Mina, Dody, nieces and nephews

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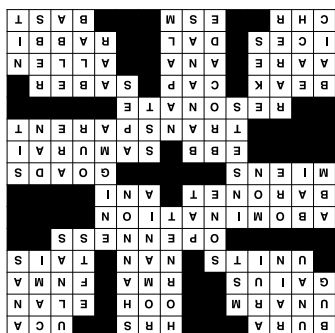
take a break

> GAME

CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Genus of beetles
5. Time units (abbr.)
8. Fiddler crabs
11. Remove weapons from
13. Express delight
14. Energy
15. Roman general
16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
17. Mortgage group (abbr.)
18. Parts
20. Leavened bread cooked in a clay oven

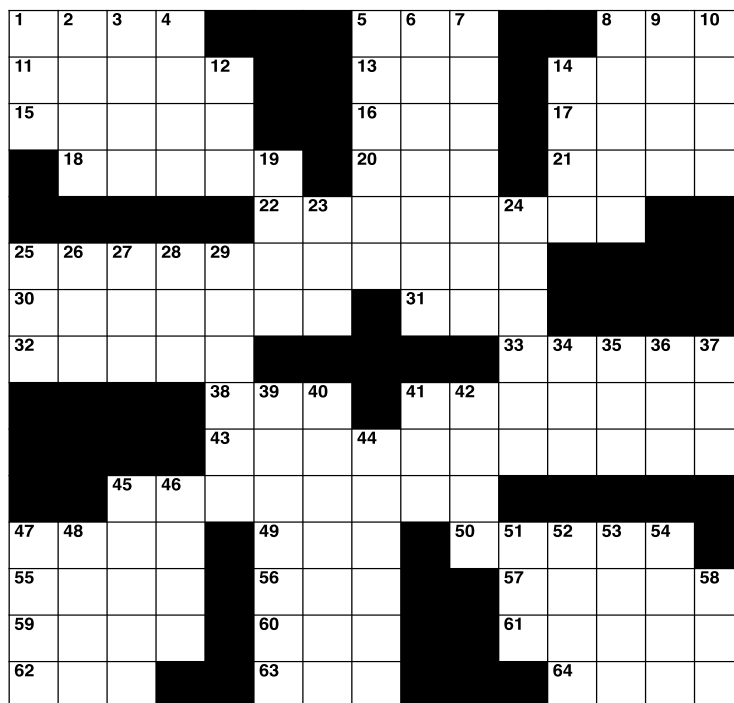


Crossword Answer

CLUES DOWN

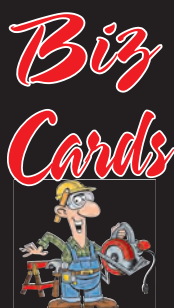
21. Type of cloth
22. Frankness
25. Causes disgust or hatred
30. A member of the British order of honor
31. Folk singer Di Franco
32. One's looks
33. Provokes
38. Partner of flow
41. Japanese warrior
43. Easy to perceive
45. Meet with one's agreement
47. Bird's jaw
49. Ballplayer accessory
50. Sword
55. Swiss river
56. Comedienne Gasteyer
57. Beat icon Ginsberg
59. Clinches a victory
60. Split lentils
61. Jewish spiritual leader
62. Book of the Bible (abbr.)
63. Electronic warfare-support measures
64. Fibrous plant material

1. Annoy
2. Two-toed sloth
3. Precipitation
4. Barbary sheep
5. Large stinging paper wasp
6. Balkan country
7. ___ Doherty, actress
8. Arm bones
9. Women's undergarment
10. Genus of dabbling ducks
12. Time zone
14. Newts
19. Sound unit
23. Dab
24. Puzzlement
25. Defensive nuclear weapon
26. Actress Ling
27. Natural solid material
28. Burmese ethnic group
29. Puts within
34. Belonging to us
35. They ___
36. One of twelve sons of Jacob
37. Grab a seat
39. Rich fabric
40. Fruits



41. Very fast airplane
42. Large primates
44. Flammable jelly
45. Less common
46. Supplements with difficulty
47. Chinese automotive company

48. Every one of two or more things
51. Swiss river
52. Speak incessantly
53. Italian Island
54. Fighters against authority
58. Egg of a louse



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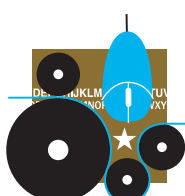
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