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Students step off the bus and head into school at Arborg Early Middle School on the first week back. EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON

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Students, teachers and parents celebrate school's return



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON

Evergreen and Lakeshore students returned to classes last week after their summer break. Pictured are students from Arborg and Eriksdale. Staff greeted students as they settled into their first day, while younger children arrived with new backpacks and plenty of excitement for the year ahead.



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Concerns raised over proposed residential development on Lake Winnipeg near Finns

Public hearing at Bifrost-Riverton council office in Arborg this Thursday at 9 a.m.

By Patricia Barrett

A resident who lives in the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton is raising concerns about a proposed residential development that's to be built along Finns Road about 100 feet from Lake Winnipeg.

Glenda Whiteman lives close to the proposed new subdivision. She said she's not against "progress," but from an environmental perspective is concerned that the proposal is "not a good plan" given the vulnerable nature of the area.

There's some bush, small trees and a bit of beach running along the lake-side section of this development and the other side is swampy.

"Behind [the beach and bush] is wetland. It's a swamp. It's not farmed up to the [proposed subdivision area] because it's a swampy area," said Whiteman. "A lot of endangered [migratory] birds have nesting grounds north of us, beyond Hecla, and they need places to stop on the way there. If I'm not mistaken, all these wetlands that are being taken away in riparian areas of the lake are really vital for the ecosystem."

The proposed development is nestled between Lake Winnipeg and PR



FILE PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT
Shoreline erosion on Lake Winnipeg is shown at Valhalla Beach, a subdivision a few miles south of Finns, in 2019.

222. Access into the project would be from Finns Road (Road 126 N). The land is located at Pt. SE ¼ Section 4-22-4 EPM, Roll No. 82200. It's adjacent to a "residual" parcel of land that has a travel trailer and some farm buildings on it, according to the East Interlake Planning District's application package.

The developer, who is not named in the application package, would like to build 17 residential lots and a separate lot for parking. Each residential lot would have a well and a holding tank for human waste. The developer is also proposing to build an access road from Finns Road that will run parallel to each lot.

The developer is asking Bifrost-Riverton council to consider rezoning the section from an agricultural limited zone to a recreation residential zone as a preliminary step to building the development.

Council already passed first reading

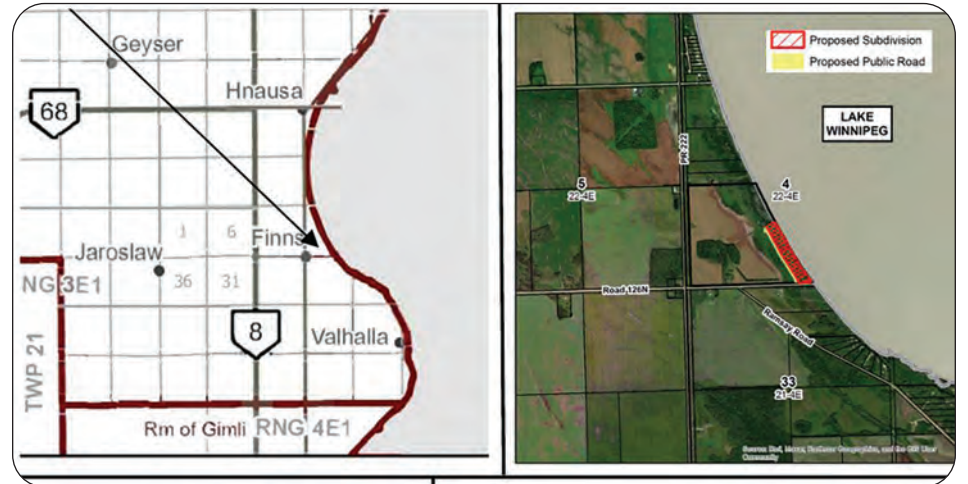


ILLUSTRATION BY EASTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT

Proposed subdivision in Finns.

of Bylaw No. 09-2025 — which will amend its zoning bylaw — on July 10. Council would have to pass second and third reading of the new bylaw

to approve the developer's rezoning request.

Whiteman said she received notice

Continued on page 8

DEMENTIA RESEARCH: WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON

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Proposed wastewater lagoon on Armstrong Hutterite colony to undergo Clean Environment hearing

Province reverses course, recommends CEC hearing, date TBA

By Patricia Barrett

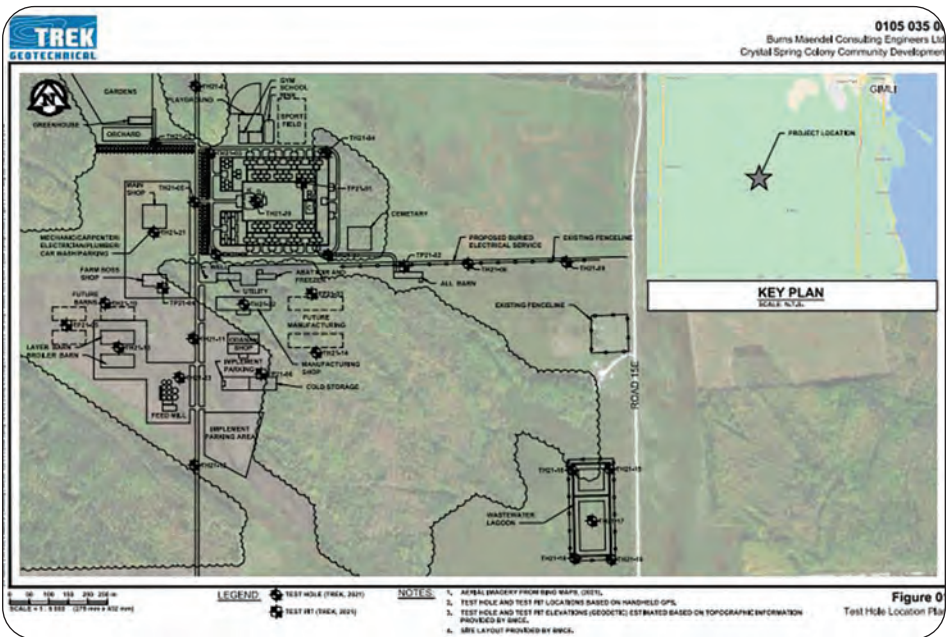
After an earlier decision this year to forgo a Manitoba Clean Environment Commission (CEC) review of a proposed wastewater lagoon to be built on a Hutterite colony in the RM of Armstrong, the provincial government reversed course and will ask the CEC to review the file.

The Crystal Spring Hutterite Colony had applied to the province for permission to build a wastewater lagoon after it bought land in Armstrong around the time of the COVID pandemic. The colony is on the west side of Road 15E, which forms the RM of Armstrong-RM of Gimli border. Representatives from the colony had appeared at an Armstrong council meeting in February 2020, saying the colony will have about 100 people, 15,000 chickens and will manufacture parts for hog barns. The province’s notice of environment act proposal stated the lagoon will be designed to treat wastewater for an expected population of 250 people (see Feb. 20,

2020, online edition of the Express). In addition to human manure, the lagoon will also treat abattoir waste. Willow Creek, which flows through the Hutterite colony, runs east into the RM of Gimli and drains into Lake Winnipeg through a residential subdivision and marshland.

Residents in both Armstrong and Gimli are opposed to the construction of the lagoon, saying through various public statements, the media and letters to the provincial government that the size of the new colony is tantamount to that of a small town and the wastewater effluent will degrade the environment and compromise human health.

Among other effects, they say the lagoon will subject neighbouring residents to noxious odours and airborne contaminants, potentially poison groundwater and surface water through lagoon cell leakage or heavy precipitation events that have habitually flooded Road 106N and the swampy parcel of land on which the lagoon is to be built, destroy fish spawning habitat in Willow Creek and the wetlands into which it drains, and add to the nutrient loading of



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED The proposed wastewater lagoon (lower right side) will be located on the west side of Road 15E, which forms the border with the RM of Gimli.

Lake Winnipeg, causing more toxic and destructive algal blooms. In April of this year the province allowed people to appeal the minister’s decision to not recommend a CEC environmental review. In June the department of environment and climate change held a “community learning session” about the lagoon in Fraserwood in the RM of Armstrong. RM of Gimli resident Jeff Smith was one of the people who had written to the provincial government with concerns about its decision to not recommend a CEC review. Smith said it appears that the number of people who attended the learning session on June 4 and the arguments they raised were “significant enough to warrant a change in the government’s approach.”

Minister of environment and climate change Mike Moyes wrote to Smith last week, saying he had decided to ask the CEC to hold a public hearing. “I am writing in response to your email appealing the Director of Environmental Approval’s decision not to recommend a Clean Environment Commission hearing for Crystal Spring Colony Farms Ltd’s proposal to construct a domestic wastewater lagoon in the Rural Municipality of Armstrong,” said Moyes in a letter to Smith with a date stamp of Sept. 2, 2025. “After careful consideration, and in accordance with section 27(2) (a) of The Environment Act, I have decided to request the Clean Environment Commission hold a public hearing on the proposal.” The Manitoba Clean Environment Commission is an arm’s-length provincial government agency that was established under The Environment Act (1988) to offer advice and rec-

Continued on page 7

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Local family shares blooms of delight for Shriners Hospital

By E. Antonio

A local family opened their sunflower field on Aug. 30 for a one-night-only pick-your-own celebration.

Janine Duguid and her three children — Kiera, 17, Orla, 14, and Reid, 11 — have been diligently preparing their flowers in time for peak picking season.

“Our family has been growing flowers for a few years now, and my kids are heavily involved in the process,” said Duguid. “They’ve sold bouquets at local markets, but this year they decided they wanted to open up the field for a u-pick night. People love to see the flowers as they always put a smile on people’s faces and we want to share that fun with others.”

Together, the siblings seed, care for, pick and sell the flowers grown in their Arnes field, introducing them to the business world. They offer a wide selection of blooms in different sizes and colours, giving visitors the chance to create their own bouquets.

Aside from the money, both Reid and Orla say meeting people is their favourite part.

“I love getting to share them with people. They are so pretty and we have so many to share and it just feels good to share,” Orla said. “It helps with the pollinators too. We have a big pile of bees that come through, and they like it a lot obviously.”

They feel a sense of pride each time they sell a bouquet, especially since they’ve done the bulk of the work.

“I’m happy that they’re acknowledging how much work we’ve put into it,” said Reid.

Janine said she is proud of her kids, but admitted it can be tiring helping out when she’s able.

“It is so neat seeing them work together, learn and interact with others. They know how they grow, how to properly pick them, how to arrange them into nice bouquets. It’s activities like these that help them gain confidence.”

Reid and Orla’s tips for success include being confident and advertising.

“Try to advertise strongly,” Reid said. “Let people know about your business and social media accounts so more people know where and how to find you.”

After selling the bouquets, they split the profits and save for personal projects. Kiera and Reid would like to buy a heifer for 4-H, while Orla is saving for an iPad.

This time, they wanted to share more than just flowers. Half of Saturday’s earnings went to Shriners Hospital for Children Canada in Montreal, a

facility with special meaning to the family.

Their cousin Elsa, 11, lives with osteogenesis imperfecta (OI), a rare genetic disorder that causes bones to break easily. She lives in Saskatchewan but travels to Montreal every six months for treatment and therapy at Shriners, the only hospital in Canada offering OI care.

“We all decided this would be a great way to give back to the hospital foundation, as they have given so much to my niece and her family,” Duguid said.

Elsa’s mom, Karlee Petruic, said while the diagnosis has affected their family, it hasn’t defined them.

“When there is a challenge that you are presented with, you can either feel sorry for yourself or you can rise up and meet it — and that’s what we’ve chosen to do. The diagnosis is part of our family’s story, but it is not all of our family’s story. It’s just what we make of it.”

Elsa has been visiting Shriners since she was 14 months old, and Petruic is grateful for the care they’ve received.

“They are helping kids and adults with this condition live really great lives, and that is important to us,” she said. “They are a well-oiled machine and they know what they are doing. While at Shriners you don’t only meet the incredible team of physicians, you also meet other families who are going through the same diagnosis as you.”

She said she is proud of the Duguids’ effort.

“It’s pretty cool to know that our family knows about this diagnosis and wants to support you. It’s even neater seeing that their kids understand and want to help Elsa and other kids like her.”

The Duguids raised \$589 for Shriners and were thrilled with the response. The kids counted more than 120 visitors before losing track of numbers, surprising themselves since the event was advertised only a few days in advance.

“We’d like to thank everyone for coming out to support this event. We saw so many people and everyone had big smiles on their faces when they left the field with their arms filled with flowers,” Duguid said. “The kids say they are proud to support Shriners Hospital and to be able to make such a generous dona-



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY E. ANTONIO

Orla, 14, Reid, 11, and their mom, Janine Duguid, welcomed visitors to their Arnes sunflower field Aug. 30 for a pick-your-own event. The family donated 50 per cent of proceeds to Shriners Hospital for Children Canada.



tion. It feels good to give back to the hospital in a small but meaningful way.”

They’ve set up Facebook and Instagram accounts under “Duguid Sun-

flowers” to share updates and sell blooms.

“The kids are already busy dreaming big about a u-pick event or two for next summer,” Duguid said.

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20 Hamilton Avenue, Winnipeg Beach
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NEWS > VIEWS > GIMLI > ARBORG > HIGHWAY 6 > SURROUNDING AREAS

Unemployment rate rises to 7.1 per cent, economy sheds 66,000 jobs in August

By Patricia Barrett

Employment declined by 66,000 jobs, or -0.3 per cent, in August, according to Statistics Canada's *Labour Force Survey* released Sept. 5, and the country's unemployment rate rose to 7.1 per cent.

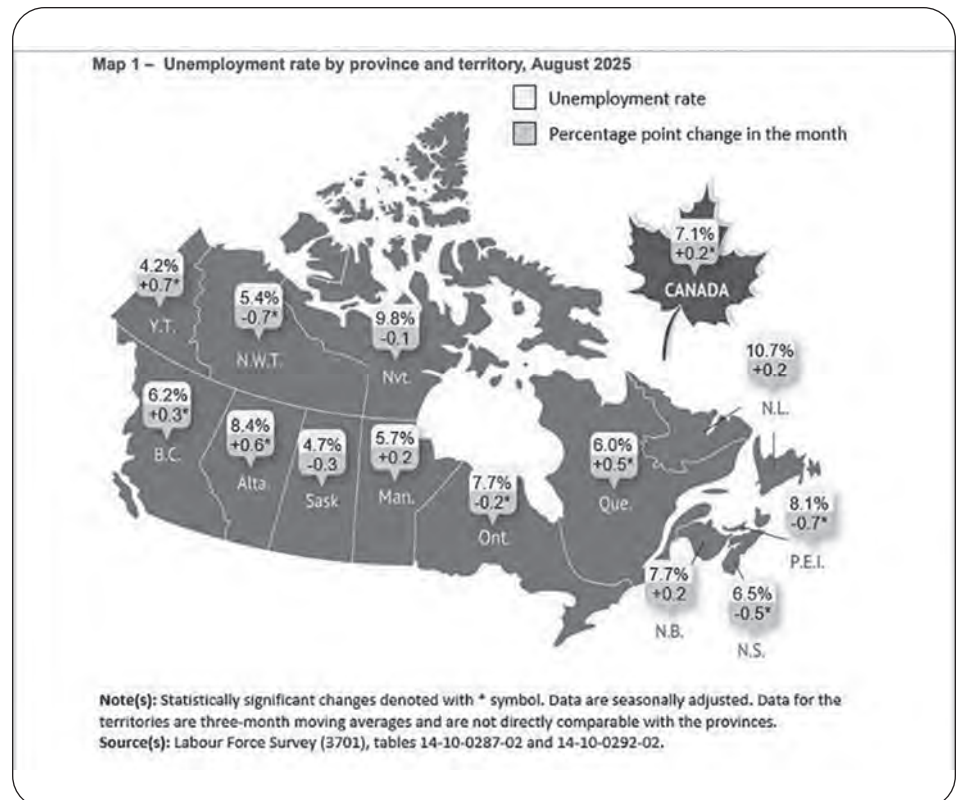
This is the second consecutive month employment has fallen, with July posting a loss of 41,000 jobs. The losses in August were fuelled by a decline in part-time work.

The unemployment rate of 7.1 per cent was the highest since May 2016 (excluding 2020 and 2021 during the COVID pandemic). From 2017 to 2019 Canada's average unemployment rate was six per cent.

"Those who were unemployed in July continued to face difficulties finding work in August," says the report. "Just 15.2 per cent of those who were unemployed in July had found work in August, lower than the corresponding proportion for the same months from 2017 to 2019."

In August, employment fell for men 25-54 years old by 58,000 or -0.8 per cent and for women in the same age bracket by 35,000 or -0.5 per cent. There was little change in employment for youth aged 15-24 and people 55 years and older.

Statistics Canada said the employ-



STATISTICS CANADA

The unemployment rate by province and territory is shown in August 2025.

ment decreases in August occurred in industries such as professional, scientific and technical services, transportation and warehousing, and manufacturing. The largest declines were in

Ontario — which has faced an uncertain economic climate with the threat of and imposition of tariffs — British Columbia and Alberta.

Correction

Staff

In the article "Gimli New Horizons looks to expand membership with

new website" in the Sept. 4 edition of the *Express Weekly News*, we published an incorrect date for the fashion show. The event will take place Thursday, Sept. 18, not Sept. 11.

Tickets are \$15 and are available in

advance through the GNH office at 204-642-7909 or at Johnson's Fashion & Footwear. The event sold out last year.

The *Express* apologizes for the error.

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Registration now open for free Spirit of Caring course

By Jennifer McFee

Get in the spirit of caring through a training session focused on spiritual health.

A free nine-week Spirit of Caring volunteer education course will run on Fridays from Oct. 3 to Dec. 5 from 12:30 to 3 p.m. The location will be determined based on the communities of registered participants. Virtual sessions via Microsoft Teams will also be an option if participants are from different communities.

Through this course, participants

will learn about spiritual care in health care. Other topics include death and dying, communication, spiritual development and spiritual diversity. The course will also touch on understanding suffering and compassion, as well as self-care, prayer, mediation, rituals, trauma and crisis.

"Illnesses and loss are those crisis points where our way of life and seeing things can be profoundly shaken and tested," said Ferdinand Funk, spiritual health services co-ordinator for Interlake-Eastern Regional Health

Authority.

"It is during these moments that we ask questions about meaning, purpose, suffering, forgiveness, hope, resilience, connection with the people we love and the sacred. The Spirit of Caring course is designed to train spiritual health volunteers to journey with and support people during these crisis points."

Regular attendance and participation is a requirement to be considered for a Spiritual Care volunteer position.

For more information, contact Ferdinand Funk at ffunk@ierha.ca or 204-461-3414. Visit <https://forms.office.com/r/HrgztYzgCv> to learn more or register for free.

> Got something you want to get off your chest? How about an act of kindness to share?

Send your letters to the editor or acts of kindness to news@expressweeklynews.ca. Please include your name, address and phone number for confirmation purposes.

Province warns against text message phishing scams

By Haley Cvar

The Manitoba government is cautioning residents about fraudulent text messages circulating last week that falsely claim to involve provincial fine payments and tax credits.

Officials say the texts are part of a phishing scam. Some Manitobans have reported receiving messages appearing to be from Manitoba Justice, demanding payment for outstanding fines related to traffic violations. The department stressed it does not send

payment requests or any official communication by text.

"Anyone with concerns about outstanding fines or questions about methods of communication should contact Manitoba Justice directly," the province said. Information is available online at www.gov.mb.ca/justice/tickets.

Other residents reported receiving texts urging them to finalize their Homeowners Affordability Tax Credit (HATC) by clicking a link. Manito-

ba Finance said it does not verify or finalize tax credits or benefits through text messages. Details about the HATC are posted at www.gov.mb.ca/finance/tao/hatc.html.

Authorities are reminding Manitobans not to respond, click links, or provide personal information if they receive such messages. Suspicious texts can be reported to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca

> LAGOON, FROM PG. 4

ommendations to the government regarding the management of the environment. Its primary role is to "provide opportunities for the Manitoba public to play a part in ensuring the protection of our environment."

The current CEC membership includes a number of university professors, a cattle and livestock owner, a former First Nations chief, a climate planner and a former provincial deputy minister, according to the CEC website. The province generally refers projects to the CEC when there is a "great deal" of public concern that can have a significant impact on a large number of Manitobans.

In addition to the many residents opposed to the lagoon, Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers raised concerns in March about the province's decision to not recommend a Clean Environment Commission review. Fishers said the lagoon could pose an environmental hazard to fish spawning grounds and the health of Lake Winnipeg, and urged the government to take a "precautionary" approach before granting a licence for the lagoon (see March 20, 2025, online edition of the Express).

Public feedback that had been sent

to the province is available online through the provincial environmental assessment and licensing's public registry webpage.

"Lake Winnipeg and the surrounding wetlands, including Willow Creek have already reached a crisis level due to phosphorus and human destruction. I am a permanent resident in this community and I've watched the lake and wetlands deteriorate every year," wrote one resident. "This past year nobody could swim for a large majority of the summer due to algae that results from phosphorus coming from the Winnipeg sewage leakage and runoff of fertilizers from farmer's fields. Dead fish washed up on shore, in addition to millions of zebra mussels, and for the first time this year there were no frogs along the lake. The lake is already in terrible shape, the last thing this community needs is more destruction to the environment, or more nitrogen and phosphorus seeping into the lake and creeks."

Another resident who has lived in the area of Road 15E and Road 106N for over 40 years said the drainage "flows very full and heavy" during years of excessive precipitation, and it will back up on the corner where the proposed lagoon is to built, leading to possible environmental contamina-

tion.

A fourth-generation farmer who lives near Willow Creek wrote that water is "one of our greatest assets" and we "should be protecting it."

Another resident told the government that it knows the lagoon is "not good" for residents.

"[Redacted] proposed lagoon sight [sic] and am totally against it, that discharge will be emptied into willow creek which runs past my place in [redacted] my grand children swim in our channels, we fish in those channels, and we have picnics along the shore lines [sic], stop this waste water [sic] treatment plant from ever being set up, you know as well as me that it is not good for us," they wrote.

Smith said the letter he received from Moyes does not set a date for the CEC hearing.

The hearing date has not yet been posted on the public registry, which is current to June 23, 2025, and was viewed on Sept. 5.

To view the Crystal Spring Colony wastewater lagoon file, including public comments, the geotechnical review and hydraulic assessment, visit the province's environmental assessment and licensing's public registry webpage and search the name or File No. 6193.00.

Community Support Service

A.A Meeting in Ashern

Location: #11 2nd Ave North
- Pioneer Manor
(beside the main door entrance of Pioneer Manor)
Contact Jackiem.lwrc@gmail.com

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 Mfts 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.

Community invited to share ideas at World Café in Gimli

By Lana Meier

Residents are being invited to pull up a chair and join in a World Café conversation this month, where small-group discussions will focus on some of the most pressing issues facing the Interlake.

The event takes place Tuesday, Sept. 16 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Gimli New Horizons, 17 Loni Beach Rd.

Bill Martin, one of the event organizers, said the purpose of the World Café is to create a safe, structured and inclusive way for community members to speak frankly about urgent concerns and begin developing strategies together.

"We are a group of citizens committed to working with all segments of our beloved community to address the many and pressing concerns in our time, including but not limited to equity, justice, discrimination, threats against our democracy, economic uncertainty, impending climate disaster, disabling stress and more," Martin said. "We believe that the people living here in our community have the knowledge and the expertise to identify and address the issues in our lives."

He added that participants can expect to come away with "a deepened awareness and appreciation of the power and capacity that our commu-

nity has to explore and develop ways of supporting each other, of defending and protecting jobs, of protecting our democracy and our environment and more."

Topics chosen for discussion include the decorum of politicians, water and Lake Winnipeg, mental health, homelessness and affordable housing, transportation in the Interlake and activities for youth. Martin said these issues reflect both local realities and global concerns.

"Democracy is under siege around the world — there is a great need for citizens to become intimately aware of and involved in the processes of democracy. Those who make the sacrifice of serving in our political system profoundly need the electorate to understand and to insist upon respectful relations in the political sphere," he said.

On water, Martin noted, "Lake Winnipeg is central to our lives. In order for our community, our people to survive and thrive, we must learn everything possible about the possible future of what has been and will continue to be the foundation of our community. We need to know what our neighbours think about climate change, and we need to join together to support actions that will preserve

Lake Winnipeg for our children and grandchildren."

He said meaningful discussions are also needed about transportation, which affects all residents, and activities for youth, which he described as "our greatest joy and our greatest asset."

"Our culture does not enable connection between generations," Martin added. "We need to dialogue frankly and openly with each other to determine what we know."

Mental health is expected to draw strong interest.

"I know that individuals who are not connected with each other, with community, are

much more likely to become addicted, to violence, to crime," Martin said.

Feedback gathered during the event will be shared with local media, as well as schools, churches, businesses, governments and service organizations.

"We will offer to develop processes

to expand our community knowledge and capabilities and work together to strengthen and develop ways to make our community stronger for all," Martin said.

The World Café format has been refined over many years and relies on trained facilitators to guide small-

group discussions. Martin said the process creates "a safe container where participants are comfortable raising issues and challenging the views of others."

He hopes the event will be a starting point for new collaborations in the Interlake.

"The entire purpose of our World Café is to lead to future projects and collaborations within our community," Martin said.

The evening is co-hosted by Seniors Reaching Out and Gimli New Horizons. Coffee, tea and snacks will be provided, with a silver collection at the door.

Space is limited, and residents are encouraged to register in advance by emailing Martin at bill.martin9@icloud.com.

"WE BELIEVE THAT THE PEOPLE LIVING HERE IN OUR COMMUNITY HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND THE EXPERTISE TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS THE ISSUES IN OUR LIVES."

Under the Boardwalk Show and Shine rolls into Winnipeg Beach Sept. 20

By Lana Meier

Classic cars, family fun and community spirit will be on full display at

the Under the Boardwalk Show and Shine in Winnipeg Beach on Saturday, Sept. 20. The day-long event runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the heart of Winnipeg Beach. In case of rain, the car show portion will move to Sunday, Sept. 21.

The schedule includes a Lions Club pancake breakfast from 9 a.m. to noon, a Winnipeg Beach Food Connection barbecue fundraiser from noon to 4 p.m. and a Gimli Kiwanis mini donut cart from noon to 4 p.m. Registration for the car show takes

place at the Winnipeg Beach Community Centre between 10 a.m. and noon, with a "Tin for the Bin" donation supporting Winnipeg Beach Food Connections. Indoor Show and Shine markets will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., children's activities include a candy scramble at 2 p.m., Tesla will be offering test drives from noon to 4 p.m., and a 50/50 draw will support the Food Connections.

Canadian professional racecar driver Amber Balcaen will appear from noon to 4 p.m. Born and raised in

Winnipeg, Balcaen was the first Canadian female to win a NASCAR-sanctioned race in the United States. She is now an entrepreneur, speaker and advocate, sharing her story of mental strength, leadership and overcoming adversity.

Awards will be presented at 4 p.m. for Best Mopar, Best GM, Best Import, Mayor's Choice, People's Choice and Kid's Choice. Adam T. Elvis will serve as MC throughout the day.

For more information, contact organizer Kelsey Morgan at 204-407-5587.

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> FINNS, FROM PG. 3

about a week or so before the hearing and has not had a chance to get all the details about the project. She's not sure whether fill material will be required for the swampy section.

In general, people who live along the lake can be subjected to environmental hazards that can affect their economic well-being, she said.

"This is the other part of it: people are spending a fortune for big swanky houses along the lake and they get

flooded," she said. "But they [developers] are just going to keep building more houses that ruin the environment, fill in swamps and give people lousy homes."

Along the lake south of Finns, for instance, people have been repeatedly flooded as the shoreline is vulnerable to high water events on Lake Winnipeg, she said.

The *Express* reached out to the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton requesting the contact information of the developer and asking whether fill

material would have to be brought in to the development. There was no response by deadline.

The *Express* also contacted the East Interlake Watershed District and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society for comment on shoreline developments but didn't receive a response.

The public hearing on the proposed 18-lot development will be held on Sept. 11 at 9 a.m. in the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton's administration building at 329 River Rd. in Arborg.

Turning travel dreams into reality: Camper Vantures hits the road

By Becca Myskiw

Sleeping under the stars just got easier — and a lot more affordable — thanks to two Winnipeg entrepreneurs turning the open road into a new kind of getaway.

With everyday costs climbing, life's luxuries like travel are becoming harder to afford for Canadians.

Aamir Kureshi and Sedriq Badru are aiming to change that with Camper Vantures, their new campervan rental business designed to make road trips more accessible and adventurous.

Based in Winnipeg, Camper Vantures is the duo's campervan rental company, which they launched last year. When Badru suggested turning vehicles into campervans and renting them out, Kureshi surprised him with some savings and their first project: a Ford E-350 Econoline.

The pair bought their first van during COVID and spent two years renovating the vehicle to be a fully functional campervan.

Working on their own, they added insulation, laid flooring, installed interior walls, added an electrical system that runs separately from the van's battery, did some engine work and custom built every piece of furniture inside — including the bed, cabinets, drawers and ceiling.

The van was officially finished in 2024, and Kureshi and Badru rented it out for the first time last summer.

"Our main focus is on camping and people travelling or coming into Winnipeg, and they don't want to rent an Airbnb and a vehicle," said Kureshi. "That could be really expensive. This is just more convenient for everybody."

He noted that many people have driver's licences but don't own cars, so if they want to go away for a weekend, they often have to pay separately for accommodation and transportation. Camper Vantures offers one price — and one unit — for both.

The duo currently has only one van available for rent but plans to expand. They are adding more to their fleet, but because they can only work on the vans in their spare time and do everything themselves, it takes a while to finish each one.

The van features a custom wood ceiling with an overhead light, a bed nestled between cabinets, and a kitchen equipped with a sink, fridge and stove. Travellers can add on several amenities, including a toilet, propane, a pet bed, a tent, a projector, a paddle board, a hammock, a freezer, camping



Aamir Kureshi and Sedriq Badru relax inside their custom-built campervan, the first rental vehicle offered through their new Winnipeg business, Camper Vantures.

chairs, a battery pack, a shower tent and shower kit, and more.

Renters can choose from three packages:

The Essentials: Includes a portable toilet, stove with one propane tank, bedding, a portable fan and space heater, a mini fridge and freezer, paper towel, kitchen utensils, clean water tank, basic camping gear,

feminine hygiene products and more.

The Ultimate Vanturous: Includes all the essentials plus a paddle board, hammock, pet bed and battery pack.

The Immersive: Includes everything in the previous package, plus a projector, an Instax camera, a camper food pack and camping chairs.

After what the pair is calling a successful first summer in business, they're taking customer feedback and improving the experience for future renters. Planned upgrades include a second solar panel, two deep-cycle batteries, an improved inverter and a microwave.

One reviewer said Camper Vantures offers "top-notch" service, making their trip as smooth as possible. Another said the rental exceeded their expectations and the company is "trustworthy, convenient and loads of fun."

To rent with Camper Vantures, visit www.campervantures.ca. Renters must be at least 19 years old and have a valid driver's licence. All rentals are pet-friendly, and Kureshi and Badru are available for those interested in learning more. They can be contacted at 204-952-6060 or info@campervantures.ca.

"TRUSTWORTHY,
CONVENIENT AND
LOADS OF FUN."



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Inside the van, travellers will find a full kitchen with a sink, fridge and stove, custom-built cabinets, a cozy bed and options to add everything from a shower kit to a paddle board for the ultimate road trip experience.



Gimli RCMP locate missing man safe

By Haley Cvar

Gimli RCMP say a 66-year-old man who was reported missing last month has been located safe.

On Aug. 2 at about 9 p.m., officers received a report that Ralph Osterwald had not been seen since the evening of Aug. 1, when he left a residence in Gimli on a greenish-grey mountain bike for a ride and did not return.

Police issued a release noting concern for his well-being. Osterwald was described as six feet tall with a thin build, grey thinning hair and a beard. He was last seen wearing a cowboy hat, a fleece jacket and blue jeans.

RCMP confirmed Thursday that Osterwald has been found. They thanked the public and media for their assistance.

New frontier: Estonia and Manitoba fishing industries exploring potential trade relationship

By Patricia Barrett

Although there's roughly 6,500 kilometres of land and sea separating them, commercial fishers in Manitoba and commercial fishers in Estonia are hoping to form a trading partnership as Canada and Europe continue to navigate a new world order.

A group of 15 Estonians consisting of fishers, fish processors and scientists associated with the Peipsi Alamvesikonna Kalurite Liit MTÜ (the Peipus Lower Basin Fishermen's Association) spent almost a week in Gimli with the Kristjanson family (Robert T., Chris and Trevor) learning about commercial fishing on Lake Winnipeg, the supply chain and fisheries management.

The Estonians also shared information about fishing on Lake Peipus (also spelled Peipsi), which forms part of the border between Estonia and Russia, as well as fishing on the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Finland.

Estonia is directly south of Finland, across the Gulf of Finland, and lies along Russia's northwestern border.

With the current United States' administration having altered its longstanding and hitherto relatively stable trading relationship with Canada after president Donald Trump took office in 2024, Kristjanson said Canadians should be stepping up their efforts to explore business partnerships with Europeans, who are "coming to our door."

"The Estonian fishing representatives are well aware of our situation with Trump and the tariffs, and they know how important it is to build new trade relationships. We've already had fishing representatives come to Manitoba from France, and now they're coming from Estonia, which is over 4,000 miles away," said

Kristjanson. "I don't think we Canadians fully understand the value of what we have here in Canada because we've been under the thumb of the Americans our whole lives, giving them everything they ask for and 70 cents on the dollar. This is a new world now. Europe is coming to our door; we have to open it and welcome them in."

In the 20th century, Estonia was annexed by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.) during the Second World War. It remained under Soviet rule until 1991 when the U.S.S.R. experienced economic upheaval, government reforms and the rise of independence movements in Soviet republics. Estonia is a member of the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

With European and NATO-member countries currently experiencing a disrupted trading relationship with the Russia Federation, Kristjanson said Europeans are exploring new business opportunities and partnerships, including with Canada. The Estonians are "looking to us to buy and sell fish." There is great market demand in Europe for fish as Europeans eat "way more fish" than North Americans.

"Europe is open for business, too," he said. "The way I understand it is that Russia is closed for business. Before the war [Russia's invasion of Ukraine], the Estonian fishing industry had business partners in Russia. It was the same with our own marketing board [the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation (FFMC)], they had business relationships with Russia. Now we have this situation with the U.S. putting tariffs on our stuff. It's a similar kind of situation that Canada and Europe are in right now."



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRIS KRISTJANSON

Members of the Kristjanson family (Chris and Trevor far left, Robert T. far right) with a 15-member delegation of fishing industry representatives and scientists from Estonia. The delegation spent five days in Gimli learning about Lake Winnipeg's commercial fishery and meeting with the provincial government and the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation.

Estonian walleye (also called pike-perch), jackfish and perch are very similar to Lake Winnipeg's fish, he added. He has eaten European walleye and in terms of taste, "you can't tell the difference."

Chris' dad Robert T. Kristjanson, who has been fishing on Lake Winnipeg for 77 years, said they took their Estonian visitors "all over the place," including to the Hecla-Grindstone region to show them where the Kristjansons fish, techniques they use for open-water and winter ice fishing, and fishing equipment such as their Bombardiers. The Estonian delegation also met with provincial government representatives to learn how Manitoba's commercial fishery is managed and visited FFMC.

"This was an important visit with the Estonian fishing industry," said Robert. "With the Americans kicking everybody [down] in one way or another with tariffs, there is another world out there that's open for business."

ness."

It wasn't all business, though. They enjoyed a "walleye and whiskey" afternoon in which they ate Lake Winnipeg walleye (pickerel) and exchanged liqueur from Tallinn (Estonia's capital) with Crown Royal from Gimli.

What prompted the Estonians' visit to Manitoba was knowledge of federally owned FFMC, which is headquartered in Winnipeg and sells Manitoba fish around the world, and the made-in-Manitoba *Ice Vikings* television series, which features the Kristjanson family and other Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers. Made by Farpoint Films, the show examines the dangers of ice fishing on an unpredictable lake.

Kristo Pastak, spokesperson for the Peipus Lower Basin Fishermen's Association, said they were "very touched" by the warm welcome they received from the Kristjanson family, FFMC and the province's fisheries management representatives.

It's important for the Estonian fishing industry to seek international markets for a number of reasons, including support for their own fishing industry and meeting consumer demand.

"International markets provide stability and resilience for our fishing industry. By connecting with partners abroad, we can ensure a sustainable supply of fish for consumers while supporting local fishermen at home," said Pastak after the Gimli visit wrapped up. "The world is big, but when it comes to certain fish species, it is still small. If fish stocks in a certain region decrease or fishing opportunities increase, this will have a huge impact on fish which is caught in Estonia and its price. Therefore, it is important to be connected and get



Fishers, fish processors and scientists from Estonia ate pickerel (walleye) at Gimli's Ship & Plough Tavern with their Lake Winnipeg commercial fisher hosts, the Kristjanson family. The visitors also exchanged Tallinn liqueur for Crown Royal.



Father and son fishers from Estonia visit Robert T. Kristjanson's fish shed.

> NEW FRONTIER, FROM PG. 10

information about what is happening, which gives us better opportunities for planning."

The 15-member Estonian delegation was made up primarily of fishers from Lake Peipus and the managers of fish processing companies, but it also included two University of Tartu Estonian Marine Institute scientists, who are involved in the research and management of fish resources on Lake Peipus.

"Our main goal was to learn about the management of Lake Winnipeg fisheries. The region's experience in managing large freshwater fisheries is very important to us," said Pastak. "The idea to visit Manitoba came to us while watching the series *Ice Vikings*. Some of our fishermen are big fans of the series. Therefore, visiting the Kristjanson family and learning about their fishing gear and methods is the focus of our trip."

They discovered that the fishery and the ecosystem on both Lake Winnipeg and Lake Peipus are quite similar, he said, and Estonian and Manitoban fishers share many of the same job challenges and dangers.

"Lake Peipus is a small copy of Lake Winnipeg: both have a smaller and warmer southern part, into which the largest river flows, which unfortunately also brings pollution. Both lakes have a larger and cleaner northern part, and between these two basins there is a narrow, fast-flowing central part, where the greatest depths of the lake are located. This area is attractive for the fisheries of both lakes, but unfortunately it is also where the greatest risk of losing fishing gear and being in danger lies," said Pastak.

There are similarities in both lakes' scale of operations, the cooperative management between government, processors and fishers, and fisheries management in which fishing is limited by individual quotas and closed periods. Unfortunately, both lakes share "signs of a growing conflict between professional and recreational fishing because the resource may no longer be enough for everyone who wants it," he said. And like Lake Winnipeg, Lake Peipus's prize fish is walleye.

Lake Peipus's fish stocks are smaller than those of Lake Winnipeg's, but this brings an advantage by way of better traceability and control over fish stocks. Lake Peipus has stricter regulations for its fish species.

"Lake Peipus statistics are monitored and regulated for all fish species. In Lake Winnipeg, only for three fish species," said Pastak.

The average annual catch quota for Lake Peipus is 6,600 tonnes [or 6.6 million kilograms], depending on the year and environmental conditions, said Pastak. The quota between Russia and Estonia is shared 50/50. The average annual catch on the Estonian side is 74 per cent of the quota.

By way of comparison, FPMC's annual report for 2024-2025 says the corporation received 8.9 million kilograms (or 8,900 metric tonnes) of fish during its 2024-2025 season (statistics for Lake Winnipeg alone are not provided). Fish is also delivered to other licensed fish buyers as the province has an open market, and those numbers are unknown. The process of eco-certifying Lake Winnipeg is ongoing; it's recognized that consumers want

sustainably sourced fish.

Estonia and Russia are currently co-operating on managing their shared Lake Peipus fishery despite tension on the political stage.

"Historically, Russia was an important market for Estonian fish. This was mainly for industrial fishing like Baltic sprat and Baltic herring. Fortunately, these are not species from Lake Peipus but are caught from the sea and the bay. Fish from Lake Peipus is mainly sold to Europe, so Peipus' ... fishermen are not affected," said Pastak. "But since the lake is located between Estonia and Russia, cooperation in managing fish resources is very important. Fortunately, the very tense political situation has not yet prevented cooperation with the Russian side. Without this, there would be no way to sustainably manage the lake. At the same time, fishermen must monitor their location very closely because violating the Russian state border entails confiscation of the fishing vessel."

The Peipus Lower Basin Fishermen's Association is interested "very much so" in developing a trading relationship with Manitoba.

"The stocks of walleye in Lake Peipus are limited, which makes us interested in purchasing Manitoba fish. At the same time, we believe some of our products may also be of interest to Manitoba fishermen and processors," said Pastak. "We go back to Estonia and analyze the information and opportunities we have received, and draw conclusions about future possible cooperations."

When asked how the Government of Manitoba could assist Peipus's fisherman's association in forming a fish-trading relationship with the prov-

ince, Pastak said through networking, logistics, regulation and trade agreements.

"We would welcome support in facilitating connections between Manitoba's fisheries, processors and distributors with Estonian partners. Assistance with logistics, regulatory frameworks and establishing long-term trade agreements would be especially valuable. Fisheries Branch for the Province of Manitoba [have] all the relevant information. With their help, we will get the necessary contacts in the field and impartial professional knowledge," said Pastak. "We really hope that this meeting will not be one-sided. Since our fish stocks are smaller [and] the monitoring of our lake stocks is better organized ... they would have a lot to learn from us. Therefore, we are very much looking forward to [having] the Manitoba fishery management, the Kristjanson family and other fishermen and producers [come] to Estonia to exchange experiences."

Chris Kristjanson said he and his family are definitely working on a way to take the Estonians up on their offer.

A spokesperson for the Manitoba fisheries branch said staff met with the Estonian delegation but did not say when asked by the *Express* what the provincial government can do to support a possible trade partnership.

"Fisheries Branch met with representatives from Estonia's commercial fishing industry as they toured Manitoba last week," said the spokesperson. "Manitoba and Estonia representatives shared information about their respective industries and discussed how fisheries are managed."

Arborg council approves sewer line flushing and pump upgrades

By E. Antonio

Town of Arborg council approved several public works projects at its regular meeting on Aug. 13.

Council accepted a quote from Gimli Septic Service Ltd. for sewer line flushing on Main Street and all streets

west of Main Street. The service will include high velocity sewer flushing and vacuum truck work at \$265 per hour for two workers, plus mobilization and demobilization \$500 and daily travel costs of \$200.

Council also approved a \$139,391

contract with JD Electrical Services Inc. to replace and upgrade distribution pumps at the water treatment plant. The project is being funded by the Manitoba Water Services Board.

In staffing matters, council hired Aiden Batenchuk as a public works

employee, effective Aug. 5. His terms of employment were outlined in an offer of employment dated July 31.

Council adopted minutes from its July 23 regular meeting and July 29 special meeting.

Coin club prepares for fall show

By Staff

The Manitoba Coin Club is set to host its Fall Coin, Stamp and Collectibles Show later this month, giving the public a chance to learn more about numismatics and connect with collectors.

The event takes place Sept. 27 and 28 at Access Credit Union in Stonewall. Organizer Larry Dalman said this year's show will feature more dealers, along with opportunities for attendees to learn about collecting, protecting investments and keep-

ing up with trends.

The Royal Canadian Mint will attend both days from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., offering three new coin varieties — two toonies and one loonie. Each individual will be limited to purchasing five coins of each type.

Dalman said the club has grown considerably since COVID-19, thanks in part to its involvement in Mint exchanges and continued support from local media.

Manitoba Coin Club

COIN, STAMP & COLLECTIBLES SHOW

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Sun. Sept 28, 2025 10am-5pm

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Fisher Branch WI marks 476 years of volunteer service

By Lana Meier

The Fisher Branch Women’s Institute (WI) celebrated a remarkable milestone last week, honouring 12 long-standing members whose combined volunteer service adds up to 476 years.

The Sept. 3 gathering at the Ukrainian National Hall drew community members and dignitaries including Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan, Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson, RM of Fisher Reeve Shannon Pyziak, Manitoba WI president Debra Barrett, and Gisela Nolting, Manitoba coordinator with the Associated Country Women of the World.

Certificates of recognition and words of thanks were presented to Darcy Truthwaite (25 years), Patti Witzke (27), Lori Smith (28), Agnes Mawejje (29), Ida Draper (35), June Kopys (35), Nellie Smith (40), Elenor Nowosad (41), Pat Cancers (47), Bernice Enstrom (48), Dianne Magnusson (51) and Rosie Barrett, who marked an extraordinary 70 years of service.

For 77 years, the Fisher Branch WI has been part of a broader movement that empowers women and supports families and communities. The Manitoba Women’s Institute describes its mission as “provid-



Fisher Branch WI president Sheena Letexier pins a corsage on Ida Marie Draper.

ing education and skills development opportunities for women, advocating for issues which strengthen women and families, and making communities better places to live.”

The Fisher Branch branch has lived that mandate through projects as wide-ranging as helping fund a local hospital and medical equipment, pushing for white lines on highways and reflective markings on railcars, and most recently advocating for cellular and internet coverage across the Interlake. In 2024, members hosted a community drug awareness presentation, and this fall they will partner with the Joy Smith Foundation to deliver presentations on human trafficking for students and the wider community on Oct. 15.

Fisher Branch WI president Sheena Letexier reminded the audience that the organization has been active in the community since 1948, when it was chartered with 12 members. Today, it continues with 24 active members.

“From 1948 until today, that is exactly what



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON
Annette Holowka shows the scroll capturing eight decades of projects and achievements of the Fisher Branch Women’s Institute.

these women have volunteered to do,” she said. “Whether it was teaching the skills of home canning garden produce or setting up a baby clinic in

Continued on page 13



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Interlake

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Fisher Branch Women's Institute members were honoured Sept. 3 for their decades of community service, receiving certificates of recognition during a celebration that welcomed guests including Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan and Interlake-Gimli MLA Derek Johnson. Recipients, in no specific order, are Darcy Truthwaite (25 years), Patti Witzke (27), Lori Smith (28), Ida Draper (35), June Kopy's (35), Nellie Smith (40), Elenor Nowosad (41), Pat Cancers (47), Bernice Enstrom, (48), Rosie Barrett (70) Dianne Magnusson (51) and Agnes Mawejje (29).

> 476 YEARS, FROM PG. 12

Mrs. Zabatiuk's home, the WI was involved."

Letexier recounted how members supported the building of a hospital

in 1949, providing supplies, furnishings and even handmade garments for patients ahead of the facility's opening in 1950. She noted the sacrifices made by women of that era, who juggled household and farm chores

— often without electricity or indoor plumbing — yet still found time to volunteer.



James Bezan, left, and Derek Johnson, right, both presented Rosie Barrett with a certificate acknowledging her 70 years of WI service.

Over the decades, members have organized bake sales, packed Christmas candy bags for schoolchildren, delivered care packages, acted in the popular "Beer and Skits" shows and raised money for causes ranging from scholarships to playground equipment.

"Where would our community of Fisher Branch be if the WI had not been active?" Letexier asked, be-

Continued on page 14



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- **Ward 3** – Amanda Mosher, Colette Banks

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We're grateful for the thoughtful leadership, care, and service our trustees bring to Evergreen School Division.



The deputies of Arborg and Bifrost-Riverton 'going for bald' at Terry Fox Run in Arborg

By Patricia Barrett

Normally, the councils for the Town of Arborg and the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton get along so well. But something went down last week that sheared a strip off their close relationship, and now they want their followers to choose sides.

Chad Johnson, the deputy reeve of the Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton, and Ron Johnston, the deputy mayor of the Town of Arborg, have thrown down the scissors and are — to use the words of administration staff for both municipalities — “going for bald” at the upcoming Terry Fox Run this Sunday in Arborg.

Johnson and Johnston are inviting the public to make a donation to the Terry Fox Foundation in their respec-

tive municipalities’ name. Whichever municipality collects the most money wins, and their respective deputy will undergo a public head shave this Sunday at the Arborg-Bifrost Fire Hall, which is serving as headquarters for the run.

People can make donations at the Town of Arborg administration office and the Bifrost-Riverton administration office, which are next door to each other on River Road in Arborg.

The Arborg CIBC, the Arborg Access Credit Union and the Riverton Credit Union are also accepting donations on behalf of the deputies and their municipalities.

All proceeds raised will go the Terry Fox Foundation.



PHOTOS SUBMITTED
Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton Deputy Mayor Chad Johnson.



Ron Johnston, deputy mayor of Arborg, is set to put his hair on the line at the upcoming Terry Fox Run in Arborg.

> 476 YEARS, FROM PG. 13

fore unfurling a scroll capturing eight decades of projects and achievements.

Letexier pointed out that many of these contributions went unheralded over the years.

“Little recognition has been given to these women,” she said. “No one has a checklist for the hours spent baking, pulling weeds at the WI Park, typing and creating cookbooks, or planning social events. But all of these activities raised the funds needed to support families and improve our community.”

While five members have received provincial or federal honours, Letexier said the evening was about recognizing the collective impact of all members, past and present. She also thanked the “unsung” volunteers from the wider community who stepped forward over the years to help with projects, from trimming trees to setting up sound systems.

Guests at last week’s celebration were treated to music, photo displays and time to share stories over refreshments. The Fisher Branch WI meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Chalet, with new members and visitors always welcome.

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Interlake

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School is in session for Lakeshore School Division

By E. Antonio

Students and staff in the Lakeshore School Division are back in class for the 2025-26 school year.

Excitement filled the halls in Eriksdale, where principal Sage Tozeland said the school is emphasizing its EAGLES acronym — Empathetic, Authentic, Gritty, Leaders, Encouraging and Safe.

“We hope to focus on and build these qualities in our staff and students,” Tozeland said.

Eriksdale School is also rolling out a few changes this year. Classes now begin at 8:55 a.m., and a grant from Access Credit Union is helping fund a new middle-years play structure. Tozeland said fundraising will continue throughout the year, with construction expected next year.

The school’s Hockey Academy has expanded to include students in grades 5 to 7 and will continue operating out of Lundar Arena.

Staff and students kicked off the year with a back-to-school barbecue and meet-the-teacher night on Sept. 12, part of the school’s September theme: “We are all Eriksdale Eagles.”

“Our big goals are to create a place where everyone feels like they belong so we can learn and grow together,

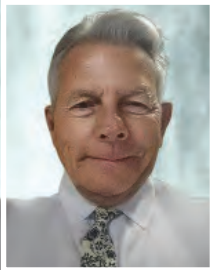


EXPRESS PHOTO BY HAYLEE RUSSELL
Students and staff in the Lakeshore School Division are back for the 2025-26 school year.

and to help students learn to the best of their abilities,” Tozeland said.

“WE HOPE TO FOCUS ON AND BUILD THESE QUALITIES IN OUR STAFF AND STUDENTS.”

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Ashern Rodeo returns with broncs, bulls and barrels



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY CORRINE EINARSSON
From bucking broncs and bull riding to barrel racing, team roping and the parade down Main Street, the 33rd annual Ashern Rodeo brought three days of cowboy competition and family fun Aug. 29–31. The weekend also featured fireworks, a street dance, pancake breakfasts, local markets and live entertainment, making it a highlight of the summer in the Interlake.



Preserving Ukrainian culture one step at a time

By E. Antonio

The Gimli Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Club is ready to open its 44th season, and the fun kicks off with a two-class free trial for all dancers Sept. 17 and 24.

Board president Chelsey McColl said she is thrilled to open the club's doors to students ages four and up, with classes available for any skill level.

"Anyone who loves to dance, wants to get some exercise or wants to preserve Ukrainian culture in the community is welcome to join us," she said.

Classes are scheduled every Wednesday beginning Sept. 17 and will run until early May at Dr. George Johnson Middle School. During the first two classes, instructors will assess dancers and recommend a group based



EXPRESS FILE PHOTO

Dancers of all ages are invited to try out Ukrainian dance at Gimli Barvinok's free two-class trial Sept. 17 and 24 at Dr. George Johnson Middle School. Advanced registration is required through the club's Facebook page.

on age and skill level. Barvinok welcomes everyone from beginners to the most experienced dancers and plans to bring back its adult recreation class following renewed interest.

"Our classes are for anyone who wants to get out, have some fun and get a little bit of exercise. Young or old, boy or girl, there is a place for you to belong here," McColl said.

Advanced registration is required for the free trial, and dancers can sign up through the link on the Gimli Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Club Facebook page. Payment and finalized registration will be required on Oct. 1, the date of the club's AGM, with payment plans available.

New this year, Barvinok is offering a \$50 discount for male dancers and a \$20 family discount for each sibling who enrolls. The Alumni Performance Ensemble — for previous high-level dancers wishing to maintain their Ukrainian dance involvement — will also rehearse monthly. Alumni are asked to contact the club for details.

All Barvinok dancers, with the exception of the adult recreation class, are expected to commit to one or two competitions each year, as well as perform at Malanka in January, at the spring concert and at community events including Canada Day, the Icelandic Festival and the Betel Home.

"We always have to make a stop at the Betel Home because the seniors just love watching the kids dance," McColl said. "They love it so much that this past year we actually performed twice for them. It's a chance for the seniors to be entertained, and it's a chance for our dancers to get rid of some of their stage nerves."

Dancers can expect to learn routines from various regions of Ukraine, with the goal of preserving, sharing and celebrating Ukrainian culture. McColl offered one piece of advice to those who may feel nervous about joining:

"Show up, have fun, and don't be afraid to enjoy yourself. The little kids love it, the older kids love it, and the adults love it too as it is a space for all to be."

More information about the Gimli Barvinok Ukrainian Dance Club is available by emailing gimlibarvinokud@gmail.com or visiting their Facebook and Instagram pages.



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AgTalk builds a supportive mental health community for Canadian farmers

By E. Antonio

AgTalk is an emerging mental-health forum through the Do More Agriculture Foundation (Do More Ag) that is dedicated to improving the well-being of farmers across Canada. Launched in 2023 and funded by BASF Agricultural Solutions Canada Inc., RBC Foundation and the McCain Foundation, AgTalk promotes peer-to-peer and professional mental-health support through the platform Togetherall.

“One of the things we know in the mental-health field as we have been encouraging farmers and ranchers to take care of their mental health, is that most people view mental health as something you are doing well with, or in a position where you need to call the crisis line,” said Merle Massie, Do More Ag executive director. “In reality, most of us fall in the middle of that spectrum, so there is a lot to be said about peer-to-peer support. That’s where AgTalk shines the most, because that’s exactly what it’s there for.”

AgTalk allows anyone over the age of 16 working in the agricultural industry to anonymously share their mental health concerns, receive replies from other users, and connect with a clinician 24/7 if needed. Hundreds of users across Canada have already registered, with access made free through funding support.

“Through the support of the McCain Foundation, RBC and BASF, we are able to ensure Canadian farmers have access to the support they need. The more individuals who have this access, the brighter the future for agricultural mental health,” Massie said.

International farmers have also made use of Togetherall’s farmer’s corner.

“Every farmer experiences pressure and stress, whether you are raising horses or working on a grain farm. We want AgTalk to be a space where

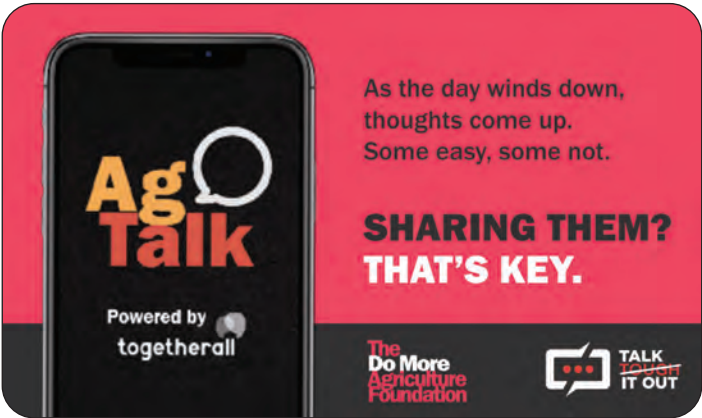


PHOTO SUBMITTED

AgTalk is a free online mental health resource offered on Togetherall by the Do More Agriculture Foundation. Users can anonymously connect with others, gaining and giving peer support.

farmers can share what’s in their hearts and get it off their chests,” she said. “Sometimes, you just need to safely express your thoughts to feel better, and other times you might need more support — and that is fine too.”

Togetherall is moderated by certified mental-health professionals who can step in if a crisis arises. Participant surveys show more than 80 per cent of users find the program beneficial to their well-being. Among Canadian users, stress, depression, anxiety, loneliness and relationships are the most common issues, with people of all ages logging on for support.

“People tend to think that it’s just the younger generations who are going online for support — but we know that’s not the case here,” Massie said. “Research is clear

Continued on page 22



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Interlake Players to present horror-comedy musical

By Jennifer McFee

Mark your calendar for a contemporary cult-classic musical performance set to take the stage later this month.

On Sept. 25, 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m., the Interlake Players will present three shows of the horror-comedy musical called *The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals*. All three shows will take place at Selkirk United Church, located at 202 McLean Ave.

"It's a profanity-laced zombie horror comedy. A meteor strikes the theatre in the town of Hatchetfield. Paul, a very average guy with a strong dislike for musicals, believes the town has become infected by an alien contagion causing people to sing and dance through life as though they are in a musical," said Mitch Obach, who founded the musical theatre company with Kendra Obach and Lindsey Weber in 2016.

"Along with his crush, the crabby barista Emma, and Paul's quirky co-workers, they try and stop the infestation before everyone is singing and dancing."

The music and vocals are all live, complete with a three-piece band. The show will also be licensed with a



cash bar.

Originally produced by Starkid Productions, *The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals* was written by Nick and Matt Lang, with music and lyrics by Jeff Blim.

"The audience can look forward to a lot of laughs, some great singing and complex choreography — some blood



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The cast of *The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals* wants you to join them, singing and dancing through life.

and guts, too, and lots of profanity but in an enjoyable and humorous way," Obach said.

"The show is geared towards an adult audience, has fun music and is an homage to old campy horror films of the past. Personally, I find the show hilarious and I believe audiences will too. Nothing is as much fun for us as making folks laugh. With nine actors, this is the largest production the Interlake Players have done yet."

Since 2016, the Interlake Players have put on four different productions in various Interlake communities including Selkirk, Gimli, Stone-

wall, Ashern and Teulon.

"We donate our profits to local arts groups," Obach said. "This will be our fifth unique show and we have greatly mixed up the styles along the way."

Tickets are available through the website <https://interlake-players.yapsody.com/> where attendees can also see a map to select their seats. The cost is \$20 per ticket, and the proceeds will support local non-profit organizations.

For more information, contact Kendra Obach at klobach@gmail.com.

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Manitoba

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Riverview Men's Shed - 90 Ashland Ave
Woodhaven Men's Shed - 401 Westwood Drive
Lord Roberts Men's Shed - 725 Kylemore Ave
Garden City Men's Shed - Seven Oaks Arena 2nd fl.

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Paving the way forward, ribbon-cutting for visionary sidewalk project

By Patricia Barrett

After years of advocating for a sidewalk to be built on Fifth Avenue in Gimli, residents living in Rotary Towers were extremely pleased with what council had delivered in August.

Residents held an official ribbon-cutting ceremony with Gimli Mayor Kevin Chudd, Deputy Mayor Kurt Reichert and Thora Palson last Wednesday morning. They were also joined by the RM's interim chief administrative officer Valerie Unrau, the RM's director of operations Ron Hahlweg and Palson's daughter Anna, who helped with the ribbon.

Towers residents had taken the *Express* on a tour of the nine-foot-wide sidewalk on Aug. 2, a day after it was completed, and said it went beyond their expectations. The width can easily accommodate two wheelchairs passing in opposite directions, and residents joked that council might have to put a yellow line down the middle.

"I am extremely happy. This is beyond my wildest expectations. The sidewalk is lovely and it's wide. The construction company was wonderful. And a big thank you to the mayor and councillors for approving the sidewalk and having it built," said the Rotary Towers Residents' Association secretary Mavis Hanneson, who along with several dozen of her fellow tenants had never given up over the years on getting a sidewalk built. They sent letters and emails to the previous and current council outlining the need for a sidewalk between Lady of the Lake Drive and Centre Street.

Some streets south of Centre have no sidewalks and some are not paved. For Rotary Towers' residents, safety was always a major concern along their stretch of Fifth and farther south as they and other pedestrians were forced to share the road with traffic when they needed to go up to Centre to shop for groceries or do banking. Farther down Fifth, there's residential housing with families and a rental housing complex whose residents



Cupcakes made by the Sugar Me Cookie bakery are laid out in the Rotary club's logo and colours.

also had to share the road with traffic. Winnipeg-based Ellmar Construction built the sidewalk and the company was "fantastic," said Hanneson. "It was two weeks and it was done."

Towers resident Beverly Einarson said she was absolutely delighted with the sidewalk, which includes flyouts to help reduce vehicle speeds and shorten pedestrian crossings, and sloping sections of pavement for people who use wheelchairs and walkers or have child strollers.

"I can't over this state-of-art sidewalk. It's more than I ever dreamed about. I dreamed about a regular sidewalk; I would have been happy with that. But this one is wonderful," said Einarson. "And the contractor did a super job. I can't compliment them enough."

Council issued a press release on Sept. 2 saying the sidewalk is the second of its kind built in Gimli — the first sidewalk was built on Keenora Drive — and represents a forward-thinking approach to creating a "safer, more inclusive and better connected environment" for residents.

"The project reflects the RM council's commitment to listening, planning and acting," states the release. "It evolved through ongoing communication with Rotary Towers residents, whose input helped shape the vision for improved accessibility. Once approved in this year's capital budget,



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTINE PAYNE

Rotary Towers Residents' Association secretary Mavis Hanneson cuts the ribbon on Sept. 3 with Mayor Kevin Chudd, Deputy Mayor Kurt Reichert, Coun. Thora Palson and her daughter Anna, Interim CAO Valerie Unrau and the RM's director of operations Ron Hahlweg.



Residents of Rotary Towers and members of Gimli council at the official grand opening.

the RM's director of operations [Ron Hahlweg] led the initiative from a construction perspective with onsite meetings with residents to review the design."

Mayor Chudd said the sidewalk reflects council's vision for Gimli residents' quality of life and ability to easily move around.

"We're building more than side-

walks — we're shaping a future where movement is safe, inclusive and thoughtfully integrated into our environment," said Chudd in the release. "This project reflects the RM Council's long-term planning and visioning for Gimli: a community where infrastructure supports connection, mobility and quality of life."

> AgTALK, FROM PG. 19

that our users range from 16 years old to people in their 80s, and the number of users is very even right across all the generations."

She added that users include both first-generation farmers and those with decades of experience.

"We are more than just farmers. We

are parents, spouses, children of aging parents — we are part of communities, and we want to be able to connect with other people over various interests. We are whole people who want to share our whole beings."

Anyone over 16 involved in agri-

culture can register for AgTalk for free through www.domore.ag/ag-talk.

"The more people are online, the more robust, animated and helpful it becomes," Massie said.

Do More Ag also provides resources for farmers under 16, including 211, 988, Kids Help Phone and the Manitoba Farm and Wellness Program.

"It is important to remember and emphasize that mental health is a regular and everyday thing," Massie said. "Just because you are reaching out doesn't mean you are fully in crisis mode — it means you value connections and understand how connecting with others can make a difference."

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Interlake duo wins bronze at pickleball nationals

By Kieran Reimer

The Pickleball Canada National Championships were special this year not only because Winnipeg hosted for the first time, but also for the performance of a team of Interlake athletes.

Lisa Bergson of Matlock and Patti St. Godard of St. Andrews were among more than 700 participants at the 2025 Myoflex National Championship, presented by HearingLife, held Aug. 19–24 at Taylor Tennis Centre.

With 32 courts running each day, many teams were lost in the crowded field of competition. The Interlake duo, however, made their presence known on Day 1 in the women's doubles 4.0-and-above, 60+ division.

They opened with three wins in four round-robin games to place second in Pool 1. That earned them a quarter-final berth later that day, where they edged Charlene Bolen and Barbara Lawrie 17-15 to advance.

Their run ended in the semifinals with a 15-8 loss to Karen Kettenacker and Marjorie Blackwood, who went on to win gold.

But Bergson and St. Godard rebounded in the bronze-medal match, defeating Lyse Tremblay and Terry Aleksic 11-9, 11-9.

"You're playing the best of Canada in your category, so when you get

to medal it's a really good feeling," Bergson said Friday.

Bergson also captured a second bronze at nationals as an alternate with Team Manitoba in the inaugural provincial team competition. Manitoba defeated Alberta 27-25 in the bronze-medal match, while B.C. beat Ontario 32-21 for gold.

"It was great," Bergson said. "Me and Patti, and our group from Manitoba did really well. We brought in a lot of medals, and that's a good thing."

Pickleball continues to grow in Manitoba, with smaller tournaments in Winnipeg, Brandon, Selkirk and rural communities throughout the year. The sport is considered the fastest-growing worldwide, thanks in part to its accessibility.

At nationals, no qualification was required — players simply registered for divisions — which contributed to the large turnout.

"It was fantastic," said Bergson, who also helped officiate. "It's such an exciting thing to play players from all over Canada and challenge yourself that way. It's what you're doing the sport for. It's so social too, so you're meeting people from all over Canada and hearing their stories. It's just an amazing experience, for sure."



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

(Third on the podium, Lisa on left and Patti on right): Interlake athletes Lisa Bergson of Matlock and Patti St. Godard of St. Andrews captured bronze in the women's doubles 4.0-and-above, 60+ division at the 2025 Myoflex National Championship, presented by HearingLife, held Aug. 19–24 at Taylor Tennis Centre in Winnipeg. More than 700 players from across Canada took part.



Team Manitoba earned bronze in the inaugural provincial team competition at the 2025 Myoflex National Championship, presented by HearingLife, held Aug. 19–24 at Taylor Tennis Centre in Winnipeg. Manitoba edged Alberta 27-25 in the bronze-medal match.

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THE **EXPRESS**
WEEKLY NEWS

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Varsity Thunder live up to hype in season-opening victory

By Kieran Reimer

The phrase “all in” is a common sports cliché to describe a team chasing nothing less than a championship.

This year’s Varsity Interlake Thunder are hoping to fit that description, and they wasted no time showing they won’t be cliché in their play this fall.

On Sunday, the Thunder opened their season with a rematch of last year’s Rural Manitoba Football League Urban Division championship game against the St. Vital Mustangs.

St. Vital beat Interlake in last year’s final to complete a perfect season and capture a second straight title. This time, Interlake flipped the script with a 47-32 win at Stonewall Collegiate Field, ending the Mustangs’ bid for another perfect run.

The Thunder victory was led by Grade 10 backup quarterback Colten Leger, who stepped in during the second quarter after starter Jessie Batenchuk left with an injury.

Leger leaned on running back AJ Nadon — one of Batenchuk’s usual targets — and guided Interlake to his first career varsity win.

“He didn’t even bat an eye when he realized, ‘Hey, Colten, you’re going in and we’re in the middle of a big game here, week one,’” said head coach Christof Hasselfield. “He didn’t try to play outside himself. He told us what he was comfortable with, he just did what was asked of him. When we needed throws, he got them there. We leaned on AJ and that O-line a lot to support him, but he was cool, calm, collected ... just unflappable, really giving that Eli Manning look where he’s always the same no matter what’s going on.”



The Thunder’s Mario La Pierre of Fraserwood breaks up a Mustangs pass.

Nadon racked up 300 all-purpose yards and two touchdowns, while Jamie Dandeneau added 100 yards and a kick-return touchdown.

Leger’s debut hinted at what could be a strong quarterback option for the future once Batenchuk graduates. On Monday, Hasselfield confirmed Batenchuk has been cleared to return and is expected back for Week 2 against the Southwest Sabres.

Avoiding a long-term injury is as big a boost as the win itself, since the Thunder offence has been built around Batenchuk’s leadership the past two seasons. He is one of several Grade 12 players chasing a first championship under Hasselfield, now in his third season as head coach.

“We definitely see ourselves as championship contenders — we’ve



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Interlake Thunder quarterback Colten Leger of Gimli hands off to Jamie Dandeneau of Stonewall, who breaks through to score a third-quarter touchdown in a 47-32 victory over the Mustangs in Stonewall on Sept. 7.

been in the championship the last three years,” Hasselfield said. “But this really feels like the year we’re going to break through that glass ceiling. That’s the goal. There’s lots to work on — it is Week 1 — but the expectation is we’re winning the championship this year. The players are on board, and the coaching staff is telling them we’ve got more than enough talent. Now it’s about putting in the work.”

This season also brings a new look for the RMFL. The Thunder play in the eight-team Doug Steeves Division alongside Dauphin, Moosomin, Southwest, St. Vital, Swan Valley,

Virden and Winnipeg. The group represents the province’s top varsity programs.

Each club plays a seven-game regular season, followed by semifinals featuring the top four teams. Interlake’s Week 1 win has them right in that mix.

“It makes every game important for playoff seeding,” Hasselfield said. “Even just to get a win against a contender like St. Vital — that’s a great one to have in the bag if it comes down to tiebreakers.”

The Thunder visit Souris on Sunday to face the Sabres. Kickoff is noon at Souris School.

Storm FC down to last life following Tuesday’s loss

By Kieran Reimer

Storm FC got into another tight affair with Azzurri at Buhler Recreation Park on Tuesday.

Both teams found the net, though not as often as in their seven-goal meeting on July 3. Storm’s lone tally came from Brian Penner, who struck on a free kick for his third goal of the season.

Azzurri went on to win 2-1, pulling within three points of a playoff spot.

The defeat was Storm’s fifth straight, dropping them to 3-11-1 on the Manitoba Major Soccer League Division 4 campaign. They now sit 10th in the standings, eight points behind Crescentwood Saturday, which holds the sixth and final playoff berth.

Now down to their last life, Storm will need to win all three of their remaining games — and get help from other clubs — to keep their postseason hopes alive. Southside FC, Az-

zurri and Moose FC are also on the outside looking in and need multiple points in the final two weeks to stay alive.

Storm’s final stretch includes matches against Crescentwood Saturday and Southside FC, giving them the chance to play spoiler even if they fall short of the playoffs.

They were scheduled to open the week against Crescentwood Saturday on Monday at Buhler. Due to press

deadlines, the result was unavailable at press time.

On Thursday, Storm faces the second-place Purple Cobras FC at Shaughnessy Park Field with kick-off set for 7 p.m.

They will wrap up the regular season Monday, Sept. 15 against Southside FC at Shaughnessy Park with an 8 p.m. start.

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Rural Municipality of
FISHER

Box 280, Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0
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PUBLIC NOTICE

BOARD OF REVISION

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2026 Assessment Roll for the Rural Municipality of Fisher has been delivered to the Municipal Office at 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of *The Municipal Assessment Act*:

APPLICATION FOR REVISION

42(1) A person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of *The Real Property Act*, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, the authorized agent of the person, mortgagee or occupier, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:

- Liability to taxation;
- Amount of an assessed value;
- Classification of property; or
- A refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under sub-section 13(2).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

43(1) An application for revision must:

- Be made in writing;
- Set out the roll number and legal description of the assessable property for which a revision is sought;
- State the grounds on which the application is based; and
- Be filed by
 - delivering it or causing it to be delivered to the office of the Rural Municipality of Fisher, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba or
 - serving it upon the secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated below.

The Board of Revision will sit on **Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.** in the RM of Fisher Council Chambers, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba to hear applications to revise the 2026 Assessment roll and to revise 2025 assessment changes relating to Sections 300(6) and 326 of *The Municipal Act*.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is **September 28, 2025**.

Dated this 22nd day of August, 2025

Kelly Marykuca – Secretary
Board of Revision

Rural Municipality of Fisher

Box 280 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0

Phone: (204) 372-6393 Ext. 4 Fax: 372-8470

SCRAP METAL

BUYING SCRAP METAL, CARS, TRACTORS, COMBINES, FARM SCRAP, ANY METAL MATERIAL, ANY FARM MACHINERY. PH LONNIE AT 204-886-3407 LVE. MESSAGE OR CELL AT 204-861-2031.

Little Joe's Auctions

IF YOU OWN IT, I CAN SELL IT!

SATURDAY SEPT. 20th, 10:00 am

ROB AND DONNA POSALUKO

Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba

On Hwy 9 & Quarter Mile Rd. From South, go North on 9 to Winnipeg Beach.

On East side of Rd. as entering town.

Rob and Donna have retired and are selling the following items.

2012 Nissan Titan, PRO-4X, only 167,000 kms. NEW SAFETY; 6' x 14' Prairie Road enclosed van trailer; 6 1/2' x 10'2" Big Tex Flat deck trailer with flip down ramp; Ferris lawn mower 500S 48" w/bagger; Champion generator 12,000/SW 9,500/RW; Drill Press; Compound Miter Saw; Table saw; Antique wood lathe; Honda Rototiller FR600; 2 Craftsman lawn mowers; Big Cat cement mixer; 6 Adirondack chairs; Propane Firepit; 2 Outdoor Chairs w/ cushions & 2 footrests; 6 Outdoor Chairs w/cushions; Table; Deck Umbrella; John Deere Weber BBQ; Pit Boss BBQ/Smoker; Crock #3; Ecco chain saw; Stihl concrete saw; Trimmer; 3 lawn mowers, as is; 1986 Ford Ranger Super Cab pickup, as is; Massey 44 hood & front cover; Packer; Foldable ramp; Lawn edger; Chain link fence & posts; Tubes; 2 Light poles; Various lawn bricks/stones; Homemade metal rack; Approx 100 pallets 32" x 48"; 3 Gutters - 50 ft; Downspouts; Garbage bin; 4 lots of various wood 2x4, 2x6, 1x6, 4x4; Chemical applicator; 40+ Flower pots various sizes; Ladders; Danby air conditioner, new in box; Air conditioner; Working old fridge; 2 Fluorescent lights; Dirt Devil shop vac; Mosquito magnet; Wheelbarrow; 6 Wire hanging baskets; Chemicals; Seeds; Fertilizer injector; Dewalt drill & light; SQUARE credit card readers; Retevis Walkie talkies; Fluorescent shirts & jackets; Assorted shovels & rakes; Gas cans; Trimmers & blowers; Pylons; Extension cords; Nailers; Plumbing; Hose clamps; outlets; Seeder; 2 Cabbage Patch Dolls; Robert Bateman prints & book; Blood pressure tester; Fine Pix Camera; Canon Video Camera; DVD; Shop tools; Household glasses; Coolers; Mimi Pizza oven; Singer sewing machine; Games; Cody bike; Earthway seeder; CDs & cassettes; NHL Beer bottles; DVD Stereo; Golf balls; Air conditioner; Garden sprayers; Pellet rifle; Ice cutter; Hay hooks; Old hardware; Books; Hudson Bay Whisky bottles & stand; Powerwash; Shoes; Tap & Die set; Polisher; Paint sprayer; Dewalt guns; Bench grinder; Various tool boxes; Saws; Camping lights & heater; Grinder; Sledge Hammers; Trailer balls; Lazer Level; Multi meter; Woodworking carving tools; Screws; Paint brushes; Various clamps; Hand drill; Vice; Milk jug; Racks; Kuwahara bicycle - 18 speed; Computer bags; Luggage; Seat massager; Propane insect fogger; Scroll saw; 3 Folding tables; 3 Sawhorses; Light fixtures & boxes; Roundup; Battery powered sprayer; Toolbox with pliers & wire strippers; Sump pump hoses; Digital scale; Post pounder; Fertilizer; IPCO Insecticide; Leaf blower; 2 Brute Garbage cans; 2 Tables; Standing tables; TV Stand; Exercise Bike; Cabinet; Mirror; Filing cabinet; Corner Desk; 2 Dressers; 400 CD Changer; Antique Bed Frame; Chimney; 2 Dressers; 2 Wheelbarrows; Black & Decker Saw; Delta Saw; Range; 15" Tire chains; Landscaping Fabric; Poly; Various tires; Diesel Fuel can; Erosion Control Blanket S22.

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Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. No item too large! Best prices paid. Phone Alf at 204-461-1649.

GARAGE SALE

Sept. 12, 13 & 14
Garage Sale - tools, brake lathe, welders, cement mixers, rototillers, washers, new & used tires, trailers, lots of furniture, 7-41, 8-46 augers, sectional doors 12, 16 & 18 ft. 78046 2 Mile Rd, East Selkirk 204-785-0498.

WANTED TO RENT/OWN

Senior with 2 small dogs looking for small house to rent or rent to own. Call 204-886-0160 or 204-232-4800.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Tollak 2 is a 55 plus bldg. with river view 2 bedroom apts. available. Central air, F/S, DW & microwave; large storage area off the kitchen and a balcony; utilities and parking extra. Call the onsite office 204-482-2751 for AVAILABILITY.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Farview Place in Teulon is looking for 55+ applicants for the waitlist in our independent living Seniors building. Please contact Andrea at 204-886-2760 or farviewplace1989@gmail.com for more information.

WELDING

Springfield Mobile Welding. Call Billy 204-918-4278.

EXPRESS
WEEKLY NEWS
204-467-5836

WESTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT

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:

THE WESTERN INTERLAKE PLANNING DISTRICT BY-LAW NO. 2/25

Being An amendment to the Western Interlake Planning District Development Plan By-law No. 2/04, as amended.

LOCATION: The RM of St. Laurent Council Chambers, #16 Veterans Memorial Rd & PTH #6 (Recreation Centre)

DATE & TIME: September 23rd, 2025 • 6:35 P.M.

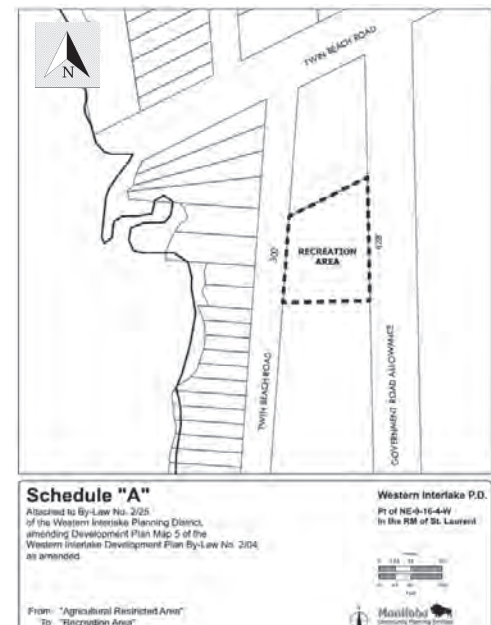
GENERAL INTENT: To re-designate land within the RM of St. Laurent
From: "Agricultural Restricted Area"
To: "Recreation Area"

AREA AFFECTED: NE 1/4 9-16-4W St. Laurent, Mb, in the RM of St. Laurent

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Cherie Millar, Office Administrator
Western Interlake Planning District
Box 269
St. Laurent, MB R0C 2S0
Phone: (204) 646-2615
Fax: (204) 646-4150
Email: wipd@mymts.net

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

Note: Property owners are responsible for notifying lessee.



Story Idea? News Tips? call the Express 204-467-5836

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

OUTFITTING BUSINESS FOR SALE - Allocation of 18 Deer, Non-Resident, Non-Canadian tags. Area 18, 18A, 18B, 18C. Tags may be split. 1-204-638-1936.

FIREWOOD

Birch - \$400, Tamarack-\$350, Ash-\$400, Poplar-\$250, Pine-\$325 and Oak-\$450. Delivery extra. Call or text 204-904-8441 or 204-785-0641.

Tree length poplar, season & green. Cut & split maple and oak available. Ph 1-204-861-0126.

MISCELLANEOUS

GE large capacity portable washing machine, like new, only used in summer months. \$400 obo. Ph 204-997-6014.

WANTED

Firearms wanted. Looking for all unwanted firearms. Fully licensed for both non-restricted and restricted. Anywhere from individual items to estates. Cash buyer, paying top dollar. Please call or text Adam at 204-795-2850.

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NOTICES

URGENT PRESS RELEASES - Have a newsworthy item to announce? An exciting change in operations? Though we cannot guarantee publication, MCNA will get the information into the right hands for ONLY \$35 + GST/HST. Call MCNA 204-947-1691 for more information. See www.mcna.com under the "Types of Advertising" tab for more details.

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HEALTH

Are you suffering from joint or arthritic pain? If so, you owe it to yourself to try elk velvet antler capsules. Hundreds have found relief. Benefits humans and pets. EVA is composed of proteins, amino acids, minerals, lipids and water. Key compounds that work to stimulate red blood cell production & cartilage cell regeneration & development. Stonewood Elk Ranch Ltd., 204-467-8884 or email stonewoodelkranch@gmail.com

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES

TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH

Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 9th day of October, 2025, at the hour of 10:30 AM, at Town of Winnipeg Beach, 29 Robinson Avenue, Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:

Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
45200	LOT 2 PLAN 55568 WLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN IN SE 1/4 33-17-4 EPM - 429 TEMPLE AVE, TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH	L -\$32,100 B -\$167,800	\$10,449.95
92500	ELY 25 FEET OF LOT 21 AND WLY 25 FEET OF LOT 22 BLOCK 10 PLAN 2226 WLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN IN NE 1/4 33-17-4 EPM - 435 SPRUCE AVE, TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH	L -\$28,500 B -\$79,000	\$4,098.49

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

- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any unpaid municipal utilities and any property taxes not yet due.
- The Municipality may exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
- If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
- The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
- The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in cash, certified cheque or bank draft to the Town of Winnipeg Beach as follows:
 - i) The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - ii) If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - iii) A fee in the amount \$500.85 (\$477 + GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
- The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
- The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
- If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 2nd day of September, 2025.
Managed by:

TAXervice

TOWN OF WINNIPEG BEACH

1974

MANITOBA

Jodi Mitchell
Chief Administrative Officer
Town of Winnipeg Beach
Phone: (204) 389-2698
Fax: (204) 389-2019

GIMLI

THE QUALITY OF NEW LIFES

WE'RE HIRING

(TERM) MUNICIPAL SERVICES CLERK

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI

The RM of Gimli is seeking a dedicated administrative professional to support municipal service delivery. As the first point of contact, this role provides exceptional customer service, processes payments and permits, and maintains accurate records.

It plays a key role in ensuring smooth operations and upholding the municipality's commitment to responsive public service.

Full-time, TERM - 4 month bargaining unit position, possibility of permanency
Salary Range: Clerk 2 - \$20,68-24,62 hourly
Apply by: Monday, September 15, 2025 at 4:30 pm

Scan the QR code or visit www.gimli.ca to view the full job description and application details.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION			
SALE OF LANDS FOR ARREARS OF TAXES RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ALONSA			
Pursuant to subsection 367(7) of The Municipal Act, notice is hereby given that unless the tax arrears for the designated year and costs in respect of the hereinafter described properties are paid in full to the Municipality prior to the commencement of the auction, the Municipality will on the 2nd day of October, 2025 , at the hour of 02:00 PM , at Rural Municipality of Alonsa, 20 Railway Avenue, Alonsa, MB, proceed to sell by public auction the following described properties:			
Roll Number	Description	Assessed Value	Amount of Arrears & Costs for Which Property May be Offered for Sale
154400	AT ALONSA AND BEING LOTS 5, 6 AND THE WLY 10 FEET OF LOT 7 BLOCK 2 PLAN 673 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN THE ORIGINAL GRANT FROM THE CROWN IN NE 1/4 7-21-11 WPM - 107 MAIN ST, ALONSA	L -\$800 B -\$20,800	\$10,696.04
235239	LOT 14 BLOCK 3 PLAN 48614 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC NW 1/4 16-24-10 WPM - 48 MOON SHADOW DRIVE	L -\$18,700	\$2,634.18
236200.133	LOT 33 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 7 BUFFLEHEAD BAY	L -\$23,600	\$2,429.13
236200.134	LOT 34 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 5 BUFFLEHEAD BAY	L -\$21,800	\$2,404.98
236200.137	LOT 37 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 2 MALLARD BAY	L -\$19,700	\$2,341.71
236200.138	LOT 38 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 4 MALLARD BAY	L -\$19,700	\$2,341.69
236200.139	LOT 39 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 6 MALLARD BAY	L -\$23,000	\$2,441.11
236200.14	LOT 40 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 7 MALLARD BAY	L -\$23,300	\$2,450.50
236200.141	LOT 41 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 5 MALLARD BAY	L -\$20,400	\$2,362.45
236200.142	LOT 42 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 3 MALLARD BAY	L -\$19,700	\$2,341.72
236200.143	LOT 43 BLOCK 1 PLAN 48615 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC SE 1/4 21 AND FRAC SW 1/4 22-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 1 MALLARD BAY	L -\$19,700	\$2,341.71
237121	LOT 8 BLOCK 2 PLAN 48616 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC N 1/2, FRAC SW 1/4 22, THE SW 1/4 AND FRAC SE 1/4 27-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 79 NORTHWINDS RD	L -\$12,800	\$2,131.33
237122	LOT 9 BLOCK 2 PLAN 48616 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC N 1/2, FRAC SW 1/4 22, THE SW 1/4 AND FRAC SE 1/4 27-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 77 NORTHWINDS RD	L -\$12,800	\$2,131.63
237123	LOT 10 BLOCK 2 PLAN 48616 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC N 1/2, FRAC SW 1/4 22, THE SW 1/4 AND FRAC SE 1/4 27-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 75 NORTHWINDS RD	L -\$12,800	\$2,131.62
237124	LOT 1 BLOCK 3 PLAN 48616 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC N 1/2, FRAC SW 1/4 22, THE SW 1/4 AND FRAC SE 1/4 27-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 73 NORTHWINDS RD	L -\$12,800	\$2,131.62
237125	LOT 2 BLOCK 3 PLAN 48616 PLTO EXC ALL MINES AND MINERALS AS SET FORTH IN TRANSFER 1124139 PLTO IN FRAC N 1/2, FRAC SW 1/4 22, THE SW 1/4 AND FRAC SE 1/4 27-24-10 WPM AND GOVERNMENT ROAD ALLOWANCE (NOW CLOSED) - 71 NORTHWINDS RD	L -\$12,800	\$2,131.62

- The tax sale is subject to the following terms and conditions with respect to each property:
- The purchaser of the property will be responsible for any unpaid municipal utilities and any property taxes not yet due.
 - The Municipality **may** exercise its right to set a reserve bid in the amount of the arrears and costs.
 - If the purchaser intends to bid by proxy, a letter of authorization form must be presented prior to the start of the auction.
 - The Municipality makes no representations or warranties whatsoever concerning the properties being sold.
 - The successful purchaser must, at the time of the sale, make payment in **cash, certified cheque or bank draft** to the RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ALONSA as follows:
 - i) The full purchase price if it is \$10,000 or less; OR
 - ii) If the purchase price is greater than \$10,000, the purchaser must provide a non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$10,000 and the balance of the purchase price must be paid within 20 days of the sale; AND
 - iii) A fee in the amount \$500.85 (\$477 + GST) for preparation of the transfer of title documents. The purchaser will be responsible for registering the transfer of title documents in the land titles office, including the registration costs.
 - The risk for the property lies with the purchaser immediately following the auction.
 - The purchaser is responsible for obtaining vacant possession.
 - If the property is non-residential property, the purchaser must pay GST to the Municipality or, if a GST registrant, provide a GST Declaration.

Dated this 22nd day of August, 2025.
Managed by:



Tami Dumanske
Chief Administrative Officer
RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ALONSA
Phone: (204) 767-2054
Fax: (204) 767-2044

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EVERGREEN SCHOOL DIVISION'S KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION for the 2026 – 2027 school year

Schools:

Arborg Early Middle School
Riverton Early Middle School
Sigurbjorg Stefansson School (Gimli)
Winnipeg Beach School

Dates: September 22 – September 26, 2025
Times: 9:00am – 12:00pm and 1:00 – 3:00pm

**Children born in 2021 are eligible for
KINDERGARTEN**
(Mondays to Fridays; full days)



Town of Winnipeg Beach

PUBLIC NOTICE

Board of Revision

Public Notice is hereby given that the 2026 assessment rolls for the Town of Winnipeg Beach have been delivered to the Town Office at 29 Robinson Avenue, Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba and is open for public inspection during regular business hours. Applications for revision may be made in accordance with sections 42 and 43 of the Assessment Act.

Application for Revision:

42(1) *a person in whose name property has been assessed, a mortgagee in possession of property under section 114(1) of The Real Property Act, an occupier of premises who is required under the terms of a lease to pay the taxes on the property, or the assessor may make application for the revision of an assessment roll with respect to:*

- a) *liability to taxation;*
- b) *amount of an assessed value;*
- c) *classification of property; or*
- d) *a refusal by an assessor to amend the assessment roll under subsection 13(2).*

Application Requirements:

43(1) *An application for revision must:*

- a) *be made in writing;*
- b) *set out the roll number and legal description of the property or business which a revision is sought;*
- c) *state the grounds on which the application is based (referred to in subsection 42(1))*
- d) *be filed by:*
 - i. *delivering by hand or electronically to the Town of Winnipeg Beach office.*
 - ii. *serving it upon the Secretary of Board of Revision, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date as indicated in the public notice.*

The Board of Revision will sit on **Thursday, October 16, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers of the Town of Winnipeg Beach to hear applications.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Dated this 1st Day of September 2025

**Jodi Mitchell - Secretary
Board of Revision**
Town of Winnipeg Beach
Box 160, 29 Robinson Avenue
Winnipeg Beach, MB R0C 3G0
Phone: 389-2698
Fax: 389-2019
Email: cao@winnipegbeach.ca

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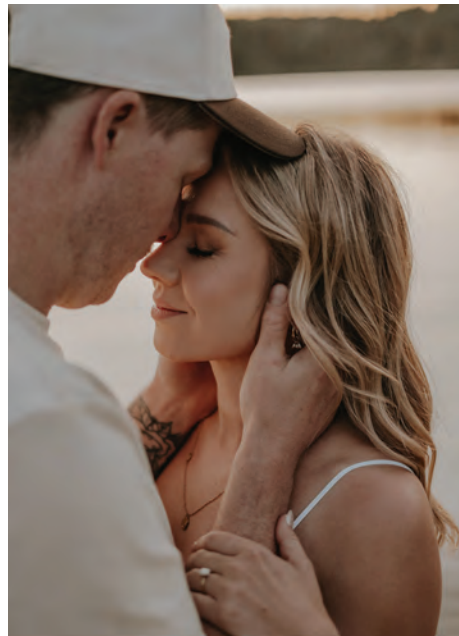
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BRIDAL SHOWER



Please join us for a
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In honour of Kelsey Stadnek
Bride-elect of Brayden Cullum
at the Arborg Legion
Saturday, September 13, 2025
at 1:00 p.m.

Couple registered at www.myregistry.com
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SERVICE REMINDER

Alice Dyck

A Graveside Memorial Service and Celebration of Alice's life will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, September 19, 2025 in the LGD of Grahamdale Cemetery in Moosehorn, MB with Dawn Tober officiating. Both Tony and Alice will be laid to rest together that day. A luncheon will follow in the Moosehorn Community Hall.

Arrangements by:
ARNASON FUNERAL HOME
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1.866.323.3593

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- Narrows Sunset Lodge



Rural Municipality of
FISHER

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY UTILITY OPERATOR

The Rural Municipality of Fisher invites applications for the position of Utility Operator. This position demands a high level of accuracy and dependability.

The normal hours of work are three (3) hours per day, Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Candidates must be willing and available to be on-call for emergent situations.

Applicants:

- **MUST** obtain certification in Small Systems Water Works Operator Certificate and Small Systems Wastewater Works Operator Certificate (can be done during training period).
- Must be 18 years of age or older, hold a valid driver's licence and have a vehicle, minimum grade 10 education.
- Strong mechanical skills a definite asset, aptitude for accuracy, and customer friendly attitude are desirable
- Willing to work as part of a team and may be called upon to help in other duties within the municipality.
- Friendly, team player, responsible, able to work unattended and a strong work ethic is expected.
- Blue Cross available

The Utility Operator will report to the Chief Administrative Officer and Public Works Supervisor.

Resume, cover letter and 3 references by the deadline of September 29, 2025 4:00 p.m.

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



Rural Municipality of
FISHER

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

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF FISHER CUSTODIAN - PERMANENT/PART TIME POSITION HODGSON TRANSFER SITE - HODGSON

The Rural Municipality of Fisher invites applications for the position of Custodian (permanent/part time) for the Hodgson Transfer Site.

Requirements for this position are:

- Valid driver's license
- The applicant must be prepared to obtain legislated certification that is required for the position.

Job Description: The Custodian is required to direct waste disposal and recycling activities, and perform other duties relating to maintenance of the site as assigned. Coverage to other locations as required.

Days/Hours: The Transfer Site is open two (2) days a week - Tuesdays, and Saturdays. Summer hours (T) 3 pm-8pm and (S) 9 am -5 pm Winter (T) 12 pm-5 pm and (S) 9 am-5 pm

Pay will be \$15.80 per hour and \$16.56 after 6 months. Blue Cross available. Resume, cover letter and three work related references to be submitted in confidence. Deadline for applications is September 29, 2025 4:00 pm.

RM of Fisher "Custodian Position-Hodgson"

P.O. Box 280

Fisher Branch, MB. R0C 0Z0

Phone: (204) 372-6393 Fax: (204)372-8470

Email: fishercao@mymts.net



David Charles Cheyne
July 01, 1959 - August 26, 2025

It is with profound grief that we announce the sudden passing of our beloved Husband, Dad, and Papa/Papa Bear. Dave died where he wanted to be, working as the 4th generation on the Cheyne family farm outside of Teulon.

He is survived by the love of his life, Audrey; daughters Chelsey (Roman) and Ashley (Nick), step-daughters Denise and Janine; and the apples of his eye - his grandchildren Brandt, Violet, and Emilee. Also left to mourn him are his sisters, Val Dryden (Al), Joan Cheyne, and Leanne Lawrie and numerous nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased by his parents Charlie and Elma Cheyne (Johnson) and son-in-law Grant.

Dave was born and raised in Teulon, MB, where he graduated from Teulon Collegiate. He went on to further his education at Red River College in carpentry, where he carried on his father's passion for building - they were both very proud of their achievements in the community. Dave loved being a dad to his daughters, Chelsey and Ashley, and later a step-dad to Denise and Janine. Dave met Audrey in 1996 and were married on September 1, 2000 when they officially blended their families.

Dave had many past times, but his favourite times were spent with his grandchildren. He was an avid outdoorsman - hunting, fishing and anything to do with nature. He loved looking up at the night sky. Wallace Lake was always his second home - where he loved to work and play. Dave would often extend an invitation to go frolic in the lake, only for him to turn it into a splash battle.

In his younger years, there wasn't a sport he didn't play, be it hockey, baseball, golf, rugby, and even gymnastics. He was a natural born fixer and was often called upon by friends and family for pointers, and he loved to help people. Dave used these fixer skills at Charison's Turkey Hatchery where he was hired for a three week stint and ended up staying there for over 28 years! Dave loved to joke with various people at different times, and you never knew when you would be "punked". He had a knack for remembering history and places and would often set up bets with people. If you were confident enough to bet against him, you would soon find out he was always right. He had many hobbies, many included food and drink as long as mustard and tofu weren't involved. Dave had a charm about him and made many cherished friendships over the years.

Special thanks to emergency personnel, friends, and family who were able to attend on scene. Your efforts will not be forgotten.

With respect to Dave's expressed wishes, a private, immediate family only service is being planned.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Manitoba Mutts in his memory - where he adopted his beloved four-legged friend Ginger from. www.manitobamutts.org

Our dear "Canada Dave" and a "Dave to Remember".



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Career Opportunity

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Anthony Masiak
Bulk Fuel Manager Interlake Consumers Co-op
Or fuel@interlake.crs, 204-376-5201 office, 204-642-2343 cell

We thank everyone for applying, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Join our team!

Announcements



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OBITUARY



Barbara Karatchuk (nee Kirkness)

It is with deep heartache that we announce the peaceful passing of our beloved mom, Grannie, Coo-coom (Kookum), and auntie, Barbara Karatchuk, on Thursday, July 31, 2025 at Selkirk Tudor House, at the age of 97.

She leaves to mourn her passing and cherish her memory her sons Larry (Sharon), Brian, and Dennis; her grandchildren Glenn (Amy), Amanda (Justin), Patrick, Kelly (Jess), Taryn (Garett), and Keenon; and her nine precious great-grandchildren:

Braeden, Madison, Hailey, Jadyn, Owen, Navee, Axel, Tyson, and Lawson. She is also survived by numerous cherished nieces, nephews, and friends.

Mom is reunited with her loving husband of 73 years, Bill (William) Karatchuk, who passed on December 10, 2024. She was predeceased by her parents Myles and Sarah (nee Cochrane), her sisters Lorna (Jack) Zacharias and Verna (Lawson) Spence; sisters Alice and Agnes, and her brothers Lawson and Miles, who passed in infancy. She also joins her in-laws William (Wasy) and Anna Karatchuk; brothers-in-law John (Mary) and Mike (Julie); sisters-in-law Nettie (Steve) Zabogruski and Mary (John) Obirek; and many beloved extended family members and friends.

Mom was born in Fisher River, MB, on September 25, 1927, the second oldest of seven children to Miles and Sarah. After meeting Dad, they spent many fishing seasons together at Georges Island, Stevenson Island, and Point Island (also known as Karatchuk Island), where Mom cooked for the fishermen. Mom and Dad were married on December 12, 1951.

In 1957, they purchased a farm in Washow Bay, and then in 1966 the family moved to Selkirk. On January 24, 1967, Mom began working as a cook at the Selkirk Mental Hospital. She eventually became head cook and worked there until her retirement on September 13, 1989.

Mom and Dad enjoyed many years camping and making memories with their children and grandchildren at Barney's Point, Hnausa, and Beaver Creek. In 1989, they purchased a cabin at Beaver Creek where they made many wonderful memories with family and friends.

Mom was an incredible cook and baker. Dad often said that nothing compared to her cooking. Whether at home or the cabin, she never kept idle hands - and you'd find her cooking, baking, or canning something for whoever might drop in for coffee and a visit.

She was also an avid knitter and crocheter, lovingly creating sweaters, blankets, and doll clothes that will be cherished for years to come.

Mom was a natural planner. Over the years, she organized countless milestone celebrations for her and Dad, from big anniversaries and birthday gatherings to simple family dinners. She also hosted many baby and bridal showers for loved ones, taking care of every detail - from labeled place settings to thoughtful touches. She will be fondly remembered by her family each time her china, bread basket, or punch bowl are used.

In their later years, Mom and Dad experienced more moves than in their entire married life. In 2013, they moved to House of Hope in Arborg before returning to Selkirk. In 2018, they once again embraced their Riverton roots, moving to the Icelandic River Lodge. As Mom's health declined, they returned to Arborg - she entered the PCH, while Dad stayed in assisted living. In late 2023, she moved to Tudor House and in early 2024, Dad moved to Woodland Courts in Selkirk; it meant the world to him to once again be in the same building as his beloved Barbara and walk down the hall to see her.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to all of Mom's caregivers over the years, especially the staff at Tudor House.

A celebration of Mom's life was held at Gilbert Funeral Home in Selkirk, MB, on Friday, August 8, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

Honorary pallbearers were her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Active pallbearers were her grandsons Glenn, Patrick, Kelly, and Keenon, and great-grandsons Braeden and Jadyn.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Mom's memory to the Alzheimer Society of Manitoba, 120 Donald St, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4G2.

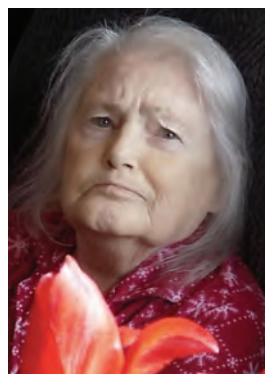
Miyohkwâmi, Coo-coom (Kookum). Kisâkihîtin, we will see you later. Xoxo

Tributes: www.gilbertfuneralhome.com

Gilbert Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY



Norma Rhoda Patience Rowan (nee Farthing)
September 16, 1936 - September 1, 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Norma on September 1, 2025, at the age of 88 years.

She is survived by her children David (Janine), Keith (Cynthia), and Wanda. She was very proud of her grandchildren Christina (David), Sarah, Brandon and her great-grandchildren as well brother Donald, sister Martha and family and friends.

She was predeceased by her husband Tom Rowan, her parents Cecil and Alice Farthing, her brothers Harold, George and Ray.

Norma was born and raised in Coldwell, Manitoba, married, moved to Winnipeg to raise her family.

A celebration of life was held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 6, 2025 at Oak Point Hall in Oak Point, Manitoba.

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OBITUARY



Sharon Gail Chmielnicki
June 4th, 1956 - September 1st, 2025

We sadly announce the passing of Sharon at the age of 69, at the St. Boniface Hospital with family by her side.

Sharon is survived by her son Michael, daughter-in-law Amanda and granddaughter Jayde. She is also survived by her sisters Bev (Bucky), Brenda, nephews Jeffrey and Cody and great nephew and niece Caden and Brooklyn.

Sharon was predeceased by her parents Ed and Hazel.

Sharon was born and raised in Winnipeg and enjoyed her summers in Sandy Hook, and later in Husavik at her parents' home which later became Michael, Amanda and Jayde's home where she enjoyed her time outside with Bailey and Stella, loving her coffee and smokes.

In her early years, Sharon was employed with Boeing until she could no longer work due to her illness with rheumatoid arthritis.

Sharon enjoyed playing bingo over the years and her nights out with friends where she would enjoy her Bacardi rum and coke. She also had a love for fishing.

Sharon was a strong-willed person, very independent and very determined to live on her own and do things in her own way right until the end, which she did.

We would like to thank all of her doctors and nurses over the years and a special thank you to the team at the ICU of St. Boniface Hospital for their amazing care during her final days.

Also, a special thank you from her family to her friends Norma and Kathy who over the years has made it possible for her to stay at home.

There will be a celebration of life on Saturday, September 20th at 1:00 p.m. in Husavik. All friends and family are welcome.

Rest in Peace Sharon ~ You are no Longer in Pain

Your memory will live forever Engraved within our hearts

OBITUARY



Sigurdur Hjortur Palsson

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of a loving brother and uncle, Siggi Hjortur Palsson of Arborg, Manitoba, who passed away on September 2, 2025 at Johnson Memorial Hospital in Gimli.

He is survived by his sister, Inga Doll, and by numerous nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, Larus and Elin; brothers, Pall, Larus, Oli, Hjalti, and Victor; sisters, Beatrice and Gudrun; sisters-in-law, Sigurros and Margaret; and brother-in-law, Robert.

Siggi was born on May 27, 1939 and grew up on the family farm, working alongside his parents and siblings. Together with his brothers Oli, Hjalti, and Victor, he later took over the mixed farm, expanding it with dedication and care.

Siggi's calm demeanor and love of animals reflected his patience, persistence, and stoic nature. He approached life with good humour and optimism. He loved the outdoors, nurtured animals and plants alike, and especially enjoyed gardening. He took great pride in his garden, happily sharing his fresh vegetables with family and friends.

Devoted to his family, Siggi treasured weekly visits, birthdays, and special occasions. He was humble, kind, and genuinely interested in the lives of those around him.

In 2015, Siggi and his brothers moved into Arborg, where he quickly made many new friends with the local coffee crew. Embracing town life, he continued to enjoy walking and cycling for exercise and for pleasure.

Siggi was loved by all who knew him and will be dearly missed. Góða nótt!

A private memorial service will be held.



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Curtis Spence, Hodgson.....	\$479.00	Frank Dziedzic, Stonewall.....	\$859.00	Daphne Grier - Riverton.....	\$949
Tanya & Lyle Thorlissan, Lundar.....	\$329.00	Heather Fedorchuk, Gimli.....	\$1119.00	William Whiteway - Arnes.....	\$1899
Nancy Woychyszyn, Arborg.....	\$768.00	Ilean Haldane, Winnipeg Beach.....	\$1979.00	Fred Finson - Knausa.....	\$319
Mathew & Gemma Avison, Arborg.....	\$219.00	Catalina Janzan, Arborg.....	\$709.00	Dawn & David Sul - Arborg.....	\$2118
Raymond Bazinet, Eriksdale.....	\$389.00	Joan Krulick, Arborg.....	\$1126.99	Oliver & Florence Flett - Peguis.....	\$759
Lynn Bear, Peguis.....	\$1,044.00	John Logan, Teulon.....	\$439.00	John & Dorianne Jones - Arborg.....	\$1189
Ken & Linda Cherepak, Arborg.....	\$49.01	Todd and Lisa Mazur, Fisher Branch.....	\$72.40	Leonard Kisman - Ashern.....	\$3096
Debbie Deveau, Eriksdale.....	\$249.00	Jason and Sarah Naylor, Arborg.....	\$1328.99	Gwen McDougall - Ashern.....	\$1399
Dorothy Dubchak, Gimli.....	\$899.00	Peter and Lisa Sawatzky, Arborg.....	\$249.00	Allen Spence - Hodgson.....	\$719
Sid & Beatrice Dueck, Arborg.....	\$669.00	Donna Skinner, Arborg.....	\$50.94	Delores Steg - Gimli.....	\$2567
Don Firman, Arborg.....	\$529.00	Allen Spence, Hodgson.....	\$1199.00	Steve Taylor - Riverton.....	\$1148
Heather Hamberg, Teulon.....	\$749.00	John and Mary Troyan, Arborg.....	\$868.99	Victor Unruh - Arborg.....	\$2898
Matthew Hamberg, Winnipeg.....	\$399.00	Boyd Abas, Hodgson.....	\$338.99	Greg & Karen Chic - Komarno.....	\$3367.99
Star Johnson, Arborg.....	\$548.00	Sharon J. Bear, Peguis.....	\$39.99	Kevin Gross - Arborg.....	\$45.87
Allan & Jamie Johnson, Riverton.....	\$1,039.00	Sophie Bristow, Gimli.....	\$49.00	Rachael Hawrysh - Winnipeg Beach.....	\$994
Brenda Kayer, Teulon.....	\$399.00	Glen & Greg Brown, Lundar.....	\$1,713.00	Gwen McDougall - Ashern.....	\$1999
Wayne & Kathy Kristjansson, Arborg.....	\$499.00	Elaine Bruce, Ashern.....	\$449.00	Gerry & Anna Plett - Arborg.....	\$1518
Jeff Meistad, Gimli.....	\$120.00	Linda Foster, Matlock.....	\$408.00	Pauline & Clarence Sinclair - Hodgson.....	\$2097
Beverly & Bryan Plett, Arborg.....	\$2,148.00	Dan & Nyla Klatt, Grahamdale.....	\$649.00	Phyllis Sinclair - Koostatak.....	\$999
Bruce Reimer, Arborg.....	\$1,308.00	Rosemarie Kawalenko, Arnes.....	\$1,929.00	Elma & Ron White - Arborg.....	\$799
Ray Reimer, Arborg.....	\$399.00	Lenore Mahase, Winnipeg.....	\$369.00	Mike & Thelma Blahay - Arborg.....	\$951.99
Donna Votour, Arborg.....	\$69.00	Melissa Markusson, Gimli.....	\$399.00	Tracy & Ernie Weik - Arborg.....	\$1249
Richard & Judith Werner, Arnes.....	\$419.00	Stacy Cummings, Riverton.....	\$2,637.00	Jeannie Cumming - Arnes.....	\$299
Don Barkman, Arborg.....	\$279.00	Darrin Mitchell, Riverton.....	\$1,703.95	Karen Foster - Arborg.....	\$1388.99
Noreen Barkman, Arborg.....	\$679.00	Vera Osborne, Arborg.....	\$279.00	Robert & Cathy Grinnolson - Riverton.....	\$25
Mark Bayliss, Arborg.....	\$19.95	Ashley Prince, Peguis.....	\$20.00	Carolann Ives - Mulvihill.....	\$1189
Melvin & Carol Bilinski, Fisher Branch.....	\$999.00	Glen Tamoto, Sandy Hook.....	\$1,720.00	Robbie Jonasson - Riverton.....	\$1940
Jim & Wanda Brandon, Lundar.....	\$946.00	Rick Weiss, Arborg.....	\$649.00	Pattie McIntyre - Gimli.....	\$1549
Paul & Linda Buus, East Selkirk.....	\$338.00	Cornelius Weiss, Arborg.....	\$59.00	Steve & Sharon Melnychuk - Arborg.....	\$1299
Richard & Doris Dueck, Arborg.....	\$59.90	Roger and Christine Abuda, Arborg.....	\$849.00	Lyle & Lisa Stansell - Arborg.....	\$199
Henry T. Friesen, Arborg.....	\$1727.95	Wilf and Shelly Ashley, Arborg.....	\$193.98	Arnold Waldner - Meleb.....	\$739
Jocelyn & Tony Hayka, Arnes.....	\$749.00	Darryl and Doris Bear, Peguis.....	\$2,647.00	Betty Ann Wright - Peguis.....	\$749

A NOTE TO OUR CUSTOMERS

Due to the nature of this sale, we felt a brief explanation is essential.

At closing, 5 p.m. Sat. Sept. 27th we will tally the 20 days of paid sales and divide by 20 to get the average daily sale. The day which is closest to this daily average, without going over it, will be the day which ALL qualifying purchasers will receive their purchase amount back, taxes excluded.

In the case of credit card (Smitty's, Visa, Mastercard) purchases, we will issue a credit immediately.

Every item in stock will be included in the sale. No exceptions - clearance, damaged, discontinued, even new arrivals: furniture and appliances.

We would like to thank you for your support, especially in these challenging times. This is our opportunity to give back by awarding one whole day for free.

Larry Kornelsen
Smitty's

SOLID WOOD CANADIAN MADE BEDROOM FURNITURE AVAILABLE

Recliners starting as low as \$589

Sofas LARGE SELECTION OF CANADIAN MADE SOFAS

ALL PURCHASES PAID IN FULL QUALIFY!
• Furniture
• Appliances
• Clearance Items

PLUS
DON'T PAY FOR 3 MONTHS
0% INTEREST ON EVERYTHING O.A.C.!
FURNITURE, APPLIANCES

SALE RULES

- All sales must be paid in full to qualify for this sale.
- Visa, Mastercard or Smitty's Credit Cards accepted.
- Sale Starts 9 a.m. Tues., Sept. 2nd and ends Sat., Sept. 27th, 5p.m.
- All purchasers on free day will be notified and receive their full refund by Friday, Oct. 3rd, 6p.m.
- All sales tallies and free day will be verified.
- Commercial sales excluded in tallies and free day.
- All taxes excluded in tallies and refunds.
- No returns or cancellations.

Fridge
17.6 cu. ft.
\$899

BEDS, BEDS, BEDS,
14 Models on Display From \$359-\$2899

GRAND TOTAL TO DATE \$335,343.75



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STORE HOURS
Tuesday-Friday 9-6
/ Saturday 9-5

