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WEEKLY NEWS

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT
 The Central Interlake Chamber of Commerce kicked off its inaugural gala dinner last Saturday with a message of unity and a pledge to help strengthen the region as a whole. Pictured from left, front row, Gimli Mayor Lynn Greenberg and Gimli MLA and Minister of Municipal Relations Jeff Wharton. Back from left Bifrost-Riverton Reeve Brian Johnson, Interlake MLA Derek Johnson, Arborg Mayor Peter Dueck and Coldwell Reeve Brian Sigfusson. See full story pg. 2 and 3.

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Central Interlake Chamber of Commerce gets growth underway

By Patricia Barrett

The Central Interlake Chamber of Commerce is on a mission to bring together municipal councils and businesses from across the region and encourage the growth and development of the region as a whole.

The newly formed chamber – the result of a merger between the Arborg & District Chamber of Commerce and the Riverton Chamber of Commerce – kicked off its inaugural gala dinner last Saturday with a message of unity and a pledge to help strengthen the region as a whole.

"I believe that when somebody in the community does better, we all do better," said chamber president Owen Eyolfson to over 180 people, including MLAs Jeff Wharton and Derek Johnson and reeves and mayors from six Interlake municipalities.

A decline in the rural population is a trend seen right across the country, not just in the Interlake, said Eyolfson, but by pulling together, communities can prevent their own demise.

"If communities like ours want to survive in the future, action and planning are needed," he said. "We as a newly formed chamber saw that we're stronger together. We have more resources if we work together. We have



Central Interlake Chamber of Commerce President Owen Eyolfson.

a better ability to access training if we work together."

Eyolfson and the new chamber helped establish the Central Interlake Training Centre, which hosts a number of different courses every month. He said that's "helped us in our businesses and helped our community."

Chamber vice president Mark My-



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

From left sitting Val Anderson, Pat Eyolfson, Dr. John Donnelly, Alice Bjornson and Victor Eyolfson. Back, Doug Anderson and Florence and Andy Baryliski.

rowich said the gala event was intended to bring people from different communities together to "talk about how we're going to grow and build our communities together. We've got to think as a region."

Arborg Mayor Peter Dueck said a vibrant chamber is a key factor in promoting the local area and encouraging business development.

"It is here at the chamber that businesses should be able to form strong networks, promote business-to-business supply chains, stay informed and collectively advocate for economic development," said Dueck.

Bifrost-Riverton Reeve Brian Johnson said that while he was meeting with people during the election, he

Continued on page 3

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Continued from page 2

heard the same message over and over – that everyone wants economic development.

“They want to grow the area, they want to grow the service sector, the health care system and personal care homes,” said Johnson. “With a strong Community Development Corporation and a very strong central chamber, we’re going to be able to accomplish this.”

Best-selling author Doug Griffiths, who wrote 13 Ways to Kill Your Community and is fondly referred to as a “community therapist,” provided practical advice about what to do if

you’re set on taking your community down. His penetrating insights into the small-town psyche, along with hilarious stories he picked up in towns across North America, was the highlight of the evening (see story next edition).

Eyolfson presented awards to two members of the former chambers. Clif Evans and Lorne Floyd provided outstanding service to help their respective business communities flourish.

Alvina Reimer from Morweena prepared the dinner, which included turkey, roast beef, salads and pickles, mashed potatoes, vegetables, bread and skor bar cake and honeycomb torte for dessert.



Chamber President Owen Eyolfson presented Lorne Floyd with a Lifetime Member award, recognizing his long service to the former Arborg & District chamber.



Loretta Johnson and her husband Brian Johnson, Reeve of Bifrost-Riverton.



From left Hazel Bjarnason and Bifrost-Riverton couns. Colin Bjarnason and Frode Anderson



Arborg Mayor Peter Dueck.



From left, Phil Bauernhuber, Clif Evans, Armstrong Reeve Susan Smerchanski and Richard Chomokovski.

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Teulon RCMP investigate homicide



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Hailey Dugay was shot and killed Saturday night.

Staff

Teulon RCMP responded to a call of a female having been shot while seated in a vehicle on Provincial Road 231 in the RM of Armstrong on Nov. 17, at approximately 11:40 p.m.

Following an investigation it has been determined that an altercation had broken out at the Fraserwood Hotel earlier in the evening. When the altercation escalated, patrons were asked to leave the establishment before being closed for the night.

A male, who had been at the establishment, left and drove approximately two miles south of Fraserwood on Road 11 East (also known as Kuz Road) in the RM of Armstrong. He parked his vehicle, and when three vehicles belonging to patrons from the bar passed the suspect, he fired on them with a rifle. Multiple shots were fired by the male towards the vehicles.

Twenty year old Hailey Dugay was a passenger in her boyfriend's truck Branden Harasymko when the vehicle was struck by gunfire.

Harasymko called 9-1-1 and was driving to Teulon Collegiate to meet STARS air ambulance. Medical personnel treated Dugay and transported her to the hospital, but she succumbed to her injuries.

Nobody else was injured.

The male fled the scene and, with assistance from RCMP Police Dog Services and Winnipeg Police Service's Air 1, was arrested in a field near Gimli.

Jesse Paluk, 23, is charged with Second Degree Murder, Attempt Murder x 7, Discharge Firearm at Motor Vehicle with Intent to Wound x 3, Reckless Discharge of Firearm x 3, and Assault with a Weapon.

Paluk remains in custody to appear in Winnipeg court on Nov. 20, 2018.

The investigation continues.

Helping families in time of need



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Evergreen School Division students were out in full force in support of the Riverton & District Food Bank during October. The Arborg Early Middle School and Arborg Collegiate students collected non-perishable food items in support of the We Scare Hunger initiative with all donations going to struggling families from Bifrost-Riverton, south up to Arnes, the RM of Fisher and Fisher Branch.



Arborg Collegiate students with their school's donation.



Riverton-Menville Youth Food Drive led by Dahlen and Coralee Barkman also collected for the Riverton & District Food Bank last month.

Emergency alert system test to take place on Nov. 28

By Justin Luschinski

The province is hoping the next emergency alert system test will go off without a hitch.

Manitoba will be testing the Alert Ready system on Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 1:55 p.m. The system aims to push out emergency alerts to Canadians through cable TV, radio and smartphones.

But during the previous test in May, some phones didn't receive an alert.

Mike Gagne, director of operations for Manitoba's Emergency Measures Organization (EMO), said the differences between each device might have been the issue.

"From our perspective, the test was successful. It went out to people. It might come down to (someone's) phone and whether or not it's up to date," Gagne said. "Another

thing to consider is these wireless service providers partnered with us just six months ago. The fact that the alerts got out to most phones, in such a short amount of time, is huge."

Gagne said that in order for residents to receive an alert, their phone software needs to be up to date and they need to be on an LTE connection. The phones need to also be relatively modern. Older phones are not compatible.

Manitoba's EMO is also reviewing and implementing new emergency response protocols for each municipality in the province.

Gagne said most of their work is fine-tuning policies the RMs already have.

"It's like we're putting old wine into new bottles. Most of the RMs have already been doing what they

need to do. We're just looking to help them improve," Gagne said. "We look at their plans, and sometimes they've hit the nail on the head. Other times we help them consider other situations."

Gagne said the changes include updating the regulations around large-scale emergency response protocols. They're meeting with the RMs, figuring out where the gaps are in their policies, and making sure there is a plan if a large-scale emergency were to occur.

Gagne said many of the changes come from a review of the Emergency Measures Act in 2013, as a response to the 2011 Assiniboine River flood. For more information about the Alert Ready system, visit alertready.ca.

Gimli council celebrates official opening of its water treatment plant

By Patricia Barrett

Gimli council celebrated the official launch last Friday of its new centralized water treatment plant in the Industrial Park.

Mayor Lynn Greenberg, CAO Joann Murphy, councillors Thora Palson, Richard Petrowski and Peter Holfeuer, public works staff and Minister of Municipal Relations and Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton helped cut the ribbon on the \$7-million plant, which was cost-shared with the province and the federal government.

The federal government provided \$3.5 million through its Clean Water and Wastewater Fund and the province and municipality each contributed \$1.75 million.

"The council of the RM of Gimli is a proud partner in this key project," said Greenberg in a federal-provincial-municipal news release issued Nov. 16. "The completion of this project will further protect and enhances our public water system."

The new plant was built at the site of the existing reservoir. About 8,000 metres of pipeline were installed to connect the plant to separate water treatment facilities in the town of Gimli and Pelican Beach. The more efficient central system will also supply the Industrial Park and the Aspen Park condominium complex. The project

also included the replacement of water mains in town.

Before the municipal election last month, council celebrated the opening of the plant with WSP, the engineering firm that designed it, and held a tour for media and members of the public.

Wharton said provincial investment partnerships with municipalities and the federal government ensure Manitobans have modern, reliable services.

"The completion of this project means water will be treated to a higher quality and will lay the foundation for future drinking water system expansions in the municipality," said Wharton in the news release.

Federal Infrastructure and Communities Minister François-Philippe Champagne said the federal government was proud to support the project as it will safeguard public health and lay the groundwork for Gimli's economic prosperity and growth.

"It's great to see this project reach completion in Gimli," said Champagne in the news release. "These vital upgrades to the community's aging water infrastructure have renewed the water distribution system and extended its life, ensuring clean drinking water will be available to residents of Gimli and Pelican Beach for years to come."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GIMLI COUN. THORA PALSON
RM of Gimli Mayor Lynn Greenberg, left, and Minister of Municipal Relations and Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton helped cut the ribbon on the \$7-million plant, which was cost-shared with the province and the federal government.

Progressive Conservative government invests in Provincial Road 415

Restoration work will improve access and safety

Submitted

Derek Johnson, MLA for Interlake, announced Thursday that the Manitoba government is investing in an important infrastructure project in the Interlake constituency.

As part of Manitoba Infrastructure's supplementary projects for the fall/winter of 2018-19, gravel road restoration will take place on a damaged section of PR 415 between 7.3 kilometres east of PR 518 and the intersection with PR 416.

"Our Progressive Conservative government understands that a safe and well maintained road network is important to our rural communities," said Johnson. "This project will provide better and safer access to the residents of the Interlake. I am pleased

that our government is responding to the needs of our constituency by making these critical repairs to PR 415."

This work will involve culvert replacement, gravel surfacing and the application of rip rap to help protect against future water damage. Further surveying will also take place to determine longer-term design and repair requirements.

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Opinion

Journalism needs public support

By Dawna Friesen

The business aspect of journalism is seriously under threat.

The model of the traditional newspaper, radio and TV station is broken. Advertisers are going elsewhere — mostly online.

The way we consume news has changed rapidly.

I grew up on a farm just west of Winnipeg, and we got a grand total of three TV channels. Watching the news was a family affair. We all gathered in front of the TV to find out what happened in the world. And if you missed the news, you missed it. You'd have to wait until tomorrow to read it in the paper.

Contrast that with my son, who is 13. Much as I would love to say he's my biggest fan, he doesn't really watch the news. He's on Instagram and Snapchat, and spends more time on YouTube or Netflix than watching broadcast television.

In one generation, how we connect to the world and how we consume news has been utterly transformed.

Now, you can say, "Hey, that's business. You adapt, or you die." And journalism is adapting.

But here's the thing about journalism. It's more than a business. It's a pillar of democracy.

Journalism underpins every free society. It informs, it uncovers truth and it holds power to account. Without knowledge about what's happening in your town, your province, your country, you can't be an informed citizen. And if you aren't an informed citizen, you can't make informed decisions about the kind of community you want to live in, and the kind of political leaders you choose to represent you.

Right now, journalism is under assault not just because the business model is broken, but because there are political forces actively working to undermine it and discredit it.

An army of online trolls and activists question the veracity of stories they don't like, attack individual journalists they don't like, and ridicule institutions that for decades have been trusted sources of news.

State-supported trolls from places like Russia and Saudi Arabia seed our news feeds with false stories and conspiracy theories, and actively work to undermine western liberal democracies.

I never imagined an American president — the leader of the free world — would call the media the "enemy of the people." He's said it so many times, we don't even blink anymore.

It's having the insidious effect of eroding trust in all the news media. We have reached the point that people don't know who or what to trust.

I think we are living in a dangerous time. We're not Americans, but we're not immune to the rancour and the division and the political dysfunction that we're watching unfold.

So here's my message to you: be an active part of the solution.

Don't be drawn into partisan ugliness that paints political opponents as traitors and the enemy. Support quality journalism. Think of it as a public service.

Journalists used to be seen as the public watchdog. Don't fall for the line that we are the enemy of the people. That's the talk of a dictator, who wants to silence those who question him.

Quality journalism increases public knowledge, political participation and engagement. It helps reduce corruption, expose the nefarious. Just look at the power of the MeToo movements, which was driven by strong women who came forward, and journalists who told their stories.

And here's my most important point: don't expect to get quality journalism for free. It's not a giveaway. You need to pay for it.

The big failing of the internet — which gave us access to the world — is that we expect to get it for free. Unless news organizations are owned by a billionaire like Jeff Bezos, that's not sustainable.

So pay for news, subscribe online. Demand quality. Consider the source of what you are reading and watching. Don't get sucked in by clickbait. It just panders to sites that thrive on viral video.

The vast majority of journalists are driven by the desire to inform the public, to get the facts and to bear witness to events — sometimes risking our lives to do it.

So please, support quality journalism, because quality journalism underpins a healthy democracy.

Dawna Friesen, who is from Manitoba, was previously a foreign correspondent for NBC News and is currently the chief television anchor and executive editor of Global National, working out of Vancouver. She recently spoke on the importance of journalism during an address at the Manitoba Business Awards banquet, put on by the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce. This column previously appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press and is being reprinted with permission from the Free Press.

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Low water levels this ice fishing season

By Arnie Weidl

Hi friends.

It would seem that we are going to be constantly reminded this winter, as we were last year, about the low water levels in our waterways. Mud and sand bars appearing above the water line everywhere have with the help of the wind piled up ice and snow ridges throughout lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba. The creeks and rivers are smoother, but everywhere under the quickly thickening ice there is little water.

That fact became very clear when I met a younger chap, Micheal Baier of Steinbach, ice fishing on Gull Lake by Stead off Highway 59 last week. He said he and a buddy Owen were here about this time last year trying to fish, and since the ice was only eight inches thick, they made a round three-foot hole with hand chisels.

They planted their folding chairs, rods, tables, food and drinks around it and made ready to fish. Micheal turned his back to Owen and the hole to get some minnows to bait his pickerel rig when he heard a squeal and a splash. He turned to see his buddy standing in the ice hole up to his waist in shockingly cold water.

Micheal stood gaping at Owen, who with arms high and outstretched, looked up at Micheal with a "what just happened" look on his face. Micheal tried desperately not to laugh at his

friend.

Standing at the edge of the hole, he held out his hand to Owen who gladly took it as he lifted a knee high enough to kneel on the top of the ice and pull himself up. Hastily, they threw their gear back into their sleigh and as quickly as Owen's problem would allow, made for the shore and the warmth of Micheal's truck.

"I hope your truck's got lots of heat," Owen stuttered as he hobbled, bent over in frozen discomfort after his friend.

"You sure have an interesting way of scaring fish away," Micheal shot back, teasing Owen as they climbed up the shore to his truck.

Just before freeze up, I had the pleasure of meeting a bright, happy, enthusiastic guy by the name of Paul Chaput who was fishing with his mother Paulette Chaput off the waterfront pier in Selkirk. Paul loved to talk as he shifted his large frame about in his chair. His cheery smile was set off by his light brown goatee.

"Every time we're here and mom has to go to the bathroom, she catches a fish, which means I have to land it for her," Paul joked.

Paulette, on the other hand, was a quiet lady, bundled up against the cold wind coming off the river. Only her quick glances and firm smiles toward her son showed how much she was enjoying their outing.

True to Paul's outgoing nature, he began telling of an extraordinary fishing experience he had here not long ago. He got a strike that came to feel like a log. Since he liked to use 20-pound test line, he was not afraid to begin a hard "haul-up-then-reel in" contest between himself and whatever was on the end of his line.

People gathered around to witness this give and take between Paul and the fish just as it broke the water's surface. People gasped at the foot wide shinny grey head of a huge catfish immersing from the water.

In defiance, it thrashed the water with its immense tail, rolling over and showing its great white belly, and dove for the bottom. Paul set a rhythm to this contest. When he could, Paul reeled in. When the fish ran he let line out. His arms began to ache and his hands began to cramp. Worse, the digging in of the butt of the rod's handle on his stomach would prove to leave a bruise that would not go away for weeks.

After what seemed like hours, he had the cat by the pier only to realize his net wasn't long enough to reach the beast. A neighbouring angler now in the crowd quickly fetched his net. Paul took it and, leaning over, was able to get the fish partially into it. It jackknifed! It slipped the hook and flopped back into the water with a great splash, disappearing.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL
Micheal Baier of Steinbach with his catch out of Gull Lake by Stead.

Some onlookers who had just come up to the group asked Paul why he hadn't taken a picture.

"I was just a little busy trying to land it. That took all the hands I had," he exclaimed.

Last week I visited places on Lake Winnipeg's west shore where winter fishers go onto the ice. With generally nine inches of ice on the lake last Saturday at Warner Road by Matlock, I saw with my binoculars a chap at least a kilometre out, standing in the wind beside his sleigh, tending two ice holes foretelling how far from shore we'll be this winter because of low water!

Till next week. Bye now.

The CIBC banking centre in Gimli is celebrating its 100th anniversary

Submitted

The Imperial Bank of Canada opened a bank branch in Gimli 100 years ago on Dec. 1, 1918.

For its first 25 years, the bank branch had a modest role as a sub-branch to the Riverton banking centre and was open one day a week. As the local economy expanded, the branch eventually became a stand-alone branch in 1943.

The branch became part of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC), which was founded on June 1, 1961, through the merger of The Canadian Bank of Commerce and the Imperial Bank of Canada.

"This is truly a big milestone for the CIBC banking centre in Gimli," said CIBC banking centre leader Barb Har-

ris. "We are celebrating 100 years of providing excellent banking services to people and businesses all around Gimli and the key role our bank has played in building the economic prosperity of our town."

The bank will be celebrating the milestone on Dec. 6 and 7 by decorating the banking centre at 48 Centre St. with historic photos and offering coffee and baked goods to visitors.

"We are inviting all of our clients and neighbours to celebrate with us," said Harris. "It is our way of saying thank you to all of the people and businesses that we have worked with over the years. We look forward to building on those relationships and creating new ones in the next 100 years."



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Gimli CIBC is celebrating their 100th anniversary on Dec. 6 and 7 with a come-and-go celebration at 48 Centre St.

Selkirk rapid access clinic to help those struggling with addictions

By Lindsey Enns

Two recovering addicts say a new clinic in Selkirk will help those struggling with addiction get the help they need without having to travel to Winnipeg.

Jeff Elder said his addiction to opiates used to control his life.

"Every time I wanted to get help, there was a waiting list that I would eventually give up on," the 24-year-old Selkirk resident said. "As a recovering addict on the methadone program, to get to where I am I had to essentially move to Winnipeg, live on the streets for a little while because I couldn't get myself into a treatment program here."

Manitoba's fifth Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinic officially opened in Selkirk last week with hopes of providing an option for residents of the Interlake-Eastern region seeking help from addictions.

"We know that in this community, and many others in Manitoba, people have used substances and we know that in some cases those substances begin to eclipse everything else," Health Minister Cameron Friesen said during a press conference at the



Jeff Elder, above left, speaks during the official opening of Manitoba's fifth Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinic in Selkirk at the Selkirk Community Health Office last Wednesday. Local and provincial dignitaries and community members, pictured right, gathered for the clinics opening last week.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY LINDSEY ENNS

Selkirk Community Health Office last Wednesday. "It becomes a real problem for the individual, for those that love them, for the communities around them."

Elder said a local peer support group combined with the RAAM clinic will be beneficial for those struggling with addictions in Selkirk and area.

"I personally know two people close to my heart who would not be with us

without this program," Elder said.

Jeannie Red Eagle, a community service co-ordinator in Selkirk and an advocate for those struggling with addictions, also welcomed the opening of the RAAM clinic last week.

"When I was coming into my recovery, there wasn't anything like this. There wasn't even the peer network, so I had to access other supports and a lot of that was on my own," Red Eagle

said. "That was really difficult ... it was a long 10-year struggle."

The Selkirk RAAM clinic is located inside the Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority's (IERHA) community health office at 237 Manitoba Ave. and is open Tuesdays from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The clinic provides assessment,

Continued on page 16

Local band rocks on downtown Gimli roof top

By Roger Newman

Filled with early holiday spirit, Gimli's Mise en Scene pop rock band recently hit the roof to record a new Christmas single called "Tinsel Town."

The trio, with an increasing international reputation, hauled their instruments atop the downtown Ship and Plough pub to produce their latest song and music video. It will be released in late November by Light Organ Records as both a single and an addition to their record label's Christmas compilation album.

"People may have seen a beautiful woman wheeling a Christmas tree down Centre Street as a prop for the video shoot — that was me," says lead vocalist and guitarist Stefanie Blondal Johnson, who is a third of the trio along with drummer Jodi Dunlop and bassist Corey Hykawy.

Mise en Scene has been climbing steadily in popularity since the band was formed approximately a decade ago by Johnson and Dunlop. They met when they were both working summer jobs in the Waterfront Centre building, Johnson for the annual Gimli Film Festival and Dunlop for the New Iceland Heritage Museum. They

first discovered a mutual interest in art before this meshed into a love of music and the formation of Mise en Scene, a French expression translating in English to putting a production in place.

Starting with gigs locally, the band has become an international attraction. They've performed for 15,000 people at a Paris outdoor concert and a crowd of similar size in Barcelona, Spain. They've also had engagements in cities including Brussels, Belgium and Hamburg, Germany along with an Austin, Texas, festival (four times) and the railway platform at King's Cross station in London, England.

Closer to home, they entertained 10,000 people at the Forks Canada Day concert in Winnipeg and appeared twice at the renowned Banff Festival of the Arts in the Rocky Mountains.

Johnson says Mise en Scene is currently getting ready to record its third full length album of upbeat music in early 2019.

"It's going to be a fun album encouraging people to dance and sing along," says Johnson, who says she and her band are pleased with their worldwide sales of albums.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Mise en Scene band members, left to right: bassist Corey Hykawy, lead vocalist and guitarist Stefanie Blondal Johnson and drummer Jodi Dunlop.

Mise en Scene's next Gimli appearance will be at the Ship and Plough on Saturday, Jan. 19.

End of an era for Winnipeg Beach church

By Roger Newman

Winnipeg Beach has lost an iconic church.

Contractor Kevin Bochoruka led a crew who demolished the St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church on Hazel Avenue last Friday and Saturday.

"We had to tear it down because we had few parishioners left," said Edna Wishnowski. The church had been serving its congregation since 1936.

"We couldn't afford to keep it up. We were unable to sell it and the town council didn't want it. We had to do something because we didn't want it to become an eyesore."

Wishnowski, a parishioner since infancy in the late 1930s, said many beach area residents will sadly miss the beloved church at the south end of town.

"I have the fondest memories of St. Peter and St. Paul's," she said. "It has been important to me since childhood and the site of a great deal of personal pleasure. At one time, there were so many children and such happy events as Christmas, Easter and many weddings"

According to Wishnowski, many people with ties to the parish turned up to say a last goodbye to the venerable church. They included Father



St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church stood proudly at Winnipeg Beach for many years before being demolished on the weekend.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Harry Chuchry, Don Hrehoruk, Andy Noga, Bonnie Pawluk, Helen Harmatski and Eugene Zelenitsky.

Wishnowski is sad about her church's demise but happy in one re-

spect.

"Our bell is going to be installed at the St. Peter and Paul church of the same name in St. Boniface," said the long-time parishioner. "I'll miss our

beach church, but it's time was up. I'll now attend the Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church in Gimli."

Fisher Branch Shoebox community group says 'thank you'

Submitted

The most exciting season for children all over the world is Christmas.

However, for some children in war-torn countries and other regions of the world that are ravaged by natural disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes and poverty, Christmas is just another day of survival. It is these places that Samaritan Purse and their Shoe Box project tries their hardest to bring some joy to the children who would otherwise have nothing.

The Fisher Branch community has been helping to make this a reality since they became involved in 2011. In Fisher Branch, a group of volunteers

meet for several hours one day a week for about six weeks in October and November. They assemble shoeboxes and fill them with items that have been donated by generous business and individuals. The items are divided into age groups and gender from age two to 14 years.

Items such as hygiene products (toothbrushes, facecloths, soap, hair brushes and combs, disposable razors, etc.), school supplies, underwear, socks, T-shirts, hats, mitts and a toy or game are packed into these boxes.

It is amazing what a regular shoebox can hold. Liquids, gels and food products are not allowed. The boxes

are sent by the middle of November to Winnipeg and on to Calgary to the Samaritan Purse warehouse where the boxes are given a final inspection before being transported by plane to children in the countries of need. All the designated places have contact personnel who look after the distribution of the boxes.

The articles for the shoeboxes are donated by our community members and the surrounding areas, as well as extended families and friends. Many organizations, businesses and school contribute as well.

The supplies are collected by many

throughout the year and a close watch is kept on sales. We also have talented people who sew up shorts, T-shirts, dresses and knit dolls for the little children as well as hats. For this, we cannot thank you enough and are very grateful for every contribution that help these needy children.

It is very gratifying to fill these boxes and one can only imagine the joy on the faces of the children who open their box. For many, this is the only gift that they will receive. Due to your continued generosity, this year we have been able to fill over 400 boxes.

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Arborg-Bifrost fire department hones its skills in house-burning exercise



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY KAREN LOEWEN

Members of the Arborg-Bifrost volunteer fire department recently burnt down a house about five miles north of Arborg. "This was a request that came in spring," said Operation Deputy Chief Leroy Loewen. The owner no longer needed the dwelling and donated it to the fire department so that it could carry out training exercises.

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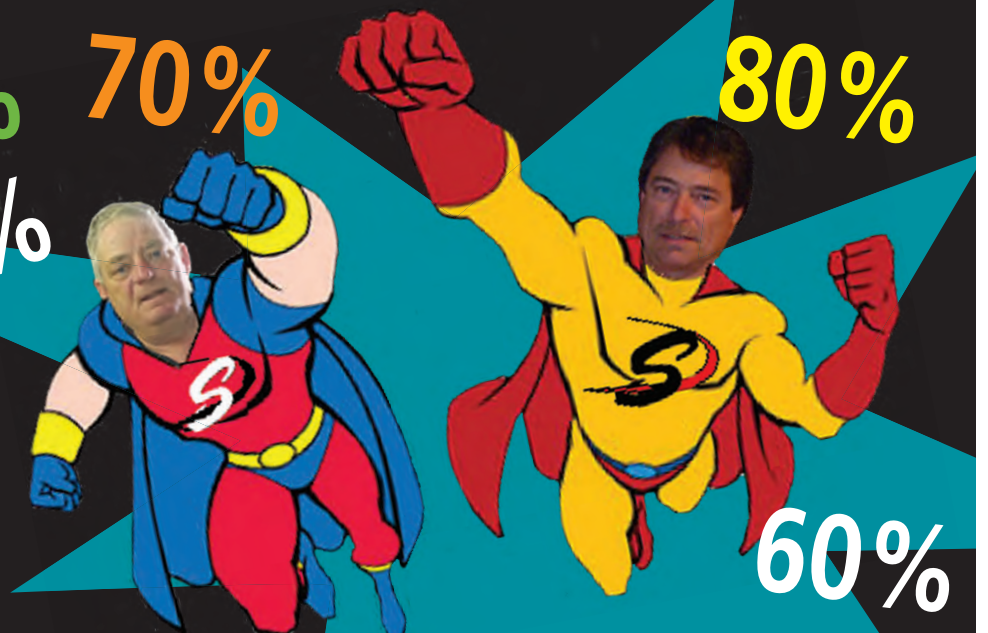
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GEAC to host free documentary screening

Staff

A free documentary screening is set to take flight next week, sharing the story of a man who tried to teach his own flock of geese how to fly south safely.

The Gimli Environmental Advisory Committee invites everyone to attend the free event, which will take place on Thursday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. in the Gimli Multipurpose building, located at 17B North Colonization Rd.

The film, entitled *The Secret Routes of Migratory Birds*, is the story of filmmaker and bird enthusiast Christian Moullec, who leads a group of young

geese on their first-ever migration in an attempt to discover why fewer birds are embarking on the pilgrimage.

He incubates, hatches and raises a flock of geese, which end up imprinting on him and following him wherever he goes. So he sets off on an adventure to teach them to follow their ancient migration path south across Europe.

Holiday treats will be served at the event, which will mark the last movie night of 2018 for the Gimli Environmental Advisory Committee. The group will reconvene in 2019.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Gimli Environmental Advisory Committee is showing the film *The Secret Routes of Migratory Birds* on Thursday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m.

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Rare neurosurgery equipment at HSC treats man's seizures

Donor-funded neurology centre at HSC only one of seven world-wide

Submitted

In August 2016, just before his 28th birthday, Michael Strick fell to the floor. He was having an epileptic seizure. And it wouldn't be his last. His third, and most intense, seizure occurred on his way to Health Sciences Centre. Before that summer, Strick never had a seizure in his life.

At the time, Strick didn't know what the cause of the seizures might be. But four weeks later, he was diagnosed with brain cancer. He needed surgery immediately.

"It was nerve-racking — knowing you're about to have a serious surgery. But when my surgeon came by, he saw that I was nervous. He spent time going over everything with me, and asked if I had any questions," says Strick. "All my fears and anxiety went away."

That surgeon, Dr. Demitre Serletis, and his team at HSC, operated on Strick's tumour in the Centre for Surgical Innovation that was supported by HSC Foundation donors and lottery purchasers. The centre houses advanced technology found in only seven places across the world.

For part of his surgery, Strick was awake. Dr. Serletis needed to monitor Strick's speech and motor skills dur-



Michael Strick

ing the surgery to ensure no healthy brain tissue was being removed.

"They woke me up in the middle of my surgery and started hitting my brain with electrodes," says Strick. "They got me to count from one to 50. When I started stuttering '30, 40, 30, 40,' they knew they had touched the brain and not the tumour," says Strick.

This was Dr. Serletis' way of knowing which delicate parts of the brain to avoid when removing as much of the tumour as possible.

"It went better than I hoped it could have gone," says Strick. "I remember talking to the nurse in the ICU, thinking how incredible it was that I was already sitting here, talking, after just being operated on." After three days, Strick came home. And he hasn't had a serious seizure since.

A small part of Strick's tumour re-



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Strick is able to lead a pretty normal life after having brain surgery to remove a tumour in 2016 at the donor-funded neurology centre at HSC.

mains, but it isn't causing harm. His medical team closely monitors the situation. Strick is thankful to be recovering well and is already back at work and taking in sporting events, such as an upcoming trip to see the New England Patriots play in Foxborough.

"Chemo makes you tired and drowsy, so when it comes to sports,

I might be watching more than playing these days," says Strick. "But I'm still living a very good life over here, thanks to HSC."

Patients like Strick can access the care they need in the province they live in thanks to donors to the HSC Foundation. The 2018 HSC Millionaire Lottery is one way people can support patients like him.

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> RAPID ACCESS CLINIC, FROM PG. 8

counselling, the prescribing of appropriate medication and connections for adult patients to community treatment programs and primary-care physicians. No appointments or referrals are necessary to access services provided at the clinic, which will typically be staffed by an addictions physician and a combination of nurses, counselors and outreach workers.

"Our RAAM clinic lets anyone struggling with an addiction know that they are not alone and that help is available to beat addiction," IERHA CEO Ron Van Denakker stated in a release last week. "We'll use the next few months to better understand people's needs and align clinic services with the care required."

Since Aug. 31, when the first RAAM clinic opened at Winnipeg's Crisis Response Cen-

tre, more than 340 patients have accessed RAAM services, according to the province. Clinics have also opened at the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba's River Point Centre location in Point Douglas, as well as in Brandon and Thompson.

Ben Fry, Addictions Foundation of Manitoba CEO, said having access to treatment quickly and close to home is crucial for those struggling with substance use.

"It makes it much more likely they will be successful in their recovery," Fry said.

The Manitoba government has provided \$1.237 million for the creation of the clinics.

Information on RAAM clinics is available via the Manitoba Addictions helpline at 1-855-662-6605 or online at mbaddiction-help.ca/services/rapid-access-to-addictions-medicine-raam/.

Manitoba's abandoned sites intrigue author-scientist

By Roger Newman

University of Manitoba water scientist Gordon Goldsborough is enjoying a wave of popularity as a historian.

Goldsborough came to Gimli's Evergreen Library last Wednesday night to introduce his new book *More Abandoned Manitoba*, a sequel to *Abandoned Manitoba*, which sold more than 6,000 copies and prompted the second volume. Both books describe many long-gone buildings and sites, giving readers a better understanding of the foundation and history of their home province.

"I want readers to be inspired so they will hopefully go out and investigate these sites," Goldsborough told an intrigued and enthusiastic audience at his Gimli book launch.

Interlake residents won't have to travel far to investigate one site profiled by Goldsborough, who combines his university science duties with being head researcher, webmaster and a past-president of the Manitoba Historical Society. Included in his latest book is the story of "Crabby Steve's", a Highway 7 dance hall that flourished from the 1940s to the 1980s and is now a pile of old lumber on the ground south of Fraserwood.

"Crabby Steve's was as much about home brew as it was about dancing," said Goldsborough, whose engaging manner has landed him a regular spot

on CBC Winnipeg's weekend morning radio show.

His Gimli listeners also learned that Churchill's troubled rail line follows a crooked route because the line was originally planned to terminate southeast at Port Nelson.

"An artificial island built for the terminal and an old dredge are still to be seen at Port Nelson," said Goldsborough, who grew up in the Winnipeg suburb of Charleswood but developed an appreciation of country life through frequent visits to a southern Manitoba family farm.

He said explorers can also examine a long buried bank vault in southern Manitoba because the vault was too heavy to move when the town of Deloraine was relocated closer to a rail line. Other highlights of his book include the struggles of pioneer life experienced by the Negrich family at their Gilbert Plains homestead north of Dauphin. As well, there is the more recent tale of Peter Boychuk, who invented the sputnik-shaped orbit waste containers that were a fixture on Manitoba highways until they were phased out in the early 1990s.

Even better for his readers, there may be more Goldsborough books describing abandoned treasures. He says he already has eight stories for a third book and wants the public to help him discover even more material



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ROGER NEWMAN

Historian and water scientist Gordon Goldsborough, left, autographed books for admirers at his Gimli book launch.

for his next volume.

"I am not anywhere close to being finished," says the author, whose list of possibilities contains 7,021 sites including 2,382 buildings, 2,184 monuments and 1,036 cemeteries.

"There are more places to see, and that will keep me busy for years."

He attributes his curiosity to the fact

that he is the son of two teachers. He also says his U of M employer gives him the time to explore historical sites, but he has by no means abandoned water science.

"I've got a water project coming up at Netley Marsh south of Gimli," he says of the vast marsh in danger of being dried up by climate change.

Proposed frack sand mine near Hecla in Lake Winnipeg could have "massive consequences"

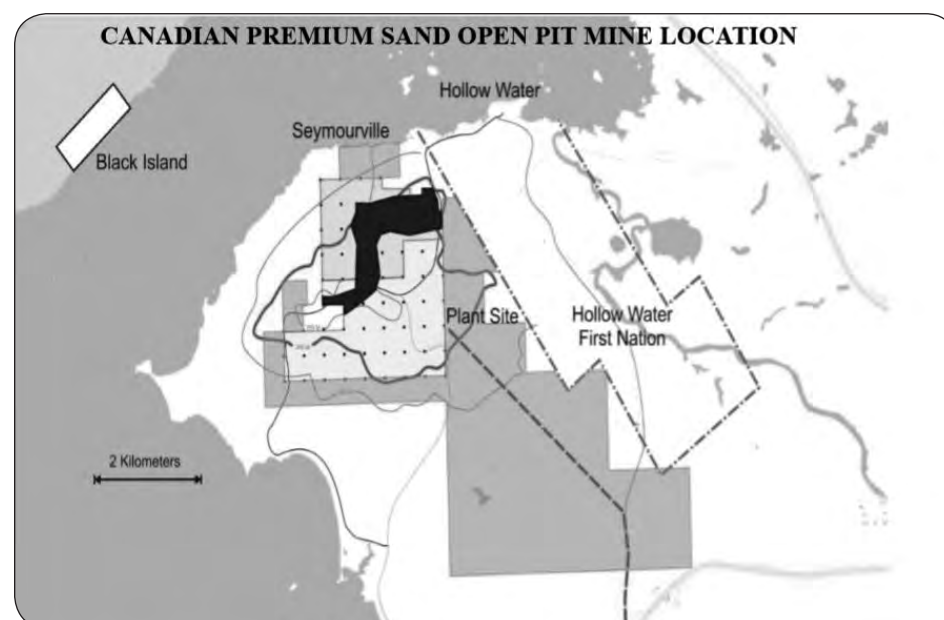
By Patricia Barrett

A man who helped create a UNESCO World Heritage site in eastern Manitoba's boreal forest has taken the lead in raising concerns about a proposed frack sand mine on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg in the Hecla-Grindstone region.

Don Sullivan, a former executive director of the Boreal Forest Network and special advisor to the government on the Pimachiowin Aki UNESCO site, told the *Express* last week that the proposed mine could potentially have adverse effects on water quantity and quality in the region.

The mine site is close to Hollow Water First Nation and the community of Seymourville, and is roughly five kilometres from Black Island, which was once mined for its silica deposits. The Seymourville silica sand deposit is part of a contiguous deposit that extends from the island to the east shore.

Sullivan looked into the mine proposal by Claim Post Resources – which just changed its name to Cana-



EXPRESS PHOTO COURTESY OF DON SULLIVAN

The proposed frack sand mine is on the east shore of Lake Winnipeg in the Hecla-Grindstone region.

dian Premium Sand Nov. 16 – after he was contacted by members of the First Nation. The proposed open pit mine is set to start operating in 2019.

Sullivan said he searched for and

read the company's technical report, showing it has acquired 19 quarry leases and has access to 360 million tons of sand. Over an eight-to-18-year period, it's proposing to produce 26

million tons of frack sand. To reach that volume, 48 million tons of aggregate will have to be excavated.

The mine will be the largest frack sand mine in Canada and will need millions of litres of water to wash the sand. Sullivan said the report doesn't say from where the water will be drawn or where the resulting wastewater will be released; it could be discharged into the lake, a retention pond or into the Winnipeg River. And that's one of the reasons Sullivan, citizens along the lake's east shoreline and an environmental organization are calling for a full-scale review of the project.

"They've [Claim Post] also stated in their 393-page report that they could expand their operation if demand warrants it," said Sullivan. "The demand for frack sand, based on all the research I've done, is estimated to increase by 300 per cent in the coming years."

To the best of his knowledge, Sulli-

Continued on page 18

> SAND MINE SAYS, FROM PG. 17

van said the province to date hasn't requested an environmental assessment or conducted section 35 (of the Constitution Act) consultations with First Nations.

"The problem is once this mine gets approved, there's nothing stopping the company from seeking royalties on their other quarry holdings, allowing other companies to come in and extract the sand," he said. "It's like putting up a shopping mall with an anchor store like Walmart. All the little smaller stores come in because of the traffic. That's exactly what's going to happen here."

Sullivan and the Boreal Action Project, a non-profit environmental and social justice group, held a press conference Monday at the legislature to speak on behalf of an ad hoc committee of concerned citizens, Indigenous people and cottage owners in communities such as Hillside, Lester Beach, Grand Beach and Patricia Beach along the east side of Lake Winnipeg.

They also provided a backgrounder on the proposed operation, detailing potential and known impacts on the environment, human health hazards, increased semi-trailer traffic (500 trucks a day depending on yearly targets) and the need for section 35 consultations.

The majority of frack sand, they said, is produced in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Water consumption used in the mining process at those operations can range from 1.6 million litres a day to about 7.6 million litres a day. And the use of a chemical compound in the washing process has to be moni-

tored for potential toxicity.

"The concentration of the polyacrylamides used in the frack sand washing process may vary substantially, levels must be continuously monitored, because although polyacrylamide is itself nontoxic, unpolymerized acrylamide is a known neurotoxin and can occur in low concentrations within sand washing solutions," states the backgrounder. "An emerging and potentially highly damaging water pollution problem is the issue of acid mine runoff."

Heavy metals such as arsenic, cadmium, aluminium, lead, copper and manganese can leach into water supplies and "this water contamination problem extends to reclamation processes used in frack sand mining operations in the U.S."

The sand will likely be transported to Winnipeg by truck along PR 304, an undivided highway, and Highway 59 and probably shipped by rail to fracking operations in western Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Northern B.C., North Dakota and Montana.

"We also have it on good authority that the company is exploring the idea of requesting that the Manitoba government lift its truck weight restrictions on 304 through the Trucking Productivity Improvement Fund to haul the fracking sand through to Winnipeg, allowing the company to use larger trucks with tandem trailers 24/7 for 10 months of year," states the backgrounder. "This would be using taxpayers' money to upgrade roads to allow the company to use bigger trucks than are normally allowed."

Adverse health effects are known in silica mining. Frack sand is fine particulate matter that can cause silicosis, emphysema and bronchitis. Airborne silica has the potential to affect workers at the mine and those in surrounding communities.

"It has also been linked with a variety of autoimmune diseases, such as scleroderma, lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, chronic thyroiditis, and hyperthyroidism, and to kidney-related diseases, such as chronic renal disease," states the backgrounder.

A company news release Sullivan said he found shows an 80-hole core drilling program already underway where the mine and the processing facility will be located. That's expected to be completed by the end of this month.

NDP environment critic Rob Altemeyer, who also attended the press conference, said by phone last week that the progress already made on the project is cause for concern. And he's not aware of the government having released any communique about the mine or spoken about it in the house.

"The fact that this project is as far along as it is, at the conceptual and design stage, and the government has said nothing about it – and we have no assurances that any public forums are going to happen – is very concerning," said Altemeyer.

He's calling for section 35 consultations and a "proper" environmental assessment as the "massive scale" of the project could have "massive consequences" for Lake Winnipeg.

"The worst thing the provincial government could do right now is turn a blind eye to those potential threats," said Altemeyer. "And the public deserves to not only learn what those threats might be, but also deserves to have the chance to voice their opinions."

A reclamation or site remediation plan should also be part of the government's approval process, he said, when the mine stops operating.

Sullivan and the Boreal Action Project want an "independent body" such as the Clean Environment Commission or a joint federal-provincial review panel to analyze the proposal. Sullivan also set up an online petition on Change.org calling for the federal environment minister and provincial Sustainable Development minister to undertake a joint review. As of last week, the petition attracted over 500 signatures.

A spokesperson for Sustainable Development said government officials have met with the mining company to discuss the proposed operation.

"The project would be subject to the complete environmental assessment and licensing process, including Section 35 Consultation," said the spokesperson by email. "A consulting company is currently preparing the Environment Act Proposal (EAP). Once submitted, the EAP would be advertised and public comments would be accepted for a 30 day period as part of the review process."

Past the Perimeter nabs MCMA Group of the Year award

By Jennifer McFee

Local band Past the Perimeter has made their hometown proud by bringing home a Manitoba Country Music Award last weekend.

The talented foursome earned the title of Group or Duo of the Year, coming out on top against the other nominees Doc Walker, Johnson Crook, Petric, Poets & Lies and Two Crows for Comfort.

The local group is made up of Derek Peters on guitar and vocals, Evan Taplin on bass and vocals, Devin Biy on drums, and Lachlan McLean on guitar and vocals. They received their award and performed for the crowd during the third annual Manitoba Country Music Awards gala on Nov. 10 at the Metropolitan Entertainment Centre



PHOTO BY JOHN KRISTALOVICH
Derek Peters on vocals and the band will be performing at Something Beautiful on Nov. 30.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY KAITLYN PETERS
Past the Perimeter was named Group or Duo of the Year at the Manitoba Country Music Awards this past Saturday night. Band members, left to right: Lachlan McLean, Devin Biy, Derek Peters and Evan Taplin.

Continued on page 19

Local pet ferret selected as pet of the month for October

By Ligia Braidotti

A cute little ferret from Fraserwood is making his modeling debut on a calendar that will be featured throughout Canada next year.

Linus was recently selected by Pet Valu to be the face of October in the 2019 calendar to support the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. The little pet was chosen in the popular contest from 50,000 entries from across Canada through their social media and stores.

"He is wrapping all of the small furry pets, and it's just a great fall photo. He is nestled in among the pumpkins and looking very noble and very cute," Alison Preiss, marketing manager of social media and campaign of Pet Valu Canada, said.

Ferrets are a domesticated mammal belonging to the same family of weasels. They average 51 centimetres in length, have a life span of seven to 10 years and have been domesticated for approximately 2,500 years.

Pet Valu has been running this contest since 2012 and Preiss said it's been very successful. Every year, there's a competition during the summer, and they request that pet owners send a picture of their pets to be selected for the calendar.

Pet Valu takes into account the pet type, seasonality, the regional representation, and Preiss explained they try to have pets from all provinces.

"Linus' photo is in such a beautiful fall setting," she continued. "You look it over, and he's just a cutie sticking

out from among the pumpkins."

The Fraserwood ferret shares the calendar with other pets such as dogs and cats, a chameleon and a pot belly pig.

Customers can help by donating what they can for which 100 per cent of the donations go into sponsoring dog guide teams. The calendar features cute pets but also includes coupons with special deals for every month.

"We are so lucky to have so many adorable customers. I think a lot of people look forward to it. We like to say the calendar will help you organize your life and it's also going to help you change the life of a Canadian with a disability," she explained, adding Pet Valu also holds fundraisers for local organizations and animal shelters. "Giving back is really integral to who we are as a brand. It's something we really believe in and something we love to do."

Preiss commented it costs about \$2,500 to raise and train dog guides for Canadians living with disabilities. Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides has seven programs including hearing, vision, seizure response, autism and service.

In the early 1980s, Lions Clubs across the country started developing a program for people with visual impairment. This initiative resulted in the Lion's Foundation of Canada and their first program called Canine Vision Canada, established in 1985. Dog guides are trained to help people with



LINUS | Sandra Burke, Pet Parent | Fraserwood, MB
Linus is adventurous and playful. His favourite toys are socks and squeak toys.

EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Linus, an adventurous pet ferret living in Fraserwood and owned by Sandra Burke, will soon be a pin-up in hundreds of thousands of homes across Canada. Linus, who likes playing with socks and squeak toys, was selected from nearly 50,000 entries to star in the 2019 calendar to support Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides.

disabilities around obstacles. The benefits of dog guides include positive psychological, social and physical effects, giving people more confidence, friendship and security.

"The Dog Guides is such an amazing organization. Not only are they helping people, but they are also showing

this incredible bond between pets and humans," Preiss said. "Every single (person) tells us how the dog has made a huge difference in their lives and the lives of their entire family."

To donate and get a calendar, go to your nearest Pet Valu.

> GROUP OF THE YEAR, FROM PG. 18

in Winnipeg.

Speaking on behalf of the band, Peters said they were stunned when they heard their name announced as the Group or Duo of the Year.

"It's not too often I'm speechless, and my wife can back that up. It honestly didn't sink in until we were back in our seats. It's just a wonderful feeling when your hard work pays off. Winning emerging artist last year and now group/duo this year is definitely the direction we want to be going," he said.

"We spent a lot of time and week-

ends away from our families this year, so to bring this home for them is our small way of saying thank you. You always hope to do your hometown proud, and I think were starting to accomplish that. The amount of support rolling in through social media has been staggering, so this award is as much for our fans as it is for us."

Band manager Bambi Rutherford said that it's amazing to see the musicians reach the goals that they have set over the years.

"When you achieve those goals and you're honoured with an award such

as this, it validates all your hard work," she said.

"And if it wasn't for the support of the community at their backs, these things don't happen. They're grateful for the support of the listeners and the streams and the radio stations. In this type of profession, who you have on board with you really defines who you're going to be."

At the same time, Rutherford feels grateful for having the opportunity to work with the band.

"It's wonderful. I feel very blessed to be able to work with these boys.

They're one of a kind," she said.

"I'm so happy for them. They were blown away. There are so many great country music acts in the province. To be up against some of the best — like Doc Walker and Petric, to name a couple — that is pretty amazing. They're so humble and they feel so honoured."

For a chance to see Past the Perimeter in a local setting, they will be performing for the grand opening of Something Beautiful in Stonewall on Nov. 30.



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Falcons, Ice Dawgs win CRJHL games

By Brian Bowman

When the Lundar Falcons play to their potential, they can defeat any team in the Capital Region Junior Hockey League.

And they proved that Friday evening in Selkirk.

Lundar knocked off the first-place Fishermen 5-2 to snap a five-game losing streak.

The Falcons were flying in the first period, grabbing a 3-0 lead on goals by Josh Wilkinson, Jesse McDonald and Brandon Abraham.

Selkirk's Evan Bedard and Abraham traded second-period goals and then Abraham completed his hat trick early in the third to give the visitors a 5-1 lead.

Abraham now has four goals and five points in nine games.

Selkirk's Dane Derewianchuk then closed out the game's scoring with 13:54 remaining in the third.

Dillon Rapinchuk made 34 saves for the win while Austin DeBoer stopped 32 Lundar shots at the other end.

On Nov. 13, Lundar lost 3-2 to the

North Winnipeg Satelites in overtime. Derian Emes scored the game winner in OT.

Lundar took a 2-0 lead on goals by Wilkinson and Zac Bone but North Winnipeg answered with a tally from Nathan Jones late in the opening period.

The Satelites' Mitchell Klippenstein then tied the score at 2-2 with a power-play goal in the second period.

Lundar's next game is Friday at St. Malo and then the Falcons will host North Winnipeg on Saturday.

Puck drop for both games is 8 p.m.

The Arborg Ice Dawgs, meanwhile, had a great week with a pair of wins, including a 6-1 thumping of the Warriors in St. Malo on Saturday.

After a scoreless second period, Arborg took a 3-0 lead on second-period goals by Colton Davies (two) and Deric Gulay.

Alex Murray replied with a goal for St. Malo with 50 seconds left in the opening period but Arborg put the game out of reach with third-period

goals from Connor Dowhy, Gulay and Blaze Bezecki.

Davies and Furgala (three assists) finished the game with three points apiece while Josh Roche had a pair of helpers.

Tre Strachan made 27 saves for the win. He is now 3-2 with a solid 2.60 goals-against average and .937 save percentage.

On Friday, Arborg edged North Winnipeg 3-2 as the Ice Dawgs battled back from a 2-1 third-period deficit.

Davies tied the score at 2-2 at 12:56 of the third and then Roche netted the game winner about four minutes later.

Davies and North Winnipeg's Parker Cassie traded second-period goals and then the Satelites' Miguel Valente tallied early in the third.

Gavin Love made 35 saves for the win.

Arborg is back in action Saturday (7:30 p.m.) when it hosts Selkirk. The Ice Dawgs will then visit North Winnipeg next Tuesday (8 p.m.).

Curling excellence



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The duo of Kadriana Sahaidak and Colton Lott reached the final of the 2018 Canad Inns Mixed Doubles Classic on Monday in Portage la Prairie. The pair came up short in the final, losing 9-4 to the pairing of Kaitlyn Lawes/John Morris.

The Canad Inns Mixed Doubles Classic featured the top male and female curlers from around the world. Competitive curlers competed for \$26,000 in prize money, with the winners taking home \$7,000 and a trophy.

In addition, Lawes and Morris also secured their spot at the 2019 Canadian Mixed Doubles Curling Championship, which will take place in Fredericton, N.B.

Peguis splits pair of KJHL weekend games

By Brian Bowman

The Peguis Juniors split a pair of Keystone Junior Hockey League games last weekend.

Peguis knocked off the Norway House North Stars 5-3 on Saturday but then lost 7-4 to the Cross Lake Islanders Sunday.

In Sunday's loss, Cross Lake snapped a 4-4 third-period tie with three unanswered goals.

Tryome Spence-Bair led Peguis with three goals and an assist while Ethan Daniels also tallied.

Dennis Scatch (three), Keith Monias, Armando Evans, Ethan Scribe and Quinton Scatch scored for the Islanders.

Dray Flett made 34 saves in the loss.

In Saturday's win, Spence-Bair had a goal and an assist while single goals were scored by Sundance Paul, Daniels, Josh Cameron and Dylan Bird-Wilson.

Peguis' Quinton Flett finished the game with two assists.

Glenn Queskeapow, Keeshton McKay and Clinton Apetagon replied for Norway House.

The Juniors outshot the North Stars 52-28 as Nolan Favel earned the win in goal.

Peguis, now 2-4-0-1 and in third place in the four-team league with five points, will host winless Norway House (0-8) in a pair of games this weekend.

The two teams will hook up Saturday (8 p.m.) and Sunday (2:30 p.m.).

Lightning play well, but lose trio of games

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning Provincial Midget hockey team played three solid games last week.

That's the good news. The bad news is that they lost all three.

Interlake finished the week 0-3 after a 5-2 road loss to the Pembina Valley Hawks Sunday in Manitoba AAA Midget Hockey League action in Morden.

Matthew Vandel scored a first-period goal for the Lightning and then Tyler Carvalho, a Narol product, added a power-play goal in the third.

Cameron Brunn (with the man advantage), Riley Goertzen, Roux Bazin, Andrew Boucher and Tyler Park replied for Pembina Valley.

Josh Bond made 37 saves in the loss.

On Saturday evening, the Lightning was defeated 4-2 by the Winnipeg Thrashers in Arborg.

Interlake's Derrick Lange and Winnipeg's Brandon Ambrozik, on the power play, scored in the first period and then the Thrashers' Nate Goodbrandson of St. Andrews and Vandel

traded second-period power-play goals.

Winnipeg's Mathieu Moreira and Goodbrandson, recently signed to a standard player agreement with the Western Hockey League's Everett Silvertips, scored to make it 4-2 for the visitors.

Winnipeg outshot the Interlake 60-23 as Chris Fines made 56 saves.

On Nov. 14, the Lightning lost 3-2 to the Eastman Selects in Teulon.

Garson's Matthew Boonstra, a defenceman, and Kade Runke scored first-period goals for Eastman.

Interlake's Chase Barkley answered with a goal at 15:18 of the second, assisted by Kieran Schioler.

But the Selects went ahead 3-1 on a goal from Matthew Egan early in the third.

The Lightning pulled to within 3-2 as Ethan Johnson struck on the power play at 14:38 of the third. Emmitt Fairbrother assisted on the goal.

Bond made 41 saves in the losing cause.

Interlake, whose roster also includes



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Lightning goaltender Chris Fines made 56 saves against the Winnipeg Thrashers in Interlake's 4-2 loss in Arborg last Saturday.

St. Andrews' forward Carl Ingalls (who has five goals and 14 points this season) will host the Southwest Cougars on Saturday (7:30 p.m.) in Teulon.

The Lightning will then take on the Central Plains Capitals on Sunday (1:15 p.m.) in Portage la Prairie.

Gimli readies to host Manitoba's top curlers in 2019

By Roger Newman

More than 200 volunteers leading the parade for the 2019 Manitoba Women's Scotties Curling Championship crammed into Gimli's Rec Centre lounge Sunday night for supper and a briefing from the host committee.

Gimli will host the province's best female curlers Jan. 21-27, 2019.

The host committee is led by co-chairs Dave Leblanc and Lynn Hoplock, finance chair Ted Hoplock and secretary Brenna Philp, who is the centre's program director.

"I think everything is coming together quite well for the Scotties," Leblanc said following supper. "We have 25 sub-committee chairs all in place to look after various aspects of the championship."

He said there will be a day of practice before the 16 teams start competing for the right to represent Manitoba in the national Scotties in Sydney, N.S., Feb. 16-24, 2019.

While the curlers battle on the ice, the needs of players and fans will be taken care of by volunteers looking af-

ter everything from ticket sales, 50-50 draws and entertainment to transport, security and the set up of additional seating in the hockey arena where the tournament will take place.

"We are organizing the championship in co-operation with the provincial body Curl Manitoba," Leblanc said. "We've also had sound advice from Gimli's international ice-maker Hans Wuthrich and a good connection with the RM of Gimli that makes this event possible."

This will be the third provincial

women's Scotties held in Gimli. The first was in the late 1980s shortly after completion of the rec centre and the second in 2007. The tournament 10 years ago featured Gimli skip Kerri Einarson's debut on the provincial stage and a controversial battle between her team and Jennifer Jones. That could be repeated this January as Einarson and Jones have already qualified for the 2019 Scotties.

Tickets for the tournament are available on the Gimli Scotties website.



Gimli 2019 Women's Scotties Curling Championship co-chair Dave Leblanc, left, briefs volunteers with the support of co-chair Lynn Hoplock, middle, and rec centre programmer Brenna Philp last Sunday.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY ROGER NEWMAN

A total of 25 committee chairs will direct volunteers during the championship.

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Rural Municipality of
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The Rural Municipality of Fisher MUNICIPAL NOTICE OF INTENT

TAKE NOTICE that on September 5th, 2018 the Council of the Rural Municipality of Fisher gave first reading to By-law No. 1177/18 to designate as a municipal heritage site under the Heritage Resources Act, the lands and premises commonly known as the Ruthenian Greek Catholic Parish of St. Nicholas, located at Part S.E. 23-24-02 WPM (109 Tache Street) in Fisher Branch, Manitoba.

The land is described in Certificate of Title No. P32491 as follows:

In the Village of Fisher Branch, in the Province of Manitoba, being the easterly 210 feet of the southerly 210 feet of the South-East Quarter of Section Twenty-Three (23), Township Twenty-Four (24) Range Two (2) West of the Principal Meridian, registered in the Winnipeg Land Titles Office.

A copy of the proposed By-law can be inspected at the Rural municipality of Fisher Office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba during the hours 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

A public hearing will be held on **Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Rural Municipality of Fisher Office, 30 Tache Street, Fisher Branch, Manitoba.

At that time, any person may submit an objection or other representation on the proposal. If there is no objection, Council may resolve to adopt the proposed By-law, or not to proceed with it.

Dated at Fisher Branch, Manitoba on November 15, 2018.

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## OBITUARY

### Arnold Alexander Eyford

Suddenly, on Monday, November 19, 2018 at his residence in Winnipeg Beach, Arnold Eyford, aged 67 years, beloved husband of Heather, passed away.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, November 23, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. in the Gilbert Funeral Chapel, Gimli, MB.

Full obituary to follow.



Gilbert Funeral Home,  
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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### BIRTHDAY



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## ANNOUNCEMENT

### IN MEMORIAM



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FRIDAY**

**\$36,592**

\*Black Friday specials are plus taxes. See dealer for details.



**16-7TH AVENUE, GIMLI, MB**  
**SALES - 855-963-1818**

Dealer  
#5358