

Happy Holidays

RE/MAX TOWN & COUNTRY
THE MCKILLOP TEAM

mckillop.ca (204) 467-8000



SPECTACULAR HOME ON 3.7 ACRES ON COOKS CREEK 3460 sq.ft., 5 bedrms, 35 mins from the city \$959,000 - Brandt

BUILDING LOTS

in Stony Mountain

\$84,900
- Brandt



COMMERCIAL BLDG IN STONEWALL 6210 sq.ft. Metal clad, high ceilings, offices, reception, shipping/receiving Prime location -\$699,000 - Brandt



WATER FRONT PROPERTY IN STONEWALL 1296 sq.ft. 27 x 32 heated gar/shop - \$399,900 - Brandt



CAREFREE EASY LIVING - 2 bedroom condo move in ready; its beautiful -Stonewall \$219,900 - Brandt



3.16 ACRES, 1215 SQ.FT., POTENTIAL FOR SUBDIVISION, 3 bedrms, 28 x 30 gar/wrkshop, 15 mins W Perimeter \$349,900 - Brandt

THE EXPRESS

Merry Christmas

VOLUME 7 EDITION 51 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2020

WEEKLY NEWS

SERVING LUNDAR, ASHERN, ERIKSDALE, MOOSEHORN, FISHER BRANCH, RIVERTON, ARBORG, GIMLI, WINNIPEG BEACH, ARNES, MELEB, FRASERWOOD



Thanks for supporting our business this year. We really appreciate friends and customers like you, and we wish you all the best this Christmas season.

Merry Christmas and wishing you all good health and happiness in 2021.

SHACHTAY SALES & SERVICE
204-376-5233

T.D.M. SPORTS LTD
376-2320

Arborg Nie Naes & Flowers
204-376-5023



Giving thanks

Thannia Dotig places her Christmas ornament of gratitude on a miniature tree, emphasizing how much there is to be thankful for this holiday.

EXPRESS PHOTO BY JOEL MATHESON

> everything you need to know in your locally owned and operated community newspaper

With Our
Thanks at
Christmas

WE WISH YOU A DAY OF JOY, A SEASON OF CHEER AND HEALTH AND HAPPINESS THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR. OUR STAFF THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE DURING A VERY CHALLENGING YEAR.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

FISHER POWERSPORTS

63 MAIN ST, FISHER BRANCH, MB
www.fisherpowersports.com

1-204-372-6648

Fisher Branch Collegiate students celebrate Christmas

By Evan Matthews

Good fortune and good will to all humankind are typical themes over the holidays, and at Fisher Branch Collegiate, students are getting a first-hand look.

FBC principal Joel Matheson said Grade 7 and 8 students have been studying the more- and less-developed nations of the world in their social studies program and have been feeling a little more fortunate to be here in Canada.

“Even though we are living through this pandemic, we

have so much to be thankful for,” said Grade 8 student Thannia Dotig. “We still have so many ways to celebrate together.”

Students have also been participating in “gratitude activities” throughout the month of December, Matheson said, with students writing Christmas cards to Canadian military troops stationed abroad, thanking them for their service.

Teachers Mrs. Jensen and Mrs. Bouchard introduced the idea of creating “Christmas ornaments of gratitude,” in which each student wrote on a colourful Christmas paper 10 or more reasons why they’re grateful for the holiday season.

The students then decorated the ornaments with glitter and rolled them up and placed them inside their ornament.

“It was an opportunity to reflect on their own lives, and think about people less fortunate than us worldwide this holiday season,” said Matheson.

“It was a way to bring the Grade 7 and 8 class communities together and bring some normalcy into the Christmas season.”



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY JOEL MATHESON
Fisher Branch Collegiate students made and decorated Christmas ornaments, while reflecting on the less fortunate.



CHRISTMAS IN HEAVEN
by Wanda Bencke

*I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below
With tiny lights, like Heaven’s stars, reflecting on the snow
The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away the tear
For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.*

*I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear
But the sounds of music can’t compare with the Christmas choir up here.
I have no words to tell you, the joy their voices bring,
For it is beyond description, to hear the angels sing.*

*I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart
But I am not so far away, we really aren’t apart.
So be happy for me, dear ones, you know I hold you dear.
And be glad I’m spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.*

*I sent you each a special gift, from my heavenly home above.
I sent you each a memory of my undying love.
After all, love is a gift more precious than pure gold
It was always most important in the stories Jesus told.*

*Please love and keep each other, as my Father said to do
For I can’t count the blessing or love he has for each of you
So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear
Remember, I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.*



Fisher Funeral Home Inc.
Licensed Funeral Director **Gord Wevursky**

*Helping Families,
with Dignity and Respect, Since 1967*

Christmas Blessings from, Gordie, Tracy, Owen & Luke Wevursky

Box 312 Fisher Branch, MB R0C 0Z0 wevursky@mts.net
204-372-6271 204-372-6803

Baker Law
CORPORATION

Do you have a current will?
Protect your family by having a current will, power of attorney and health care directive. Call us or stop in for more information and find out how we can help you.

Grant D. Baker
Barrister, Solicitor and Notary

Providing full time legal service to families and small businesses in Gimli and the Interlake.

GIMLI LOCATION
72 Centre Street, Gimli, MB
Our office is open 9-5 Mon to Fri
204-642-8681 or 1-866-487-5688

RIVERTON LOCATION
33 Main St. Riverton MB
Open Mon & Wed 9:30-4:30
204-378-5427

First COVID-19 vaccines administered in Manitoba

Staff

The very first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine were administered to Manitoba health-care workers on Dec. 16.

"Today is a monumental day in Manitoba and a long-awaited day of hope as we begin to deliver the first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine nine months after our first positive case in the province," Premier Brian Pallister said in a statement.

Those doses were the first of about 900 scheduled to be administered over three days at the University of Manitoba's Rady Faculty of Health Sciences beside the Health Sciences Centre (HSC) in Winnipeg.

When it comes to rolling out the vaccine, the province has given first priority to health-care workers of a certain age who have close contact with COVID-19 patients and Manitobans most vulnerable to the virus.

"Our front-line health-care workers have been stepping up throughout this pandemic and we know that stepping up now to protect them first is the right thing to do so that we can protect them and the patients they look after," Pallister said.

Receiving Manitoba's very first COVID-19 vaccine was Dr. Brian Penner,

who works in internal medicine at HSC.

"I am now safer for my friends and colleagues, and I hope everyone does their part to stop the spread," he said.

Not far behind Penner was Sherry Plett, a registered nurse who works at the Boundary Trails Health Centre.

"It's important for me because I'm a front-line worker. I work in the emergency room," Plett said. "I just feel like I need to be there. I need to be healthy so I can be there and look after people in the community."

The recipients of these first doses will need to get a second shot in three weeks. That will take place at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg, the "super-site" the province is setting up for the storage and administration of the vaccine. Additional vaccination sites are planned for communities across Manitoba in the new year as more vaccine arrives.

Currently, the Pfizer vaccine arrives in 975 doses that must remain in the same location where it is delivered. Manitoba expects to receive other COVID-19 vaccines in the future that can be broken down into smaller amounts and be transported, which will allow for mobile vaccination



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY
Canada Border Services Agency staff watched as the first shipment of the COVID-19 vaccine arrived in Winnipeg last week. The first doses were administered to health-care workers on Dec. 16.

teams and, gradually, a more conventional immunization program in the year ahead, the province has said.

May this holiday season fill you with happiness and peace!
Thank you for letting us be a part of your lives.

THE LUNDAR PHARMACY TEAM
18 Main St., Lundar 204-762-5431

PEACE. JOY. LOVE. FRIENDSHIP.

Riverton & District Friendship Centre
204-378-2800

Payments On Us Until March 2021*!
AutoWinnipeg Credit Solutions

✓ Lower Interest Rate* ✓ Consolidate Debt Into One Easy Payment*
✓ Save You Money OAC*

A DIVISION OF **(855) 947-6715**
1010 Manitoba Ave., Selkirk
autowinnipeg.ca

SELKIRK CHEVROLET • BUICK • GMC
STEELTOWN EST. 1980

Interlake Self Storage Under NEW Ownership

- Indoor storage (not heated) 10' x 20'
- Store your household goods or vehicles with affordable flexible storage
- Clean and secure • 24 hour access
- Monthly rates available

Caleb - yardandrentals@arborghbc.com
Ray - ray@arborghbc.com

Arborg Home Hardware building centre **Here's How.**
451 Main Street, Arborg
204-376-5685

Arborg resident says thank you and beware of icy conditions

By Patricia Barrett

A resident who went to pick up her mail at the Arborg Post Office a few weeks ago slipped on ice or hard-packed snow near the door and fell, breaking her hand in three places.

Nadine Legras' right hand is now in a cast and she may require surgery, but she wants to thank the two people who came to her assistance after seeing her fall and warn other residents to be careful when they're out shopping or conducting business around town.

"I just want to thank the two people for their kindness. We're like family in this town, looking out for each other," said Legras last Tuesday by phone.

Legras said after she had finished work on Dec. 10, she went to check her mailbox at the post office. Her husband was waiting in their vehicle and didn't see her fall.

"I went to get my mail at the post office after work. It was starting to get dark out. I had pretty good grip boots on, but I went down hard. If I didn't put my hand down, I would've split my head wide open."

She said a woman across the street yelled out to her, drawing attention to her fall. Then a man came up from behind her and helped her up "because I couldn't move."

Feeling shaken, Legras said she supported her hand and was going to get her mail but quickly realized her hand was in a serious condition and walked back to her husband waiting in their vehicle.

"My hand was deformed and feeling very heavy, so we went straight from the post office to the [Arborg hospital] emergency department," said Legras. "They X-rayed it, saying it was one firm break. When they tried to re-set



Legras' fingers are bruised and swollen. She may need surgery to repair the damage.

it, though, they told me it was three breaks."

Arborg hospital staff put a cast on it that night, but Legras said she had to come back the following day (Friday) to have it cut open a bit because her hand began to swell. She had to go back on Saturday "because of the discoloration of my fingers. I thought my blood circulation wasn't right."

One of three bones in her hand had split "right in half" she said, and the hospital referred her to a specialist at the Grace Hospital in Winnipeg late last week. The doctor re-set and re-cast her hand and told her she may need surgery depending on how it heals.

Legras said she spoke with staff at the Arborg post office about sidewalk conditions after her fall.

"I talked to [staff member] at the post office here in town and they took responsibility," said Legras. "They said their maintenance guy has not been salting as he should be doing and they were going to put a sign up to make sure he salts. As far as I know, there is no sign up yet. They were also going to get him to do the back as well as the front. I don't know if it's been done."

Legras said she's concerned for others in town, especially seniors.

"The post office has to be more re-



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF NADINE LEGRAS

Nadine Legras fell outside the Arborg Post Office and broke her hand in three places.

sponsible. They have to make sure they salt because things like this can happen, not just to me but to other people," she said. "Can you imagine a 75-year-old lady falling?"

Legras said she called the Town of Arborg to find out who's supposed to take care of the sidewalks.

Staff were "very sympathetic" and told her the town is responsible for clearing snow from sidewalks but not for salting or applying ice melt products to them.

Owners or occupants of businesses and institutions fronting streets are obliged to do that.

They must "exercise due diligence to ensure safe passage of sidewalk pedestrian traffic by applying an ice melt product on the sidewalk fronting the premises when necessary," according to the Town of Arborg's snow clearing and removal policy that's available on the town's website.

Town chief administrative officer Cindy Stansell said by email that a copy of the policy was provided to all affected businesses following its adoption in 2011.

"If the Town of Arborg administrative office receives a concern regarding clearing/salting of sidewalks in front of businesses, a letter to the busi-

ness including a copy of the policy is sent indicating a concern was brought to the Town of Arborg's attention," said Stansell. "In this letter, we also request the business to adhere to the policy that is in place."

A few complaints about sidewalks have been lodged with the town over a certain number of years, said Stansell, but there's currently no mechanism in place for "issuing fines for this type of infraction."

Canada Post media relations spokesperson Nicole Lecompte said when the corporation learned of the incident the day after it happened, the area was inspected but no issues were found.

"We have been in contact with this customer and it is our understanding that this incident occurred on or near the sidewalk located in front of the Arborg Post Office after the post office was closed," said Lecompte by email last week.

"We do take these matters very seriously and the safety of our customers is of the utmost importance. As soon as we learned of the incident on Friday, the area was inspected immediately and no maintenance issues were found."

RECYCLING NOTICE

Riverdale Workshop WILL NOT be picking up Recycling due to a small group of workers available.

Mon. Jan. 4/21 at Riverton business places

tues. Jan. 5 at Arborg curbside pickup

Wed Jan. 6 at Arborg business places

Thurs. Jan. 7 at Riverton curbside pickup

Mon. Jan 18 at Riverton business places

Tues. Jan. 19 at Arborg curbside pickup

Weds. Jan. 20 at Arborg business places

Thurs. Jan. 21 at Riverton curbside pickup

The workshop will be closed

Dec. 24, 25, 28, 2020

and Jan. 1, 2021

Enjoy the Holidays

What's *Your* story?

We want to hear from you.

The Express Weekly News connects people through stories to build stronger communities. Do you know someone who has a unique hobby? Will be recognized by a local organization for volunteer service? A teacher that goes above and beyond? A hometown hero? A sports star? A business celebrating a milestone or expansion? A senior celebrating their 100th birthday? A young entrepreneur starting out?

Please share your story ideas at news@expressweeklynews.ca or Phone 204-467-5836

THE EXPRESS
WEEKLY NEWS

RDFC preparing curbside meals for seniors

By Evan Matthews

There is a silver lining in every cloud. With COVID-19 resulting in the cancellation of many traditional holiday events, money spent on those events has been made available in other ways.

The Riverton and District Friendship Centre is one of the most recent examples, as executive director Tanis Grimolfson said the organization is taking funds it would normally spend on pancake breakfasts and Christmas parties and using it to feed seniors.

"Every single day we've been doing this, we've had more residents engage with us and pick up a meal," said Grimolfson.

"We started with 40 community members on the first day, and it just continues to go up."

The initiative started on Nov. 16, Monday to Friday, and is now up to serving 61 seniors in the community.

RDFC had originally planned to do four weeks of the curbside meals but, due to the high demand, Grimolfson said the organization extended the free lunches through Dec. 18.

"We know a lot of the seniors in town because they come in to access ser-



vices. We found many of them were becoming depressed and lonely," said Grimolfson.

She added that it was clear at least a few seniors in the community were not eating well either.

"We thought we'd try and brighten their day with a free meal, and we can tell when they come to pick up their healthy meal, they really appreciate it," she said.

While RDFC called the initiative "free curbside meals," Grimolfson said her staff has been doing contactless delivery for upwards of 70 per cent of the meals.

With such high demand, Grimolfson



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY TANIS GRIMOLFSON

Martine Sawanas cooked up a full turkey dinner for seniors on Dec. 11.

said she hopes to extend the program again, this time in to January.

Grimolfson added special thanks to Martine Sawanas, as she's the head

cook for the initiative.

Anyone interested in the initiative is encouraged to contact RDFC by calling 204-378-2800.

Manitoba opens first COVID-19 immunization clinic

Winnipeg doctor becomes first Manitoban to receive COVID-19 vaccine

By Manitoba government

The Manitoba government launched its first COVID-19 immunization clinic this morning to deliver the life-saving vaccine to the first priority group of health-care providers, Premier Brian Pallister announced last Thursday.

"Today is a monumental day in Manitoba and a long-awaited day of hope as we begin to deliver the first doses of the COVID-19 vaccine nine months after our first positive case in the province," said Pallister. "Our front-line health-care workers have been stepping up throughout this pandemic and we know that stepping up now to protect them first is the right thing to do, so that we can protect them and the patients they look after. I want to express my sincere gratitude to all those involved in our immunization campaign, as well as our health-care system and the immunization task force for its hard work to prepare for this historic challenge."

This morning, the clinic opened its doors at the University of Manitoba's Rady Faculty of Health Sciences on Bannatyne campus adjacent to the Health Sciences Centre (HSC) Winnipeg. The first Manitoban to be immunized was Dr. Brian Penner, who works in internal medicine at HSC.

"I am now safer for my friends and colleagues, and I hope everyone does their part to stop the spread," said Penner.

"I'm old, I work in a hospital, I work in a clinic and I do a lot of house calls on people in assisted living sites," said Dr. Brian Sharkey, a family physician who also works in urgent care at Victoria General Hospital. "I've been worried about the vulnerability of those sites and the possibility of bringing the virus to someone who is unprotected."

"It's important for me because I'm a front-line worker, I work in the emergency room," said Sherry Plett, a registered nurse from the Southern Health-Santé Sud health region. "I just feel like I need to be there, I need to be healthy so I can be there and look after people in the community."

Over the next three days, the province expects to immunize 900 health-care workers who fall into the first priority group and booked appointments in advance.

Individuals eligible to be vaccinated at this time include health-care workers who have direct contact with patients and also meet one of these criteria:

- work in critical care units, born on or before Dec. 31, 1970;

- work in acute care facilities, born on or before Dec. 31, 1960;
- work in long-term care facilities, born on or before Dec. 31, 1960; or
- be assigned to COVID-19 immunization clinics.

Additional doses of vaccine are expected to be delivered to this province later this month and more appointments to be immunized will become available at that time. As details about the type and amount of vaccine are confirmed, the province will provide further updates to Manitobans.

Continued on page 6

Take care of details so they don't have to. *Just ask Ken.*

kl
KEN LOEHMER
FUNERAL SERVICES

55 Main St, Teulon Call 204-886-0404 or visit www.klfuneralservices.ca

THE
Flicks
CINEMA

319 First Street E., Stonewall, MB

SHOWTIMES:
Please check individual listings
Due to various picture lengths showtimes vary

204-467-8401
PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
Cash only

CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

THE EXPRESS WEEKLY NEWS



PUBLISHER
Lana Meier



SALES
Brett Mitchell



SALES AND MARKETING
Jasmin Wolf



REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER
Jennifer McFee



SPORTS EDITOR
Brian Bowman



REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER
Patricia Barrett



REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER
Evan Matthews



REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER
Sydney Lockhart



REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER
Becca Myskiw



ADMINISTRATION
Jo-Anne Procter



PRODUCTION
Debbie Strauss



DISTRIBUTION
Christy Brown



PRODUCTION
Nicole Kapusta



ADMINISTRATION
Allana Sawatzky



ADMINISTRATION
Corrie Sargent

getheard > Got news?

NEWS > VIEWS > GIMLI > ARBORG > HIGHWAY 6 > SURROUNDING AREAS



Call Patricia Barrett
1-204-407-6099
patricia@expressweeklynews.ca



Call Evan Matthews
1-204-990-9871
evan@expressweeklynews.ca

Enough debate over vaccines

By Evan Matthews

Let's talk about the perspective of people who are suggesting the Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations are "rushed" and somehow a bad thing.

It's unlikely the people who are taking this stance are legitimate anti-vaccination advocates, but it's becoming a fine line.

Anti-Vacc-ers

There are still people out there who say vaccinations cause autism, but it's not true and the story is well-documented.

In 1998, the *Lancet*, a well-respected British medical journal, published a study falsely claiming the measles, mumps and rubella vaccines caused autism. It was then widely quoted. The *Lancet* has since retracted the study.

Many larger studies have explored the topic and disproven it time and time again. This information is all readily available in media publications, on government websites or in the medical journals themselves.

How does this relate?

Amidst a global pandemic, two separate companies are bringing vaccinations in to our country and countries around the globe. This is it; these vaccinations will mark the end of the pandemic as we know it, or at least so

we're told. In time.

Despite the vaccinations having gone through human trials, despite our federal medical regulating body deeming it safe, there is a camp of people who keep saying, "I won't be a guinea pig" and "We don't know what's going to happen."

But you're not the guinea pig. The guinea pigs — or whichever lab animal was chosen — were. Then the humans who volunteered were. Do we ever know exactly what's going to happen? No.

Of course, it rarely bodes well to speak in absolutes. Anything could happen; there are always statistical anomalies and outliers.

But if Health Canada — our best medical minds — are telling us this COVID-19 vaccination is safe, you don't trust them? Maybe that's a fair perspective; a bit conspiratorial, but to each their own.

Typically, on average it takes 10 years of research and development before Health Canada considers a vaccine for approval, according to its website. Cause for alarm that this one came so fast?

No, because as Health Canada says right on its website, it doesn't always take that long, as global investments and new technologies make it possible to develop safely and effectively even faster.

COVID-context

Think about COVID-19 in context. It's a worldwide issue; a global pandemic.

Of the world's seven billion people, it's become the entire world's first priority to rid ourselves of this virus.

Is it really so hard to believe our world's greatest medical minds — our world's deepest financial pockets — could really not have pulled this off without understanding, at least to some degree, what the ramifications are?

Even after vaccines are in use, their safety and effectiveness are regularly checked by people who give them, such as nurses, doctors and pharmacists — as well as pharmaceutical companies who make them, Health Canada scientists who review them and the Public Health Agency of Canada through a monitoring system, according to the Health Canada website.

Unless you've already had the COVID-19 vaccination from either Pfizer or Moderna, quit complaining and spreading fear because you couldn't be the guinea pig even if you wanted to.

Let's be reasonable. Check your sources. Don't spread unwarranted fear and misinformation.

Ultimately, take the vaccine when you're given the opportunity. It probably won't be for a while.

> CLINIC, FROM PG. 5

This will include the opening of the province's first "super-site" at RBC Convention Centre, followed by other locations in Winnipeg, Brandon, Thompson, Steinbach, Gimli, Portage la Prairie and The Pas beginning in

the new year. Mobile clinics and other targeted outreach is being planned as a supply of more easily stored and transported vaccines becomes available.

For more information, visit www.manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine.

A number of employment opportunities are available for Manitobans who want to be a part of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. For a current list of job postings, visit www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/jobs.html.

ADVERTISING OR PRINT CONTACT INFORMATION

Lana Meier 204-292-2128
ads@expressweeklynews.ca
Jasmin Wolf 204-771-8707
ads@stonewallteulontribune.ca
PHONE 204-467-5836
FAX 204-467-2679

> EMAIL US

Letters to the Editor: letters@expressweeklynews.ca
Classifieds: classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca
News: news@expressweeklynews.ca
Print: igraphic@mymts.net

OUR EDITORIAL STAFF

Brian Bowman Sports Reporter
sports@expressweeklynews.ca
Evan Matthews - Reporter/photographer
204-990-9871 Email: evan@expressweeklynews.ca
Patricia Barrett - Reporter/photographer
Cell 204-407-6099 patricia@expressweeklynews.ca

ADDRESS

74 Patterson Drive, Stonewall Industrial Park
Box 39, Stonewall, MB R0C 2Z0

PAPER DELIVERY OR FLYER CONCERNS

Christy Brown, Distribution Mgr.: 204-467-5836

The Express Weekly News is published Thursdays and distributed through Canada Post to 11,396 homes. Republishing in whole or in part without permission is strictly prohibited. Printed in Canada by Prolific Printing.

This newspaper is supported 100% by advertising dollars. If you enjoy the paper and would like to see the newspaper grow and prosper visit any of the advertisers and businesses in our rural communities. - Keep your dollars working at home and shop local. Our commitment to you, the reader - we connect people through stories to build stronger communities.

Advertising Deadline: Monday 4:00 pm
prior to Thursday Publication
View the Express Weekly News online at
www.expressweeklynews.ca



Westshore Community Foundation 2020 year at a glance

By Tim Arnason, President, Westshore Community Foundation

Twenty-twenty has been a challenging year to say the least. Looking back on our plan for this year, and reflecting on how things had to quickly change, I am proud how we responded to the needs of our catchment area given the realities of the pandemic.

Notwithstanding that we were unable to move forward with key fundraising events, we find ourselves in a very healthy financial position. We continued to recover well from the financial market downturn and through this healthier market and growth of existing funds and the addition of new funds; our assets are at approximately \$4.3 million.

The ongoing support we receive from our donors, sponsors and partners strengthens our commitment to our mandate of "Building a Lasting Legacy" and our resolve to maintain and build upon the exceptional quality of life that we enjoy.

Our year began with a matching partnership with Manitoba 150 which enabled us to address a number of needs within our catchment. This was quickly followed by the onset of COVID and as the effects of the pandemic began to unfold, we recognized our obligation to take a leadership role within our communities and do everything we could to support the not for profits that had been, and continue to be, most negatively affected.

Through drawing from our Community Endowment Fund and forging strategic partnerships with like-



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Westshore Community Foundation 2020 Board of Directors, left to right, Rosanna Cuthbert, Nikki Philp, Gerry Knutson, Dave Douglas, Michele Couture, Giuseppe Dalzotto, Tristin Tergesen, Tim Arnason (President) and Ruby Tretiak. Missing from the photo are Don Matthewson, Darcy Jacobs, Eric Stefanson, and Ron Moore.

minded organizations, we developed our own COVID support program and were pleased to be able to quickly respond in a very effective way. As the dust began to clear on this program, we entered our traditional granting cycle and were pleased to support most of the applications that were submitted.

As this wound down, the Federal Government announced the Emergency Community Support Fund designed to help community organizations serve vulnerable Canadians during the COVID-19 crisis. The design and administration of the program relied heavily on the involvement of Community Foundations across Canada and Westshore was successful in securing maximum

funding available to Foundations of our size. We distributed the entire amount to organizations within our catchment through an application and assessment process and partially through this success, we were able to secure additional funding through the second phase of the program. We again were able to funnel support directly into the hands of our organizations who were working so hard to serve our communities.

So, traditionally, our one annual round of granting changed to five rounds of granting this past year. It has been a tremendous amount of work but we are proud to have been able to accomplish these levels of support. As I write this year-end report, we have received an additional gener-

ous gift from one of our steadfast supporters with the request to distribute to several catchment organizations and we are in the process of doing so now.

Along with this unprecedented level of grant related support, our Scholarship program continues to support deserving students in their pursuits of post-secondary studies. We were able to celebrate the accomplishments of these very deserving students, in an outdoor COVID compliant way, in early October. It was a wonderful late afternoon event held on the shores of our beautiful lake.

In a "normal" year, our grant and scholarship programs will see us place approximately \$70,000 within our catchment. This year, that support grew to approximately \$200,000.

We look forward to 2021 with renewed optimism. We will continue to explore new partnership funding opportunities and we look forward to supporting organizations and individuals who enable us to continue to build a lasting legacy in our community.

Our commitment to our community is strengthened through the support we receive from you. On behalf of the entire board, thank you. We would love to hear from you. Visit us at our new website at www.westshorecommunityfoundation.ca, drop us an email at westshorefdn@hotmail.ca, call us at 204-642-9796 or just chat with any of us. This is your Foundation and it is an honor for us to continue to work hard on your behalf.

Gypsumville RCMP respond to fatal vehicle-pedestrian collision

By RCMP

Gypsumville RCMP responded to a report of a vehicle-pedestrian collision that occurred on Provincial Road 513, located approximately four kilometres east of Gypsumville on Dec. 16 at 6:55 p.m.

Officers attended the collision and

located the victim, a 29-year-old female from the Lake St Martin First Nation, on the roadway who had been struck by a vehicle. The victim was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The investigation has determined that a vehicle, being driven by a 20-year-old male from Dauphin River,

was travelling eastbound on PR 513 when it collided with the female who was walking on the Road.

The driver of the vehicle stopped at the scene and then immediately called 911.

RCMP believe that the very dark lighting conditions and also that the

victim was wearing dark clothing were factors in the collision. Alcohol and speed are not involved.

Gypsumville RCMP along with the Criminal Collision Investigation Team and a Forensic Collision Reconstructionist, continue to investigate.

Soil moisture normal to below normal in most of province

Staff

Manitoba's fall freeze-up hopefully bodes well for flood season next spring.

Manitoba Infrastructure's Hydrologic Forecast Centre has released the 2020 Fall Conditions Report that indicates soil moisture levels before freeze-up were normal to below normal in most Manitoba basins.

Due to minimal summer and fall precipitation, the soil moisture at freeze-up was normal to below nor-

mal for most of southern, central and western Manitoba basins, with the exception of the Little Saskatchewan River basin and in areas close to Brandon where the soil moisture is normal to above normal. Northern Manitoba basins, including the Saskatchewan and Churchill river basins, have normal to above normal soil moisture.

The minister noted another factor affecting potential spring high water events is the base flow in rivers and the water levels on lakes prior to

freeze-up. Base flow is a portion of the stream flow that is not from surface run-off; it is water from the ground, flowing into the river channel over a period of time. Base flows on most rivers are normal to below normal for this time of the year, with the exception of northern Manitoba rivers, where base flows are well above normal to record high.

Environment and Climate Change Canada's December long-term precipitation forecast indicates precipita-

tion will be normal to above normal from December to February for most of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The National Weather Service (NWS) Climate Prediction Center's outlook indicates above normal precipitation within the U.S. portion of the Red and Souris river basins from December to March.

To view the 2020 Fall Conditions Report, visit gov.mb.ca/mit/floodinfo/pdf/2020/2020_fall_conditions_report.pdf.

Arborg photographer captures beauty and the beast

By Patricia Barrett

Sharon Stadnek from Arborg built a fitting tribute to 2020 in her front yard. Her humorous snow sculpture depicts a pyramid of toilet rolls decorated with face masks and garlanded with a string of red lights to represent our current code red public health orders.

"That's my toilet paper tree. I put the snow in pails to make the rolls," said Stadnek by phone last week. "I can't waste toilet paper because it's so precious. So I made it out of snow. I figure it pretty much sums up the year."

While the weather was relatively balmy, Stadnek also captured the beauty of the Icelandic River and its skating trail winding westwards from Arborg after a night of hoarfrost last week. With the early morning sun casting a rosy glow over the scene and a thick curtain of fog in the distance, it makes you want to lace up your skates and hit the trail.

The skating trail starts at the traffic bridge in town and heads west through the countryside.

Town of Arborg chief administrative officer Cindy Stansell said the trail is beneficial for the public, allowing them to get out into the great out-



Stadnek's artistic snow sculpture summarizes the year that was 2020.

doors and also get some exercise.

"It's being cleaned by private citizens and is available for use by the public," said Stansell. "But we have put up some signage saying you should use it at your own risk and adhere to all [COVID] public health orders, such as physical distancing and a minimum of five people



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY SHARON STADNEK

The Icelandic River, with its public skating trail, west of Arborg makes you want to get your skates on.

from your own household."

Stansell said the town can't put out the warm-up shack because shelters are currently prohibited under the public health in order to keep people as safe as possible from COVID.

"I do believe there are going to be some physically distanced hay bales put out along the riverbank so skaters can sit down and lace up their skates," said Stansell.

Attn: Landowners

Who is the EIWD?

In 2005, the local governments within the East Interlake partnered with the Province of Manitoba to deliver land and water conservation projects on a watershed basis.

What type of projects does EIWD do?

- Well sealing
- Wetland enhancement
- Water retention
- Buffer strips
- Exclusion fencing
- Shelterbelts
- Riparian enhancement
- Upland enhancement
- Conservation contracts
- Protection payments
- Soil enhancement
- And more!

STEPS TO COMPLETE A PROJECT

- 1 DISCUSS**
EIWD and Landowner to discuss project design and partnership.
- 2 DEVELOP**
EIWD staff will work with landowner and partners to develop project design and Enhancement Protection application/bid.
- 3 APPLY**
Project design and application/bid submitted for evaluation by Watershed Sub-District/ GROW committee.
- 4 APPROVAL**
Project Approved or Denied.
- 5 IMPLEMENT**
EIWD staff will work with landowner and partners to complete project as designed.
- 6 EVALUATE**
Completed/ongoing projects will be inspected and evaluated regularly by project team with reports submitted to Watershed Executive Board.
- 7 REVIEW**
Executive Directors will review project reports and may make recommendations on project design and delivery. Directors will finalize annual reports then deliver results to project partners.

This project was undertaken with the financial support of:
 Ce projet a été réalisé avec l'appui financier de :

Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

**For more information,
Call or visit us online:
1.204.642.7578
eastinterlake.ca**

LIFE CAN BE HARD.

FINDING HELP CAN BE EASY.

Dial 2-1-1 to find support for all of life's challenges.

HELP STARTS HERE

Free | Confidential | 24/7 | 150+ languages | mb.211.ca

Communities working together to help those in need

Staff
Ukrainian Farmer's Co-op, staff at Percy E. Moore Hospital, Hodgson and Noventis Credit Union Fisher Branch came together and donated over \$3,000 for families having a difficult time this year. Donations of cash and gift cards were also collected from the community bringing the grand total to just shy of \$4,000.

The money and gift cards were used to help 40 individual families from Poplarfield, Fisher Branch, Jack Head, Peguis, Fisher River, Hodson and Broad Valley.

"With all this COVID it's

been very hard for some families. Some can't work, some are sick, some have lost their jobs. It's been a tough year," said Ukrainian Farmer's Coop general manager Kyle Yaciuk.

Unfortunately because of COVID, donations of non-perishable food items, clothing and toys could not be accepted this year.

"It was really awesome to see community coming together to help those in need — not only with this hamper drive, but other times recently," said Yaciuk.

"The community has really helped out those in need."



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Ukrainian Farmer's Coop staff, left to right, Lucy Bernier, James Crate, Lindsay Podaima, Kyle Yaciuk, Curtis Hnatiuk, Many Poncho and Amanda Brown.



Percy E. Moore staff of Hodgson helped 40 local families financially who are all struggling in some capacity this time of year.



Noventis Fisher Branch donated \$500 for the local Christmas hampers.



We appreciate your business and wish you a Happy Holiday Season!

Kerbrat Bros. Auto & Welding Ltd.



(204) 768-3042
Ashern,
Manitoba



Derek Johnson
MLA for Interlake-Gimli

204.641.8525
InterlakeGimliMLA@gmail.com

Province declares Santa an essential worker

By Ashleigh Viveiros

The Province of Manitoba has deemed Santa Claus an essential worker, which means he'll be able to make his stops this Christmas Eve without any problems.

Manitoba's top doc Dr. Brent Roussin announced last week that St. Nick has been given the green light to deliver his gifts unimpeded.

"Santa Claus is certainly an essential worker, which means that he is allowed to travel to Manitoba and able to come to anyone's house," he said, explaining the government is making special allowances for the jolly old elf.

Continued on page 13



Merry Christmas

Thanks to all of our customers and friends for your trust in the past year. We look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Ross & Leanne Kell

ERIKSDALE
FREIGHT

204-762-5801

eriksdalefreightlines@xplonnet.ca



Pallister calls Peguis First Nation's holiday visitations a 'massive mistake'

By Patricia Barrett

Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister said Peguis First Nation's plan to allow family visits over the holiday season is a "massive mistake" and called out the federal government for not intervening.

The movement of people between the reserve and other communities such as Selkirk and Winnipeg over the holidays could help spread COVID-19 as almost two-thirds of Peguis members live off reserve, he said.

"I know that Chief [Glenn] Hudson is a good man and a well-meaning person, but this is a massive mistake on his part and it's a massive mistake on the part of the federal minister to stand down on an issue like this," said Pallister referring to federal Minister of Indigenous Services Marc Miller.

The federal government works in partnership with Indigenous communities across the country, including First Nations, and is responsible for

matters such as housing and project and program funding. It also helps deliver health-care services to registered members living on-reserve.

Pallister made the remarks Dec. 15 during a media conference to update the public on the roll-out of COVID vaccines.

All of Manitoba is under code red on the province's pandemic response system, the highest level of alert. Non-essential businesses have been ordered shut and households are prohibited from visiting with other households. The order extends over the holiday season until Jan. 8. The spread of COVID continues to outpace the capacity of the health-care system to treat patients needing hospital care.

Over 500 Manitobans have died from COVID and almost 22,000 have been infected. Worldwide, more than

Continued on page 15

SOCIAL DISTANCING
SELF ISOLATION
WASH YOUR HANDS
WEAR A FACE MASK

COVID-19 UPDATE
December 15, 2020

- 0 New COVID-19 Cases
- 3 Active COVID-19 Cases
- 194 Total Confirmed COVID-19 Cases**
- 190 Recovered COVID-19 Cases
- 14 Members Self-Isolating
- 1 Passing

Peguis is at a "HIGH-RISK" state for community spreading

PEGUISFIRSTNATION.CA
24/7 PEGUIS COVID-19 HOTLINE (204) 645-2869

A Dec. 15 post says the community is at risk but had no new cases as of that day.

EXTENDED COVID-19 COMMUNITY LOCKDOWN

DECEMBER 2020/JANUARY 2021

■ LOCKDOWN
■ RELAXED

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

EXPRESS PHOTOS PEGUIS FIRST NATION

Peguis First Nation's calendar shows lockdown days and relaxed lockdown days for parts of December and January. Extended family members and students can gather with family on relaxed lockdown days over the holiday season.

Dashing Through the Snow

Wishing you Health, Happiness and Adventure this season and always. Thanks for riding out this year with us. We appreciate your business & support.

TOUGH NAME. TOUGH STUFF

Box 316, #6 Hwy, Lundar, MB

TIRE & SPORT

204-762-5815

www.randystire.com



As the Holiday season is upon us, we take joy in extending a sincere 'THANK YOU' to those who have helped to shape our business in a most significant way. We value our relationship with you and look forward to working with you in the year to come. We wish you a safe and Happy Holiday season along with a New Year filled with peace and prosperity.

Season's Greetings

From Dwayne Smith & Staff at the Eriksdale and Fisher Branch offices.

Holiday Hours:

Dec. 24: Closing @ 12pm.
 Dec. 25, 28 & Jan 1: Closed

Regular operating hours on all other days

Fisher Branch: Mon-Fri 9am-6pm

Eriksdale: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

www.freedomwestinsurance.com

FREEDOM WEST
INSURANCE SOLUTIONS

PROVIDING PEACE OF MIND

100 YEARS & BEYOND

SMI
SASKATCHEWAN MUTUAL
INSURANCE COMPANY

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

... and don't forget, Christmas is all about Family and your Loved Ones. Be Safe!

We Install Starters, Alternators & Batteries

Drop off your dead car, truck, RV, boat, ag or ATV batteries at George's

GEORGE'S
AUTO ELECTRIC LTD.

505 Mercy St.,
Selkirk
 204-482-6423

Home with you for the Holidays

Happy holidays and best wishes to you and your loves ones!

We hope this Christmas holiday brings an abundance of hope and happiness to your home. We're so very thankful for friends and customers like all of you, and we wish you the best at Christmas and always.

Your unwavering support through a difficult year has been most appreciated.

Thank you for making work a pleasure for us at the holidays and all year.

Sincerely,

Staff

Allana Sawatzky
Ashleigh Viveiros
Brett Mitchell
Becca Myskiw
Brian Bowman
Christy Brown
Corrie Sargent
Dan Anderson
Debbie Strauss
Dennis Young
Evan Matthews
Gwen Keller

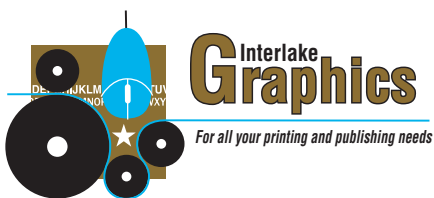
Jasmin Wolf
Jennifer McFee
Jo-Anne Procter
Katelyn Boulanger
Lana Meier
Ligia Braidotti
Lorne Stelmach
Lucy Kowalchuk
Michelle Balharry
Nicole Buffie
Nicole Kapusta
Patricia Barrett
Peter Cantelon

Rick Hiebert
Rick Reimer
Sam Reimer
Shirley Snider
Tara Gionet

Contractors
Janice Carrier
Joan Kalupar
Rita Mueller
Wayde Carrier
Al Moskaliuk
Glen Weaver

Hana Clapham
Dustin Proctor
Pam Hurl
Mattieu Meier
Danielle Munroe
Hailey Cvar
Emma Gisti
Saige Munroe
Gwen Ross
Lorne Ross
Charmaine Hilo
Alizon Escueta

the staff of.....



news@stonewallteulontribune.ca
ads@stonewallteulontribune.ca



news@winklermordenvoice.ca
ads@winklermordenvoice.ca



news@expressweeklynews.ca
ads@expressweeklynews.ca



news@selkirkrecord.ca
ads@selkirkrecord.ca



news@carmanstandard.ca
ads@carmanstandard.ca

Call Today
204-467-5836

Lights, camera and action for Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers

By Patricia Barrett

If you ever wanted to live vicariously through Manitoba's commercial fishers as they battle a wind-swept frozen lake, deal with bombardier break-downs far from shore and try to sell fish during a worldwide pandemic, you're in for a treat because Farpoint Films is filming of the second season of *Ice Vikings* near Gimli.

Farpoint crews have got the cameras rolling on the lake, shooting the series that's slated to be shown on the Cottage Life TV channel after filming wraps up at the end of the winter fishing season next March.

Season 1 introduced viewers to the world of Manitoba's commercial ice fishing industry and some of the rugged men and women risking their lives in sub-zero temperatures on an unpredictable and dangerous inland lake. Season 2 tells new fishing tales.

Trevor Kristjanson, who lives near Gimli, is one of the stars of the series and is also one of the show's associate producers.

"I think the show illuminates a small section of this province and the way we live here," said Kristjanson, who operates the New Iceland Fisheries, processing and delivering fresh-caught fish to homes in Winnipeg and other communities. "It's definitely nice to have that exposure on an international level. I really do think the

show will be a big hit."

The cameras follow Kristjanson as he sets nets under the ice, reels them in and processes the fish for domestic and international markets. On the film production side, he helped find the local cast, co-ordinated a variety of tasks that needed doing and helped film crews "get their bearings" on the ice and in the world of commercial fishing.

"MY EXPERIENCE ON THE LAKE IS LIMITED, BUT ALREADY I CAN SEE CHANGES IN THE STORY BASED ON THE NATURAL ELEMENTS OF THE LAKE."

The docu-series is unscripted, simply following the fishers around as they go about their work. Kristjanson, who is also a filmmaker, said there's no element of "playing up" to the camera, but they're aware the camera is there.

"I'm appearing as myself on camera. It features my everyday working life, my livelihood and my business, which is growing," he said. "Viewers will get a glimpse of what it's

like to participate in the winter fishery."

In addition to Kristjanson's netting of new market opportunities for wild-caught fish during the COVID pandemic, Season 2 features other Lake Winnipeg commercial fishers, including Kristjanson's dad, Chris, husband and wife team Gene and Candice Pischke, and Richard and Mike Bjar-



EXPRESS PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRIS CHARNEY OF FARPOINT FILMS Trevor Kristjanson, who stars in *Ice Vikings* and is one of the producers, removes fish from his nets.



Commercial fisher Candice Pischke is featured in the series that will be shown on Cottage Life.

Continued on page 13

#6 Quality Repair

Merry Christmas and thank you to our customers for trusting us to help you "kick up some dirt"

Randy Lavallee **We've got you covered**
204-762-5716 in DEERHORN, Mb!
 It's where the pros go on Hwy 6!

Christmas Wishes and Thanks to our Customers!

BOB'S
 204-739-8440

Filled With Our Gratitude

We're hoping your holiday season is an equal mix of harmony and joy. Thank you for your goodwill and trust.

Guardian
ASHERN PHARMACY
 43 Main St., Ashern 204-768-2824

A Season for Remembering

At a time when loved ones lost are especially missed, we wish all of our friends and neighbors here comfort and peace.

Thank you to the communities we serve for their continuing support.

John & Karen Gray
Arnason Funeral Home
 Ashern - Lundar
 204-768-2072
 866-323-3593

> COMMERCIAL FISHERS, FROM PG. 12

nason.

The cast and crew have already experienced their fair share of challenges on the lake, where the ice can suddenly shift, the wind and temperature have a bone-chillingly arctic feel to them and white-outs can blindsides them. Even camera batteries need to be stuffed somewhere warm to thaw them out.

"There are daily issues such as breakdowns of the bombardiers or snowmobiles or the lifting of cabooses. Even the amount of ice, the wind and just the sheer cold can create a lot of obstacles for us," said Kristjanson. "Although I'm focusing on my job as a fisher, I've noticed the struggles the crew are going through as we battle the cold weather. It's just as tough for them as it is for us."

Manitoba's winter commercial ice fishing is rather unique in the world, said Kristjanson, because of the nature of our lakes.

"They use some of the same techniques on Great Slave Lake [Northwest Territories] and maybe on the Great Lakes, but those don't really

freeze properly to facilitate the kind of winter fishing we do here," said Kristjanson. "Manitoba lakes are very unique as far as the winter fishery goes."

Season 1 was still filming when COVID hit in March and that affected fishers in terms of selling their catches. Season 2 will include more on that, he said.

Winnipeg-based Farpoint Film TV and production company is using local crew members for *Ice Vikings*. Chris Charney, senior writer and partner, said Season 2 picks up where Season 1 left off.

"My experience on the lake is limited, but already I can see changes in the story based on the natural elements of the lake itself, how this year's first ice was different than last year, as well as what the warmer weather did to the fishing crews' ability to get further out onto the ice," said Charney by email. "Since last year was also an introduction to the characters, this year we're going more in-depth and uncovering what makes them do these dangerous jobs in some of the most



Lake Winnipeg fisher Chris Kristjanson lifts nets with the help of his bombardier

extreme weather conditions on earth."

By the end of May, broadcasters should be able to air the second series, said Charney. Season 1, which has been aired in countries such as New Zealand, will be shown — along with Season 2 — on Blue Ant Media

in Canada through its Travel & Escape and Cottage Life networks.

"The air date is coming up," said Charney. "I haven't been given the official word yet as to when they will air it but they're coming soon."

> ESSENTIAL WORKER, FROM PG. 9

Speaking directly to Manitoba's children, Roussin said he knows the past several months haven't been easy for them.

"We know that this year there's been a lot of new rules. We have to wear masks. We have to continue to wash our hands. We have to keep our distance from friends and others," he said. "You can't play with your friends as much, maybe you haven't been able to visit grandparents or other family members."

"We needed these rules to protect ourselves and the people around us, but we know they've been hard."

He reminded Manitobans of all ages

of the importance of celebrating only with members of their households this Christmas, staying connected virtually with other loved ones.

"Right now I need to remind everyone to stay safe at home with the people you live with," Roussin stressed. "We can't have people visit right now, even over the holiday season. We have to stay safe."

"These rules have been very difficult, but they're not going to be forever. We can see right now, with a vaccine here in Manitoba, that it's not going to be forever. We are going to get back to the things we love doing, but right now we have to stay very safe."

Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority

Season's greetings and warm wishes of wellness and happiness from our family to yours.

The best gift you can give health-care workers right now is to only leave your home for essential purposes. If it is essential you leave, be sure to physically distance, wear a mask in public indoor places, avoid crowded spaces and clean your hands frequently.

From Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, we wish you and your loved ones a happy and safe holiday season!

COVID-19 TESTING SITE HOURS

Regular hours for all testing sites will remain through the holiday season, with the exception that the **Pine Falls and Eriksdale testing sites will be closed on Jan. 1.** Appointments are not required at any site, but are available at our Selkirk site only. Please make an appointment if possible for our Selkirk testing site.

SELKIRK – 100 Easton Dr. (Appointment-based walk-in service)
Mon – Sat, 9am – 4pm. Book an appointment at www.is.gd/MBtesting or by calling 1-855-268-4318.

PINE FALLS – 37 Maple St. (Drive-thru service) Mon – Fri, 9am-4pm

ERIKSDALE – 35 Railway Ave. (Drive-up service) Mon – Fri, 9am – 4pm

For more information about our testing sites visit www.is.gd/covid19test.

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT SCHEDULES

Public health advises us to only leave home when necessary, but when a health emergency arises, it IS necessary! If you are in need of immediate care, don't hesitate to visit one of our emergency departments. They are safe places to go for care, and doctors want to see you before a concern becomes a serious problem.

Call our toll-free number at 1-866-267-5818 for updates on emergency department and physician availability by hospital or visit www.is.gd/EDscheds.

Fisher Library learns of potential home

By Evan Matthews

Almost two years after embarking on the establishment of a community library in the RM of Fisher, the local committee is closing in on officially naming a home.

Though the committee had previously said the leading candidate was the CIBC building, that has since changed according to committee co-chairs Annette Holowka and Cathy Imlah.

"We've had overwhelmingly positive conversations with Lakeshore School Division about having the library be a part of Fisher Branch Collegiate," said Holowka, adding the committee first approached LSD back in May about utilizing a 960-square-foot space in the school.

If the proposed library were to go in FBC, Holowka said the library committee would be given the space for a "cost recovery fee."

Generally, cost recovery is simply recovering the costs of any given expense, in this case applying to wear and tear of the space, utility fees, etc.

"We really had to look at the financial burden, and our budget simply wouldn't allow us to utilize the CIBC building," said Holowka.

She noted that the uniqueness of the CIBC building and its pre-existing office space made it an attractive option.

Currently, the committee is waiting for the RM of Fisher council to pass the third and final reading of the bylaw that would establish a public library in the municipality, according to Holowka, citing the Public Libraries Act.

Though, she said the RM has earmarked roughly \$18,000 toward the initiative in its 2021 budget. The Fisher Library Committee was on the RM of Fisher's December agenda, but Holowka said the topic has been deferred to the next meeting.

"But we want people to know, we are still actively pursuing a much-needed library in our community," said Imlah.

She added that while the committee cannot specify where in the school exactly the library is slated to go, there were a few more details they could release.

"We would have our own safe and secure entrance, which would require a minimum renovation with door, key fob and engineering review," she said.

"This renovation would have to be paid by the committee. The committee is willing to fundraise



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The community of Fisher Branch is overwhelmingly supportive of having the new library in the Fisher Branch Collegiate

and apply for grants."

Of course, with COVID-19 restrictions as they currently are, in addition to waiting for council's decision on the bylaw governing the formation of a public library in the municipality, Imlah said there isn't any point in starting to fundraise.

Despite the openness and willingness of Lakeshore School Division, the committee said nothing is confirmed until the RM passes the third reading of the bylaw that would establish a public library in the municipality.

The school board has approved the concept in principle, according to Lakeshore School Division Supt. Don Nikkel, who added what happens next is up to the RM.

Background

In February 2020, over 50 community members — including members of the Fisher Branch Library Committee, the RM of Fisher Council, representatives from the Evergreen Regional Library, and a representative from Provincial Library Services — packed into the Ukrainian National Home for a public meeting.

The proposed library would offer Wi-Fi and high-speed internet, with access to technical support via a library clerk. With a high number of Fisher families not having access to Wi-Fi, the committee emphasized the importance of access. Other benefits to the library include added value to the community's real estate profile.

Early on in the process, a community survey showed — dependent on the question — anywhere from 70 to 85 per cent of community members found a library in the community to be either "important" or "very important."

The provincial government is encouraging the local library committee to join an existing library system: a "Regional Library." The regional library, according to the committee, that makes the most sense for Fisher Branch to join is the Evergreen Regional Library.

At present, the Evergreen Regional Library is made up of Arborg Library, Gimli Library and Riverton Library.

Part of joining the regional library means paying a tax, also referred to as a levy, according to the committee.

Each regional library, in conjunction with its RM, figures out levies based on population, using a per-capita system.

Based on the RM's resident total (1,827), the Evergreen Regional Library (Group), and would require a levy of \$18,726.75 from the RM annually, which was the aforementioned funding earmarked by council.

The levy covers:

- Hiring and training of library staff (ensured to be a local person, guaranteed 27 hours per week)
- Rotation of books as needed
- Yearly allotment of new books purchased
- Computer software responsible for recording books checked in and out, usage totals, etc.
- Technical support from library clerk
- Annual provincial audit (can amount to \$3,000 if done individually)
- Organization of workshops and programs

Going back further

In March 2019, a group of residents approached council with the idea for a library, locally.

Council suggested a petition to gauge community support.

In May 2019, the same group attended another meeting with over 300 signatures in support of the library and 12 letters of support from community groups.

Council suggested a business plan would be needed to help make a decision, which the group — now the Fisher Branch Library Committee — wrote up.

The committee has spoken at length, consulting with regional libraries and provincial departments.

The committee sees the library as a potential gathering place in the community, according to member Lynda Baker, a place for people to take out books, e-books or provide language kits to new Canadians.

Other community events could be hosted such as art displays, local author visits, book clubs, summer programs and a preschool program, she said.

"WE REALLY HAD TO LOOK AT THE FINANCIAL BURDEN, AND OUR BUDGET SIMPLY WOULDN'T ALLOW US TO UTILIZE THE CIBC BUILDING."

PUT LOCAL BUSINESSES

at the
Top of Your List!

Crime Stoppers: 'We are still working'

By Evan Matthews

Manitoba Crime Stoppers is reaching out to local municipalities to say, despite a tough year, the organization is still working and rewards are still being paid out.

Typically, in late-November, Crime Stoppers will reach out to municipalities for funding requests, so municipalities are able to better plan the following year's budget. As an example, the RM of Armstrong contributed \$268.80 to Manitoba Crime Stoppers in 2020.

"We support them always, in any way we can. When you've got volunteers doing these types of jobs, they need support," said Armstrong Reeve Susan Smerchanski.

"It's a watchful eye, and a worthy cause. It's an organization helping to keep our communities safe, and we

want to keep them financially viable," she said.

Smerchanski acknowledged the RM of Armstrong has been one of many Interlake communities to struggle with rural crime, and the region is committed to reducing crime and keeping communities safe.

The Crime Stoppers program is a big part of that, she said, as it provides a safe and anonymous way for the Manitoba public to pass on information to local police agencies, according to its website, as "tipsters" can report information about any non-urgent illegal activity.

"It happens all over the place," said Smerchanski. "We encourage Interlake residents to call Crime Stoppers—and RCMP in emergencies—if/when they see something suspicious."

To report information to Crime Stop-

pers, call 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

However, in the case of emergency, always dial 9-1-1.

Crime Stoppers and COVID

After sending out its last funding letter in November 2019, the COVID-19 pandemic shut most of Manitoba down in March 2020.

Fundraising for Crime Stoppers ceased, according to the organization's statement.

Now, in 2020, the organization has called off its 2020 funding drive (for the 2021 operating year) all together.

"We acknowledge your need to deal with more pressing issues relating to

COVID-19. This doesn't mean we're shutting down our crime prevention work," the statement reads.

"We are still here for you. We are still working. Our tip lines are still open, active, and staffed. Tips are still incoming and rewards are still being paid out," it goes on.

Though it hasn't yet gone out, Crime Stoppers said in its statement the organization will send out its funding request to municipalities.

Anyone with questions or concerns is encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at 204-983-4951.

"IT'S A WATCHFUL EYE, AND A WORTHY CAUSE."

> MASSIVE MISTAKE, FROM PG. 10

74.5 million people have been infected with the virus and over 1.6 million have died (data: Johns Hopkins University, Dec. 17).

He is not the only leader opposed to Peguis' plan, said Pallister. Melanie McKinnon, who leads the Assembly of Manitoba First Nations' pandemic response team, "urges all First Nations against visiting outside immediate households including over the holidays."

Pallister said there are not enough health-care resources to deal with additional COVID cases and provincial public health orders have to be followed by everybody.

"Hospitals are full and ICUs are overrun, and we can't have people going out making up their own rules willy-nilly while the federal government stands back and says it's fine," said Pallister. "Mr. Miller should be

ashamed of himself for taking that position."

The premier said he had written to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau asking him to intervene in the matter to protect all residents in the province.

"It's being thoughtless. And we don't have two separate sets of rules here in Manitoba," said Pallister. "We have public health rules that apply to every one of us for the good of every one of us, in the name of protecting every one of us."

Peguis announced in a Dec. 11 post that it will allow extended family members living off reserve and students to visit the reserve for eight days over the holiday period.

"Visiting will be allowed with extended family and students only during Holiday Relaxed Days of December 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31, 2020 and January 1, 2021," states the post, which

also reminds people of the COVID-19 community lockdown that doesn't permit visiting.

It goes on to say that Jan. 2 to 4 will be "Lockdown" days, but additional "Relaxed Lockdown" days will occur on Jan. 5 and 6.

The post says the lockdown is "working great" and numbers of COVID cases have decreased.

The band provided statistics on Dec. 15 showing no new cases of COVID-19, with three active and 14 members self-isolating. In total 194 cases of the virus have been confirmed with one death.

In an interview with media, Chief Hudson said Peguis had been put under lockdown weeks before the province announced new measures to curb the spread of the virus, and that allowed the First Nation to get the virus under control.

However, the risk of COVID spreading to members still exists, states the Dec. 15 post: the community is in a

"high-risk" state for the community spread of COVID and remains in extended lockdown. It advises band members to continue to restrict travel out of the province, stay home if they feel sick, wear a face mask in public and "avoid gatherings with those outside of your household."

The band office confirmed last Wednesday, a day after Pallister's media conference, that the relaxed lockdown period is going ahead as planned.

But a request for information from the chief's office about whether there will be a limit on the numbers of family members allowed to gather in one household was not returned by press time.

Off-reserve members wanting to visit during the relaxed lockdown period must pre-register by calling the Peguis COVID-19 Hotline at 204-645-2869 or 204-645-4738.

Everything you need to promote your business

FLYERS

BROCHURES

BUSINESS CARDS

STICKERS

WINDOW DECALS

SOCIAL TICKETS

DOOR HANGERS

LETTERHEAD

ENVELOPES

INVOICES

ESTIMATE

SHEETS

POSTERS

MEMO PADS

POST CARDS

Call Today!
204-467-5836



Barylski finding his groove in the CRJHL

By Brian Bowman

Every hockey team covets a power forward in their lineup.

They don't come around very often and it's really rare to find one that's talented and just 17 years old.

But the Arborg Ice Dawgs have that gem of a hockey player in Tyson Barylski.

Barylski has gotten off to a great start in his rookie season with Arborg, scoring two goals and adding four assists in seven games.

He has gelled real nicely while playing on a line with Ice Dawgs' captain Josh Roche.

"I was happy with (the start), especially with my coach giving me the opportunity to play with the captain on the team," said Barylski. "Without (Josh), I don't think the (offensive)

numbers would be the same. He does it all, he scores the goals and he works hard."

Barylski stands six feet tall, weighs about 180 pounds, and attends Arborg Collegiate. He has no problem mixing it up with the older players in the Capital Region Junior Hockey League.

He enjoys playing junior hockey "I like to grind and hit," he said. "It's a lot of fun. You have more freedom to do things and the relationship with the coaches and everything is good."

Barylski played two regular-season games with Arborg last season, picking up three assists and 17 penalty minutes. He also suited up for two playoff games with the Ice Dawgs.

He took a break from AAA hockey last year and played for his local

house league team with his friends.

"I felt it was more fun doing that and less travelling," he reasoned. "I'm really happy that I chose to play with the Ice Dawgs this year."

That break helped Barylski recharge the batteries and he is eager to get the CRJHL restarted once Hockey Manitoba gives the green light to resume league play.

Barylski is one of a dozen rookies/affiliated players on Arborg's roster. The Ice Dawgs are definitely young, but there is a lot of talent within that youth.

"I think we have a young team but we probably have the best all-around team in the league," he said. "I think we have a very good chance (to win a championship this year), better than other years. The coaches have built



Tyson Barylski

up a better team than usual and a lot more people came to tryouts."

Canada West cancels swimming and track and field championships

Staff

Canada West announced the cancellation of its 2020-21 swimming and track and field championships on Dec. 17.

The conference deferred a decision on the 2020-21 curling championships to a later date.

Calgary was slated to host the swimming championships while Manitoba was scheduled to host the track and field championships.

The conference's 17 members formally made the decision to cancel the two championships and defer a decision on curling following recommen-

dations from the Canada West Board of Directors.

"Unfortunately, it's another difficult decision that our members have had to make," said Canada West president Curtis Atkinson. "Cancelling any competition, including championships, is not a decision that is taken lightly."

We understand and share the disappointment from everyone involved in these sports and hope that today's announcement provides clarity for our student-athletes and coaches."

WHL delays start of regular season again

Staff

The Western Hockey League announced on Dec. 15 that it will delay the start of the 2020-21 regular season.

Following further consultation with regional health authorities, the Board of Governors will meet in January to consider potential start dates.

With public health restrictions in place across Western Canada and the Pacific Northwest U.S., the WHL is not in a position to start its regular

season as planned on Jan. 8.

The WHL will continue to work with Government and Health Authorities as they consider schedule options for the 2020-21 season. The WHL has developed a series of protocols in consultation with health authorities that are necessary to protect WHL players, staff, officials, and fans during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We continue to make every effort to get our season started, but our first

priority has always been the health and safety of our players, and everyone associated with the WHL," said WHL commissioner Ron Robison. "Given the public health restrictions that are currently in effect, we are not in a position to determine a new target date for our season. We will continue to consult with health authorities to determine when it is safe and responsible to get our season started."

Stonewall to host four major baseball championships this summer

Staff

Baseball Manitoba announced the host sights for the 2021 Provincial, Western, and Canadian Championships last week.

And Fines Field will be a very busy

place this summer with Stonewall hosting four major events.

The U11 "AA" provincials will be held in Stonewall from July 16 to 18, followed by the 21U "AAA" Western Canadian Championship slated for

Aug. 13 to 16.

The 14U girls' Western Canadian Championship is set for Aug. 20 to 22 while Baseball Canada's Women's Nationals will run Aug. 19 to 22 in Stonewall.

Einarson, Gushe to vie for national mixed doubles curling crown

Staff

Canada is adding another great mixed doubles curling team.

Last year's Scotties and Brier champions — Kerri Einarson and Brad Gushe — are teaming up to form Canada's newest mixed doubles curling rink.

The pair will be competing at the upcoming mixed doubles national championship in Calgary in mid-March.

Gushue is an Olympic champion, world champion, and three-time Brier winner from St. John's, N.L.

Camp Morton's Einarson, meanwhile, won her first-ever Scotties title with her new all-skip rink last February in Moose Jaw, Sask.

Both teams did not get the chance to represent Canada at the world championships due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Classifieds



Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca

SCRAP METAL

Buying scrap metal, cars, tractors, combines, farm scrap, any metal material, any farm machinery. Ph Lonnie at 204-886-3407 lve. message or cell at 204-861-2031.

Buyer for all farmyard scrap, machinery and autos. NO ITEM TOO LARGE! Best prices paid, cash in hand. Phone Alf at 204-461-1649.

SNOWMOBILES WANTED

I Buy Vintage Snowmobiles - Wanted 1975 to 1982 Yamaha Enticer, Exciter, GPX, SRX and 1974 to 1979 Mercury Trail Twister and Sno Twister. Call me with what you have 204-757-9160.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE

Seasoned poplar, pine & maple. One year seasoned poplar. Call or text 204-861-0487.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Do you own rental property in Winnipeg? Are you tired of dealing with long term renters and the mess they can leave? We can provide you with a different option to earn a rental income. Pawluk Realty 204-890-8141.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Tollak Place has 1 & 2 bedroom suites, located at 40 Eveline Street. Spacious suites, with F/S, A/C, storage areas and large balconies; utilities are included, parking is extra. Tollak 2 is a 55 plus bldg., river view apts. with central air, F/S, DW & microwave; large storage area off the kitchen and a balcony; utilities and parking extra. Call the onsite office 204-482-2751 for AVAILABILITY.

HELP WANTED

Like working with wood and working close to home? 204 Pallet & Packaging in Stony Mountain is looking for full time production workers. Please call 204-344-5404 for details.

Please support our advertisers
SHOP LOCAL



CLASS 1 DRIVERS NEEDED

Winter road Haul 2021 MB & NW Ont.
*drivers will be subject to an alcohol/drug testing program to apply;
1 (800) 665-4302 ext 251
orderdesk@penneroil.ca

HELP WANTED

Seeking professional drivers with Class 1 - 5 license to transport RV's throughout North America. We have company driver spots available in Double Haul, Triple Haul and Semi fleets and O/O spots available in Single (1 ton) and Double Haul fleets. For more information on each fleet, please visit roadexservices.com. Subsidized health and dental insurance, monthly bonus available for company drivers. Must have valid passport and be able to cross the border. To apply please email resume and a current driver's abstract to recruiting@roadexservices.com

MISCELLANEOUS

Having a virtual event in Manitoba? Need registrants? Advertise it in the 37 Manitoba weekly newspapers and get noticed! Each week our blanket classifieds could be helping your organization get noticed in over 340,000 homes! It's AFFORDABLE and it's a great way to increase and connect with our 37 weekly member newspapers. For as little as \$189 + GST, get your important messaging out! Call us at 204-467-5836 or email classified@mcna.com for details. MCNA - Manitoba Community Newspapers Association 204-947-1691. www.mcna.com

WANTED

Now buying fur! Top prices paid immediately! Big demand for Western Coyotes - Dried & Carcass. Province of Manitoba - Fur Licence required. Call or text Jason White 204- 223-0451

NOTICES

Wishing you a Healthy & Happy Christmas and Holiday Season on behalf of the dedicated Member Publishers & staff of the 37 member weekly community newspapers in Manitoba. It has been our privilege to serve you in 2020, and we look forward to serving you in 2021! Phone 204-947-1691 or www.mcna.com

HAY FOR SALE

For sale - small square bales wheat straw in shed. Round bales of barley, not combined. Ph 204-461-1717 or 204-375-6622.

HEALTH

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARK FREDERICK MASSNER, late of the Postal District of Gimli, in Manitoba, Deceased. ALL claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at his office, Box 149, 70 Main Street, Teulon, Manitoba, R0C 3B0, on or before the 22nd day of January, 2021. DATED at Teulon, Manitoba, this 4th day of December, A.D. 2020. STEVEN R. SHINNIE SOLICITOR FOR THE EXECUTOR

HIP/KNEE Replacement?

Other medical conditions causing TROUBLE WALKING or DRESSING?

The Disability Tax Credit allows for \$2,500 yearly tax credit and up to \$50,000 Lump sum refund.

Apply NOW; quickest refund Nationwide! Providing assistance during Covid.

Expert Help: 204-453-5372



FARMERS & RANCHERS

Ashern Auction Mart is holding a Complete Herd Dispersal Sale for Ed & Linda Chelle on December 28th, 2020
Start time 12:00 pm
Selling approximately 260 Bred cows

Cows are 80% Black and 20% Red
Cows are on a herd health program
Bred to Justamere Bulls
Bulls turned out for April 25th calving start date
Good Set of ranch cows ready to go out and work for you
Cows will be pregnancy checked at the Auction Mart prior to the Sale

Contact

Ashern Auction Mart - 204-768-2360
Buddy Bergner - 204-768-0018
Kirk Kiesman - 204-768-0019
Licence 1128

Everything you need to promote your business

For all your printing and publishing needs
Call Today!
467-5836

Eddie's Gravel Supply Ltd.
Class 1 Drivers / Owner Operators Needed
Local and Winter Road Hauling.
To apply Email info@eddiesgravel.com or Call 1-204-389-2023

X CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

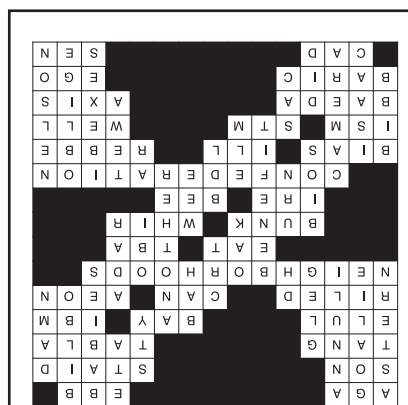
- Crow species
- Partner to flow
- Male offspring
- Sedate
- Orange beverage

- Pair of small hand drums
- 12th month of Jewish civil year
- Former Pirates star Jason

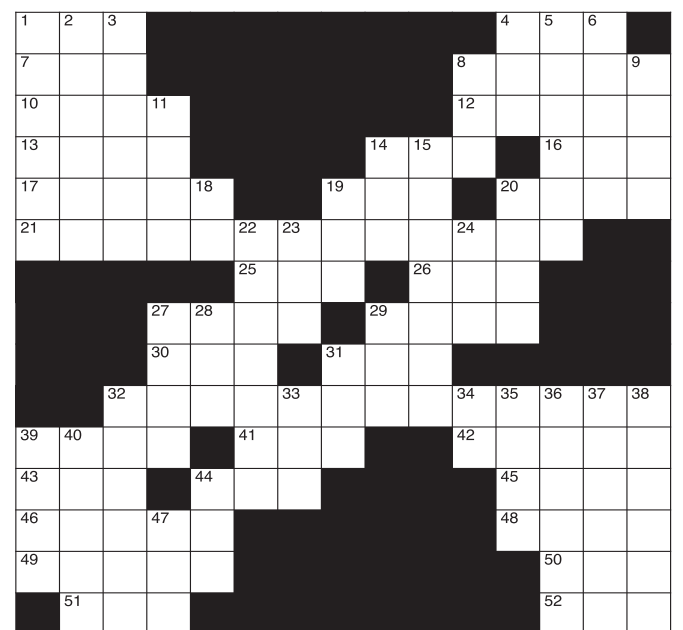
- Computer company
- Made angry
- Beverage container
- Charlize Theron film "___ Flux"
- Localities
- Consumes
- Don't know when yet
- Bed style
- Make a low, continuous sound
- Wrath
- Pollinates flowers
- Association
- Prejudice
- Unhealthy
- Hasidic religious leader
- Distinctive philosophy
- Short-term memory
- In a good way
- Emperors of Ethiopia
- Imaginary line
- Of barium
- One's sense of self-esteem
- Man who behaves dishonorably
- Monetary unit

CLUES DOWN

- Rear of (nautical)
- He minds the net
- Ring-shaped objects
- When you hope to get there
- Young children
- Beloved hobbit
- Pigpen
- Wish harm upon
- Quick-eyed (Scottish)
- Scrooge's phrase "___ Humbug"
- One more
- A ballplayer who only hits
- Once vital TV part
- Sixth month of Jewish civil year
- Advantage
- Type of tree
- Luke's mentor ___-Wan
- Life stories
- Vase
- Tiny
- Package (abbr.)
- A photog's tool
- Wood



Crossword Answer



- One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
- Pueblo people of New Mexico
- Wild goats
- A way to comply
- Horatio ___, British admiral
- Actress Leslie
- Sir ___ Newton
- Pouch
- Have already done

Classifieds Announcements



Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836 or Email classifieds@expressweeklynews.ca

IN MEMORIAM/CARD OF THANKS



Hunter Skaritko

September 20, 2000 – December 20, 2019

Thank you to our friends and family who have supported us over the past year after the death of our son Hunter. Special thanks to Hunter's good friends Matt and Zeke; your kindness will always be remembered. And thanks to the RCMP Gimli and Arborg Detachments, RCMP URT, and the Good Samaritan who called 911 that dreadful day.

Gratitude and blessings to Manuel and his crew from HEART Team for the successful recovery, and thanks for the empathy and support from Suzanne of the OCME, Dr. Meredith, and Gilbert Funeral Home in Selkirk. If you are able, support and donations to HEART Team in memory of Hunter would be appreciated, as they continue to assist families like ours across several provinces.

Since you left, we are no closer to understanding why, no closer to healing our pain, no closer to moving forward. Your memory is with us daily as we begin to see we will never be the same without you, and there is no changing that. Our only light is thinking of the joyous times we had together as we slowly put one foot in front of the other. RIP Hunter

Your life was a blessing, and a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.

-Judy, Wayne, Dana, Chad

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of
Robert Martin

December 22/34- January 2, 2019

We think about you always,
We talk about you still;
You have never been forgotten,
And you never will.
We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you will remain;
To walk and guide us through our lives,
Until we meet again.

-Love always,

Ellen, Sharlene and Robert,
Loretta and Owen, Lauren and Billy,
Tracey and Jeff,
and grandchildren

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Centering your holiday meal around a turkey cooked to golden perfection is the ideal way to serve a feast. Without the right preparation and execution, however, your bird could fall short. To ensure your holiday dinner centerpiece lives up to expectations, follow these simple tips, from purchase to plate:

1. Buy the right bird. Finding a turkey that's just the right size for your expected party is the start to a successful gathering. One common rule of thumb is the buy 1 pound of turkey per person – so, for a 10-person meal, purchase a 10-pound turkey. Don't forget that nearly everyone loves leftovers, so you may consider buying a few pounds more



Total time: 30 minutes

Servings: 10

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened

2 cups (8 ounces) finely shredded cheddar cheese

1 can (2 1/4 ounces) sliced black olives, drained

2 tablespoons minced green onion

2 tablespoons minced red bell pepper

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce



Recipe courtesy of
Bernice Baran

Prep time: 30 minutes

Cook time: 10-12 minutes

Yield: 24 cookies

1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened

1/2 cup C&H® Dark Brown Sugar

1 large egg

One Terrific Turkey

than necessary.

2. Be patient. If you opt for a frozen turkey, don't rush the thawing process. For larger turkeys, it can take days to defrost properly.

3. Timing is everything. Finding the right amount of time for your turkey to spend in the oven is crucial but not always the easiest thing to do. For an 8-12-pound bird, aim for 2.5-3.5 hours; 12-16 pounds for 3.5-4 hours; 16-20 pounds for 4-4.5 hours, and so on. The key is bringing the turkey to a temperature reading of 170 F.

4. Let it rest. Instead of pulling the turkey out of the oven and immediately carving it, give it a chance to rest for 20-30 minutes, which allows the juices to soak into the meat and moisten it up.

Cheeseball

1/8 teaspoon pepper

2 packages (4 ounces) Buddig Beef or Ham, chopped, divided

1 package assorted crackers

In large bowl of mixer on medium speed, beat cream cheese and cheddar cheese until creamy.

Mix in black olives, green onion, red bell pepper, Worcestershire sauce, pepper and 2 ounces chopped beef until well combined.

Form into ball. Wrap in plastic wrap.

Chill at least 2-3 hours to allow flavors to blend.

Just before serving, roll in remaining chopped beef until completely coated.

Serve with assorted crackers.

Gingerbread Cookies

1/4 cup molasses

1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1/8 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1/8 teaspoon ground cloves

royal icing

In large bowl of electric mixer fitted with paddle attachment, cream butter and sugar about 2 minutes on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add egg and molasses; mix until well incorporated.

In separate bowl, whisk flour, baking



Orange Eggs Benedict

Serves: 6

Orange Hollandaise:

2 egg yolks

1 orange, juice only

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

1/2 cup unsalted butter, melted water

1 tablespoon white vinegar

8 eggs

1/2 cup butter, softened

6 French baguette slices, 3/4-inch thick each

6 thick slices ham

1/2 cup orange marmalade

orange zest, for garnish

To make Orange Hollandaise: In small bowl, blend egg yolks, orange juice and salt until combined. Gradually add melted butter into egg mixture while blending. Set aside.

In skillet, add water halfway up sides. Add vinegar. Bring to simmer. Break eggs into water to poach. Cook 3-4 minutes until whites are cooked through and yolks are still runny. Using slotted spoon, remove eggs and drain on paper towels.

Spread butter on one side of bread slices. Place bread in skillet and cook until golden brown. Add ham to same skillet and cook until browned on both sides.

To assemble, spread bread slices with orange marmalade. Top each with one slice cooked ham and one poached egg. Pour hollandaise over eggs and garnish with orange zest.

Photo courtesy of Getty Images (Holiday table)

soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves. Use mixer on low speed to add to butter mixture until combined and dough is formed.

Divide dough in half, wrap with plastic film and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

Preheat oven to 350 F and line baking sheets with parchment paper.

Flour clean work surface. Roll dough 1/8-1/4 inches thick. Cut out shapes with desired cookie cutters.

Transfer cookies to lined baking sheets and bake 10-12 minutes, or until firm.

Let cookies cool on baking sheets 2-3 minutes then transfer to cooling rack. Cool completely.

Decorate cookies with royal icing.

Classifieds Announcements

Book Your Classified Ad Today - Call 467-5836

McSherry Auctions
12 Patterson Dr., Stonewall, MB
Online Timed Auctions
@ iCollector.com

FIRST AUCTION OF 2021

Estate & Moving
Closes Wed Jan 6 @ 7:30 PM

Estate & Moving
Closes Wed Jan 13 @ 7:30 PM

Consignments Welcome!

(204) 467-1858 or
(204) 886-7027
www.mcsherryauction.com



SCLERODERMA MB INVITES YOU TO OUR 2021 ON-LINE SUPPORT GROUPS:

January 16
March 20
May 15

Please join us at 10:30 AM to learn, share, and discuss the realities of living with scleroderma. Patients, family & friends are all welcome. **You are not alone!** For more info, visit sclerodermammb.mb.ca or call 204 256-0225.



Response Builder Advertising WORKS!

- GET SEEN by over 340,000 Manitoba Homes!
- Create instant top of mind awareness
- Showcase your info, business, product, job, announcements or event
- We format it, to make it look great!
- Starting at \$239.00 (includes 35 lines of space)
- The ads blanket the province and run in MCNA's 37 Manitoba community newspapers
- Very cost effective means of getting your message out to the widest possible audience

Contact this newspaper NOW or MCNA at 204.947.1691 or email classified@mcna.com
www.mcna.com

Employment Opportunity

Little Elska is currently hiring for the position of *Seamstress*

Your Role
The Seamstress is responsible for pinning & sewing all products, which includes -Minky Blankets, Knits and other products as assigned.

Requirements

- must have sewing experience
- willing to learn and take direction
- ability to work with minimal supervision
- strong work ethic with the ability to meet deadlines
- attention to detail

This is a part-time position, with flexible hours. Candidate must be willing to work more hours during our peak seasons.
Wage to be determined on experience.

How to apply
To apply, please send your resume to info@littleelska.com
*only those chosen for interview/test will be contacted

365 Main Street Arborg

BATTERIES FOR EVERYTHING!

50,000 BATTERIES IN STOCK

- *Auto *Farm *Marine
- *Construction *ATV
- *Motorcycle *Golf Carts
- *Rechargeables *Tools
- *Phones *Computers
- *Solar Systems & design
- * Everything Else!

THE BATTERY MAN
1390 St. James St., WPG
1-877-775-8271
www.batteryman.ca



HOME OF THE FEHR DEAL!

SUPPLYING DÉCOR CABINETS FOR 25+ YRS

PROMPT SERVICE & FREE DESIGN USUALLY WITHIN 24 HRS

Ph: (204) 746-2223
FEHRS CABINETS.COM
office@fehrcabinets.com



Trucks, Trailers, Truckbeds & Tires

- Full Repair & Safeties
- Vehicle Parts, Tires & Wheels
- Trailer Parts & Batteries
- Sales, Financing, Leasing & Rentals

EBY Aluminum:

- Gooseneck and Bumper Pull Cattle & Equipment Trailers
- Truck & Service Bodies
- Generation Grain Trailers

KALDECK TRUCK & TRAILER INC.

Hwy #1, MacGregor, MB
1-888-685-3127
www.kaldecktrailers.com

SELKIRK

NOW HIRING!

The Canadian Tire Selkirk Automotive Department is now seeking staff for the following position:

EXPERIENCED Red Seal Mechanic

Strong candidates must have:

- Solid communication skills
- Problem solving abilities
- Strong interactive skills

Compensation based on experience.
Full time position includes benefit package.
Email resume and references to mick.walsh@thetire.ca

Biz Cards

Call 204-467-5836



Andrew Hnatiuk*
Lawyer & Notary Public
Main Street, Selkirk
204 - 482 - 5111
www.hnatiuklaw.com

GOETZ SIDING

- 5" Eavestrough • Soffit/Fascia
 - Custom Cladding
- (204)223-7740 goetzsiding@gmail.com

JEFF'S PLUMBING SERVICES INC.

• RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
HNAUSA, MANITOBA

For All Your Plumbing & Repair Needs - ROTOR ROOTER SERVICES -

- Sewer Camera
- Cell: 204-485-4227

JEFF FLETT jeffsplumbing1@gmail.com

Liske Bros Electric Ltd.
YOUR NEXT SOURCE OF ENERGY

- AGRICULTURE - COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL - RESIDENTIAL (NEW BUILDS)

Electricians who design, install and repair electrical and solar power systems.
Phone 204-281-3394 or
email: info@liskebroselectric.com
www.liskebroselectric.com

CONVENIENCE

Grocery • Drinks • Snacks
• Coffee to Go • Ice • Firewood
• Fireworks • ATM • Greeting Cards
• Newspapers • Books • Pet Food
• Toys & more

SNACKS • LOTTO
20088 First Ave, Sandy Hook

OPEN YEAR ROUND 10AM - 6PM
7 DAYS A WEEK

PharmaChoice
LUNDAR

You have QUESTIONS, We have ANSWERS!

- Prescriptions • Liquor Store
- Home Health Care Aids
- Snacks and more!

Advice for Life

LUNDAR PHARMACY 204-762-5431
18 Main St., Lundar

Glass Specialists

- Sealed Units
- Flat Glass
- Mirrors
- Laminated
- Tempered
- Plexi/Lexan

Construction

- Windows & Doors
- Siding
- Custom Cladding
- Decks
- Construction/Renovations

19046 Ukrainian Park Road
Camp Morton, MB
204 376 5177
204 642 2980
ntglass@mymts.net

Interlake Glass
WINDOWS, DOORS & MORE

WE DO IT ALL!

- Window Coverings by HunterDouglas
- Floor Coverings • Countertops
- Cabinetry by Kitchen Craft & More!

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Hwy #9 & Colville Dr., Gimli
(204) 642-8585
www.thehomestoregimli.com

~ ENCOURAGEMENT ~

In Bethlehem there were some shepherds spending night in the fields. An angel appeared to them in shining glory and said "Don't be afraid! I am here with good news - this very day your Savior is born! You will find him lying in a manger."
Paid Advertisement Luke 2 :8 - 12 TEV



BRR HVAC LTD.

Family Owned & Operated
Commercial & Industrial HVAC-R

- Walk in Coolers & Freezers
- RTU's • MUA's
- Special Process

24 Hour Emergency Service
204-782-6266 Gunton, MB

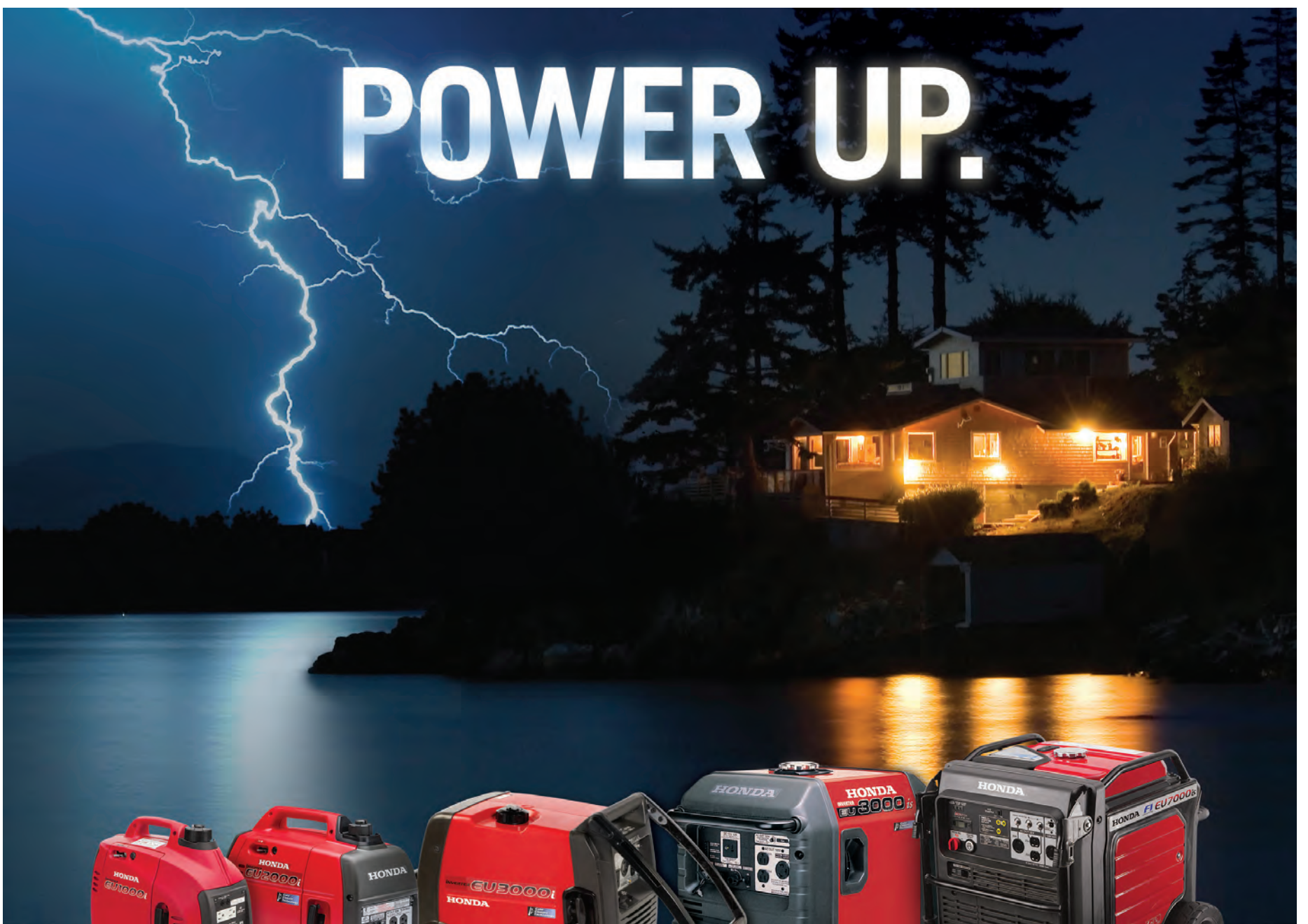
ALICEROOFING LTD.

Complete Roofing Service

- Residential
- Agricultural

Licensed & Insured
www.aliceroofing.ca **204-757-9092**

POWER UP.



EU1000i

EU2000i

EU3000iK

EU3000is

EU7000is

A back-up plan you can count on.

Don't worry about getting left in the dark when you've got a Honda EU series generator. Easy to use, portable and with long running times, they are a back-up power source you can count on. From the lights to the fridge or even your air conditioning, we have a generator with the wattage to meet your needs. And with very little operating noise, you'll enjoy peace and quiet as well as peace of mind.

HONDA

honda.ca

Make your life easier. Visit honda.ca

  Honda ATVs & Power Equipment Canada   @HondaATVPECA

For optimum performance and safety, please read your owner's manual carefully before operating your Honda Power Equipment

SHACHTAY
SALES & SERVICE LTD.
www.shachtay.com

204-376-5233
Arborg, Manitoba
Family Owned
Servicing the Interlake for 54 Years!