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EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Partners in Time Dance held their second annual dance recital for family and friends last Friday at the Arborg Community Hall. Dancers of all ages spent the winter perfecting their technique and performance skills in the areas of ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern and hip-hop dance styles. Pictured from left to right, the intermediate ballet dancers performed the Annen Polka - Alliana Rempel, Gemma Orbanski, Kiera Chwaliboga, Amy Platt, Sydney Burak, Diego Blandford and Kira Orbanski.

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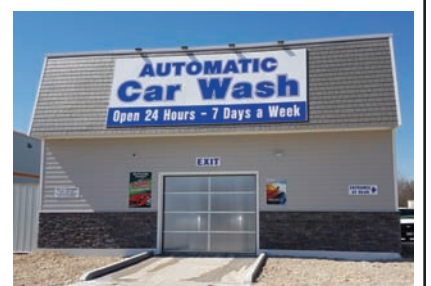
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# Interlake Relay for Life gets set to fight cancer

## Relay for Life walk planned for June 17

By Patricia Barrett

The Interlake Relay for Life committee is gearing up for its annual fundraiser that will support services for cancer patients and survivors, and help researchers break new ground in the fight against the disease.

The Canadian Cancer Society's Relay for Life is a 12-hour community fundraising event that's usually held at night. It brings together friends, families and members of the community to celebrate life and fight cancer. People can walk as a team or as individuals.

"I'm a cancer survivor myself, so I'm volunteering on the committee," said Bill Martin, who lives near Pine Dock. "And I'll be in the Survivors' Walk."

Martin is also part of a fundraising team called the Road Warriors, made up of people who live in the Pine Dock area along PR 234.

"It's a walking club that meets in Pine Dock over the winter," said Martin. "My neighbour said we should form a team to support the relay. I think she's got 15 people in it now, and we've set a fundraising goal of \$1,700. We're over half way there, and

we're going to have a pancake breakfast (April 23) and a garage sale and music."

The committee is pretty excited about how the relay is shaping up this year, said Martin. As of last week, nine teams with 52 participants have signed on to pass the baton in June.

Martin said community support for people who are dealing with or who have had cancer is really important because the journey can make people feel as though they're not quite "normal."

"After I had my surgery, the first relay I went to [in Winnipeg] I was ... surrounded by hundreds of other survivors and their yellow survivor shirts," said Martin, who published a book in 2014 about his experience titled *Ripped Out: One Man's Journey Surviving Prostate Cancer*. "And we did the first lap together and it felt so wonderful to be normal because everybody around me was a survivor."

To remember those who've passed on or to provide encouragement to those still fighting, people can buy luminaries during the relay and set them along the route.



**Pancake Breakfast**

**INTERLAKE RELAY FOR LIFE**

Canadian Cancer Society

**Saturday May 6th**  
**8 - 11am**  
**Royal Canadian Legion Br# 182**  
**146 Sixth St**  
**Gimli**

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Interlake Relay for Life pancake breakfast scheduled for Saturday, May 6 from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion in Gimli.

"People write, 'Mom, I miss you so much' or 'Dear Bill, Keep on struggling,' or that kind of stuff. That lines the whole walk," said Martin.

In 2016, Relay for Life saw 432 events held across the country that raised \$28 million, according to the Canadian Cancer Society's website.

Martin said he's impressed with the organization and all it does for patients, including those in the Inter-


lake.

"They provide so many services right here in the Interlake," he said. "Travel, for instance. If people can't get down to the hospital or are uncomfortable driving or don't have money. They have ... a transportation program."

The committee will be holding a pancake breakfast in Gimli on Saturday, May 6 from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 146 Sixth St.

The relay will take place in Winnipeg Beach on Saturday, June 17 at the Bandstand. For more information, contact committee chair Betty Loewen at 204-389-5835.

Visit Martin's blog at [billmartin.net](http://billmartin.net) for more information about his cancer journey.



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# Getting on board: Handivan funding for Ashern, Lundar and Fisher Branch

## \$6.6 million for 43 transit funding projects across Manitoba

By Patricia Barrett

Three Interlake communities will be buying new handivans thanks to an infusion of transit funding from the federal and provincial governments.

Ashern, Lundar and Fisher Branch\* will chip in 25 per cent of the funding for new vans that will improve transit services for rural residents.

"Our handivan has a lot of miles on it," said RM of Fisher Reeve Shannon Pyziak, who met with Interlake MLA Derek Johnson and Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan April 22 to look at the RM's well-used van. "Much of that has been on gravel roads."

Pyziak said the new handivan will have "air ride" or air suspension, which, in simple terms, means passengers won't be bounced like a ball when travelling on back roads.

The new handivan will also take some pressure off emergency services.

"It will help with non-urgent transportation," said Pyziak. "It will free the ambulance for emergencies."

The federal and provincial governments announced March 30 they had earmarked \$6.6 million for 43 transit funding projects across Manitoba.

Manitoba is the only province that received funding for rural transit, said Bezan. Urban transit was the focus of funding in other provinces.

According to a 2010 issue paper by Transport Canada titled Sustainable

transportation in small and rural communities, the disparity between rural and urban transit across the country is leading to less than equitable access to vital services such as health care, and employment and education opportunities.

"There is an assumption by local governments, transit planners and other key decision makers that all rural and small community residents have access to a personal automobile," states the report.

Greyhound began reducing and cutting service to rural Manitoba starting in 2005, citing unprofitability. And last month, the Saskatchewan government pulled the plug on STC, its transit Crown corporation, which will leave 253 communities without the means of accessing public transportation.

Public transit is a lifeline for an aging population and for those with physical challenges who need to travel to urban centres to access health care and other services not available in the Interlake.

"Derek fought for rural transit funding," said Bezan, referring to the Interlake MLA. "He deserves a lot of kudos for that."

Funding for the three new handivans is as follows:

Ashern: \$51,000. The federal government is funding 50 per cent of the cost; the province, 25 per cent; and the



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT  
MP James Bezan, left, Fisher Reeve Shannon Pyziak, middle, and MLA Derek Johnson met April 22 to discuss handivan funding.

RM of West Interlake, 25 per cent.

Lundar: \$60,000. The federal government is funding 50 per cent of the cost; the province, 25 per cent; and the RM of Coldwell, 25 per cent.

Fisher Branch: \$95,000. The federal government is funding 50 per cent of

the cost; the province, 25 per cent; and RM of Fisher, 25 per cent.

\* Johnson had made the Fisher Branch funding announcement a few weeks ago (see the April 13 edition of the *Express*).

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# Vote for the float and save your pop bottles

## Gimli's Canada 150 Committee invites public input

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli's Canada 150 Committee has hired a visual artist and designer from Winnipeg to build a floating light installation for Canada Day and has launched an online vote to see what design gets the nod.

James Culleton from James Culleton Designs has been working with art students at Gimli High School, and together they've fleshed out a number of designs for the installation, which is expected to be about 20 feet high and will float on pop bottles.

They've whittled down the number of designs and are putting them to a public vote.

The top designs include a fish fly, a walleye, a Viking ship, a mermaid, a Viking and the high school's Laker's mascot.

"I met with the students last week and we brainstormed," said Culleton during filming last Thursday of a video that will be posted on the RM's Facebook page to showcase the designs. "And we had ... a whiteboard session, coming up with ideas for a light installation that we'll have floating on the lake as part of a regatta of light."

The installation is being funded by the federal government.

"We got a big grant from the Canada 150 Fund," said Alex Kristiansen, Gimli's economic development and tourism clerk, who filmed the video announcement. "It was \$10,640. To get the grant, [the project] had to be collaborative, which is why we're working with the high school. The art class will be helping James collect the bottles and they'll help assemble the project."

Leona Johnson, co-chair of the town's 150 Committee, said art students in grades 9 to 12 came up with all the ideas.

"The designs were the collaborative

effort of the classroom," said Johnson. "It's their ideas. Culleton is the artist who's drawing them."

The installation will likely be constructed at the high school and unveiled July 1.

It will also go on to entertain residents and tourists at other major Gimli celebrations.

"It will be brought out again for Beach Bash, the Gimli Film Festival, and the Icelandic Festival, if they're doing anything at night," said Johnson. "And Culture Days/Nuit Blanche and probably a farewell party to it on New Year's Eve."

Culleton will be constructing a raft/platform made from the plastic pop bottles upon which the people's favourite will be mounted.

"We'll be putting them in a big net or onion bags or even a metal cage, so you create this floating structure that the design sits on top," said Culleton, who trained as a furniture designer and has created a number of innovative art pieces, such as "Snowfas" (snow sofas) at the Forks, murals for businesses, floating lights for Winnipeg's Nuit Blanche and metal guitars that grace the façade of the West End Cultural Centre.

The committee wants the public to donate their pop bottles — ideally the two-litre variety.

"They really can be any size," said Culleton, "but two-litre bottles would be preferred."

The plastic bottle collection has a twofold objective: to gather materials, naturally, for the platform and to clean up the environment.

"It's kind of our initiative to clean up the lake," said Culleton. "You'd be surprised how much plastic is generated ... and we want to turn that plastic into art."

The sculpture itself will likely be constructed with some sort of metal.

"You think of the wind and waves ... so it's got to be lightweight, sturdy, maybe aluminum," said Culleton, "but put together like a stick frame and then the lights attach to that stick frame."

The public can



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Gimli Canada 150 Committee members (from left): Cheryl Buhler, Alex Kristiansen, Winnipeg artist James Culleton, Alicia Sylvester and Leona Johnson.



Artist James Culleton uses recyclable materials for his art installations. Unfortunately, ice at this time of year is not a durable media.

watch the video showcasing the top designs and vote for their favourite on the "RM Gimli" Facebook page. Voting closes April 30 with the winning design announced May 1.

Pop bottles can be dropped off at Gimli High School, Robin's Donuts or the municipal office.

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# Municipalities gather for ceremonial signing of regional strategic plan

By Jeff Ward

Hwy. 6 municipal representatives, Community Development Corporation (CDC) members and members of the Lundar, Eriksdale and Ashern Chambers of Commerce, gathered to sign their regional strategy in Lundar Monday night.

The strategy has been six months in the making and identifies four actionable areas that each community can contribute to in both short and long term ways. Eleven representatives signed the strategy during the meeting at the Lundar Lutheran Church that was attended by more than 20.

Signing the strategy was Community Futures West Interlake (CFWI) general manager Lana Cowling-Mason, Ila Buchanan - RM of Woodlands, Ray Walker - Woodlands CDC, Brian Sigfusson - RM of Coldwell, Celynne Henrotte - Coldwell CDC, Amanda Stevenson - Lundar Chamber of Commerce, Perry Ewasiuk - RM of Grahamdale, Brad Stabner - Grahamdale CDC, Carol Hull - RM of West Interlake, Keith Lundale - Eriksdale CDC and Chamber of Commerce and Edith Peterson - Ashern and District Chamber of Commerce. Health, housing, marketing and training are four items outlined in the document.

Health is about achieving consistent EMS response throughout the region based on a 30-minute response time. Housing is meant to help establish and implement a regional housing strategy that assures access to housing options. Marketing is branding a 'Corridor to the North.' And training is having locally sourced programs for jobs that the region needs. Representatives feel these areas will make a difference. Selkirk Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan attended the meeting and emboldened the group by saying that when communities work together in instances like this they are



EXPRESS PHOTO BY JEFF WARD

Councillors, chamber of commerce members and community development corporation members signed a regional strategy to improve all municipalities along Hwy. 6 in Lundar last Monday. Pictured back row: Brad Stabner, Keith Lundale, Brian Sigfusson, Perry Ewasiuk, Celynne Henrotte, Ila Buchanan and Lana Cowling-Mason; front row, Edith Peterson, Carol Hull, Ray Walker and Amanda Stevenson.

far more likely to succeed when lobbying for their interests.

"And like James Bezan I too feel this is a time to celebrate," said Woodlands representative and Coun. Buchanan

"I'm here to take my place in history because we are trailblazers right now. Every last one of us has a vested interest in achieving these goals."

How those goals will be accomplished over the next few years is detailed in the strategy.

In the area of health for instance, a timeline of six months is in place to have data collected on current EMS response times, training needs, a budget and to have 24 hour response per-

sonnel. The strategy also details what has to be done in a one-year time span and beyond, and every item has a plan to go with it.

Cowling-Mason is the person that brought the municipalities together to begin discussions on a long-term regional strategy. She said that she is very proud of everyone who has been at the table and stuck with the process so far.

"I think the reason this will be successful long term is that we are being very realistic with our goals from the beginning," said Cowling-Mason.

"We are looking at things that we have control over. We're not trying to

fix the doctor shortage, just response time. We can have an effect on tourism, we can have an effect on housing. And if we continue on this path there will be lots of success."

Whether the strategy will succeed or fail is entirely dependent on how well these communities can work together over the long term. If the last six months are any indication, the future for the region is looking very bright.

## Interlakers are lacing up for annual Hike for Hospice

By Jo-Anne Procter

Interlake residents can lace up their sneakers for the 7th Annual Hike for Hospice to kick off National Hospice Palliative Care Week 2017 in Stonewall on May 7.

Hospice palliative care is about living your life — and living it well — right to the end.

One can't know how or when that will be, but you can get informed about what may be available to you and share your wishes with your family and community. Creating an advance care plan can help you think

about and focus on doing what's important to you now and in the future.

This year, the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association is calling on Canadians to conquer their fear and commit to two things: to learn about hospice palliative care and advance care planning, what they mean, and what you think you may want when the time comes; and to make a "bucket list" by thinking about your Top 5 things you would like to do before you die and share it on social media using #Top5WhileImAlive.

While the Hike for Hospice is a fun-

draiser, it is also an event for raising awareness for palliative care services in our community.

Walkers of all ages are encouraged to join in the five-kilometre hike on May 7. Registration will begin at 11:15 a.m. at the Stonewall United Church basement, northeast entrance, and a pre-hike stretch and hike will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a pancake luncheon to follow.

For more information or to pick up a pledge sheet contact the South West District Palliative Care by email at s.w.d.p.c@hotmail.com.

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# getfishing

RED RIVER > CHALET BEACH > LAKE WINNIPEG

## > ARNIE WEIDL Fishing lures more than just fish

Hello fellow fishers.

As the memories of winter fishing experiences fade away, let me take you back for a moment to a still sun-drenched afternoon on the hard glass-like ice just outside of the Gimli Harbor.

I had pulled up to a long, narrow, hard wall ice shack. After knocking on the door, I was invited in by a young gal's voice. After a bit, Amanda Poulin, a petite red-haired girl, told me something new about mounting fish.

She said Americans don't have to take a trophy fish home for mounting anymore because they can measure and take photos to a company stateside that can replicate it perfectly. Boy, there goes the old stuffing and mounting process.

Back in February, I was running around Sugar Island, shooting the breeze with ice anglers. I eventually came to a very big blue portable ice shack. A white truck stood beside it, and as I got out of my truck, a thin well-conditioned chap with short white hair came out of the zipper door.

He shook my hand, saying, "Hello, I'm Jan." When I asked for a story, he bent over, looking into the shack, asking, "Would you have a story, Penny?"

"Yes, I think I do," came a soft, throaty woman's voice from inside. I was invited inside and asked to sit. Jan went out to his truck for something and Penny Gardiner of Clandeboye began a long, deep observation of the joy she has gotten from angling.

To her, the Red River is a place of magic. These surroundings calmed her, she said, like nothing else she has ever known. She told of an incident that happened a few summers ago that kind of shows what an enlightened



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL Penny Gardiner with a pickerel she caught from the Red River last fall.

person she is. She was bank fishing on the Red south of the "blue bridge" that had a 10-foot drop off when she caught a big carp. As she reeled it in, it slipped, the hook stranding it in the mud at the water's edge. Given to releasing catches, she resolved to return the fish to the water and cautiously slid down the muddy bank, hanging onto tree roots and weeds as best she could. By the water, with her shoes sinking into the goo, she managed to push the fish back to its watery home with a stick. She felt warm satisfaction as she climbed back up to her fishing gear.

Settling into her chair, a nearby angler pointed out that carp are an invasive trash fish. She sat silent. To her, all fish were beautiful.

The tent was quiet for a moment, and then she offered, "Jan and I met because of fishing," said Gardiner. She was fishing off the Selkirk pier when he pulled up beside her in his truck. He got out, set his folding chair and fishing gear

next to her, and they proceeded to get to know and like each other very much, very quickly. At the end of the day Penny gave Jan her phone number but he never called. The sad truth was he had lost her number, so he drove around to different fishing spots looking for her. Finally, on a cold fall day, Penny was sitting in her car fishing on the pier when saw Jan's truck pulling up. He parked beside her, looking straight ahead, and then pulled out a newspaper and began reading. Penny's shock changed to determination. She got out of her car and walked to the back, trying to catch his attention. Nothing. Then as she walked back to her driver's door, he looked up. Their eyes locked and they haven't been apart since, which just goes to show you there are some really great benefits to being an angler.

(Thanks, Penny and Jan, for OK-ing your stories before I passed them along.)

How about one more winter fishing story? I was on Lake Winnipeg ice a couple of miles off Lakeshore Beach and stopped at the portable shack of Quint Lasky and his son Haden. They looked a lot alike — slim, brown-haired and bright-eyed — and they liked to tease each other. They told how before I showed up, because it was dark and warm inside the tent, Haden kept on falling asleep. He also kept catching small pickerel while dad, who was having no luck, would have to wake Haden up and tell him to land his fish. Repeatedly, Haden would slip the fish off his hook and, with a superior smile, offer it to his dad.

Quint, not to be bested, remarked, "Catch a decent-sized one and I might take it home."

Bye for now, friends.

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# Manitoba Hydro closing district offices in Fisher Branch and Gimli

By Patricia Barrett

Manitoba Hydro announced April 19 that it will be closing 12 district offices in southern Manitoba, including offices in Fisher Branch and Gimli.

The Crown corporation began considering a consolidation of district offices as far back as 2013 in order to reduce costs, and it decided to move ahead with the project, which will take place by May 19.

"In 2013, Manitoba Hydro made the decision to consolidate 24 district offices into existing customer service centres," said Hydro's public affairs officer Bruce Owen. "And at that time, the remaining 12 district offices were still under review. We are now moving forward with the closure of these remaining 12 district offices."

In February, the corporation announced it would eliminate approximately 900 positions (about 15 per cent of its workforce) and reduce the size of its executive team by 30 per cent in a bid to find operational efficiencies and savings of about \$60 million to \$65 million.

Hydro employs about 6,200 people.

In addition to the offices in Fisher Branch and Gimli, offices in Beausejour, Powerview, Falcon Lake, Bois-Sevain, Pilot Mound, Glenboro, Winnipegosis, Ste. Rose, Grandview and McCreary will be closed.

About 20 people will be affected by the consolidation, said Owen, but they'll be reassigned to one of Hydro's

16 customer service centres.

The Fisher Branch and Gimli offices employ 10 people between them.

"Of those, all live within commuting distance of our Arborg customer service centre, so they will not be offered relocation packages," said Owen. "Given that we already are using partial home-starts and field staff who are mobile, as in reporting to whichever area they are working in, there is no significant change for them or the customer."

Fisher Branch has a district support representative and an assistant district operator (ADO), who will be relocating to Arborg.

"The ADO will also be a partial home-start so no significant change," said Owen. "One district service worker will have his HQ zone changed to Arborg but will likely be home-started so no significant change."

Staff in Gimli include a district support representative, an energy services advisor, an engineering technician and an electrical inspector, all of whom will be relocated to the Arborg customer service centre, said Owen. One district support representative will be retiring.

Hydro has experienced a "steady decline in customer traffic at district offices" over the past decade, said Owen, because more and more people have been opting to use its online services.

"In 2007, 24 per cent of customers



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Manitoba Hydro building in Gimli's Industrial Park is slated for closure in May.

paid at their district office compared to six per cent in 2016," he said. "More specifically, as of April 2013, we had 11 per cent of our customers (49,306 customers) paying online using My-Bill. As of April 1 this year, we have 19 per cent of our customers (115,402 customers) paying online."

The district offices will be put up for sale using a prescribed process that includes a first-sale opportunity for local governments.

"The sale process can be a lengthy one as it includes an environmental assessment and clean up (if re-

quired)," said Owen.

The consolidation is expected to save Hydro about \$2 million a year and avoid considerable costs associated with building repairs and upgrades.

"Once fully implemented, the district consolidation project is expected to reduce costs by approximately \$2 million annually and avoid approximately \$50 million in future costs associated with needed facility upgrades to the 36 affected district offices," said Owen.

# Ashern Hospital prepares for doctor vacancies

By Jeff Ward

Interlake-Eastern RHA CEO Rob Van Denakker said that Ashern would have two new full-time doctors on staff by the end of summer to fill the vacancies of the two who left earlier this month.

Van Denakker is optimistic that Interlake-Eastern RHA will fill the positions with doctors graduating from the International Medical Graduate (IMG) over the next couple of months.

Ashern Hospital, unfortunately, will be short staffed before returning to a more stable situation this summer. Dr. Kahn and Dr. Emadi left the Ashern hospital, and Van Denakker said that the situation wasn't a surprise since they had known for a while.

The Interlake-Eastern RHA has done its best to prepare for this situation and will operate on locum coverage to make sure that either Ashern or Eriksdale emergency rooms remain open at all times.

"Ideally, we would've liked to keep both of our doctors and added the new ones to the pool, and had we not had these doctors already assigned to the area, the situation would've been bad," said Van Denakker.

"The reality is that our IMGs leave at a higher rate than other physicians, and the real challenge is that many of these doctors don't actually immigrate to Manitoba but to another city. They could end up anywhere across Canada, but their families might be somewhere different. Our solution to the problem continues to be advancing our agenda to have our own homegrown graduate program."

Van Denakker believes a more localized clinical teaching unit is the path to a more stable rural doctor system and is the best long-term solution.

Keith Lundale is a member of the Hwy. 6 Health Advocacy Committee. He said that he isn't concerned about how this current doctor shortage will

affect the area. He said that with new doctors incoming and locum coverage filling the gap, there's no sense in creating fear where there is none.

"There is a challenge with new doctors, too, because you have to continually explain your medical history to a new doctor, and just when you're comfortable, they leave, and that's frustrating," said Lundale.

Lundale's main concern is in keeping both ERs open at all times, calling it "paramount to the residents."

Van Denakker said that both ERs are equally important to the region, and right now, the swapping of which is open and closed is only temporary.

"Often times, we think of the doctors in Eriksdale

and Ashern as one group and they certainly work like that sometimes. We're trying to fill the gap as best we can right now," said Van Denakker.

The CEO said that his timeline of "summer time" is intentionally vague because sometimes IMG participants need a few extra weeks of training before they're able to move on. But he doesn't anticipate the wait being any longer than August.

<p><b>Splendors of Niagara Falls</b>  <i>"One of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World"</i>  <b>September 10-18</b>  <b>PRESENTATION:</b>  <b>MAY 11, 6:30 PM R.S.V.P.</b></p>	<p><b>Nashville, Branson, Pigeon Forge</b>  <b>Oct 21-Nov. 3</b>  <i>The Great Smoky Mountains, Graceland, Dollywood, Live Music Shows</i></p>
<p><b>Minneapolis Baseball Jays VS Twins</b>  <b>September 15-18</b>  <i>Enjoy 3 thrilling games from your Diamond Box seats in section 121.</i></p>	<p><b>PRESENTATION ON BOTH</b>  <b>Tuesday, May 2, 6:30 pm</b>  <b>Henderson Library - 1050 Henderson Hwy</b>  <b>Please R.S.V.P.</b></p> <p><b>Branson and the Ozarks</b>  <b>November 5-13</b>  <i>Unique Sightseeing, 7 Top-Rated Music Shows &amp; Attractions Including Daniel O'Donnell &amp; Silver Dollar City</i></p>
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# Federal and provincial funding to upgrade Interlake wastewater facilities

By Patricia Barrett

Fisher Branch and Ashern have received federal and provincial funding for needed upgrades to their lagoons, and their respective municipalities will be contributing a third of the cost to the projects.

Interlake MLA Derek Johnson and Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan met with municipal representatives April 22 to deliver the good news.

A combined total of \$150,000 is being provided to the Fisher Branch lagoon. The federal government is paying 50 per cent (\$75,000) of the cost; the province, 25 per cent (\$37,500); and the municipality, 25 per cent (\$37,500).

A combined total of \$343,251 will help Ashern make upgrades to its wastewater system. The federal government is paying 50 per cent (\$171,625); the province, 25 per cent (\$85,813); and the RM of West Interlake, 25 per cent (\$85,813).

Federal and provincial funding in the amount of \$37 million will support 24 new water and wastewater projects in the province, according to an announcement made April 18 in Elie by representatives from the two levels of government.

"It's a life-extension project," said Bezan, referring to the Fisher Branch lagoon.

The results of an engineering study reviewed by Fisher council last year recommended sludge be dredged from an inlet pipe and noted some erosion issues around the lagoon that

should be addressed.

Reeve Shannon Pyziak said that the municipality is very thankful for the funding and that the repairs are to be completed this summer.

"This funding will extend the life of our lagoon by providing needed repairs to some of the walls, removal of sludge, and will enable the development of a spillway for septic dumping," she said.

The RM of Fisher currently uses the Arborg lagoon to dispose of its waste.

Johnson said the repairs will eliminate the costs associated with having to travel to another municipality.

"When they're hauling ... to Arborg, there are a lot of costs: there's fuel, there's wear and tear on the septic trucks and there's a carbon footprint," said Johnson. "So this has a lot of benefits for the local area."

Upgrades to the Ashern wastewater system are expected to spur on the construction of new homes, businesses and cottages in the West Interlake, and contribute to economic growth.

"The lagoon [in its present capacity] is stifling development in Ashern," said Johnson. "No new developments, including cottage developments, can move forward because the lagoon is at full capacity."

The RM has had to turn away applications, he said.

"After this is corrected and repaired, cottage developments will move forward. And the tax base will increase," said Johnson.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan, RM of Fisher Reeve Shannon Pyziak and Interlake MLA Derek Johnson on April 22.

Bezan said the federal Liberal's budget for rural municipal infrastructure does not go far enough in providing support for vital services such as clean water, sewers, roads and bridges across rural Canada.

"The federal budget money available for rural municipal infrastructure is \$20 billion over 10 years," said Bezan. "That's only \$72 million a year for rural municipalities in Manitoba — and that includes Brandon. Brandon itself could use \$72 million a year."

The Association of Manitoba Municipalities said the water projects will

help stimulate the economy.

"There are few things more essential to the safety and well-being of Manitobans than clean, potable water. At the same time, new infrastructure investments in water-related projects help to create new economic opportunities for municipalities," AMM president Chris Goertzen was quoted as saying in the April 18 funding announcement. "The AMM is pleased to partner with our provincial and federal counterparts in selecting these very important projects for our communities."

# At Home, Work and Play: Whatever It Takes

Submitted

Recycle Everywhere says it will do whatever it takes to ensure more empty beverage containers are re-

cycled in Manitoba, and that includes a broader emphasis on recycling at work and play. The program announced this past Monday included

three major initiatives, and was joined by a provincial minister who issued a one-of-a-kind call to action.

To build on the existing reach into Manitoba's private and public sectors, CBCRA and Recycle Everywhere are announcing the following three distinct initiatives: a partnership with all Government owned buildings in the northern region to add and increase recycling in their locations; new recycling options for all Manitoba cottages, seasonal sites and campgrounds; and a new partnership with Manitoba property managers.

Recycle Everywhere plans to supply about 30,000 Bin Bags free of charge to all Manitoba cottages and seasonal sites. In addition, about 200,000 clear recycling bags will be given to all provincial, municipal and private campgrounds for overnight campers. Through these two initiatives, Recycle Everywhere is helping to keep Manitoba's lakes and parks cleaner

and greener over the busy summer months.

"The importance of getting every Manitoban to recycle their empty beverage containers couldn't be more relevant than it is today, on the heels of Earth Day celebrations and activities across the province," said the Hon. Cathy Cox, Minister of Sustainable Development. "I'm pleased to announce that we are asking and encouraging all commercial property managers and owners to do their part and order their free Recycle Everywhere bins for every office building, strip mall, multi-tenant building, and any other commercial space in Manitoba. As well, the Province of Manitoba will support Recycle Everywhere's summer initiatives by helping to ensure that all campers and cottagers in our Provincial Parks receive a Bin Bag or clear recycling bag. This is about

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# Riverton's Interlake Juried Art Show to showcase some eye-watering pieces

By Patricia Barrett

Artists of all stripes will be displaying their creative chops this weekend at the Interlake Juried Art Show that will be held in Riverton.

"We've had 52 entries and that gives us 134 art pieces to display," said Tyan Mytz, recreation director for the Riverton-Bifrost Parks & Recreation Commission (RBPRC), which is hosting the event.

The artwork includes oil, acrylic and watercolour paintings, charcoal, ink and pastel drawings, quilts, clay and metal sculptures, photographs, lithographs, etchings, and leather and bead work.

Mytz said there are two main categories: one for youth and one for adults. Art students from Arborg and Riverton collegiates are taking part in the show.

The competition has attracted entrants from across the Interlake, including Gimli, Selkirk, Warren, Balmoral and Poplarfield.

Poplarfield artist Rozanne Nevakshonoff is one of four artists from the Green Acres Art Centre in Teulon that will be showcasing their work.

"I work mainly with acrylics," said Nevakshonoff, who picked up a brush seven years ago and discovered a passion for something that's not as easy as it looks. "I think watercolour is the hardest because you have to plan ahead, blocking portions of your picture to ensure you have your white areas."

For the Riverton show, Nevakshonoff entered a tasty, almost eye-watering portrait of onions drying on a fence, something that falls outside her normal genre of sweeping landscapes and mysterious forest glens.

"I'm trying to step outside the box

and paint something I wouldn't normally paint," said Nevakshonoff, who won an award in 2016 for a painting of an owl titled "Shh."

She said her teacher Graham Clarke at Green Acres has taught her the finer points of finding space in her work.

"He taught me to look for negative shapes in nature," said Nevakshonoff, who can also whip together crocheted outfits that can make babies burble with delight. "The first thing you do is 'squinch' your eyes and look for the darks, then you fill in the dark tones."

Studies show that on average people gaze at art for about 15 seconds, something that doesn't necessarily bother Nevakshonoff.

"I think people buy art based on colour," she said. "That's what draws me to stop and look."

Each year, juried art shows that are supported by the Manitoba Arts Council take place across the province.

The art in Riverton will be judged by professional artists.

"We have three jurors who are coming to critique their work," said Mytz. "One is Audrey Lute from Great Plains, Barb Flemington from Brandon and we have Pauline Braun from Winnipeg."

Mytz said the RBPRC received funding from the Manitoba Arts Council as well as a grant from Manitoba Sports, Culture and Heritage's Arts Development Project to host the show.

The art will be displayed at the Riverton Hall, 175 Reggie Leach Dr.

A wine and cheese reception for the artists will be held Friday, April 28, 6-8 p.m. The public shows will be held Saturday, April 29 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, April 30 from 12 to 3 p.m.



Artist Rozanne Nevakshonoff painted an eye-watering rendition of onions on a fence for the Juried Art Show in Riverton.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Rozanne Nevakshonoff works on a northern Manitoba landscape in her studio.

# Transition to Manitoba now easier for military personnel

## MPI accepting Canadian forces driver licences and identification cards

Submitted

Manitoba Public Insurance is now accepting Canadian Forces driver licences and identification cards to help establish the identity of military personnel who relocate to Manitoba and apply for a Manitoba driver licence or identification card, Crown Services Minister Ron Schuler and Manitoba Public Insurance announced Monday.

"These military cards are issued by the Department of National Defence and in all cases, the military card holder goes through a stringent process to

establish and confirm their identity," said Schuler. For this reason, driver licences and identification cards issued by the Canadian Forces can now be used to satisfy provincial identity requirements except to confirm address in Manitoba and legal entitlement to be in Canada.

"This is a positive step in expediting the transition to Friendly Manitoba," added Schuler.

Manitoba's Special Envoy for Military Affairs, MLA Jon Reyes (St. Norbert), said today's announcement will

be warmly welcomed within the military ranks.

"It can be a real challenge when military members and their families are moved between provinces," said Reyes, who served 10 years in the Canadian Forces himself, including five years stationed on the HMCS Winnipeg as a member of the Royal Canadian Navy.

"The acceptance of military identification cards and driver licences by Manitoba Public Insurance means one less worry when a member of our military is stationed to Manitoba and applies for a provincial driver licence or identification card."

"This change is effective immediately, and is also being adopted in other

Canadian jurisdictions that don't already recognize military identification cards or driver licences for identity verification purposes," said Ward Keith, vice-president, Loss Prevention and Communications, Manitoba Public Insurance.

"In 2015, Manitoba was one of two provinces in Canada to start recognizing commercial class military driver licences for upgrade to equivalent class civilian driver licences," said Keith. "Recognizing these licences and now identification cards to satisfy applicable identity requirements is a logical extension of this policy."

Manitoba was also proud to intro-

Continued on page 19



# PR 239 wins 'award' for worst road in Manitoba

By Jeff Ward

Provincial Road 239 connecting Highway 6 to Steep Rock was recently named the worst road in Manitoba by the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) for its sixth annual worst roads campaign.

The campaign is designed to bring attention to terrible roads in an effort to make them safer.

The award came as no surprise to Grahamdale Reeve Clifford Halaburda, who said that the road has been in a sad state for years and that it was easily the worst road in his municipality.

In certain spots, the road resembles a piece of Swiss cheese better than it does proper infrastructure. A combination of heavy traffic from vehicles going to and from the Graymont mine in Faulkner and frost boils has degraded the road over the years.

In some areas, Halaburda said the speed limit should be brought down because of the surface breaks and the danger to motorists. He said that he's been trying to get the government to rebuild the road since he was elected and that the road is on a list of infrastructure priorities.

Interlake MLA Derek Johnson said

that the road is a priority but that the preferred route for the Lake Manitoba flood outlet runs right through the area. As a result, the road likely won't be rebuilt until that channel is complete to avoid having to rebuild a road twice.

"The eastern portion of 239 is going to be rerouted for the preferred alignment," said Johnson.

"It would be premature to redo that road now only to have it torn up when the channel goes through. There's an order of business here, and prioritizing the channel first then rebuilding the rest of the road is how we'll do it."

Johnson said that he's spoken with representatives at Graymont who have offered to donate all the gravel necessary for the rebuilding of the road. Transport vehicles hauling loads

of lime out of mine, which is part of the degradation of the road, use PR 239 heavily. Their willingness to help rebuild the road is very generous and one that Johnson said he appreciates.

As the summer approaches, more and more tourists will make the trip down PR 239 to Steep Rock Beach

**"IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO REDO THAT ROAD NOW ONLY TO HAVE IT TORN UP WHEN THE CHANNEL GOES THROUGH."**



EXPRESS PHOTO VIA GOOGLE MAPS

PR 239 to Steep rock was recently named the worst road in Manitoba by CAA.

Park for long weekends and summer vacations. Campground manager Lana Iwanchuk said staff warns travellers to be cautious on the road.

"Many of these people have recreational toys worth more than \$100,000, so we warn them to be safe and go slow to avoid damage," said Iwanchuk.

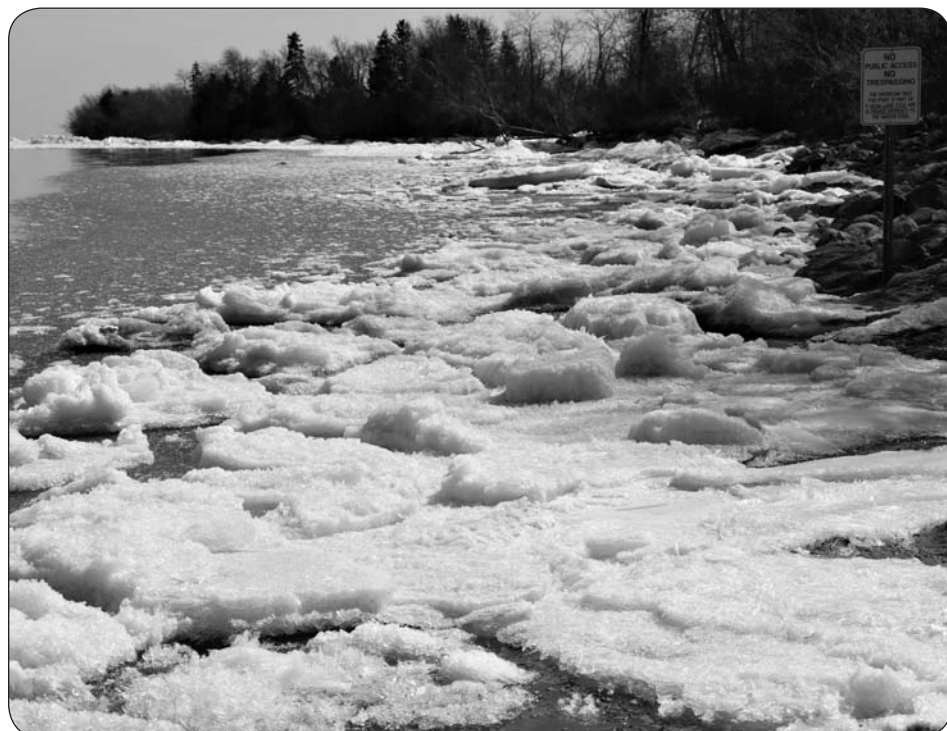
"The good news is that at the end of the road is an incredible place to stay and the trip is worth it. But if it's your first time out this way, the road isn't going to fill you with a lot of confi-

dence."

Johnson agreed that tourism is big business in the Steep Rock area and that the road should better reflect the quality of the experience at the end of it.

"There's no doubt it's important and our timelines are up in the air now, but I'm hoping sooner rather than later," said Johnson, who added that patchwork will be done this year on surface breaks.

## Lake Winnipeg ice show short-lived



Ice creeps towards shore near residences along Valhalla Beach in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Concerns about ice blowing into shore along Lake Winnipeg a few weeks ago were put to rest by Mother Nature, who failed to whip up storm surges that could have led to property damage. A stunning display of ice piling up along Gimli Beach was short-lived when mild temperatures decimated the sculptures. And swirls of ice creeping up the beach near residences in Valhalla Beach in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton probably suffered the same fate. This photo depicts ice piled up on Gimli Beach near the Lakeview Resort April 18.



# Steep Rock Beach Park prepares for Canada 150 and summer of fun

By Jeff Ward

Renovations at Steep Rock Beach Park combined with a fever pitch of excitement for Canada 150 celebrations are lining up to be a perfect storm and a great summer of activities.

Campground manager Lana Iwanchuk said that improvements to the grounds are on track and that campers who've returned love their new electricity and water hookups. Only a handful of the sites at the campground remain unserved.

Landscaping improvements and a security gate, along with a new washroom facility complete with showers, will also be completed for summer. Campground staff are understandably excited with all the improvements and a rejuvenated beach café.

"We've been working towards this day for the last two years now," said Iwanchuk. "We've been booking up fast and I think this is going to be a summer to remember. We're already sold out for Canada Day and many of our weekends are fully booked too."

Iwanchuk said that she's excited for visitors to see all the changes to the area, and she and the rest of the staff and contractors have worked hard to make this the best year in the history of the park. And with all of the upgrades and new people coming in, safety has become a much bigger priority.

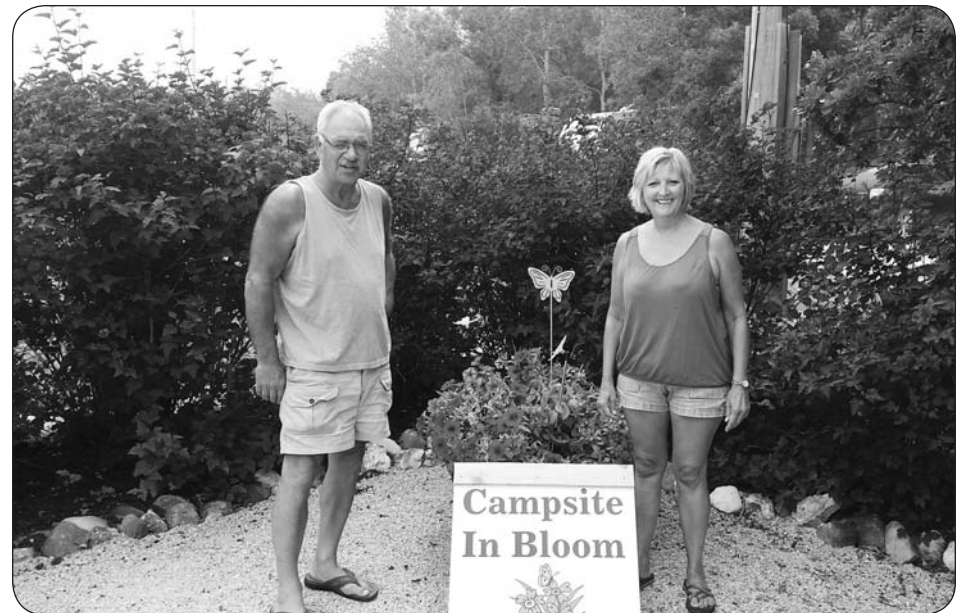
Last year, a security guard was brought in to patrol the grounds at night to curb incidents of theft. This year, the improved security gate, which will stay closed from 11 p.m. until 9 a.m., will aid in keeping the place closed off from any ne'er-do-wells.

Iwanchuk said that this expansion is going to go beyond the campground and the improvements will be a benefit to Steep Rock

**"WE'RE VERY PROUD OF OUR COMMUNITY OUT HERE AND WE WANT PEOPLE TO COME OUT AND ENJOY IT."**

and the municipality a whole.

"We're the ones with the budget that can do the advertising and bring people in. You'd be surprised how many seasonal visitors end up becoming landowners. We'll be promoting the park, the cliffs, cottage rentals, everything. It's a bigger picture than just the beach. We're very proud of our



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY LANA IWANCHUK

Wilf and Jackie McArthur are one of Steep Rock Beach Park's Campsite in Bloom competition that honours campers who go the extra mile in making their space look good.

community out here and we want people to come out and enjoy it," said Iwanchuk.

Campers are already starting to beautify their sites and campground staff is now in their third year of recognizing outstanding sites with the weekly Campsite in Bloom competition. Other campers sometimes nomi-

nate sites, but Iwanchuk said that it's usually the staff who find sites worthy of consideration. Winners keep the sign at their site as bragging rights.

"It's all about encouraging everyone to keep their area looking good. And that's what we're doing on a larger scale here. It's very exciting," said Iwanchuk.

## > RECYCLE EVERYWHERE, FROM PG. 8

Manitobans recycling everywhere."

The Minister added that all Manitoba Provincial Parks with public access already have Recycle Everywhere bins, making these new summer initiatives a complement to the existing recycling program. As well, in 2016 the Minister introduced Recycle Everywhere bins to McIvor Mall, the Winnipeg strip mall where her constituency office is located, resulting in eligible materials being recycled instead of going to the landfill.

"As Minister Cox mentioned, commercial properties can play a significant role in decreasing the amount of empty beverage containers that end up in Manitoba landfills," said Tom Thiessen, the Executive Director of Building Owners and Managers Association of Manitoba (BOMA). "The Minister's challenge to our industry ties in very nicely with our sustainability mandate and the BOMA BEST® environmental certification program. We will strongly encourage BOMA member firms to introduce Recycle Everywhere bins in every single office, institutional and retail building in their portfolios."

"We are delighted that Minister Cox

is supporting these initiatives, and thank her for her call to action for the commercial sector as well as her support with our summer activities," said Ken Friesen, CBCRA's Executive Director. "In addition, BOMA's support is helping us achieve these goals, with approximately half of their property management membership already on board to implement the Recycle Everywhere program in their commercial properties."

Founded in 2010, the Canadian Beverage Container Recycling Association (CBCRA) is a not-for-profit, industry-funded organization whose membership includes beverage brand owners and distributors. CBCRA is committed to reaching the government-mandated target of recovering 75% of beverage containers sold in Manitoba. CBCRA implemented and operates the Recycle Everywhere program. Recycle Everywhere strives to educate Manitobans on beverage container recycling, and ensure that it is convenient to recycle empty beverage containers no matter where citizens live, work or play.

Learn more at [www.recycleeverywhere.ca](http://www.recycleeverywhere.ca) and [www.cbcr-aacrb.org](http://www.cbcr-aacrb.org)



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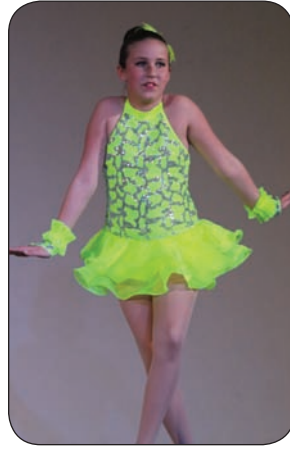
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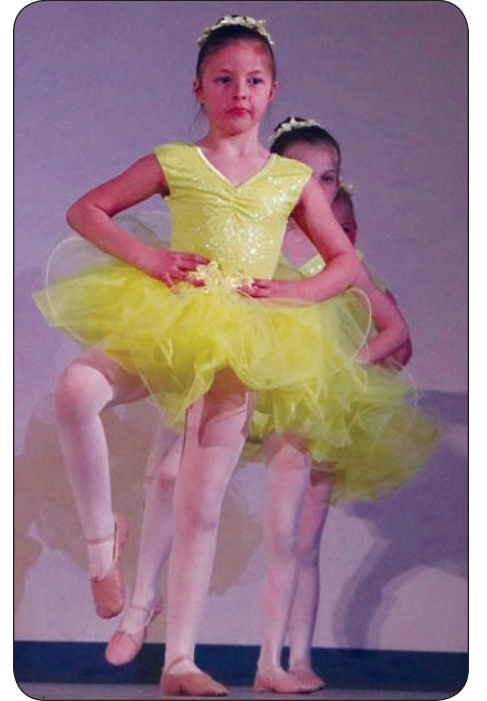
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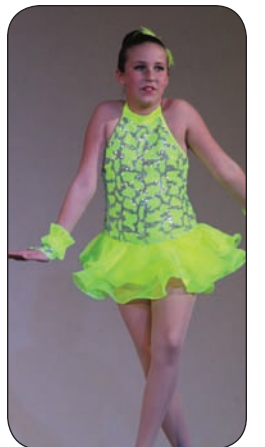




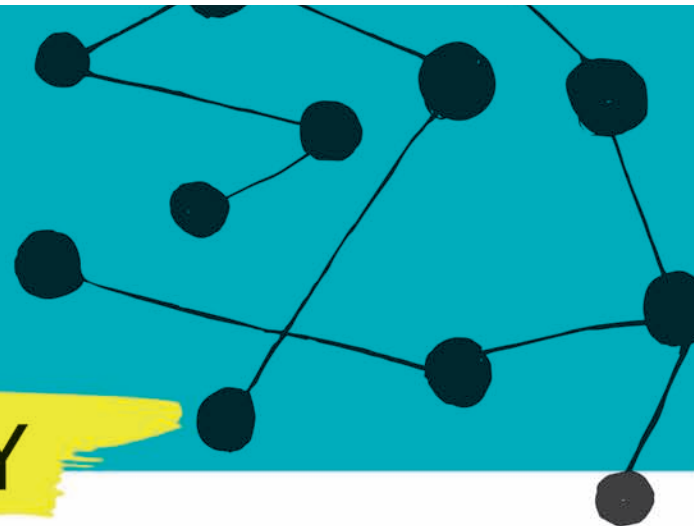
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# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

# We value you.



Here at Noventis, we are financial solutioneers, focused on the needs of our members and the communities in which they live.



It is our vision to build strong community, and we can and will accomplish just that by sticking to our collective core values:



*Integrity • Excellence • Accountability  
Cooperation • Sustainability • Accessibility*



Values which are the same at each of our locations:



*Arborg • Ashern • Eriksdale • Fisher Branch • Gimli  
Headingley • Moosehorn • Riverton • Selkirk • Starbuck  
Winnipeg Beach*



We are committed to working together, standing strong and valuing all which we have.



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Here at Noventis Credit Union, we love to *give where we live.*

And, we love to recognize those people in our communities who do the same.

Each year, Noventis sponsors **15 school breakfast programs** within our communities, including the one at Fisher Branch Early Years.

**Alison Malenchak** got the ball rolling 18 years ago, and it is still going strong today. Any child who shows up and wants some breakfast is served, and some days the program feeds as many as 30 kids.

**Ryan Gauthier** is a grade 12 student at the nearby Fisher Branch Collegiate, and he is one of the program's volunteers. Every Thursday, Ryan - along with his grandmother Pat - serves up hot and cold food options, including; toast, eggs, fruit and milk.

Ryan has been volunteering with the program since he was in grade 8, and his **volunteer work** has earned him not just a credit at school, but the respect and admiration of his teachers, the community, and most importantly - the kids he helps to get a good start every Thursday.

**\$15,000+ to breakfast programs!**

So, we want to thank Ryan and all of the other volunteers for the work they do to keep our communities' kids fueled up and ready to learn!



Volunteer  
*Ryan Gauthier*

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37 YEARS  
*Shirley Baugh*



38 YEARS  
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37 YEARS  
*Trish Furgala*



30 YEARS  
*Mark Jeffers*



32 YEARS  
*Michelle Johnson*



39 YEARS  
*Maureen Johnson*



32 YEARS  
*Lorette Kirby*



30 YEARS  
*Colleen Parkes*



39 YEARS  
*God Rowluk*



36 YEARS  
*Bragi Simundsson*



38 YEARS  
*Darlene Spibinski*



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# Students run for mental health



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER DESJARLAIS

Eriksdale Grade 5-8 students having been busy running weekly for mental health in an effort to focus on all aspects of their own personal physical and mental wellness. The Mental Health Run Club students and staff assembled to stretch and discuss mental health topics before hitting the track recently. The students have been running since spring break and will continue for the next two weeks.

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A lot of Interlake residents are excited about the **new diesel engines** that are becoming available in passenger cars and SUV's and they're curious about the preventive maintenance requirements for diesels. Interlake residents may not know that diesel engines have long been used extensively in Europe and Asia. In fact, in some markets, there're nearly as many diesel powered passenger cars as there are gasoline. You may ask, why has diesel taken so long to be widely adopted in North America? There are a bunch of reasons like fuel tax policies and such, but the biggest hurdle was that North American diesel fuel had a high sulfur content – too high for the latest generation of highly refined diesel engines. Recent government mandates to remove sulfur now opens North America up to the engines the rest of the world has been enjoying for a long time.

Why are diesels so popular worldwide? Well, for starters, **diesels get up to 30% better mileage** than gas engines. And they last a lot longer. And modern diesel engines are refined, quiet and powerful – and there's none of that black smoke we used to see. Some Interlake residents may think that diesels create more pollution. But, you need to rethink diesels. Environmental pollution standards for diesel cars and light trucks are scheduled to be as strict as they are for gasoline vehicles.

A modern diesel engine is as clean as a gas engine. And, there are not a lot of trade off's with diesel in terms of performance. A modern passenger car diesel is very smooth, quiet and quick. Most Interlake residents wouldn't notice any difference. For folks who tow trailers and haul heavy loads, diesels will be an improvement. Now diesel engines are heavy duty, so they cost more than gas engines. But they get better mileage – so the break-even point is largely dependent on the difference between gas and diesel prices at your Interlake pump and how many kilometers you drive. And diesels have a higher resale value in most provinces.

Now, let's get back to diesel maintenance in the Interlake. Diesels do require very clean fuel, air and oil, so their filters are much higher capacity than gasoline filters and cost more. The engine air filter needs to be changed more frequently as well. Repair costs in Interlake are similar. As with gasoline engines, proper maintenance is the key to long engine life and to avoiding repairs. So pretty much what we have come to expect with gas vehicles; coolant system service, transmission service, power brakes, power steering, differential, filters, fuel system, and so on. And the payoff for you, if you're one of the Interlake residents that likes to keep your vehicles for a long time, is that a **properly maintained diesel engine can last for hundreds of thousands of kilometers.**

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# Ashern repeats at Lakeshore Proficiency Awards

By Jeff Ward

Ashern Central School (ACS) was a repeat winner at the 40th Annual Lakeshore School Division Proficiency Awards after Grade 12 student Jillian Jones wowed judges with an impassioned speech about vaccines.

Jones was among three other students representing senior high schools in the division. Ryan Marshall represented Lundar School and spoke about his views on modern feminism. Kate Letexier from Fisher Branch Collegiate spoke about her personal journey to achieve more balance and wellness in her life. Hanna Postlethwaite from Inwood School discussed how the side effects of social media can cause mental health issues. Jones, who won the competition, did her speech on busting the myth that vaccines can and have caused autism and shared the positive aspects of vaccinating your children.

All four students were judged by members of the school board and a few of their peers during the annual competition that took place April 18 at Ashern Central School. The proficiency awards celebrated its 40th year this year. Although it has evolved over the years, the competition remains a staple in the celebration of students who are at the top of their game both outside of school and academically.

The speeches are 10 minutes in length and make up the majority of the competition but are only one facet of the way students are judged. Once their speech is complete, students return one by one and are asked questions that are kept secret from them.

Lakeshore Assistant Supt. Leanne Peters said that the question period is designed to keep the students on their toes and to see how they react when faced with tough questions. Those questions were about how the government should deal with an influx of refugees or if freezing wages was the right thing to do. Another question

highlighted events around the world and asked students if, given the global climate and risk of terrorism, it is wise to send students overseas for educational trips. Students are also judged on their activities outside of the classroom and how often they volunteer.

At the end of the night, school board president Jim Cooper said that while he believed all four students were worthy of the trophy, only one could take it home. Jillian Jones was chosen as the winner, marking it back to back years that a student from ACS has won.

"I really didn't expect to win and, honestly, I was happy with myself for just being able to get up there and do the speech," said Jones.

"I'm not a great public speaker but I felt I did well up there. But it was easier because this is a topic I'm very passionate about because I want to be a pharmacist one day. I'm going to have to give people vaccines and I don't want people being afraid of them or not trusting them."

Jones will graduate later this year, as will the other three students who participated. She said that she wants to dive into pharmacology right away.

Stage fright is an aspect of the competition that can hold participants back but didn't this year. There were some jitters, but every student regrouped after a stumble and kept going.

"I think it may be more difficult because it's a smaller crowd. You can see everyone's face and they're all looking at you," said Peters.

"I think some of these students in past years have some 4-H experience and that always serves them well. It takes courage to get up in front of people and speak and I was so proud of the poise and courage they showed, even if they did have a few nerves."

Jones said that a Grade 11 student told her before the competition that she has to win because this student wants to make it three years in a row

**"I REALLY DIDN'T EXPECT TO WIN AND, HONESTLY, I WAS HAPPY WITH MYSELF FOR JUST BEING ABLE TO GET UP THERE AND DO THE SPEECH."**



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JEFF WARD

School board president Jim Cooper presents Ashern Central School student Jillian Jones with her trophy for the 40th annual Lakeshore Proficiency Awards.



All four students represented their schools admirably during the proficiency awards last week: Hanna Postlethwaite, Jim Cooper, Jillian Jones, Kate Letexier and Ryan Marshall.

for ACS next year.

"She said, 'You have to win this so

I can win next year.' So no pressure, right?" joked Jones.

***Don't forget to send your special wishes to your friends and family.***

**EXPRESS**

WEEKLY NEWS

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# Peguis brothers' ingenuity prevents homes from flooding

By Patricia Barrett

Peguis First Nation's emergency co-ordinator and his brother have come up with a simple but innovative flood prevention measure that will help save homes from water damage during chronic deluges.

William and Wescott Sutherland's ingenuity with a pressurized sump pump and a diverter system saved 30 homes last month when the Fisher River spilled its banks, resulting in the evacuation of about 230 people from their homes.

"Everywhere these diverters were installed with this pump, we didn't have any problems with the flooding, even when the crest was going through Peguis in the south, central and north [regions]," said emergency co-ordinator William Sutherland. "These were prioritized to go into homes most at risk of flooding."

The diverter part of the system was designed by Wescott Sutherland, who was not available for comment last Friday when the *Express* paid a visit.

At the emergency operations centre, Sutherland demonstrated how the system works.

A pressurized sump pump equipped with a built-in water sensor (rather than a float) was hooked up to a diverter (a main pipe with two branching pipes). Each branch has an on/off valve that homeowners can turn to send water either into a septic tank or outside the house. The system prevents water from inundating basements, which can lead to mould and subsequent health problems.

Sutherland said older model sump pumps — one of which he pulled from a resident's home and had on display at the centre — are equipped with a float (like a float in a toilet tank) that moves up and down with water levels, triggering the pump to start operating.

These types of sump pumps have a lot of torque, causing it to vibrate, said Sutherland. That movement can jam the float against a wall, crack hoses and render the pump useless.

"In the basements, they have these cheap little hoses and pumps, and once they move around a little bit too much, it causes a break," he said. "So you have a house being flooded that's 100 per cent preventable. And we're trying to address that."

The pipe that branches into the septic tank is necessary for containing gray water.

"In the winter time, a person could just shut off this one [valve] and divert gray water into their septic tank."

Sutherland said the pressurized sump pump, with no moving parts, is the "best kind of pump." The older model pumps that jam and get submerged can corrode quickly, which costs money in the long run.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT  
An older model sump pump (left) and water pressure pump may be a thing of the past if INAC approves a system designed by Peguis brothers.

About 300 homes were affected, directly or indirectly, during the March flood, according to the chief.

Sutherland said Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) provided about \$560,000 in funding in early March to help the First Nation with preventative flood measures, such as brushing, culvert steaming and drainage to mitigate flooding that's not a possibility but a certainty every year.

And the Peguis flood centre received enough INAC funding mid-March (about \$24,000) to enable Sutherland and his workers to install 30 pressurized pumps with the diverter system in the most at-risk homes before the river rose.

"It's \$186.54 for the pump," said Sutherland. "As soon as the water comes up, it can't flow back, so you're prolonging the life of the pump [by not submerging it]."

Sutherland said he sent in a proposal to INAC for further funding so that they can install the pioneering system in homes with older pumps, and it's currently being considered.

"We still got flooded because there's a heck of a lot more homes in the flood zone," said Sutherland, "but we spearheaded the most flood-prone first."

The innovative system will do more than prevent water seepage, he said. It will help mitigate the stress associated with people moving into hotels and forcing them to put their lives — and education — on hold.

Yearly flooding, which can also occur in summer during heavy rain events, affects the community as a whole and results in high costs from damages to homes, businesses, roads and the local business economy through the loss of residents.

Sutherland's home, which is located close to the river, is usually marooned because he built up the



Peguis' emergency co-ordinator William Sutherland demonstrated the simplicity of the diverter attached to a pressurized sump pump.

land around it. And many homes built on ridges also suffer the same fate, becoming little islands with no way in or out.

"I needed hip waders to get to my front door and to the driveway to leave," said Sutherland. "My access was compromised — and that's the biggest problem. By the time I get the fire crew to put the rapid response flood tubes at my house, their safety is compromised because they have to run through the water."

Long-term solutions to flooding on Peguis are needed, with the provincial and federal governments working together to mitigate the effects of the yearly events (see the March 2 edition of the *Express*).

Although the innovative diverter system won't prevent water from surrounding homes, it will help keep basements dry.

"This is so simplistic and yet so revolutionary that it could be implemented everywhere — not just on Peguis," said Sutherland.

## > MILITARY PERSONNEL, FROM PG. 9

duce the "Support our Troops" specialty licence plate series in June 2015 as a means to honour and recognize the commitment of our Canadian Forces personnel. Since that time, more than 2,200 passenger vehicle and motorcycle plates have been sold; raising nearly \$70,000 in proceeds used to sponsor local military and reservist personnel to pursue post-secondary university or technical college education within Manitoba through the Manitoba Military

Scholarship Fund. To date, 10 qualifying recipients have received education scholarships through this important program.

"While in opposition, our party was proud to introduce the original legislation that led to the introduction of the Support our Troops specialty licence plate series," Minister Schuler said. "To see so many of these specialty plates in circulation today makes me so proud of our Canadian Forces," said Schuler.

"These plates are one simple way that all Manitobans can say thank you, and in doing so, support the Manitoba Military Scholarship Fund."

Support our Troops specialty licence plates continue to be available through all Autopac outlets. The cost of each set of plates is \$70.00 with \$30.00 directed to supporting the military scholarship program in Manitoba.



# Gimli council budget focuses on debt reduction and reserve funding

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli council presented a balanced budget April 20 and set out its financial priorities for the upcoming fiscal year that will focus on debt reduction and the funding of reserves through taxation.

Kelly Cosgrove, assistant manager of finance, presented the 2017 financial plan, noting that the challenges which lie ahead are the essentially the same as they've been in previous years.

"Council will continue to manage existing debt, minimising taxation impacts, find new ways to manage services in the most...cost-effective manner while being stewards of the environment in preparation for future growth," she said.

The amount of debt held by the RM was not provided during the meeting. Last year, it cost the municipality about \$1.2 million a year to service a debt of approximately \$9.7 million.

Property owners will see an increase in their 2017 taxes.

A residential property assessed at \$100,000 will see an increase of \$18.72 in municipal taxes. In 2016, residents with a home assessed at \$100,000 paid \$639.18. In 2017, they'll pay \$657.90.

Mayor Randy Woroniuk said he felt the budget is fair because the cost of doing business keeps increasing.

"We have to be cognisant of the fact that things are going up. ... Hydro rates are going to be double digits [and] wages keep increasing," he said. "I think this is a fair and responsible budget. Eighteen dollars on a \$100,000 assessment is not out of line.

"To me, it's a budget that allows Gimli to keep going forward in the direction that we're going, and I think we'd be irresponsible if we said, 'Let's just keep it at zero' because...it costs money to move forward."

Coun. Danny Luprypa said the tax increase on his home is "equivalent to a 24 of MGD (Miller Genuine Draft)."

The largest municipal expenditure in 2017 will be for Transportation Services, budgeted at \$3,620,169. In 2016, the RM spent \$2,893,468.

Transportation includes the cost of road maintenance, road reconstruction, ditches and drainage, street cleaning, snow removal, equipment repairs, equipment operator wages and benefits.

Council did not indicate what roads will be improved this fiscal year, but has budgeted \$450,000.

"We're still waiting for some estimates to come in," said CAO Joann King, "so we don't want to say we're doing Road A or B...because we have to review those estimates and see what combination will work."

Repairs to the worst roads will not necessarily take precedence over others.

"There's a theory that tells you that you should try and capture a road at a certain point before it becomes your worst road," said King. "So there'll [be a bit] of both."

Deputy Mayor Peter Peiluck said council has cut costs without sacrificing projects and services.

"We were really digging and [trying to] find ways to still make things happen and not spend a fortune doing it. There is real urgency this time to realise that the insurance rates - I'm not sure why - but they've escalated immensely," he said. "And everybody hears on the news about Manitoba Hydro and what their rates are going to do ... We have to bud-



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT  
Assistant manager of finance Kelly Cosgrove prepared and delivered the RM of Gimli's 2017 budget.

get accordingly to make sure we can pay our bills."

King said the Evergreen School Division's tax increase was not a factor in the municipality's tax increase.

"Past budgets have sometimes accommodated an increase that comes forward from the school division," she said, "but it is not recommended to do such a thing. Municipalities...have to pay for their own responsibilities and the services they provide."

As regards reserve funding, Cosgrove said the RM will transfer \$560,666 to reserves in 2017 in order to "reduce the current dependency on debt."

There were more debentures taken out this year compared to last, said King, to finance capital projects, including the new fire hall and the south sewer project. Council did not have current information about debentures scheduled to expire.

There is a balancing act between maintaining reserve funds and paying down the debt.

"A sewer system has a certain life," said King. "So if you put that on a debt, then the people who use that sewer system over the term of its life are paying for it. It's a fair way of distributing the cost over time. We use our reserves as much as we can."

Cosgrove explained the importance of maintaining reserve funds.

"It also helps at times when there are projects or something that needs to be purchased [in which] it's crucial and the interest rates are high," she said. "So that way you can fall back on those reserves and not have to go to borrowing at high interest rates."

King added that reserve money is also allocated to departments which have demonstrated

prudence over the course of the fiscal year in order to help them purchase needed equipment.

"They may not get 100 per cent of it," she said, "but they will get the large majority of it. It's an incentive for our managers to be very frugal with their budget and, if they do so, we reward them by putting it in a reserve."

Having stable reserves also helps the RM access provincial funding for such things as the Municipal Roads Program, said King.

"We as a municipality were in a reasonable position to benefit from that for our community because we had a road reserve. That made a difference. We didn't have to go to our taxpayers and say, 'We want to participate in this road program so we have to raise...taxes.' Some communities had to pass it up because they weren't prepared."

Resident Al Ostermann from Siglavik complimented council on its budget, singling out its dedication to improving recreational opportunities.

"I just want to compliment this council on its direction it's choosing in relation to recreation and the kind of money it's putting forward I think is commendable. I certainly don't mind seeing my taxes going up for an increase in recreation. So you guys are doing a great job.

"Certainly you must be doing a great job by the fact there's nobody here," he said, referring to the fact that only he and one other ratepayer were in attendance.

In 2016, council spent \$1,322,716 on recreation and cultural services. For 2017, it budgeted \$1,632,495.

Coun. Thora Palson indicated she was pleased with the budget, saying, "2017 being the year of our nation's 150 anniversary, I feel that our budget is a reflection of the quality of life that we as Canadians expect and cherish in our communities."

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Club registration is on a first come first serve basis and takes priority over Football Manitoba



# get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS

## Roasted lemon and rosemary potatoes

4 servings / 1 hr  
10 min  
Prep 10 min /  
Cook 60 min



Adding a touch of oil near the end of cooking helps brown the potatoes and adds a touch more flavour.

**Ingredients**

- 1 1/2 lbs (750 g) mini red potatoes
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) no salt added chicken or vegetable broth
- 1 large clove garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) chopped fresh rosemary or 1 tsp (5 mL) dried rosemary, crushed
- 2 tsp (10 mL) grated lemon rind
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) lemon juice

- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) paprika
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) freshly ground black pepper

2 tsp (10 mL) extra virgin olive oil

**Directions**

Cut potatoes in half lengthwise and place in large bowl.

Add broth, garlic, rosemary, lemon rind and juice, paprika and pepper; toss to coat well.

Spread into parchment paper lined roasting pan and roast in 220 F (425 F) oven for 45 minutes.

Stir in oil and roast for about 15 minutes or until golden brown and tender.

## Potato Prosciutto Waffles



Yield: 6  
Prep time: 20 minutes  
Cook time: 5 minutes

- 1/4 pound thinly sliced prosciutto
  - 3 medium russet potatoes (or 3 cups mashed potatoes)
  - 1 teaspoon salt, plus additional for salting water
  - 1/2 cup milk
  - 1/3 cup unsalted butter, melted
  - 2 large eggs, beaten
  - 1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
  - 1 tablespoon fresh thyme
  - 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
  - 1 teaspoon baking powder
  - 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- Heat oven to 400 F.  
Line baking sheet with parchment

paper and evenly lay prosciutto on paper. Bake 10-15 minutes until prosciutto is crispy. Remove from oven and allow to cool.

Peel and cube potatoes. Place in pot of salted water and bring to boil over high heat. Once boiling, reduce heat to rapid simmer and cook until potatoes are fork tender, about 10 minutes. Strain potatoes from water and transfer to large bowl. Mash potatoes with fork or potato masher.

Add milk, butter, eggs, cheese and thyme to potatoes. Stir to combine.

In separate bowl, combine flour, baking powder, 1 teaspoon salt and pepper. Add to potato mixture and stir until just combined. Crumble prosciutto and fold it into batter.

Heat waffle iron. If required, grease with cooking spray.

Spoon about 1 cup batter onto waffle iron and cook according to iron's instructions until waffles are golden, about 4 minutes. Keep waffles warm in 200 F oven until all waffles are cooked and ready to serve.

Serve with touch of butter, sour cream or poached or fried egg.

## When other drivers make you angry



**"FOR EVERY MINUTE YOU ARE ANGRY YOU LOSE SIXTY SECONDS OF HAPPINESS."**

**RALPH WALDO EMERSON**

Do you, or does someone you know get angry with other drivers? This could be a natural and justified response if someone just about smashes into you. However, many drivers make their daily commute an ongoing critique of every other driver on the road.

One is driving too slowly, or is in the wrong lane. Another did not signal, or left very little room when changing lanes in front of us. While these situations can be annoying, they are a fact of traffic life and we need to be alert and drive defensively.

To get angry, curse and yell, or make obscene gestures has little impact on the offending drivers. These behaviors do, however, have a major impact on the one who expresses them and anyone else who happens to be in the vehicle at the time.

Getting angry can cause stress

chemicals to be released in the body, a rise in blood pressure, tension in muscles, anxiety and headaches. Angry outbursts are toxic both for the one who creates them, and for anyone who is in the vicinity. The negative effects carry over once the destination is reached, and can be taken out on those in the workplace or at home.

Because there will always be bad drivers, and since we cannot change them, we need to change the way we respond to them. It is best to keep your mind on your own driving so you can be ready for the unexpected, and to remain unattached to the behaviors of other drivers.

In fact, it can be most beneficial to try to use travel time as a time to relax and de-stress. It is okay to just stay in one lane and go with the flow of traffic. You will get there just as fast. Listen to your favorite music, to recorded books or personal growth CDs. You may also just choose to enjoy the silence.

If you do this, you will be in a much more positive state for those you will see when you get to where you are going. You will also be contributing to your own good health.

*Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning Psychotherapist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, cds or MP3's, visit [www.gwen.ca](http://www.gwen.ca). Follow Gwen on Facebook for daily inspiration.*

## Steak and Potato Tacos with Poblano Chiles



- Yield: 12  
Prep time: 20 minutes  
Cook time: 25 minutes
- 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
  - 1 large onion, sliced
  - 2 poblano chiles, stemmed, seeded and sliced
  - 12 ounces white potatoes, quartered lengthwise then cut crosswise into 1/4-inch thick slices
  - 1 flank steak (12 ounces)
  - garlic powder
  - chili powder
  - salt
  - pepper
  - 12 corn tortillas (6 inches each)
  - chopped fresh cilantro
  - pico de gallo salsa

hot sauce  
In heavy, large nonstick skillet, heat 1/2 tablespoon oil over medium-high heat. Add onion and chiles and saute until tender, about 10 minutes.

Transfer onion mixture to bowl. In same skillet, heat 1 tablespoon oil over medium-high heat. Add potatoes and saute until golden brown and tender, about 12 minutes. Return onion mixture to skillet with potatoes and keep warm.

Sprinkle both sides of steak generously with garlic powder, chili powder, salt and pepper. In heavy, large skillet, heat remaining oil over medium-high heat. Add steak and cook until browned on both sides, turning once, about 8 minutes total for medium-rare. Transfer steak to cutting board; let rest 5 minutes.

While steak rests, heat tortillas on griddle or over gas flame until warm, turning frequently with tongs.

Thinly slice steak. Top tortillas with steak and potato mixture; sprinkle with cilantro.

Serve with pico de gallo and/or hot sauce.

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# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Hornfjord drops ceremonial puck at westerns

By Brian Bowman

Behind every successful sports team is an avid fan base.

And the Arborg Ice Dawgs have one of the best fans around in Harold Hornfjord.

Hornfjord was chosen to drop the ceremonial puck at the Keystone Cup in Arborg earlier this month. It was a huge thrill for the Ice Dawgs' No. 1 fan.

"(Harold) was totally, totally excited," said western committee co-chair Maureen Sigurgeirson. "He had put his suit on at 10 o'clock in the morning and he wasn't dropping the puck until 7:30 at night. He was very, very excited to be chosen to (drop the puck)."

Hornfjord has been an avid Ice Dawgs' supporter for years. He attends every home game and can be seen watching the team load on the bus for

away games.

"He can always be seen watching the players load on the bus," Sigurgeirson said. "And he waits for someone with Internet service to tell him how they've done on their road trip."

Like every great sports fan, Hornfjord is very knowledgeable on game statistics and freely shares this information with everyone around him. He knows a lot about the players and the local players certainly know him.

The Ice Dawgs are very important to Hornfjord, who lives in the Arborg Assisted Living Centre and is in his 70s.

"He knows everything about the Ice Dawgs," Sigurgeirson said. "Having a Junior 'B' team in Arborg has certainly been a highlight for him."



EXPRESS PHOTO BY MAUREEN SIGURGEIRSON

Harold Hornfjord of Arborg dropped the puck during the opening ceremonies of the Keystone Cup earlier this month.

## Minor baseball returns to Ashern

By Jeff Ward

It's been nearly 20 years since the town of Ashern was involved in minor baseball, but this spring will mark the return of the sport for kids ages four to nine.

Ashern will have two teams this year, a Rally Cap team open to ages four to six and a Grand Slam team open to ages seven and eight.

The organizer of Ashern's return to the game is Tyler Geisler, the president of the Ashern Arena, and he said there has been good interest in starting the teams up again. Geisler said that minor baseball has been missing from Ashern for nearly 20 years, although he doesn't know why.

Since youth in Ashern haven't been exposed to this sport as often as others like hockey or soccer, Geisler is using this first season to lay the ground work and get kids excited. Registration takes place on May 2 at the Ashern Sports Grounds at 5 p.m. and there will also be a practice to get kids accustomed to the game.

"They will be first learning how to play the game and the rules and then focusing on catching, hitting and throwing," said Geisler.

"It's not going to be a competitive year for them, just something for fun to make sure they want to come

back next year and play again. You need 10 minimum to play on a team, so the interest level has to be higher than other sports just to stay alive."

Geisler said that he will coach both teams this season with some help from volunteers. The teams will be called the Ashern Falcons, the team name from the good ol' days. The team will play every Tuesday from May until the end of June since Geisler said that he wants to leave the summer open for other activities. Next year, he said he will likely have a longer season once there is a more solid core of the team.

For both teams, the game will be using the T-ball format for games. At this age and skill level, pitching is too risky on young arms. Baseball Manitoba only offers player-pitching programs for kids 10 and up.

"Really, this season is all about having fun and getting them interested in the game. Baseball is an amazing sport and I'm honestly not sure what happened to it over the last 20 years but I'm glad we're able to bring it back and that so many are already interested," said Geisler.

Anyone interested in signing up can contact Geisler at 204-314-0087. The registration fee for the whole season is only \$10.

## McCorrister named Manitoba's Aboriginal Male Athlete of the Year

Staff

Sport Manitoba's annual Night of Champions, presented by Manitoba Chicken Producers, saw Peguis' Linden McCorrister win a major award last Saturday night in Winnipeg.

McCorrister, deservedly named Manitoba's Aboriginal Male Athlete of the Year, scored twice and had seven points in 33 regular-season games this past season with the WHL's Brandon Wheat Kings.

He also added an assist in the playoffs.

McCorrister's 2016-champion Wheat Kings were also named the Calm Air Manitoba Junior Team of the Year while teammate Nolan Patrick was chosen Manitoba Chicken Junior Male Athlete of the Year.

Saturday's event was held in recognition of sports excellence in Manitoba and there was plenty to celebrate as athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers were honoured for their amateur sport achievements in Manitoba.

"Members of the Manitoba sports media, as they have more than 60 years, are again pleased to play a role



Linden McCorrister

in selecting and honouring Manitoba's top athletes and teams in 2016," said Terry Frey, president of the Manitoba Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association. "Congratulations to all the winners and finalists for your noteworthy achievements in the past year."



# Volleyball Manitoba hosts provincial championships

## Submitted by Volleyball Manitoba

The first weekend of the 2017 Volleyball Manitoba Provincial Championships took place last weekend with four events held in Winnipeg and Brandon.

Those championships involved 44 teams and the 2017 provincials will continue the next two weekends with nine more championships being played, involving another 146 teams.

Here are the final placings and all-star/MVP selections from April 22-23.

13U Boys Provincials (St. Paul's High School)

First - 204 Gold, second - WinMan Wave, third - WinMan Tide, fourth - 204 Cardinal, fifth - Selkirk Royals,

sixth - Tsunami and seventh - BVC.

13U Girls Provincials (MBCI)

First - Vision Rage, second - Dynamo Red, third - Vision Panthers, fourth - Prairie Fire Black, fifth - Vision Velocity, sixth - Cats Gold, seventh - Cats Blue, eighth - Fury, ninth - Dynamo Grey, 10th - Big Sand Storm, 11th - Vics Volley, 12th - Selkirk Royals White, 13th - Jr. Pilots, 14th - Vision 12U, 15th - Prairie Fire Orange, 16th - Selkirk Royals Grey and 17th Dynamo 12U.

17U Girls Provincials (Brandon)

First - Jr. Bisons, second - Shock, third - Westman Wave, fourth - Dynamo, fifth - WinMan Inferno, sixth - Cats, seventh - Storm, eighth - Mav-

ericks, ninth - Fury and 10th Killarney Raiders.

All-stars: Janet Clegg (Dynamo), Sophia King (Westman Wave), Sumathi Santiago (Shock), Melonie Einarson (Shock), Justice Bryson (Jr. Bisons) and Jana Laing (Jr. Bisons).

MVP: Jayda Nault (Jr. Bisons)

18U Girls Provincials (BU HLC & Neelin HS, Brandon)

First - Jr. Bisons, second - Cobras, third - Jr. Wesmen, fourth - Cats, fifth - Mavericks, sixth - Rebels, seventh - Manitoba Ice, eighth - Big Sand Force, ninth - Alliance and 10th - Predators.

All-stars: Sami Love (Cats), Emma Parker (Jr. Wesmen), Tori Isfjord (Cobras), Laura Hill (Cobras), Ayiya Ot-

togo (Jr. Bison) and Paige Morris (Jr. Bison).

MVP: Julia Tays (Jr. Bison)

The next two weekends will feature the following championship events:

April 29- 30: 14U Girls - MBCI, Red River College, 14U Girls Tier 2 - Shamrock School, Winnipeg, 14U Boys - John Taylor Collegiate, Hedges Jr High, Lincoln Jr. High, Winnipeg, 17U Boys - Steinbach and 18U Boys - Steinbach.

May 6-7: 15U Girls - MBCI and Maples Collegiate, Winnipeg, 15U Boys - Brandon University, 16U Girls - Red River College and 16U Boys - Steinbach.

## take a break > GAMES

### SUDOKU

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

#### Fun By The Numbers

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

Level: Intermediate

#### Here's How It Works:

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

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

Sudoku Answer

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

Crossword Answer

## CROSSWORD

### CLUES ACROSS

- Hot meal
- Razor clams
- Blood-sucking African fly
- Chauvinists
- Windy City football player
- An alternative
- Federal Housing Administration
- Styles hair
- Arabic female name
- Paddle
- Area once separated from Germany
- Marketplace
- Gode Airport
- Upset
- Where wrestlers sweat
- Garland
- Robert \_\_, poet
- An iPad is one
- Fruit of the oak tree
- Della \_\_, singer
- Women's clothing retailer
- Mailed
- Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- Pouch
- Radioactivity unit
- Month
- Nanosecond
- Domestic
- What a boy becomes
- Breezes (anc. Greek)
- Jogged
- At the stern
- Lawrencium
- Destructive to both sides
- Arterias
- Removes
- Pretentious people
- Tropical Asian plant

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

- Type of whale
- Type of medication
- Land of the free
- Formed an opinion of
- Logo
- No (Scottish)
- Leaves tissue
- Sacred state to Muslims
- Thus
- African nation
- Someone who has a stake in
- Parties
- Subsystem producers
- Large, flightless birds
- Compromises visibility
- A ballet enthusiast
- More (Spanish)
- Skeletal muscle
- Hands (Span.)
- Weighed
- Businessman
- Famous clock Big \_\_
- Unkeyed
- Break between words
- Ink (slang)
- Disappointed
- Stroke
- Curdled milk
- Restaurants
- Explosive
- Type of terrier
- Disfigure
- Innermost cell layers
- Bar bill
- Distinct period of history
- Mode of transportation
- Equal (prefix)
- Operating system

### CLUES DOWN



# Classifieds

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**APARTMENT FOR RENT**

1 bedroom suite, Arborg. \$725 plus hydro. Water included. Recent renos - fridge, stove, laminate flooring, bathroom. On site storage, coin laundry. Main floor, one parking spot incl., cat friendly, no smoking. Ph. 204-738-2186.

**APARTMENT FOR RENT**

2 bedroom suite, Arborg. \$725 plus hydro. Water included. Carpet flooring, main floor, on site storage, coin laundry, one parking spot incl., cat friendly, no smoking. Ph. 204-738-2186.

**HOUSE FOR RENT**

House for rent in the Town of Teulon, newly renovated, 2 bedroom, fridge & stove included, within walking distance to Main Street, \$700/mo. utilities extra. Please call Lynne at 204-467-5527 for further information or email [granthamlaw.lynne@mts.net](mailto:granthamlaw.lynne@mts.net)

**HOUSES FOR SALE**

1040 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom house in Arborg, MB. \$152,700. Call Adrian 204-641-4519 or Email [adrian@arborghhbc.com](mailto:adrian@arborghhbc.com)

3 only 16 x 80, 3 bed, 2 bath. Starting at \$89,900. Altona Mobile Homes, 1-800-582-4036, 1-204-324-6776 Email [amhl@mymts.net](mailto:amhl@mymts.net)

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**HELP WANTED**

**DELI AND BAKERY HELP WANTED** - We are looking for energetic and creative team members for our deli and bakery departments, along with cashiers. Reliable, friendly and able to work a variety of shifts is required, including weekends. Experience is preferred but willing to train. Please forward your resume to Harry's Foods 5571 Highway 9 or [harrysnorth@shaw.ca](mailto:harrysnorth@shaw.ca)

**HELP WANTED**

Hiring Junior Summer Program Coordinator - Green Acres Art Centre is a non-profit offering arts, culture and wellness programs for people of all ages in Teulon and surrounding area. With support from the Canada Summer Jobs Program, we are seeking a creative, enthusiastic and reliable student between the age of 18 and 30 to provide summer administrative and program support under the direction of the GAAC Board of Directors. The position will average 30 hours/week for 12 weeks from June 5 to Aug. 26. Priority will be given to Aboriginal students and members of a minority group. See [www.greenacresartcentre.org](http://www.greenacresartcentre.org) for full ad and application details. Deadline to apply is Mon, May 8th, 2017.

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Stonewall Tire is currently accepting applications for Service Truck Tire technicians. Tire technicians will be required to repair, install and balance tires, provide on-site and remote services to customers, assist the mechanics as required, and generally provide exceptional customer service. We are a full service tire shop offering complete mechanical repair, as well as mobile farm repair. To be successful in this role, you must have manual dexterity, excellent coordination, the ability to build constructive working relationships with other shop and office employees, and a desire to provide exceptional customer service. Previous experience would be an asset. If you have a valid driver's license, are able to lift loads up to 100 lbs. and are looking for your next exciting opportunity, please reply to this ad with your resume and salary expectations or drop resume off at 377 1st Street east Stonewall. Email [Stonewalltire@mts.net](mailto:Stonewalltire@mts.net) or call 204-467-5595.

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## MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON PUBLIC NOTICE

### REGARDING THE 2017 FINANCIAL PLAN

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to subsection 162(2) of *The Municipal Act* that at 11:00 am on Wednesday, May 10, 2017, the Council of the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton will hold a Public Hearing to present its Financial Plan for the 2017 fiscal year. The Hearing will be held in the Council Chambers of the Main Municipal Office, located at 329 River Road, Arborg, MB.

Council will hear any tax payer who wishes to make a representation, ask questions, or register an objection to the Financial Plan.

Copies of the Financial Plan will be available for review on the 28th day of April, 2017, and may be examined by any person during regular office hours.

Dated this 12th day of April, 2017.

Cindy Stansell, CMMA  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton

## MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton By-Law No. 6-2017, being an Amendment to the Village of Riverton Zoning By-law No. 76/80, as amended.

<b>HEARING LOCATION:</b>	Municipality Bifrost-Riverton Council Chambers 329 River Road, Arborg, MB
<b>DATE &amp; TIME:</b>	May 10th, 2017 10:15 am
<b>GENERAL INTENT:</b>	Proposal to amend the Village of Riverton Zoning By-Law as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 3.7.2, by adding "Fish Processing Plant" as a "Conditional Use in the "C" Commercial District; and</li> <li>• Section 3.7.4, by deleting the words "of Section 59" which references a section in the <i>Planning Act</i> which no longer applies.</li> </ul> * "Conditional Use" means a use of land or a building that may be permitted under a zoning by-law which requires a Public Hearing and is subject to Council approval.
<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b>	Nancy Thom, Chief Administrative Officer/Dev. Officer Eastern Interlake Planning District 62-2nd Ave, Box 1758 Gimli, MB R0C 1B0 Ph: (204) 642-5478 Fax: (204) 642-4061 Email: <a href="mailto:eipd@mts.net">eipd@mts.net</a> Web : <a href="http://www.interlakeplanning.com">www.interlakeplanning.com</a>

A copy of the proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the location noted above during normal office hours, Monday to Friday. Copies may be made and extracts taken there from upon request.

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

## Arborg Family Dental

### FULL-TIME POSITION FOR DENTAL RECEPTIONIST

Our office is seeking a full-time Dental Receptionist. Experience in Tracker Software an asset. New grads welcome to apply.

The successful candidate must have personal drive to further his/her profession, passion for excellent patient care and positive attitude towards team building.

While we are a busy and very well organized office, we maintain a stress-free environment for our patients and dental family. We are equipped with digital X-rays, paperless charting and advanced technology focused at patient education.

If you are looking to be part of a progressive and hardworking team, please forward your resume at [arbordental@gmail.com](mailto:arbordental@gmail.com) or drop off your resume at the office, 145 Sunset Blvd in Arborg.

### Arborg Community Cemetery

Tenders are being taken for the lawn care and general maintenance of cemetery grounds for the 2017 cutting season. Tenders should include cost per cut. Fuel and machinery to be provided by successful tender. **Apply to: Kris Gudmundson between April 10th and May 10th, 2017 Box 234 Arborg, Manitoba.**

### River Rock Massage Therapy

River Rock Massage Therapy clinic is continuing to grow. Our team is searching for an additional Remedial Massage Therapist (RMT) to enhance the wellness experience for our valued clients.

**Qualifications must include:**

- Member in good standing with MTAM or NHPC.
- Massage Therapy Diploma (minimum 2200 hours)
- Liability Insurance
- CPR Level C Certified

**For more information or to send your resume, contact Jennifer Krulicki at [rrmtc@outlook.com](mailto:rrmtc@outlook.com)**



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## HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewall Elk Products Ltd., 204-467-8428 or e-mail [stonewaldek@hotmail.com](mailto:stonewaldek@hotmail.com)

Canada Benefit Group - Attention Manitoba residents: Do you or someone you know suffer from a disability? Get up to \$40,000 from the Canadian Government. Toll-free 1-888-511-2250 or [www.canadabenefit.ca](http://www.canadabenefit.ca)/free-assessment

## Hip or knee replacement?

Other medical conditions that lead to **Restrictions in Walking or Dressing?** The disability tax credit allows for a:  
**\$2,000** Yearly Tax Credit  
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## LIVESTOCK

Charolais yearling bulls for sale. \$2500. Good birth weights. Call John at 204-383-0308.

Hereford bulls for sale. Several yearlings. Moderate birth weights. Easy flushing. Semen tested & delivered. Ph Bob at 204-372-6515 or 204-280-0334.

For sale - purebred Charolais bulls. Semen tested. Delivery available. Ph Darren at Prairieview Charolais 1-204-546-2995 or 1-204-937-7680.

PB Red Angus bulls for sale. Yearlings and 2 year olds. Call Shawn 204-378-5225.



## NOW HIRING

Lease operators to help service our expanding customer base in MB, SK, AB and ND. We offer dedicated dispatch, well maintained equipment, on-site wash and full service facility with qualified technicians, in-house training, and a very competitive compensation package. All dispatched miles paid. FAST card or passport required. Contact: 204-571-0187 or email [recruiting@renaissancetrans.ca](mailto:recruiting@renaissancetrans.ca)

## LIVESTOCK

Purebred Red & Black Angus bulls, good for heifers, yearling & 2 year olds; also, 5 purebred Border Collie pups. Call 204-448-2317.

## HAY

Round hard core bales of alfalfa, brome & timothy. Horse & cattle hay avail. Ph 204-467-5078 or 204-461-0722.

200 grass round hay bales for sale. 1000 - 1100 lb. average at \$30 per bale. Call 204-642-5450, Gimli.

## FARM PRODUCE

Potatos - Red, Russet, Yellow; bird seed & deer feed; seed potatoes. Ph Interlake Potato Farm, 204-886-2676.

## WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

**Annual Stamp & Coin Show**  
 Friday, May 5 1 - 6pm  
 Saturday, May 6 10 - 6pm  
 Sunday, May 7 10 - 4pm  
**Sunova Centre**  
 (West St. Paul)  
 Main St. & North Perimeter  
[www.wps.mb.ca](http://www.wps.mb.ca)  
 204-582-1334

## FARM MACHINERY

22' cultivator; 6' bucket for a F.E.L.; 5' finishing mower; 3 pth bale spear; 200 used fence posts & used barbed wire; Westeel 2000 bushel grain bin. Ph 204-322-5614.

## Farm Help Wanted

Farm help operating and maintaining farm equipment. Experience in operating modern equipment an asset. Class 1 driver's licence an asset. Class 5 required. Seasonal and full-time positions available. Call 204-365-0321 or 204-365-0364

## McSherry Auction Service Ltd CONSTRUCTION / AGRICULTURE AUCTION SALE FRED FEDAK

Saturday May 6th @ 10:00 am

Libau, MB  
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Construction \*97  
 Daewoo DH170 Track Excavator - 2018 Hrs \*  
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## HELP WANTED

Counter person to work selling auto and agricultural parts. Experience an asset but not necessary. Will train right candidate. 5 days a week, 2 Saturdays a month. Full benefit package. Quarterly bonuses. email [iauto@mymts.net](mailto:iauto@mymts.net)  
**INTERLAKE AUTO & TRACTOR PARTS LTD.**  
 Box 249, 161 Sunset Blvd., Arborg  
 204-376-2667 Fax 204-376-5760

## Community Futures West Interlake JOB POSTING - BUSINESS ANALYST

Community Futures West Interlake has an opening for a Business Analyst. Community Futures West Interlake serves the municipalities of Woodlands, St. Laurent, Coldwell, West Interlake and Grahamdale, located on PTH #6 in Manitoba's Interlake. Community Futures West Interlake delivers a variety of services including loans and technical and advisory services for small and medium-sized businesses, services targeted to youth and entrepreneurs with disabilities, and community economic development and planning. The Business Analyst position is a key position at Community Futures and requires a business minded person that possesses a wide range of skills. Our focus in hiring will be to identify a candidate who has a strong mix of education and/or experience along with an entrepreneurial attitude and aptitude that will help to make them an excellent business analyst, lender, business developer and advocate for Community Futures.

- The Position:**
- Assisting business clients by providing business information and resources
  - Analysis and assessment of business proposals
  - Reviewing business plans, preparing of loan applications, business proposals and loan documentation
  - Monitoring the investment loan portfolio
  - Providing business training and development, marketing programs and administration of the Self Employment Assistance & Elevate Programs.

- The ideal applicant will have a combination of:**
- Personal characteristics:**
- Hiring for this position will focus on individuals with the following demonstrated characteristics including:
- 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 and lending committee
  - Positive and opportunity focused
  - Results oriented self-starter
  - Confidence in making decisions and communicating decisions effectively to clients
  - Ability to identify and act on key issues related to loan applications, loan files and business development

- Education and/or Experience:**
- Business diploma or degree
  - Business counseling or coaching training certification or related industry training and/or certification
  - Commercial lending
  - Small business ownership
  - Business analysis, counseling, coaching and business development experience
- Computer Skills:**
- Proficiency with Microsoft Excel and Word is required
  - Competent computer user including strong organizing and file management skills
  - The software program, The Exceptional Assistant, experience would be considered an asset

**Hours:**  
 Regular offi @ hours are 8:30 to 4:30 PM, Monday to Friday. Limited evening and weekend work is required related to meetings, events, training, conferences. Travel is required throughout the region and a valid Class 5 driver's license is required.  
**Please submit your cover letter and resume to Lana Cowling-Mason by 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 19th, 2017.**  
 By email: [lane@westinterlake.com](mailto:lane@westinterlake.com)  
 By Mail: Attention: Lana Cowling-Mason  
 Community Futures West Interlake  
 Box 68, Ashern, Manitoba, R0C 0E0  
**For more information, please visit: [www.westinterlake.com](http://www.westinterlake.com)**

## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF FISHER PUBLIC NOTICE

**2017 Financial Plan**  
**Monday, May 1, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.**

**30 TACHE STREET, FISHER BRANCH, MB R.M. OF FISHER COUNCIL CHAMBER**

At this time, the Council will present the proposed 2017 financial plan for the municipality (pursuant to Section 162(2) of *The Municipal Act*).

The presentation will provide an overview of the proposed financial plan followed by a forum for questions and comments from the public. The purpose of the hearing is to allow any interested person to make a representation, ask questions or register an objection.

Copies of the proposed financial plan will be available April 28, 2017 upon request at the RM of Fisher Municipal Office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, MB during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may also be directed by letter to the Chief Administrative Officer or through our email address at [rmoffisher@mts.net](mailto:rmoffisher@mts.net)

Consultation with our community is an important component of the Municipality's budget process. Council encourages you to attend.

Linda Tremblay, CIM, CLGM  
 Chief Administrative Officer  
 Rural Municipality of Fisher  
 Box 280  
 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0

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email: [charviedziedzic@gmail.com](mailto:charviedziedzic@gmail.com)

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ENGAGEMENT**



**Bourdeaud'hui - Gulay**

Kim Milne and Ray Bourdeaud'hui along with Leonard and Donna Gulay are pleased to announce the engagement of their children Paige and Kyle. A social evening will be held April 29th, 2017 at the Arborg Community Hall. A June shower is planned with a July wedding to follow.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHOWER ANNOUNCEMENT**



**Come & Go Bridal Shower for Jesse Arnason**  
Bride elect of Devon Evans  
Sunday, May 7, 2017 at  
Minerva Hall from 2-4 p.m.  
Registered at Bed Bath & Beyond and  
Hudson's Bay Home Store  
Unwrapped gifts please

# Announcements

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ENGAGEMENT**



**Johnson-Sylvester**

**It is with great pleasure that Raymond and Vickie Johnson announce the engagement of their daughter Lacey Jaye to Leigh Sylvester, son of Daryl and Kim.**

A shower is being held on Saturday, April 29, 2017 at Riverton Fellowship Circle Church, 59 William Ave. Riverton at 1:00 p.m. Registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond and Sears. Donations can be left at the Riverton Co-op and K.C. Enterprises (Gimli). Everyone welcome.

A social evening was held on April 8th at the Riverton Hall. A big thank you to everyone who participated in making the evening a success! A June wedding is planned.

**OBITUARY**

**Victor Baldwin Palsson**



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our loving brother and uncle, Victor Baldwin Palsson of Arborg, Manitoba, suddenly April 10, 2017 at the Johnson Memorial Hospital in Gimli, with his family at his side. He is survived by brothers, Siggi and Larus Palsson; sisters, Gudrun Tait and Inga Doll; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Larus and Elin; brothers, Pall, Oli, and Hjalti; sister Beatrice; sisters-in-law, Sigurros and Margaret and brother-in-law, Robert.

Victor was born Feb 2, 1943 and grew up on the farm, working alongside his family. He, along with his brothers Oli, Hjalti, and Siggi took over the mixed farm and successfully expanded its operation. His intelligence, common-sense and keen organizational skills lead him to become the farm bookkeeper and business manager. Victor's personality displayed patience, persistence and a stoic nature. He approached life with good humour and optimism. He loved the outdoors and nurtured all his animals and plants. Victor was an avid gardener who developed a true knack for pickling and canning. He loved to share his bountiful harvest with family and friends.

Victor was devoted to family and dedicated to friends and community. Family always came first, whether it was a weekly visit, a birthday celebration or a special family occasion. He was humble, kind and genuinely took an interest in each member. Victor was generous with his time and talents, and always ready and willing to help a neighbour. He volunteered selflessly with the Geysir Community Club and local INL, "Esjan", for many years.

In recent years Victor and his brothers moved to Arborg and soon cultivated many new friendships with the local coffee crew. Taking advantage of the town lifestyle, Victor and Siggi continued to be avid walkers, both for pleasure and exercise. With regular trips home, Victor and Siggi kept alive their connection to the farm and the land. Victor's heart and soul always called him back to Adalbol, the family homestead.

A private memorial service was held on Saturday, April 22 at the Arborg and District Multicultural Village.

"He lived his life for those he loved & those he loved will love and cherish him forever!"

We little knew that morning  
God was going to call your name,  
In Life we loved you dearly  
In death we do the same.  
It broke our hearts to lose you  
You did not go alone,  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.

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**OBITUARY**

**Linda Anne Gerbrandt (nee Zabogruski)**



Peacefully on Saturday, April 15, 2017 at the Selkirk General Hospital, Linda Gerbrandt, age 63 years of Gimli, MB, passed away. Linda was born on October 24, 1953 in Selkirk, MB.

She leaves to mourn her husband Ben; sons Justin (Sherri) and Steven (Vanessa); grandchildren Hannah, Raine and Maverick; brothers Dennis (Darlene) Zabogruski and Rick Zabogruski; and many nieces and nephews. Linda was predeceased by her parents Nettie and Steve Zabogruski; and brother Wayne Zabogruski.

Linda grew up in Selkirk, MB. As the only daughter in her family, her three brothers looked up to her. Linda graduated from nursing at Red River College. Later in life, she enjoyed having her home daycare. She loved spending time baking, cooking, making crafts and doing crosswords.

Linda was a kind, loving lady with a big heart. She welcomed everyone into her home with open arms. Family meant everything to Linda. Linda and Ben shared 40 years of marriage together. They were inseparable and were always by each other's side. Linda was also very proud of her sons. Her three grandchildren were her greatest joy. Hannah, Raine and Maverick could always bring a smile to Nana's face and brighten up her day.

Special thank you to Donna Wishnowski and the staff at Gimli Hospital, Selkirk General Hospital, Betel Home Gimli, Gimli Home Care, local ambulance attendants, Gimli Fire Department and Gimli Handi-Van who cared for Linda. Thank you to all. We will miss you Nana.

In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and a private family graveside service will be held at the East Selkirk Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.  
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- 4th prize – DeFehr Pine Desk Value **\$789**
- 5th prize – Ashley 5 pce. Dining Set Value **\$719**

**Free Draw** (No purchase necessary)

- 1st prize – Dream Star Queen Bed Value **\$899**
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\*Stainless Steel - 13 Only Reg. **\$1,499** Blowout **\$999**  
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