

Lorraine and Arnold Reimer own and operate Spruce Wood Loggers Inc. an industrial-sized sawmill in the Interlake. See full story on pg. 2.

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204-376-5233

### Spruce Wood Loggers keeping the made-in-Manitoba economy humming

#### **By Patricia Barrett**

A sawmill located in the RM of Bifrost-Riverton has been quietly humming away for about 30 years and is helping support other Manitoba industries that depend on wood and its byproducts.

Spruce Wood Loggers Inc. is the only industrial-sized sawmill in the Interlake and would have likely been one of Bifrost's best kept secrets had Reeve Brian Johnson not taken the *Express* on a tour of businesses along PR 326 last week.

Tucked away in an enchanted-forest-like area about 16 miles (25 kilometres) north of Arborg, the sawmill keeps local people employed and has helped create and sustain jobs in Winnipeg's furniture-building industry.

Arnold and Lorraine Reimer own and operate the sprawling mill.

"I like to promote industry in Manitoba," said Arnold. "Our 20 jobs here convert to spin-off jobs in Winnipeg with DeFehr Furniture. That's a madein-Manitoba story and it's an example of how a few small businesses can contribute to the economy of our province."

The mill cuts custom-sized wood pieces for DeFehr, which in turn employs about 400 people to make bedroom and dining room sets, office furniture and entertainment units. DeFehr then sells its finished prod-



Logs are rolled through the debarking machine. The bark is used for gardening materials.

ucts to hotels around the world and to over 200 retailers throughout North America.

One of those retailers just happens to be in Arborg.

"If you walk into Smitty's Furniture in Arborg and ask for the Manitoba pine set, everybody knows which one that is," said Lorraine, referring to the wood cut by Spruce Wood to make the attractive, rustic-looking furniture."We own a set we've seen in tree form!"

Farming with his father until about 1987, Arnold said he struggled to make ends meet for his family. That's when he decided to transition into his dad's sawmill business on a full-time basis.

"My dad was a farmer, and like most farmers at that time, he needed some supplementary income," said Arnold.

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EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

The Reimers are in the process of testing their pellet processing machines. They hope to be running by fall.



These mountains of sawdust will eventaully be processed into pellets.



A semi-trailer delivers logs to the sawmill.

"So he did logging for the Pine Falls paper mill."

In the old days (several decades ago), logs would be hauled to Riverton and loaded onto a barge. A tugboat would pull the barge across Lake Winnipeg and down the Winnipeg River to the Pine Falls mill, said Lorraine, who oversees the administrative side of the company. The logs would then be dumped into the river and stored there to keep them wet until the mill was ready to process them into paper.

But the Pine Falls mill closed in 2009 despite upgrades to the facility. For a while Spruce Wood obtained timbers from loggers on the east side of the lake but now gets its wood supply from across the Interlake.

"The farthest we're hauling is threeand-a-half hours or roughly 170 miles," said Arnold. In addition to supplying DeFehr with pre-cut wood, Spruce Wood also makes dimensional lumber, which can be  $1 \times 4$  through to  $2 \times 10$  boards.

Reducing byproduct waste is part and parcel of the sawmill's operation. The bark that's removed by the debarking machine is turned into peat moss for the gardening industry. And the Reimers are just in the process of setting up their mill to convert sawdust into wood pellets that people can burn for heat.

"We've still got to get the process going. We've started a little bit of pelleting," said Arnold."We're not in fullbore production, but we sure hope to be by fall time."

For more information about Spruce Wood's products and services, call 204-378-2997 or email swl@lakenet.ca.

### Smith reflects on her year as Miss Interlake 2018



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** Miss Interlake 2018 **Tiegan Smith** 

#### **By Evan Matthews**

Very soon, Tiegan Smith will have to give up her crown for the next Miss Interlake.

But for the remainder of this week, she can still enjoy the title of Miss Interlake.

Winning the crown, Smith said, is something she'll never forget. But the friends she made and experiences she gained were really the highlights.

"Creating a new set of friendships was amazing. ... I still talk to at least half the girls I met. We still get on well and check in with one another," said

good candidate because I'm an artist, which would be a good talent to showcase," said Smith, adding she paints and sketches. Smith won Miss Talent in 2018, too.

"I'm friendly, too, so she thought I'd be good at it. But it took her a lot of convincing for her to get me to do it because I'm not the most confident."

Though Smith said she lacks confidence, 2018 Miss Interlake certainly does not come across that way.

As she gets set to remove her crown, passing it on to the winner of Miss Interlake 2019, Smith has words of advice for this year's pageant contestants.

"Don't doubt yourself," said Smith.

"Lots of girls think, 'I'm not good at this,' but you've got to believe in yourself and know who you are. Be proud of yourself. ... Everybody is unique and cool."

Continued on page 6



### **MAFC** lifetime membership for Arborg's retired Fire Chief George Chyzy

#### By Patricia Barrett

The Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs showed its appreciation for Arborg's retired Fire Chief George Chyzy by giving him a Lifetime Membership Award last Saturday during the association's annual conference and banquet.

Greeted with a standing ovation from fire chiefs across the province, Chyzy accepted the honour from association president Brad Yochim, who's also chief of the Virden Fire Department.

"I was on the MAFC board and president for a period of time," said Chyzy a day after he received the honour. "It's given to members who help promote the fire service in the province."

Chyzy served on the MAFC board from 1997 to 2009 and was association president from 2006 to 2008.

He retired from the Arborg-Bifrost Fire & Emergency Department in December 2018 after 43 years of saving lives and property in the region and lending assistance to neighbouring municipal fire departments. He served 34 of those years as fire chief.

Chyzy has had a distinguished firefighting career and earned numerous awards — including the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal — for protecting his community and promoting fire safety. In 2017 the Parliament of Cana-



Cimli Fire Chief Cary MacGregor, right, was recognized for 35 years of service.

da presented him with a certificate for 40 years of dedicated service.

The Lifetime Membership Award will enable Chyzy to continue to attend MAFC conferences and share his firefighting knowledge and expertise with his peers.

Gimli's Fire Chief Gary MacGregor was also recognized for his 35 years of service.



Manitoba Association of Fire Chiefs president Brad Yochim, right, presented Arborg's retired Fire Chief George Chyzy with a Lifetime Membership Award last Saturday.

# First-year medical students hosted in Interlake-Eastern RHA

#### Submitted

This year, 21 medical students attended rural week in nine communities in the Interlake-Eastern area. During rural week, first-year medical students are hosted by communities and given the opportunity to shadow physicians, nurse practitioners and other care providers during their regular workday in local health clinics.

In an effort to provide medical students with exposure to the practice diversity found in rural settings, students shadowed hospital and primary health-care staff in Arborg, Ashern, Beausejour, Eriksdale, Gimli, Lac du Bonnet, Pine Falls, Selkirk and Teulon.

"My first day working with Dr. Speer was really great," says first-year medical student Robin Penwarden, who spent some time at Dr. Margaret Speer's Eveline Street Clinic. "I got lots of hands-on clinical experience. I was fortunate enough to have patients who were comfortable with me doing their prenatal checks, which was

#### great."

On top of clinic time, the week also includes a host of activities, organized by community volunteers, to give students an understanding of what it's like to live and work in rural communities. A few of the activities that this year's rural week students participated in included dinners and barbecues hosted by local physicians and the community, visits to dairy farm operations, fishing and golfing trips, a tour of the oldest church in western Canada, a flight over Selkirk and area provided by St. Andrews Airport, and a visit with the director of the Giigewigamig Traditional Healing Centre in Pine Falls.

Rural Week, as part of the University of Manitoba medical curriculum, first started in 2004. It's an initiative co-ordinated by the RHA in collaboration with the Department of Family Medicine, Max Rady College of Medicine and the Manitoba HealthCare Providers Network.



As part of rural week, first-year medical students Rachel Rudney, David Kim and Andrea Soriano took part in Fit Kids Healthy Kids leader training in Arborg.

# Food and faith: Okno village has it all



The Evergreen Store in Okno stocks everything you could possibly need and then some.

#### By Patricia Barrett

Through the dust thrown up by passing pick-ups and semis hauling farm equipment comes an unexpected oasis of green about 11 miles (19 kilometres) north of Arborg.

No tour of Bifrost along the soon-tobe-paved PR 326 – with Reeve Brian Johnson as guide – would be complete without a stop in Okno, a village of about 200 people.

Shady avenues named after trees and shrubs and small tidy houses lie to the northeast of the "main strip," which has a well-stocked country store, a school and a church.

There are a lot of young families in the community, employed in farming, in the region's numerous metal-working shops and other industries.

The first floor of the Evergreen Store, commonly referred to as the "Okno Store," is stocked with practically everything you need to make life comfortable and festive on an expanse of low-lying Prairie.

The 2,800-square-foot facility not only provides the basics, such as milk, bread, coffee, tinned goods and fresh fruit and vegetables, but it also has bulk items such as beans (Manitoba grown), spices, nuts and chocolate chips that cost ridiculously far less per kilogram than any mega-grocery in the city.

And it came as a shock to find spicy made-in-Manitoba gluten-free tortilla chips, which are lighter than air, yerba mate (a popular herbal beverage) and fiery-hot habanero pepper sauce from Belize, a Central American country colonized by the British in the 19th century.

The speciality products serve the Mennonite community, some of whom came from Belize and other Latin American countries.

Evergreen owner Edward Penner, who runs the store with his wife Laverna, said his uncle started the business in 1991 in the basement of his home, about two miles east of its present site along Road 139 N. He sold the business to Edward and his wife in 2014. The Penners undertook some renovations and added a wide range of toys, gifts, games and office supplies.

Whereas the first floor will slake your hunger and thirst, the second floor will fuel your soul with its multitude of faith-based books, including bibles, picture/story books for children and inspirational reads. To keep your bible in good nick, the store sells handsome zippered covers. It also stocks journals, recipe books and dictionaries.

Down the road from the store is the Interlake Mennonite School, overseen by principal Byron Dueck. The school has 125 students and uses its own Christian curriculum that meets all provincial standards.

"We are an independent, non-profit school run by our Interlake Mennonite Fellowship Church," said Dueck. As you head out of the community,



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT Evergreen Store owner Edward Penner (left) with Interlake Mennonite School principal Byron Dueck



The Interlake Mennonite School in Okno teaches about 125 students. The Christian-based curriculum meets Manitoba's standards for graduation

which is surrounded by vast fields, children playing in their yards wave as though to wish you well on your travels.

Evergreen Store is located on Road 139 N, between roads 10 E and 11 E east. For more information about its goods and operating hours, visit evergreenstore.ca or call (204) 378-2209.









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**By Evan Matthews** 

After watching a social media post garner some traction, it seems that East Interlake residents have some split opinions on one of the newest proposed businesses.

Alta Greens Ally Ltd. made a proposal to Gimli council in which they proposed a (cannabis) greenhouse on an 80-acre parcel of farmland bordering PR 231 and the airport, with the majority of council voting in favour of selling the farmland to the company.

Only Coun. Thora Palson voted against the resolution, as earlier in the year she cited concerns about lacking a business and environmental plan.

The resolution states AGA can start construction immediately following the issuance of title to the lands, and that council will contribute a \$120,000 grant after the company obtains a Health Canada Corporate Cannabis Drug Licence. It also states there will be a minimum of 25 full-time jobs.

Council still has to enter into a de-

### > REFLECTION, FROM PG. 3

Miss Interlake pageantry celebrating 53 years

Heading into its 53rd year, the Miss Interlake Pageant is set to bring together and highlight some of Interlake's young women.

So far, this year's pageant has confirmed contestants from Lundar, Eriksdale, Warren, Woodlands, Teulon and Stonewall, according to Tara Law, who is in her eighth year as director of the pageant.

Contestants for the June 15 date have not been finalized just yet, Law said.

"Often, a town representative will bring a name forward to our committee and then we contact the person," said Law.

"But more often than not, the girls

will volunteer themselves to run in the pageants. ... Most times the girls have no pageant experience whatsoever."

ing to Gimli's deputy mayor.

our to have potential.

can succeed.

ing?

funds.

But the bottom line is this: the intent

is clear; Gimli council — in its major-

ity - believes this business endeav-

Many people on social media agreed

with council that it could work, and

Others commented on the idea that

the company doesn't sound credible,

and only time will tell if the business

Why rag on a business that may or

may not work out, prior to ever know-

The company came in and legally

purchased lands from the munici-

pality. They've already injected some

The company alleges it's taking the

proper steps to become a licensed,

bonafide cannabis producer. If they

fail to do so, well, they still own the

But isn't that always the case?

the community needs those 25 jobs.

The pageant is made up of three components: talent, sportswear review and an impromptu question.

Some of examples of talent from the past include singing, art (painting or pottery) and dancing.

"One year we actually had a girl fileting fish as her talent," said Law.

"It's been quite the variety of talents over the years."

Judges will be local Interlake people. Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place, but all participants are given a gift.

First place will home a \$1,000 scholarship to an educational institution of

velopment agreement with the priland. vate company within 60 days, accord-

Call Evan Matthews at 204-990-9871

evan@expressweeklynews.ca

They'll either have to do something else with it or sell it again.

> Got news?

As a landowner, do they have to pay property tax? More funds being injected.

There are question marks about this project in relation to infrastructure, sewers, water and hydro, no doubt, but isn't it worth going to council and asking for answers to those questions?

Rather than arguing with other residents on social media, positive discourse can and should take place in the spot it was meant to — at the table with the players who make decisions. People will always resist change and,

ironically, things are always changing. I understand the resistance, but evervone can and should do their own homework and engage their local politicians. It's why you voted for them. Do some research and engage with the system, and hopefully everyone ends up satisfied.

the winner's choosing. Second place will take home \$500, while third will take home \$250.

The Lundar Ag Society provides the funding for the prizes.

"This event builds community. ... It showcases who these women are and their unique individuality," said Law.

"The pageant shows how they can become stronger people when faced with new situations and new people. The girls make lifelong friendships by participating."

Judges will announce the winner of Miss Interlake at 5:15 p.m. on Saturday at the Lundar Arena.

For more information, visit http:// www.lundaragsociety.com/miss-interlake-pageant/.





Nicole Kapusta



Jo-Anne Procter



### Housing designated for women and children affected by family violence

#### By the Manitoba government

The Manitoba government is seeking a community partner to help improve access to safe and supportive housing for women and children who have experienced family violence, Families Minister Heather Stefanson and Sustainable Development Minister Rochelle Squires, minister responsible for the status of women, announced.

"A safe place to call home is important for every family but particularly for those who are leaving violence and abuse," said Stefanson. "This partnership will help ensure stable housing is available to women and their children when they need it the most. We look forward to proposals from commu-

nity agencies to identify the greatest needs, identify opportunities to create dedicated housing and successfully move this project forward."

Manitoba Housing has issued a request for expressions of interest (EOI) to community groups who have experience in property management or expertise in family violence. The successful proponent will work with the Manitoba government to designate up to 50 social housing units for women and children affected by family violence. These units could be managed by either the proponent or a property management company they select.

"Creating partnerships with our family violence prevention program agencies and Manitoba Housing will ensure that women who are experiencing family violence can be supported with safe housing options," said Squires.

"Dedicated housing units are essential for women as they move toward independence and a place of healing and growth. With this new approach, families will benefit from the expertise of a community agency that understands the complex dynamics of family violence."

This work is part of a larger initiative within Manitoba Housing to support locally developed solutions by transferring housing management to local organizations, as they are best able to meet the needs of vulnerable tenants. The EOI is posted at www.gov. mb.ca/housing/progs/reoi-mhfvpp. html and will close on Aug. 9. The successful proponent will be chosen this fall, Squires noted.

For more information about Manitoba's family violence prevention program, including supports available to women and families, visit www.gov. mb.ca/msw/fvpp.

Manitoba Housing provides a wide range of subsidized housing throughout the province, supporting thousands of families. For more information about how Manitoba Housing partners with community organizations, private groups and governments to create safe and affordable housing, visit www.gov.mb.ca/housing.

### Information sessions planned for Lake Manitoba outlet channels project

#### By the Manitoba government

The Manitoba government will be updating the public on the province's plans for two new permanent outlet channels for Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin that will greatly enhance the province's capacity to manage flooding, Infrastructure Minister Ron forward as soon as possible."

Schuler announced.

"The outlet channels are critically important to ensuring the safety of all Manitobans," said Schuler. "History has shown the costs and consequences of inaction are far too great and we are committed to moving this project

The project consists of building two diversion channels, approximately 23 kilometres long: the Lake Manitoba Outlet Channel will run north from Watchorn Bay on Lake Manitoba to Birch Bay on Lake St. Martin and the Lake St. Martin Outlet Channel will run northeast from Lake St. Martin to

Lake Winnipeg south of Willow Point. The project also involves building a number of bridges and water control structures, a 24-kilovolt distribution line and adjusting surrounding highway infrastructure.

Continued on page 8

### **Eriksdale's New Horizons club looking for members**

#### **By Evan Matthews**

With its annual barbecue just around the corner, the New Horizons Club in Eriksdale is looking to acquire a few new members.

Eriksdale New Horizons Club treasurer and meal co-ordinator Myrna Little said the meal program is a great way for people to further integrate and invest into the community.

"The meal program is run five days a week - Monday to Friday at noon — and is typically meant for people 55+," said Little, adding the meal program serves upwards of 200 meals per month.

"It's meant for those who are living alone, or are a little shut in, can't or won't cook for themselves, etc., so they come to the club and have a dine-in meal for \$6.50."

Having now been around for 10 vears, Little said the New Horizons Club isn't new in Eriksdale, but it offers a service to senior citizens that isn't offered anywhere else.

Guests get a complete meal with

meat, carbohydrates, vegetables and a salad, tea or coffee, and dessert.

Delivery is also offered within Eriksdale's limits for \$7.50.

"It's very reasonable," said Little. "You can't go to a restaurant and have this type of meal for that price."

The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority (IERHA) funds the meal program. The IERHA funding pays for the cook's wages, while the cost associated with the dinner pays for the groceries needed to cook each week.

The New Horizons Club annual membership fee is \$15. The club is hosting its annual members' barbecue on July 7.

Currently, the Eriksdale club has 40 members.

"Existing members come out and we play cards, we play pool and shuffle board," said Little." Then we enjoy the barbecue. We'd love to have some new members sign up."

Benefits for members include access to the club for a member if they



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The New Horizons Club in Eriksdale provides a meal five days a week typically for people 55+.

wanted to host an event like a birthday party, shower, Christmas party, said Little.

The club is located at 14 Railway Ave., directly beside the pharmacy.

While the program is directed at

people aged 55-plus, Little emphasized the fact that age is not a requirement.

"Anybody can come and have a meal. Helping seniors is just our primary focus," said Little.

> **Fish tales?** Call Arnie Weidl at 204-641-2210 sanarn@mymts.net



Floor mats won't help you on the ice

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Welcome, folks.

Sometimes the things anglers go through on a day of fishing can be pretty trying. Nature had not been kind to the #320 road from Selkirk to Breezy Point this spring. A maze of mud heave-ups and deep ruts made for some interesting driving as I headed down to the end of main last Thursday.

Once there, I saw a young, thin chap with a light brown bread and heavy rimmed glasses about to cast out into Netley Creek. Our new friend Eric Zazula was full of fishing stories. Now winter's passed, my friends, but Eric gave us this great story so come back with me to very early spring as I relate his tale of guys helping each other on the ice.

It was a warm, cloudy, calm afternoon far out on the ice of Lake Winnipeg's south basin as Eric and four of his friends sat out in the open on folding chairs nursing ice fishing lines. It had been a great afternoon with the men eating, drinking, joking around and, every once in a while, catching a fish. Around them and stretching out to the horizon, the snow was water-laden and greyer than only a few



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With the truck heater off and the windows down it was warm in the truck as they bounced toward shore. The water and slush splashed away from the truck wheels in the deep rut Erin had chosen to drive in. He thought he was a couple of kilometres from the mouth of the Red River as he peered ahead the headlights jostling up and down on the potholed rut. There before Eric, a heavily used rut cut across the one he was using. He tightened his grip on the steering wheel as his front wheels hit the icy cross rut, throwing his front wheels in the air. The truck skidded to a stop sideways in their rut, hung up on the frame.

The men sat silent for a moment and then bailed out, jabbering as to how they could free the truck. They reduced the trucks floor mats under the wheels to mangled garbage in no time and soon after realized their chipping bars would take forever to break up the rut's ridges. They dragged out their ice augers and drilled the ice on an angle under the truck. Unfortunately, when ice augers are used on an angle, they die. As the men bent to their task, the truck lights glowing off their faces, Eric noticed a light not far off. He told the guys he was going to see if that light might mean extra help. Off he went slogging through the snow, slush and small shallows of water. Step after step, Eric came closer to what proved to be a Snobear.

As he approached, the door opened and there stood Aaron Weibe of the

#### > OUTLET CHANNELS, FROM PG. 7 The information sessions are sched- (cfs) for the Lake

uled for:June 25 in Winnipeg, 2 to 5 p.m.

• June 25 in Winnipeg, 2 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., Canad Inns Destination Centre Fort Garry, 1824 Pembina Hwy.; and

• June 27 in Moosehorn, 2 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., Moosehorn Community Hall, Railway Avenue, Rural Municipality of Grahamdale.

The new channels will increase the province's ability to regulate water levels on Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin. The design is for a channel capacity of 7,500 cubic feet per second (cfs) for the Lake Manitoba outlet and 11,500 cfs for the Lake St. Martin outlet. The current capacity of the Lake St. Martin Emergency Outlet Channel is approximately 4,000 cfs.

Uncut Angling TV show. Hearing of

Eric's predicament, he and his crew

took him back to his truck to help.

By the time they got there, though, a

friend with a big truck had also heard

of their situation and was hooking up

to the stricken truck. He pulled it free

with ease. All the men stood around

for a while in the light of the trucks

passing the time as only fishers do.

Then they said their goodbyes and

Last week I also got the nicest email

fishing story and photo from Char-

lyn Croom of Portage la Prairie, who

caught a 46-inch jackfish out of Rock

Lake south of town. I'm sure you'll

enjoy her story as much as I did.

Charlyn is a very forceful girl. She

prodded her boyfriend, Jonah Lam-

bert, until he put 20-pound line on

her rod so she could go after a master

jack this year. She pestered her dad,

Darcy, unmercifully to get their boat

ready so that come June first, Charlyn,

Jonah, Darcy and mom Lenore were

parted company.

Excavation of the channels and construction of the associated bridges and control structures will occur once detailed design work, Indigenous consultation and environmental authorizations are complete, Schuler said. Until the new channels are completed, the original emergency channel will remain available for use as required. Once the new channels are

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED Charlyn Croom and Jonah Lambert with their catch at Rock Lake.

> sitting in the boat looking out over the choppy waves on a sunny, windy afternoon with their lines in the water.

> Only a few minutes passed when Charlyn felt a hard pull on her line. She happened to be in the middle of the boat and became so excited that she had a fish that she trampled over everyone to get to the front of the boat to face the fish. Her rod end bent deep into the water. Her line screamed from her reel as the catch tore under the boat to the right side. Again, she stumbled, apologizing over her loved ones to follow the fish. The fish rolled over showing its white belly and then dove under the boat to the other side with determined Charlyn following after it. Darcy, reading the situation, backed the boat in such a way as to keep the fish in front of Charlyn's line of play. After much reeling and hauling, the monster tired and it took the whole family to reach over the side and haul it in.

Till next week. Bye for now.

completed, the existing emergency channel will then be repurposed for environmental benefits.

Last year, the governments of Canada and Manitoba announced an agreement to cost-share \$540 million in new flood management infrastructure for the Lake Manitoba and Lake St. Martin outlet channels. Federal funding of \$247.5 million will be provided through the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund. Manitoba will provide matching funds in the amount of \$247.5 million, plus an additional \$45 million.

### Lundar Ag Society organizers in 'full fair' mode

#### By Evan Matthews

The Lundar Ag Society is getting set for its annual fair this weekend, June 14 and 15, and organizers said the group is in "full fair" mode.

Arlene Brandson Darknell, treasurer for the Ag Society, said those who attend the fair are in for a jam-packed event.

This year will mark the 67th annual Lundar Fair.

"We're having fireworks again this year, too," said Brandson Darknell, who is in her first year as treasurer.

"People aren't ever sure about that one, but we're excited about it, and it's going to be fun."

The fair runs from Friday, June 14 through Saturday, June 15.

On Friday during the day, there will be a horse show, 4-H activities, home living exhibitions, an antique tractor pull, colour dance party and foam pit, and an RCMP hockey speed challenge.

4-H Canada is one of the most highly respected positive youth development organizations in the country, according to its website, as the organization believes in nurturing responsible, caring and contributing leaders who are committed to positively impacting their communities.

4-H's Beef Achievement Day is one of the Lundar's highlights during the fair, according to Brandson Darknell. Youth in the surrounding communities work on beef projects and have them assessed on Beef Achievement Day.

Past the Perimeter will close out day one of the fair with the fireworks by

the airstrip to follow.

Past the Perimeter is a multi-awardwinning country band from Stonewall. The group of four has released two EPs, three music videos, and has recently been awarded the 2018 MCMA Group Of The Year, continuing their success as the 2017 MCMA Emerging Artists.

Saturday will see home living exhibits and commercial vendors, the Miss Interlake Pageant, a baby contest, the Regular Beef and Dairy Show, a parade, petting zoo, face painting and kids zone, the Show and Shine, along with the Draft Horse Show and wagon rides.

The Dairy Show is a new addition to the festivities.

"They train the animals in order to put a halter on them," said Brandson Darknell.

"They lead the animal into a ring, show against other animals of the same type. ... It's really unique. We haven't had one in many, many years." The crowning of Miss Interlake will

round out the day on Saturday.

"This event is not just for Lundar; it's for the whole Interlake region," said Brandson Darknell.

"We're one of the last agricultural fairs in our region that still has the horse show, 4-H show, beef show, and parade. ... We have all the components. We want and have exhibitors from all our neighbouring communities."

Next year's dates are already confirmed, and the 2020 Lundar Fair will happen on June 12 and 13.

#### **Season set to open for A-Spire Theatre**

#### Staff

Mark your calendars for the latest production by A-Spire Theatre in Gimli.

*Oh Fudge, A Love Story*, a Time Boom Production, will take the stage from June 28 to 30 as the season opener.

Written by Christine Hallick, the play focuses on the lives of Teddy and Orvetta, who are deeply in love. However, because of treachery and deceit, they never got the chance to be together.

Now that more than 60 years has passed, they are both widowed and they have hopes of rekindling the spark between them. One question remains: Can their adult children pull them together or will they push them apart?

The talented cast includes Bob Galston, Robert King, Bryce Hallick, Dorothy Talman, Joan Wilton and Christine Hallick. Bernard Boland is at the helm as director of the play.

On Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29, the show starts at 8 p.m. On Sunday, June 30, showtime is 2:30 p.m.

Tickets cost \$15 at the door and they're also available one week in advance at Tergesen's General Store or by calling 204-642-8079.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Country band Past the Perimeter will be headlining at the Lundar Ag Fair Friday night.

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# Arborg Collegiate students making the world a more tolerant place

#### **By Patricia Barrett**

Students at Arborg Collegiate showed their support for inclusion and equal rights during a Pride celebration held at the school.

June is Pride Month, a time when the LGBTQ2 community — people who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit and other identities — is celebrated.

The month commemorates an LGBT community uprising in New York City in 1969 after police raided a gay club called the Stonewall Inn. The rising eventually led to the gay liberation movement.

Arborg Collegiate's guidance counsellor and teacher Rachel Orbanski said the students wore colours, took part in a rainbow-themed relay race around the sports track and enjoyed music and face painting.

"Our school thinks it is important to recognize Pride Month with a dedicated time to plan activities that promote community building, accepting differences and celebrating diversity," said Orbanski.



Arborg Collegiate students showed their support for a Pride celebration last week.

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### Swiss family retribution: Siglavik residents facing legal action

#### By Patricia Barrett

Siglavik residents are facing what appears to be a case of retribution in the form of a driveway dig-up after a wetland preservation group they're part of went public about a development that's destroying part of the area's coastal wetland.

After much media publicity about their infilling of about four acres of wetland and the digging of a 100-metre-long canal for boat access to the lake, the Rutz family from Switzerland has taken legal action against local residents Jeff and Muriel Smith, who've lived on Sunrise Drive for 11 years.

Jeff Smith acts as spokesperson for People for the Preservation of the Willow Island Coastal Wetlands (P4P), which has been registered and will become a non-profit corporate organization. It has grown to over 400 members.

Smith said he received a letter from the Rutz's lawyer asking him to return part of his driveway (a small section that juts across Rutz's land) to its original wetland state. He was given 30 days.

"There's no logical reason for this," said Smith, who's a retired military veteran. "The driveway has been like this for 16 years and nobody has ever raised the issue. I think Rutz thinks it's me against him because my name and face has been in the media. He doesn't get that it's not just the Smiths; this is the Siglavik-Miklavik community and the rest of the 400 people who've signed on to P4P."

Smith estimates the triangularshaped slice he'll have to excavate is roughly 80.6 square feet and is worth about \$5.50, based on the market's per-acre land value. The restoration will cost him about \$5,000 and he'll have to build a new piece of driveway across his lawn.

"We offered to buy it from the Rutz family," said Smith. "We offered them \$500 and said we'd pay the legal fees to change the boundaries. But a letter came back saying, 'No. Move the driveway.""

Smith said he's pretty certain he has a right-of-way so that he can access his home. He could challenge the Rutzes in court, but it might wind up costing him about \$10,000.

The Rutz's land manager, a local developer, was out several weeks ago measuring the intersecting area. But before he digs, Smith said Rutz will have to get a proper survey done to determine what part of the driveway belongs to the municipality because he's "not digging on municipal land" and he's not cutting down any trees.



**EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION SUBMITTED** The map shows the small triangle running across the Smith's driveway.

After P4P raised concerns about the 1,000-1,200 truckloads of earth dumped in the wetland and the canal-building, Ben Rutz wrote a letter to the *Express* (April 4 edition), stating he and family have been visiting the Gimli area for over 15 years and only want what other Siglavik residents have — one home and access to the lake. He added that his family is committed to preserving the habitat.

In 2014 the Rutz's request to develop their property was turned down by the provincial NDP and other environmental organizations, which deemed the property "significant" and "rare" coastal wetland. In 2016 the party back-pedalled, allowing the family to develop a single lot.

The Conservatives also gave the green light to the development in 2018 despite local residents having raised concerns. Smith said they've "never heard" from Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton despite requests for assistance.

P4P has submitted several freedom of information requests (FIPPAs) to the provincial government and to the RM of Gimli to piece together how the Rutz's development was allowed to proceed and what, if any, permits or licences were issued for the now infilled area and canal.

A member of P4P shared the results of one FIPPA granted in part by the municipality.

It shows one application — for a lot grade permit — made on March 12, 2019. And an email dated July 30, 2014, from RM of Gimli CAO Joann King (now Murphy) to the provincial department of Conservation and Water Stewardship shows the RM had no objections to the Rutz family developing the wetland if the federal department of Fisheries and Oceans gave the go-ahead.

The RM of Gimli "would be prepared to issue a lot grade to allow



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT** 

Jeff Smith stands at the apex of a triangle (survey line highlighted by the *Express*), which he and his wife will have to excavate from the middle of their driveway.



The canal the Rutz family had dug is now filled with water.

Mr. & Mrs. Rutz to build their home on the property ... once the building site on the property has been raised to 717 as required in our Zoning Bylaw," wrote King.

Smith said this issue — and other environmental violations — speaks to a lack of adherence to the rule of law.

"We have a whole stack of environmental laws in Manitoba I believe are very robust, but nobody enforces them," he said. "We've got the guy who built the illegal canal in Lac du Bonnet. We've got people who fill in wetlands because somebody wants to have a holiday home. And you've got municipalities that simply ignore the rules."

Smith is the first to admit he and his wife purchased their property on what had once been wetland, he said. But at the time they didn't realize how Siglavik had been built and how that's contributed to wetland loss. The tide of opinion has changed given the very real consequences of global warming. Allowing wetland destruction to continue is not the way forward.

"Had we realized what had gone into producing this area, we probably wouldn't have bought here as much as it's the idyllic place," he said

In conjunction with local youth, P4P is hosting a wetlands education day on Saturday, June 22 at the Smith's Sunrise Drive property starting at 1 p.m. Students will be teaching visitors about the vital role wetlands play in protecting the lake and providing habitat for a diverse number of species. Riverton Collegiate principal Rob Jantz will be bringing kayaks and taking people through the marsh and along Willow Creek.

Churches in Gimli and Winnipeg Beach have reached out to P4P, asking the organization to host a wetlands awareness day in August.

For more information about organization, visit People for the Preservation of the Willow Island Coastal Wetlands on Facebook.

### Interlake Co-op helps youngsters with planting a flower

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**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JORDAN COOK** Interlake Co-op planned a kid's club "Plant a flower for your parent" event at the Arborg grocery store on June 4 and the Eriksdale branch on June 6. It was free for the kids to attend, and approximately 60 kids received a terra-cotta pot, which they then filled with dirt before planting a flower. The kids decorated the pots for their families and snacked on cookies and bottled water donated by Interlake Co-op. The weather was very nice for both days.



Thank you for your continued support!

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Home Parents are required for non-resident students attending **Riverton** Collegiate for the 2019-20 school year.

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> Contact Riverton Collegiate to learn more about how to become involved in this worthwhile program.

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Riverton Collegiate

### June 14 & 15, 2019

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 14

- 4-H Beef Show and Sale
- Light Horse Show
- Past the Perimeter playing at the beer gardens
- Fireworks

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 15**

- Parade, Petting Zoo & Kids Zone
- 52nd Miss Interlake Pageant
- Show & Shine
- \$1,000 Jackpot Heifer Show

See website for complete program -

### Storm leaves wreckage near Petersfield, Clandeboye

By Gabrielle Piché

A violent storm took down trees, shingles and power lines on Friday.

Teulon felt nickelsized hail and wind gusts up to 89 km/h, while Gimli saw wind gusts up to 133 km/h, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada.

The strong winds knocked down power lines along Highway 8, causing some residents in the area to lose power.

People spotted funnel clouds, but there aren't any official reports of a tornado.



A tree in Clandeboye United Church's cemetery bows, split in half, on June 7.



Part of a tree lies on a resident's shed in Petersfield on June 8, a day after the storm.



**EXPRESS PHOTOS BY GABRIELLE PICHE** Downed power lines on Highway 8 caused residents nearby to lose power during the storm.

### Young farmers lauding a lifestyle at Lundar Fair

#### By Evan Matthews

For many in the Interlake, raising cattle is a way of life. It's a part of their family's heritage. It's who they are.

At the Lundar Fair's 4-H Beef Achievement event, the region's participants will showcase that heritage.

"Our family spends a lot of time working with cattle; we show cattle at purebred shows in Western Canada," said Cynthia Wirgau, who has raised her family in Lundar.

"The kids have really taken an interest, too, and pursued it with the 4-H program while enjoying benefits that come along with it like meeting friends, public speaking, etc.," she said.

4-H Canada is a not-for-profit organization focused on strong leadership for world-class positive youth development experiences in Canada. Wirgau says local communities help tailor 4-H programming to the community's interests and needs.

Wirgau's 15-year-old daughter Brooklyn has been showing cattle since she was five, in what her mom

called the Pee-Wee club. 4-H has been a part of Brooklyn's life for 10 years now.

"À lot of the work is feeding the cattle and being able to halter-break it," said Brooklyn, adding that to halterbreak is the process in which you accustom a calf to wearing and being handled in a halter.

"You have to be able to tie them up, spending time combing them out, getting them to become calm enough to lead,"



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** Brooklyn Wirgau is hoping to have her steer named Grand Champion at the Lundar Ag Fair this weekend.

she said.

At the 2019 Lundar Fair, Brooklyn will be showing a heifer and a steer.

A female animal that has never had a calf is considered a heifer. Once a heifer has a calf, she becomes a cow. A steer is a neutered male animal.

Having been crowned Grand Champion for the heifer and steer categories in 2016, Brooklyn is aiming her sights high for the 2019 competition.

Lundar 4-H club's secretary Melinda Kemp will also being show an animal this weekend. She said the presentation of a cow's appearance is a large part of the judging and scoring, as is the cow's behaviour while on halter and being led.

"I think I'm going to do well," said Brooklyn, adding you can never be sure.

"But I want to be a role model to the younger kids. ... I like showing cows."

This year, the 4-H Beef Achievement Day begins at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 14, with events and activities throughout the day and the steer sale at 4 p.m. The regular beef and dairy show will happen on Saturday morning, with junior shows in the afternoon.

Full details for the Lundar Fair are available on the event program. Visit lundaragsociety.com for full details.



#### *The Express Weekly News* Thursday, June 13, 2019 **15** Miss Interlake to be chosen at Lundar Fair this Saturday



Emma Walc

#### **By Evan Matthews**

Heading into its 52nd year, the Miss Interlake Pageant is set to bring together and highlight some of Interlake's young women.

So far, this year's pageant has confirmed contestants from Lundar, Eriksdale, Warren, Woodlands, Teulon and Stonewall, according to Tara Law, who is in her eighth year as director of the pageant. Contestants are brought forward by nomination, whether self-nomination or by a community member.

"Often, a town representative will bring a name forward to our committee and then we contact the person," said Law.

"But more often than not, the girls will volunteer themselves to run in the pageants. ... Most times the girls have no pageant experience whatsoever."

The pageant is made up of three components: talent, sportswear review and an impromptu question.

Judges will be local Interlake people. Prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place, but all participants are given a gift.

First place receives a \$1,000 scholarship to an educational institution of the winner's choosing. Second place receives \$500, while third receives \$250.

The Lundar Ag Society provides the funding for the prizes, she said.

"This event builds community. ... It showcases who these women are and their unique individuality," said Law.



"The pageant shows how they can become stronger people when faced with new situations and new people. The girls make lifelong friendships by participating." Judges will announce the winner of Miss Interlake at 5:15 on Saturday at the Lundar Arena.

For more information, visit http://www.lundaragsociety. com/miss-interlake-pageant/.

#### Emma Walc **Miss Teulon**

Emma Walc is 17 years old and a Grade 12 student at West Kildonan Collegiate.

Her parents are Tannis and Jamie Walc.

She lives in Teulon where she has five horses. Walc has a love and passion for horseback riding and does a variety of events with her horses like western pleasure, barrel racing and jumping. Walc competes with her horses in the summer with the Canadian Western Horse Association and has won high point exhibitor in 2015 and 2017. She has also received awards for being most sportsmanlike and most enthusiastic.

Walc has a love for the dramatic arts, and for her talent, will be reciting a monologue from William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

She has been an honour roll student all throughout high school.

Walc volunteers with her show group, Canadian Western Horse Association, at a stable to assist the instructor. She has been helping to put



Wynter Peterson

on the Saddle up for Cancer horse show in Stonewall with all proceeds be going to Cancer Care Manitoba.

Walc starts her Pre-Vet program at the U of M this fall. In the future she hopes to open a veterinary clinic. Walc is self-sponsored.

#### **Brynn Arksey Miss Woodlands**

Brynn Leah Arksey, daughter of Diane and Steve Arksey, is 19 years old and a 2018 graduate of Warren Collegiate.

Arksey will showcase her artwork during the talent portion.

Currently, Arksey is studying nursing at the U of M, while working at a local dairy farm. Arksey also works as an extra in movies and cleans at the Warren Curling Club.

Her interests include painting, badminton and raising farm animals, as she's been involved in the 4-H club for several years.

Arksey loves to volunteer, having spent time at Winnipeg Harvest, Warren Junior Curling, Habitat for Humanity, and having fundraised for The Children's Wish Foundation.

Arksey is self-sponsored.

#### Wynter Peterson Miss Warren

Wynter Peterson is 16 years old and a Grade 11 student in Warren. She is the daughter of Trevor and Stacy Peterson. Peterson is an honour roll student and will showcase her drawing and art in the tal-



Taylor Kauppila

ent portion.

Her interests include drawing, painting, reading, cooking, spending time with her family and playing with her cat. Her achievements reflect those interests, as Peterson has received Grade 9 and 10 honour roll awards, and the highest grade in art in both Grade 9 and 10.

Some of Peterson's volunteer efforts are with student council, sports events at WCI and teen talk with the school. When she graduates, Peterson hopes to become an interpersonal therapist.

Peterson is sponsored by the Rubber Ducky Campground.

#### **Taylor Kauppila Miss Eriksdale**

Taylor Kauppila is 18 years old and a Grade 12 student in Lundar.

Her mother is Laura-Lee Kauppila and her father is the late Marty Kauppila.

For her talent, Kauppila will deliver a speech (public speaking).

Kauppila plans to attend the U of M this fall. She'll be taking the Environmental Studies Co-op program and hopes to pursue a a career in horticulture.

She currently works at Havakeen Lunch and Tire. Kauppila's interests include painting, reading, fishing and camping.

Kauppila received the Proficiency Award, as well as the title Horatio Alger Canadian Scholar.

She volunteers at the local care home, where she goes



Sidney Preimski

on walks with residents, plays games and gets to know the residents.

Kauppila is sponsored by the Eriksdale Legion.

#### **Sidney Preimski Miss Lundar**

Sidney Priemski is 16 years old and is in Grade 10 at Lundar School.

Her parents are Marion and (late) Jascon Priemski.

Preimski will showcase her talent will of public speaking. She loves animals, planting flowers, muscle cars, and her hobbies include anything art related.

Throughout her school career, Preimski has won academic awards for science, social studies, literacy and art. She even won an award in 4-H for public speaking.

Preimski volunteers at the Lundar Personal Care Home and the Lutheran Church. Last year, she was a contestant for Carnival Queen at Lundar's yearly winter carnival with the Lundar Grettir to help raise money for the community.

Following graduation, Preimski wants to attend U of W to take criminology and psychology. When Preimski finishes university, she wants to pursue a career in law enforcement.

Preimski is sponsored by the Lundar Ladies Auxiliary.



### Town of Arborg threatens to evict mobile home owner over his tenant's dogs

#### By Patricia Barrett

The Town of Arborg has given a man a month's notice to remove his trailer from the Arborg Mobile Home Park after dogs belonging to one of his tenants were allegedly running free.

Bob Dowd lives in a community north of Gimli but owns and rents three mobile homes in the Arborg town-owned park, which is located at the west end of Second Avenue.

He received a letter dated May 28, 2019, from the town's law firm, Pitblado Law, stating the town has terminated the tenancy agreement for one of his lots and he must remove his mobile home — and any objects belonging to his tenants — by June 30.

The letter states Dowd was made aware in March and April that both he and his tenant breached the town's animal control bylaw by allowing dogs to "run at large and not obtaining licences."

Dowd told the *Express* a young family with two children is renting the mobile home from him and they've taken steps to deal with their dogs and work with the town.

He said he himself hadn't seen the dogs until he drove by last week and saw them in a pen at the rear of the lot. But he was told somebody had been bitten. He doesn't know if the RCMP had been contacted.

"I had heard that somebody went onto their property and approached the mother dog when she had pups and got bit," said Dowd, who is a retired police officer.

The dog was quarantined, he said he was told, to make sure there were no potential rabies issues. And his tenant is now down to two puppies. The tenant also went down to the town office to speak with CAO Lorraine Bardarson about getting licences for the puppies and she allegedly told [the tenant] he/she "doesn't need licences right now," but will when they're four months old.

"If somebody comes on your property and approaches your dog and gets bit that's their fault," said Dowd. "I was contacted by [the town's] lawyer again and she said they're still proceeding with throwing the young family out at the end of June — or at least they're going to try — and they're still proceeding with towing my trailer out at the end of June."



**EXPRESS PHOTO GOOGLE SATELLITE** 

Bob Dowd, who owns and rents a trailer in Arborg's Mobile Home Park, has had his tenancy cancelled because of his tenant's dogs. Google shows the far end of the trailer park.

Dowd said the RCMP can enforce town bylaws, including animal bylaws. Officers can serve a person with a summons indicating that person has too many dogs contrary to an animal control bylaw, and that person would then have to go to court and plead guilty or not guilty.

Dowd said the young family are good tenants, always punctual with their rent and their utility bills.

He said he had also been contacted by the town with regard to the way another tenant in a different mobile home he owns drives on the roads.

There is only one way in and out of the mobile home park — to the east via Second Avenue — but Dowd's tenant had allegedly driven northwest over a patch of grass and onto a gravel road.

"Apparently he's done this a couple of times, and I got a letter telling me I need to make him stop this. That's an issue under the provincial Highway Act. I'm not a police officer anymore and I can't go make people do anything," said Dowd. "[Bardarson] needs to phone the local RCMP and they'll go talk to him. If it's an issue and they catch him, they will give him a ticket."

Manitoba's tenancy law prohibits landlords from making people homeless. Dowd said he contacted a client services officer with the Residential Tenancies Branch and was told the town can't throw him or his tenants out.

"[The branch officer] said they're not going to be throwing anybody out in the street at the end of June and they're not going to be towing a trailer," said Dowd. "She said it's a very lengthy process and [the town] is going to have go through the courts."

Dowd said he also contacted Arborg Mayor Peter Dueck, saying he had spoken with his tenant about the dogs and asking whether they could work together to try to resolve the issue as Bardarson refuses to speak with him. But Dueck told him he couldn't speak to the matter and that it has to go through the town's lawyer.

Dowd said he's known Dueck for decades and they "could have solved this in 15 minutes."

The town declined comment when asked about the alleged biting incident, whether the dog was deemed a dangerous dog, and how an issue with dogs warrants the removal of a mobile home from the park.

"It would be inappropriate to make a public comment regarding any legal matter of the town until resolved," said Bardarson by email.

She added that she has no comment on issues not specific to the legal matter.





gei	inspire	Slow Cooker Coconut Curry Chili
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- Prep time: 10 minutes Cook time: 4-8 hours Servings: 6-8 Nonstick cooking spray 1 small yellow onion, diced 2 cloves garlic, minced 2 cans (12 1/2 ounces each) white premium chunk chicken breast, drained 1 can (14 1/2 ounces) diced tomatoes with green chilies, drained 3 tablespoons red curry paste, plus additional, to taste 1/4 cup all-natural peanut butter 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger 1 can (13 1/2 ounces) coconut milk
- 1 tablespoon fish sauce
- 3 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 can (15 1/2 ounces) chickpeas, drained
- 1 can (14 1/2 ounces) whole potatoes, drained and cubed
- 1 can (14 1/2 ounces) sliced carrots, drained
- 3 tablespoons lime juice, plus additional, to taste
- salt, to taste
- brown rice, cooked according to pack-

age instructions (optional) cilantro, for garnish salted peanuts, for garnish Grease slow cooker with nonstick cooking spray. Add onion, garlic, chicken, tomatoes, red curry paste, peanut butter, brown sugar, ginger, coconut milk, fish sauce and soy sauce to slow cooker. Stir to combine. Cover and cook on high 4 hours or low 8 hours. Uncover and stir in chickpeas, potatoes, carrots and lime juice. Taste and add lime juice and salt, to taste, if necessary.

Serve on top of brown rice, if desired, and garnish with cilantro and peanuts.



### Local athletes excel at junior high track and field provincials

#### Staff

There were several outstanding performances by local athletes at the Athletics Manitoba Jr. High Track and field Championships on June 4 at the University of Manitoba.

The following are the local athletes that placed in the top 10 of their respective events.

In the Grade 7 girls' high jump, Arborg's Sydney Burak was second after clearing the bar at 1.35m.

Arborg's Brooke Barylski was third in the shot put (8.44m) and Fisher River's Imani Rhoden placed eighth (8.03m).

Rhoden was also eighth in the 80m hurdles (16.07) while Arborg's Bailey Orbanski was ninth in the 800m with a time of 2:53.72.

Eriksdale's Jersi Godfrey placed fifth in discus with a throw of 18.80m.

Dr. George Johnson Middle School's Sawyer Cherniak was ninth in the 300m (50.14).

The Grade 8 girls' events saw Arborg's Kylee Emms-Finnsson win the discus with a great throw of 26.10m. She also finished eighth (8.64m) in the shot put.

Eriksdale's Autumn Hanslip was fourth in discus (21.07m).

Arborg's Sydney Burak placed sixth in the triple jump, landing at 9.02m.

Fisher Branch's Danielle Lazorak was sixth in the shot put (8.75m) and ninth in discus (18.01m).

Eriksdale placed 10th in the 1600 metre medley race.

In Grade 7 boys' action, Fisher Branch's Justin Beaudette was fifth in the high jump (1:45m).

Eriksdale's Andries Cronje was seventh in the 800m (2:35.48) and ninth in 80m hurdles (15.86).



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Arborg Early Middle School's Kylee Emms-Finnson, left, won the Grade 8 girls' discus event at the junior high provincial track and field meet last week at the University of Manitoba. Sydney Burak, middle, placed second in Grade 7 girls' high jump while Brooke Barylski was third in the Grade 7 girls' shot put.

Grade 8 boys' events saw Fisher Branch's Ivan Huynh finish seventh in the triple jump (9.96m).

Dr. George Johnson Middle School's Logan Porteous was great in the discus, placing second with a solid throw of 34.06m.

He also finished tied for seventh in the shot put (9.60m).

Fisher Branch's Adeolu Badmos placed eighth in the 300m (42.44).

Dr. George Johnson Middle School placed 10th in the Grade 8 boys' 1600 medley.

There were no top-10 placings of local athletes in either the Grade 9 girls' or boys' events.

### **Volleyball Manitoba hands out major awards**

#### Submitted by Volleyball Manitoba

The 2019 Volleyball Manitoba Awards & Hall of Fame Banquet was held Sunday evening.

It was a celebration recognizing some of our outstanding athletes, coaches, volunteers and officials.

At the banquet, Volleyball Manitoba recognized all provincial champions from this past year, all stars and most valuable players, national medalists, the age class players of the year from each age category as well as the Cheryl Cable, Mark Tennant, Wezer Bridle Golden Whistle and Mary Jean England Coach Awards, among others.

The evening was capped off with the Volleyball Manitoba Hall of Fame inductions, which included Louise Wlock Bentley (athlete), Stephen Densmore (builder) and Ardith Lernout Parker (athlete).

Congratulations to the following major award winners:

2018 Volleyball Manitoba Age Class Players of the Year:

15U Girls Player of the Year Madelyn Lesnar (Club West Rage) 15U Boys Player of the Year Lachlan MacLean (204 Gold) 16U Girls Player of the Year Carleigh Smith-Banfield (Shock) 16U Boys Player of the Year Spencer Grahame (Selkirk Royals) 17U Girls Player of the Year

17U Girls Player of the Year Haley Bickell (WinMan Force) 17U Boys Player of the Year James Duerksen (204 Gold)

18U Girls Player of the Year Alli Pauls (Cobras) 18U Boys Player of the Year Isaiah Olfert (Winnipeg Strike)

Mark Tennant and Cheryl Cable Awards for the Junior (20U) Players of the Year:

Cheryl Cable Memorial Award Winner – Sami Love (Brandon University Bobcats)

Mark Tennant Award Winner – Brendan Warren (University of Manitoba Bisons)

Mary Jean England Awards – Elite and Developmental Coach of the Year: Developmental Coach of the Year –

Michael DeGroot (Cats 14U Girls) Elite Coach of the Year – Grant Wilson (Brandon University Men's Volleyball)

Wezer Bridle Golden Whistle Award

- Referee of the Year Jamie Jones

Volleyball Manitoba Volunteers of the Year:

Chantal Desmarais (WinMan Wild 16U Boys)

Nikki Redekop Memorial Scholarship Recipients

Kalen Reyes (18U WinMan Warriors, Garden City Collegiate)

**Special Recognition Award** 

Brandon University Men's Volleyball Team (2018-19 Canada West Champions & USport Silver Medalists)

Teams of the Year

Beach - Anna Maidment and Erika Vermette

Indoor – Shock 16U Girls

### Impact sit atop MMSL Division 5 standings

#### Staff

The Interlake Impact find themselves atop the Manitoba Major Soccer League's Division 5 standings.

Interlake's latest victory was a 2-0 decision over the Portage Cobras last Thursday in Portage la Prairie.

Brian Penner scored both Impact goals.

With the victory, Interlake improved its record to 5-0-1 and it now has 16 points to lead the 10-team

division. North Winnipeg United (3-1-1) is in second place with 10 points.

Interlake defeated North Winnipeg 4-1 back on May 23.

Interlake has been dominant this season, outscoring its opponents by an impressive 16-3 margin

an impressive 16-3 margin. The Impact will play the Stonewall United this Thursday at the Ralph Cantafio Soccer Complex in south Winnipeg. Game time is 8 p.m.

### Local athletes medal at MHSAA track and field provincials



Arborg's Jessica Monkman earned a silver in the varsity girls' shot put with a toss of 10.21m.

#### Staff

There were several outstanding results from local athletes at the recent MHSAA provincial track and field championship at the University of Manitoba.

Arborg Collegiate's Natasha English won a gold medal in the junior varsity girls' discus with a great throw of 28.63 metres. That was ahead of Kelvin's Voke Ewhrudjakpor (27.86m) and Vin-

#### cent Massey's Ayva Khan (27.79m).

Arborg's Jessica Monkman earned a silver in the varsity girls' shot put with a toss of 10.21m. College Regional's Chloe Manaigre won the event with a throw of 11.19m while Hapnot Collegiate's Daley Shaw was third (10.05m). Arborg's Brenna Barylski finished second in the varsity girls' outdoor pentathlon.

### **Riverton soccer champs**



**EXPRESS PHOTO BY LLOYD ROCHE** 

Riverton defeated Gimli 2, Morweena 1, and Arborg to win gold at the 2019 U12 Interlake Soccer Tournament last Sunday in Gimli. Teulon won all of their games against Morweena 2, Gimli 1, and Winnipeg Beach to win gold in their division. Saturday's storm changed the eight-team tournament to a one-day event on Sunday. Two groups of four competed for gold within their respective divisions. Pictured back row: the Riverton team of Lloyd Roche, Braedan Cormack, Skylar Farrington, Jake Munro and Tyanna Johnson-Mitz. Front row: Olivia Shupena, Madden Mowatt, Simon Mitchell, Darren Mitchell, Ashley Monkman and Landon Nelson. Missing from the photo is Tristan Klatt.

### Johannesson commits to Minot State Beavers hockey program

#### Staff

Wayde Johannesson's hockey career will continue south of the border.

The former Selkirk Steelers' defenceman has committed to the Minot State Beavers for this upcoming season.

Johannesson, an Arnes product, had been one of the Beavers' recruiting targets for a number of months. Johannesson brings a ton of experience and play-making ability.

This past season, Johannesson racked up 25 points (five goals, 20 assists) between the Dauphin Kings and Steelers.

"Wayde is an extremely skilled puck-moving defenceman," said Beavers' head coach Wade Regier. "He is a gifted play-making defender that almost feels like an extra forward on the ice at all times.

"He is extremely versatile and can play in every situation. His playoff experience is also a huge plus for us. Wayde complements our young defensive core and we look forward



Former Selkirk Steelers' defenceman Wayde Johannesson has committed to the Minot State Beavers for this upcoming season.

to him in our lineup on a nightly basis."

Johannesson also played for the MJHL's Waywayseecappo Wolverines and the SJHL's Nipawin Hawks. **MJHL announces 2019** 

**Auto-Protect list** 

### **Interlake Blue Jays split** doubleheader with A's

#### Staff

The Interlake Blue Jays split a doubleheader with the St. James A's on Sunday.

Interlake lost Game 1 by a 4-2 score but the Blue Jays earned the split with a convincing 9-3 win in the second game.

Interlake was scheduled to host the Carillon Sultans in a doubleheader last Friday but that was rained out.

Last Wednesday, Interlake was defeated 4-1 at home by the Altona Bisons. On May 31, the Blue Jays edged the Carillon Sultans 1-0.

Interlake is now 3-8 and six games back of first-place Altona (10-3) in the eight-team league.

The Blue Jays will hit the road Friday to play the St. James A's. Game time is 7 p.m.

Interlake will then host the St. Boniface Legionaires in

a doubleheader on Sunday. Games will start at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

In Winnipeg Senior Baseball League action, the Stonewall Blue Jays won a pair of games last week.

Stonewall edged the Springfield Sr. Braves 7-6 at home on June 4 and then defeated the St. James A's 4-2 last Thursday in Winnipeg.

The Blue Jays hosted the Elmwood Giants on Monday but no score was available at press time.

That was the first of four consecutive home games for Stonewall. The Blue Javs will host the Boni-vital Brewers Wednesday and the St. Boniface Legionaires on Sunday. Both games start at 7:30 p.m. Heading into this week's slate of games, Stonewall was 4-2 and 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> games back of first-place St. Boniface (5-0).

#### Staff

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League and its member clubs announced the 2019 Auto-Protect list last week.

The Selkirk Steelers have protected forward Tanner Skrypnyk and goaltender Owen Savoie.

Each club is given the opportunity to list two players born in 2004 from their respective home zone. The Auto-Protect list features 21 players identified who were not eligible for last Saturday's 2019 MJHL Draft.

This year's Auto-Protect list contained 10 forwards, nine defencemen, and two goalies. That list included nine invites to the Hockey Manitoba U-16 POE Top-40 Camp last month and nine selected in the 2019 WHL Draft.

"The auto-protects are an important process for our clubs prior to the draft that can be challenging but very rewarding towards their future success," said MJHL commissioner Kim Davis in a media release.

Many players who are protected in this process go on to become solid pillars of a club, recent examples being Nick Henry and Tyler Kirkup.

riers in 2014, went on to win the league's rookie-of-the-year award. He helped the Terriers earn a Turnbull Cup championship, setting his path to the WHL and eventual NHL draft.

Kirkup, auto-protected by the Oil Capitals in 2013, played three seasons with Virden as a top-end contributor before advancing to Bemidji State University on a scholarship.

The MJHL clubs and their auto-protect selections included: Dauphin Kings (forward Rylan Gibbs, defenceman Marco Bodnarski), Neepawa Natives (defenceman Liam Major, forward Ty Joss), OCN Blizzard (forward Colby Hnidy, defenceman Cheechoo Lathlin), Steinbach Pistons (forward Ty Paisley), Swan Valley Stampeders (forward Steven Arp, defenceman Matthew Munro), Virden Oil Capitals (forward Tyson Andrew, defenceman Dexter Whittle), Waywayseecappo Wolverines (defenceman Ryder Thompson, forward Tyson Zimmer), Winkler Flyers (goalie Reid Dyck, defenceman Kaden Dyck), Winnipeg Blues (forwards Ryder Ringor and Josh Filmon), and the Portage Terriers (defencemen Darien Schaan and Carter Moorhouse).

Henry, auto-protected by the Portage Ter-

# MJHL holds annual Bantam draft

#### Staff

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League held its annual Bantam draft last Sunday in Winnipeg.

The Selkirk Steelers selected defenceman Jason Ruff with their first pick, eighth overall.

Ruff played last season with the Winnipeg Monarchs, scoring 11 goals while producing 24 points in 32 regular-season games.

Without a second-round pick, the Steelers took defenceman Deshon Friesen in the third round, 26th overall. Friesen had 11 assists in 29 regular-season games with the Rink Hockey Academy Nationals.

With their next pick in the fourth round, 35th overall, Selkirk took forward Jackson Sirrell. Sirrell scored 12 goals and had 31 points in 34 regularseason games.

In the fifth round, 52nd overall, the Steelers grabbed Stonewall defenceman Austin Lourenco. With the Interlake Lightning last season, Lourenco scored five goals and recorded 16 points in 36 regular-season games.

Selkirk had two picks in the sixth

and final round. With the 63rd overall pick, the Steelers snagged Shilo forward Evan White, who played last season with the Southwest Cougars where he had 10 goals and 17 points in 35 games.

Two picks later, Selkirk selected Bluenort defenceman Spencer Penner. Penner played this past season with the Eastman Selects, putting up some impressive numbers. He scored 14 goals and produced 40 points in 35 regular-season games.

East St. Paul players selected in the MJHL draft included centre Cale Ziplinty (third round, 30th overall by Waywayseecappo), defenceman Dobie Unrau (third round, 36th overall by Winkler), forward Joshua Fast (sixth round, 61st overall by Winkler), and defenceman Jayden Michaels (sixth round, 66th overall by Waywayseecappo.

West St. Paul players picked were centre Liam Russell (fifth round, 47th overall by Winkler) and forward Nathan Lenoski (fifth round, 53rd overall by Virden).

On the trade front, Steelers acquired

2000-born forward Trent Halfdanson from the Waywayseecappo Wolverines and their 2019 fourth-round draft pick (35) in exchange for the MJHL List Rights to forward Karl Ingalls (2002) and their 2019 third-round pick (30).

Other trades saw the Virden Oil Capitals deal the MJHL List Rights to forward Riley Zimmerman (2002) and future considerations to the OCN Blizzard in exchange for future consideration.

Virden also traded the MJHL List Rights to forward Blake Jaques (2001) to the Winnipeg Blues in exchange for the MJHL List Rights to forward Branden Huminuk (2003)

The Portage Terriers acquired forward Brayden Shaw (2000) from the Surrey Eagles in exchange for futures.

The Waywayseecappo Wolverines traded the MJHL List Rights to forward Matthew Lehmann F (2001) to OCN for future Considerations.

The Wolverines also sent forward Bryce Krauter (2000) to the Winkler Flyers in exchange for the MJHL List Rights to forward Graeme Patrick

Waywayseecappo sent the MJHL List Rights to defenceman Chad Smithson (2001) to the Neepawa Natives for future considerations.

In another move, Waywayseecappo acquired forward Noah Westgate (2000) from the Olds Grizzlys in exchange for futures.

The Neepawa Natives traded the MJHL List Rights to forward Garrett Hrechka (2002) to the Dauphin Kings in exchange for the MJHL List Rights to defenceman Jared Twerdoclib (2001).

Winkler dealt the MJHL List Rights of forward Matthew McLeod (2002) and future considerations to Waywayseecappo for futures.

The Flyers also traded the MJHL List Rights to forward Skyler Bruce (2003) to Winnipeg for the MJHL List Rights to defenceman Magnus Einarson (2003) and future considerations.

Winkler sent the MJHL List Rights to forward Cameron Morris (2002) and defenceman Cooper Morris (2002) to Neepawa for futures.

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The Municipality is accepting tenders for the installation of approximately 300 residential water meters c/w integrated register and RF transmitter and all related appurtenances located in the RM of Gimli, Manitoba.

Tender documents, complete with specifications, are available at www.gimli.ca or at the Municipal office between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday. Sealed tenders will be received at the Municipal Office until noon, Friday, June 21, 2019.

**Darcy Hjelmeland** Manager of Public Works & Utility Operations **Rural Municipality of Gimli** 



To be moved off site, 670+ ft<sup>2</sup> residential building located at #3 Station Lane in Eriksdale. Floor plan includes two bedrooms, one full bath with living room/kitchen area, currently sitting on a basement. Purchaser responsible to fill in basement and remediate site. Removal and remediation to be completed by October 15, 2019. Tenders must include the proposed purchase price and a 10% refundable deposit of the purchase price. Balance of payment to be received immediately upon notification of tender acceptance. GST may be applied to the tender price. Any legal or transfer fees to be cost shared between the buyer and seller. Seller may entertain tenders to purchase building and 5625 ft<sup>2</sup> (75'x75') commercial lot for business use. Building to be considered "as is". For further information or to arrange inspection of the property, please call 204-768-3351 or 1-888-496-8932. Tenders must be received by 4:00 p.m. July 15, 2019 at: Community Futures West Interlake Box 68 Ashern, MB ROC OEO

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