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**WEEKLY NEWS** 

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**EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL** 

James Bezan is heading back to Ottawa for an eighth straight term after a decisive win Monday night in Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman. Bezan, pictured with wife Kelly, captured 60.3 per cent of the vote with 32,574 votes, which marks 21 years as MP this June. His nearest competitor was Rhonda Nichol of the Liberal Party, who garnered 16,367 votes or 30.3 percent. Voter turnout was a strong 70.55 percent.

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### It takes a village: Gimli Betel and Tim Hortons treat PCH residents to in-house coffee shop

By Patricia Barrett

The Betel Personal Care Home in Gimli treated its residents to an inhouse Tim Hortons experience last week that looked and smelled and sounded like the real thing.

Betel's recreation staff turned the PCH's multipurpose room into a Timmies drive-thru, replete with a serving window and uniforms that the local Tim Hortons generously lent to Betel staff.

Gimli Betel's recreation manager Bryanne Hjorleifson said Betel staff were inspired by an event that had been held at the Betel PCH in Selkirk and decided to hold their own Tim Hortons Day in Gimli. They went all out to make the event as close to a coffee-shop experience as possible. Tables were set up so that residents could sit together and socialize and get caught up on the latest news.

"We wanted to do something different that also brought a sense of normal everyday life into the facility. Coffee is something most of our residents love and have often, but having a Tim Hortons coffee is a real treat. Timbits are always a favourite with the residents as well," said Hjorleifson.

Therapeutic recreation facilitator

Ashley Ayres said they wanted to brighten up the residents' day by offering something new.

"We just want to see them smile," said Ayres. "Bringing in new things to break up the normal routine always puts a smile on everyone's face."

In total about 70 residents enjoyed the event. About 60-65 residents visited the drive-thru to place their order, and Betel staff delivered the remaining orders to residents' rooms in order "to reach as many residents as possible."

It was a hit with residents and their families.

"They absolutely loved it and have not stopped talking about it," said Hjorleifson. "Recreation staff were approached by numerous family members who shared how much their loved one enjoyed the experience. There were big smiles and full hearts all around."

Therapeutic recreation facilitator Trista Allbutt and her spouse Kurt Kutcher made the mock Tim's drivethru window on their own time and donated it to Betel. Essentially a box on wheels, the drive-thru has counter space for serving staff and for food and beverages, as well as a customer



**EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF GIMLI BETEL** 

From left: George (resident); Ashley Ayres, therapeutic recreation facilitator; Trista Allbutt, therapeutic recreation facilitator; and Martha (resident). George and Martha are one of four married couples currently residing at Gimli Betel Home together.

serving window with a counter. The "restaurant" was painted and decorated with images of Timbits, doughnuts and coffee. Cindy Anderson, a family member of a resident, made the signs for the stand. All items list-

ed on the menu were free, including smiles. Betel staff were decked out in Tims' aprons and visors.

Run by the non-profit Betel Home

Continued on page 2



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From left: residents Shannon and Mabel.

#### > VILLAGE, FROM PG. 3

Foundation (BHF), the 80-bed personal care home offers a standard of care that aims to enhance the daily quality of life for residents. Activities include a recreation schedule that serves clients' cognitive, social, physical and emotional needs. Some of the regularly scheduled programs include memory-lane quizzes, a craft group, linen folding, bend-andstretch exercises, hymn singing and religious masses. Local choirs and theatre groups also perform for residents. The home has a secure courtyard, a chapel and is next to Gimli's Viking Park. BHF also operates a 91bed PCH in Selkirk.

Hjorleifson said Gimli PCH staff and Tim Hortons' staff worked together to make the event a success.

"Our staff wanted to make it a special event for the residents and make it something memorable," she said. "The local Tims was fantastic; they were so good about working with us and providing what we needed. They were wonderful and we really appreciate them. It takes a village — at all age levels."



Cindy Anderson, a family member of a resident, made the signs for the stand.

A volunteer group called The Friends of Gimli Betel, which was founded and is led by RM of Gimli resident Pat Nuspl, has played a part in helping create connections between Betel and the wider community. The group also helps fundraise to provide extra support for the residents.

"The Friends of Gimli Betel do so





From left: Trista Allbutt, therapeutic recreation facilitator; Sandy Boyer, therapeutic recreation facilitator; Gail (resident) and Gail's daughter Lisa.

much to show the world what happens around here and support us in any way we could ever need or think of," said Hjorleifson.

The volunteer group will be holding its 2nd Annual Bake Sale and Bazaar

fundraiser on May 10 in Johnson Hall at the Waterfront Centre from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The fundraiser will include handmade contributions from Betel residents.



### Dry conditions spark burning restrictions across Interlake

By Lana Meier

Several Interlake municipalities, including Fisher, Coldwell and Armstrong, have issued burn bans as dry spring conditions heighten the risk of wildfires across the region.

In the RM of Coldwell, an agricultural burn ban is now in effect. The municipality announced last week that all existing permits for agricultural burning have been revoked until further notice. Backyard fires in approved fire pits or burn containers are still permitted at this time.

The RM of Fisher also posted a full burning ban. All outdoor fires are prohibited, and the municipality has warned residents that fines may be issued for any violations.

In the RM of Armstrong, a burn ban covers the entire municipality. Bonfires are permitted only in enclosed fire pits or burning barrels equipped with a grate and only on calm days to prevent the spread of sparks.

Reeve Garry Wasylowski said the Armstrong fire department has already been responding to grass fires, which is early in the season for them.

"We have got a lot of fuel out there for fires to start, and we want to make sure we can keep properties safe," he said

Bifrost-Riverton is continuing to monitor the conditions and will impose a burn ban if conditions worsen. Fire Chief Jason Comeau said the department will act accordingly if they see a trend of grass fire calls and encourages everyone to burn safely with a fire permit from the municipal office.

Updates to burning conditions will be posted on the Province of Manitoba's burning restriction webpage, on the municipal website and on signs throughout the community.

The local restrictions come as Manitoba enters a critical period for wildfire activity. Spring is traditionally one of the most dangerous seasons for wildfires in the province, since dead vegetation from the previous year dries out and becomes highly combustible. Without significant moisture from rain or lingering snowpack, even a small spark can lead to fast-moving fires — especially under windy conditions typical of Manitoba springs.

Human activity is the leading cause of wildfires in the early season, according to provincial wildfire officials.



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY RIVERTON-BIFROST FIRE DEPARTMENT** 

Firefighters from the Riverton-Bifrost Fire Department worked to extinguish a grass fire near Road 134 North and PR 222 on April 23. Crews were able to contain the blaze before it reached a nearby outbuilding.

The Manitoba government reminds all residents that provincial burning permits are required for outdoor fires set within designated burn permit areas between April 1 and Nov. 15 each year. Permits, available from Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures district offices, may be cancelled or restricted on short notice depending on fire danger conditions. However, permits will not be issued in areas where municipal bans are already in place.

Although there are currently no provincewide burn or travel restric-

tions, officials are encouraging Manitobans to use extreme caution. Travellers and workers are urged to stay on developed trails when venturing into permitted backcountry areas, as off-trail travel can heighten the risk of sparking fires. All-terrain vehicle operators should check for debris around engines and exhausts regularly and are advised to carry a fire extinguisher, axe and shovel at all times.

Burn permit holders are reminded

Continued on page 5





### Gimli students rally for global change with 5K fundraiser

Gimli High School students aren't just running — they're fighting for the future of the planet.

On May 9, the Student Voices group will host a five-kilometre fundraiser in support of Coral Gardeners, an international organization dedicated to restoring coral reefs and battling the effects of climate change.

Grade 12 students Ava Michaluk and Vira Balaban are spearheading the fundraiser on behalf of student voices.

"In recent years, we've seen how environmental damage has hurt our own community," said Balaban. "We want to stand up for coastal communities around the world who are facing even bigger challenges."

Student Voices, a student-led group focused on community action, supports multiple causes throughout the year, including the Gimli Humane Society, the Thirst Project and Siloam Mission. Each year, members choose one major campaign to rally behind. This year, they are combining physical activity, awareness and fundraising to advocate for a healthier planet.

The 5K run will start at 11 a.m. at Gimli High School, taking participants past Dr. George Johnson Middle School and along the Gimli boardwalk before returning to GHS. Students from Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School, DGJMS and the wider community are invited to take part. There is a 2.5K option available from SSES.

Michaluk said organizing an event of this size has been a new and exciting experience, offering opportunities to learn about planning, communication and teamwork by working alongside school staff and the Town of Gimli.

Running, she added, ties in perfectly with the

message of resilience.

"Running a way show strength and determination - two things we need if we want to protect the environment," said Michaluk. "We will not only be



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** Scan here to sign up for the walk.

raising awareness about the environment but also showing how awesome running is."

Student Voices hopes the event will inspire younger students to realize they, too, can be changemakers.

"It shows some of our younger community members that they can make a big change, even from our little town," said Balaban.

The group chose to support Coral Gardeners because of its focus on environmental restoration. Since 2017, the organization has planted more than 100,000 corals across sites in French Polynesia, Thailand and Fiji, helping to rebuild critical ecosystems affected by warming oceans.

Coral Gardeners' mission to rebuild and revive underwater ecosystems closely mirrors concerns at home, Michaluk and Balaban said. Watching the health of Lake Winnipeg decline over the years pushed them to think globally about other communities whose livelihoods depend on thriving waters.



#### **EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED**

Gimli High School Student Voices members and 5K organizers Ava Michaluk and Vira Balaban are hosting a communitywide five-kilometre fundraiser for Coral Gardeners, an international organization dedicated to fighting the impacts of climate change on coral reefs.

Koreen Ngo, human ecology teacher and Student Voices staff advisor at GHS, said she is proud of the leadership students are demonstrating.

"It's fulfilling to see students rallying around a shared goal, and I'm hopeful that our hard work will inspire others to get involved, while also providing valuable leadership experiences," said Ngo.

Student Voices emphasizes kindness, service and leadership, Ngo said, aiming to create a ripple effect of positive action within the community.

"These experiences help develop essential leadership skills that will serve our members well beyond high school," she said.

Everyone is welcome to join the 5K fundraiser. Participants can register by scanning the QR code on event posters around town. Student Voices asks for a \$3 cash entry fee the morning of the event, but donations of any amount will be accepted. All proceeds will go directly to Coral Gardeners.

### > DRY CONDITIONS, FROM PG. 4

to monitor weather forecasts closely, ensure they have sufficient firefighting equipment on hand and establish fuel breaks before igniting any fires. Outdoor fires must never be left unattended and must be fully extinguished before leaving the site.

Manitobans are also encouraged to take proactive steps around their properties by undertaking FireSmart activities. FireSmart Canada recommends pruning tree branches within two metres of the ground, removing flammable debris and maintaining a defensible space around homes to help limit the spread of surface fires.

In a typical year, Manitoba averages around 400 wildfires, burning roughly 200,000 hectares

of forest and grassland. Spring fires are often smaller but can be among the most dangerous because of their rapid spread and proximity to communities and infrastructure. The risk typically declines once new green vegetation emerges in late spring or early summer, but early-season vigilance is critical.

For a full list of municipal burning restrictions, www.gov.mb.ca/wildfire/burn\_conditions.html. For wildfire situation updates and safety information, visit www.gov.mb.ca/wildfire or follow the Manitoba government's X (formerly Twitter) account at https://twitter.com/ mbgov.

To report a wildfire, call 911 or the province's toll-free TIP line at 1-800-782-0076.



May 10 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Monetary Collection at Door

#### Pancake Breakfast

May 25 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Legion 204-389-2660 email: rclbr61@gmail.com www.winnipegbeachlegion.ca Silent Auction All events are cash only



#### **South Interlake ATV Club (SIATV)**

Do you enjoy Quadding and the outdoors, meeting new people and travelling through Canada's back country? Creating lifelong memories and friends in the process.

The SIATV was the first ATV club in Manitoba and the Interlake Pioneer Trail was the first designated multiuse trail in Manitoba. The Interlake Pioneer Trail has been managed and maintained by the SIATV Club as a multiuse trail for all to use since 2009.

ATV'S and Side by Sides can ride from Stonewall to Fisher Branch through the R.M.'s of Rockwood, Woodlands, Armstrong and Fisher. Through farmland to the Boreal Forest, past the Narcisse Snake Dens, Inwood, Chatfield, Broad Valley and Fisher Branch.

We offer a safe and fun place to ride.

#### **For More Information Contact:**

Cam @ (204) 651-1464

Facebook: South Interlake ATV Club (Group) Email: southinterlakeatvclub@gmail.com



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### MPI, RCMP urge drivers to slow down as summer road trips begin

By Annaliese Meier

With the cold winter months in the rear-view mirror and summer straight ahead, Manitobans are hitting the road with adventure on their minds — but speed can stop you in your tracks. It just takes seconds for an adventure to turn into a tragedy.

Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) and Manitoba RCMP are working to help drivers avoid having speed ruin their next great adventure.

Music up, windows down and clear, dry roads ahead can make a driver forget that no matter the road conditions, there can be severe consequences for driving too fast. At high speeds, your field of vision is reduced and your reaction window shortens. Like switching from a wide-angle lens to a zoom lens, you can easily miss what is happening around you and lose the opportunity to react.

Even small increases in speed can mean the difference between life and death. MPI data shows that at 30 kilometres per hour, a pedestrian's fatality risk is around five per cent. At 65 kilometres per hour, that fatality risk jumps to 80 per cent.

In the last three years, 68 people have died and 2,220 have been injured in collisions on Manitoba roadways where speed was a contributing factor. The number of speed-related collisions in Manitoba from 2022 to 2024 totalled 10,499.

"Speeding is one of the most dangerous high-risk driving behaviours we see in Manitoba," said Maria Campos, MPI vice-president and chief customer and product officer. "The thousands of crashes and the high number of fatalities is very concerning, and we want to make sure that law enforcement has the tools they need to help curb this behaviour. We are proud to support the purchase of automated licence plate readers and

continue to fund enhanced enforcement programs focused solely on speed. These tactics help in cracking down on dangerous behaviour, but the best outcome is drivers keeping their speed within the legal limit.'

From 2022 to 2024, law enforcement issued 1,326 serious offence notices to drivers exceeding the speed limit by more than 50 kilometres per hour.

"Road safety has been and will

continue to be a top priority for the RCMP," said Staff Sgt. Shelley Lepla, Manitoba RCMP traffic services enforcement commander. "We are committed to working to decrease speeding and speed-related collisions throughout Manitoba."

Summer adventure does await so let's all slow down, enjoy the ride and, most importantly, reach our destinations safely.

# First splash of spring



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY CHRISTA SMITH** 

Phoenix and Jayda went for their daily stroll in Winnipeg Beach last Thursday. While Jayda eagerly dipped her paws in the lake, Phoenix hesitated to join in the fun. The temperature reached a high of 11 C on Thursday. Over the weekend, temperatures continued to rise, reaching a high of 17 C on Saturday.

Help the Express record the weather of the week by sending in your photos of friends or family enjoying the outdoors. Email news@expressweeklynews.ca.

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### National Immunization Week highlights importance of measles vaccine

By Marcy Timchishen, R.N., B.N.

Don't let history repeat itself. Protect your future. Get immunized.

National Immunization Week took place from April 21 to 30. As measles cases continue to resurge across Canada and around the world, Manitobans are urged to check whether they are up to date with their measles vaccinations.

Only a few decades ago, there was no way to protect yourself from devastating diseases such as polio, tetanus, diphtheria and meningitis — or from highly contagious infections such as measles. Outcomes were often tragic, leading to lifelong paralysis, stillbirth, neurodegenerative disease, encephalitis and even death.

Vaccines changed this landscape. As time progressed, more and more diseases became preventable by vaccination, and health outcomes improved dramatically. Before the measles vaccine was introduced, Canada's peak case count during the 1950s was 61,370. By the late 2000s, cases dropped to just 752, demonstrating that measles vaccination is highly ef-

Despite these statistics, an immense amount of misinformation continues to circulate in communities and across social media platforms.

Myth: Measles isn't a big deal.

Fact: Measles is highly contagious. One in 10 people who catch it will develop serious complications, such as pneumonia, ear infections or even brain inflammation and permanent damage.

Myth: The measles vaccine, given as part of the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine, causes au-

Fact: False. No evidence shows the MMR vaccine causes autism. This myth originated from a U.K. doctor who falsified studies and data. No legitimate studies have found a link between MMR and autism.

Myth: No one catches measles any-

Fact: Measles cases are rising worldwide, including in Canada and Manitoba. Vaccination remains the only effective way to protect against measles.

When making decisions about vaccination, it is important to base choices on facts — not hearsay. Speaking with a health professional can help answer any questions. Reliable, science-based information is also available through sources such as Manitoba Health, Seniors and Long-Term Care (www.gov. mb.ca/health) and BC Health (www2. gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health).

In contrast, blogs and social media platforms such as Facebook are often not scientific and may not provide accurate information.

With the current rise in measles cases, it is important to know:

- Early symptoms of measles include fever, runny nose, cough and red eyes. A red, blotchy rash — starting on the face and spreading down the body — is the most recognized symptom. Measles can be especially serious for young children, pregnant individuals and those with weakened immune systems.
- Measles is very contagious. Immunization is the best way to protect yourself and your children. In Manitoba, children can receive two doses of a measles vaccine free of charge.

Any time is a good time to talk to your health-care provider or public health nurse about updating your children's or your own immuniza-



A young child receives a routine vaccination during National Immunization Week, an important reminder of the role vaccines play in preventing serious illnesses such as measles.

If you have questions about immunization records, wish to schedule an appointment or are unsure if your vaccinations are up to date, contact your local public health nurse. Contact information is available at www. ierha.ca under "Find Us" and click on "Community Health Offices."

To learn more:

Recommended vaccination schedules for children and adults can be

found on the Province of Manitoba's routine immunization schedules webpage: https://www.gov.mb.ca/ health/publichealth/cdc/div/sched-

For more information regarding immunization information on the internet and can you trust what you read? https://www.immunize.ca/ sites/default/files/resources/imm\_ info\_internet\_2017\_e.pdf

# Fatal hit and run under investigation in Berens River

By Annaliese Meier

A 24-year-old woman is dead and a 23-year-old man injured following a hit-and-run collision in Berens River.

Berens River RCMP were called to the Main Road around 9:30 p.m. on April 17 after receiving a report that a northbound pickup truck had struck two pedestrians before fleeing the scene.

Officers arrived to find the woman deceased and the man suffering non-life-threatening injuries.

RCMP later arrested David Ernest George, 42, of Berens River. He remains in custody and faces multiple charges, including dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death and bodily harm, and operation of a motor vehicle while prohibited.

A forensic collision reconstructionist is assisting Berens River RCMP with the ongoing investiga-



### Ukrainian National Home charts new course for the future

The Ukrainian National Home in Fisher Branch is making changes for the year ahead, announcing a slate of new bylaws at its annual general meeting last week.

The organization held its AGM on April 23, bringing members and community members together to reflect on the past year and plan for the future. This year, the group is focusing on driving membership and reconnecting with its founding mandates.

The Ukrainian National Home first opened in 1901, established by the area's Ukrainian community as a way to preserve culture and traditions far from home. Since then, the large community centre has grown and been upgraded, now featuring a fully stocked and operational kitchen — rated among the top three in Manitoba this year for cleanliness and

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#### **AA Arborg**

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

#### **AA Eriksdale**

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

#### **AA Winnipeg Beach**

Lady of the Lake RC Church Corner of Hwy. 9 and Lake Ave., Winnipeg Beach

> Meetings are Saturdays between 7 and 8 p.m.

Contact Ann J 204-389-3417

#### Gimli Group AA

Bldg 18 Municipal Rd Industrial Park

Fri & Sun Mtgs at 7:30 pm

#### **Al-Anon Gimli and Winnipeg Beach**

Join us at 17B Loni Beach Road, next to New Horizon building... Gimli at 7:00 pm Wednesday evenings for an hour of support, strength, guidance and Hope. Contact 204-389-4777. All ages welcome.

#### **AA Riverton Group**

12 Main St. at the Riverton Senior Centre Mondays 7:30 p.m.

functionality.

Today, the organization's purpose is to:

- Preserve the legacy of the founding members;
- Aid in the continued growth of Ukrainian heritage and culture;
- Comply with the Manitoba Human Rights Code and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
- Ensure that the rights of all nations are respected within the boundaries of The Ukrainian National Home, welcoming all without prejudice;
- Provide a safe place for members and non-members to gather and celebrate;
- Endeavour to be cultural and community-minded.

Over the years, The Ukrainian National Home has hosted countless events, including community celebrations, fundraisers and raffles. The hall is used weekly by the Fisher Branch Seniors Resource Council for floor shuffleboard from October to May, while weekly cribbage and darts tournaments are open to the entire community. The rural municipality and

other local groups also use the space for safety meetings, funerals, birthdays, cadet wind-up events and more. The organization frequently donates in-kind support, such as discounted hall rentals for local groups.

Last year, The Ukrainian National Home elected a new board of three members. Treasurer Michelle Sanderson said they have spent the past year rewriting the organization's constitution and bylaws, which were initially created in 1919.

"They had big ideas back then, so we want to bring those back but make them in line with today," she said.

The new by-laws, announced at the AGM, outline the organization's purpose, use of funds, membership guidelines, meeting protocols, board operations, officers' responsibilities, board committees, standard care expectations for board members and officers, constitution amendment procedures and dissolution.

The Ukrainian National Home is working to make the group and hall a more inclusive space while maintaining a strong emphasis on Ukrainian culture. People of all backgrounds

are welcome — and encouraged — to join, with the goal of reflecting the diversity of Fisher Branch.

"Our community is growing, and our community is changing," said Sanderson. "Fisher Branch has many good entities within its borders and a lot of things have closed down, but a lot of people have moved in. We have so many different cultures in the Fisher Branch area that have come. Part of why we want to grow with the community is so that we can incorporate everybody and be inclusive."

The group hopes to expand its board to at least seven members and grow its current membership of 65. Plans are underway for new fundraising opportunities in 2025, along with the introduction of a scholarship program for local youth.

"We have wonderful things coming in the future," Sanderson said. "We've done some big things in the past, so come be part of the board. We want to open to community members affected by the goings-on and who utilize the

### Provincial government allocates over \$18 million to reconstruct PR 224

By Patricia Barrett

The provincial government announced last week that it will be repairing its highway that leads to Peguis First Nation, Fisher River Cree Nation and other communities.

Manitoba transportation and Infrastructure Minister Lisa Naylor said preliminary work is underway to repair and reconstruct sections of the highway.

The cost of the project is pegged at over \$18 million.

"Last year's spring weather caused significant damage to PR 224, but we are committed to improving safety and better connecting communities in the area," said Naylor in an April 22 news release. "Investing in infrastructure creates opportunities for communities to grow and thrive. This \$18.3-million project recognizes the importance of PR 224 as a vital roadway serving Peguis First Nation, Fisher River Cree Nation and the region as a whole."

PR 224 is the only way in to and out of the First Nations communities, a cottage development on Lake Winnipeg and other communities such as Dallas and Red Rose. The narrow two-lane highway runs north from PR 325 at Hodgson. Many sections of PR 224 have sharp curves, and long stretches of the highway have no shoulders, making it hazardous under poor weather conditions or with



**EXPRESS FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT** 

A section of PR 224 is shown in a perilous condition in 2018, with potholes and large chunks of pavement strewn across the highway.

surface breaks in the highway.

In the spring of 2018, PR 224 was in a dangerous condition. Many sections of the highway had been torn up by frost boils and potholes the width of a car, and chunks of pavement and rocks were scattered across the road.

Plans to straighten or widen parts of PR 224 are not in the province's plans; it will be repairing the foundation where the highway is damaged and adding a new layer of asphalt along a 45-kilometre stretch.

"This project will repair the foundation of damaged sections and add a layer of new asphalt to the length of the project, which will increase the highway's life expectancy," said a

departmental spokesperson. "Manitoba Transportation and Infrastructure does not currently have plans to straighten or widen Provincial Road 224 as part of the planned surface rehabilitation project."

Naylor said in the news release that the Manitoba government had committed to the project last fall, and the construction contract was recently awarded.

The reconstruction is expected to be completed in the fall of 2025.

For more information about highway conditions, detours and road closures, visit www.manitoba511 or call

## **CPAWS** offers free group hikes at Narcisse Snake Dens

#### By Jennifer McFee

Mark your calendars for an opportunity to explore nature while enjoying a sssssslithering good time.

On Saturday, May 3, the Manitoba chapter of Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS) will host two free 3.2-kilometre group hikes at the Narcisse Snake Dens.

CPAWS is an environmental non-profit that works to protect Manitoba's land and waters for future generations.

This site is home to the world's largest gathering of garter snakes, with tens of thousands of red-sided garter snakes emerging every spring from their hibernation dens.

Katie Borgfjord, digital marketing co-ordinator for the Manitoba chapter, shares her enthusiasm for the upcoming event.

"We are so excited to check out the snake dens. This will be the first time the CPAWS Nature Club is going to the snake dens," she said.

"We are so excited to explore with fellow nature

lovers, get outside and see the snakes. Scared of driving out that far? Scared of snakes? A CPAWS group hike is the perfect way to explore outdoors in a safe group environment."

Borgfjord outlined some of the benefits of participating in the group hike.

"There are so many benefits to spending time outdoors. Specifically, the benefits of attending an event like this is the safety," she said.

"We hear that lots of people are scared to venture into the wilderness due to uncertainty, unaware of poisonous plants, unaware of animals or just navigating. Our group hikes give attendees the feeling of safety in groups, new people to connect with and feeling connected to the earth."

To learn more about the CPAWS Nature Club, including its upcoming outings and workshops, visit the events page at cpawsmb.org.

All are welcome to join the Nature Club Facebook group, which is a place to meet new people, plan carpools and connect after the hike.



**PHOTO BY RON THIESSEN** 

A red-sided garter snake slithers through the Narcisse Snake Dens, home to the world's largest gathering of garter snakes. CPAWS Manitoba will host free group hikes at the dens on Saturday, May 3, offering a safe and social way to experience the natural phenomenon.

## MPI launches online appointment booking to reduce wait times

Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI) has introduced online appointment booking for many common transactions to help reduce wait times by lowering volumes of walk-in appointments at all of its service centres throughout the province. Using the new system, customers can book appointments for the most popular customer transactions, including renewing a driver's licence or registering a vehicle.

"Our customers are increasingly

looking to book and manage service appointments online, and our new system is helping us offer that convenience and flexibility to Manitobans," said Jeff Sass, MPI's interim vicepresident and chief operations officer. "This new tool makes it easy to book a time for our most common services and it will cut down on the time spent waiting for assistance."

Building on the corporation's existing booking options for Class 5 and 6 driver licensing knowledge and road tests, MPI expanded its online offerings with a successful pilot program in November 2024 that has now become fully operational. Since November, more than 90 per cent of customers have been seen within 10 minutes of their appointment time. Previously, only 62 per cent of customers were under that threshold. Walk-in service remains available at all MPI service centres, with customers being assisted in between booked appointments.

Self-serve kiosks are also available in MPI service centres. Customers can use the kiosks to book and check in for appointments, helping to ensure

everyone receives timely assistance as they access MPI's frontline services. Since the launch, 93 per cent of MPI customers have booked an appointment online or through a kiosk. Thirty-five per cent of those appointments were made by rural customers.

Customer feedback on the online booking system and kiosks has been extremely positive, with more than 90 per cent of customers saying the tools are easy to use and 80 per cent saying the wait time for service met their expectations.

### Guns and cocaine seized in Grahamdale raid

#### By Annaliese Meier

Gypsumville RCMP seized drugs, firearms and cash during the execution of a search warrant at a home along Highway 6 in the RM of Grahamdale.

The search, carried out on April 17, resulted in the seizure of three rifles, ammunition, approximately 70 grams of cocaine, multiple cellphones and

Canadian currency.

Myron Warms, 48, was arrested and remanded into custody. He faces several charges, including possession of property obtained by crime, unlawful storage of a firearm, unauthorized possession of a firearm and possession of a firearm knowing he was not the licence holder.

The investigation is ongoing.



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Guns, ammunition, cocaine, cash and cellphones seized by Gypsumville RCMP during a search at a residence in the RM of Grahamdale on April 17.



Protect your keys and support Manitoba's amputees with a War Amps key tag.







### Older musicians in Gimli say request for practice space stonewalled by RM

By Patricia Barrett

There are going to be no drum rolls for older musicians in Gimli who've been asking the RM for the use of a municipal venue at which they can get together to practise their instruments, sing, write songs, connect with other musicians and provide perfor-

Gimli resident Bill Buckels said he is one of the musicians that has been asking the municipality for practice space for older adults but has gotten nothing except the "runaround."

"We play instruments. We don't go curling. We don't swim in the outdoor pool," said Buckels who is a member of the Sunset Jam Group. "We are Gimli taxpayers who don't have the use of any municipal facility for musical practise or performance. Our municipality is not giving me and other Baby Boomers a place to go and play music with each other. And we deserve this at this point in our lives. And where are our kids supposed to play? We have a non-existent youth centre. The municipality doesn't think it's up to them to provide space for musical pursuit."

There are bluegrass, country, spiritual and rock musicians in the community, as well as tribute bands, and "all bands need to practise somewhere," he said. "We've got all this local talent but the RM is bringing in bands from Winnipeg to perform.'

Buckels said he and another of the band's members have reached out to RM staff, various council members and Community Development Corporation staff at various times over the past several months to request practice space in one of the municipality's facilities.

"We've been on to council, asking them for a space where adults can play. We've been asking for months and months — and maybe even a year now. But they just won't give us a place to play," said Buckels. "And there are other groups involved here. We've also asked the RM for space for kids to play in, as well as for space for adult musicians. Months ago, we had a meeting with [a senior RM staff member and a recreation staff member] and we told them we need a venue for the kids and for the adult

Buckels said the group had asked whether they could use municipal facilities such as the [former] RCMP building or the curling rink, which "sits empty all summer" and could be an ideal spot for adult groups.

Mayor Kevin Chudd told them they could use the Red Dock [at the north end of Gimli Beach] as a concert venue and they'd even "put an awning on it." But there was objection from the RM's tourism department, saying the sound would carry to the harbour, which is about a 600-metre stretch, he

"This council has been in place long enough and knows about our request. I've asked various people many times over the years about places to play. The same group of municipal people know there's a need for practice space for adult bands," said Buckels. "The CDC [whose sole shareholder is the RM] turned us down flat a few weeks ago when one of our members asked for adult space. The RM just won't give their taxpaying seniors - and Gen Xers, Millennials, Gen Z and kids - a place to play."

Buckels wrote a formal letter and sent white papers to the municipality, outlining the physical, mental and social benefits of older adults getting together and jamming.

"In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of lifelong learning and social engagement for maintaining the health and well-being of older adults," wrote Buckels in his white paper titled Municipal Music Programs for Seniors and Adults in Canada: Benefits and Best Practices. "Music participation, in particular, has emerged as a powerful tool for promoting these goals. Many Canadian municipalities are beginning to recognize this potential and are implementing programs that provide seniors and adults with opportunities to play music, sing, and connect with others in a supportive and accessible environment."

Buckels outlined the benefits of older adults playing a musical instrument. They include improved cognitive functioning, enhanced motor skills, stress reduction, pain management, improved respiratory function,



A band jams on the roof of the Ship & Plough pub in 2018. Older adult musicians in Gimli are looking for dedicated municipal space where they can practise and perform.

reduced depression and anxiety, creativity and self-expression, sense of purpose, increased social interaction, reduced social isolation, enhanced sense of community and an opportunity to make intergenerational connections.

Some municipalities that offer recreational music programs include the City of Winnipeg's Senior Services, the City of Toronto, the City of Vancouver, the City of Edmonton and the Halifax Regional Municipality, Buckels wrote in the report.

"All council has to do is read the white papers I sent them," he said. "I've stated the benefits of older adults playing music. They can put a policy in place and follow though with it."

In another white paper titled The Community Benefits of Adult Garage Band Style Music Programs: Healthy Jamming for a Stronger Community, Buckels wrote about "healthy" recreational music programs, comparing them to music-making in "unhealthy" environments, which could involve exposure to alcohol and/or drug use.

"This [refusal] is not right. The RM has unused infrastructure. All council is doing is creating stress for seniors. We pay tax and council is not accommodating us the way they do other recreational activities," said Buckels. "They think music is for a bunch of drunks. We want to play music outside environments where drugs and liquor is part and parcel of the scene."

The Express reached out to the mayor, council and RM staff regarding the request for a venue in which older adults can play. It asked what the RMs position is on providing older adults with dedicated recreational space for music, whether part of the recreation centre can be used as a musical practice space, and if no, why not, what other municipal building could be used, and why the RM dismissed Sunset's request.

"The RM Recreation has not previously been approached regarding this matter. Our programming team is dedicated to finding solutions and is always open to new initiatives. Initially, the RM was unaware of the request. Once informed, a team member reached out to the representative to offer suggestions and gather more information," said interim assistant chief administrative officer Christine Payne on behalf of council. "We are committed to understanding their needs and working towards a solution. As always, a delegation at council provides an avenue for public input and discussion."

# Teen injured in Little Saskatchewan shooting

An 18-year-old man is recovering after being shot in the face with a homemade shotgun in Little Saskatchewan First Nation.

Gypsumville RCMP were called

to the incident on Keewatin Road non-life-threatening injuries. around 11 p.m. on April 17.

Police say the suspect, a 24-year-old man, fled the scene after the shooting. The victim was taken to hospital with

Dean Moore of Little Saskatchewan has been charged with possession of a prohibited weapon, assault with a weapon, mischief, pointing a firearm

and several other firearm-related offences. He has been remanded into custody.

Gypsumville RCMP continue to in-

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### All the Invisible Things: Arborg couple turns love and legacy into music

By Becca Myskiw

A local couple just released an album they spent years creating in their Arborg home.

Tiffany and Craig Pidruchny, known together as Wild Divinity, spent the last five years writing, recording and producing their album All the Invisible Things. The album explores various genres, including rap, psychedelic, rock, pop and blues, and features 11 original songs.

Tiffany grew up in a musical household, with both of her parents always singing and her dad playing guitar. She began singing, too, and started writing her own songs at age nine, recording them on cassette tapes. Craig got his first guitar when he was 10. He played with numerous bands throughout the '90s but didn't enjoy the lifestyle that came with it, so he played less in the years that followed - until 2013, when he started getting excited about the opportunities technology was offering musicians.

In 2020, Tiffany and Craig began recording themselves singing and playing covers until Tiffany realized she could write and sing her own songs — so she did. When lockdown came, she started seriously working on an

"Not because of the more time but because it made me realize how quickly things can change in the world," she said, noting her dad got really sick at the time. "It kind of sobered me up — like, if I want to do this, I should."

They said their children were also a big reason for making the album — to leave them a legacy and to give their biggest fan, Serafina, something to

cheer for. Serafina is autistic and nonverbal, and she loves music, swaying and moving as her parents play.

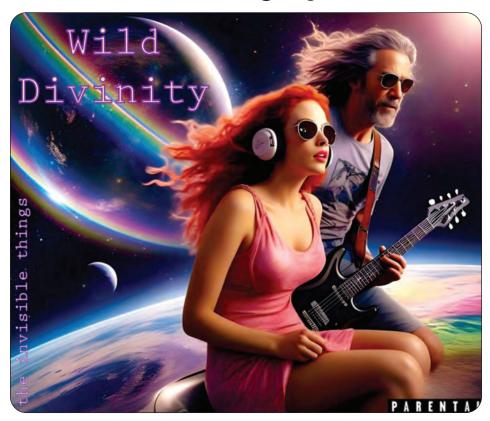
All the Invisible Things explores the genres that inspire Tiffany and Craig. Craig grew up with influences like Rush and rock 'n' roll, while Tiffany listened to Jason Mraz and pop music.

When writing, Tiffany makes sure each song has a message. One of her favourite songs on the album, Blazing, is about being yourself and not caring what others think. Transparent is about processing trauma and being open about emotions. Being is about the human experience and appreciat-

When Tiffany was coming up with these songs and more or less writing them in her head, she'd sing to me,' said Craig. "And when I would hear her sing it, I could picture a whole arrangement and get really excited about it. I would just hear the whole thing in my head."

Because Tiffany homeschools their children, Craig would work on the arrangements alone while she was with them. She'd listen to what he had composed on her own later, and the pair would go back and forth on a song from there — recording the entire album in their bedroom. Using a computer more than a decade old, Craig produced each song using open-source software. He added amplifiers, synthesizers, reverb, equalizers and more.

They had most of the album done by 2023 and began releasing the songs one by one on YouTube, then went back to fine-tune and master each one reworking them over and over until each song was perfect. They named





**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Tiffany and Craig Pidruchny just released an album they spent five years creating in their Arborg home.

the album All the Invisible Things to bring light to the many unseen forces that inspire people to create.

"Love, yearning, perseverance, trust," said Tiffany. "Music connects you without even words. It's a universal language."

Wild Divinity hopes their album will inspire other people to lean into their creative side and chase their dreams.

"You don't have to put your dreams aside for your kids," said Craig. "There's always time."

*All the Invisible Things* is available for streaming on YouTube, SoundCloud and Spotify. Tiffany also shot, edited and produced music videos for the songs, which are posted with the uploads on YouTube.

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# Garden Guide



### Four landscaping tips for a beautiful yard

Planting flowers and shrubs can enhance your property's curb appeal and provide you with a backyard oasis. Here are four tips to help you beautify your garden and lawn.

Consider flowering times. Choose plants that bloom at different times between late spring and early fall. This way you'll have flowers to enjoy all summer long.

#### Spring cleaning: get your backyard ready for summer

As the days get longer and warmer, you may find yourself anticipating how to make the most of your outdoor living space. Here's some advice to ensure your backyard is ready

#### THE PATIO AND FENCE

Since the patio and fence are prominent features of your outdoor living area, their appearance will set the tone for the space. Sweep away any rocks, leaves and other debris before cleaning the patio and fence with a pressure washer and specialized product. Make sure you choose the right setting so you don't damage the surface. Depending on the material, apply a coat of varnish or paint to freshen up and protect these backyard features.

#### THE FURNITURE

As you take each piece of furniture out of storage, check to make

sure it's in good condition. You may need to wash it to spot rust, stains or other signs of damage. In some cases, you might get another season out of your furniture by applying a new coat of paint. Additionally, worn cushions can be replaced or repaired by a professional. However, if your patio furniture has seen better days, consider starting off the season with a new setup.

#### THE BARBECUE

make sure you're ready summer cookouts, clean the stainless-steel surfaces of your barbecue. Be sure to check the condition of the grates and any other components that come in contact with food. Finally, inspect the propane tank and test each burner.

By following these tips, you'll soon be ready to enjoy lazy afternoons and warm evenings outside.





- Pay attention to soil type. When selecting plants, opt for species that grow well in the type of soil on your property. This will help your garden flourish and make it easier to
- Think about the sun. While some plants thrive in direct sunlight, others prefer shade. Select vegetation based on the amount of light your yard gets.
- Factor in yard work. All

lawns and gardens require some upkeep, but certain trees, bushes and flowers need more care than others. Make sure to choose plants based on the amount of time you have to weed, prune, water and rake.

Finally, if you want to add planters or build a deck, find out what maintenance is required. Ask about weatherresistant options at your local hardware store.







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### Community Futures East Interlake has its boots on the ground to help businesses thrive

By Patricia Barrett

Community Futures East Interlake (CFEI) is celebrating 40 years of helping the rural communities in its catchment area develop strong economies and thriving businesses.

The non-profit community-based economic development organization marked its 40th anniversary on April 30, said CFEI general manager Tammy Dziadek, who's been with the organization since 1994.

And she said the they'll be going strong in the future, especially as U.S. president Donald Trump's tariff war starts to make its impact felt in Manitoba and across Canada. During the 2008 financial crisis, CFEI's lending program was much needed. Dziadek is expecting that its loan program will be become a "bit busier" as Interlakers move through another major period of economic uncertainty.

"We'll be here to help our entrepreneurs and businesses, especially in the next little while to help them navigate the challenges with the tariffs. There is some work to do there. And we've been doing a lot of work with the non-profit sector around governance and understanding bylaws. There's huge need for that as a lot of our non-profits are struggling. We've been finding there's a lot of need for counselling services because there's a bit of a gap," said Dziadek, who took on CFEI's general manager role in 2004. "We also want to do more lending. There are programs out there you can potentially get financing for, but nobody with boots on the ground helping entrepreneurs navigate business matters."

CFEI is a grassroots-driven organization with a volunteer board of directors made up of Interlake municipal leaders and other community members. It supports entrepreneurs in its catchment area with business development advice, services, grants and loans.

CFEI falls under Community Futures Manitoba Inc., which was formed in 1991 as an association of Community Futures organizations. Community Futures was initiated by the Government of Canada and is administered by Prairies Economic Development Canada. It operates across rural and northern Canada.

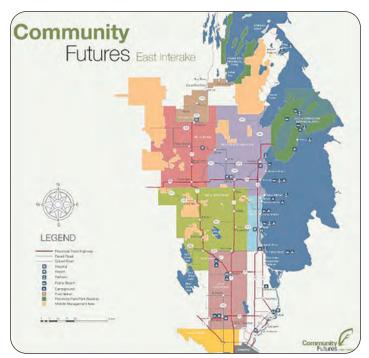
In Manitoba, the Community Futures program started out as a pilot program called the Local Employment Assistance and Development program before it morphed into the North East Interlake Business Development Corporation then eventually became CFEI while expanding its reach to communities across the Interlake.

The pilot project at the time aimed to address a need in some communities for economic development, said Dziadek, and it eventually "took on a life of its own" after proving how valuable it was.

CFEI's catchment area now includes Peguis, Fisher River and Jackhead First Nations in the north, the RM of Rosser in the south and the municipalities of Fisher, Bifrost-Riverton, Arborg, Armstrong, Gimli, Winnipeg Beach, Dunnottar, Rockwood, Stonewall and Teulon in between.

CFEI's delivers a number of programs and services that





Community Futures East Interlake's catchment area.

help entrepreneurs with business-plan development, market analysis, bookkeeping, cash-flow projections and accessing financing, to name a few. It provides business training, seminars, business training modules and referrals to other business-related professional services. It also serves as a "financing option" for qualifying clients who are unable to obtain a sufficient loan through traditional lenders.

In addition to focusing on assisting entrepreneurs, economic development is "really big" for CFEI, which works with the Economic Developers Association of Manitoba. It can "pivot" between the two when the need arises.

The federal government provided funding to CFEI to get its loan program started.

"We were originally given \$1 million 40 years ago. We got another \$475,000 in 1996," said Dziadek. "We've turned that around about 11 times now; we've got a loan pool of over \$11 million. That money goes into the community and it comes back."

One of CFEI's many success stories is the Lakeview Resort in Gimli. The hotel leases the land on which it sits and that money is re-distributed through CFEI to its communities

The Lakeview was spearheaded by the North-East Interlake Community Futures Development Committee Inc. (NEICOM). NEICOM, which holds the title to the land, had initiated a regional tourism development strategy that focused on tourism opportunities. Its study showed Gimli as the region's "anchor" for tourism development. The Lakeview opened in June 1991 and has since provided about 75 full-time and part-time jobs, as well as contributing to downtown revitalization and drawing thousands of tourists year round.

"We've had a lot of success stories over the years with





Community Futures East Interlake had a new logo made to mark its 40 years of service. The designer had some fun with the leaf.



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF TAMMY DZIADEK AND EUGENE ZALEVICH

CFEI board chair Steve Lupky, who is also the chair of Community Futures Manitoba and the chair of Community Futures Pan West, presented CFEI chair of the investment review committee Evelyn Stocki with a Community Futures' Excellence in Volunteerism Award. The award is given by the Manitoba Community Futures organization and is based on the direction and oversight that volunteers carry out at the local level.

our clients. The Gimli hotel project was a big one. Somebody saw a need for tourism and they built the hotel. Because of the hotel — the rent money we get from the lease — we have funds that we can give back as grants to the community. The whole region benefits by having access to that grant money," said Dziadek. "It's full circle where you can see all the great work that's happened over the years."

Some of CFEI's past grant recipients of the Build Interlake Growth (BIG) program include Settlers, Rails & Trails in Argyle, Something Beautiful Café in Stonewall, the Gimli Glider Exhibit, a mud bog facility in Armstrong and a pergola in Bifrost-Riverton. BIG projects create employment and help attract new residents to the east Interlake region.



grant to Jimm Simon and clients of Something Beautiful of a Build Interlake Growth grant. Eugene Zalevich counselling and other duties, presented a Build Café in Stonewall.



(left) presented the grant.



CFEI's business and community development analyst Eugene Zalevich (right), who coordinates and oversees Eugene Zalevich (left) presents a Build Interlake Growth The Gimli Glider Exhibit was one of the recipients grant programs and loans, conducts business Interlake Growth grant to Shayne Campbell, president and executive director of Argyle Settler, Rails & Trails.

#### > FUTURES, FROM PG. 13

In 2024, CFEI provided \$17,500 in BIG grants.

In addition to grants, CFEI delivers funding programs for the federal government. During the COVID pandemic in 2020, the federal government initiated the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) to provide funding assistance to businesses needing help from the pandemic's impact. In 2023 CFEI was managing over 171 RRRF loans and more than 100 RRRF clients, according to its annual general meeting report.

"The Regional Relief and Recovery Fund was huge for our office. Our office had the most loans in Manitoba. And we've had a pay back rate that's been phenomenal. About 96 per cent of those loans

have now been paid back," said Dziadek. "I'm going to give our board a lot of credit for getting that federal money out to people that needed it and as quickly as possible. It really helped region."

CFEI manages the Business Builder program, which offers free assistance to entrepreneurs with disabilities, and the Build a Better Business program, which helps new and potential business owners learn how to run a business. CFEI developed 10 modules whose topics range from business start-ups and financing to branding and taxes.

"I'm really proud the 10-module tool we created. We have videos and workbooks to give people a good understanding of how to run a business," said Dziadek. "Build a Better Busi- ness is getting used across Mani- toba and Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan liked it so much, they changed it up for their regulations. It's also being used in part of the Business Builder program."

In addition to business, economic development and loans, Dziadek said she has delivered strategic planning training to groups such as the Stonewall Chamber of Commerce, the Town of Arborg, the South Interlake Library and the Interlake Women's Resource Centre, to name a few.

What make CFEI so successful is

its grassroots nature and volunteer board, said Dziadek.

"Our program is really volunteerdriven and the staff can't do it without our volunteers; they're amazing," said Dziadek. "I think that's what makes the difference about our program: we're grassroots-driven and our program is whatever the needs of the community are."

For more information about CFEI's business and economic development services, grants and loans, call 204-378-5106 or toll free 1-800-378-5106 or visit CFEI at 62 Second Ave. in Gimli.



Eriksdale Coop **May 14** Moosehorn Coop **May 15** 11-3 p.m.

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or go to www.interlakeco-op.crs

DEADLINE TO APPLY: JUNE 10, 2025

### Sigvaldason Fine Art to host first solo contemporary exhibition with Gimli artist

By Annaliese Meier

Sigvaldason Fine Art is stepping into new territory this spring, hosting its first-ever solo exhibition featuring a contemporary artist.

The gallery, known for its focus on historical Canadian works, will present Lake Winnipeg Reflections, a new show by Gimli artist Sharon Cory. The exhibition will open with a reception on Friday, May 2 at 6 p.m., where visi-

tors will have the opportunity to meet the artist, explore the artwork, and enjoy refreshments and dainties alongside fellow art enthusiasts.

"We've had our eye on Sharon for some time," said gallery owner Nolan Sigvaldason. "She checked a lot of boxes for what we look for in an artist and we're really looking forward to this show. It's a perfect fit for our gallery and our community."

Cory, who studied Architecture and Fine Arts

at the University of Manitoba, has been working as an artist in Manitoba for several decades. Her paintings capture fleeting moments of human and natural interaction, with a particular focus on the landscapes and beach scenes of Lake Winnipeg and Gimli

"THESE EXPRES-

**CAPTURE EPHEM-**

**ERAL MOMENTS IN** 

THE LIVES OF THE

PEOPLE AND BIRDS

IN THE PAINTINGS."

SIVE WORKS

"These expressive works capture ephemeral moments in the lives of the people and birds in the paintings," Sigvaldason said. "The works explore themes of transience, intergenerational connections and the fragility of life."

The exhibition shines a spotlight on one of Manitoba's most iconic natural

landmarks. Lake Winnipeg — the 11th largest freshwater lake in the world — serves as a rich source of inspiration throughout Cory's paintings. Its vastness, diverse shoreline scenery and constantly shifting weather conditions breathe a sense of life and movement into each canvas.

Sigvaldason said Cory's work not only celebrates the beauty of Lake Winnipeg but also offers a deeper reflection on the con-

nection between people and their environment — a connection that feels especially resonant in a lakeside community like Gimli.

"It's exciting to see a contemporary perspective that still honours the tradition of telling Canadian stories through landscape and life," he said.



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Visitors will have the chance to explore Lake Winnipeg Reflections, a solo exhibition by Gimli artist Sharon Cory, at Sigvaldason Fine Art in Gimli from May 2 to 31. The show marks the gallery's first-ever solo exhibition featuring a contemporary artist.

Lake Winnipeg Reflections will run at Sigvaldason Fine Art from May 2 to May 31. The gallery hopes the exhibition will draw both seasoned collectors and new visitors, as well as spark conversations about the evolving role of contemporary art within the

broader context of Canadian artistic heritage.

For more information about the exhibition, visit www.sigvaldasonfineart. com or call 204-641-1594. Sigvaldason Fine Art is located at 70 Centre St. in Gimli



### **Ukrainian Farmers Co-operative**

### ANNUAL MEETING

May 22, 2025

7:00 pm at the Ukrainian Hall in Fisher Branch

#### Agenda Items to Include:

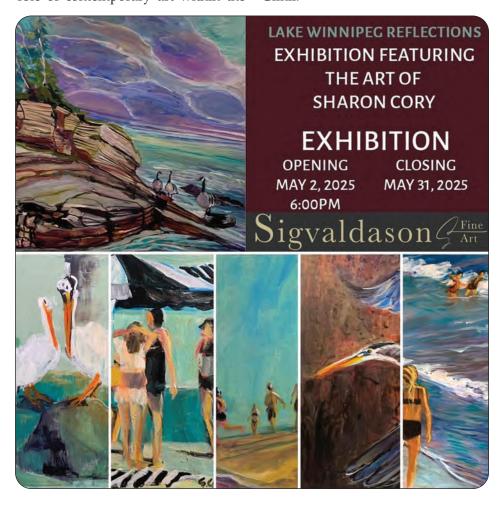
Minutes from 2024 Annual Meeting 2024 Audit/Financial Report General Manager Report Board Report Appointment of Auditors for 2025 Election of Directors

#### **Call for Board of Directors**

The Ukrainian Farmers Co-operative Ltd. Invites nominations for the position of Director.

Nominees must meet the qualifications and requirements specified in the Co-op's Bylaws and all nominations must be submitted in writing, no later than 6:00pm, May 8, 2025. Details on Director qualifications and nomination forms are available at our Customer Service office.





### **Gypsumville RCMP investigating human remains** found near Lake St. Martin First Nation

IN OTHER COUNCIL NEWS:

#### By Lana Meier

RCMP are investigating after human remains were found near Lake St. Martin First Nation earlier this

Gypsumville RCMP responded to a

report of the remains at approximately 5 p.m. on April 14. The remains were discovered outdoors, in an area near the community.

RCMP Major Crime Services is assisting with the ongoing investigation. Police have not released further details.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Gypsumville RCMP at 204-659-5224, or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477 or online at www.manitobacrimestoppers.com.

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> **Sunday May 11, 2025 Old Time Dance**

1pm – 5pm, music by: Trail Riders. \$20 Admission at the door To reserve tickets, contact Lois 204-643-5541

Sunday June 8, 2025 **Old Time Dance** 

1pm - 5pm, music by: Dennis Nykoliation, \$20 Admission at the door To reserve tickets,

contact Lois 204-643-5541



**Sunday June 22, 2025** Picnic & Parade For float entries please contact Tanya 204-642-2182 Lotto Tree Draw

For more information go to Fraserwoodhall.com or see us on

### West Interlake plants seeds for a greener future

By E Antonio

Residents can expect to see new trees sprouting up around the RM of West Interlake.

As part of the Canada-wide 2 Billion Trees Program, 134 trees are set to be planted in Eriksdale and Ashern. Launched in 2021, the program aims to plant two billion trees across Canada by 2031, with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, restoring habitats and increasing biodiversity. The Government of Canada has committed up to \$3.2 billion over 10 years to support the initiative in every province and territory.

Gary Campbell, chief administrative officer for West Interlake, proposed the program to council in March, describing it as a positive opportunity for the municipality.

"I see no downsides to this program," Campbell said. He highlighted the many benefits for the RM, including environmental preservation and improvements to the local ecological landscape. With access to more than 100 varieties of trees, Campbell said he is looking forward to the

RM's participation. Once planted, the RM will be responsible for maintaining and caring for the new trees. Campbell noted the project is still in the early discussion stages and no planting timeline has been finalized.



• The Ashern Arena filed a \$10,112.55 insurance claim after a burst water pipe damaged the drywall and ceiling of the main floor washroom. The RM initially responded to the incident on Dec. 24, 2024, with repairs continuing into March 2025. **GIMLI SELKIRK** 204-642-8501 204-482-5806 **OInterlake** IF NOW'S THE TIME FOR YOU www.interlake.mb.ca **BUY OR SELL** WE'RE HERE TO HELP **CHRIS NEUFELD** DENT THE 3 BR SHOREPOINTE **Executive hm on** LAKEFRONT-

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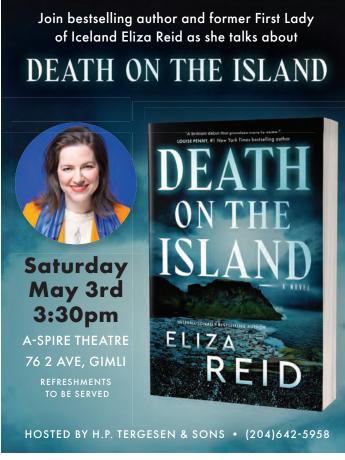
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# SDOPTS& recreation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Interlake Run Series assembles 'super-team' of local races

Runners across the Interlake are lacing up for a new challenge this summer.

Four popular races — the Duck and Run at Oak Hammock Marsh, the Stonewall Quarry Run, the Islendingadagurinn Running Races in Gimli and the Stony Mountain Run — are joining forces for the first time to form a "super-team" of races known as the Interlake Run Series, a new way for runners to earn medals and experience some of the region's best race courses.

Starting with the Duck and Run on June 22, runners will have the opportunity to earn the first of four Interlake Run Series medals. Each race will award a medal, and by completing all four events, participants can piece together a special four-piece medallion.

Following the Duck and Run, the Stonewall Quarry Run will take place July 13. Next up is Islendingadagurinn in Gimli on Aug. 3, and the series caps off Aug. 23 with the Stony Mountain Run.

Each event offers a unique running experience, from terrain to scenery.

"The Duck and Run is the first event in the series, and it's a trail run through the marsh, so you get to see probably one of the most diverse ecologies in North America," said Stonewall Quarry Run race director Dwayne Olson.

"The Stonewall Quarry Run is a little bit of a mix of trail and pavement, but it's almost all pavement. It's an Athletics Canada-certified course, and an MRA Classic Series event, so you can expect just an excellent road race."

The third event, the Gimli 5K, is exclusive to the Interlake Run Series — only runners in the 5K distance will qualify for a medal.

"It's a well-organized, well-established event," Olson said. "It goes all along the beach and through town during the Icelandic Festival, so you get to



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Runners can earn a medal at each of the four Interlake Run Series events this summer which in the end comes together to form a four-piece medallion. The series kicks off with the Duck and Run Oak Hammock Marsh on June 22.

experience all that history. Even though the 5K is newer — I designed it in 2017 and it first ran in 2018 it's become a solid event."

The Stony Mountain Run, organized by Tony Hoess, rounds out the series with a full trail run.

"If you haven't done trail running, it's excellent,"

Olson said. "I'm glad the MRA is sanctioning more trail events. It brings out a different kind of runner. So you've got a really good variety of experiences with the Interlake Run Series."

Runners must participate in specific races and distances to earn a series medal:

Duck and Run: medals awarded to 5K finishers; a 1K fun run is also available.

Islendingadagurinn: medals awarded in the 5K only; a one-mile and 10-mile race are also offered.

Stonewall Quarry Run: medals awarded in the 2K, 5K and 10K distances.

Stony Mountain Run: medals awarded in the 2.5K, 5K and 10K distances.

"It will surprise people how nice the courses are and how well organized the events are — and you get a nice big shiny medal," Olson said.

Each run also supports a local cause. This year's Stonewall Quarry Run will raise money for the International Shotokan Karate Federation of Manitoba, which includes StoneWall Karate Dojo. Olson said the organization is also supplying most of the race's volunteers.

Now in its third year, the Stonewall Quarry Run has grown steadily. It welcomed around 40 participants in its first year, over 60 in the second, and Olson said they are aiming to double again this year. Registration remains open, though limited spots are available.

"There's a lot of people from the city that come out, and it has a reputation as being a well-organized event," Olson said. "The road conditions are great and the venue is excellent for hosting a run."

To register for the Stonewall Quarry Run or any of the Interlake Run Series events, visit https:// snotri3.wixstudio.com/irs2025.

To inquire about sponsorship opportunities for the Stonewall Quarry Run, email Dwayne Olson at lakelandfr@gmail.com.

## Arborg Bifrost Recreation's outdoor sports ramping up

With the weather warming up and the calendar turning to May, spring sports are kicking into gear at the Arborg Bifrost Community Centre.

Next week, it's baseball season on deck, followed by the start of soccer the following week.

This year, Arborg Minor Baseball has almost 60 players aged six to 13 registered, making up five co-ed teams competing in Interlake Minor Ball at the single-A level.

With 11 girls registered for baseball, organizers are also looking to add an all-girls team for some exhibition games this spring and summer.

"There's more and more girls interested in sports and we've always had girls registered in our baseball program," said Arborg Bifrost recreation director Tom Chwaliboga. "In years past

we might've had two in one age group and two in another age group but now we're seeing a lot of the same girls that have registered in minor hockey are now signing up for baseball, so now we have four or five girls in each age group, so now this is allowing us to combine those bigger numbers to make a team up. This will allow us a little more flexibility and then these girls don't have to drive to say Stonewall to play on an allgirls baseball team kind of thing. They're going to play co-ed in Arborg and then we're going to try and find them some exhibition games on just the girls side."

Seven adult teams have also signed up to play in the Arborg Slopitch League.

As for Arborg Minor Soccer, almost 100 players aged five to 16 have registered to form 11 co-ed teams that will compete in the Interlake Soccer Association.

The soccer season kicks off on May 12.



### Ice Dawgs building interest from prospects with spring camp

By Kieran Reimer

The Arborg Ice Dawgs staff got a look at what's coming down the pipeline at their spring camp a few weeks ago.

The Ice Dawgs had a strong turnout of 16-, 17- and 18-year-old players, along with members of their current roster, during two skates held March 29 in Arborg and April 6 in Warren.

The players first hit the ice at the Ice Dawgs' home rink, the Arborg & District Arena, donning the old Ice Dawgs game jerseys for a two-hour skate led by last season's assistant coach, Jack Einarson.

General manager Lloyd Barylski said the goal was to generate interest in their league.

"Try and get players to come to our CRJHL (Capital Region Junior Hockey League) league," Barylski said Wednesday. "It's a lot of young kids that are going through the AAA program, so it's a lot cheaper to play in the CR league than it is to go play AAA — and it's just good hockey."

For the Ice Dawgs, who finished in the bottom half of the league this past season, building for a strong future is a priority — and having 35 players show up for the first skate was a positive sign.

Barylski said players came from across the Interlake and Winnipeg. The second skate, held at Warren's Access Credit Union Arena, also allowed the team to scout some southern Manitoba talent potentially interested in playing junior hockey next season and beyond.

Another strong turnout in Warren gave the Ice Dawgs a chance to show off what their program and the CRJHL have to offer.

Both two-hour skates were free and included pizza afterwards.

Barylski said it was a good skate and that there were positive comments from the kids saying they'd be back



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Young prospects lace up for the Arborg Ice Dawgs' spring camp at Arborg & District Arena, taking the first steps toward earning a spot for the 2025-26 CRJHL season.

for camp in the fall.

The Ice Dawgs will return to Arborg & District Arena this fall for the 2025-

26 CRJHL season. Tryouts will also be held in the fall.

### Fisher Branch Gun Show, community raise \$1,450 for STARS Air Ambulance

By Patricia Barrett

With hospital emergency rooms in the Interlake either permanently closed or on rotating closures, and the region suffering from a critical shortage of rural paramedics, the importance of having STARS Air Ambulance quickly responding to life-threatening emergencies can't be emphasized enough.

Poplarfield resident Glen Podaima said he knows firsthand how vital a role STARS plays in an emergency. His girlfriend's granddaughter, Robyn, required emergency care when she was born and so did his cousin Glenn. That's why he decided to raise money and donate it to STARS.

"My cousin, Glenn Podaima, had a very bad motorcycle accident near Virden and if it wasn't for STARS, he wouldn't be with us today. They saved his life," said Podaima. "And Robyn, my girlfriend's granddaughter, experienced some complications when she was born. Again, if it wasn't for STARS, she wouldn't be with us."

The doctor shortage, paramedic shortage and hospital ER closures jeopardize rural residents' access to emergency care when they need it, he said.

"There are no doctors in the rural area anymore. And some of our emergency departments are closed," said Podaima. "When we're hurt, STARS is our only chance of survival. That was one my reasons to help support STARS. It's so important to have this service."

The closest hospital emergency rooms to Poplarfield are Arborg and Eriksdale. Arborg's ER has been closed for over a year or more and Eriksdale's ER is open only about six out of 30 days a month.

Podaima said they've used Percy E. Moore hospital in Hodgson, a federally run hospital, but sometimes there are no doctors. And Hodgson is about a 45-minute or so drive from Poplarfield.

"Even if you go to Hodgson, they'll call STARS, if necessary," he said.

Podaima and members of his family travelled to Winnipeg a few weeks ago to present a cheque for



**EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF GLEN PODAIMA** 

Robyn, her mom and Glenn Podaima presented STARS Air Ambulance with a cheque for \$1,450 a few weeks ago at STARS' hangar at the Winnipeg airport. Robyn and Glenn wanted to thank STARS for saving their lives. Podaima's cousin, Glen Podaima of the Fisher Branch Gun Show donated the proceeds from his 2024 show to STARS.

\$1,450 to STARS at its hangar at the Winnipeg airport. When he contacted the air ambulance service to say he had a donation for them, STARS invited him and his family to the hangar to see the helicopter and meet STARS' medical responders and other staff.

"They told me they're continuously training and they're raising money to build on to their building, which is very small. Their training [centre] is the about the size of a huge Winnebago," said Podaima. "The building is not big enough anymore for the amount of crew they have."

STARS Air Ambulance responds to and provides critical emergency care to people living in rural and remote areas, including Indigenous communities, across western Canada.

STARS spokesperson Blake Robert said he was on hand when Podaima and members of his family visited STARS' Winnipeg base.

"STARS was built by the community, for the community, and this donation is another great example of that community spirit. STARS has flown over 9,000 missions across Manitoba, and every one of those missions has been made possible thanks to our donors," said Robert. "We are so grateful to Mr. Podaima and everyone who contributed to this generous donation from the Fisher Branch Gun Show — their support helps ensure that STARS can continue to be there for Manitobans when and where they need us most."

Podaima organized his 1st Annual Fisher Branch Gun Show last year. It featured various gun vendors, Arborg Livestock Supplies (which sells ammunition, hunting clothing), gun safety experts such as Katie Jones from Arborg, food, draws for new guns and a silent auction. The show is geared to hunters and sport shooters.

Only people with a Canadian firearms safety certificate are able buy a gun from a vendor or enter the draw. And there is a youth component to the show, which emphasizes education on how to use guns safely and responsibly.

"We sold 500 raffle tickets and we got a couple of donations from people who didn't want a gun but wanted to support STARS," said Podaima. "We actually did two guns draws and we donated the money to STARS and to the kid's soccer program in Fisher Branch."

The 2nd Annual Fisher Branch Gun Show is set for Saturday, Oct. 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Poplarfield Community Centre.

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#### ANTIQUE SALE

Don't miss the big annual Spring Junk Wagon Antiques & Collectibles Sale. Everything from old toys, vintage clothing, records, comics, jewelry, rustic, retro, glassware, old advertising, old signs, upcycled and so much more. Saturday, May 10, 2025. Doors open 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 980 Winakwa Rd. in Winnipeg. \$5 per

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1-204-861-0126.

2025 at 6:00 p.m.

Municipal Office at 62 2nd Ave, Gimli.

Dated this 16th day of April 2025

**Acting Chief Administrative Officer** 

Kelly Cosgrove, CMMA

Rural Municipality of Gimli

#### SEED

Certified #1 Algonquin alfalfa seed for sale. Inoculated. bags. Carla Shergold 204-298-4099.

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**REGARDING THE 2025 FINANCIAL PLAN** 

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to subsection 162(2)

of The Municipal Act that the Council of the Rural Municipality

of Gimli intends to present its Financial Plan for the Fiscal Year

2025 at a Public Hearing to be held in the Council Chambers

at the Municipal Building 62 2nd Ave on the 13th day of May

Copies of the Financial Plan will be available for review on

the 6th day of May 2025 and may be accessed on the Rural

Municipality of Gimli website at www.gimli.ca or at the

**RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI** 

PUBLIC NOTICE

#### ACCOMMODATIONS/ CAMPING

Seasonal and daily campsites available for rent at Narrows Sunset Lodge. Services: rooms, fishing, cottages, convenience store, beer/liquor, restaurant. Phone Irv 204-768-27

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Estate & Moving May 14th @ 7:00PM

McSherryAuction.com 204-467-1858 or 204-886-7027 mcsherryltd@gmail.com

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**NOTICE TO FARMERS AND RANCHERS** 

#### **ASHERN AUCTION MART SALES FOR MAY AND JUNE**

**APRIL 30, 2025 MAY 14, 2025 MAY 28, 2025 JUNE 11, 2025** 

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#### **TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH**

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 TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH BY-LAW NO. 01-2025 Being an amendment to the Town of Winnipeg Beach Zoning By-law No. 8-2012, as amended.

HEARING Winnipeg Beach Council Chambers LOCATION:

29 Robinson Street

Winnipeg Beach, MB

DATE & May 14, 2025 TIME: 6:00 pm

APPLICATION: TWB-25-01R

AFFECTED Pt. SE 1/4 33-17-04EPM AREA:

Being Lot 8, Plan 47379 WLTO - #640 Temple

Avenue - Roll 30600

**GENERAL** INTENT:

To rezone an area in the Town of Winnipeg Beach from "R1-5" Residential Single Family Zone to "RM" Residential Multiple-Family Zone, to accommodate a future development.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Nancy Thom, CMMA

CAO / Development Officer Eastern Interlake Planning District 62-2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Box 1758 Gimli, MB R0C 1B0

Ph: 204-642-5478 Fax: 204-642-4061
Email: eipd@mymts.net Web: www.interlakeplanning.com

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

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

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#### **NOTICE OF TENDERS**

#### **GRASS CUTTING**

The Rural Municipality of Fisher is inviting tenders for grass cutting at:

- 1 Town of Broad Valley
- 2 Town of Hodgson
- 3 Town of Poplarfield
- 4 RM of Fisher Office,

**30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch** 

- 5 RM of Fisher Water Plant, 144 Tache Street, Fisher Branch
- 6 Interlake Forest Centre, PR 17

Please state <u>price per cut</u> in the tender and provide separate tenders for each location.

- Applicant is to supply own equipment and fuel.
- Applicant to be 18 years of age or over.
- Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Submit sealed envelope marked **"Tender Grass Cutting"** for <u>each</u> location. Deadline for tenders is **4:00** p.m. May 6, 2025. For further information, call the RM of Fisher office at 204-372-6393. Maps provided upon request.

Submit tenders to: Rural Municipality of Fisher

Box 280, Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0



#### **Assistant Chief Administrative Officer**

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking a motivated individual with excellent administration and finance skills for the position of Assistant Chief Administrative Officer.

#### **Duties:**

- Assist the CAO with operations of the Municipality
- Payroll functions
- Perform zoning and planning management
- Act on behalf of the CAO in their absence
- Applications for funding programs; Green Team
   Assist community groups; Riverton Handi-van, Seniors
- Resource
- Coordinate board of revision
- Prepare and plan Council Meetings
- Supplementary tax billings
- All other duties as assigned

#### **Specifications:**

- Holds a Certificate in Manitoba Municipal Administration, or
- Professional designation in any related field
- Experience with Munisoft or similar municipal accounting software will be an asset
- Knowledge of Manitoba municipal provincial and federal legislation
- Strong communication, people management, and organizational skills

#### **Requirements:**

- Full time position (37.5 hrs/week), with benefits.
- Salary reflective of their experience and qualifications.
- The posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is located.

#### Details:

- 8:30 am-12 pm, 1 pm-4:30 pm, Monday to Friday.
- Rate of pay is based on experience.
- A detailed job description is available upon request.

Applications will be received until a suitable candidate is found.

Please submit your resume and cover letter in person or email to: Ms. Larissa Love

Chief Administrative Officer Email: info@bifriv.ca



#### Rural Municipality of St. Laurent Municipalitè rurale de Saint Laurent

Under the authority of The Municipal Act

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Public Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 162(2) of *The Municipal Act* that the Council of the Rural Municipality of St. Laurent shall hold a Public Hearing to present its 2025 Financial Plan.

**HEARING LOCATION**: RM of St. Laurent Council Chambers (in the Recreation Centre), PTH #6 & Veteran's Memorial Rd., St. Laurent, Manitoba.

**DATE & TIME**: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 @ 7:00 pm

At this time Council will present the proposed 2025 Financial Plan for the municipality. 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.

A draft copy of the 2025 Financial Plan is now available.

Dated this 11th day of April, 2025

For additional information, please contact:

Billie Jean Oliver

CAO for the RM of St. Laurent



## Town of Winnipeg Beach EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### **INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR SEASONAL & STUDENT POSITIONS**

General Skills & Qualifications for all positions: Excellent communication and organizational skills, and a demonstrated ability to work independently and/or in a team environment are required. Wage in accordance with current collective agreement.

#### **SEASONAL POSITIONS**

<u>Seasonal Equipment Operator</u> - (May to October) Duties will focus on road maintenance and drainage. Other duties may include minor carpentry and general labour. A valid class 3 license with air endorsement driver's license is preferred. Preference would be for an individual with a minimum 5 years' experience as an equipment operator.

<u>General Labourers/Grass Cutting</u> - (May to September/October) Duties include grass cutting, trimming, landscaping, tree-trimming, etc. Must be physically fit. Typical work shift 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday to Friday but may include some weekends. Valid class 5 driver's license required.

Criminal Background Check and Drivers Abstract to be provided.

Resumes and references to be submitted to the undersigned, stating the position(s) applied for, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2025.

#### **GREEN TEAM STUDENT POSITIONS**

3 Positions - Applicants must be aged 15 to 29, living in Manitoba (have a valid Social Insurance Number) and have a valid Child Employment Permit if 15 years of age. Driver's licence is an asset. Shifts are Monday to Friday; 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Duties include but are not limited to:

- Maintenance/beautification of town parks, green spaces, town vards and streets
- Cutting/Trimming of grass/hedges
- Collection of some recyclables throughout the community

Resumes and references to be submitted to the undersigned, stating the position(s) applied for, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 30, 2025.

Joe Bergman Public Works Manager Town of Winnipeg Beach PO Box 160 Winnipeg Beach, MB ROC 3G0 Email: publicworks@winnipegbeach.ca Fax: (204) 389-2019

We thank all applicants; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

News Tips? call the Express 204-467-5836



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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 to stimulate work red blood cell production & cartilage regeneration development. Stonewood Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or e-mail stonewoodelkranch@ mymts.net

#### \* **EXPR€S**5

204-467-5836

#### NOTICE TO CREDITOS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: ALEXANDER KARISH, late of the R.M of Gimli, in Manitoba, Deceased.

ALL claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, be filed with the undersigned at their offices, 72A Centre Street, P.O. Box 6500, Gimli, Manitoba, R0C 1B0, on or before the 29th day of May, 2025. DATED at Gimli. Manitoba, this 1 st day of May, 2025. BAKER LAW

BAKER L/
CORPORATION
SOLICITORS FOR
THE EXECUTORS
Attention:
Grant D. Baker

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Apply in person, fax, mail or e-mail resume to: 276 Ardal St., Box 190, Arborg, MB R0C 0A0 shachtays@hotmail.com

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to register or make a pledge **WANTED** COLLECTIONS & OLD JEWELRY!

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# **ASHERN**

**Ashern Home Home** Hardware is Hiring!

### **Full-time or Part Time** Salesperson, **Summer Student** or Permanent.

Must be able to lift 50 lbs. unassisted. Retail experience not required, but would be an asset.

Deadline for application is May 24, 2025. Apply to #28 Railway Avenue, Ashern or e-mail: jason.carpenter@homehardware.ca

#### **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF BRIAN DAVID ZAHARIA, late of the Town of Gimli, in Manitoba, Deceased.

ALL claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at his office, Box 149, 70 Main Street, Teulon, Manitoba, ROC 3B0, on or before the 17th day of June, 2025.

DATED at Teulon, Manitoba, this 28th day of April, A.D. 2025.

STEVEN R. SHINNIE SOLICITOR FOR THE EXECUTOR

#### We're HIRING

We are a growing company looking to fill a

### **Driving Position**

Qualifications: Minimum of Class 3 drivers license w/ air, great customer service skills, energetic and selfmotivated. Will be responsible for using our shed mover to place sheds in their final location.



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#### WE ARE HIRING

Romafa Metal Works, Inc, a growing, internationally-operated enterprise in the Interlake region of Manitoba is looking for a skillful, well-educated, and experienced product developer in the mechanical engineering field with programming skills.

As a product developer the employee will be part of a small mechanical engineering team and responsible mainly for modelling, drafting, and making installation manuals for stainlesssteel products in cooperation with production, sales and marketing department by using CAD and making required calculation by means of SolidWorks and Excel.

#### The profile:

- A well-experienced product developer in mechanical engineering with a strong SolidWorks knowledge.
- Vocational training and practical experience in mechanical aspects are urgently needed.
- A bachelor degree of a Canadian university or recognized comparable education in mechanical or electro-mechanical engineering would be appreciated.
- Experience in agricultural and / or food processing machinery industry is required.
- Profound knowledge and experience in industrial steel and stainless-steel processing is required.
- Familiarity with European mechanical engineering standards would be very much appreciated.
- Willingness and ability to go along with existing design and production process standards and still having a strategy and constructive suggestions on how to improve and optimize the process step by step.
- As SolidWorks includes an application programming interface, you should be experienced to use it in order to optimize the design and production process.
- · Some knowledge in CNC programming would be considered as a plus.
- ERP-system experience would be very useful.
- The average level of English at least IELTS 6.

#### Other information

Location of work: Mainly in Arborg. To apply, send application and resume: Email: ronald@romafa.com Box 4258, Arborg MB R0C0A0



# **TOWN OF ARBORG**

The Town of Arborg is accepting applications for Summer Employment with the Public Works Department.

Must be 16 - 24 years of age and possess a valid Driver License. Main duties will include maintenance of public green spaces and other Public Works projects as needed.

Applications submitted by May 16th, 2025 to:

Town of Arborg

Email: operations@townofarborg.com PO Box 159 Arborg MB R0C 0A0 In person: 337 River Road

> We thank all applicants for their interest however, only those selected for interviews will be contacted.



#### **TOWN OF ARBORG PUBLIC NOTICE 2025 FINANCIAL** PLAN

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 162(2) of The Municipal Act that the Council of the Town of Arborg shall hold a Public Hearing to present the Financial Plan for the fiscal vear 2025 on:

> Wednesday, May 14th, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. **Town of Arborg Municipal Office** 337 River Road Arborg, MB

The purpose of the Public Hearing is to allow any interested person to make representation, ask questions or register an objection in respect to the Town of Arborg's 2025 Financial Plan.

Copies of the 2025 Financial Plan will be available for review on April 25th, 2025 and may be examined by any person on the Town of Arborg's website at www.townofarborg.com.

Dated this 16th day of April, 2025

Cindy Stansell, CMMA Chief Administrative Officer Town of Arborg



### **Rural Municipality of**

Box 280, Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 Tel: 204-372-6393, Fax: 204-372-8470

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### **2025 BUDGET HEARING Thursday, May 15, 2025** 7:00 p.m.

RM OF FISHER COUNCIL CHAMBERS 30 TACHE ST. FISHER BRANCH

At this time the Council will present the proposed 2025 financial plan for the municipality.

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 upon request, May 9, 2025 at the RM of Fisher Municipal Office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, MB during regular business hours. Questions and remarks may also be directed by letter to the Chief Administrative Officer or through e-mail at fishercao@ mymts.net

# assifieds



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#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

#### **Waste Water Hauling team**

Gimli Septic Service Ltd. has immediate openings for a Waste Water Hauling team. We currently have 2 full time openings for Class 5 & Class 3 w/air drivers. The shop is located in Sandy Hook and will be the shift start location. Experience is welcome but willing to train the right candidate.

Starting wage for Class 5 \$20/hr with average daily commission of \$31

Starting wage for Class 3 w/air \$25/hr with average daily commission of \$45

Applicants must: -Maintain a Class 5 license -Demonstrate good truck driving ability with a clean driving record -Have the ability to lift 65lbs as the position requires some recurring physical labor -Ability to work independently -Be willing to work Saturday as part of regular scheduled shifts -Working cell phone for daily task updates -Other duties as assigned Benefits are offered after 3 months.

For all inquiries please reply by email to.: gimliseptic@gmail.com



#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

#### NOTICE OF DUST CONTROL PROGRAM

Homeowners along municipal roads in the RM of Fisher may apply to have dust control in front of their home sites. Homeowners have the option of a light application or a heavier application.

1 site is 150 meters (492 feet)

Costs are as follows:

800L Light Application 12ft wide for \$403.00 OR

1000L Heavy Application 12ft wide for \$504.00

\*It is the homeowners' responsibility to flag the site for application. Sticks and ribbon can be obtained at the RM office.

Payment must be received by the Rural Municipality of Fisher Office, Box 280, Fisher Branch, Manitoba R0C 0Z0 by May 23, 2025. Make cheques payable to the RM of Fisher. Payments are not refundable after application of dust control. Price does not include gravel applied to site prior to dust control application. Gravel at site is at the discretion of the contractor. Dust control date application is dictated by Fort Distributors. Rain Dates may be required.

For more information, please contact the Rural Municipality of Fisher Office at 372-6393.

Rural Municipality of Fisher Box 280 Fisher Branch, Manitoba **R0C 0Z0** 



#### MUNICIPALITY OF BIFROST-RIVERTON EMPLOYMENT

The Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is seeking a SUMMER **SEASONAL GRAVEL CHECKER.** 

#### **Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

- Responsible for staking the dust control areas
- Responsible for gravel checking during the dust control and maintenance graveling program throughout the year.
- The gravel checker is to instruct and direct the gravel contractor with the amounts of gravel needed and the locations within the Municipality.
- Typical working schedule is Monday to Friday
- Self-motivated and the ability to work independently
- Other duties as assigned

Resumes will be accepted by the undersigned.

Jason Comeau, Public Works Manager Box 70, 329 River Road Arborg, MB R0C 0A0 Ph: 204-376-2391 Email: pwm@bifriv.ca



#### **Rural Municipality of St. Laurent Municipalité rurale de Saint-Laurent** CAREER OPPORTUNITY

#### Full-time Office Assistant

(maternity leave - with possibility of permanent employment)

The Rural Municipality of St. Laurent is inviting applications to cover a maternity leave for the full-time position of Office Assistant. This maternity leave is an 18-month term with the possibility of permanent employment at the end.

Under the direction of the Chief Administrative Officer, the Office Assistant will assist management in all aspects of daily operations. We are seeking an individual that possesses a high level of skills in office procedures, communication with staff, council, and the public.

Within the selection process the following will be considered an asset: Certificate in Manitoba Municipal Administration (CMMA) or extensive experience in local government/public sector environment or willingness to enroll and complete courses within the CMMA Program as per the Employee Bylaw; a basic knowledge of federal, provincial and municipal legislation; computer and software (Microsoft 365 and municipal software) experience; and an individual who has excellent French language communication skills. Training in each of these areas is available for the successful candidate.

The successful candidate can expect a salary reflective of their experience and qualifications and a benefit package upon completion of the mandatory probationary period.

A complete job description is available upon request. Interested individuals may submit a cover letter and resume with three references to the undersigned. The deadline to apply is May 14, 2025, however, this posting will remain open until a suitable candidate is found.

We thank all that apply, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Billie Jean Oliver

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)

Ph: 204 646 2259 Email: cao@rmstlaurent.com

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#### **Land Online Auction**

Thurs. May 8th @ 7:00 PM St. Laurent, MB

Contact: Don 204-646-8772 Both Hwv #6 Frontage

Municipality of Woodlands Parcel 1: 7 16 3W. 150 Acres

Currently in Hay, could be Cropped and/or fenced, with Dugout, Exceptional Property

Parcel 2: NW 22 15 3W, 70 Acres with 3 Titles, 2 Yard Sites Fenced Pasture with Hydro & Pump House

McSherryAuction.com 204-467-1858

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www.mcna.com

#### **BATTERIES FOR 50,000 BATTERIES IN STOCK**

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**Classified** booking deadline is **Monday at NOON** prior to Thursday's publication **Please Call** 204-467-5836

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Please join us for a bridal shower in honour of Brooke Sigurdson bride-elect of Jarrett Kokolski Saturday, May 3rd, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. at Arborg Legion 306 Main Street, Arborg Donations can be dropped off at Interlake Co-op and Home Hardware (Arborg)

The couple is requesting Costco or Home Hardware gift cards



Happy Birthday to Mary Kowalchuk who will celebrate her 103rd birthday on May 7th
To our wonderful mother, grandmother, great grandmother, great-great grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. We are truly blessed and so thankful to have you in our lives and celebrate with you another year! God bless you! -With love from your whole family

#### **OBITUARY**

#### Eric Edwin Askew March 1, 1936 - April 5, 2025

Although filled with mixed emotions, our family lovingly released our dear Dad to the heavens above to join our Mom Elaine who has been patiently awaiting his arrival since December 15,

His unwavering love will be missed by his daughters Lynn (Steve) Hewitt and Karen (John) Gray; grandchildren Lauren (Alex) Marshall and Dean Hewitt; great-grandchild Ellie Marshall; sister Miriam Cook and brother Jack (Jan) Askew; nieces

Nancy (Rob) Robinson and Lindsay (Justin) Lynn; great nieces Jessica Robinson and Ember Lynn along with other family members and many friends.

He is predeceased by his wife Margaret 'Elaine', parents Edwin and Annie, in-laws Erwin, Elsie and Margaret, brother-in-law Fred and other family members.

We begin here to proudly share the story of Dad and Mom's life. Dad was born to Edwin William Askew and Annie Elizabeth (Hall) in Carshalton, Surrey England and, at the age of two, their family moved to Canada and called Winnipeg home. Mom was born in Grandview, MB to Erwin and Margaret Castle, though sadly her mother died a week after Mom's birth. Erwin, with the help of his sister-in-law Mabel and mother-in-law Janet Wright, raised Mom on the family farm in Gilbert Plains, MB.

As a young boy Dad competed in ski jumping with the Puffin Ski Club. He was a Yo-Yo champion and spent mornings delivering newspapers and walking the ponies at the racetrack before school. He was a true handyman and a skilled carpenter. At a young age Mom moved to Winnipeg and boarded at Rupert's Land Girls School and at 16 she moved back to the farm when her dad Erwin married Elsie Proctor. Once graduated from high school she returned to the city where she attended business college. She joined the Winnipeg Bomberettes Marching Band, played the glockenspiel and it was there she met Dad who played the big bass drum. They were married on June 29, 1957 and made their home on Valour Rd. In the late 50's they welcomed the birth of their daughter Lynn and in the early 60's Karen was born.

In 1961 Dad joined the Navy and was stationed at HMCS Chippewa. He then worked as a Wood Machinist and Freight-car Shop Supervisor for CP Rail retiring in 1988. Mom was a homemaker who volunteered on school trips, did hearing tests in schools and worked in the jewellery department at The Bay. They lived in the Norwood area, moved to North Kildonan in 1979, then to the Lions Manor in Stonewall in 2001 residing there for 17 years. They became Lion members thoroughly enjoying volunteering in the community, making new and lasting friendships.

Mom and Dad loved playing sports together such as bowling, tennis, fishing, skiing, golfing, and curling. Dad was a CB enthusiast and together they would travel across the provinces to attend jamborees. Mom was an active member of Sunshine Rebekah Lodge for many years. They loved volunteering, meeting new people and experiencing new adventures. Summers were spent travelling and camping across Canada and the USA until they settled their camper in the Lakeside Trailer Park near Winnipeg Beach spending 45 summers there with family. Winters were often spent travelling to Australia to be with daughter Lynn, Steve and family.

In 2018 they moved to Ashern and eventually moved to the Ashern Personal Care Home. They loved FaceTiming with family across the globe, Dad especially enjoyed playing cribbage and the highlight of 2022 was meeting their great-grandchild Ellie.

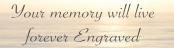
Our family will miss you immensely Dad and Mom and we thank you for the beautiful life and fond memories we will always hold dear to our hearts.

A private interment of both Dad and Mom will be held in the Chatsworth Cemetery, Gilbert Plains. MB later this summer.

Special thanks to Helen Webster CRN, Darlene Hargot, Recreational Director and the health care aides of the Ashern Personal Care for the wonderful care of both Dad and Mom.

> Arrangements by: ARNASON FUNERAL HOME Ashern - Lundar 1.204.768.2072

1.866.323.3593



**Ken Collins** 

A Tribute to Ken Collins will begin

at 12:30 p.m. at the Arborg Royal

Canadian Legion on Tuesday, May

6th. The Interment will follow at the

Peace Lutheran Cemetery, West of

Fraserwood, Hwv 7.

Photo by Gladys Kohler

**OBITUARY** 





#### **Registered Purebred Polled** 2 Year Old and Yearling

#### **CHAROLAIS BULLS** FOR SALE

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

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



### **RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI**

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the Regular Meetings of Council scheduled for May 14th and June 11th will be rescheduled from 6:00 pm to 10:00 am.

Dated this 25th day of April 2025.

Kelly Cosgrove, CMMA **Acting Chief Administrative Officer** Rural Municipality of Gimli



#### **RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI**

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

**FOR URBAN CENTRE RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES FLUSHING OF WATER MAINS** WILL TAKE PLACE OVER THE **FOLLOWING DAYS** 

May 5, 2025 to May 30, 2025, Monday to Friday, between the hours of 8:00 am and 3:30 pm.

Water may be discoloured during this time period. Please take proper precautions.

If you require further information, please call Public Works Department (204) 642-6688.

#### **Remember Your Loved Ones** with an Announcement in the



## lassifieds Announcements Expression



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Edith "Edie" Sahaidak (nee Bobrovich) June 8, 1950 - April 18, 2025

After a short battle with cancer, surrounded by the love of her family, our beloved, Edith "Edie", went home to be with her Lord and Savior, on the most fitting of days, Good Friday, April 18th,

Edie was survived by her children Shelley (Dan), Dale (Tara); her grandchildren Matthew (Isabelle), Andrea, Shane, Brianna and Kaitlyn; her great grandson Jaxon; her siblings Margaret (Barry), Shirley (Ken), Mike, Dennis (Lana), Rosemary (Ron), Janie (Bob), Lucy (Wayne), Frances (Joe), Joe (Linda), sister-in-law Lora and numerous nephews and nieces.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband John, her stillborn son Matthew and her brother Fred.

Edie was a woman of unwavering faith whose deepest desire was to grow ever closer to the Lord. Her life was a living testament to the power of grace, love, and service. Her joy and strength came from her faith, which sustained her through every chapter

On September 20, 1969, Edie married the love of her life, John. Together they built a beautiful life and were blessed with two children, Shelley and Dale, whom Edie adored beyond measure. Her devotion to her children and grandchildren knew no bounds-she was their biggest cheerleader, caregiver, and constant source of wisdom and love.

Edie and John moved several times throughout their marriage, eventually returning to her family homestead so she could support and care for both her mother and her mother-in-law.

Summers found Edie in her incredible garden from sunrise to dusk, her hands deep in the soil she so lovingly tended. Her kitchen was filled with the aromas of her famous pickles, perogies, pies, biscuits and cabbage rolls - treasures she proudly shared at the Arnes Farmer's Market each weekend.

Known for her boundless energy, Edie was rarely still. She didn't believe in wasting a minute and used every spare moment to connect with loved ones, whether through a friendly visit or a spirited game night. Her twinkling eyes and radiant smile lit up every room she entered.

Her deep knowledge of gardening and canning earned her the affectionate nickname "EncycloEdiea," and her lightning-fast pace inspired another- "Speedy." She was always in motion, always doing, always giving.

Edie leaves behind a legacy of faith, joy, and unconditional love. While our hearts ache with her absence, we take comfort in knowing she is now in the presence of the Lord she loved so dearly. Her life was a blessing, her memory a treasure, and her impact everlasting.

We will miss her more than words can express, but we rejoice in her heavenly homecoming.

"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Philippians 3:14

A private graveside service will be held at a later date.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



### **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUN**

Following positions available immediately **Mechanic** 

### **Sawmill Labourer Bookkeeper/Accounting**

Must be reliable and follow directions well. Must be a team player.

Spruce Wood Loggers is looking for an energetic person who is physically able, punctual, promotable, trainable and can work alone or as a team. Must be at least 18 years of age have a class 5 drivers license and dependable transportation.

We are located approx. 18 miles north of Arborg.

Email resume to: swl@sprucewoodloggers.ca Spruce Wood or call 204-378-2997 References required.



#### Susan Holm

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Susan Lee Holm; Mother, Daughter, Sister, Auntie, Niece, Cousin and friend, on April 5, 2025.

Sue exited this world at the same place she entered it and the family want to thank the wonderful doctors, nurses and staff of the Gimli Hospital for their thorough and compassionate care for her in her final week and during her lengthy stay there last year.

Sue was born on June 24th, 1969. The first few years of her life were spent on a farm in Vidir, near her grandparents, Vibba and Wilfrid Holm, roaming the farmyard with her two older brothers. When she was two, the family moved into the house on St. Peters Street in Arborg where all three kids would spend their formative years. Just four doors down lived her other grandparents, Jonas and Inga Johnson. All the grandparents played a big role in Sue's

childhood and later life. She was an energetic kid always up for adventure. Our beautiful wild

She attended Arborg Elementary School then Arborg Collegiate, graduating in 1987. She had many friends growing up who still speak highly of her and the good times they had and of her being a trusted, kind and generous friend and confidante. During her school years she worked at Riverdale Homes where everyone, clients and staff loved her and she them. She then moved to Winnipeg where she would live for a number of years. Sue held a variety of jobs during this time and at each one she went above and beyond what was expected of her and was usually quickly promoted and considered an integral part of the workplace family. A few that she would speak of later included working for the Adelmans at Penthouse Furniture and her favourite, working as a flight attendant for Calm Air. Sue was always fearless and didn't hesitate to try new adventures like skydiving and travelling near and far so this was all very much up her alley. Sue loved the North and the job but it was around this time, in her late twenties, that some signs of mental illness began to show themselves. During the period that followed, she moved back to Arborg while she struggled with this. During this period, she spent a lot of time seeking comfort with her cousins, Tracey and Kelly and their families, often showing up unannounced, sometimes for an extended stay while she tried to navigate the onset of her bipolar disease. Then in June of 2004, April Lee was born. Sue took to motherhood enthusiastically in those early years and her and April were inseparable. Some felt that April's birth saved her in that moment. They lived in the little house on Crosstown Street in Arborg during those years and mother and daughter were a dynamic team. Sue loved all kinds of music and April's childhood was filled with a very eclectic soundtrack. Sue remained very close with her mother her whole life and talked to Lilla every day, often multiple times, no matter what was going on in her life. Her Dad's death last year was a big blow to Sue and she missed him terribly. Sue also had an intense love for all animals, and we are left a legacy of pictures of her with dogs, cats, deer and even a few squirrels.

During what would be the final decade of her life, Sue retreated from a lot of things and people as her health, both physical and mental, slowly declined. We though will always remember Sue the bright light, the shining star that we were so lucky to have had in our lives. She was a natural beauty inside and out. As Auntie Frida once said 'she could put on a burlap sack and make it look fantastic'. Adventurous and fearless, she also had a keen sense of humour and never took herself too seriously. She was brilliant and funny and had a way of making people feel like they wanted to know and spend time with her. Being with Sue was just fun and people could sense that immediately. She had just moved into her cute new apartment at Sunrise Lodge in Arborg in early February and the family had great hope that this would usher in a new chapter in her life. Unfortunately, it ended up being the final chapter.

Susan is survived by her daughter, April Lee (Ryder), mother, Lilja, her brothers, Blair (Andrew) and Paul (Melanie Rose) and nieces Signy (David) and Rakel (Alex), April's father, Dwayne (Laura) Swaffer, April's paternal grandparents, Ken and Madeline Swaffer, April's special extra family unit, Maddie Bergman and her son Tegan (April's unofficial little brother), uncle Bruce Holm (Claudette); aunt Hedy Bjornson; cousins Darwin (Tanya); Darcy (Ken), Danial (Tammy), Don (Tanys), Darryl, Cindy (Randy), Peter (Joanne), Tracey (Elvis), Judy(Derek), Kelly (Ron), David, Jason (Shauna), Scott, Laura (Antonio), Sean, Joy and all of their families and other special cousins, Carol Jensson and Len Holm (Cynthia).

Sue is predeceased by her father, Clifford, just nine months before her own passing, grandparents Wilfrid and Vilborg Holm (Magnusson) and Jonas and Inga Johnson, aunts and uncles Kristin and Thor Bjornson; Donald Bjornson; Joan and George Hay; David Johnson, and her dear cousin Debbie Deering (Johnson), ex partner Richard Dubowski, great aunts and uncles Frida and Dave Jensson, Jakobina (B) and Bill Henderson, Gudmundur and Phyllis Magnusson, Steinthor and Margie Holm, Ragnar Holm, Olga and Thor Johannesson and numerous other great aunts and uncles.

A celebration of Sue's life will take place on Saturday, May 10th at 2:00 p.m. at the Geysir Hall in Geysir MB, east of Arborg.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that a donation in her name be considered to any of the following: the Gimli or Winnipeg Humane Society or the Interlake Women's Resource Centre in

Rest now our beautiful girl.



204-949-2200 Gimli 204-642-7124 neilbardalinc.com

Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

#### **OBITUARY**

#### Leonard Einar Elswood Johnson 1931 - 2025

Leonard, 93, of Riverton, MB passed away Saturday, April 12, 2025 at Gimli Community Health Centre. Leonard was born June 2, 1931 at Akri (Homestead south of Riverton).

Leonard is survived by his sons Wesley (Holly) and Ronnie (Carol); grandchildren Nicholas, Michaela, Courtney (Greg), Damon and Brendan; great-grandchildren Isabella and Liam. Leonard was also survived by his brothers Melvin (Angela) Johnson and Don (Fran) Johnson; sisters-inlaw Barb Johnson and Eleanor Egesz; and brother-in-law Raymond Magnusson.

Leonard was predeceased by his wife Margaret; parents Einar and Capitola Johnson; brothers Laurence (Edie) Johnson and Cliff Johnson; sisters Elma (Charlie) Cheyne and Arlene (Brian) Robins. Leonard was also predeceased by his in-laws Paul and Elizabeth Egesz, Andrew Egesz, Paul Egesz, Mary Magnusson and Matilda (Kenny) Thorsteinson.

A special thanks to his HomeCare staff and Gimli C.H.C staff until his passing. As per Leonard's wishes, cremation has taken place and there will be no service.

#### **OBITUARY**

#### **Donald Nowosad** 1955 - 2025

The family of Donald Nowosad is humbled to announce his passing, from this life.

Donnie is survived by his wife Elenor, sons Steven (Samantha) and Daniel, along with family and friends.

We would like to thank the doctors and staff of Percy E. Moore Hospital and Health Sciences Centre for their care and compassion.

Funeral services will be held in honor of Donnie on Saturday, May 10th, 2025 at the Ukrainian National Home in Fisher Branch at 1:00

In lieu of flowers, should family and friends desire, donations can be made to the animal shelter of your choice, or as Donnie would do, please pay it forward by taking a friend out for coffee or a meal and a chat.

FISHER FUNERAL HOME INC. In care of arrangements. 204-372-6803 or 204-372-6271

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#### **OBITUARY**



Judy Bednarek April 13, 1946 - February 23, 2025

With extreme sadness, we announce the passing of our beloved mom and grandma, Judy Bednarek. Judy passed away with her family by her side on February 23, 2025 at the age of 78.

A Memorial Service to honor Judy's life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 10, 2025 in the Ashern Centennial Hall with Dawn Tober officiating, followed by a luncheon in the hall. A private family burial will take place at Betel (Silver Bay) Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Judy's honor to the Lakeshore Hospital Guild, PO Box 1, Ashern, MB R0C 0E0, a cause she held dear to her heart.

Arrangements by:

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