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VOLUME 8 EDITION 41 THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2021

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## Off and running

EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Last Wednesday 140 Interlake athletes laced up and ran their hearts out at the 2021 Zone 5 Cross Country meet at Quarry Park in Stonewall. Gimli's Varsity boys team captured the banner with Morweena Christian School placing second.

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# Calling all Ashern witches for Halloween fundraiser

By Nicole Brownlee

Grab your brooms, hats and dancing shoes on Oct. 29 for the first annual Ida Townsend Memorial Witches Dance.

Marilyn McMillan first thought to host a fundraiser for Ashern's Lakeshore General Hospital in 2019 after her mother, Ida Townsend, passed away.

"My mother was in the hospital for four months at the Lakeshore General Hospital, and the nurses that were taking care of her were just so wonderful," said McMillan.

"I thought it'd be nice to do a little fundraiser."

Incorporating a performance where local women dress up as witches came to McMillan after watching a YouTube video.

"This video popped up of these women in Germany all dressed up as witches, and they were dancing and having a great time," said McMillan.

"It was the music that grabbed me. It was a real catchy tune."

McMillan discovered similar videos of women worldwide following the German music and dance moves to raise money for community events and wanted to follow suit.

Each Ashern witch is raising money through pledges to donate to the hos-



Ida Townsend passed away in July 2019 after being cared for at the Lakeshore General Hospital.

pital and will perform on Oct. 29 at the Halloween party for the Lakeshore Hospital Guild and Living Independence for Elders Inc. at the Ashern Centennial Hall.

Ten volunteers have signed up for the event so far, but anyone interested is welcome to join.

"It's just nice to be able to get together, see people face-to-face and have some fun for a good cause," said



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Marilyn McMillan is hosting a fundraiser in honour of her mom, Ida Townsend, on Oct. 29. Ashern women are joining McMillan for a witches dance at the Ashern Centennial Hall.

McMillan.

Halloween was also one of Townsend's favourite holidays.

"My mom dressed up for Halloween every year until she was unable to," said McMillan.

Every Halloween, friends and family would come to their home to show off their costumes, chat with Townsend and share a drink.

"She just loved it," said McMillan.

McMillan remembers one year Townsend wore a men's suit, red, long underwear and a costume mask on Halloween.

"She went out and she sat in the bar, and nobody knew who she was," said McMillan with a laugh.

"My mom was quite a lady, you know, prim and proper. Always had her pink lipstick and her earrings."

"Ida was an amazing lady," said Judith McCudden, one of McMillan's friends and a fellow witch in the up-

coming performance.

McCudden said she's looking forward to the fundraiser and, like Townsend, she enjoys Halloween.

"It's great to see women enjoying themselves and being able to chat and dance. ... And it's a really great way to raise money for our local hospital," said McCudden.

The Interlake-Eastern Health Foundation is beyond thankful for McMillan hosting the witches dance fundraiser, said Pamela McCallum, executive director for the IEHF.

"Facilities throughout the region are

continuously supported by our gracious community members like Marilyn McMillan," said McCallum.

To learn more about the dance, visit the Witches Dance 2021- Ashern, Manitoba Facebook page. To sign up for the dance, contact Marilyn McMillan at calderon.md53@gmail.com.

**"THESE WOMEN  
IN GERMANY ALL  
DRESSED UP AS  
WITCHES, AND  
THEY WERE DANC-  
ING AND HAVING A  
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**Advance voting: October 16  
Election day: October 19  
at the Arborg Town Office**

**GISLASON, Donna L.**





# Inwood bison farm staying strong in spite of drought

By Nicole Brownlee

Transitioning from a hobby farm to a ranch with over a thousand bison takes patience and hard work, but Inwood's Peter Doerksen is glad he made the leap.

Doerksen grew up on a small farm in Niverville with a couple of dairy cows, two chickens and a few horses. When he was 26 years old, he started his bison farm with around 30 bison. Over 30 years the herd has steadily grown to 1,200 bison.

"I don't really have a good explanation as to why I started, but right now, I'm quite happy that I did," said Doerksen.

"(Bison) are such a natural animal to farm. It's a little more difficult to physically handle, but the overall management is a lot easier."

Like many farms around the province, this summer's drought and grasshopper infestation hit Doerksen's ranch hard.

"We were feeding our cows on pasture all summer," said Doerksen.

Between the lack of plant growth

and feed prices, Doerksen is concerned about feeding his herd over the winter but doesn't plan on selling any livestock.

"It's not really feasible to try and sell these things. Certainly not the breeding cows in the middle of calving season. It would be very hard on the calves."

Bison are an independent herd, said Doerksen. They don't allow any help when they're calving or breeding and make it known if they need more food.

"They will not reproduce if they feel like they can't support a calf," said Doerksen.

The bulls are also kept with the cows year-round because the cows follow a natural breeding season

from July to September.

A difference between raising bison and cattle is the size of the fence to keep the animals in. Cattle can be typically kept in by a metre-tall fence, but bison need double the height.

"Making sure that you have the



EXPRESS PHOTO BY PETER DOERKSEN

Peter Doerksen started his bison ranch over 32 years ago with a herd of 30 bison. Today, 1,200 bison inhabit the ranch.

proper fences and making sure that you have a decent handling facility ... is where the bigger costs come in," said Doerksen. "They are certainly a

whole lot more aggressive."

Continued on page 7

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# Themed gardens bring life to the classroom

Submitted by Samantha McEwan

Gimli's Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School Grade 1 and 2 students got a little extra gift when the pandemic sent them home last year. That gift? Individual bags of microgreen seedlings.

Lisa Michaluk has been teaching grades 1-2 for 22 years. About a decade ago, along with the help of former phys-ed teacher Sarah Chapnick, she started incorporating more agriculture-related activities in her classroom.

Michaluk says Chapnick organized guest speakers and field trips but also introduced her to Agriculture in the Classroom – Manitoba's (AITC-M) resources and activities.

"We were so lucky to have her," says Michaluk. "Her passion for it really made you want to be a part of everything she was doing."

Since then, Michaluk has implemented a garden in her classroom, taken part in the Little Green Sprouts program for the past two years, ran a research project about bees, and taken countless agriculture-related field trips. She says she wouldn't change a thing.

"I do think that the Ag in the Classroom programs and Little Green Sprouts make such a huge difference to the students," she says. "Even the thought of taking a seat and then having to wait and be patient. To know how to care for something, it's important to them."

When the province moved to remote learning in March of 2020, Michaluk says she hurried to bag the microgreens they had been growing since November 2019 and handed them out individually to each student.

According to the reactions she says she received from students and parents alike, it was a hit.

"It was so cool to see them when we'd have our teams meeting each week. They'd bring their little micro greens up to the camera to show you and tell you all about how much they grew since the last



Students choose what vegetables they want and plant the seeds.

week," says Michaluk.

She also recalls parents sending her messages about how they added microgreens to their dinnertime salads, and how excited the children were to eat the plants they grew.

"When the little six- and seven-year-olds see something, they believe it. And when they believe it, they believe with their whole hearts," she says. "That's how big of an impact it has on them, to see how something is growing from the ground and goes right onto their plates."

Prior to the pandemic, Michaluk says her classroom gardens were themed every year. She says they take great care in deciding what to plant together.

One year, she says they decided to make a taco-themed garden, and the next, a bee garden complete with research into which wildflowers were best. If the kids want corn on the cob and carrot muffins? They plant corn and carrots to make that happen.

"I think what I've noticed the most with the kids is that when they get to decide on what we plant, they're so deeply invested, right?" she says.

Some years the kids request plants that don't typically grow in Manitoba, but Michaluk says she does her best to oblige anyways. According to her, their watermelons didn't make it, but that's all part of the learning process.

Michaluk says she takes care of the garden maintenance during the school year, but the custodian at the school handles it during the summer.



Gimli's Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early School Grade 1 and 2 teacher Lisa Michaluk and students participated in the Ag in the Classroom program.



The Little Greens Sprouts program researches bees.

"We are so grateful for him, and we always make sure to share our gratitude with him," she says.

A favourite AITC-M activity in Lisa's classroom is the Food Gratitude printable sheet. She says the students love to brainstorm about all the reasons they should be thankful to farmers and what they do.

"It was so interesting because every food they thought of started like a chain reaction. They were realizing so much and their little faces lit up when they thought 'that's from a farmer, that's from a farmer!'" she says.

As for advice she has for new teachers, Michaluk says to never be afraid of not knowing something. She suggests joining Twitter to connect with other educators and to always be ready to ask for help.

She also says you have to be willing to fail but to use the failure as an opportunity for learning.

"We had it happen a month ago that some of the kids planted speckled peas, and some of them planted buckwheat and the buckwheat did not grow. Failing is part of it too."



Students added microgreens to their salads.



Microgreens salad.

# Manitoba vaccination doses now exceed two million

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitoba hit a milestone last week in its COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

Dr. Joss Reimer, medical lead of the province's vaccination task force, announced Oct. 6 that the province has surpassed two million doses of the vaccine.

It's been a monumental effort for Manitoba's health-care workers, starting back with the very first dose administered in mid-December.

"From all of us on the vaccine task force, thank you," Reimer said. "There have been thousands of people involved in this campaign and we couldn't have done it without you."

She also thanked the more than 85 per cent of eligible Manitobans who have stepped up to receive at least one shot thus far, and the 81 per cent who are fully vaccinated with two doses.

"This is really your story," Reimer said. "It's built around your decision to protect yourself, protect your loved ones, and protect our province."

Vaccination against COVID-19 has proven to be "incredibly effective," Reimer said.

"It's been remarkable to see in our personal care homes the just complete drop in outbreaks, and seeing how overwhelmingly higher the risk is if you're unvaccinated to end up in the hospital, to end up in the ICU.

"So while this vaccine is not perfect — no vaccine prevents infection 100

per cent of the time — it is dramatic," Reimer stressed. "And so I encourage people that, even though it doesn't take you down to zero [risk], it takes you pretty close to zero when it comes to ICU admissions and it takes you way, way lower in your risk for even mild infection."

As the fourth wave gets underway in Manitoba, the province is expanding its recommendation for who can receive a third dose of the vaccine.

Individuals who have only received a viral vector vaccine, such as two doses of AstraZeneca or a single dose of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine, can now book an appointment for a third shot of an mRNA vaccine, as long as at least six months have passed since their last shot.

This move impacts about 6,800 people who received those vaccines, which Reimer noted lose their effectiveness more quickly than the mRNA vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna.

Also able to get a third dose are health-care personnel who have direct contact with patients, residents or clients.

Health-care workers — which number about 50,000 in Manitoba — were among the first to roll up their sleeves for the vaccine when it was released.

"For many health-care workers, it has been quite a few months since their last dose of the vaccine," Reimer

said, noting studies have shown the vaccines provide protection against severe illness due to COVID-19 for at least 20 weeks, but protection against mild infection does decrease over time.

"In general, if we weren't inside of a pandemic, we might be OK with a lower level of protection against mild infection, but when we are facing a fourth wave and we do know that every health-care worker is critical to being able to provide services to Manitobans, we want to offer this booster to use every tool in the toolbox to support the health-care system."

Receiving a third dose is voluntary and health-care workers who decide not to get it are still considered fully immunized, Reimer stressed.

The province is currently considering further expanding third-dose eligibility in the weeks ahead to older Manitobans, including those not living in personal care homes (who are already eligible) and those who live in other congregate living settings.

Reimer further said that it's likely most Manitobans will have the opportunity to get a booster shot by year's end. She stressed again that two doses of the vaccine provide ample protection against severe outcomes for a long time, but a third dose in the months ahead would help with mild infections, especially if a great deal of time has passed since the second

dose.

Asked how she responds to Manitobans who are fearful there will be no end to booster shots in the future, Reimer pointed out that's already how we deal with vaccinations for other viruses.

"We have an influenza or a flu season every year and people have to get a booster shot every year. That's certainly a possibility here as well that this might become something we have to do every year.

"As more and more of us become protected and the severity of infections goes down, it will become more and more like how we treat influenza," Reimer said. "And so even as people get infections, those who don't end up in the hospital, those who don't die, will also slowly have more and more protection as well even without the vaccine.

"So as a society together we [will] see decreasing severe outcomes and therefore be able to move away from all this emergency approach to managing the pandemic."

Heading into the long weekend, Manitoba was reporting 927 active cases of COVID-19, a provincial test positivity rate of 3.4 per cent, 90 total hospitalizations, and 14 ICU patients due to the virus.

A total of 1,217 Manitobans have died due to COVID-19. There have been 59,241 recoveries.

## Exempt Manitobans to receive same card as fully vaxxed

By Ashleigh Viveiros

Manitobans who have received a valid medical exemption from COVID-19 vaccination will now be armed with the same immunization card to prove it as those who are fully vaccinated.

Dr. Joss Reimer, medical lead of the province's vaccination task force, announced the move last week.

It's a way to ensure there's consistency across the board, she said.

"We had lots of conversations about how many people have to scan those

cards in so many different sectors, and we wanted to make it as simple as possible for all of them," Reimer said. Currently, proof of vaccination is required for entry to restaurants, theatres and concert halls, art galleries and museums, and sport facilities, among other social gathering spaces.

"The message is clear that this is the only proof of vaccination, regardless of whether or not someone is medically exempt," said Reimer, stressing that showing up at a restaurant with a doctor's note is not sufficient proof

of an exemption. "They need that card with a scannable QR code."


The province has said that only a very small number of people are unable to get safely immunized, including those who had a severe reaction after the first dose of the vaccine, patients receiving treatments that might affect their immune response (for example, certain types of cancer treatments), and people who have had a severe allergy or anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine or its components that cannot

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## Efficiency Manitoba launches window, door rebate program

### Staff

A new rebate program could net eco-conscious Manitobans a tidy sum.

Efficiency Manitoba, the province's newest Crown corporation dedicated to energy efficiency, has launched its Windows and Doors Rebate for homeowners upgrading to high-performance windows and doors.

Eligible customers can receive \$50 per qualifying opening for the purchase and installation of select Energy Star certified products.

"Manitoba has long been a leader in the windows and doors industry in Canada," said Conservation and Climate Minister Sarah Guillemard in a statement. "Through incentives that encourage Manitobans to choose high-performance windows and

doors, Efficiency Manitoba is supporting an industry with approximately 5,000 Manitoba-based employees as well as ensuring homeowners are choosing energy-efficient, high-quality, long-lasting products."

Replacing older, inefficient entryways and windows with high-performance ones means less air leakage and heat loss in a home, which helps homeowners reduce their energy consumption, lower their energy bills, and enjoy a more comfortable living environment.

"This new program and rebate offer is another way we're helping Manitobans achieve whole-home electricity and natural gas savings," said Colleen Kuruluk, CEO of Efficiency Manitoba. "These rebates are responsive to re-

quests from customers and industry, and we're here to make energy-efficient choices easier and more affordable for Manitobans."

Homeowners must first purchase and install their eligible windows and doors and then apply online for their rebate. A full list of eligible products and the online application form can be found at [efficiencyMB.ca/windowsanddoors](http://efficiencyMB.ca/windowsanddoors).

Those participating in the Canada Greener Homes Grant can also access rebates through the Windows and Doors Rebate. Efficiency Manitoba works with Manitoba Hydro to ensure financing is available through their Home Energy Efficiency Loan. More information about financing can be found at [hydro.mb.ca/heel](http://hydro.mb.ca/heel).

## Nominations open for Excellence in Education Awards

### Staff

Think your kid's teacher is awesome? Now's your chance to thank them for it.

Nominations have opened for the 2021-22 Manitoba's Excellence in Education Awards, Education Minister Cliff Cullen announced last week on World Teachers' Day.

"Manitoba educators provide outstanding service every day and continue to do so during the pandemic," Cullen said. "The Excellence in Education Awards provide an opportunity to recognize educators who are making a special difference in the lives of their students."

There are three teaching excellence awards up for grabs and one each in the categories of outstanding new teacher, outstanding team collaboration, outstanding school leader, and the Premier's Award for Excellence in Education.

Parents, students, school trustees, teachers and school or school division administrators are invited to submit nominations by the Dec. 2 deadline.

Nominees must be educators who hold a valid, permanent Manitoba teaching certificate and work directly with kindergarten to Grade 12 students in a school setting on a daily basis. Each award recipient will receive

\$500 and a framed certificate.

The selection committee includes representatives from Manitoba Education, Manitoba School Boards Association, Manitoba Association of Parent Councils and Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools.

"I want to thank our educators for the work they do, supporting our children and ensuring they can succeed," said Cullen. "We know teachers are an incredibly dedicated group, and we hope the community responds to this call for nominations."

For more information, head to [www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/excellence/](http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/excellence/).

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# get informed

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Adult male bald eagles contemplate their next move at Matlock on Oct. 7. The bald eagle feeds primarily on fish, aquatic birds and mammals, which it may take alive or find dead. Much of its live prey, especially the waterfowl, consists of sickly individuals or those wounded by hunters. When its staple foods are not available, a bald eagle will eat almost anything that has food value. Help the *Express* record the weather of the week and send in your photos of friends or families enjoying the outdoors. Email: [weather@expressweeklynews.ca](mailto:weather@expressweeklynews.ca).

## > BISON, FROM PG. 3

Doerksen recently raised his fencing because the bison accidentally threw each other over the fence during breeding season.

"They're not intending to, but when they've got the other bison against the corner, it happens," said Doerksen with a laugh. "It happens probably once a year."

If a bison topples over the fence, they tend to hang around and wait for someone to notice so they can rejoin the herd.

After debuting at the Red River Ex and the Calgary Stampede, the ranch picked up business around 20 years ago. Doerksen continues to visit markets, selling bison rib-eye, burgers, and more under Sizzlin' Bison Grill.

"It's a very healthy red meat," said Doerksen.

The meat is low in cholesterol, high in zinc, iron and protein, and doesn't contain any antibiotics or growth promotants.

"It's very flavourful, and even the tenderloin, you don't need to put any spices on it."

Doerksen is in the process of selling his bison meat at local stores in the Interlake.

To find out more, contact Peter Doerksen at 204-278-3599 or text 204-886-7311.

## > FULLY VAXXED, FROM PG. 5

be managed by the Health Sciences Centre Allergy Clinic.

In all these cases, people must schedule an appointment with their health-care provider or specialist to determine if they qualify for an exemption. Individuals cannot submit their own requests for exemption.

If an exemption is approved, indi-

viduals can then request their digital or physical Manitoba immunization card approximately seven to 14 business days later, the same as a fully vaccinated person would.

Details about exemptions are available online at <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/eligibility-criteria.html#exemptions>.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Interlake Cattleman's Co-op Association Ltd.**

**Monday October 18, 2021**

**7:00 P.M.**

**ASHERN AUCTION MART**

Auditors Financial Report  
Election of Directors  
Manager's Report  
*Dainties and coffee will be served.*

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St Bartholomew's Anglican Church  
291 Churchill Road  
Winnipeg Beach MB

**Tuesday, November 23, 2021,**

**6:30 p.m.**

COVID-19 protocol in effect  
For more information 204-894-4499

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# Bezan ready to represent Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman for 7th term

By Jennifer McFee

For 17 years and counting, James Bezan has served the local community as a member of Parliament.

Bezan, Conservative MP for Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman, was first elected in 2004 and handily won his seventh election on Sept. 20. Bezan earned 57.1 per cent of the vote, with 28,308 constituents casting ballots for him. Similar to previous elections, Bezan remained a far stretch ahead of the other candidates since NDP candidate Margaret Smith earned 9,604 votes (19.4 per cent), Liberal candidate Detlev Regelsky had 6,567 votes (13.2 per cent), PPC candidate Ian Kathwaroon had 3,800 votes (7.7 per cent) and Green Party candidate Wayne James had 1,328 votes (2.7 per cent). Another 363 voters rejected their ballots.

"I'm incredibly honoured to receive the support of our constituents in Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman, to have their trust in representing them here in Ottawa," said Bezan by phone from Ottawa.

"Carrying the issues of our riding to Parliament is something I take very seriously and will humbly do as their federal representative."

It comes as no surprise that the pandemic was top-of-mind for many voters.

"The biggest issue was dealing with COVID and the pandemic. Door to door, street to street, town to town, it was everybody's top priority," he said.

"Either they were wondering how do we get the economy going again and how do we get more people vaccinated, or the other side of it was people who don't want to be vaccinated. So it

was a polarizing debate and one that unfortunately is dividing communities and families and pitting neighbours and friends against each other."

At the same time, Bezan was able to discuss other timely topics with residents in his riding.

"We still were able to talk about some of the bigger issues such as the health of Lake Winnipeg and the drought that our farmers and ranchers went through this summer, as well as the shortfalls in hay and feed for their livestock or having very low yields on crop land," he said.

"Those issues were often front and centre and on the minds of a lot of our constituents."

As a member of Parliament, Bezan aims to continue championing local issues that impact the riding.

"Over the years, I've been a strong voice for rural Canada, for our rural communities and fighting for things like better farm programs and getting money for the Lake Winnipeg Basin Initiative and the stewardship fund," he said.

"I want to ensure that we're taking more measures and increasing public awareness about the nutrient load in Lake Winnipeg and trying to reduce those nutrients that are flowing from a number of different sources including municipalities, the City of Winnipeg in particular."

In addition, Bezan continues to work hard in his national portfolio as shadow minister of National Defence.

"Dealing over the last 12 months with the sexual misconduct crisis that has faced Canadian Armed Forces is something that I've been very much

occupied with," he said.

"It has been front and centre in a lot of the work I've done in Ottawa and virtually as well through virtual Parliament."

Looking ahead, Bezan sees several significant subjects that remain on people's minds.

"I think there is still a lot of concern about some of the mandates that are coming, both federally and provincially, that revolve around COVID and how it's going to impact individuals and their families. I know that's something I'm going to be occupied with as we move forward with these new federal mandates in these areas of my jurisdiction," he said.

"People who work for the federal civil service have questions and have been contacting our office, as well as people who want to travel. People are now going to be required to show proof of vaccination to be on planes and trains. Those are things that will more than likely raise a number of red flags for some individuals."

Issues in agriculture will also remain at the forefront for Bezan.

"We have to get the improvements made to the farm support programs to help our farmers and ranchers get through this fall and winter. We need to ensure that we try to protect as much of our cattle, horses and bison that are in feed-deficient areas," he said.

"I will continue to work with our municipalities as they start making application into federal and provincial infrastructure secretariat so they can receive dollars to improve community infrastructure, whether that's



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman  
MP James Bezan

in roads, sewer, water or recreational facilities," he said.

"We'll always work with our municipal leaders in ensuring that their priorities are also my priorities and reflecting that by advocating for those investments in our riding at a federal level."

Bezan looks forward to working hard to represent his riding for his seventh consecutive term.

"Even though this was a costly and unnecessary election because we ended up with the exact same result at the end of the day, I will continue to work hard on behalf of the great people of Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman," he said.

"I will make sure that I'm carrying their interests and ideas and concerns into the federal legislative and policy arena — and I'm proud to do that for them."

# Polar bear to be designated as official provincial emblem

By Manitoba government

The Manitoba government has introduced legislation

that would designate the polar bear as an official provincial emblem, Premier Kelvin Goertzen announced last week.

"Northern Manitoba is known internationally for its polar bears, tourists come from around the globe to see and learn about these majestic animals in their natural habitat in Churchill," said Goertzen. "Recognizing the polar bear as an official symbol of Manitoba would help build on our province's brand as the 'polar bear capital of the world' and a must-see, one-of-a-kind tourism attraction for visitors of all ages."

Manitoba's tourism industry is a key contributor to the provincial economy and polar bears represent a significant draw to tourists from across the country and around the world, the premier noted.

Manitoba has already made significant investments to protect polar bears and their natural habitat with the creation of the Polar Bear Protection Act as well as providing significant financial support for the creation of the Leat-

herdale International Polar Bear Conservation Centre at Assiniboine Park Zoo.

Bill 76, the Coat of Arms, Emblems and the Manitoba Tartan Amendment Act, would designate the polar bear as an official provincial emblem to recognize the important role the polar bear currently plays as an internationally recognized symbol of Manitoba.

The polar bear would become the second official mammalian emblem of Manitoba. In 2014, the North American plains bison was officially recognized as a mammal emblem. In addition to the polar bear and plains bison, Manitoba currently recognizes the great grey owl, pickerel, white spruce, prairie crocus, big bluestem grass, Newdale soil and the mosasaur as official natural emblems.

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New Iceland Heritage Museum Mission:

*"A gateway to understanding the unique history  
of New Iceland in Canada"*

# Meleb's mushroom monument upgraded

By Patricia Barrett

The iconic mushroom monument in Meleb's MPC Park along Highway 7 was given a fresh coat of paint this year thanks to funding support from the province, the RM of Armstrong and the Westshore Community Foundation.

MPC Park committee volunteer Ryan Werbicki said after three decades, the mushroom statue was in need of a "critical update" to ensure its longevity.

"Earlier this year, the MPC Park Committee began the process of refurbishment and contracted Jen Mosienko Design, also known for updating Poplarfield's King Buck [deer monument], to complete the project," said Werbicki by email.

The mushroom monument was commissioned in 1993 and completed by the late Wayne Arthur of St. Andrews, he said.

"The statue depicts three popular local mushrooms; smorzhi (May morels), kozari (red tops of

mid-summer) and the velvety pidpenky of September," said Werbicki. "Each of the three mushrooms is represented in memory of three local one-room schools — Meleb, Park and Cumming."

The monument is the centrepiece of the park, which hosted the community's 90th anniversary celebrations and its 1990 school reunion. Every year, the MPC committee holds an annual picnic in July to honour the area's ancestors and veterans, said Werbicki.

The major refurbishment was completed with funding supplied by the province, the municipality and Westshore.

"The MPC Park Committee would like express its sincere thanks to the Province of Manitoba, the RM of Armstrong and the Westshore Community Foundation for their significant contribution to the project, in addition to their ongoing commitment to our heritage resources across our region," said Werbicki.



EXPRESS PHOTO COURTESY OF RYAN WERBICKI  
Funding supporters from left: committee member Larry Maximchuk, Armstrong councillor Ted Sumka, Westshore Community Foundation president Tim Arnason and Interlake-Gimli MLA and municipal relations minister Derek Johnson.

# Gooseshoot returns to Lundar

By Jo-Anne Procter

After a two year hiatus due to an unexpected snow storm in 2019 and a world-wide COVID pandemic in 2020, the annual All Canada Goose Shoot was back in Lundar this past weekend.

Since 1977 the Lundar Elks have been hosting the popular event. Funds that are raised through entries, auctions and a Calcutta are put back into the community. (A final total for the 2021 shoot was unavailable at press-time.)

The Lundar Agricultural Society cooked dinner for the hunters on Friday evening while teams registered and took part in the Calcutta. Breakfast was also served to the 19 teams of four hunters before they hit the fields with their guides.

Tommy Cramp's winning team of Keifer, Virgil and Gifford Johnson

hunted in Gary Sherbeth's field and harvested 20 geese with the total weight of 218.37 lbs. including the heaviest goose shot that weighed 13.01 lbs.

The second place team of Donald Law, Jack Cruise, Ken Ledochowski and Brian Johnson who hunted in Lonnie Farthing's field harvested 211.75 lbs of geese.

The third place team of Jamie and Gord Johnson, Bob and Barry Gleich hunted in Kevin Gudmundson's field shot 210,65 lbs of geese.

First place shooters received semi automatic shotguns Winchester SX4's. Second and third place teams won pump Winchester SXP's.

The generosity of all the sponsors, landowners and volunteers that donated time and prizes are credited for the success of the popular event.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

First place: Nikki Halldorson (guide), Virgil Johnson, Tommy Cramp, Gifford Johnson, Kiefer Johnson and Zachary Halldorson (guide).



Second place: Nick Bennet (guide), Jack Cruise, Donald Law, Ken Ledochowski, Brian Johnson and Todd Sanness (guide).



Third place: Blaine Fortin (guide), Paul Monkman (guide), Barry Gleich, Jamie Johnson, Bob Gleich and Gord Johnson.

# Pfizer effectiveness against infection drops to 47 per cent

By Patricia Barrett

A real-world study evaluating the effectiveness of Pfizer-BioNTech's COVID-19 vaccine in almost 5 million people shows the fully vaccinated becoming infected with the virus or one of its variants but still retaining strong vaccine-induced protection against having to be hospitalized.

The Pfizer-led study titled "Effectiveness of mRNA BNT162b2 COVID-19 vaccine up to 6 months in a large integrated health system in the USA: a retrospective cohort study" was published online in *The Lancet* medical journal Oct. 4.

The researchers, who identify themselves as either employees of Pfizer or who hold shares in Pfizer stock or who received research support from Pfizer, assessed the effectiveness of the vaccine, now called Comirnaty, against COVID infections and against hospital admissions for up to six months after the vaccine was administered.

They found the vaccine's overall effectiveness against infection waning to 47 per cent after five months since full vaccination (defined in this study as seven days or more after the second dose). But the effectiveness against hospital admissions in all age groups "did not wane" over the six-month research period, providing 90 per cent protection.

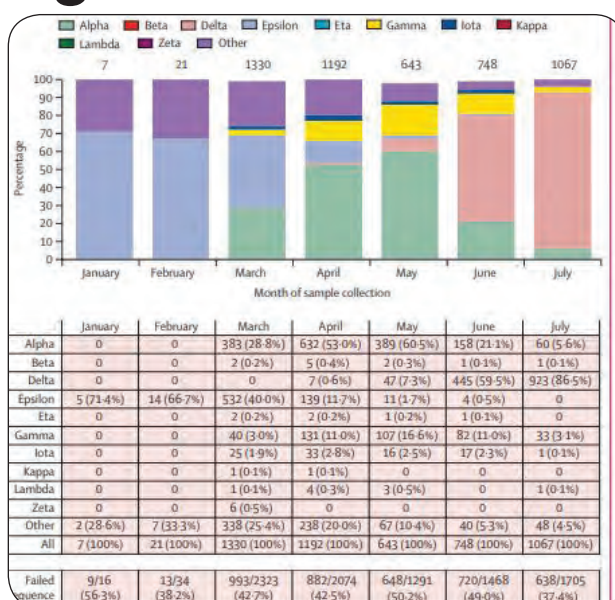
"Our results show high effectiveness of BNT162b2 against hospital admissions up until 6 months after being fully vaccinated in a large, diverse cohort under real-world vaccination conditions, even in the face of widespread dissemination of the delta variant," the researchers wrote. "These findings underscore the importance of continuing to prioritise improving COVID-19 vaccination rates, including in hard-to-reach communities."

The study also looked at the vaccine's effectiveness against infection and hospitalization from the virus's variants.

For delta, the vaccine was shown to be 93 per cent effective against infection during the first month after full vaccination but dropped to 53 per cent after four months. Against other variants, the vaccine was found to be 97 per cent effective against infection during the first month after vaccination but declined to 67 per cent at four to five months. The vaccine, however, offered a high overall level of protection against the need for hospitalization.

The study's findings are consistent with reports from Israel's Ministry of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on reduced effectiveness against COVID infection at five months or longer after being fully vaccinated, said the researchers.

The researchers set out to determine whether waning immunity or the delta variant was driving the observed reductions in effectiveness against in-



## EXPRESS THE LANCET, STUDY DATA

The progress of COVID variants is shown in samples taken between January and July in southern California, with the delta variant (in pink) predominating in the space of two months.

fection as this distinction "is essential to inform the need for booster doses and to establish what the antigenic composition of future vaccines should be."

They surmise that the reduction in protection against infection over time is probably primarily due to the vaccine losing strength rather than the ability of delta to evade immunity defences.

"Our variant-specific analyses suggest that reductions in vaccine effectiveness over time are likely to be primarily due to waning vaccine effectiveness rather than the delta variant escaping vaccine protection given that vaccine effectiveness against delta infections was more than 90 per cent soon after vaccination," the researchers wrote. "Vaccine effectiveness against delta and other variants for hospital admissions was very high over the entire study period, and reductions in vaccine effectiveness against infection by time since being fully vaccinated were observed irrespective of the variant."

Waning protection against infection has also been observed in Moderna's mRNA COVID vaccine and is "consistent" with studies of other coronaviruses.

The researchers analysed electronic health records of 4,920,549 people who were 12 years of age and older and who were members of a health-care organization in southern California. The average age was 45 years. Fifty-two per cent were female and 48 per cent were male. The records were "representative of the socioeconomic and racial and ethnic diversity of the area's population."

Reports of reduced effectiveness against infec-

tion began to surface this summer with the rise of the delta variant, said the researchers. Countries such as Israel, the U.S. and Qatar reported worrying trends in declining vaccine-induced immunity among those who were close to reaching the six-month mark of being fully vaccinated. They included the immunocompromised, health-care workers and older adults.

"The continual emergence of SARS-CoV-2 variants has raised concern that COVID-19 vaccines could have reduced effectiveness against new viral strains; however, BNT162b2 has shown robust amounts of neutralising antibodies against all variants of concern evaluated to date," wrote the researchers. "Moreover, confirmatory, real-world studies have shown high effectiveness of two doses of BNT162b2 against COVID-19, especially severe disease caused by variants of concern [such as] alpha, beta and delta in various settings."

Although the vaccine was found to provide a high level of protection against hospitalization — at least over the course of this six-month study period — the researchers note recent reports of waning protection, notably in older adults.

"The most recent report from August 2021, from Israel ... suggests that some reduction in effectiveness against hospital admissions has been observed among older people [65 years and older] roughly 6 months after receiving the second dose of BNT162b2," they wrote. "Thus, long-term effectiveness data against severe outcomes should be continuously monitored in our study population and globally."

Countries considering administering third doses should assess vaccine supply and disparities existing between wealthy and poor countries, the researchers wrote.

The delta variant is behind the fourth wave of infections in several Canadian provinces.

Manitoba began recording mostly triple-digit infection numbers since the last week of September. The province's COVID dashboard and public health officials say the fourth wave is being driven by people who remain unvaccinated.

On Oct. 8, the dashboard showed 71 active cases in the Interlake-Eastern region as a whole. In communities in the Interlake area, there were seven active cases in the Arborg-Riverton area, four in the Eriksdale-Ashern area, 13 in Fisher River-Peguis, six in Gimli, five in Selkirk, six in Stonewall-Teulon and five in Winnipeg Beach- St. Andrews.

There have also been infections in school-age children (prior to Oct. 5) at Dr. George Johnson Middle School in Gimli and Riverton Early Middle School, according to the province's school-aged infections dashboard.

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# Hope and healing for sexual assault survivors

By Jennifer McFee

A counselling and support program offers hope and healing for sexual assault survivors — and there is currently no waitlist for those seeking help.

Survivor's Hope Crisis Centre serves all genders in the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, partnering with communities to offer hope and healing through support and education. The organization provides sexual assault crisis intervention and support to survivors and secondary victims of sexual assault through its SARAH (Sexual Assault Recovery and Healing) program.

LP Penner is one of two counsellors in the SARAH program, which offers ongoing support following sexualized violence to anyone aged 15 and older.

"The SARAH program also has an amazing group of volunteers who offer support to folks getting medical attention following sexualized violence at a hospital within the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority," Penner said, adding that volunteers provide support in both the ER and in RCMP detachments.

As a non-binary person, Penner knows first-hand the experience of examining one's own gender.

"I've had battles with my own body, mind and spirit, society's expectations of them and learned to claim my own

power, claim the way I present myself and find acceptance where it feels like I won't ever fit," Penner said.

"This means in counselling, I can help you explore your own identity and its relationship with the way we are taught to be in the world," Penner said.

Often — but not always — after sexualized violence, it can be hard to feel safe with men, women and one's own body.

"My own gender journey has allowed me to break so many gender 'rules' and build a safe home. I try to bring those tools to anyone who might find them helpful," Penner said.

"It also has led me to be more focused on empowering whomever I'm working with and being a little more casual — hopefully human feeling — as I've learned rigid paths to healing didn't work for me, opening possibilities for what might work for anyone in counselling."

About two years ago, Penner encountered some folks who identified outside the gender binary.

"I found myself saying 'maybe in another life' or dismissing that I didn't feel aligned with the gender I had been told all my life to fit into. Then it came up more and more. I watched whatever YouTube video I could find, read lots of articles and asked so many questions of a good friend who identi-



PHOTO SUBMITTED  
LP Penner is one of two counsellors in the SARAH program.

fies as non-binary," Penner said.

"I am so grateful for the way the world opened just enough for me to accept my trust and socially transition. Finally, I felt a little more at home. Hearing someone call me 'they' and 'LP' the first while made me feel lighter, seen and like I was no longer failing to fake a gender I could never really be."

This experience as a non-binary person creates ripple effects through Penner's counselling services.

"As I learned that the gender binary did not work for me, I had a lot of big feelings, moments of numbing, want-

Continued on page 13

**SURVIVOR'S HOPE**  
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Interlake Eastern Region of Manitoba

Currently there is no wait list for support through the SARAH (Sexual Assault Recovery and Healing) program.

## A new technology is making partial dentures way better

By Brock Vantor  
DENTURIST

There is something new and very exciting when it comes to partial dentures! I am so excited about it because it is one of those things that is undoubtedly superior to the way we used to do it. They are fitting better than I have ever seen, and of course, patients are having more comfort than they have ever had in the past.

Since the beginning of metal working time, to make things like partials, we had to first make a mould of a certain shape (like a partial denture), then pour liquid metal into the mould and let it cool and harden. This method works great, but there is always a problem...when the metal cools, it shrinks! This means that no matter how perfect we make the mould of your denture, when we pour the

metal in, it will change shape and never have a perfect fit; re-quiring very careful adjustments to the denture. But now, I am very excited to say, we can totally get rid of that process where the metal distorts and partials don't fit as good as they should!

Today, we can design your partial denture on a computer, then use a computer controlled milling machine to actually make the exact shape of your partial out of hardened Titanium metal. This means no more distortion, and wow, the results are truly amazing! My brother, who is also a Denturist out in Medicine Hat, is also doing Titanium partials too and every time we get on the phone, we can't help but talk about how this new technology is just the best thing that has ever happened to partial dentures. We can

finally get the fit that we always wanted, and patients are absolutely loving them for 3 main reasons:

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If you have had problems with your partials before, then there is a good chance that this is the answer. The process of making them is by far superior to the old way. Give us a call today to reserve your free consultation and we would be happy to see how we can help.

Thanks for reading! Brock Vantor, the Denturist.



Recent patient Gary says, "Brock is awesome. My new teeth have a great fit, excellent work and the staff are very professional."

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# Health-care aides stepped up to meet pandemic challenges

By Patricia Barrett

Like all frontline health workers, health-care aides weren't spared from dealing with the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. And their efforts will be recognized on Oct. 18, Manitoba's annual Health-care Aide Day.

This year will mark the eighth year of recognition for all they do. Governments, employers and the public will have an opportunity to thank health-care aides (HCAs) for the vital role they play supporting the health-care system.

In 2014 the Manitoba government created Health-care Aide Day to recognize their contributions to patients and the most vulnerable residents in nursing homes, hospitals and the community.

The official proclamation says health-care aides are "an indispensable component in the safety and quality of personal care for patients, clients and residents." They help people remain independent for as long as possible and protect and support them.

Health-care aides assist patients with simple daily activities that others may take for granted. That includes personal hygiene, getting dressed and eating. HCAs also assist nurses by following specific patient care plans that have been set out and monitoring changes in patients.

Over the course of the pandemic, HCAs stepped up their provision of companionship and comfort after COVID-19 restrictions forbade in-person contact with families and friends.

Vicki Bulas has been a health-care aide since 2010. She works at the Goodwin Lodge Personal Care

Home in Teulon where she has been for her entire career.

COVID lockdown was difficult for the residents and their families, she said, but health-care aides did their best to step into the breach and provide more companionship.

"When the pandemic first hit and we were under lockdown, the residents couldn't see their families. I know that was really hard on them and on their families," said Bulas last week. "I would say the hardest thing was when they were waving to their loved ones from the window. You just cried on the inside because you felt awful."

Goodwin Lodge is a relatively small PCH with about 20 residents. Bulas said that allows the health-care aides working there to really get to know all the residents well.

"We're such a small group that it's like a family



**EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED**  
Michelle Hazelton has been a health-care aide for 28 years.



**PHOTO SUBMITTED**  
Manitoba Healthcare Aide Day is being recognized provincially on Oct. 18.

here at Goodwin," said Bulas. "We all support each

Continued on page 14

## Calling all Bakers and Cooks!

Do you have a family favorite Christmas recipe?

Would you like to be featured in our 2021 Holiday Favorites Recipe Collection?

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Your family recipe could be a part of our special edition recipe feature!

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# Gimli's Mise En Scene nominated for two WCMA awards

## Hosting pub party and quiz

By Patricia Barrett

Not only has Gimli's Mise en Scene snagged two Western Canadian Music Awards' nominations, but the band also had a beer named after its 2020 album, which generated the nominations.

With the alt-grunge-pop-rock-indie band's punchy, energetic sound and soaring vocals in the spotlight, creative duo Stefanie Johnson and Jodi Dunlop decided to host a belated album-release party for Winnipeg, California this Saturday at Gimli's Ship & Plough Tavern.

"It's pretty surreal to have a beer named after our album, *Winnipeg, California*, and we're really excited," said Johnson last week. "It's so nice to honour the album because we had a tough time releasing it. Our first single Angel, with the video shot in L.A., came out in March [2020] and we were supposed to play at the Treefort Music Fest in Boise, Idaho. But everything got cancelled because of COVID. Our whole world just flipped upside down."

Both Johnson (guitar, singer) and Dunlop (drums) write the music. Johnson pens the lyrics, with themes ranging from heartache and disillusion to rebellion and celebration. The band is rounded out in the studio and on the road by musicians Corey Hykawy (bass) from Gimli and Paige Drobot (lead guitar).

The band is nominated for a WCMA Rock Artist of the Year award and a Songwriter(s) of the Year award.

"It's awesome to be nominated for these awards, especially in the songwriter category because that's so important to me. It's nice to be recognized," said Johnson.

The band hooked up with Winnipeg's Torque Brewing, which is sponsoring the Rock Artist of the Year category, after Johnson made a joke on social media about creating a beer called "Winnipeg, California." The brewery said "Yes, let's do it."

"Jodi and I designed the can's label. It combines a California common beer with Manitoba hops," said Johnson. "It will be in liquor stores across Manitoba and in Gimli."

Describing the taste of the new beer in a Mise en Scene media release, Johnson wrote that it "combines the richness of the Hollywood Sign with the bitterness of Garbage Hill."

Garbage Hill in Winnipeg's St. James Industrial Park neighbourhood is a former garbage dump that was turned into a ski, snowboarding and bike hill. It has its own Hollywood-style sign.

The album's title is a nod to the "manicured boulevards of California meet the grungy streets of Winnipeg," said Johnson, with Winnipeg representing "the edge and the attitude" in some of the songs.



MISE EN SCENE FACEBOOK

Mise en Scene duo Jodi Dunlop (left) and Stefanie Johnson

"It almost felt at times that we didn't release anything because we never celebrated it out in public. That's why this one-year anniversary party at the Ship & Plough is so special to us," said Johnson. "We want to see our friends, talk to fans and show them a good time — within the restrictions we now have."

The album-release party will be followed by a music-themed pub quiz hosted by the tavern's quizmaster, Tom, the "tall Australian man who also happens to be my husband," said Johnson.

She said she'll be staying for the quiz, but nope, she has no inside information as to what the questions will be.

"I'm not allowed to be part of that. My husband won't share any information with me. He takes quiz night very, very seriously," said Johnson. "I want to see if I can put my own music knowledge to the test."

With every purchase of a Winnipeg, California Beer, patrons can enter a draw for a prize pack consisting of "beer, music and merchandise" from Mise en Scene, Torque Brewing, the Ship & Plough and Fleece Records, a new label created by Ship & Plough owner Scott Carman.

Johnson said the band is in the studio this month recording new songs. It will also be holding a Winnipeg, California Beer launch at Torque Brewery on Oct. 23 and will be taking part in a music showcase in Toronto in November, pending that province's fourth wave trajectory.

The WCMA awards be presented Oct. 15 at the West End Cultural Centre in Winnipeg.

Mise en Scene will be at the Ship & Plough on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 4 to 7 p.m. People can stop by to chat with the band, try a Winnipeg, California Beer, enter the prize draw and check out the merchandise. The pub quiz starts at 7; people have to book a spot in advance. Call the pub at 204-642-5276. COVID protocols will be observed.

## > SURVIVORS, FROM PG. 11

ing to push it all down and learned more and more coping mechanisms while having compassionate, empowering and open supports," Penner said.

"I also realized that living my truth gave a surprising permission for others to do the same, not just related to gender but whatever they thought they had to keep faking. This permission for authenticity influences my life, relationships and so much so my work as a counsellor."

Penner notes that this permission also relates to going at someone's own pace and healing in a way that is authentic to them.

In addition to offering the SARAH program, Survivor's Hope also acts as an educational resource for schools through its SADI (Sexual Assault Discussion Initiative) program. As well, it engages community and service providers through projects under its Reaching Out Program.

More information about Survivor's Hope is available on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, as well as at <https://survivors-hope.ca>. Anyone interested in counselling can call the office at 204-753-5353 or email LP Penner at [LP@survivors-hope.ca](mailto:LP@survivors-hope.ca) or Candice at [candice@survivors-hope.ca](mailto:candice@survivors-hope.ca)

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# Historical park becomes more accessible

By Nicole Brownlee

Changes to the Riverton Centennial Park improve accessibility and understanding of the community's history.

The ongoing project to revitalize the park started three years ago when the Riverton chapter of the Elks of Canada, a national volunteer organization, chose to celebrate its 50th anniversary by helping the community.

"The Riverton Elks wanted a special project to celebrate their 50th anniversary," said Douglas Anderson, secretary for the Riverton chapter and chair of the Riverton Centennial Park Revitalization Committee.

The Riverton Elks wanted to repair the park's monuments, educate visitors about the community's heritage and improve access throughout the park.

"We wanted to make the whole site wheelchair accessible," said Anderson.

Several smaller goals are to improve parking, construct a seasonal public washroom and storage facility for games.

Since 2019, volunteers have resituated the monuments, re clad the wooden stage, constructed a guiding sidewalk and prepared interpretive signage among several maintenance projects.

"We've had a lot of positive comments, especially since the sidewalks are easier for people to walk on," said Anderson. "Elderly people can use walkers and

canes without sinking into the grass or tripping."

Anderson said there were also more tourists visiting the community this summer because of COVID-19.

"They were quite positive, not only about the sidewalks but the interpretive information because before there was just a monument, and no one knew exactly what it stood for," said Anderson.

The park, established in 1967, tells the story of one of the first groups of Icelandic settlers in the Canadian West who founded Gimli, Sandy Bar and Lundi, now known as Riverton. The signs, arranged in a circle, also highlight notable community members and institutions at a wheelchair-accessible height.

"I invite people to visit and learn more about the park," said Anderson.

The project is funded by several grants like the province's Building Sustainable Communities program, Heritage Grant and the Interlake Tourism Association's Tourism Development Fund.

The municipality of Bifrost-Riverton and community organizations like the Westshore Community Foundation, Community Futures East Interlake and the Riverton Co-Op also contributed to the project, and the Riverton Elks hosted a number of fundraisers.

"They've done a superb job," said Colin Bjarnason,

**"BEFORE THERE WAS JUST A MONUMENT, AND NO ONE KNEW EXACTLY WHAT IT STOOD FOR."**



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY DOUG ANDERSON.

One focus of the revitalization project was to re clad the outdoor stage at the Riverton Centennial Park and coat the wooden stage in urethane donated from the Riverton Co-Op.

Bifrost-Riverton councillor.

"It's a project that will never end because we've got history every day."

To donate to the park's revitalization, contact the municipality of Bifrost-Riverton by phone at 204-376-2391 or by email at [bifrost@mymts.net](mailto:bifrost@mymts.net).

## > HEALTH-CARE, FROM PG. 12

other, whether that's staff supporting other staff members or supporting residents."

Bulas's mom lived at Goodwin for eight years and she said she felt fortunate she was able to take care of her.

"I treat everyone like they're my mom or dad — and they should be treated that way. You have to respect the people in your care because I know what it's like to have a parent in a personal care home," she said.

Having been in the profession long enough to know whether she found the right fit, Bulas said she has no doubts; her decision to become a health-care aide was the "best decision" she ever made.

"I wouldn't change my job for the world," said Bulas. "It's very rewarding to me to help people."

Michelle Hazelton said being a health-care aide is her calling. She has been "in the business for a while," logging 28 years. She started her career at Goodwin Lodge and in acute care in Teulon, and has been at the Fisher Branch Personal Care Home for about two years now.

"When I come to work, I'm the caregiver from start to finish. If I can make a difference in someone's life — if they're on their way home from surgery or have had a heart attack or are at the end stage of life and I'm helping them do little tasks they can't do anymore — then I feel I've done my due diligence."

It's a job that requires a lot compassion for people because some days HCAs will hear things from residents they won't want to hear.

"You have to realize it's just not the person they used to be in the community," said Hazelton.

HCAs also need to have plenty of patience to deal with people in care homes and with those who are close to death. Residents have "lost" all they had, such as the home they worked hard for all their lives and most of their possessions. Having one room to live in is a difficult transition.

"It's all about dignity, too. Residents are not here because they want to be here. They're here because they're at the stage where they're unable to be on their own anymore. They can't do things like feed themselves, they can't go to the washroom by themselves, they can't get their shirt on, they can't put on socks anymore — and these small things are big for them," said Hazelton. "Some people are kind of proud and don't want us doing that for them, but they have no choice now. You want to make them feel at home because this is their home. This is their last home."

When COVID hit in 2020 and there were no vaccines yet, Hazelton said she didn't circulate in the community — other than grocery shopping and the like — to try to prevent accidentally contracting the virus.

"I didn't go out and about before I got vaccinated because I didn't want to bring anything in to them. I was pretty diligent about doing that and making sure I was protecting them," she said. "Residents are more vulnerable and very frail. Anything you get could be fatal when you're in a nursing home."

It was heart-wrenching, she said, in pandemic

lockdown when patients' loved ones and friends were prohibited from in-person visits. It was hard not only for patients but also for their loved ones.

"A lot of people used to come every two or three days to see them and touch base. And then they couldn't," she said. "There was a point where they could talk through the window, but you could see the expression on their faces that they were pretty upset about it and not being able to physically touch them or have a conversation with them."

To try to make up for that lack of contact, Hazelton said the HCAs stepped up their interaction with residents.

"We did pay more attention to them even though we normally interact with them during the day. At lunch, for example, I'll sit with them and have a conversation. During the lockdown, we had to repeat to them that this isn't anybody's fault: this is worldwide and we have to protect you. Some residents understood and some kind of understood for a moment but would start asking questions again — 'How come I can't see so and so?' and 'Where are they?'"

Hazelton said she wants residents to feel that they're being treated with dignity and respect. And she knows families can be very stressed, too, when they come to a nursing home.

She said recognition for being a health-care aide is nice, but the best reward for her is satisfaction in her job.

"My biggest reward is to help somebody through their day and make their life a little easier as they head towards the end stage of their lives," she said.

# Komarno Hall's overflowing waste bin raising concern

By Patricia Barrett

A Municipality of Armstrong resident says he's disgusted by an overflowing garbage bin and trash bags left piled on the ground at the Komarno Hall, which is serving as a waste disposal site for residents in the neighbouring Municipality of Rockwood.

Ron Spakowski said Rockwood put a recycling bin and a waste bin in the parking lot at the hall that's used for social gatherings and meetings. The hall is across the street from the large mosquito monument, which attracts visitors to Komarno and area.

Provincial Road 229, which heads east-west, divides the RM of Armstrong from the RM of Rockwood. The Komarno Hall lies on the southern border of the highway, in Rockwood.

"People on the Armstrong side drive all the way to Inwood or to Meleb to dispose of their garbage. On the other side of the road, [the RM of Rockwood] threw a bin in the hall's parking lot. It's now a garbage dump," said Spakowski last week. "I took the pictures because it was out of this world already. There's no room in the bin and people are throwing garbage on the ground. There's garbage blowing everywhere."

Spakowski said the bin is being used by more than residents on the Rockwood side of the highway.

"People from everywhere are dumping garbage here. I see people who don't live in the municipality throwing their garbage there," said Spakowski.

The garbage piles are attracting wildlife to the hall, making it potentially unsafe for people to use the site.

"Skunks are ripping bags apart and the garbage is blowing around. Why have people dump their garbage right in town? The skunks around here are bad enough, never mind throwing

garbage on the ground for them," said Spakowski. "There's got to be a better way."

He said garbage is blowing onto nearby residents' property and they're having to pick it up and dispose of it.

The RM of Rockwood covers a large swath of territory and has a number of urban centres, including Komarno, Balmoral, Argyle, Gunton and Grosse Isle.

The municipality closed its Komarno Waste Disposal Grounds on Road 101N in January of this year, according to a notice on its website. It doesn't say why.

The RM's chief administrative officer Chris Luellman said no one called the municipality to let it know there was a problem with the garbage piling up at Komarno Hall.

"The RM was unaware of the overflow problem, as presented to you, and at the time of writing this reply [Oct. 7] we have not been contacted about the issue," said Luellman by email. "Should the RM have been contacted, the garbage would have been cleaned up upon notification."

Luellman said the garbage bin at the hall is temporary. The RM thought it important to provide Komarno residents with a "suitable solution" for waste disposal after the landfill was closed. The RM sought a centralized location for the bin and that's why the hall was chosen.

Council is currently working on a plan to implement curbside garbage pick-up in town.

"The RM is currently arranging to have curbside pick-up within the community of Komarno; however, it is in the early stages of arrangements and will require a public hearing, which cannot be arranged at the current time due to COVID-19 requirements," said Luellman. "When it is safe to do so, the RM will hold such



The piles of trash are attracting wildlife to the hall. Animals rip open the bags and strew garbage around the area. The hall is close to residential dwellings.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY RON SPAKOWSKI

A view of a blue recycling bin and a trash bin with a double lid. Bags of garbage and boxes were piled up around the bin.

a hearing. It is hopeful that the residents of Komarno will agree to curbside pick-up and the service can then

be started."

This bin is currently being emptied twice a week, he added.

## Parkland Regional Library members asked for feedback

By Nicole Brownlee

Parkland Regional Libraries are looking for feedback from communities about how their services can be improved.

The library chain released a survey in early September to gauge library-goers interests, service needs and priorities.

"The survey is really going to help us understand our communities and the future of libraries," said Alison Moss, Parkland Regional Libraries director.

The survey, which is accessible online through the PRL website or in-

person at all 23 branch locations, is the first step to creating a strategic plan with the help of Community Futures Parkland.

"(We're trying) to get at what do people want in our communities. What's working well, what doesn't, do people know about all of our services?" said Moss.

"We're going to hear different things in different communities."

Parkland Libraries launched several virtual services during the COVID-19 pandemic for their members to access, like improving the variety of au-

diobooks, electronic books and magazines, offering a streaming service for members to watch movies, documentaries and TV shows, and launching a virtual platform for creative classes.

"Because of COVID-19, we've had to adapt to closures and think about how we connect with our patrons," said Moss.

"If you have a cell phone, internet connection or a tablet, our library is really available to you 24 hours a day."

Since launching the survey, PRL has seen a good response from the virtual polls, but Moss is concerned they're

not reaching a wider audience.

"We're reaching people that we're already connected with," said Moss.

Branch librarians are encouraged to display the paper copies of the survey at the library and also find a popular communal space in the community to attract a variety of library members.

PRL will collect the surveys at the end of October to analyze responses.

To access the survey, visit [parklandlib.mb.ca](http://parklandlib.mb.ca) or your local Parkland Regional Library branch location.

# Oak Point community celebrates grand opening of hall



Cake, coffee and tea were enjoyed.

By Lorna Johnson

The grand opening of the Oak Point Community Hall was held on Saturday, Oct. 2 at 2 p.m., almost two years to the day the old community hall burned to the ground.

Approximately 90 people were in attendance for the official opening and ribbon-cutting event. Following speeches from St. Laurent Reeve Cheryl Smith, MLA Derek Johnson and community club member Tom Johnson, coffee, tea and cake were enjoyed by all.



St. Laurent Reeve Cheryl Smith, left, and Gimli Interlake MLA Derek Johnson, right, held the ribbon for the formal cutting by Oak Point's oldest community member Grace Appleyard, who recently retired as a club member after 40 years at the age of 90.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Oak Point's community hall burned to the ground in 2019.

## sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

# Curling Roundup

By Ty Dilello

The Pat Simmons rink from Winnipeg Beach featuring the Lott brothers (Colton and Tanner), Kyle Doering and Emerson Kimpke had a surprising run to the semi-finals of the IG Wealth Management Western Showdown in Swift Current, Saskatchewan. A major bonspiel on the World Curling Tour, Team Simmons collected \$6,000 of the total \$50,000 purse that the event possessed.

During the event, Team Simmons dispatched the reigning Tim Hortons Brier champion Brendan Bottcher rink in a B-side semi-final. They went on to qualify to the playoffs through the B-side and then beat Tyler Tardi in the quarterfinals before falling in a heartbreaking semi-final to Kevin Koe on last rock.

Kevin Koe went on to win the final over Brad Jacobs to take home \$14,000 on the weekend.

"It was a terrific weekend for us," said Team Simmons second Kyle Do-

ering. "We all played great and found a way to stack up against some of the top teams in Canada. We even beat a couple which is a bonus."

Last weekend's bonspiel was preparation for Team Simmons as they get ready for their next event, the 2021 Home Hardware Olympic Pre-Trials in Liverpool, Nova Scotia, from Oct 26-31.

"We really needed to have a strong event here to give us some confidence going into the Pre-Trials," said Doering. "We're really looking at peaking at that event and giving ourselves a chance to do well and earn a spot to the main Olympic Trials in November. With the way we played this weekend, we can beat any team at the Pre-Trials, and that's a real confidence booster going forward."

In other curling news, the Manitoba Provincial Mixed Curling Championships were held over the weekend at the Granite Curling Club in Winnipeg. It was a six-team event that



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY CURLMANITOBA

Team Forrest (D'Arcy Forrest, Tyler Forrest, Brandi Forrest, Alex Forrest) won the Provincial Mixed Curling Championship over the weekend at the Granite Curling Club in Winnipeg.

featured teams from as far away as Thompson.

In the end, it was an all-Winnipeg affair as Alex Forrest defeated Sean Grassie 9-3 in the final.

Team Forrest, which features Marquette's Brandi Forrest (nee Oliver) at third, went 4-1 in the round-robin and advanced to the final by defeating Corey Chambers 8-4 in the semi-final.

Arborg's Wes Jonasson also com-

peted in the event and went 2-3 in the round-robin, which had them on the outside looking in when the playoffs rolled around.

D'Arcy Forrest, Tyler Forrest, Brandi Forrest, and Alex Forrest have now earned the right to represent Manitoba at the 2021 Canadian Mixed Curling Championship in Canmore, AB, from Nov 7-14.

# sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

## Gimli wins Zone 5 varsity boys' cross-country banner

### Staff

The Gimli High School Lakers won the Zone 5 varsity boys' cross-country banner last Wednesday in Stonewall.

Zack Meadows led the Lakers with a first-place finish after a time of 21:14. His teammates included Noah Carlson (third, 21:56), Jordan Selkirk (fifth, 23:06), Nathan Vigfusson (sixth, 23:19) and Mitchell Baker (14th, 26:25).

Morweena Christian placed second in the race. Their team was led by Herman Wall's second-place finish with a time of 21:55. He was followed by teammates Damian Reimer (13th, 26:24), Brendan Kornelsen (15th, 29:10), Johnny Von Gunton (16th, 29:20) and Steven Penner (17th, 29:43).

Arborg Collegiate's team of Brooke Barylski (11th, 14:11), Bailey Orban-ski (12th, 14:22), Susan Marks (14th, 14:33), Sydney Burak (18th, 15:35) and Gemma Orban-ski (20th, 16:30) were third in the JV girls' race.

Arborg runners Calvin Buelhmann (seventh, 18:36), Ty Plett (13th, 20:30), Willian Caldeira (14th, 20:38), Thomas Platt (22nd, 23:57) and Steven Blahey (23rd, 23:47) were fourth in the junior varsity boys' division.

Other top 10 individual finishes included Gimli's Alexis Graban placing third in the varsity girls' race with a time of 22:03. The Lakers' Ava Lebel was sixth in the same race after a run of 23:11.



The Gimli Lakers' Zach Meadows celebrates after finishing first in the Zone 5 varsity boys' cross-country race last Wednesday in Stonewall.

Riverton Collegiate's Sheldon Courchene, meanwhile, finished seventh in the varsity boys' race with a time of 23:25.



Gimli's varsity boys Zone 5 cross-country champions, left to right: Jordan Selkirk, Tanner Kasupski, Aleksandr Pischke, Zack Meadows, Noah Carlson, Nathan Vigfusson and Mitchell Baker.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Varsity girls cross-country winners, left to right; Teulon's Maisey Williams (second), Gimli's Alexis Graban (third) and Stonewall's Gillian Gesell (first).



Varsity boys cross-country winners pictured, left to right: Gimli's Noah Carlson (third) and Zach Meadows (first) and Morweena's Herman Wall (second).

# Lightning compete at U15 AAA Male Showcase

## Staff

The Interlake Lightning participated at Hockey Manitoba's U15 AAA Male Showcase at the Bell MTS Iceplex last weekend.

The Lightning started the showcase with a 4-2 loss to the Winnipeg Thrashers on Friday.

Ryan Kirk and Noah Oughton scored for Interlake while Lian Hanzmann (two), Deacon Kemp and Lucas Thomas replied for the Thrashers.

Nathan Meisner took the loss in goal.

On Saturday, Interlake was defeated 6-1 by the Winnipeg Wild Green.

Cole Swanson scored a second-period power-play goal for the Lightning.

After a scoreless opening period, Winnipeg scored five goals in the middle frame.

Fenton Mann, Cole Warsaba, Quinn Parker, Alexander Parker, Lucas Spencer and Julian Fedora scored for the Wild Green.

Braedan Cormack made 37 saves in the losing cause.

Interlake was scheduled to play the Winnipeg Wild Red on Sunday but no scoring summary was on the league website at press time.

Interlake will host the Winnipeg Wild Gold on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Stonewall.

Meanwhile, the Lightning U18 women's hockey team was shut out 3-0 by the Winnipeg Avros on Saturday at the Seven Oaks Arena.

Winnipeg, which scored twice in the second and then added another in the third, received three goals from Courtenay Bayes.

Lightning goaltender Katelyn Dorsch was very good, making 58 saves.

Interlake will play the Eastman Selects on Saturday (8 p.m.) in Niverville and then will host the Yellowhead Chiefs Sunday (2:30 p.m.) in Stonewall.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY MATTHIEU MEIER

Goaltender Nathan Meisner and the Interlake Lightning competed at Hockey Manitoba's U15 AAA Male Showcase.

## Hawks edge U18 Lightning twice last weekend

### By Brian Bowman

The Pembina Valley Hawks had the Interlake Lightning's number last weekend.

Pembina Valley skated to a pair of 3-1 road victories in Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action.

"On Saturday we very easily could have won that game," said Lightning head coach Scott Wong. "We threw about 50 shots at their goalie and he played well. If you look at our standings, we're a pretty young team this year. I have only six 2004s and the rest are 2005s. I didn't take any '06s this year,"

In Saturday's loss, Interlake took a 1-0 first-period lead on a goal by Aus-

tin Lourenco.

But Pembina Valley's Keston Worley and Liam Goertzen tallied in the second before Cameron Parr added an insurance marker at 18:57 of the third.

Zach Meadows stopped 30 Hawks' shots.

On Friday, Logan Fillion and Cohen Thomas scored first-period power-play goals for Pembina Valley.

Interlake's Hayden Wheddon cut that lead in half at 6:22 of the second period but Pembina Valley's Carter Sotheran tallied just over three minutes later.

Ty Hogue made 33 saves in the losing cause.

Interlake, once again, played well in

the loss.

"We're in every game and we're giving ourselves an opportunity and that's all that you can ask for at this point," Wong said. "We just have to start finding a way to put pucks in the net. It's not a lack of opportunities. If we weren't getting the chances I might be a little concerned. The opportunities are there, we just have to juggle some things around and make a few tweaks."

The Lightning (1-5) will hit the road this weekend to play the Southwest Cougars on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday (1:30 p.m.) in Souris.

Meanwhile, in U17 action, the Lightning lost 4-2 to the Wheat Kings on

Saturday in Brandon.

Interlake's goals were scored by Luke Sekundiak and Adam Vigfusson.

Declan Hoad (two), Will Wiseman and Liam Puchailo replied for Brandon.

Last Wednesday, Interlake was defeated 5-2 by the Winnipeg Thrashers in Stonewall.

Ian Buors and Kalder McPherson scored for the Lightning.

The Thrashers' goals were scored by Ian Lavallee (two), Nathan Leclerc, Cody Allen and Bryn Schioler.

Lightning goaltender Alex Myers made 49 saves.

Interlake will host the Thrashers this Friday (7:30 p.m.) in Warren.

## Ice Dawgs improve to 2-0

### By Brian Bowman

The Arborg Ice Dawgs are off to a great start this season.

Arborg improved to 2-0 after a 7-2 home victory over the Lundar Falcons in Capital Region Junior Hockey League action last Friday.

Trailing 2-1 after 20 minutes, Arborg scored four second-period goals and then added two more in

the third.

Jack Einarson led Arborg with a goal and an assist while Ben Danielson, Josh Belcher, Preston Seymour, Tyson Baryliski, Harris Dankochik and Kalen Guimond also tallied.

The Ice Dawgs' Jordan Einarson had two assists.

Lundar's Cody Procter had a goal and an assist while Jayden Allary

also scored.

Arborg outshot Lundar 64-25 as Brandon Kowalchuk earned the victory. Jonathan Campeau played very well in the losing cause.

The Ice Dawgs will host the North Winnipeg Satellites this Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Arborg.

Lundar also played Saturday, losing 2-1 to North Winnipeg.

Ethan Reid scored the game winner in the third period.

The Satellites' Nikolas Bear and the Falcons' Riley Wirgau traded second-period goals.

Lundar outshot North Winnipeg 35-16 as Campeau took the loss.

The Falcons will play the Fishermen this Sunday at 3 p.m. in Selkirk.

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Riverdale Place Homes Inc.

Wed., Oct. 20 at 5:30 p.m.

at the Riverdale Place Homes Office

332 Ingolf St., Arborg  
We have a limited capacity for guests due to COVID-19.

If you wish to attend, please call in advance to Kathy Finnson, Exec. Director 204-376-2940, Ext. 1



## TENDER SNOW REMOVAL

Evergreen School Division is inviting contractors with heavy duty snow clearing equipment to submit bids for clearing snow at the locations mentioned below. Areas to be cleared include parking lots, sidewalks, main entrances, and other various locations.

The term is for 2 years ending the spring of 2023.

All equipment must be listed in the bid and if successful, proof of \$2 million liability insurance will be required.

Sealed tenders marked SNOW REMOVAL will be received by the undersigned up to 3:30 pm. on Friday October 15th 2021 for clearing snow at the following locations:

Arborg Collegiate  
Arborg Early Middle School  
Arborg Bus Garage

Riverton Collegiate  
Riverton Early Middle School

Winnipeg Beach School  
Tec Centre and Bus Garage (Gimli Industrial Park) Gimli High School  
Dr. George Johnson School (Gimli)  
Sigurbjorg Stefansson Early Middle (Gimli)  
Education Support Centre (Gimli)

For additional information and to arrange for site visits, please contact:

Gibby Finnbogason  
Buildings Supervisor  
Evergreen School Division  
Ph. 642-3661

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Send tenders marked with location indicated on envelope to:  
Evergreen School Division  
Box 1200  
Gimli, MB R0C 1B0  
Tel: (204) 642-3661  
or email to [gibby.finnbogason@esd.ca](mailto:gibby.finnbogason@esd.ca)



## RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF GIMLI BOARD OF REVISION 2022 & ADJUSTED ASSESSMENTS 2021

### 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:

- 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 RM of Gimli in the RM of Gimli, Manitoba, or
  - serving it upon the Secretary, at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting of the Board of Revision.
- provide a daytime contact telephone number

The Board of Revision will sit on **November 18th, 2021**, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office of the Rural Municipality of Gimli, 62 2nd Avenue, Gimli, Manitoba.

**ADJUSTED PROPERTY TAXES** must be appealed **within 30 days** after mailing.

The final date on which all other applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is **Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021 no later than 4:30PM.**

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Dated at RM of Gimli Office, in Manitoba, this 27th of July, 2021.

Cindy Makowsky  
Board of Revision  
Rural Municipality of Gimli  
Box 1246  
Gimli, MB R0C 1B0  
Telephone (204) 642-6666  
Fax (204) 642-6660

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## RM of West Interlake PUBLIC NOTICE BOARD OF REVISION

Public notice is hereby given that the 2022 assessment roll for the Rural Municipality of West Interlake has been delivered to the Municipal Offices at Eriksdale and Ashern, Manitoba and are open for public inspection during regular business hours. 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, 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 subsection 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 offices of the Rural Municipality of West Interlake, 10 Main Street, Eriksdale or 38 Main Street, Ashern, Manitoba, or
- serving it upon the secretary,

at least 15 days before the scheduled sitting date of the board as indicated in the public notice.

Application forms are available at the municipal offices or on our website [www.rmofwestinterlake.com](http://www.rmofwestinterlake.com)

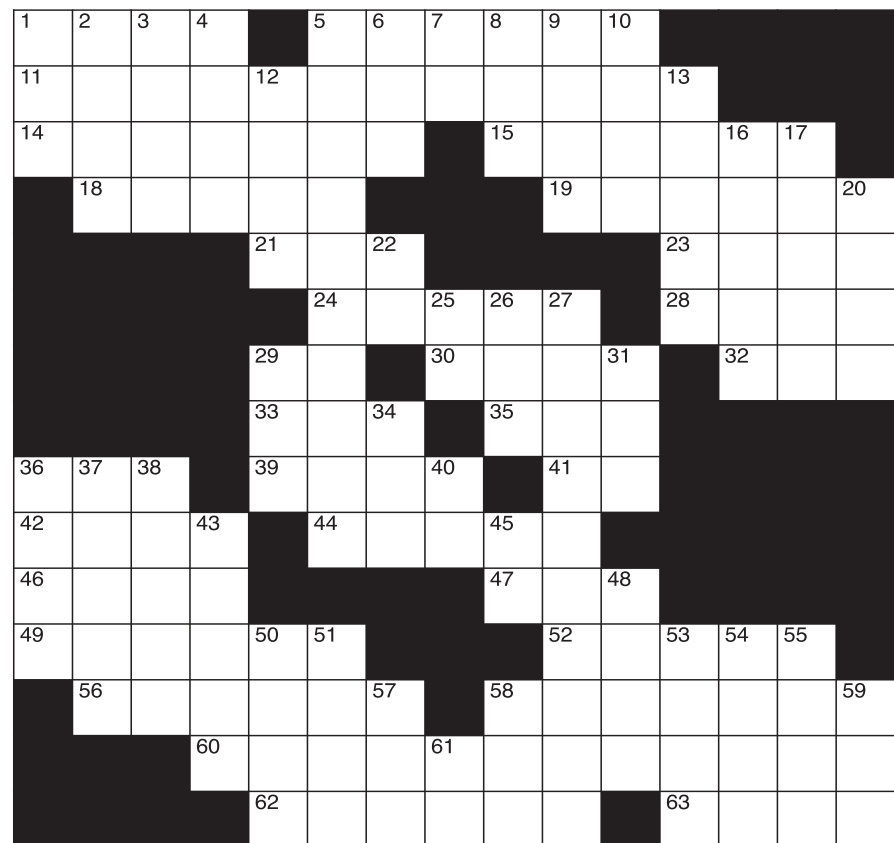
The Board of Revision will sit on November 2, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. in the Ashern Council Chambers of the Rural Municipality of West Interlake. Depending on the public health advisory at the time of the Board of Revision alternative site/methods may be utilized. If you file an appeal, you will be advised of the location of the board.

The final date on which applications must be received by the Secretary of the Board is October 18, 2021 by 4:00pm.

Dated this 16 day of September, 2021.

**Courtney Roehl— Secretary**  
**Board of Revision**  
**Rural Municipality of West Interlake**

# CROSSWORD



## CLUES ACROSS

- Flat-topped hill
- Move upward
- Admiration
- It's useful for serving food
- Kidnap
- One of the Greek Muses
- A type of media
- Sunscreen rating
- Former Michigan coach Brady
- German town devastated in WW2
- Gasteyer and Ortiz are two
- Leave
- Forearm bone
- Very fast airplane
- Helps little firms
- Defunct economic organization
- Science-based students organization (abbr.)
- Feels ill
- Indicates position
- Beverage containers
- Assists
- Science accreditation organization (abbr.)
- Purpose
- Group of elected officials
- Hebrew prophet
- They help you drink
- Lawmaker
- Charitable
- Doctrines
- Footwear

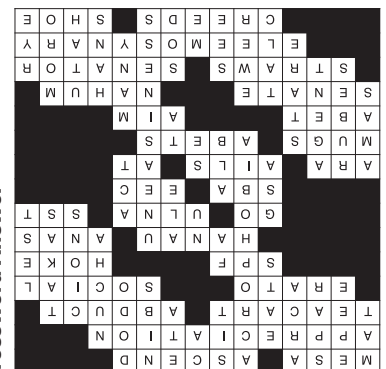
## CLUES DOWN

- Where wrestlers work
- Dueling sword
- Practice fight
- Genus of clams
- Fear of heights
- What some tell their dog
- The Golden State
- When you expect to get there
- Pointed ends

## 10. Extinct flightless bird

- Feeds
- Nape of neck
- Descendant
- Small boats found in Turkey
- To avoid the risk of
- Athlete with no contract (abbr.)
- 13th letter of the Greek alphabet
- Brew
- Feeling of anxiety
- Young girls group
- Perform on stage
- White clerical vestment
- Popular musical awards show
- Bumpkins
- One who acts on another's behalf
- Direction
- Look at with fixed eyes
- One who helps professors (abbr.)
- A large number of
- Type of powder
- Large jug
- \_\_\_ Christian Anderson, children's author
- American state
- Muslim inhabitant of the Philippines
- Witness
- Landscapers lay it
- Type of bread
- Of I

Crossword Answer



**The Express Weekly News Classified booking deadline is Monday at 4 p.m. prior to Thursday's publication Please Call 204-467-5836**

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## CARD OF THANKS

Though we are saddened by the passing of our dear husband, dad, grandpa, great-grandpa Gomer Plantz, we were so blessed by the kindness of so many people. We are so grateful to John and Karen and Glen of Arnason Funeral Home for the many ways they helped our family through this difficult time. Special thanks also go to Fisher Branch Care Home and the Lakeshore General Hospital for taking such good care of Gomer. We were also so blessed by all who came to the memorial service and for the beautiful flowers, visits, cards, food and donations.

Thank you to everyone who was a friend to Gomer.

-Love to all  
from the Plantz family:  
Dorothy, John and Irene,  
David and Judy, Cheryl and Jason

## BIRTHDAY



**Celebrating 95 Years!**  
**Doreen Briggs**  
**On October 17!**

Happy Birthday Mom, Grandma and Great Grandma! You have reached a great milestone in life. May all your days be filled with memories, family, friends, flowers and happy hours.

-Love Debbie, Lenore,  
Sherri, Patti, Maureen and families  
including 11 grandchildren  
and 13 great grandchildren

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**Ukrainian Farmers**



**NOTICE OF TENDER**  
**REMOVAL OF BUILDINGS**  
**FISHER BRANCH, MANITOBA**



The Ukrainian Farmer's Co-op is currently accepting sealed tenders on three buildings located at 26 Tache St. in Fisher Branch.

**Building #1 - House 27'x44' and Garage 27'x14'**

**Building #2 - Detached garage 16'x24' Building #3 - Shed 16'x12'**

The tender must include removal of building and concrete foundation. The property must be backfilled. All buildings and moving costs are the responsibility of the purchaser. Please be sure to include which building or buildings you are tendering for. Submit sealed envelope to: "Removal of Buildings" PO Box 160, Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0. Drop off at Ukrainian Farmers Co-op 22 Tache St., Fisher Branch.

Deadline for tenders is noon on Oct. 28. Highest or not any tender necessarily accepted. To schedule a viewing of any of the buildings please contact Kyle Yaciuk at 204-372-6202.

## Public Notice

**Proposed BCN Radio Telecommunication Tower Facility**



### PROPOSAL:

Broadband Communications North Inc. (BCN) is proposing to construct a 55 metre guyed tower with radio equipment, installing a cabinet at the base of the tower with a perimeter fence (approximately 10ft x 10ft) restricting public access. As part of the public consultation process as required by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), BCN is inviting the public to comment on the proposed tower location before date in compliance with ISED's public notification policy. This tower is fully compliant with ISED's guidelines, as found under the CPC.

**TOWER LOCATION:** The proposed tower is located just off Provincial Road 513 approximately 3.5km East of Gypsumville, and 4.5km West of Lake St. Martin First Nation (SW 30-32-8W).

**COORDINATES:** 51.769884, -98.582599

**ANY PERSON MAY** comment by close of business day on November 14th, 2021 with respect to this matter.

**MAP:** attached for discussion purposes

### BCN CONTACT:

Dustin Neckoway  
Unit 26 – 30 Fort St.  
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1C3  
Email: [notices@gobcn.ca](mailto:notices@gobcn.ca)



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## OBITUARY



**Marjan "Moonie" Litynski**  
October 2, 1927 – October 2, 2021  
It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we say good-bye to my beloved father Marjan. Dad passed away on transfer from Brandon Hospital to Gimli Hospital in the ambulance.

Marjan was born on October 2, 1927 in Poland to parents Rosaha and Sebastian Litynski.

Marjan was predeceased by his loving wife Betty Isabell Copple in 1985, brothers Adam and Bob. Left to cherish his memory is his son Frank

Litynski of Winnipeg Beach. Marjan will surely be missed by his sister-in-law Marian Litynski. Shelley and Daron Litynski; children Abigale, Sara and Sam. Sherry and Wayne Brown and his dog Scooter who was born on the same day, October 2, 2013 as Marjan.

Marjan grew up in Winnipeg. He worked for CNR Rail Prairie Region for 48 years from 1944-1992 in Purchases and Materials, then he retired in 1992.

He loved going on long rides with his son Frank, sometimes the rides were too long and he could not wait to get home. He loved gardening and enjoyed the simple things; spending time with family or friends and loved sitting on deck with Frank and his dog Scooter. Marjan also enjoyed watching TV, his favorite teams were the St. Louis Cardinals and the Montreal Canadians, as well as CFL and NFL football and mostly WWF Wrestling.

Marjan liked talking on the phone with his friends Pat Watkins, Ralph and Susan, Jean and Fred.

Marjan's family wishes to thank all the doctors who looked after him all these years to get him this far in life.

Thank you to all the doctors and nurses in Brandon Regional Health Centre (ICU) for his excellent care as well the Gimli Hospital doctors and nurses for his excellent care over the last 20 years. Thank you to his wonderful neighbours over the last 33 years while living in Winnipeg Beach. His son would also like to thank Stars Helicopter for his safe transfer to Brandon Hospital, the ambulance drivers for his final journey back to Gimli and to Dr. Adeniyi Adegbesan and Trudy for his care over the last year.

We will forever cherish the wonderful times we all had with Marjan. You will be with your loving wife Betty soon. Love you Dad. Thank you for everything you did for me in life. Till we meet again, love Frank.

In keeping with his wishes, cremation has taken place and a private gathering of friends and family will be held at a later date.



204-949-2200  
Gimli 204-642-7124  
[neilbardalinc.com](http://neilbardalinc.com)

## OBITUARY



**Pierre Arthur Brandelius**  
August 4, 1931 – October 3, 2021

Pierre Arthur Brandelius was born and raised in San Francisco, California. He led a varied career there as a life guard and swim instructor, a mechanic, and a bartender as well as working for the gas company and then for the Parks and Recreation Department of the city of San Francisco. After his retirement there, he moved to Canada and settled in our lovely Winnipeg Beach. Here Pierre worked for the town of Winnipeg Beach for a number of years and also developed his own lawn care business. After his second retirement, Pierre became very involved in Gimli's Aspire Theatre as well as our local sacred circle dance group. It was at circle dance where he met his loving wife, Rachel.

Pierre is survived by his wife Rachel Brandelius; his daughter Stephanie Brandelius; his son Peter Brandelius and grandchildren

Jarrold, Wendy, Jess and Dean; as well as step-children Rob Anderson (Amber), Amy Wall and Maureen Anderson (Kyle); along with grandchildren Estelle (Aman), Devin, Rebecca, Jocelyn and Lauren.

Cremation has taken place and in accordance with his wishes, there will be no service.

Thank you to the wonderfully kind and caring staff at the Seven Oaks Kidney Clinic. A great big shout out of gratitude and love to all the staff at Gimli Hospital for their kind, compassionate care for Pierre during his final days there.

Condolences may be left on his tribute wall at [www.gilbartfuneralhome.com](http://www.gilbartfuneralhome.com)

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



## OBITUARY



**Dorothy Arklie**

March 3, 1935 - October 6, 2021

Suddenly, on October 6, 2021, at the age of 86, Dorothy Arklie, nee Jones, passed away at her home in Sandy Hook, Manitoba.

Dorothy is survived by her loving husband of more than 67 years, Ron Arklie; daughter Sharron Mahon (Ian); son Chris (Sharlene); and grandchildren Rob and Megan Mahon and Brett Arklie. She is predeceased by her parents, Francis and Dorothy Jones, older brothers Dave and Frank, and older sister Florrie.

Dorothy was born in Winnipeg and attended school in St. James, where she excelled both scholastically and as an athlete. She and Ron began dating in high school and have been inseparable ever since. They married in 1954 and Dorothy worked at Great-West Life until Sharron was born in 1961, with Chris completing the family in 1963. As a young homemaker Dorothy sewed for herself and her children, knitted, cooked, baked, and hosted large, boisterous family gatherings. To this day Christmas isn't complete without her mince tarts.

Once Sharron and Chris were both in school, with the house a little too quiet, Dorothy went back to work at Great-West Life as a keypunch operator. Offered the opportunity to learn computer programming in-house, she soon became a valued member of the GWL programming department, specializing in solving knotty problems quickly and elegantly.

On retirement Dorothy and Ron took the leap from summer cottagers to year-round homeowners at Sandy Hook. They enjoyed many rounds of golf both at "the Hook" and in New Braunfels, Texas, when they became snowbirds. Other travels included trips to Portugal and Great Britain, a Caribbean cruise, and one memorable vacation in Orlando with Sharron and her family.

Dorothy was a voracious reader with wide-ranging tastes, from history to science fiction, archaeology to romance. She created many lovely petit-point and needlepoint pictures, in addition to keeping the family in warm sweaters. She was an early adopter of home computers and learned to surf the internet and shop online with the best of them.

She loved and was much loved and will be sorely missed.

A celebration of life will be held at Gimli New Horizons, in Gimli, Manitoba on Saturday, October 16th at 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the charity of your choice.



204-949-2200  
Gimli 204-642-7124  
[neilbardalinc.com](http://neilbardalinc.com)

## OBITUARY



**Marie Madeleine Jeannette Barg (nee Schiller)**  
January 8, 1948 to September 28, 2021

Sadly, our beloved Madeleine passed away on September 28th, peacefully and surrounded by her family in Gimli Community Health Centre.

She was predeceased by her parents Emile and Germaine Schiller and her parents-in-law Abram and Margaret Barg. She is survived by her husband of 46 years Walter; her children Matthew (Cassie), Lindsay (Gregg), and Graham; her grandchildren River, Soren, Marie, and Hazel; and her seven siblings Denise, Rita, Jean, Annette (August), Claire, Peter (Barb), and Ray (Wenda).

Cremation has taken place with interment to occur at a later date, at which time a memorial service will be held.

Madeleine was born in North Battleford and raised on a farm near Delmas, Saskatchewan. After completing high school, she

moved to Saskatoon for a few years before moving on to Winnipeg in 1972 where she met and wed Walter. Madeleine and Walter shared a unique and admirable bond, demonstrating what it truly means to be life partners and teammates.

Madeleine was a lifelong artist, and although she was unable to indulge her passion in her early years, she made up for it in later years after her marriage and a move to Gimli, an art-loving hotbed in Manitoba's Interlake. She won numerous awards in oil painting, watercolours, pastels, and coloured pencils at many local art shows, as well as the Red River Exhibition and Manitoba Society of Artists. There was nothing she liked better than an afternoon spent painting in the countryside around Gimli with her good friends Kathy and Eleanor.

In 1989 her life was permanently altered by a brain tumour, which initiated health issues that would last for the rest of her life. Despite this, and with her husband often away from home teaching in Northern Manitoba, she was able to raise three wonderful children and continue to pursue her artistic ambitions, mainly in Gimli where the family finally settled and established itself. She even ventured to the North with her husband, enjoying a number of winters in the First Nation community of Shamattawa.

Her final, and possibly most devastating, health issue was a stroke in 2014 which pretty well dictated an end to her artistic career, really just as it could have been about to blossom, and which resulted in a gradual but inevitable decline in her health. Nonetheless, she was a fighter with an incredible will to live, surviving far beyond what she might have, and was often called a "miracle lady" by her health care providers. We, her family, consider ourselves privileged to have had her with us for 32 years after the brain tumour in 1989. As the poem says, "We're not sad that she's gone, we're glad that she was here."

The family wishes to thank the staff at Gimli Community Health Centre and Gimli homecare services for the care they provided for Madeleine, and especially Dr. Adegbesan and Madeleine's nurses for the exceptional professionalism and compassion they showed toward Madeleine.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to your favourite charity or the Gimli Community Health Centre.

Condolences may be left on her tribute wall at [www.gilbartfuneralhome.com](http://www.gilbartfuneralhome.com)

Gilbart Funeral Home, Gimli in care of arrangements.



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## OBITUARY



Alvin David McKay

Passed away at the Selkirk Regional Health Centre on Sunday, October 3, 2021 at the age of 66 years, Alvin David McKay of Winnipeg Beach, MB.

Alvin leaves to mourn his passing his loving wife Diane (nee Holtz); nine brothers and sisters; Leonard of Edmonton, AB, Marion McKay of Winnipeg, MB, Mervin (Barbara) of Thunder Bay, ON, William (Monica) of Nanton, AB, Merna (Donald) Ditcham of Winnipeg, MB, Leona (Alvin) Wiebe of Altona, MB, Berton of Ottawa, ON, Barry (Janice) of Winnipeg, MB, Bonnie (Sean) MacLeod of Winnipeg, MB as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

Alvin was predeceased by his father Cliff McKay and by his mother Gertrude (nee Montroy).

Mass of the Christian Burial took place on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 11:30 a.m. in the St. Felix de Valois Catholic Church, Dunrea, MB, with Father Phillip Malayil as Celebrant. Prayers were held at 11:00 am prior to Mass.

Interment to take place in the St. Felix Catholic Parish Cemetery.

Friends that so desire, memorial donations can be made in Alvin's memory to the Heart & Stroke Foundation, 1379 Kenaston Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R3P 2T5.

Online condolences may be sent to the McKay family by visiting [www.willmorchapel.com](http://www.willmorchapel.com)

Jamieson's Funeral Services  
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