

RECORD PHOTO BY LINDSEY ENNS

Jesse Malenfant, 27, of Selkirk kicks up some snow while hitting a jump as his friend Greg Anderson, 26, watches in the background behind the Selkirk Golf and Country Club last Saturday afternoon. For more photos of weekend winter fun, see page 9.

'Pawley was a remarkable Canadian'

Former premier, longtime Selkirk MLA dead at 81

By Austin Grabish

Howard Pawley is being remembered as a gentle but wise man and mentor to many.

The former Manitoba premier and longtime Selkirk MLA died last Thursday in Windsor,

Tributes for Pawley began to pour in shortly after news of his death was announced and continued online over the weekend.

Premier Greg Selinger broke news of Pawley's death on Twitter calling the late man a "true champion of social justice."

"Throughout his life, Howard fought for equality, social justice, and the rights of all peoples," Selinger tweeted.

Selinger remembered Pawley for leading changes to Manitoba's labour code that ensured workers were fairly paid, regardless of gender, and for the addition of sexual orientation into the Manitoba Human Rights Code.

After three unsuccessful attempts at provincial and federal politics, Pawley was elected into the Manitoba legislature as MLA for Selkirk in 1969. Continued on page 4

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Getting out on the ice



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Fishers set up for a day of ice fishing near the Selkirk Waterfront last Saturday afternoon. Ice fishing season is now in full force in Selkirk and area with dozens of ice fishing shacks set up along the river.

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Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority

Riverton family welcomes first baby of 2016 in Selkirk



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Father Brett Eyolfson and Mother Kristyn welcomed baby Keltie Lena Eyolfson on Jan. 2 at 8:37 p.m. at the Selkirk and District General Hospital.

Staff

The Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority welcomed its very first baby of 2016 into the world last Saturday at the Selkirk and District General Hospital.

Keltie Lena Eyolfson was born on Jan. 2 at 8:37 p.m. to parents Kristyn and Brett Eyolfson of Riverton.

The newborn weighed in at eight pounds 11 ounces, and her parents said they are looking forward to returning home to introduce baby Keltie to older siblings Madden and Deklen.

The RHA said the couple thanked

Dr. Speer for attending the delivery and hospital staff members for the care they received, and the auxiliary and staff at the hospital presented the family with a gift basket and play pen.

Odete Williams, the clinical team manager of obstetrics at Selkirk & District General Hospital, said that staff have reported the number of deliveries at the hospital last year was consistent with previous years.

"There were 290 babies born at the hospital in Selkirk in 2015," Williams said. "We hope to surpass that number over the next year period."



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Selkirk man killed in head-on crash on Christmas Eve

By Austin Grabish

Friends and family of a Selkirk man who was killed in a crash on Christmas Eve are remembering Collin Hendry as a guy with a big heart.

Hendry died around 5 a.m. on Dec. 24 after his vehicle crashed head-on with a dump truck near Selkirk. He was 53 and would have turned 54 just three days after the crash.

The crash happened on Provincial Road 230, just north of Highway 67 near Selkirk.

RCMP say their initial investigation shows a vehicle collided head-on with a dump truck that was travelling northbound. The other driver involved in the crash didn't suffer any injuries, RCMP said.

Hendry's sister Nena Sinclair confirmed it was her brother who was killed in the crash.

Sinclair said her brother recently retired from a lifelong career at Gerdau Ameristeel and was now trying his hand as a driver for shuttle compa-

"He loved his job, his co-workers

and passengers and went above and beyond his list of duties," Sinclair wrote in a message to the Record.

Sinclair said the news was "devastating"for her family, adding it was especially hard for her 88-year-old mother who is currently in hospital.

"This was the worst Christmas for our family," she said. "Losing any family member is difficult, but even more so, it seems at Christmas, and so unexpectedly and violently."

Friends of Hendry's posted their condolences online and remembered the late Selkirk man for his humour.

Sinclair said Hendry loved to laugh and even tried his hand at stand-up comedy a few times.

"He auditioned for 'Canada's Got Talent' and he was thrilled to meet Martin Short," she said.

A celebration of life was held last Saturday for Hendry at Smitty's in Selkirk.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that a monetary or blood donation be made in Hendry's name to the Canadian Blood Services.



FACEBOOK PHOTO

Collin Hendry, pictured above, was killed when his vehicle collided head-on with a dump truck near Selkirk on Christmas Eve. The Selkirk resident was 53.

Tax changes aim to benefit middle-class Manitobans

New taxation changes will reduce the amount of taxes paid by regular, middle-class Manitobans and small businesses across the province, according to Premier Greg Selinger.

"We believe in reducing taxes to help hardworking Manitobans, like seniors and small business owners, get ahead," Selinger said in a release on Dec. 31. "The changes coming into effect mean that seniors will have more money in their pocket in their retirement, and that Manitoba's job creators will certainly reduce the burden on families and businesses, freeing up assets that can be used for other priorities."

Changes that came into effect on Jan. 1 include increasing the small business income limit eligible for the zero per cent corporate income tax rate to \$450,000 from \$425,000.

Selinger added that in 2010, Manitoba was the

first province to permanently eliminate the small business tax. About 14,000 corporations pay no Manitoba corporate income tax because of the zero per cent rate, which the premier said will increase to 16,000 corporations in 2016 following the implementation of the new limit.

In addition, the Manitoba government is providing more support to seniors by reducing the school taxes seniors pay. In 2016, the maximum seniors' school tax rebate will increase to \$2,300 from \$470, providing savings of up to \$47.8 million for Manitoban seniors.

"This change means approximately 98 per cent of qualifying seniors will no longer pay school taxes," Selinger said.

Selinger added the seniors school tax rebate will be capped to ensure that two per cent of seniors with high-valued homes still pay some school taxes. Continued on page 6





> PAWLEY WAS 'A REFRESHING GUY,' FROM PG. 1

He would serve as the province's attorney general before becoming premier in 1981, and in total he spent 19 years as Selkirk's MLA.

Pawley is perhaps best known for being the minister responsible for the birth of Manitoba Public Insurance, which started in 1971.

At the time, Manitoba was only the second province to introduce a government-run insurance program.

Public insurance at the time was a highly contentious issue, but it was one Pawley felt he championed, and would go on to support years after leaving politics.

Pawley's exit from the legislature came after he was blindsided by former Speaker Jim Walding, who voted against the NDP's budget in 1988 leading to a successful non-confidence motion put forward by the Opposition Tories.

Pawley resigned as leader of the

He would serve as the province's atorney general before becoming precial election.

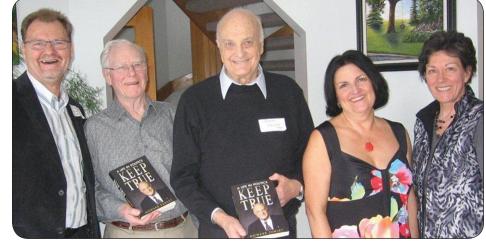
Longtime friend and local history buff Rob Sarginson remembers Pawley as "a refreshing guy," who gave full attention to everyone he spoke with, and it wasn't for show, Sarginson said.

The St. Andrews resident recalls a shopping trip to Selkirk's mall that was stymied for two hours after Pawley started conversing with locals he knew.

"He just knew everybody in town and paid attention to everybody and shook hands with everyone," Sarginson said. "But it took forever for him to get a few hundred yards down the mall," he said with a laugh.

In 1990, Pawley returned to his home in Ontario to teach and mentor students as a professor at the University of Windsor.

He retired in 2000 and went on to write his memoir entitled "Keep True:



RECORD PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREL SARGINSON

Former Manitoba premier and longtime Selkirk MLA Howard Pawley, pictured centre alongside local history buff Rob Sarginson (far left) during his book launch in Selkirk in 2011, died last Thursday. He was 81.

A Life in Politics," which he premiered in Selkirk in 2011.

"I was lucky to meet Howard Pawley as a professor @UWindsor. One of the best classes at law school. Great Canadian," tweeted St. Catharines MP Chris Bittle.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Pawley was an "exceptional visionary."

"Howard Pawley was a remarkable Canadian, widely respected for his championing of human rights, social justice, and economic development," Trudeau said. "His legacy will live on in the many advances our country has made toward achieving greater social justice for all."

Pawley's obituary said he died with family by his side. Details about his funeral weren't clear by press time.

Condolences can be left online for Pawley at Manitoba.ca.

Council passes 2016 budget, calls for 2.99% tax hike

By Austin Grabish

City council finished off 2015 by passing this year's budget, which it hopes will pave the way for new growth in Selkirk.

This year's \$17,027,960 general operating fund budget calls for a 2.99 per cent tax increase, which the city referred to as "slight" in a press release following the meeting.

Council passed the budget without any debate at a meeting that lasted just 11 minutes on Dec. 29.

It's the second year in a row city council completed its upcoming budget before year's end.

"We did a lot of work on it," Mayor Larry Johannson said. "All the directors, all the managers, our CAO, they met a ton of times."

Johannson said the city would present a financial plan, which will include school taxes, to citizens sometime in the near future that outlines what the budget means for Selkirk.

This year's budget sets aside funding for the design and completion of a new fire hall for the city, upgrades to the Selkirk Rec. Complex and invests in road infrastructure among other things.

Construction of a new water source project for the city will be Selkirk's most costly project this year. The city has set aside \$4 million for the venture.

The new fire hall project appears to be the second biggest project for the city. Council has set aside \$350,000 for its design with another \$3.5 million for its construction.

The new fire hall will be built on Superior Avenue at a former lumberyard site

Johannson said the city's current fire hall is aging.

"It needs improvements," he said. "It's been there as long as I can remember, so we're due for a new fire hall."

Other highlights in the budget include improvements to the Selkirk Park Pool, and the Pittsburg Avenue redevelopment project.

There's also \$8,320 being allocated to youth drop-in programming, which is run by the city.

Johannson said he's well aware of complaints from parents who feel there's a lack of programming for kids in the city.

"We've heard that also and we're answering that call by expanding," he said. "We've always had youth programs, but now we're expanding."

A full breakdown of this year's budget can be found online at myselkirk.



Board rules against Pittsburg Ave. paving project

By Austin Grabish

The Manitoba Municipal Board has refused the City of Selkirk's request to develop road and utility infrastructure on a stretch of Pittsburg Avenue, siding with those who opposed the project.

But the development plan, which aims to attract developers to Selkirk, isn't dead in the water.

In a letter written to the city's CAO Duane Nicol on Dec. 4, the board said it understood the city's rationale for the project, which would have connected water and wastewater utilities to all properties on Pittsburg Avenue But what it didn't understand was why property owners on the street, who are already fully connected to utility services, were being asked to contribute to the cost of the project.

"There is absolutely no benefit to them," the board said.

The board ruled that the city must continue the development project by breaking it up into two separate improvement plans.

Mayor Larry Johannson said the city's working on making the recommended changes to the project so it can proceed.

"We're listening to the recommendations and we're going to adhere to them," he said. "There's always going to be perhaps things we could have done differently.

"We try to do our homework when we're doing an application, a project." Johannson added the city feels it's time to pave the dusty road so development can begin.

"It's important because we own a lot of land on that street and it's land that's currently just sitting there, and we're not getting any revenue out of that land."

The city is eyeing several different options for land it owns along the road and has already been approached by interested developers.

Multi-unit commercial space that could be used as a strip mall is an option along the street and a mix of both retail and housing space will also be considered, according to development documents.

The project is estimated to cost \$431,500, which would cover the cost of the installation of an asphalt road, utility lines as well as water and wastewater infrastructure on Pittsburg from Main Street to Sophia.



RECORD PHOTO BY AUSTIN GRABISH

The Manitoba Municipal Board has refused the City of Selkirk's request to develop road and utility infrastructure along a stretch of Pittsburg Avenue. The board ruled last month that the city must continue the development project by breaking it up into two separate improvement



New Year's Resolutions

Fitness goals require a plan, gym managers say

By Dave Baxter

A local gym wants to ensure those looking to stick to their new year's fitness resolutions are setting themselves up for long-term success and not just a short-term routine.

Matt Sopher, the manager of Snap Fitness in Selkirk, said now that the holiday season is over, gyms across North America and right here in Selkirk will see a spike in memberships.

"We know we will be super busy in January," Sopher said. "Probably about 60 new members, but we know that typically at least one third will fall off during the first two months."

Sopher said that intimidation and the lack of a plan are two big reasons new gym members often don't stick

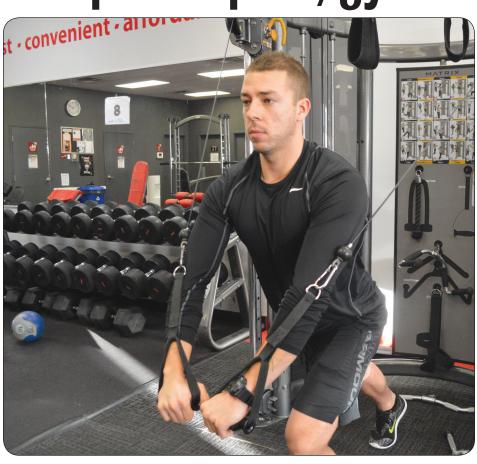
"I think a big reason is that they come in the gym but they don't know where to start," he said. "They are nervous and there is intimidation when they first walk in."

One of the best ways to create a plan and stick with it is to start with a trainer, Sopher said.

"A trainer keeps you accountable, and helps create a real plan."

Snap Fitness gives every new member a consultation and from there suggests to start their new fitness regime with a trainer. Although some may find the thought of a fitness trainer intimidating, Sopher said there is no reason to be nervous about working with someone towards their fitness

"Our trainers become like friends," Sopher said. "And that will keep them going, and if they start on with training they will hit their fitness goals a



RECORD PHOTO BY DAVE BAXTER

Selkirk's Snap Fitness head trainer Tyler Freeman works out on one of the many fitness machines at the Snap Fitness gym in Selkirk. The local gym would like to remind those with new year's fitness resolutions to make a plan to help them achieve their goals.

lot quicker, and that will be motivation to stay on."

Trainers can also keep clients accountable even when they are not in

"We have trainers that call and text their clients, and there is even an app on your phone where you can

Selkirk's Pioneers

take a picture of what you are eating and send it to your trainer."

Snap Fitness head trainer Tyler Freeman said although a exercise routine can help people reach their fitness goals, they won't get very far if they don't have a diet plan as well.

such a huge thing.

"If you aren't eating right exercise might make you stronger, but your

body will stay the same, so you won't see any changes."

Freeman said he can work with his clients on a diet plan and works to keep them accountable about their exercise routine and what they are

He said his goal is to make sure people eventually don't need a trainer because they are comfortable with their own plan and accountable to themselves.

"That's the whole goal. We want people educated enough to come here and be able to do this by themselves, and educated enough that when they leave they are doing the right things on their own."

Miranda Schmidt, the manager of Selkirk's Anytime Fitness said one mistake people often make when starting a new fitness regime is pushing themselves way too hard when they first get started.

"There has to be a balance," Schmidt said. "I find a lot of people come in and just push themselves so hard right off the bat, and then they burn themselves out and lose the motivation and they quit.

"And people have to remember that everyone's balance is difference."

She also doesn't want people to push themselves because they are worried others at the gym are judging them.

"A lot of people worry that there are others watching them so they feel they aren't lifting heavy enough or running fast enough, so a big issue is for people to just worry about themselves and be accountable to themselves and not about what anyone else is doing, because everyone is here for the same



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"I would say 80 per cent of it is what you are eating," Freeman said. "It's

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- own or occupy and live in their house;
- be at least 65 years of age; and
- pay school taxes not already fully covered by the basic Education Property Tax Credit.

Applications are available by calling the tax assistance team at 204-945-7555 in Winnipeg or at 1-855-893-8266 (toll-free). The deadline to apply for the 2015 rebate is March 31.

In addition, data-processing investment, cultural industries printing and nutrient management tax credits that were scheduled to expire at the end of 2015 will be extended for three years, the premier said. He noted the extensions allow the business community added certainty the tax credits will continue to be offered, allowing them to plan for future investments.

Road projects among 2015 highlights for mayor

By Lindsey Enns

Main Street paving and the MS Lord Selkirk II decommissioning top a 2015 list of highlights for Selkirk's mayor.

"We've had a really, really good year," Larry Johannson said while sitting inside his office during an earlier interview with the Record in late November. "A lot of developers and investors looked at Selkirk in the last

"They know there's a great future here."

Along with paving a section of Main Street and Sophia Street, Johnannson said the removal of the abandoned MS Lord Selkirk ship "was a real success story."

"It ended off a great year for us," he said."I think the people of Selkirk are genuinely happy ... because they see things moving forward.

"They see development, they see the partnership that we do have with the province and the results that we're



RECORD PHOTO BY LINDSEY ENNS

Mayor Larry Johannson tours the new Selkirk Regional Health Centre alongside Health Minister Sharon Blady and other local and provincial dignitaries on Dec. 9. Construction of the new hospital, which is slated to open in spring 2017, is among one of the highlights of 2015, according to the city's mayor.

able to attain. It really is exciting frastructure projects in 2016, con-

As the city looks to tackle more in-

struction continues on the new Selkirk Regional Health Centre, which is slated to open in spring 2017.

"It's an expensive undertaking for us now, but it gives us an opportunity to expand health care in the community,"Selkirk MLA and Finance Minister Greg Dewar said during the same interview in November.

Along with working with Selkirk on several infrastructure projects, Dewar said the province has also agreed to help St. Clements build a new recreation centre in the southern part of the community. The province also helped fund the repaving of Highway 59 near Birds Hill Provincial Park, Highway 44 into Grand Beach and chipped in for a new heritage centre in Grand Marias in 2015.

"We've got a wonderful partnership here in Selkirk and St. Clements," Dewar said. "It's easy to get things done when you have a progressive council who is really in tune with the mood of the community and is prepared to react and work with us."

Health care costs added to Manitoba's debt: Dewar

The Selinger government closed off 2015 with a projected \$64 million increase to the government's core deficit for the 2015 -16 fiscal year.

Finance Minister Greg Dewar made the announcement in a Dec. 22 news release along with the release of the province's second quarter financial information.

The province's core deficit is now projected to be \$485 million - a \$64 million increase since the government's budget was released last April.

Dewar said the deficit is due to higher than anticipated costs in health care, child protection, and this past summer's 454 forest fires.

"We will be there for Manitobans when the health-care demands of families rise and when people need to be protected from natural disasters, even when it means investing more than budgeted," Dewar said in the release. "We've made a commit-

ment to Manitobans and their families to protect the services they rely on by investing in smart, strategic infrastructure projects that stimulate the economy and create jobs."

Manitoba's opposition Tories were quick to lambast the latest numbers.

Progressive Conservative finance critic Cameron Friesen said the numbers could lead the province to another credit downgrade.

Friesen said while Manitoba's core deficit is projected to be at \$485 million, the province's summary or 'real' deficit, which includes spending by Crown corporations, health authorities, school divisions, and universities is set to hit \$550 million.

That's up \$128 million from the originally budgeted amount of \$422 million, he said.

"The debt hole the Selinger NDP is digging for future generations is getting deeper and deeper by the day," Friesen said.

Dewar said the province is committed to building a stronger economy

even if it means running "modest deficits.'

He then touted a familiar figure by the Conference Board of Canada, which predicts Manitoba's GDP will grow 2.5 per cent in 2016, and hit 3 per cent growth in 2017.

"These results reinforce the commitment continuing to provide services that families rely on, while finding efficiencies that won't harm services that families depend on," Dewar said.

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- the straps to give you added support?
- Have you ever begun an exercise class only to drop out because your

breasts ached from lack of support while jumping or running?

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She doesn't come into town very often so she advises booking as soon as possible. Although Chapman enjoys coming to this area, she is on the look-out for someone to train for the business.

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REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER Dave Baxter



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Luck come in threes for fishermen

Bv Arnie Weidl

Welcome back my friends.

While it's true, trucks and hard wall ice shacks are almost absent on the ice because of the warm weather, the explosion of portable ice shacks I have seen carted onto the ice at our favorite spots has left me amazed.

That certainly was the case as I drove "old red" along Warner Rd. toward the Lake Winnipeg ice at Chalet Beach last week with dozens of truck-trailer rigs coming and going as folks milled about on the ice between the tents. The afternoon was hazy and cloudy and as I pulled onto the ice parking lot I noticed a rig with Wisconsin plates preparing to leave.

I quickly got out of my truck and went over to the two men shedding their heavy clothes and asked how the fishing was. While one chap, Stacey Peterson continued packing, his cousin David, a very tall dark haired fellow with a soft spoken accommodating nature gave us a little time.

He said they had heard about Chalet from others at home in Prescott and this being their first trip here were very happy not just because they had caught their limit but because he felt this was true hard core fishing on a gigantic lake. I watched his eyes looking fondly over the lake as he told me of their great weekend here and I knew he would be back.

While talking with Dave, periodically, I glanced at the anglers on the ice and I noticed far out two black specs bobbing toward shore. As Dave and I talked, the specs became anglers on ATVs coming ashore.

I said so-long and wished Dave and Stacey a good trip home as three anglers on their ATVs pulled up. I introduced myself asking how things were

The first chap to pull off his headgear, Reg Fredborg of Selkirk said,



RECORD PHOTO BY ARNIE WEIDL

Pictured from left to right Pat Reilly from Libau, Reg Fredborg from Selkirk and Cody Gibson from Petersfield with some of their catch at Chalet Beach.

"Your Arnie, I read you all the time!" He then told me he noticed the eating sized walleye were a fair ways out. His friends, Cody Gibson of Petersfield and Pat Rielly of Libau got busy loading their gear into their trucks while Reg got a few of their catch out and the guys held them for a picture.

A few days later going north on Hwy. #59 I thought of Pat from Libau and decided to check out what is was like getting onto the lake north of town.

I ran north to the creek off #32E and found ATVs and sleds were the only way to get to the lake from there. Later at Patricia Beach, as at Chalet, I saw before me an endless tent city stretching from here to Balsam Bay. There was a truck load of folks about to head home; their windows were down so I asked if they had a fishing story for us.

Myron Doerksen, Ryan Spear, Ryans' wife Erma and a young family friend Madison Neufeld were all from Steinbach. Madison, sitting in the back seat immediately became excited jumping up and down saying the wall of their tent had become loose and when she jumped up to fix it she stumbled against the heater slipping and plunged into an ice hole up to her knees breaking Ryans fishing rod.

It didn't faze her though; she dried herself off and soon caught her first fish. Good for you Madison!

It was my pleasure to meet another little princess days later by the name of Harmony Rigz who was fishing on the Red off the Selkirk Park landing with her young brother Geoffery and dad Nick Storozuk.

In a visit beside their tent, she told in a loud animated way how all three of them had caught a fish at the same time and dad had a fine time landing them with Har-

mony yelling at him not to lose hers.

Well, thanks for dropping in, bye now.



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Brett Mitchell: 204-485-0010 Email: bigandcolourful@mymts.net

Selkirk, MB R1A 0X2 Email: michelle@selkirkrecord.ca

Lindsey Enns 204-485-3337 news@selkirkrecord.ca Twitter: @LindseyEnns

Dave Baxter cell 204-481-4180 Office 204-785-1618 dave@selkirkrecord.ca Twitter @davebbbaxter

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ADMINISTRATION Corrie Sargent

Racing down the hill





RECORD PHOTOS BY LINDSEY ENNS

APPLICATION

DEADLINE -

2016

ABOVE: Fourteen-year-old Joshua Little of Selkirk makes his way down the toboggan hill at the Selkirk Golf and Country Club last Saturday afternoon. LEFT: Fifteen-year-old Ty Lewald races down the hill last Saturday afternoon.

Fisher reels in rare sturgeon



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED BY DAN HYDROCHUK

Joel Hydrochuk holds up a rare sturgeon he caught along the Red River in Selkirk on Dec. 20, 2015. Hydrochuk caught and released the fish, which isn't commonly caught through the ice.

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- ** Eligible applicants must occupy home in order to qualify for the Education Property Tax Credit.



Provincial NDP slips to third in election poll

By Austin Grabish

A recently released poll suggests Manitoba's NDP has sunk to third place amongst voters — a ranking the party hasn't had in 20 years.

The poll released by Probe Research on Dec. 26 suggests the NDP has just 22 per cent of voter support.

It suggests the party's rival Tories are leading with 43 per cent of voter support with the provincial Liberals coming in second with 29 per cent of voter support.

Probe surveyed 1,000 Manitobans at random by phone during Dec. 3 to 15, and asked voters if a provincial election were to be held tomorrow, which party's candidate would they be most likely to support.

In Winnipeg, the Progressive Conservatives have 35 per cent of voter support while the NDP and Liberal Party are both tied at 29 per cent.

But in rural Manitoba the PCs appear to have much more support.

The poll suggests 53 per cent of vot-







RECORD FILE PHOTOS BY AUSTIN GRABISH AND SUBMITTED

A recently released poll by Probe Research suggests Manitoba's Tories, led by Leader Brian Pallister (left) have the most voter support. The poll puts the provincial Liberals led by rookie Leader Rana Bokhari (centre) in second place, and the NDP, led by embattled Premier Greg Selinger (right) in at third.

ers support the Tories. The Liberals come in second place with 29 per cent of voter support, while the NDP has sunk to just 13 per cent.

Probe said for a sample size of 1,000, one could say the results are with 95

per cent certainty that the results are within 3.1 percentage points of what they would have been if the province's entire adult population was surveyed.

Probe said minor statistical weighting by age, gender and previous vot-

ing behaviour was applied to the survey ensure that the data corresponded with the province as a whole.

Voters go to the polls on April 19.

Hearing for inquest into death of Ronald Bobbie set for Feb. 4

Staff

A standing hearing is set to take place next month to determine who can participate in the upcoming inquest into the death of Ronald Bobbie, 59, of Winnipeg.

Bobbie was a patient living at the Selkirk Mental Health Centre and his medical history included bipolar affective disorder, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and previous suicide attempts. At the time of his death, Bobbie had left the facility without the necessary approvals. On Sept. 26, 2014, he left his mother's residence in Winnipeg to take a bus back to Selkirk. Later that evening, a passerby heard a man yelling for help from the Red River, north of the Disraeli Bridge. Emergency personnel were called and Bobbie was transported to St. Boniface General Hospital, however resuscitation efforts were unsuccessful. The cause of death was

determined to be drowning.

An inquest has been called by the chief medical examiner under the Fatality Inquiries Act. Inquests explore the circumstances and events leading to deaths for the purpose of finding out what, if anything, might be done to prevent similar deaths in the future.

Before the inquest begins, the judge will decide who can participate in the process and question witnesses. Individuals and groups may make an application to be granted standing and participate in the inquest. Those interested in applying for standing should contact Valerie Hebert, inquest counsel, 204-945-5579 or valerie.hebert@gov.mb.ca by Jan. 18.

The standing hearing will be held at 9 a.m. on Feb. 1 in courtroom 407, Manitoba Law Courts Complex, 408 York Ave., Winnipeg.





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Increases to rent paused for provincial park cottagers

Manitoba will pause increases to land rents for cottages in Manitoba's provincial parks but will continue to phase in increases to park district service fees to ensure cottage owners pay the full cost of actual services received.

"All Manitobans value the beautiful parks, lakes and rivers that our province has to offer," Conservation and Water Stewardship Minister Tom Nevakshonof said in a release on Dec. 30, 2015. "We've heard from a number of cottage owners as we continue to consult on the process to ensure all cottage owners pay their fair share for the services they receive. We've listened to the Whiteshell Cottagers Association and other groups and that is why we will be freezing rents until the new assessment system is established."

Cottage owners in provincial parks pay two types of fees - land rent and park district service fees. Land values were updated in 2013 and land rent increases, which were to be phased in over ten years, will be paused until a new assessment model is developed. Park district service fees are moving towards full cost recovery for things such as water and wastewater treatment, road maintenance, and garbage and recycling services over the next

two years. In 2012 this fee recovered less than 45 per cent of service costs. This year it will recover about 80 per

There are more than 6,000 cottages in Manitoba's provincial parks. Consultations regarding fees have been ongoing and input has been received from cottage associations across the province. Bills reflecting the changes announced today will be sent to cottagers early in the new year. Cottagers will also be consulted in the development of further changes to the system, the minister said.

"The Whiteshell Cottagers Association, along with our partners at other provincial park cottager associations, are very pleased that an agreement to freeze the land rent has been reached with the province," said Daniel Klass, president, Whiteshell Cottagers Association. "We look forward to constructive participation with the province in a process that will ensure that Manitoba parks continue to thrive as a resource for all and that the tradition of family cottaging remains affordable."

Changes to the fee structure and land rents since 2012 produced \$5.5 million in additional revenue. Nevakshonof said pausing the escalation in land rent will defer increases of approximately \$1 million per year.

Province, MGEU reach tentative agreement

A tentative agreement has been reached between the Manitoba government and the Manitoba Government and General Employees' Union (MGEU) for their main contract.

"More than 14,000 Manitoba civil servants provide invaluable services to the public and that is why we are pleased that this tentative agreement has been reached," Premier Greg Selinger said in a release on Dec. 30. 2015. "We want to ensure that these hard-working Manitobans are treated fairly and are glad that the collective bargaining process has led to a fair and affordable tentative agreement."

The agreement, subject to ratification by MGEU members, would eliminate the need for an arbitration process agreed to between the government and MGEU scheduled for

"It's always good to come to a mutual agreement through the collective bargaining process rather than to have a deal imposed by a third party," Selinger said.

This latest agreement follows the successful conclusion of negotiations with other employee groups includ-

Winnipeg Health Sciences Centre security - December 2015;

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority home care/home support - December 2015;

Liquor and Gaming Authority of Manitoba – August 2015;

Selinger added MGEU will present the tentative agreement to its members when it goes to a ratification vote in the coming weeks and plan to share the details.



This rebate is part of the government's ongoing commitment to help support the rural economy and provide tax relief to farm families.

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If you are a Manitoba resident who owns farmland in Manitoba and you paid your 2015 property taxes, you may be eligible for the rebate. Your farmland does not have to be in cultivation or used for grazing to be eligible for the rebate. The rebate applies only to the school taxes assessed on your farmland and does not apply to residences or buildings.

How to apply

If you received a rebate for 2014, a 2015 application form was mailed to you. You can also download an application form from masc.mb.ca or pick one up from your local Manitoba Agricultural Services Corporation (MASC) office, Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Development Growing Opportunities (GO) Office or municipal office.

Your application must be received by MASC by the March 31, 2016 deadline.

For more information: Website: masc.mb.ca/fstr Email: fstr@masc.mb.ca Phone: 204.726.7068







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\$5M in grants a relief for taxpayers, mayor says

By Dave Baxter

The mayor of West St. Paul says 2015 was a successful year for the community, and there's a lot to look forward to in 2016.

"We have a new council and council is working a lot more cohesively than before and that's good for the community," Mayor Bruce Henley said. "With three new members you can appreciate there is a learning curve, but I am very pleased with the progress in year one."

The municipality's ability to secure grants in 2015 has allowed them to continue to invest in infrastructure, without forcing major tax hikes on residents, Henley said.

"We continue to be very successful with our grant process," he said. "The amount of money we are getting in the region is unprecedented."

Henley said they brought in about \$5 million in grants in 2015.

"You need to put infrastructure into a community, but that can't be done on the back of the taxpayers alone."

Henley believes more commercial development will come to West St. Paul because of the new sewer system



RECORD PHOTO BY DAVE BAXTER

West St. Paul mayor Bruce Henley says 2015 was a successful year for his municipality, and there is much to look forward to in 2016.

currently in the works.

"Commercial development is growing and we have high standards for all developers to pay their fair share of the cost when they come in, so again that burden is not on the residents."

As we move into 2016, Henley said residents should expect better communication from the municipality.

"We've been communicating with the residents close to 35 per cent more than we have in the past and that will

continue to rise," he said. "That is a huge benefit to residents and to council and administration."

The municipality is also continuing to expand its walking trails network which gives people active transportation options, and Henley said the trails are well used in all four seasons.

"It has given us the opportunity to link neighbourhoods together, and when you offer people the chance to walk and bike what you get is a healthier community."

Next year will be a chance for West St. Paul residents to celebrate, as 2016 is the 100th anniversary of the mu-

"We have a number of activities planned and there will be a number of legacy projects," Henley said. "And we plan to work on some projects with the school to have kids trace the history back through timelines."

Henley said he will look back at 2015 as highly successful, and he is optimistic about what's to come.

"Overall I believe we gave the residents very good value for their dollar, and we remain well positioned for the

Dunnottar looks to create 'road map' for the future

The health of Manitoba's lakes and the creation of a sustainable plan were the two issues that were frontand-centre in the Village of Dunnottar in 2015.

Rick Gamble, the mayor of Dunnottar, said that at the end of 2014 the Dunnottar Sustainable Communities Committee was formed, and that committee has worked throughout 2015, and will continue to work to create a sustainable plan for Dunnottar.

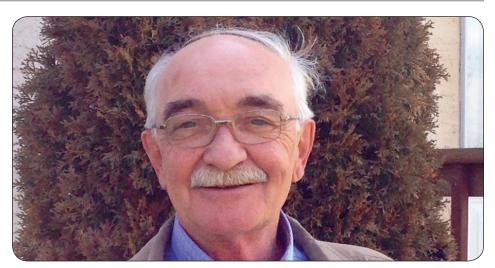
a plan in place for the future for good sustainable management for different issues," Gamble said. "It will be a road map that will guide us through the future to keep council in focus, and also keep the community involved in a lot of the different issues."

The committee is made up of a mixture of citizens, a council member and the mayor, as well as a member from the Conservation District and one from Community Futures, and Gamble said it is important because "The goal of the committee is to put it assures that decision making power

> is spread out, and doesn't just lie in the hands of those who sit on council.

"It's about keeping citizens involved for that road map moving forward."

Dunnottar has approximately permanent



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dunnottar's Mayor Rick Gamble says the community is moving forward and is looking forward to 2016.

residents, but 3,500 residents when you combine permanent and seasonal, and Gamble said the health of Lake Winnipeg is a huge concern for many of them.

Gamble said they recently put a resolution on the floor at the Association of Manitoba Municipalities to deal with the problem of zebra mussels, and that resolution went to both the provincial and federal governments.

"Zebra mussels are going to be a big problem not only for the lake itself, but also for the intake-outtake pipes and Manitoba Hydro, so bringing the

province and the feds into play is important," he said. "And it's going to be costly, so we hope they come to the table with their wallets."

People in Dunnottar will notice construction of a walking trail taking shape in 2016, and Gamble said the "multi-year" project is something people should be excited about.

"We are focused on giving active transportation options and letting people walk and bike in the community, and we want them to do it in a safe way, and that is what this project will provide."

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West St. Paul seeks photos to help celebrate past

RM looks to create visual timeline through historic photographs

West St. Paul is asking its residents to dig out their old photos to help the municipality celebrate its past and a very important milestone.

This year West St. Paul turns 100 years old and the RM has a number of events and activities planned to celebrate.

West St. Paul Mayor Bruce Henley said the RM would like to create a number of displays and visual timelines so they are now asking community members to send in historic photos depicting life in West St. Paul.

"It's all part of our centennial project," Henley said. "We have been working on updating our photo history, but we would like to see if there are more old photos that exist out there."

Using old photos to celebrate history is a great way for West St. Paul's older residents to reminisce about the past, Henley said.

"It's amazing to see how many people really enjoy history and especially history that they can connect to in their own community," Henley said. "They really have a connection to these things.

"And there is usually a reason a street has a certain name, or a park

is named after somebody, so people embrace that kind of knowledge."

History may be of interest to those who lived it, but it is also something interesting for the municipality's younger generation, Henley said.

"Every year I do I Love To Read at the school, but when I am there I take the time and talk with the kids about where they live, and I explain to them the history, and it is amazing to see that interest level," Henley said. "It is something they can relate to because I'm talking about history right on their own street and in their own neighbourhoods."

On the West St. Paul website the municipality said historic photographs depicting life in West St. Paul over the years are needed for various displays,

and anything from the first 50 years of West St. Paul is welcome.

The RM said they would like to see photos from milestone events throughout West St. Paul's history, including old photos of events at old schools, community centres, businesses or churches.

Any original photos provided will be digitally scanned and returned to the owner and high resolution scans of photos are also welcome.

For more information contact Lainie Shaw at 204-338-0306 or email info@ weststpaul.com.

Photos will be accepted until Jan. 15.

Board to review Salkeld's performance as head of FFMC

The Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation's president and CEO says he will quit if the organization's board of directors refuses to support him.

Donald Salkeld is a year into his term as president and CEO. During their annual general meeting on Nov. 26, the board announced they will review his performance and make a recommendation to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, Hon. Hunter Tootoo, in regards to whether or not Mr. Salkeld should have his contract renewed as President.

"I am in full support of Donald Salkeld staying on as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the FFMC for the next four years," Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman MP James Bezan said in a release on Dec. 21. "His experience as an entrepreneur, exporter and food processor has helped FFMC make changes so that it is better run on behalf of our fishers. Expecting him to wait and not know if he will have the position for the coming years is unfair."

As it currently stands, Salkeld is supposed to stay on as president and CEO until the board makes a decision.



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Son seeks answers over father's death in Mexico

Suspicions over case run high

By Austin Grabish

The son of a Lundar man who died in Mexico just days before Christmas while serving a prison sentence is demanding answers from officials in Ottawa about how his father's case was handled, and why steps weren't taken to prevent his death.

Bruce Vigfusson, 45, died in the Mexican city of Hermosillo on Dec. 21. His body was to arrive in Winnipeg on Dec. 28.

ColtVigfusson says he found out about his father's death through an inmate, who called to break the news, while officials with the Canadian Embassy in Mexico staved silent.

"It makes me sick that I find out from an inmate about his death," he said.

"When I called the embassy they didn't even know what I was talking about, and that's their job. They're supposed to be looking after him over there."

The Canadian government refused to cover the costs of sending the body home, and with no way to pay, his family turned to a GoFundMe page.

Donations quickly began to pour in and on Dec. 27, \$5,875 had been raised.

"We got really fortunate with everyone who's contributed," said Colt, who still remains unsure of how his father died.

Colt said Mexican officials claim his dad died in hospital from a blood clot in his lung, but an autopsy has yet to confirm that, and suspicions about the death remain high.

Vigfusson was serving a prison sentence for a 2012 assault that took place during a home invasion in which he allegedly beat a thief.

But the Lundar man repeatedly maintained his innocence, and insisted he was only acting in self-



Lundar man Bruce Vigfusson, 45, died in the Mexican city of Hermosillo on Dec. 21.

defence

In the days leading up to his death, Bruce left a desperate message for his son.

"The message said I'm very sick. These people are injecting me with stuff that's getting me weaker, so I can't fight back."

The message came just weeks after his dad's lawyer tried to present new evidence to a Mexican court that contained audio from a 911 call made during the night of the home invasion, Colt said.

"He figured they were killing him, because they were going to have to let him off free if he got off not guilty, and they would have had to back pay him for all of his time served."

Colt said Canadian Embassy officials last visited his father in March, and refused to check on his body after he died due to safety concerns.

He thinks that's unacceptable and wants to see changes made by Global Affairs Canada.

"I hope someone can step up and change their



PHOTO COURTESY COLT VIGFUSSON

Bruce Vigfusson, 45, is seen in this undated family photo with his son Colt, who is now demanding answers about his father's death.

protocol or organization, because I would never want another family to go through what me and my family went through," he said.

The *Record* asked Global Affairs Canada for comment, but our request went unreturned by press deadline.







Evening of history to benefit city's endowment fund

Gwen Fox Gallery to host event on Feb. 4

Submitted

Now that we're all done ringing in the New Year it's time to kick off 2016 with a nod to Selkirk's past.

The Noventis Credit Union's Evening of History, A Fundraiser for the Selkirk Heritage Endowment Fund (SHEF), will be held at Gwen Fox Gallery in the Selkirk Community Arts Centre on Feb. 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The second annual fundraising evening will feature hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer along with heritage displays, a historical presentation focusing on the MS Lord Selkirk II, entertainment, an art auction and a chance to shop in the gift shop. A little bit of history will be made when the fund pays out its first grant that evening. The beneficiary of approximately four per cent of the fund's value will be the Marine Museum of Manitoba, located in Selkirk Park.

Bev Clegg, executive director of the Selkirk and District Community Foundation, which manages the fund, said it's important because it guarantees the region's past will never be forgotten.

"It was so nice to see a few years ago the City of Selkirk create the Selkirk Heritage Endowment Fund," Clegg said. "It's going to bring even more history to our community, ensuring that the memories, past and future, last forever."

SHEF was established in 2012 by the City of Selkirk, which contributes \$50,000 annually to the fund that is currently valued at \$241,000. Donations from other community- and heritage-minded donors have come in as well.

Selkirk CAO Duane Nicol was a city

councillor in 2011 and was the one to propose the fund to council. Council established the SHEF as a perpetual endowment fund to support the ongoing operational costs of a new municipal heritage museum. Until such a museum is established, the fund will provide its annual grants to the Marine Museum of Manitoba.

"It's exciting that the fund will pay out for the first time in 2016," Nicol said."Not only has the city been contributing to it, but others who believe in preserving our history have stepped up and made donations as well. We're now starting to see the dividends of council's long-term vision."

Last year's fundraising event raised almost \$3,000 for SHEF.

Tickets for the fundraiser are available for \$25 or \$50 for a builder ticket. Each ticket entitles you to admission, including entry into a draw for a door prize, two glasses of wine or two beer and hor d'oeuvres. Those who opt for the \$50 ticket make a greater contribution to the fund, get their name on the 'gold guest list' that will be displayed near the bar and they receive a \$25 tax receipt.

Tickets are available at Selkirk Civic Offices at 200 Eaton Ave., and Noventis Credit Union at 1014 Manitoba Avenue, in Selkirk Crossroads.

Swan appointed to envoy for military affairs

Premier Greg Selinger has appointed Minto MLA Andrew Swan as Manitoba's special envoy for military affairs.

Swan has strong connections with the Canadian Armed Forces including being recently appointed to the Regimental Senate of the Royal Winnipeg Rifles, according to release on Monday. His grandfather, James Swan, served as a regimental sergeant major of the Winnipeg Light Infantry during the

Second World War.

Selinger commended Healthy Living and Seniors Minister Deanne Crothers for her leadership over the last two years in her capacity as the special envoy for military affairs. During this time, a number of supports were put in place to help veterans and their families including making it easier for veterans to transfer their military experience in the skilled trades into civilian jobs.

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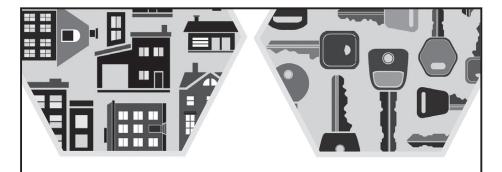


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Magic players find home at Gimli's ManCave

By Patricia Barrett

The owners of ManCave Hobbies and Games in Gimli offer up their back room every Friday night to about a dozen or so gamers who engage in battle, destroy civilizations, cast spells and have a whole lot of fun in the process.

Steve and Christine Nagy bought Up a Stump Used Books (formerly called Pages) about a year and a half ago and opened up the hobby shop next to it.

That was when they identified a need for a card-playing venue for Magic: The Gathering, a challenging game of strategy.

"There were seven different groups playing Magic in the Gimli area," said Steve Nagy. "They didn't know anyone playing, so we said, 'Come down.'"

Nagy, a retired military engineering officer, said the hobby shop has now become a focal point for Magic players from Gimli and outlying areas.

"A lot of people wouldn't have known one another," he said, "and now they're making new friends."

The game attracts both male and female players of all ages.

"I've seen parents play with other kids," said Christine Nagy, cutting up slices of pizza she and her husband bought for the players to celebrate the last Magic game of 2015.

In summer, cottagers and visitors from out of town drop by to play.

"We have store decks they're welcome to borrow," said Christine.

It's the welcoming atmosphere the Nagys have created that keeps players coming back.

"A lot of what they're doing is not so much running a business," said Brendan Koreen, who attended the last game of the year. "They're creating a community."

Koreen, who lives in Gimli, is a regular at ManCave, pitting his wits against other regulars and competing in tournaments.

The game is complex. It contains multiple stories set in a fantasy uni-

verse composed of planes through which some characters can travel. Civilizations rise and die, characters commit atrocities, engage in civil war and possess powerful artifacts.

"Instructions on the card tell you what you can do with it," said Koreen before uttering some seemingly unintelligible game-related words to his opponent, Tyler Tousignant.

"There's a set of rules you follow," he said. "But the cards allow you to bend the rules."

Two hours of observation failed to generate an understanding of who was besting whom. And the language that goes with the game became even muddier.

Tousignant: "I will play an island and I'll signal."

Koreen: "I'll swing for three."

Not understanding the game is normal, said Tousignant, who drives from Fraserwood every Friday night.

It took the 21-year-old about a year to learn the game. "I'm still in the learning process."

The overall goal is to bring your opponents' life total down to zero, he said. The dice represent life, and once you reach zero, you're dead.

The gamers help each other with Magic's rules.

They also have Oli.

"Oli has been a help teaching me the game," said Tousignant, referring to the local fisherman keeping watch over the proceedings.

Oli completed his Level 1 judgeship and runs all the tournaments.

He described Magic as follows: "The strategy of chess, the politics of poker, and the collectability of hockey cards with the limitless construction of decks."

Oli's son, Jack, is a regular. He ran a tournament at ManCave and donated the proceeds to Gimli High School's Tabletop Knights, a lunch-hour club that plays a number of strategy-based card games.

There seems little chance of Magic



Brendan Koreen from Gimli is a regular Magic player at ManCave. In a game with another regular Dec. 17, he found his life total dwindling to zero.



Tyler Tousignant from Fraserwood knows he's about to win the game.



RECORD PHOTOS BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Steve and Christine Nagy, owners of Gimli's Up a Stump Used Books and ManCave Hobbies and Games, have created a Magic community.

growing stale and people dropping out.

"Every three or four months," said Steve, "there's a new set of cards — so we'll have a big event."

Although Friday night games are friendly, tournaments can bring out players' serious side.

"You can hear a pin drop," said Steve. On Jan. 16 and 17, ManCave will host the pre-release of Oath of the Gatewatch from noon until 4 p.m. Visitors to the store will receive six to eight packs of new cards.

For more information about the event, or about Friday Night Magic, call ManCave Hobbies at 204-642-9509 or email stumpcave@hotmail.com.

Province to donate 3 ambulances to Ukraine

Staf

The province plans to donate three ambulances to the humanitarian Ambulances for Ukraine project, Premier Greg Selinger announced on Monday.

"Manitobans have a special bond with the people of Ukraine and we stand with them during this crisis and in their time of need," Selinger said in a release. "The ambulance project is a practical way Canadians, and in particular, the Ukrainian Canadian community, can help."

Selinger added the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Manitoba Provincial Council is contributing a fourth ambu-

lance to the project. The ambulances are less than eight years old and have had recent safety inspections. The province is investing approximately \$40,000 to make any needed repairs to ensure the ambulances are roadworthy and reliable when put into service in Ukraine.

"We are grateful to the government and people of Manitoba for their generous gift of three ambulances, which will be used to save lives in Ukraine," said Paul Grod, national president, Ukrainian Canadian Congress. "Manitobans continue to be generous in their support of the people of Ukraine."



Drop-in program provides safe place for students

By Lindsey Enns

Alicia Hebert credits the City of Selkirk's After School Drop-In Program for giving her something to do when class lets out.

The Grade 5 Robert Smith School student said she attends the program twice a week at her school with her brother and cousin.

"I like going outside and playing games in the gym," Hebert said while attending the program at her school last month."It's fun."

The program started at Daerwood School as a pilot project in early 2011 and was designed to provide youth in the community with a safe place to go after school.

"We focused on youth aged seven to 12," the program's co-ordinator Quinn Christiansen said. "Our plan was to start small with room for expansion as the program progressed."

The program has now grown to include four schools including Daerwood, Ruth Hooker, Robert Smith and Centennial schools. The program





RECORD PHOTOS BY LINDSEY ENNS

Students enjoy a snack during the City of Selkirk's After School Drop-In Program at Robert Smith School on Dec. 10, 2015. The program is now offered at four schools within the Lord Selkirk School Division.

if offered two days a week at each school from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Daerwood and Centennial host the program on Mondays and Wednesdays, Ruth Hooker on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Robert Smith on Thursdays and Fridays.

"We have a very positive atmosphere," Christiansen said, adding they average around 15 to 20 students per day. "It's more of a safe place for kids to go after school.

"It gets them off the street until the parents get home."

Christiansen said the program is supervised and organized with help from multiple staff members so students can take part in both indoor and

outdoor activities, craft time as well as play classroom games.

Grade 6 Robert Smith School student Carter McCorrister said the program provides him with something fun to do after school.

"We get to play dodge ball games ... and get to play outside with our friends," he said.

Syrian refugees getting settled in across Manitoba

The first arrivals from Syria have been formally and warmly welcomed to Manitoba.

"Families coming from Syria have lost so much and struggled greatly to make our province their new home, and many Manitobans are working hard to make them feel welcome," Premier Greg Selinger said in a release on Dec. 21. "While the weather might be colder than they are used to, I hope the warmth of our welcome will help them settle in and begin their new lives in Canada."

Settling these families requires collaboration between government, settlement agencies, community organizations and individual Manitobans, Selinger added.

"I want to extend a warm welcome to our new citizens," said City of Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman. "Our compassion, diversity and understanding of new people and cultures will certainly help ensure those arriving today, and those arriving in the future, receive the support needed to settle into a Winnipeg, and Canadian, way of life."

It is expected that more than 25,000 Syrian refugees will be arriving in Canada over the next few months. Approximately 1,500 to 2,000 of these men, women and children will soon be calling Manitoba home.

"Welcoming thousands of Syrian

refugees brings out the best in Canadians," said Federal Natural Resources Minister Jim Carr. "The warmth and generosity that our nation has shown to people escaping persecution continues today as we reach out to displaced people literally running for their lives. Manitobans yet again are demonstrating their compassion, understanding and hospitality. This is a proud moment for Canada."

Joining officials from all three levels of government in welcoming the new refugees at Welcome Place were members of the Keewatin Otchitchak Drum Group, who were also on hand at Winnipeg James Richardson International Airport to welcome refugees to Treaty 1 land with a song as they arrived in the city late last month.

Earlier this year, the Manitoba government committed more than \$1.4 million in additional funding to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to refugees, support the settlement sector, facilitate and increase private sponsorship, support the successful integration of Syrian refugee youth through education.

For information about making a donation or volunteering, call 1-888-662-3211 (toll-free) from Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The province is also creating a list of property owners with homes to let on a long-term basis. Two- to five-bedroom homes, apartments and condos with month-to-month leases are information can be sent to refugeeneeded. Contact, property and price housing@gov.mb.ca.



New tea shop heating things up in Selkirk

By Austin Grabish

Michelle Bloom's ready to help you find the perfect cup of tea.

The stay-at-home mom-turnedentrepreneur opened Three 6 Tea on Dec. 7 in Selkirk and her business seems to be heating up.

Offering more than 100 teas in loose leaf format, Bloom says her shop is a first for the city.

"I wanted to carve out my own niche," Bloom said. "I didn't want to duplicate something that someone was doing."

The teas, which come from countries such as Japan, India, Africa and China, are sold by weight and are also sold by the cup for those wanting a hot tea for inside or to go.

There's seating for seven inside the store and tea ranges in price from \$6 to \$12 for 50 grams. That's enough for 25 to 30 cups of tea, Bloom said.

Buzz about the store began to swirl online shortly after the Three 6 Tea sign was installed ahead of last month's opening.

"It was amazing," said Bloom." Within an hour of the sign being up it had been put on Meanwhile in Selkirk (a Facebook group), and so there was a buzz even before we opened."

Bloom said she fell in love with tea after visiting a store similar to hers during a trip to Kenora, Ont. two summers ago.





RECORD PHOTOS BY AUSTIN GRABISH

Michelle Bloom, pictured left, is the proud new owner of Three 6 Tea, a specialty loose leaf teashop that opened up shop on Dec. 7 on Main Street in Selkirk. The new shop offers more than 100 types of loose leaf tea, such as the one pictured right.

When she returned home to St. Clements she began ordering and then sampling herds of specialty teas with the help of family and friends who ranked their favourites.

"There's a lot to discover in tea," she said. "I spent this summer driving my friends and family crazy sampling thousands of tea."

Bloom then sought out professional training from the Tea Association of Canada and knew it was time to get

her business started.

"I thought 'OK Selkirk needs to do this,' so that's when that idea sparked."

Bloom said customers from across the Interlake have been pouring in over the last few weeks and there have even been a few from Winnipeg, she said.

Bloom said her best seller so far has been the Gimli Sunrise, a tea she says she named because it reminds her of just that — a Gimli sunrise.

And for those wanting Selkirk's signature tea she says stay tuned.

"I haven't found the Selkirk tea. I have to discover what the Selkirk flavour profile will be," she said with a laugh.

Three 6 Tea is located on 351 Main Street in Selkirk and open during weekdays from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. and 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Saturdays. The store's closed on Sundays and hours may be adjusted in the future.

Policy aims to increase organ donation in Manitoba

Staff

The province is implementing a new policy to allow organ donation after cardio-circulatory death.

"When there is no hope of recovery for loved ones, more Manitoba families will be able to consider choosing organ donation and honour the wishes of a family member," Health Minister Sharon Blady said in a release on Dec. 23. "Making the change to allow organ donation after cardio-circulatory death is expected to increase donation rates by 20 to 25 per cent,

help more families choose to donate the organs of a loved one and, in turn, help more patients needing a life-saving organ transplant."

Until very recently in Canada, organs for transplant were recovered only from patients who were declared brain dead, which accounted for only 1.5 per cent of all hospital deaths. Organ donation after cardiac death makes it possible for organs to be donated after the heart stops beating. The most common organs donated after cardiac death are kidneys.

"Members of our team meet families on what is likely the worst day of their lives," said Dr. Adrian Robertson, medical director, Transplant Manitoba – Gift of Life. "Families will often tell us that knowing organ donation is a possibility offers them the only window of hope during a very dark time and to be able to offer that hope to more families is outstanding."

Policies and procedures will guide the new process, Blady said. After the critical care team has determined a patient will not recover and the family has made the decision to end life support, the potential for organ donation will be brought forward as an option for families to consider.

To ensure families are being offered the opportunity to decide if organ donation is the right choice for them, the team has been working with health-care staff at Winnipeg hospitals to make sure referrals are being received, Blady added. Since the outreach initiative started earlier this year, there has been a 400 per cent increase in the number of referrals, she added.

According to a 2014 report from the Canadian Institute for Health Information, long-term outcomes for transplant patients are comparable for kidneys retrieved from both cardiocirculatory and brain death donors. Kidneys are the highest-demand organ in Canada and in Manitoba.

Blady encouraged Manitobans to register their intent to donate their organs by using Manitoba's online organ and tissue donor registry at signupforlife.ca.

The registry enables Manitobans with a personal health identification number to register their intent to donate organs and tissues and to share their decision with family and friends on social media.

Other provinces where organ donation after cardio-circulatory death takes place include Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec and Nova Scotia.



Community centre comes alive for holiday open house

By Laura Tutlies

The usually dormant Grand Marais Community Central building buzzed with warmth and laughter as guests of the third annual Holiday Open House enjoyed an afternoon simply dedicated to the communities of East

The building located along Highway 12 in downtown Grand Marais is traditionally closed from October to May but was gussied up on Dec. 27, 2015 for an afternoon meet and greet event for residents and guests of the area.

The holidays are often a busy time of entertaining family and friends at the homes and cottages of the dis-The East Beaches Regional Complex Inc. (EBRCI) directors and board members wanted to provide a time and place where all community members were welcome to just relax for a while and enjoy the company of neighbours they might not otherwise get to see during the Christmas break.

Along with coffee, tea and a variety of finger foods plus the exchange of "how-are-you" there was also the inevitable visioning for the New Year as 2016 loomed on the horizon. These conversations are encouraged although a flow of ideas appears to be a natural and integral component when folks stop to take in the beautiful facets of the Community Central building. The newly completed Heritage Wing was opened for display and the large vestibule/great room provided comfortable seating for the ever



RECORD PHOTO BY LAURA TUTLIES

East Beaches and area community members gather at the Grand Marais Community Central building for the third annual Holiday Open House on Dec. 27, 2015.

changing flow of guests. One visitor volunteered without provocation, the thought that the space would be a perfect venue for a Tai Chi class or something along that line.

Between swigs of hot beverage, that comment triggered a flow of suggestions for use of this under-utilized public facility. Someone suggested the space be used for small receptions or large family gatherings, while another reminded those in earshot of the up and coming Health Fair that is being held on May 27th within the Grand Marais Community Central complex. An ever-growing group of volunteers are participating in a fitness challenge that currently is logging the distance

walked weekly by each participant. The goal for this hardy bunch is to virtually "Walk Around the Globe"

between November 2015 and May 2016 culminating with a day of presentations on health and well-

Caught in the web of potential for the building, Walter Kleinschmit, chairman of the Grand Com-Marais Central munity

(GMCC) board voiced his own vision for the future.

"I think what we need is to fill our walls with the works of our local painters and most certainly provide a library display with books written by the talented people who live, work or simply keep cottages in the East Beaches area," he said. "It would not only be great exposure for the artisans, it could be a source of revenue if we were to also sell their work on their behalf."

The concept for the open house and an afternoon of holiday cheer was conceived in 2013. According to Marilyn Schneider who chairs the EBRCI.

"This was exactly the type of gathering that our board wanted to host," Schneider said.

There are also plans for the occasion to continue as an annual event on the last Sunday of December.

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Manitoba 4



> MEAL IDEAS

Open face egg salad sandwiches



Ingredients

2 hard-cooked eggs, peeled 1 tbsp (15 mL) each 0% fat plain Greek yogurt and light mayonnaise

Pinch fresh ground pepper

1 stalk celery, finely diced

1/4 cup (60 mL) finely diced red bell pepper

1 green onion, thinly sliced (optional)

1 tsp (5 mL) chopped fresh dill or parsley or 1 mL (1/4 tsp) dried dill

2 leaves leaf lettuce

2 slices whole grain bread or dense pumpernickel dark rye bread

Directions

In a bowl, use a fork to mash eggs until crumbly. Stir in yogurt, mayonnaise and pepper. Add celery, red pepper, green onion if using, and dill; stir until combined well.

Place lettuce on bread slices and divide egg salad on top.

Tips:

Little chefs love to peel the hardcooked eggs. Hard-cooked eggs can be stored in their shells, in a covered container in the refrigerator for up to one week.

Get a head start. You can make the egg salad a day ahead, and just assemble the sandwich before serving.

No-fail way to make hard-cooked eggs: Place eggs in a single layer in saucepan and cover about 1 inch (2.5 cm) above eggs with water. Cover and bring to a boil over high heat. Remove from heat and let stand for 15 to 20 minutes. Drain water and run cold water over eggs to chill. Store eggs with their shells on in the fridge for up to 1 week.

Dark Chocolate-Peanut Butter Cookies



Description

Recipe provided by Carol Fenster Ingredients

20 ounces bittersweet chocolate chips (at least 60 percent cocoa), divided

3 tablespoons butter or buttery spread

2 tablespoons creamy peanut butter

3 large eggs

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

1/2 cup sorghum flour

1/4 teaspoon baking soda

1/4 teaspoon xanthan gum

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 cup finely chopped walnuts Preparation

In medium microwave-safe bowl, heat 8 ounces (1 heaping cup) of chocolate chips, butter and peanut butter on low power in microwave oven 1-2 minutes, or until melted. Stir; set aside to cool.

In large bowl, beat eggs, sugar, vanilla, flour, baking soda, xanthan gum and salt with electric mixer on low speed until very well blended. Beat in melted chocolate mixture until no flour streaks remain. Stir in walnuts and remaining chocolate chips. Dough will be soft. Refrigerate, covered, 2 hours.

Preheat oven to 375°F. Line 15-by-10-inch baking sheet (not nonstick) with parchment paper. Shape dough into 48 walnut-sized balls and place 12 balls, at least 11/2 inches apart, on

sheet.

Bake just until cookies are shiny and crust starts to crack, about 10-12 minutes. Do not over-bake. Cool cookies 2 minutes on baking sheet, then transfer to wire rack to cool completely. Repeat with remaining dough. Or, freeze balls up to 1 month and bake later.

Adapted from "1,000 Gluten Free Recipes," written by Carol Fenster; reprinted with permission from the publisher, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. Serves

48 cookies





Apple-Raisin Breakfast Quinoa



Ingredients

1 cup quinoa, rinsed according to package directions

1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

2 cups – lowfat or fat free milk

1/2 cup water

3 tablespoons brown sugar

1 tart-sweet apple (such as Braeburn), chopped

1/2 cup raisins

1/3 cup chopped toasted walnuts Preparation

Toast quinoa and cinnamon in medium saucepan over medium heat, stirring often. Cook until quinoa is golden and cinnamon is fragrant, about 2 minutes.

Add milk, water, and brown sugar, bring to a simmer, and cover. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook until liquid is absorbed, 20 to 25 minutes.

Fold in chopped apple, raisins, and walnuts and let stand a few minutes, covered, to heat through. Serve with additional milk.

Serves

5 servings, 2/3 cup per serving (about 3 ounces of milk per serving)

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OMG's reach sweet deal with Walgreens

By Jennifer McFee

For the producers of OMG's candy, 2016 is already off to a sweet start.

The Manitoba company is launching an awardwinning new product that will take the American market by storm.

Co-owners Larry Finnson and Chris Emery recently won the Buyers' Choice Award for the best new chocolate product at an industry conference in Phoenix. They showcased OMG's new peanut butter pretzel drizzled with pure milk chocolate, which earned rave reviews.

"It was surreal. I couldn't believe it. We went on stage and all the biggest influential candy buyers were clapping," said Finnson.

"After 20 years in the candy business, it's like the Stanley Cup for me. It was awesome."

During a series of power meetings the next morning, the new product was picked up by retail pharmacy giant Walgreens to be sold in its 8,200 stores across the United States. Walgreens will be the first retailer to sell the tasty treat, which is expected to hit the shelves mid-March.

As the previous owners of Clodhoppers, the candy creators were unable to make headway into Walgreens, Finnson said.

"Walgreens is No. 1. It's the biggest of the best," he said. "With Clodhoppers, we couldn't crack that

Now, after working together for 20 years, Finnson and Emery are bracing for an even brighter future. The pair met as teenagers after Finnson moved to Winnipeg from Riverton to play higher-level hockey. Using Emery's grandmother's recipe, the confectionery duo created the Clodhoppers company. Ten years ago, they sold the business to Brookside Foods, which is now owned by Hershey's.

"When we sold the business, we had to sign a noncompete agreement. We couldn't get back in the industry for five years. Being best friends, we really missed working together. We love to make candy," Finnson says.

"The market had changed over the 10 years. People were paying more for less but for better quality. So we decided to make the best candy we could and we didn't cut back on anything."

They created a new candy that caused people to exclaim "Oh my goodness" after they tasted the treat. Based on this experience, they named the



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

OMG co-owners Chris Emery (left) and Larry Finnson recently won the Buyers' Choice Award for the best new chocolate product at an industry conference in Phoenix.

company OMG's. The brand gained national recognition in 2012 after Finnson and Emery appeared on Dragon's Den and partnered up with Arlene Dick-

"We meet with Arlene every quarter. She really helps us in the boardroom," Finnson says. "We bounce ideas off her. She's fantastic."

The candy creators are also gearing up for a meeting later this month with CVS Pharmacy, which has more than 7,600 locations across the U.S., making it the second largest American pharmacy chain after Walgreens.

On the Canadian side, OMG's currently offers four flavours — milk chocolate, dark chocolate, peanut and vanilla — and they have supplied millions of pounds of products to Sam's Club, as well as Loblaws, Safeway, Sobeys and many more stores. By the fall of 2016, the new peanut butter pretzel flavour should also be available across Canada.

All of their flavours are made in their 20,000-squarefoot Winnipeg facility, where the 20-person team produces 2,000 pounds per hour using equipment that Finnson designed and built himself. After that, Bison Transport warehouses and ships plenty of the products to the United States.

With an eye on the horizon, their goal is to have OMG's sold in 40,000 American stores — and they're already off to an impressive start.

"We're more than just a candy; we're a culture. When you work here, you have fun. It's mandatory. The brand is about fun and it's all about making people happy," Finnson says.

"We have the perfect balance between crunch and sweetness. When people eat the candy, they're happy. It leaves you saying OMG. The name says it all."

Report shows high soil moisture levels in Red River Valley

The Hydrologic Forecast Centre of Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation has released the 2015 Fall Conditions Report on soil moisture levels at freeze-up, which at this time suggests high levels in the western areas of the province while the Red River Valley is about average.

The Hydrologic Forecast Centre is gathering information now that will form the flood forecasts in the first few months of this year.

The 2015 Fall Conditions Report notes flood forecasters look at six pri-

mary factors when assessing longterm prospects for potential floods or droughts in the spring and summer. One of the factors is the amount of moisture in the soil before freeze-up, accumulated over the summer and

The report also notes the Red River basin has a mixed soil moisture pattern with the Manitoba portion of the basin having above normal soil moisture and the United States portion of it with normal to below normal soil moisture. The Whiteshell Lakes area, including the Lake of the Woods area, has near normal soil moisture conditions. Current lake levels indicate that most lakes, including Lake Manitoba, are within desirable ranges for this time of the year. The Red River base flow is also above normal for this time of year with above normal base flows and levels representing a higher potential for spring flooding and Environment Canada's latest long-term precipitation forecast indicates precipitation will be above normal for parts of the Souris River basin and northern Manitoba and will be near normal for the rest of the province, and the Hydrologic Forecast Center will regularly monitor the winter precipitation patterns throughout these

As spring approaches, the province will assess the flood potential and prepare as required. This will include working with municipal emergency management teams to review existing emergency response plans and sharing information through conference calls and flood-preparedness meetings. The first flood outlook is expected to be available towards the end of February.

letters

Province pushing agenda with plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

With respect to your article, "Province pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," which appeared in the Dec. 24, 2015 edition of *The Selkirk Record*, I would like to comment on some of the statements made by the premier.

I cannot understand why politicians and scientists continue to make false or misleading unsubstantiated claims about the climate in order to pursue their agenda with respect to CO2. I have no problem with conservation of energy and cutting real pollution of the air, land and water, but Carbon Dioxide has been falsely labelled as a pollutant. Increasing CO2 has a great benefit for agriculture and all plant growth.

Premier Greg Selinger said,"the impacts of climate change that are costing the province billions of dollars." There is no proof of this. Do not confuse climate with weather which we will always have.

He said, "we've seen major floods." So what is new? The worst flood ever in Manitoba was in 1826. Was that due to climate change?

He said, "every year we're seeing more forest fires." Completely false. I checked the statistics for Canada. The number of fires and area burned varies from year to year and is not higher than the 1980's.

He said, "all those weather events are becoming more severe and more frequent." He showed no data and there has been no increase in severe events. There has been an increase in reporting due to better communication in the media.

The article states, "The cap and trade system will ostensibly reduce greenhouse gas emissions which scientists say affect climate systems." Scientists "SAY" but have not proved or MEA-SURED how much CO2 changes the temperature. Nor will they be able to measure the amount of temperature reduction if emissions are reduced. This is a tax grab system that is being proposed on a public that is being misinformed about climate which changes mainly due to natural causes.

The public and the government are being fed misleading information and not enough questions are being asked nor are the right scientists being consulted.

Gerald Machnee Lockport, Man.

Woman dies in Stony Mountain house fire

By Natasha Tersigni and Jennifer McFee

A Jan. 1 house fire in Stony Mountain claimed the life of one resident and left another with minor injuries.

At approximately 11:30 p.m., witnesses spotted a fire at the home located at 152 School Rd. and phoned 911. Elderly resident Stan Allcroft, who lived in the home with his sister, was able to get out of the home and was transported to hospital to be treated for smoke inhalation.

Bystanders tried to enter the house but were unable to get in due to smoke, heat and fire.

Stony Mountain-Rockwood Fire Department extinguished the fire and extracted an unresponsive woman, 86-year-old Irene Finch, from her bedroom.

STARS Air Ambulance was dispatched to the fire, landing in the ball diamonds next to the school at School Road and Maple Drive just after midnight. STARS transported the unresponsive woman to their Winnipeg base. The STARS medical crew, which included a critical care nurse and advanced care paramedic, went with the patient in a ground ambulance to Seven Oaks Hospital in Winnipeg, where she was pronounced dead at



RECORD PHOTO BY NATASHA TERSIGNI

Stony Mountain - Rockwood firefighters, Stonewall RCMP and STARS Ambulance responded to a house fire at 152 School Road in Stony Mountain on Jan. 1. The fire claimed the life of 86-year-old Irene Finch and left her brother Stan Allcroft, whom she resided with in the home, with minor injuries. An initial Investigation by The Office of the Fire Commissioner reported that the fire was accidental.

12:35 a.m. on Jan. 2.

Firefighters were able to contain and extinguish the fire that destroyed the inside of the home.

Stonewall RCMP, who were also on the scene, reported that The Office

of the Fire Commissioner is investigating the fire and that the fire is believed to be accidental.

In total, 15 fire fighters, the STARS helicopter, three paramedic units and RCMP attended the emergency.

Youth take on the Bears at the Legislature

By Patricia Barrett

Young parliamentarians gave former Members of the Legislative Assembly a run for their money during Youth Parliament's Bear Pit (Question Period) session Dec 28.

Youth between the ages of 16 and 20, which included two brothers from Teulon, grilled Judy Wasylycia-Leis, Joy Smith, Jerry Storie and Herold Driedger on a number of social, political and economic issues during the three-hour session.

"Not often do you get to participate in debate," said 16-year-old Mark Shinnie, who attended Youth Parliament (YP) for the first time. "You don't get the other side of things."

YP gave the Grade 11 student leeway to ask really hard questions about important issues and become accustomed to debate.

"I was absolutely terrified at first," said Mark, who has participated in drama, athletics and band at Teulon Collegiate. "But they encourage you to express your opinions – they're not thrown aside."

It also gave him an opportunity to get to know politicians on a personal level.

"You get a different perspective when you see them in person," said



RECORD PHOTO BY PATRICIA BARRETT

Lieutenant Governor Clif Evans briefed former MLA's in a minister's office before the Bear Pit Session got underway. Left to right: Jerry Storie (Flin Flon), Joy Smith (Fort Garry), Judy Wasylycia-Leis (St. John's), Clif Evans (Interlake), Avis Gray (Ellice, Crescentwood) and Herold Driedger (Niakwa).

Mark, who's considering studying computer science at the University of Manitoba after he graduates. "And you can see how passionate they are about the legislative system."

About 60 youth between the ages of 16 and 20 took part in Manitoba's 94th Youth Parliament, a model Parliament that began in 1922. It educates youth in the democratic process, provides a venue for public speaking and offers

them an opportunity to interact with and learn from politicians.

Avis Gray, former MLA for Ellice and Crescentwood and former president of the Association of Former Manitoba MLAs, introduced the four Bears and paid her respects to the young politicians.

"It's important you're here to debate the issues going on in the world," Gray said.

SDOPTS& recreation INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Martell blows whistle on NHL officiating career

Former Steeler worked his 1,000th - and final game - last Saturday in Tampa

By Brian Bowman

Rob Martell officiated his first ever National Hockey League game on April 7, 1996.

He worked his 1,000th - and final -NHL game last Saturday evening in Tampa Bay as the Lightning edged the Minnesota Wild 3-2 in a shootout.

It was an end to a fantastic career for the well-respected and popular Martell. Martell found his niche in a career that is seldom popular with players and fans.

But he did his job extremely well. There was an endless stream of players and coaches that offered their congratulations and well wishes in his re-

Lightning assistant coach Rick Bowness, a former Winnipeg Jet, called Martell over during a line change in the game and offered his compliments. Bowness knew Rob's father, Bob, very well when he was in Winnipeg.

"He knew my dad (Bob) really well and said that my dad would be really proud," Martell said from Florida Monday afternoon. "That was really

Martell was honoured in a pregame ceremony - receiving a signed stick from Lightning captain Steve Stamkos and a signed jersey from Wild captain Mikko Koivu - with his family in attendance.

"It was an interesting night and it was kind of bittersweet," said Martell."I really enjoyed what they called work for me to make a living. I really enjoyed being out there."

After the game, Martell was congratulated by his fellow officials and he received a cake from the Lightning staff. He took off his skates in an NHL official's room for the very last time.

"It wasn't as hard as I thought it would be because I got to pick my crew for the game," he said. "And I had some real good friends of mine Dan O'Halloran, Andy McElman, and Brian Mach (work that game with me). I have been with those guys 20-years

Being out there on the ice nowadays with the immense speed of the



Martell is congratulated by a fellow official prior to the game between the Wild and Lightning.



game made it tougher on the 52 year old Martell to keep up with the young

"It was time," he said, noting the extensive travel is a major grind for officials."It's crazy fast now."

The game is even faster when there are only three officials out there. That happened to Martell, who refereed a game between Dallas and St. Louis with two linesmen on Dec. 27, when an official (Brad Meier) could not get into Dallas due to bad weather.

The NHL switched to a two-referee system back in 2000. Since then, all games -barring injury or travel issues have been worked by a four-man

"Now, I'm the answer to a trivia question," Martell joked. "I'm the last referee to work in a three-man system. But I don't know how long that will last, though, with how travel goes. But it's still kind of a neat thing."

Of course, the Blues/Stars' game featured a pair of scraps early in the second period as neither team was in the



RECORD PHOTOS COURTESY OF NHL.C

Rob Martell (second from left) received a Wild jersey signed by the players from Mikko Koivu (second from right) of the Wild and a stick from Steven Stamkos (left) of the Tampa Bay Lightning.



Martell and his family are congratulated on Rob's 1,000th game and career as a NHL official during a ceremony prior to last Saturday's game between the Wild and Lightning.

holiday mood.

"It was three-man, old school, with one of the guys that was supposed to be working but he couldn't get in," Martell recalled. "St. Louis and Dallas had played the night before in St. Louis and they really don't like each other, so they had a pretty good dust-

There were no fights in Martell's final game but it did feature a coach's challenge that resulted in a Minnesota Wild goal being disallowed. The game also saw Minnesota's Jared Spurgeon tie the score at 2-2 with just 2:39 remaining in the third period to force the overtime and eventual shootout.

Martell got his start officiating in the Stonewall Minor Hockey system and then graduated to do Winnipeg Warriors games, and then eventually Brandon Wheat Kings ones, in the Western Hockey League.

He also played Junior "A" hockey with the Selkirk Steelers.

Nowadays, he remains an avid hockey player during his time off and also golfs. He'll have more time to do both of those activities while also spending more time with his wife Cindy and sons Cameron, 19, and JT, 17.

His family tries to get back home to Manitoba as much as possible. He is hoping to visit Selkirk this summer for the Steelers' charity golf tourna-

"I'm hoping to get back up there," he said."It would be real nice to see some of the guys again and I follow online to see how (the Steelers) are doing."

Steelers celebrate New Year with win over Winkler

By Brian Bowman

The Year 2015 didn't end very well for the Selkirk Steelers.

But 2016 started out a whole lot better with a Steelers' victory.

Selkirk lost a pair of close games to the Winnipeg Blues to end 2015 but rebounded nicely to defeat the third-place Winkler Flyers 5-4 in a shootout last Sunday at the Selkirk Rec Complex.

Ty Kraus and Jake Dudar scored for Selkirk in the shootout. Winkler was 0-for-2 in its shootout opportunities.

In regulation time, Selkirk led 4-1 late in the third before Winkler tied the score with three goals in a 5:16 span. Coltyn Bates pulled Winkler to 4-2 at 12:03 of the third and then Jeff Michiels and Lawson McDonald tallied to tie the game.

"It shouldn't have been a shootout game," said Steelers' head coach Wayne Bartley. "We were up 4-1 with 10 minutes to go. But we were happy to get the two points against a third-place team, for sure."

Winkler's Tristen Keck opened the game's scoring with a power-play goal at 7:12 of the first period. But Selkirk came right back with four straight goals, two of them coming midway in the first period.

Kraus scored with the man advantage to tie the score at 1-1 and then Riley Derlago gave the Steelers the lead.

Dudar and Ezra Hall then put Selkirk up 4-1 after 40 minutes.

Hayden Dola was very good in goal for Selkirk to earn the win. It was his second start after a threemonth absence due to injury.

The Steelers ended 2015 with a 3-0 home loss to the Blues on New Year's Eve.

Taeron Lewis, on the power play, and Riley Hillis scored for Winnipeg midway in the second period to stake the visitors to a 2-0 lead.

Kevin Jakisch then added an empty-net goal at 18:21 of the third.

Selkirk was 0-for-6 with the man advantage while Winnipeg was 1-for-2.

On Dec. 30, the Steelers were edged 2-1 by the Blues at the MTS Iceplex.



RECORD PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Steelers' goaltender Hayden Dola was very strong between the pipes with two solid games last weekend after a lengthy absence.

Kamerin Nault and James McIsaac scored just 1:20 apart late in the first period for Winnipeg.

Hall replied for Selkirk at 12:24 of the second, assisted by Dudar and Colby Dudek.

Winnipeg outshot Selkirk 37-26, including 18-5 in the third period. Dola made 35 saves in the loss.

The Steelers, which have struggled defensively this season, put together two solid games on the defensive end against the Blues.

"That's been the message all year, we've just been

giving up way too many goals," Bartley said. "We're averaging four, four-and-a-half goals per game and we're scoring three."

The Steelers, now 15-20-2, hosted the league-leading Portage Terriers this past Tuesday but no score was available at press time. Selkirk will then host the Dauphin Kings on Friday.

Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Dudar named RBC Player of the Month for December



Jake Dudar

By Brian Bowman

Selkirk Steelers' forward Jake Dudar was named the RBC Player of the Month for December.

The Winnipeg product recorded 14 points (five goals, nine assists) in 11 games for the Steelers.

Dudar, 19, went on a hot streak in early December, recording seven points over a three-game stretch.

The runners up for the award were 20-year-old forward Tyler Penner of the Steinbach Pistons and 20-year-old forward Shawn Bowles of the Portage Terriers.

Sher-Wood Hockey Defenseman of the Month

Averaging a point a game, Gavin Froese of the Swan Valley Stamped-

ers was named the MJHL's Defenseman of the Month. The 20-year-old rearguard recorded four goals and eight assists in eight games.

The 6-foot-2, 190-pounder was equally outstanding on the blueline for the Stamps who have 15 wins and 35 points after 37 games. The Grunthal native has 24 points (10 goals, 14 assists) in 37 games.

The runners up were 20-year-old Davis Ross of the Virden Oil Capitals and 19-year-old Ryan Carlson of the Pistons.

MGEU Goaltender of the Month

For the second consecutive month, the MJHL Goaltender of the Month award has been awarded to Virden's Sean Kuehn.

Kuehn, who hails from Flower Mound, Texas, finished December with four wins and a 1.83 goalsagainst average.

Kuehn, 20, now has 19 wins in 27 games played.

The runners up were Steinbach's Roman Bengert and Portage's Nathan Park.

IBAM Rookie of the Month

The IBAM Rookie of the Month is Portage's Chase Brakel. The Winnipeg native scored eight goals and had two assists in 10 games.

The runners up were forward Ty Enns of the Waywayseecappo Wolverines and Pistons' forward Mackenzie Graham.

City honours Al Hares

Council recognizes 'hockey icon,' coach with certificate

Submitted

The City of Selkirk has paid tribute to Al Hares with a Certificate of Recognition for his decades spent coaching hockey and mentoring young players, guiding them towards success both on and off the ice.

Hares, 70, was inducted into the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame in October, and Selkirk Mayor Larry Johannson and members of city council recently awarded him with a Certificate of Recognition.

Hares has been lauded by the game's upper echelon, most recently during Roger's Hometown Hockey, which came to Selkirk and sought Hares out for a feature during an NHL broadcast. His story, widely told in local newspapers over the decades, even appeared in the nation's news magazine, Maclean's, in 2014.

The attention paid to his hockey life causes the amicable and extremely quotable Hares to shrug, and easily draws him back to talking about where his attention has always been on the ice with the players. In fact, his basement is a shrine to those players, from the young kids up to the Steelers, and of course, the team he's most recognized as being part of, the Junior B Fishermen.

"I have a picture of every team I ever coached, every kid that's been on the team," he said. "My office is full of nothing but Fishermen stuff from over the years."

Johannson said there couldn't be a more deserving recipient of sports accolades than Hares.

"I've known Al all my life," Johannson said."He's a hockey icon in the City of Selkirk. There's just no other way to

put it. He's a legend in his own time and the hockey kids that have gone on and excelled, learned under him and got better under him, they learned not only hockey skills, but life skills also under Al. It's tremendous."

Hares grew up on the ice at The Barn, the old Selkirk Arena, and he spent his life coaching Selkirk teams, including the MJHL Steelers and the Junior B Fishermen, to scores of thrilling victories and legendary championships. Countless young players, including Alfie Michaud, Andrew Murray and Darren Helm, to name a few, went on to professional careers and benefitted from Hares' tutelage.

He and his wife Karen raised their children - Tracey, Cale, Leigh and Scott - in Selkirk, and they were all part of hockey life in their hometown.

Hares has endless hockey stories, many of which, he laughs, have to stay in the dressing room, not fit for pub-

He was named Hockey Manitoba's Volunteer of the Year for 2013-14 before his recent induction into the Hockey Hall of Fame. He said the days leading up to the induction were exciting, but having been through the stresses of having to give a speech already, Hares said for this latest one, he opted to ignore the nerves and do it his way.

"I guess a year ago ... it was kinda easy, though I fretted for a couple weeks before. I wrote the speech and I put it all together and I memorized it in my sleep and it was unbelievable the shakiness I was in," he laughed. "And when this came along I said 'I'm not doing that. I'm just gonna write out what I want to say and say it from my heart. Let 'er rip'.'

Hares' dedication to the sport and coaching is obvious. Year's ago, after having some health problems that failed to keep him off the bench for long, he told a local newspaper that if



City of Selkirk council members gather to present Manitoba Hockey Hall of Famer Al Hares, pictured fourth from left, with a Certificate of Recognition recently for his decades spent coaching hockey and mentoring young players.

he's going leave this world, he might as well be behind the bench coaching a hockey team.

He hammered that dedication home again, by two years after retiring from coaching his beloved Fishermen, taking the job of coaching the Lord Selkirk/Seven Oaks AA Midget Rebels. His grandson Tyson Parker, 16, plays on the team and was at least part of the inspiration for Hares to take a spot behind the bench again.

"I'm enjoying what I do," Hares said, and hinted that he's not looking to quit any time soon. "If I have good helpers, I could last forever...and I could probably do what I've said, you know, if I'm gonna go, it'll be on the bench."

Like any success story, Hares' is built on the foundation of learning. He never stops learning and says to this day he takes the time to learn all he can.

"I'm learning with the times. I spend two to the three hours a day on the computer going through all these different hockey schools, and programming and practices to find out

from somebody else, that you can get nowadays," he said. "And I'm still doing that. People say 'what do you do that for?' Well you gotta stay on top of things, you gotta learn all the new stuff...If you don't learn something everyday, you're not paying attention. That's what I tell the kids."

It's probably why his players still relate to him. Hares recognizes that practices – though they may have the same end goal they had 50 years ago have to be interesting and exciting, for both the players and the coach.

Hares is still showing up to the rink hours early, and still excited by the fact his current team is just one point out of first place. His wife Karen is also still loving life at the rink, almost as much as her husband.

And the hockey world can rest assured that Al Hares will likely still coach for a few more years.

"I'd like to coach younger kids again. I haven't done that for a long time," he

And of course, he's got another grandson, Bryce Parker, who's just 12.





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Pachkowsky paces Fishermen in first half of season

By Brian Bowman

The Selkirk Fishermen head into the New Year with the Keystone Junior Hockey League's best record and their sights set on winning a third straight league title.

But it won't be easy.

The KJHL has a handful of good teams that could win the championship this season and a couple more that are eager to pull off an upset in the playoffs.

"It's a lot more balanced this year, which is nice," said Fishermen forward Jeremy Pachkowsky last Sunday afternoon. "It's good for the league. OCN and Peguis are both pretty good

Selkirk played real well on most nights in the first half of the season, skating to a 16-4-0-2 record.

A big reason for the team's success has been the stellar play of Pachkowsky. The fourth-year KIHL veteran from Grand Beach leads the Fishermen in scoring with 18 goals and 27 points in just 19 games.

He has fit in nicely on a line with Karl Fey, and more recently, Talon Kelly. He has also been getting plenty of power play time, which is always a great way to put up big numbers.

"I've been shooting the puck more and getting help from my teammates," said Pachkowsky, 21." With my experience, I'm a lot calmer now with the puck."

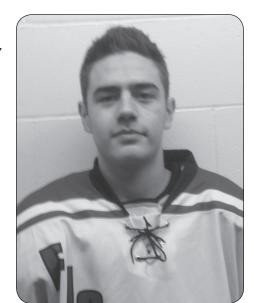
Pachkowsky, who played two seasons with the Selkirk Royals, is confident that he can improve on his numbers in the second half of the season. He also expects the Fishermen to continue to pile up the wins over the next couple of months.

"I think we're going to do really well," he predicted. "I don't think we're going to lose too many games in the second half and we should be in the top spot at the end of the regular season and have home-ice advantage."

Hard work on a consistent basis, said Pachkowsky, will be a key to the Fishermen's success. Another key will be having balanced scoring from everyone in the lineup.

"Having four lines (that can score) is important and that sets us apart from the other teams," Pachkowsky said.

The Fishermen will resume play this Sunday when they host the Lundar Falcons at the Selkirk Rec Complex. Game time is 2:30 p.m.



Jeremy Pachkowsky leads the Fishermen in scoring with 18 goals and 27 points.

V Royals hope to bounce in New Year with w

One would be hard-pressed to find a tougher league schedule than the one the Selkirk Royals junior varsity boys' basketball team had to start their sea-

Selkirk had a very tough schedule with KPAC Tier 1 games against Garden City, Maples Collegiate, and

Kildonan East. The result was three consecutive lopsided losses against those elite teams and a winless league record in December.

"Those three teams are pretty much the top contenders," said Royals' head coach Dean Goodbrandson."We were getting a few lessons out there. They do everything at a speed that is new

The Royals' schedule didn't get any easier as Selkirk visited Garden City this past Tuesday (no score was available) and then will host Murdoch Mackay tonight at the Comp (6 p.m.).

This weekend, the Royals will participate in a Tec Voc tournament in Winnipeg. Selkirk will play a pretty good St. James Jimmies squad Friday at 8:15

"They're legitimately a top 'AAA' team," Goodbrandson noted. "It will be a level drop (in competition) for us but it still will be a good level. They run a decent basketball program over there."

Goodbrandson is trying to develop a good junior varsity program here in Selkirk. In past years, he has guided the varsity boys' basketball team, so dropping down to the JVs is a bit different for the veteran coach.

"I took a lot of care at tryouts," he

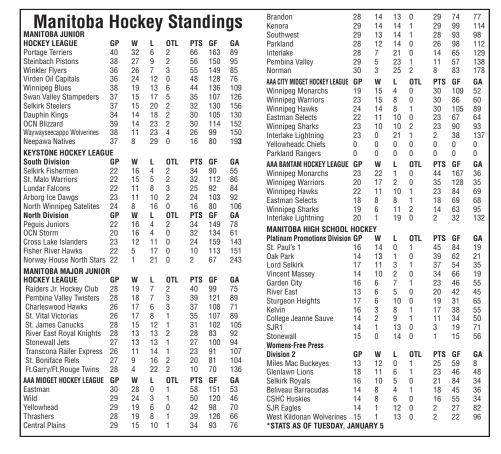
said. "We had about 20 kids try out and I was really trying to look for solid people, solid students. (I was looking for) kids with a track record of being solid, dependable kids. I would put my team's academic average up against anybody right now."

Goodbrandson plans to take the core of this year's junior varsity team up to the varsity level after this season.

One of the junior players that has caught Goodbrandon's eye early in the season is point guard Rory Doak. Doak has played really well for the Royals.

"He's a kid that I didn't know a lot about and he's played a little bit of football on the side (with the Interlake Thunder)," Goodbrandson explained. "He seems like a really rock-solid kid and he asks all of the right questions.

"He has also shown some good leadership and has been one of our most productive players."





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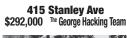
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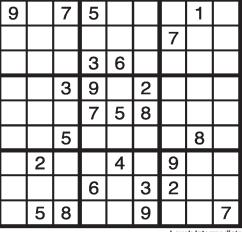
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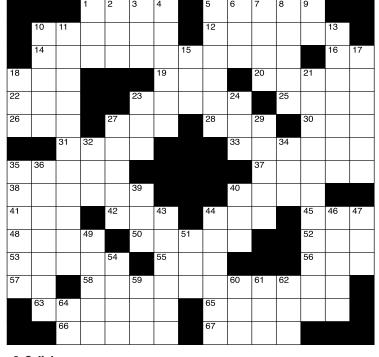
S I W S G A B E

Crossword Answer

CROSSWO

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Color properties
- 5. Arabian greeting
- 10. Frozen spike
- 12. Levels
- 14. Tear down social stiffness
- 16. Rapper Hammer's initials
- 18. Midway between E and SE
- 19. Shooting marble
- 20. Edward ___, British composer 22. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
- 23. Cygnus' brightest star
- 25. Goidelic language of Ireland
- 26. Midway between N and NE
- 27. Auditory organ 28. Last month (abbr.)
- 30. Indicated horsepower (abbr.)
- 31. Mediation council
- 33. Aussie crocodile hunter
- 35. Sylvan deity
- 37. Clears or tidies
- 38. In a way, emerges
- 40. Whimper
- 41. G. Gershwin's brother
- 42. Begetter
- 44. Seated
- 45. Old world, new
- 48. Girls
- 50. "Song of triumph"
- 52. A covering for the head
- 53. Attack
- 55. Norwegian krone
- 56. Coach Parseghian
- 57. No good
- 58. Task that is simple
- 63. A way to move on
- 65. In a way, advanced
- 66. Loses weight 67. Shift sails
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Go quickly
- 2. Fiddler crabs
- 3. Cervid
- 4. Gundog
- 5. Gushed forth



- 6. Caliph
- 7. Shoe cord
- 8. Give extreme unction to
- 9. Of I
- 10. "A Doll's House" author
- 11. Documents certifying authority
- 13. Drunk
- 15. Principal ethnic group of China
- 17. Crinkled fabrics
- 18. Longest division of geological time
- 21. Pancake
- 23. Small pat
- 24. A garden plot
- 27. Strayed
- 29. Surgical instrument
- 32. No. French river
- 34. Modern

- 35. Now called Ho Chi Minh City
- 36. Set into a specific format
- 39. Exhaust
- 40. Individual
- 43. Moves rhythmically to music
- 44. D. Lamour "Road" picture costume
- 46. Having earlike appendages
- 47. Certified public accountant
- 49. Outermost part of a flower
- 51. Supplement with difficulty
- 54. Plains Indian tent (alt. sp.)
- 59. Electronic warfare-support
- measures 60. Displaying a fairylike aspect
- 61. Taxi
- 62. They
- 64. Syrian pound

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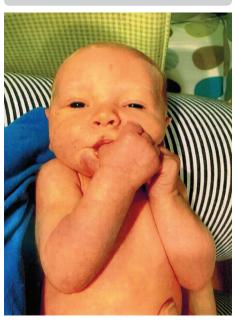
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CARD OF THANKS

From the family of the late Gordon Still, a sincere thank you for all the love and support, cards, flowers, food and donations made to St. Clements Church. Special thank you to Reverend Mawejje for his many visits to our dad, your friendship was important to him. To Reverend Ken Pollock and Gilbarts for a beautiful service. To the Royal Canadian Legion, the honor guard, piper John Hales and Legion Ladies Auxillary. In our dads' words "it was a jim-dandy service and a damn good lunch."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



He's Here!!! Harrison George Poloski

Born December 7, 2015, 7 lbs. 11 oz. Beaming parents are Jason and Tracey Poloski of Ottawa, Ontario. Proud grandparents are Florence Poloski of Selkirk, Manitoba and Carol Heppell of Sussex, New Brunswick.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM

James Belmore September 30, 1930 – January 6, 2015

Gone but always loved and never forgotten.
-From Tina and all your step children

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of Bill Johanson January 21, 1946 - January 3, 2015

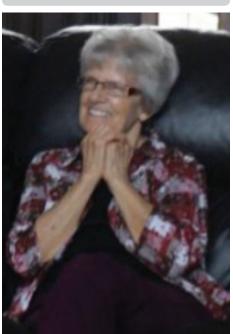
Dad,

What we'd give if we could say Hello, Dad, in the same old way. To hear your voice, see your smile To sit with you and chat awhile. So if you still have your father Cherish him with care, For you will never know the heartache Until you see his empty chair.

-Loved and missed by wife Laverne, children and grandchildren

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM



Kay Warcimaga January 3, 2015

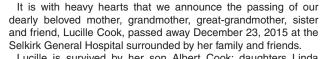
A candle in remembrance,
Burns for you today;
Not only do we miss you now,
But each and every day.
Your kindness and your gentle ways,
Your thoughtfulness, your smile;
What we would not give,
To sit and talk with you awhile.

-Love and miss you Ron, Karen and family

Don't Forget Your Loved Ones WITH AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE Call 785-1618 or email lucy@selkirkrecord.ca

OBITUARY

Lucille Cook



Lucille is survived by her son Albert Cook; daughters Linda Anderson (David), Janie Cook, Marlene Eagle (Russell); grandchildren Brian, Lana, Mandy, Ryan, Keri, Jim, Nikki, Megan, Shannon, Shane, Jessica and Jordan; 25 great-grandchildren; brothers Robert, Roland and sister Yvette.

Lucille is predeceased by her husband Albert (Abby); son Jimmy; daughters Bertha Louise, and Patricia (Patty); grandsons Devon and Robert; her mother Bertha; father Ernest; sisters Eileen and Delia; brother Leo; son-in-law Jerry.

Lucille was born on July 15, 1929 in Richer, Manitoba married

Abby Cook and raised their family in Selkirk, Manitoba.

In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place and a private family graveside service will be held at a later date.

Thank you to the staff and doctors at Selkirk General Hospital.

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements www.gilbartfuneralhome.com



OBITUARY

Collin Hendry

On December 24, 2015 we lost our youngest son/brother Collin Wynn Hendry in a horrific head-on collision as he was on his way to work.

Collin was born on December 27, 1961 in Selkirk, Manitoba, the youngest of nine children to Bill and Emily Hendry. Collin was predeceased by father Bill Hendry, sister Susanne Cooke, brothers Billy and Mark. He is survived by his precious, loving mother Emily Hendry; sisters Sharon Schreyer (Lloyd) and Nena Sinclair; brothers Gordon (Donna), lan (Wendy), and Kerry (Mary); nieces Tannis Tataryn (Gio), Kelly Gislason (Joe), Ashley Moore (Adam)

and Charna Humeny; nephews Craig Tataryn, Ryan Hendry (Kaija), Trevor Hendry, Joe Sinclair and Tyson Sinclair; and great nieces and nephews, whom he loved so much, Lilja and Mitchell Tataryn, Logan and Emma Humeny and Magnus and Kristjan Gislason, with special mention of Collin's best friend Dwight Begg.

Collin worked for over 30 years at the Gerdau MRM Steel Mill in Selkirk. Following retirement, Collin drove taxi in St. Andrew's, shuttle for Halcon Railway Crew Transportation, and most recently, shuttle for Northway Aviation, out of St. Andrew's Airport.

Collin was a unique individual, he lived life on the edge - participating in deep sea diving, sky diving, hunting and fishing - always looking for the next adventure. He loved to travel and did so to Egypt, Europe, the Caribbean and Japan and had planned a trip to Cuba for January.

Collin had the biggest heart - always taking the burden off anyone in need! He was a lover of music - said it soothed his soul (anything but country)! Collin was sincere, loyal, kind and dependable. He adored our Mother and was so devoted to her!

Collin, in earlier years, joined the "Toastmasters Club" and in spite of being a little shy at the beginning, nevertheless, was successful to the extent that he won a Toastmasters competition.

Collin was devoted to and very proud of war veterans. His father Bill was a WWII vet.

Collin donated blood and stem cells. He donated blood over 100-times, for which he was given an award by Canadian Blood Services. Collin also was invited by CBS to a recognition dinner, in honour of his record blood donations, however, turned down the dinner invite, stating simply, that for him, the honour was to donate. Collin had the greatest sense of humour - and - even entered "Canada's got Talent" contest. He didn't win but said meeting Martin Short in person made him a winner! He could do impersonations which kept everyone in stitches! Collin was loved by all who knew him - most say he had a heart of gold and great sense of humour!

As a family - our lives will have the biggest void - we will miss him deeply!

There was a private service for immediate family, followed by a "Celebration of Life" for family and friends on Saturday, January 2, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. at Smitty's Banquet Room - 168 Main St, Selkirk. There was an open mic to share memories, lunch, cash bar and slide presentation.

Those who wish to pay condolences to our Mother may do so by visiting her at Selkirk General Hospital - please do!

In lieu of flowers, a monetary donation or blood donation may be made in Collin's name to Canadian Blood Services.

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements. www.gilbartfuneralhome.com





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