



The Selkirk Record

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023

VOLUME 14 EDITION 50

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Taking time to Remember

RECORD PHOTO BY KATELYN BOULANGER

The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women was once again acknowledged in our community with a Community Vigil Walk. Learn more about the event inside.

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Kerri Einarson talks sports psychology with a class at the Comp

Students learn how professional athletes learn mental and physical toughness

By Katelyn Boulanger

Professional curler, Kerri Einarson shared her knowledge competing on the national and international stage with a group of Lord Selkirk Regional Comprehensive Secondary School students last week. The informative question and answer session for Samantha Russell's sports psychology class had Einarson sharing personal stories, some strategies she uses when in high-pressure situations and her thought processes in high pressure circumstances.

She started off by sharing her background in sports and how she started on her path to becoming a professional athlete.

"I started curling when I was eight years old, and it was always something I was interested in doing. My uncle was world champion and I really looked up to him so when I saw

him win the Brier and then win the worlds I knew right away that was something I wanted to do," said Einarson.

She is a Comp Alumni and has been curling for about 27 years.

"When I step on the ice I'm just like a totally different person. I'm just in the zone and it's a pretty amazing feeling," said Einarson.

Being a professional athlete is an important part of her life but we all have many aspects of ourselves that we need to balance. Balancing her home life and the sport that has become her career is something that Einarson spoke to the class about.

"I recently just quit my job about a year ago to be able to focus on curling and be able to be at home with my family. I found that was really chal-

Continued on page 5



RECORD PHOTOS BY KATELYN BOULANGER

Kerri Einarson and the class of students that she spoke with after the presentation.

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BIG DOLLAR

Residents walk for National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

By Katelyn Boulanger

Last week BPW Selkirk once again hosted its annual Community Vigil Walk. This walk takes place annually in honour of the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. Residents walked from the Selkirk Friendship Centre with candles to the Selkirk Civic Office where a presentation took place.

The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women takes place on Dec. 6. It takes place this day in remembrance of the 14 young women at École Polytechnique in Montréal who were murdered over 30 years ago in an act of violent misogyny.

The presentation opened with a welcome from Selkirk Mayor Larry Johannson.

"These walks should be in every town, in every city. We can never forget. We have to do these walks. We have to tell other people. They have to look [the École Polytechnique tragedy] up to see what it was about and to understand it and to remember," he said.

Colleen Allan, BPW Selkirk, then introduced Minister responsible for Gender Equity Nahanni Fontaine who spoke about how it wasn't actually that long ago that the École Polytechnique tragedy took place.

"[Folks] should be researching it because it is a part of our history. It's a part of Canadian history, in which 14 women, young women, pursuing their goals of education, trying to live their best life and having opportunities were preyed on, stalked, and slaughtered. I know that a lot of people get a little bit nervous with the language that I use, but violence

against women deserves language that really highlights and showcases what we are up against as women," she said.

Allan came back to introduce local Community Policing Officer Cst. Paul Human.

Human read out all 14 names of the women killed in the École Polytechnique tragedy because he wanted residents to really think about them, how they were individuals and how they are no longer here.

- Geneviève Bergeron
- Hélène Colgan
- Nathalie Croteau
- Barbara Daigneault
- Anne-Marie Edward
- Maud Haviernick
- Maryse Laganière
- Maryse Leclair
- Anne-Marie Lemay
- Sonia Pelletier
- Michèle Richard
- Annie St-Arneault
- Annie Turcotte
- Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz

Lori Fiddler daycare director of the Selkirk Friendship Centre then came up and discussed the many programs that the Friendship Centre hosts to help families in our communities. There are many factors that influence violence in our community and through their work they look to address some of them.

Allan then came back to the podium and shared her story.

"[The École Polytechnique tragedy] was the first time that people saw the reality that it just was not domestic violence. This was the first time that they witnessed misogyny, and the killing of women and the murder of women [just because they were wom-



RECORD PHOTOS BY KATELYN BOULANGER

Residents walking at the annual Community Vigil Walk.

en]," said Allan.

Though misogyny and violence against women come in a variety of forms Allan shared a story about how a family member of hers, many years ago, slipped through cracks in the way that domestic violence against women was handled. This relative was being abused by her husband who was an alcoholic.

"The social system at that time, said, if you want help, you have to leave. So, she left," said Allan.

Unfortunately at the time that this happened harassment laws were not in place as they are today.

"She moved to where she thought would be close to her sister. He swore he would kill her," said Allan.

Though Allan's relative called the police because of the threat and stalking behaviour nothing could be done until a crime was committed.

Allan's relative lost her life when the



A candle lit at the event.

perpetrator killed her.

Allan says that this experience and the connections that she made in her professional life allowed her to work with others to advocate for change to the mental health act so that situations like this can be acted upon sooner.

"We have made great strides. Sometimes it feels like we have not but we have," said Allan.

She ended the presentation with a prayer for those living in violent situations.

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> **KERRI EINARSON SPEAKS TO STUDENTS, FROM PG. 3**

lenging to be able to juggle my work life, my family life and my curling. I would get off a plane at midnight, not get home until 1:30 in the morning, and then get my girls up in the morning, off school and I was off to work. It was really draining," she said.

Dealing with pressure and stressful situations is something that someone competing on Einarson's level knows well.

"At first, it was hard. Being on TV for the first time, like oh, yeah, I was just shaking. It was tough but when you're doing it all the time and getting yourself in big pressure situations you get more relaxed and used

to it," she explained.

Some techniques she mentioned using were breathing exercises to slow her heartrate and having a routine when she goes to make a pressure shot already in place so that she's going at a slower pace.

Einarson then took the class through some video clips of her at a previous Scotties Tournament of Hearts bonspiel.

She talked about a situation where she made a momentum changing shot where she felt that change and how she used that energy to propel her and her team forward. She mentioned "celebrating the simple shots,"

as a way to keep positive energy up.

She also discussed a shot she missed saying, "I gave myself 30 seconds to be absolutely [upset]. My self-talk is like 'Kerri you have to be better.' My self-talk isn't always nice but it's just something that I do to motivate myself to be like, 'No, you can do this,'" said Einarson.

She explained that losses are an important part of sport because you learn from them and then you carry that knowledge forward.

Einarson finished the discussion by giving the students some tips for when they find themselves in high

pressure situations that work well on the ice and off.

"It's okay to miss, you're human. It's okay to mess up. It's just part of the game. We're not perfect. It happens so don't be so hard on yourself. Knowing to forgive yourself and be like, 'Hey, I'll give myself like 30 seconds to be mad,' and get over it and move on. That is something that I've worked extremely hard on and I think that I'm really good at that I can pull myself out pretty quickly," she said.



RECORD PHOTO BY KATELYN BOULANGER

Teacher Samantha Russell and Einarson leading the presentation.

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RECORD PHOTOS BY BRETT MITCHELL

The Lord Selkirk Secondary School Christmas Spectacular took place last week. The school bands put on an incredible show!



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Local non-profit honoured at Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

Inclusion Selkirk honoured for work making our community more inclusive

By Katelyn Boulanger

In his first member's statement at The Legislative Assembly of Manitoba local MLA Richard Perchotte praised Inclusion Selkirk.

Inclusion Selkirk is a non-profit that works for inclusion in our community while providing local options for individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Perchotte decided to recognize Inclusion with this first statement because of the work they do.

"All citizens of Selkirk are extremely important to me. I wanted to show honour and respect to the unique and incredible organization of Inclusion Selkirk and all that they do for people living with intellectual disabilities and their families," said Perchotte in an email to the *Record*.

He said he was very proud to be able to showcase Inclusion.

Maria Freeman the executive director of Inclusion Selkirk said that it was a great honour to be acknowledged.

"There are so many great organizations within our community that he could have chosen. Having him choose us felt really, really positive that all the work we've done around community development has been recognized and noticed. I think, for us, knowing that supports and services to people with disabilities is something people are aware of and alert to, especially those working at the Leg. building, it's really important to us, so it's a really good feeling," said Freeman.

She described the feeling of being at the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba as a very humbling experience for her and her colleagues who were there.

Freeman believes that Inclusion's success comes down to the organization not just looking at disability issues but also at community issues.

"I think just being able to highlight people's positive contributions to our community through our work is probably what we're most proud of," she said.

She hopes that all people in our community come to realize that inclusion is something that we are all responsible for.

"By being engaged in our community by working together by not separating people for differences, but bringing people together for the similarities that we all have. We can be an amazing community and an amazing place to live," said Freeman.

Jessica Croy, a person receiving services from Inclusion Selkirk said that it was pretty sweet to be asked to go to the Legislature for this event.

"It means a lot to me because Inclusion does a lot of things for us," said Croy.

Freeman thanks Perchotte for using this opportunity to honour Inclusion

Selkirk.

"Thank you to Richard for honouring us with this statement at the legislative buildings, and for recognizing all the work of our volunteers, self-advocates and staff that have gone into the years of building this organization. We just really appreciate knowing that we're being recognized by somebody and we couldn't thank him more for the kind words that he said," said Freeman.



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED
Richard Perchotte (left) Merilee Mollard, Charles Birt, Maria Freeman, and Jessica Croy (front centre) at the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba.

Vanishing Wheels



RECORD PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL

Local St. Andrews author Steve Van Vlaenderen has published a book of photography featuring vintage vehicles that have been left in place. Van Vlaenderen gave a presentation about this book and his journey with Parkinsons disease to patrons at the Gaynor Family Library Dec. 8. You can learn more about his journey and how to purchase *Vanishing Wheels*, all proceeds of which go to Parkinson Canada, at <https://www.vanishingwheels.com/>.

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RRN RCMP traffic stop attempt leads to arrests

Submitted by Manitoba RCMP

Red River North RCMP has recently seen an increase in the number of thefts and break and enters reported in the area. In an effort to reduce these incidents of crime, officers have been conducting patrols in the rural areas looking for suspicious vehicles and activity in the early morning hours.

On Dec. 8 at approximately 2:20 a.m., Red River North RCMP officers attempted a traffic stop on a pickup truck observed travelling northbound on Highway 8 at a very slow rate of speed.

The pickup truck failed to stop for police and fled the scene at a high rate of speed. Due to public safety concerns, a pursuit was not initiated.

Officers from Red River North and Oakbank Detachments attended to the area and conducted patrols in an effort to contain the suspect vehicle.

At approximately 2:40 a.m., the suspect vehicle was located travelling southbound on Poplar Road, approaching Provincial Road 213 (Garven Road), and a second traffic stop was initiated. The suspect vehicle once again failed to stop for police.

Officers deployed a spike belt at the intersection of Poplar Road and PR213

which the suspect vehicle drove over. The suspect turned eastbound onto PR213 and began to slow as its tires deflated. The suspect vehicle continued eastbound where it came to a stop at the intersection of PR213 and Highway 12, as it struck two police vehicles. No injuries were reported.

RCMP arrested the two vehicle occupants, a 28-year-old male driver, from Steinbach, and a 31-year-old female passenger, from the RM of Ste Anne. The 28-year-old was also wanted for two outstanding Warrants of Arrest, one out of Steinbach and the other, St-Pierre-Jolys. A search of the male resulted in the seizure of a quantity of drugs suspected of being cocaine.

A search of the vehicle, which had been reported stolen out of Winnipeg, resulted in the seizure of an additional quantity of cocaine, drug-related paraphernalia and multiple break-in instruments.

Jordan Friesen, 28, was remanded into custody on numerous charges including Flight from Police, Possession of Property Obtained by Crime, Possession of Weapon for Dangerous Purpose, Trafficking a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Controlled Substance.

The 31-year-old female was released for court scheduled February 16, 2024, in Selkirk, where she will face charges of Possession of Property Obtained by Crime, Possession of Weapon for Dangerous Purpose and Trafficking a Controlled Substance.

“Through proactive measures such as increased patrols, community engagement, and education on crime prevention, the RCMP is working hard on bringing down these numbers”, said S/Sgt Mitch Tkachuk, Operations NCO for the Red River North RCMP. “This initiative not only aims to decrease the number of property crime incidents but also emphasize the importance of safeguarding individuals’ sense of security and peace of mind”.

If anyone has any information on any property-related crime or any other criminal activity, please contact your local police agency or call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-8477, or submit a secure tip online at www.manitobacrimestoppers.com.

Red River North RCMP continue to investigate.

Be aware on thinner than normal December ice in region

Evaluate ice conditions before heading onto the river and lake this winter

By Staff

The Manitoba government is reminding ice fishers and outdoor enthusiasts to carefully evaluate ice conditions before venturing onto Manitoba lakes and rivers due to the warmer than usual weather, Economic Development, Investment, Trade and Natural Resources Minister Jamie Moses announced.

“Manitoba has a lot to offer for those who enjoy winter activities like ice fishing, cross-country skiing and ice skating on our waterbodies, espe-

cially with the recent mild weather conditions,” said Moses. “We want to remind people to keep themselves and their families safe by thoroughly checking ice conditions, and by following local municipal rules, before they venture onto lakes and rivers.”

This time of year, especially in southern Manitoba, ice is still forming and could be dangerously thin.

“Check conditions often as you travel across the ice as ice thickness can vary from one location to the next,”

said Moses.

Last week the RM of East St. Paul issued a reminder to residents to please stay off of retention ponds because the ice is unpredictable, can be thin, and extremely dangerous.

The email blast from the RM explained, “Melting snow can combine with sanding salt and when it flows into the ponds it can cause the ice to melt and thin very quickly.”

Recreational activities like skating and hockey are not allowed on the ponds nor are patio furniture and equipment of any kind. This is because though the ice might look safe it could be susceptible to cracking.



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The Selkirk Record welcomes submissions to Letters to the Editor. Letters can be emailed to news@selkirkrecord.ca or dropped off at our office. Letters must include the name and mailing address of the writer.

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Letters to Santa

Written by Mrs. Marsch Grade 4 class at Ruth Hooker School

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa. How are you? Is it snowing in the North Pole? It's almost December and it's not snowing! I'm baking cookies this weekend. How's Mrs. Claus? Hope shes doing good! Oh, for Christmas can I have a new brother? And a Hello Kitty Bed sheet and pillow case and blanket.

Your Friend,
Amara

Dear Santa,
How are you? I'm doing good. Is Mrs. Claus doing good? If she's not I hope she gets better. It's almost December so its probably a busy month for you because you have to go around the whole world. Did you visit Turkey yet? If you did, what did you do there? I hope you had fun there. For Christmas I want Harry Potter stuff doesn't matter what it is.

Your Friend,
Kenina

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa how are you? I'm sick. Are you sick like me? I am getting better but are your reindeer sick? But what I want for Christmas is very very very very short because there's only 1 thing I like. For Christmas I want a VR and a Nerf gun and some Legos and clothes.

Your Friend,
Hunter

Dear Santa,
How is the North Pole? How are the reindeer? How's Rudolph? How are the elves? How is Mrs. Claus? And how are you Santa? I am guessing the elves are working hard on all the toys? That the elves are making. We're doing a Christmas concert and there is a Santa role. I am in the concert my role is Elf Assistant. Christmas presents: V Bucks, a PS5, Prime drinks, Charizard squishmallow, posters and turtles.

Love,
Maksim

Dear Santa,
How is the weather in the North Pole? The weather down here is there is some snow and its cold. Do you just eat cookies? And do you have any backup reindeer? And do you have a family? And what I want is squishmallows and games.

Your Friend,
Zoey

Dear Santa,
How are your reindeer? I hope your reindeer don't get sick before you fly. How is the elves and Mrs. Claus? I really want Teardown for my PS5. I have 3 puppies. Their names are Tiny,

Timmy and Sophie. We have a Roots of Empathy baby her name is Hazel. She is 4 months old and she has a green blanket in our class.

From,
Gavin

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus? How are the elves doing and the reindeer? How do you fly around the world in one night? Do you have snow there yet? We have hardly any. How old are you and Mrs. Claus? I am an elf in the play. I really want a Barbie. Merry Christmas!

Your Friend,
Madison

Dear Santa,
Santa how are you and the elves, the reindeer, Rudolph, and Mrs. Claus? This year is my dog Sitka's first Christmas. Do you have snow yet? We have not a lot of snow at all. Santa how old are you and how old is Mrs. Claus? Santa, I am Mrs. Claus in our school concert this year. I would really like some Squishvilles please and thank you and Merry Christmas!

Love Your Friend,
Parker Jade

Dear Santa
Do you want some cookies and milk for Christmas? Are you invited to the North Pole musical? Are your elves working? Does it snow much there? Are your reindeer ready to go for Christmas? I want Teardown for my Xbox and a long cat teddy and an Elf on the Shelf.

Your Friend,
Atheseus

Dear Santa,
How many elves do you have? Thank you for a doll. For Christmas I want Mario Kart 8, a Rainbow High doll, and a Bitzee. I don't want to ask for that many. Can you give rainbow kids some toys please and thank you. How is Mrs. Claus doing all year? How old are you Santa? Santa what is your favourite Christmas movie? My favourite Christmas movie is Elf. On Christmas break I like to play with my Barbie dolls, go on my phone and go to my auntie's house and my friend Harper's house.

Your Friend,
Alina

Dear Santa,
I am good on Christmas. And I hope you had a good weekend and Merry Christmas Santa. Merry Christmas to you and I need to put cookies and milk and carrots for the reindeer and Rudolph too so Merry Christmas. I

want a toy and I made a list of what I want.

Your friend,
Teri

Dear Santa,
Hello Santa how are you? How is Mrs. Claus? Do you feed your reindeer, Santa? It is close to December I am having a Christmas show and I am going to be an elf for my Christmas show. Talking about elves, how are your elves? Santa you are invited to our Christmas show. Ok Santa, can I please have a big Lego set, can I have two toddler dolls? Merry Christmas Santa!!

Your Christmas Girl,
Kayla

Dear Santa,
How are the elves? We have a Christmas concert and I am an elf. We barely have snow. How cold is it in the North Pole? I think I seen three deer and I think it was three of your reindeer. I want a squishmallow please and thank you. And hamster food.

Your Friend,
Nevaeh

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? Do you reindeer like candy canes because I saw that on a movie. How is Mrs. Claus? And we have a Christmas concert I am an elf and Kayla, Madison, Nevaeh, Maksim and Parker is Mrs. Claus. And what are you doing on Christmas break? I would like beading stuff, games and toys.

Your Christmas Girl,
Hazel

Dear Santa,
I have been a little bad this year but I am getting better. I shouldn't have cracked my sister's phone. How is Mrs. Claus and how is the elves? I bet they are making a lot of toys for the little boys and girls. Is it true you feed the reindeer hay? What is your favourite cookies to eat? How is the North Pole? Is there snow up there yet? I'm ready for snow. I like Xmas. Because I like spending time with my family and friends and opening gifts and eating Xmas supper. Are you coming to the school breakfast?

Your Friend,
Tyrone

Dear Santa,
I hope you are doing good. I have been waiting all year for Christmas to come. There is still a couple of weeks for it to come. It's starting to get chilly outside and I really don't want to be

sick before Christmas. I wonder what your elves are making for the other kids. What I really want so much is a lot of Nerf guns and Nerf bullets, more Minecraft lego sets and lots of V Bucks!!! I hope you respond to me!

The Math Boy,
Raiden

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus and the reindeer doing and the elves and how are the dogs? What do you do in the summer? Do you eat ice cream or do you have a pool to swim in during the summer? I'm curious, do you? Oh yay and the presents I want lego sets. Merry Christmas Santa!

Your Friend,
Jake

Dear Santa,
Hey Santa. Are you getting tired of the cookies? Are your elves doing good? I'm in Grade 4 Santa! You are such a miracle! How is Mrs. Claus? Is she your wife? I'm just wondering so much, ok Santa? I'm having a Christmas concert and I'm also good at Art. Very good. You don't know what I want so lets go. BIG lego, a cool notebook it will be my diary. A PC and a keyboard and a mice.

Your Friend,
Odin

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? I hope she is not sick. For Christmas can you please get me a VR. I wanted it all year so can you please give me one? Let me have a good year this year and me and my friends will be good. I would also like an Elf on the Shelf too. I hope you and all the children are good this year.

From,
Chloe

Dear Santa,
Hello! How are you? I hope you're doing good and Mrs. Claus. I am having a Christmas concert at school on December 13th. And for Christmas I want two big squishmallows and some books.


From,
Lexi

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Letters to Santa

Written by Angela Smederovac's Grade 3/4 class at Daerwood School

Dear Santa

Hi, my name is Lyndee and I will be good for these last 19 days. I'm nine years old. and I go to Daerwood school I usually walk To school and back home. and I would please like leg and arm warmers and I would please get some black sweaters and socks. I not asking for much my mom needs metal pills for her bells pollsy. and a new Jacket because She doesn't have one. I hope you have a safe trip. I will leave cookie and milk

Love,

Lyndee

Dear Santa,

How are you doing? My elf told me a truck crashed and he said an elf named Christian got hurt so that's why he's not at my house. Can I please have a yorkie puppy and I don't want it too bite. I really want you, the elves and my family to be so happy for Christmas. I really want to try one of Mrs. Claus cookies. Santa make sure Chippy has an awesome christmas.

Love,

Maddison

Hi Santa,

I missed you. My name is Mehreen. And I missed you a lot and I want to tell you about myself, so my age is 9 years old and I study in Daerwood school. I want to tell to you about what I would like for christmas. I would like a bunkbed and that is it. Could you give my sister a teddy bear I love you santa. Bye-bye

From

Mehreen

dear santa claus.

My name is Jake. I'm in grade 4. I would like 5 things for christmas

I would like Metaquest 3, Metaquest 3 elite headstrap and battery pack. I also would like 20,000 Robucks and a dog.

Could you bring my friend Thiago 1 million vbucks. Could you bring my Mom and Dad something special?

Fome

Jake.

Dear Santa

I'am wondering how old you are? can you please get a barbie for my friend maddison she's in my class and she's very funny too. Can I also have a Barbie please? can I please have a big lego set for christmas?

From alex

Dear Santa,

my name is Tate and I'm 9 years old. I go to Daerwood school. I hope you're doing good. I have been good. Are the reindeer good? my brother

has been really naughty please give him coal. All i want for christmas is some robux and a monkey squishy. my friend Kaiver brooks wants some v-bucks and a ps5 I will leave cookies carrots and milk

love Tate!

Dear Santa

Hi my name is Hemil. I'm 8. I want to know how old you are? I promise I will be good this year. I want 2 things for christmas the first thing I want is a, 13500 v-buck card and I would like to go to texas. I want to wish my Baby sis the Best christmas! And a, Baby doll for sis and a sled for her. and I wish you the best trip ever

love

Hemil

Dear Santa

My name is Aaron. I'am nine years old. I go to Daerwood school and I like gym the most. I would like some clothes and games for christmas. I have been a good boy. I hope you have a Merry Christmas. I will leave you some milk and cookies.

From Aaron

Dear Santa,

I will tell you what I want for Christmas later. But I have a few questions first. How many elves do you have? Oh, ya I have to tell you what I want for Christmas and what do you want for Christmas? I would like a Dog squishmello. I also want my cousin to have a good Christmas too. I would also like the Book the Big Cheese and the Book the Sour Grape.

Love

Envy

Dear Santa

My name is Ola. And I only want to have a little talk with you because I know you're very busy. I have been a very good child. And can you Please greet mrs claus for me. I'm 8 years old. I love Christmas and Snowy lakes And candy canes too. I would really like a dollhouse and Cute Barbie's and I want a kitchen toy n Some books And I want every Single Child to be happy and excited for Christmas.

from your's truly Ola

Dear Santa,

I've been good this year I am 9 years old. How old are you? I go to Daerwood school How old is Mrs claus? How do you get all over the world in one night? I wish for a \$400 playstation card and I care for my family and everybody's family, I wish for my friend Tate to get vbucks and robuck. How are the reindeer?

from,

Kashton

Dear Santa

My name is Thomas I have a dog and I like learning about ww2 I'm nice to everyone. I like playing in the snow. How do you make it around the world on Christmas Eve? I want a book, so surprise me for my other gift I want a new blue Scarf. I would like a new xbox controller. Can you give my grandma new markers because she gave them to me I wish you a merry christmas

bye Santa!

Love from

Thomas

Dear santa,

I've been really good this year. I wish I could be at the North Pole. I wish I could see the elves. I would like to have an xbox and an Amazon card, and some Chinese food. I wish for everybody to get gifts this year. I wish everybody a Merry Christmas And Santa I will put some cookies and Milk out for you. And could you bring my Brother some cars.

by Anthony

Dear Santa

Hi my name is Thiago. I'm 8 years old. How old are you? I go to Daerwood School How are the reindeer and you? Can I please have a fortnite gift card and a roblox gift card. can I also get lego can you please give Wemil a PS5, Have a great trip!

From,

Thiago

Dear Santa,

Hi my name is Kaiver I am in grade 4 and what kind of cookies do you like most so I can give you some of them. Why are my elves so goofy? They put a ton o toilet paper on my toilet. Can I please have a ps5 and a \$50 playstation gift card and \$50 robux gift card. For my friend Tate he wants a \$50 v-bucks gift card and \$50 robux gift card.

love

Kaiver,

Dear Santa,

Hi my name is Katie and I am 9 years old. I go to Daerwood School. I have some questions for you and Mrs. Claus. How old are you and Mrs. Claus? Do you get special Activities from Mrs. Claus and the Elves? Do the Elves Disturb you when you are working? Now can I tell you what I want for gifts and some gifts for my brother and my friend. My brother likes cars so maybe a toy car and for my friend he likes sports and he likes to play lots of games with me, so maybe a punching bag. I would like something to read like a Gem book.

Love, Katie

Dear Santa,

My name is Marcus. I am 9 years

old. I live in Selkirk. I have been good this year. Here are some kind things that I have done:

- Saying hello and goodbye
- reading books
- playing ball with my friends in gym

For Christmas this year, I would really like:

- Blue Clues
- Pete the cat books
- dinosaurs

Thank you very much,

Love from Marcus

Dear Santa,

My name is Mikaela. I am 8 years old. I live in Selkirk. I have been good this year. Here are some kind things that I have done:

- I Help my family
- I am Tried my Best
- I Have be very good

For Christmas this year, I would really like:

- a book
- beads for my Grandma
- and I would really like milk

Thank you very much,

Love from mikaela

Dear Santa,

My name is Mickey Moreedu. I am 9 years old. I live in Selkirk, manitoba. I have been good this year. Here are some kind things that I have done:

- I help my mom with my brother.
- I was going to shool.
- making friends.

For Christmas this year, I would really like:

- glue stretchy toys
- climo!
- candles

Thank you very much,

Love from Mickey

Dear Santa,

My name is Daniela White. I am 8 years old. I live in Selkirk, Manitoba. I have been good this year. Here are some kind things that I have done:

- I help watch my baby cousin
- I made for my mom some
- noodles

For Christmas this year, I would really like:

- a violin.
- a drone

Thank you very much,

Love from Daniela

Dear santa

My name is Darian. I am 9 years old. I have two questions to ask. Am I on the naughty list? Santa how old are you? Can I please have three controllers? I would like three headphones please. Can you bring my Nan something.

Your friend,

Darian

Local artist Brandi Vezina wins country music award

By Kaitlin Vitt

A Winnipeg musician who grew up in Stony Point is the winner of Manitoba Country Music Association's NCI FM Indigenous Country Music Award.

Brandi Vezina received the honour in November at the association's annual awards night. She also had nominations for female artist, interactive artist and video of the year.

"It's an honour to be able to make music, let alone have people listen to my music," said Vezina. "I'm just grateful that my hard work has been recognized."

Vezina grew up in a musical Métis family in Stony Point, the traditional name for Patricia Beach Provincial Park. While she loved music, she didn't pursue it as a career right away. She earned degrees in environmental science and teaching and started working as a teacher.

She enjoyed working in the classroom, but something was missing.

"My passion for my music, I wasn't utilizing it, so I was getting pretty depressed, to be honest," she said. "I decided to get serious about my music and really learn about the industry and go to all the conferences I could, especially during the pandemic, and just learn about the business aspect of music, and as a result, I'm very thankful I've had a lot of success."

Vezina took a leave of absence as a teacher to pursue music, and after returning to the classroom, she reduced her contract to part time to continue focusing on music.

Her music is categorized as country, though she's inspired by many genres. She grew up in a country music-loving family, but she also loved rock and roll.

"My producer, Murray Pulver (who played with Crash Test Dummies and Doc Walker), made it very clear in the beginning of us working together that what I'm doing is authentic to me, and I'm not chasing a different sound. I want to make music that I love," she said.

"I love classic country. I love the fiddle. I love the steel guitar. I grew up on Patsy Cline and Johnny Cash and

Loretta Lynn, so you can hear that in my music. I'm not a pop country star. That's not my intention. I'm staying in my own lane and making music that I love, and I like writing songs that are meaningful to me."

Among many themes, her music touches on relationships, hardships and her sobriety, something she said has had a major influence on her life.

"I wouldn't be making music today if I wasn't sober," said Vezina, who's been sober for 11 years. "It's interwoven in there."

She said her family and culture have also been major influences on her life and music. Vezina's grandmother even sings on one of her tracks, "Dodged a Bullet."

In Stony Point, she and her mom lived with Vezina's grandparents, and her grandparents and uncle helped raise her. She remembers often going to Selkirk with her papa, a fisherman, to deliver freshwater fish.

Vezina's new single "Old Fashioned Values" is about learning from your grandparents and passing on those traditions.

"I can't separate my music from my culture. It's just a piece of who I am," she said. "I am proud to be Red River Métis, no matter where I go. I carry that with me."

Leaving her secure teaching position was a big risk, but it's paid off, Vezina said. Her music has had lots of airtime since the release of her first single in 2019, and she's played many shows throughout Manitoba.

"It's time for me to expand outside of Manitoba and make authentic relationships with other artists and music industry professionals outside of Manitoba because my intention is to be a touring artist, and it's just a matter of time," she said. "It's happening. It's coming."

Dates for upcoming shows and links to Vezina's music, including her 2023 release "No More Tears This Christmas," can be found on her website (brandivezina.com). She will be releasing new music in 2024.

For her upcoming EP, Vezina has worked with songwriters from across North America, including songwrit-



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Brandi Vezina took home the Manitoba Country Music Association's NCI FM Indigenous Country Music Award last month.

ers from Nashville signed to the music publishing company Warner Chappell. She has also been working with a writing team in Alberta.

"I continue to push myself to work with artists who are more skilled

songwriters and people who have more experience than myself, but I think I've been able to move pretty quickly as a result of my hard work and my determination," she said.

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Book by local author raises money for aid in Ukraine

By Kaitlin Vitt

Kaitlin Vitt is a reporter with the Selkirk Record. In 2017, she published the book *Planted: Stories From Manitoba's Natural World*, which she rereleased in 2022 to raise money for aid in Ukraine. Below, she shares the inspiration behind the book and how you can support her fundraising efforts.

There's a network of threads beneath the earth connecting plants to one another, allowing the transfer of nutrients. This web, the mycelium, is the root-like structure of fungi and, if stretched out, can cover thousands of kilometres.

Throughout life, I've often felt the connectedness of everything, my interests weaving together, the people I meet one day showing up years later, the experiences I have today shaping my tomorrow — much like the mycelium joining together the natural world.

My Ukrainian ancestors had a deep love and appreciation of nature, with the natural world appearing in songs, traditions and folk beliefs. This love was passed on to me and bloomed while growing up in St. Andrews, playing outside in the forest beside my parents' house and going critter dipping in the ditches in the front yard.

My interest in science and writing led me to publish my book *Planted: Stories From Manitoba's Natural World* in 2017. In the style of narrative non-

fiction, I share the experiences of eight people who are inspired by nature and have stories to tell because of it.

There's the survival story of Nadia, my godmother's aunt, who got lost in the forest while searching for mushrooms near Stead. There's the story of Les, someone I met at the opening of a new walkway when I worked for a rural newspaper, and his story of coming across a hard-to-find orchid. There's the story of Dave, a Wisdom Keeper I met through someone else I interviewed, who invited me on a medicine walk.

I made revisions to *Planted*, including updates to some chapters and new illustrations by my sister, Rayna Meakin, and rereleased the book in 2022 to raise money for aid in Ukraine as it defends itself against Russia.

My family has always celebrated our Ukrainian roots, through Ukrainian dance, holiday customs and traditional dishes. In 2017 to 2018, I had the opportunity to live in Ukraine to study dance, language and culture. I visited with family, met many friends and got to know the country of my ancestors in a deeper way.

When Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine started in February 2022, I think like many people, I experienced lots of emotions, like anger, heartbreak and helplessness but also so much hope for Ukraine.

In addition to raising awareness about the war, making donations can have a major impact on helping



RECORD PHOTO BY KEVIN KASH, SUBMITTED BY KAITLIN VITT

Selkirk Record reporter Kaitlin Vitt published a book about nature in Manitoba to raise money for aid in Ukraine.

Ukrainians defend themselves and rebuild their country, which is what inspired me to republish *Planted* to raise money for Ukraine.

The book costs \$25, with free shipping or delivery, and \$12.50 from each book sold goes toward aid in Ukraine. Each time I sell 60 books, I donate to a different organization providing aid in Ukraine.

So far, I've donated \$775 to Lifeline Ukraine, \$770 to Cobblestone Freeway Foundation, \$770 to Ukrainian Patriot, \$997 to Come Back Alive and \$860 to the Educational Cultural and Art Center Aelita. (Whenever people give me more than \$25 for the book, I donate the extra money to whatever organization I'm raising for at the time.)



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED BY KAITLIN VITT

Vitt's book *Planted*.

Continued on page 14

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
December 22nd, 2023 - January 1st, 2024
Opening January 2nd, 2024

There will be **NO** newspaper printed December 28th, but we will continue to distribute our flyers, so please watch for them in your mail and distribution boxes.

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The Interlake Handmade Boutique showcases local talent

By Gloria Thomas

Step into the world of local artisans and talented vendors at the Interlake Handmade Boutique, a hidden gem nestled within Gimli's Lakeview Resort on First Ave. This cozy and inviting space is a haven for local artists, vendors, and small businesses to showcase their talents and creations. It's the brainchild of Anita McAlinden, a passionate individual who recognized the need for a year-round market to support vendors from local outdoor markets.

This boutique is a testament to the creativity and craftsmanship found right here in our own backyard. McAlinden and her husband Robert purchased their future retirement home in the area in 2013, and moved here permanently in 2016 from Winnipeg. They enjoyed attending local farmers markets and came to know many of the vendors over the next few years. Although the vendors were able to sell their wares throughout the summer months, as soon as the school year began, the markets began to dismantle and many vendors were left to their own devices until the Christmas markets began. Having a year round place to sell their products all week long rather than just on weekends made perfect sense to McAlinden, and therefore she created the Interlake Handmade Boutique.

The Interlake Handmade Boutique opened its doors in November 2020, welcoming around 20-25 dedicated vendors eager to share their crafts with customers far and wide. However, just days after its grand opening came unexpected restrictions due to COVID-19. But McAlinden didn't let that deter her passion or commitment to supporting local artisans.

Adapting swiftly, she turned towards Facebook advertising as a means of reaching customers during this challenging time. Curbside pick-up became the norm while free delivery options were extended even as far as Winnipeg.

"I still worked in the city so this was an option", explained McAlinden.

"In January of 2021 we were able to open the shop with restrictions in place. Our capacity was normally 19 at the time when the shop was half its size. With the restrictions in place only 2 people were allowed in to shop at one time, but somehow we made it work."

Linda Weshnoweski was one of the first vendors on board with the idea of a year round shop to sell her home made preserves and jams. Weshnoweski grew up on a farm and has been gardening and canning for over 50



Homemade jams and preserves From Linda's Kitchen.

years.

"My 'From Lindas' Kitchen' preserves and jams are all garden to table, or made with hand picked wild berries and berries grown in my own garden," said Weshnoweski.

"My biggest sellers are my diabetic jams that I make with Monk Sugar, and my Million Dollar Relish," she smiled, "however I don't do it for profit, I do it out of love of the process".

"Everybody needs to have this type of shop in their communities", expressed Weshnoweski.

Marlane Lillian Mazur, known as the Coffee Shop Writer, had written her first book entitled *101 Blessings in 2016*.

"I just decided I wanted to write about all the good things that happened to me", Mazur said. In 2019, Mazur wrote her second book, *101 Promises*.

"Interlake Handmade Boutique approached me two years ago and I now have my books and paintings for sale in their store. Rob suggested a trilogy, and so I wrote *101 Roads*, which will be out this month. Rob has made me a lot more outgoing. He would call me over to the store and say 'someone wants to meet you', and so I would go", said Mazur.

Etch N Ideas is a local small business that offers laser engraving on slate, wood, and glass, as well as



RECORD PHOTOS BY GLORIA THOMAS

Anita McAlinden inside her store Interlake Handmade Boutique

many other surfaces. Some products include gold tee tags, pet bowls, cutting boards and key chains.

McAlinden said we have grown to have over 70 different vendors and needed more space so we added the shop next door and took out the wall.

Although the shop was run by McAlinden, while her husband worked elsewhere, he often offered to work on Sundays so that she was able to catch up with other tasks.

"These days became known as 'his days' at the shop", said McAlinden.

Sadly, Robert McAlinden passed away on June 25 of this year at the age of 52.

"I recently realized that this is where I was supposed to be when I lost him," said McAlinden.

"The support from the vendors, business owners, customers and towns people has been incredible. They have given me the strength I need to move forward most days when I felt I could not."



Marlane Lillian Mazur holding her books and standing near her paintings.

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Jan 1st Roxi's CLOSED On The Rocks CLOSED Red Barn 12pm-9pm	Jan 2nd Roxi's CLOSED On The Rocks CLOSED Red Barn 9am-12pm	Jan 3rd Roxi's CLOSED On The Rocks CLOSED Red Barn 9am-12pm	

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East Selkirk scores with \$10,000 arena cash

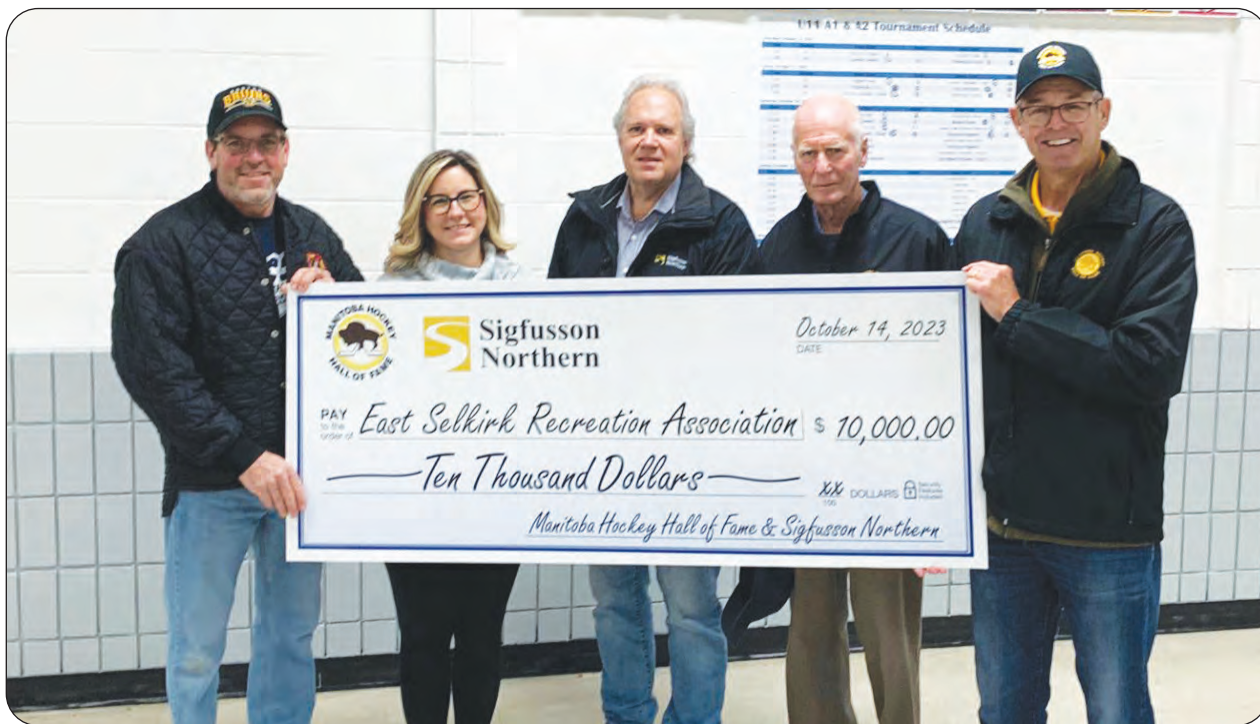
By Lana Meier

The East Selkirk Recreation Centre has been named the 2023 recipient of the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame Hockey Heritage Community Award.

The \$10,000 prize amount is offered annually to Manitoba hockey communities in partnership with Sigfusson Northern Ltd. In East Selkirk, the funding will go towards restoration and improvements to the East Selkirk Recreation Centre.

The award is an annual prize that goes to a Manitoba community to assist in the development of programs, initiatives or facility upgrades that better the game of hockey. The main goal is to aid Manitoba communities in encouraging young people in their area to start or continue to play the wonderful game of hockey. Manitoba communities are encouraged to submit applications for the, identifying their need for funds and how they will be used to keep boys and girls involved in the game.

The award may be used for improvement of your facilities; whether it is painting the dressing rooms; fixing the rink; fixing up your waiting areas, or it can be used to assist with registration costs, anywhere or anything that helps hockey in your community and help keep Manitoba children and their families involved in the great game of hockey. Previous applicants are encouraged to re-submit.



RECORD PHOTO BY TY DILELLO

The East Selkirk Recreation Centre has been named the 2023 recipient of the Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame Hockey Heritage Community Award. Manitoba Hockey Hall of Fame Past-President Don Kuryk and Vice-President Murray Allan recently dropped by the Arena's office and presented a cheque for \$10,000 to the East Selkirk Recreation Centre staff.

> PLANTED BY KAITLIN VITT, FROM PG. 12

I'm currently raising money for the Second Front Ukraine Foundation, a volunteer-run organization that works with various partners to deliver aid where it's needed most in Ukraine. One of the foundation's projects is Save the Brave, which sup-

plies Ukrainian combat medics with high-quality tactical kits. Another project, Iron Birds for Ukraine, raises money to purchase drones for Ukrainian defenders. Drones can provide real-time information without putting the defenders at risk. These are just a couple of examples of Second Front's work.

You can purchase *Planted* by

visiting kaitlinvitt.com/purchase-planted or by sending me a message on Instagram (@kaitlinvitt). The book makes a great gift — and that's not to say anything about my writing, I just mean the book features really powerful stories from amazing people.

Giving *Planted* as a present is also a great option for a gift that keeps on giving — my parents' neighbour recently purchased copies that she said she's giving as a gift of charity this holiday season, and I thought that was a beautiful idea. For people who

purchase the book over the next few weeks, I'll include a bookmark that explains my fundraising efforts and how the purchase of *Planted* gives back.

I hope that reading *Planted* inspires, or re-inspires, you to spend time connecting with nature, whether that's by heading outside for a walk and admiring the sights, smells and sounds of the outdoors or looking at nature photography while having a cozy winter evening in.

When I think of what's formed my life so far, of what's led to my book, my mind flashes with memories: putting my hands on my poyas (waist) at my first Ukrainian dance class; sitting on my parents' deck with my grandparents as we clean the pidpenky (honey mushrooms) we just picked; picking up a pair of dance boots from someone in Kyiv, Ukraine, who five years later would start a Ukrainian charity that my book would fundraise for.

Like the mycelium underground, sometimes things in life are connected in ways we can't always see. But one small thread can lead to something bigger — a mushroom, a book, a life's journey.

To learn more about *Planted* and the organizations that book proceeds are supporting, visit kaitlinvitt.com.

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Letters to Santa

Written by Ms. Brooks' Grade 3 class at William S. Patterson School

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I really want a new PS5 and a Xbox for Elliott. It would be fun playing Halo.

From Hayze

Dear Santa,
My name is Lucas. How are your reindeers doing? For Christmas I would like new shoes. Can you get my dad new tools? I love Christmas! My favourite reindeer is Rudolph, and my second favourite reindeer is Dasher. Have a safe trip around the world.

Love,
Lucas

Dear Santa
How are you and the elves doing Santa? What kind of cookies would you like me to leave out? I am so excited for Christmas! For Christmas I would like an iPad. Could you bring my sister a Baby Alive? My mom would like some new slippers and my dad could use some new tools. Merry Christmas!

Love,
Nova

Dear Santa,
Hi, my name is Ben and I go to Wm. S. Patterson School. I love school because it is so fun. How are you doing? For Christmas my mom wants a Scrub Mommy. I would like you to bring me a pair of work boots so I can help my dad at the farm. Thank you.

Love,
Ben

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? What kind of cookies do you want? How are the reindeer? I would like a computer for Christmas please and could my mom and dad have new yeti cups? I go to Wm S. Patterson school.

Love,
Madalyn

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! It is me, Tyra! There has not been that much snow here at Clandeboye. For Christmas I would like a fit bit. For my Nana, I would like you to get her a Red Lobster coupon. Merry Christmas!

Love,
Tyra

Dear Santa,
Hi, how are the reindeer? I wish for a combine. I think Ben would like a BAD Guys Book. I want to know if Mrs. Claus is OK.

From,
Garrett

Dear Santa,
My name is Kayci. How are the reindeer? How is Mrs. Claus? How are

the elves on the shelf? Are they good? I am so happy because it is almost Christmas. I am so excited for Christmas. I would love a puppy for my dog Daisy. Could you please bring my Auntie a new kitten? Thank you, Santa.

Love,
Kayci

Dear Santa,
My name is Cali, I am in grade 3 and go to Wm. S. Patterson School. How are the reindeer? How are you and Mrs. Clause? I hope to get a pack of silly putty, and can you get my mom and dad a gift card for a restaurant so they can have a night out? Please bring Sarah a necklace, so we can put a picture of me, her and my mom and dad in it! Can you also get her a picture of her family? Have a good Christmas!

Love,
Cali

Dear Santa,
My name is Hadleigh and I go to Wm. S. Patterson School. I want to know if I have been good or not. I feel like I have been making a lot of mistakes lately. I would like a camera for Christmas. For my Auntie Jen, she would like some concert tickets so we can go see someone please? Can you tell me what your favourite kind of cookie? Merry Christmas!

Your truly,
Hadleigh

Dear Santa,
How is Rudolf doing? How is Mrs. Claus doing? Can you bring my sister some Baby Mumums please? I would like a dirtbike RC.

From,
Blaine

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? I am doing good. Could you please bring my little sister a Barbie car and my little brother a Paw patrol lookout? I would like a hockey book. Thank you, Santa, and Merry Christmas to you and Mrs. Claus.

Love,
Louisa

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I am great. I would like you to bring me a computer so I can post YouTube videos. Could you bring my cousin a Virtual Reality game? Thank you for all the presents.

From,
Theo

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa. How are the elves? Are they working hard? My name is Ky-

lie, I am 8 years old and I go to Wm. S. Patterson school. All I need is a new phone case. For my mom, she really wants a kitten so can you maybe do that for my mom? For my Granny maybe a sweater and for my Grandpa a bed set. For my dogs some new toys. Thank you for your time. Merry Christmas!

Love,
Kylie

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? My name is Deakyn. I go to WSP school. All I want for Christmas is to get Addy some LOL dolls and I want socks. Thank you for all you do to make all the children happy.

Love,
Deakyn

Dear Santa
Hi Santa. My name is Fletcher and I go to Wm. S. Patterson School. How are you doing today? I love Christmas because it is close to my Birthday! It is close to December 25th. I would like a tv in my room please. I want my sister to have fish slippers from Canadian Tire. Goodbye

Love,
Fletcher

Dear Santa
How are you today? Can I have a ps5 and for my mom and dad can you bring them an iPhone 14.

Love
Noah

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa. How are you? How many reindeer do you have? How is Mrs. Claus? I really love Christmas! I want a VR2 headset and a TV. I want the homeless people to get new clothing. You're the best Santa! Also, I am 8 years old.

Love,

Preston
Dear Santa,
What is your favorite food? How are you? Can I have a deer blind? Can my brother have the Mouse Trap game? How are the reindeer?

Love,
Emmet

Dear Santa,
How are you? Can Kayci get a dog please? For me, may I please get a Diary of a Wimpy Kid Cabin Fever book please?

Love,
Bryn

> DAERWOOD GRADE 3/4, FROM PG. 10

Dear Santa,
Hi my name is Jersey. I am 8 years old. How old are you? How are the reindeer and you? I go to Daerwood School and I'm in grade 3. I love Christmas, It's one of my favourite times of the year. I would please like for Christmas a Teddy Bear and I would also like a Dog man book and a squishy Thanks. Please could you bring some hickey cards for my brother Liam. What kind of cookies do you like? What do you want for Christmas? How old is Mrs. Claus? Thanks Santa.

Love Jersey

Dear Santa,
My name is Finnley. I'm 8 years old. I got to Daerwood School. I tried my best to be good this year but sometimes I made bad decisions. And I feel sorry for this. I promise to be good next year and try even harder. Could you please wake me up in Edmonton Alberta with my entire family? It would be a perfect gift for Christmas. Thank you very much and wish you all the best.

Love from Finnley

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WONDERFUL
 WEST ST. PAUL



Celebrate responsibly. Arrive safely.

Make plans for a safe ride home this holiday season

Local RCMP officer recommends people have plans and backup plans to make sure they get home safely

By Katelyn Boulanger

The holiday season is a time of togetherness and celebration. Part of many people's holiday traditions involve going to gatherings where alcohol is served. Local Community Policing Officer Cst. Paul Human wants to remind people that they should have plans in place ahead of time to make sure that they get home safely at the end of their celebrations.

"There's nothing worse than if you had a celebration at your house or an event and somebody was hurt or killed because of an accident that could have been prevented. We all talk about 'Oh, it's storming out, I shouldn't be driving to Winnipeg,' or 'I shouldn't be driving at all,' and yet, when we've had one or two drinks, we think, 'Oh, I'll be fine. I'll be fine. I'll get home Okay, I've been doing it for years.' I hear that all the time from people who have been pulled over and I know they've been drinking. The thing is, with alcohol and with



RECORD FILE PHOTO

Make plans so that you have a safe ride home this holiday season.

other intoxicating substances, such as marijuana, or illicit drugs, they all affect us differently," said Human.

He said that depending on your genetics, the amount of sleep you've had, and how much you've eaten lately even the same person may process substances and alcohol differently.

"Here's the rule. If you have one, don't drive. If you've had illicit substances or marijuana, don't drive," said Human.

There are many options that people can use to get home safely. Taxis or rideshare services are options but people can also plan to have friends or family pick them up or even plan to stay the night if they are at someone's home that has room.

The step that keeps you and others safest is making these plans before you take your first drink. Human

says that in addition to your main plans, you should also have some backup options.

"Have a plan B, and C. I've always instructed my children and the younger generation, if you're somewhere and you need a ride home, I don't care what time it is [if I'm your parent.] If you don't have parents like that, set up something like that. Maybe have an additional friend [that you can ask, 'Hey, can I make you my emergency call? Can I make you that person that I can call at two in the morning to come pick me up?' And if you've got a best friend like that, they'll all say yes and it can go back and forth," said Human.

He also notices that people who drink while impaired also bring up the fact that they can't leave their vehicle behind or need it the next morning. The best way to make sure that isn't an issue is to not bring your vehicle in the first place. If you get a ride or taxi to the celebration, this becomes a non-issue.

Residents should also take into account that substances like marijuana

Cont. on next page



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End impaired driving

Every year, the festive season is sadly overshadowed by car accidents that could have been avoided. A large percentage of collisions involve drivers who have been drinking over the legal limit or taking drugs.

Be prepared
It's widely known that drugs and alcohol impair your judgment. Despite this reality, some individuals who've consumed these substances may be-

lieve they're fit to drive when actually they're not. In short, if you've had any amount of alcohol or smoked or ingested cannabis, it's not safe to rely on your own judgment.

Plan ahead! No one wants to be part of another statistic or have someone's death on their conscience for the rest of their life. In 2023, there are no excuses for driving under the influence. You have plenty of choices to avoid putting your own safety and that of others at risk.

Here are a few options to consider for a safe holiday season and new year:

- Use public transportation
 - Arrange to sleep at the party venue or stay somewhere within walking distance
 - Call a taxi
 - Use a designated driver service
 - Designate a non-drinking person to drive you home
- Have a happy and safe holiday season!*

Cont. from previous page

or even certain prescription medications can impair them as well. If a substance says not to operate heavy equipment or even if it has the side effect of causing drowsiness, caution should be taken.

Human says, because of holiday parties, the RCMP does notice that there are more drivers who are intoxicated regardless of the time of day or day of the week at this time of year.

He also confirmed that there will be checkpoints once again throughout the region.

"We start in December and go right till January," said Human.

Residents should know if they are caught drinking and driving there are some pretty serious consequences.

"Number one, you'll be arrested and charged under the

Criminal Code for impaired operation of a motor vehicle, which means you'll have to go to court at a later date. If you're going to court, you're very likely going to need a lawyer, which is going to cost you money. Your driver's license is immediately suspended, which means you cannot operate a motor vehicle. So that privilege is taken away and your vehicle gets towed which means it'll also be held for a number of days and when it's held, you get charged daily," said Human.

This is just what happens if it's your first offence. Repeat offenders have

more serious consequences.

Human says that this is actually getting off lightly.

"If I got you at a checkpoint that's actually a really good thing. I'd rather catch you at a checkpoint, than do a breathalyzer or do a breath demand or blood demand in the hospital after you've been in an accident. So, please don't drink and drive," he said.

He urges everyone to be safe this holiday season.

"This year let's make it better, plan, and have a fantastic Christmas season," said Human.

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Thanks to all who supported this page.

It is no secret Lily Pad Cruisers fundraising success



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY BY JERRY HEATHERINGTON

Everyone was all shook up for the Elvis Christmas Gospel Show hosted by The Lily Pad Cruisers at the Selkirk Community Church. The event was a sold out performance and over \$4000 was raised and will go to The Selkirk and District Community Foundation fund. The Cruisers would like to thank everyone who supported this event and helped them raised over \$19,000.00 for local charities in 2023.

Local company helps out Hamper Drive



RECORD PHOTO BY KATELYN BOULANGER

Black Cat Wear Parts and their employees have made a significant donation to Big Hearts Hamper Drive this holiday season. Black Cat employees held a food and toy drive and the company matched their donations for a total of \$2500 in toys and more going towards Christmas Hampers for people in our community this year. Left: Randy Camplin, Felicia Brooks, Scott Norquay, Kevin Christianson, and Zach Zabizenski.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL ... AND TO ONE A NEW DENTURE!

Brock Vandor
Denturist

It was 2010, I was a fresh denture school graduate and had suddenly taken over my dad's denture clinic due to health reasons. My only employee was my mom, who I convinced to come out of retirement (but, of course, if you ask her, it was her idea to come and be with her son).

Christmas was coming and Dennis, the local newspaper salesman came into the office and said, "Brock, your dad always liked to put some sort of Merry Christmas wish in the paper. Would you like to do that too?" "Of course, I would love to put something in the newspaper, but let me think about what", I replied, wanting my very first newspaper Christmas wish to be great.

Dennis, my mom, and I thought about it for a few minutes; and I couldn't help but think, 'I am a Denturist, I now own a denture clinic, wouldn't the best Christmas gift we could give be a denture?' "I want to make someone smile for Christmas," I said. "We could do a Merry Christmas denture



giveaway!"

"I love it, it's like the song 'All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth', Dennis laughed. So my mom and I posed for a picture, and Dennis' team edited some garland and bows around us, and the annual denture contest was born!

We used a Christmas story trivia question as the ballot, put all the entries into a box and when we picked the winner, it was a lady named Jean. When we called her to say she had won, she was in tears. She not only wanted (and needed) teeth for Christmas, but for many years. I still remember when she came in. She had a brilliant white coat that I had no idea how she kept it so white! We made her a beautiful

white smile to match.

For going on 14 years now, even though the days of just my mom and I as the only employees are long gone, we continue the Christmas contest. What is amazing is that every year we have such an amazing winner. Spending time with them, sharing stories, giving gifts - it's what Christmas is all about! It's like we expand our families just a little bit more. We could never pick a winner, so we do a draw to make it fair. There are no strings attached, just a gift in honour of the greatest gift of all, Jesus. Which brings us to this year's trivia question: see ballot.

How to enter:

- Call us at (204) 482-6698 with your answer.
- The deadline for entering the draw is December 18th @ 4pm.
- The draw will be held on December 18th @ 5pm.

BALLOT

The greatest gift of all had no ribbons or bows!
The greatest gift of all was wrapped in _____.
What are the missing words? Hint : answer found in Luke 2:7

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Hickory Smoked Spiral Sliced Ham with Bourbon, Honey and Orange Glaze

Total time: 2 hours, 40 minutes
1 Smithfield Hickory Smoked Spiral Sliced Ham
1/2 cup bourbon
1/2 cup honey
1 1/2 cups fresh orange juice
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon ground clove
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 tablespoon ground ginger
Preheat oven to 325 F.
Remove packaging from ham, including glaze packet, and place face down in large roasting pan.
Heat ham, uncovered, 12-14 minutes per pound, or until internal temperature reaches 120 F. Heating time

will vary by weight.
When about 30 minutes of cook time remains, in small saucepan over medium-high heat, whisk bourbon, honey, orange juice, brown sugar, clove, cinnamon and ginger; bring to boil.
Pour glaze over ham.
Continue baking ham, basting frequently.
For final 10 minutes of cook time, turn oven up to 425 F, continuing to baste with glaze.
When ham is heated through, remove from oven, drain liquid in bottom of baking dish and reserve to serve on side of hot ham.

Jingle Balls



Yield: 12 cups
Nonstick cooking spray
12 cups popped popcorn
6 tablespoons butter or margarine

3 cups mini marshmallows
1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract
assorted colored sugars
Lightly spray large mixing bowl with nonstick cooking spray. Add popcorn.
Spread plastic wrap on cookie sheet; set aside.
In medium saucepan, melt butter and marshmallows; stir until mixture is smooth. Stir in peppermint extract. Pour over popcorn, mixing until well coated. Let cool 2 minutes.
Spray hands with cooking spray and form popcorn mixture into 3-inch balls. Gently press colored sugar onto balls. Let sit on prepared cookie sheet until cool and set.

White Chocolate Peppermint Popcorn Bark



Yield: 1 pound
5 cups popped popcorn
12 ounces white chocolate baking chips, chopped white chocolate or white candy coating
1 cup crushed hard candy peppermints
Cover baking pan with foil or wax paper; set aside. Place popcorn in large bowl; set aside.
In double boiler over barely simmering water, melt chocolate, stirring until smooth, or melt according to package directions. Stir in crushed peppermints.
Pour chocolate mixture over popcorn mixture and stir to coat. Spread

Ask The Money Lady

Dear Money Lady,
We are just starting to invest and wondered if there were any good investments you could recommend. We want something that makes money of course, but also promotes environmental change and social justice. Thanks, Valerie

Bravo Valerie! Great to see you are trying to make a difference in the world, especially nowadays!

I don't get asked this question often and am very glad to answer it. So, how can a small investor empower change and impact the world we live in for our children and future generations to come? In the past it has been virtually impossible for everyday investors to apply their beliefs and values to their portfolios. Sustainable Portfolios have been around for a number of years and now, more than ever, are entering center stage, as more people want to show their commitment to positive environmental and social changes. When you invest in Sustainable Portfolios, you are really making a stand towards global responsibility and environmental change. So, what are they?

Offered mainly at large investment firms, a Sustainable Portfolio would include a guided stock portfolio of proven high-quality companies that demonstrate superior corporate governance, business ethics, labor and human rights standards, as well as responsible actions towards climate change, water management and pollution.

If you are thinking of changing your portfolio to hold more environmentally sustainable options, be sure to do your research. Not all investment firms hold a socially responsible platform, and many are still not forward thinking when it comes to global change. It should be something your financial planner takes very seriously and not touted as a sales pitch to get your assets on their books. Most large brokerages who believe in the value of Sustainable Portfolios will be rated, (you want an A+ Rating for the Dealer-Firm) by the UN Principles for Responsible Investments, as well as provide investors with a framework and product offering for a wider impact and active management phi-

onto prepared pan; cool completely.
When chocolate is cooled and set, break into chunks for serving.
Store in airtight container at room temperature.



Christine Ibbotson

losophy. Ask about the firm's assets under management in this sector, (AUM/sector). The AUM should be at least \$2-5 billion if they are serious and committed to advancing the options for Canadians to invest better. Portfolios should always be actively managed from both a top-down and bottom-up perspective and evaluated using macroeconomic and geopolitical factors, trends, and with a specific selection process in place. Short- and long-term risks should always be mitigated in the fund analysis to ensure strong portfolio returns.

For those that wish to enhance their existing portfolio with a small portion of sustainable stock options, many can choose from a variety of mutual funds (MF) or exchange traded funds (ETF). These are generally always actively managed funds with many providing downside protection, risk control, flexibility and the potential to outperform the market. Talk to your advisor. Do your homework. Always be well diversified when investing. Why not consider a higher standard in your stock selection for next year, to do your part in creating a better world for all.

Good Luck and Best Wishes,
Money Lady
Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer, National Radio Host, and now on CTV Morning Live, and CTV News @6 syndicated across Canada. Send your questions through her website at askthemoneylady.ca

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INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Steelers post 1-1 record in MJHL action last week

By Brian Bowman

The Selkirk Steelers lost 5-3 to the Portage Terriers on Saturday at Stride Place.

Rocco La Cara led Selkirk with a pair of first-period goals and then the Steelers' Ethan Brown tallied in the third.

Portage goals were scored by Tayem Gislason, Nolan Nenow, Decker Mujcin, Parker Korman, and Daniel Siso.

The Steelers were 1-for-3 with the man advantage while the Terriers finished 2-for-4.

Last Friday, Selkirk's game against the Virden Oil Capitals at the Recreation Complex was postponed due to poor travel conditions. The game was one of three MJHL matchups postponed that evening and all three will be played at a later date.

On Dec. 5, the Steelers whipped the Winnipeg Freeze 5-2 at the Recreation Complex.

Selkirk, which stormed out to a 4-1 first-period lead, received goals from La Cara, Dawson Dear, Mathieu Catellier, Mathieu Moreira, and Rohan Guevarra.

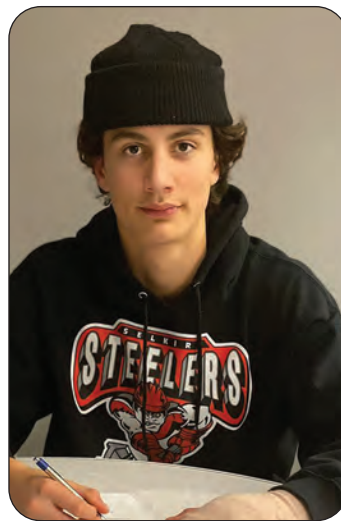
Wyatt Taron and Nicholas Cullen scored for the Freeze.

Noel Olsonawski made saves for the win. On Dec. 4, the MJHL announced that Olsonawski was selected as one of three Original 16 Players of the Week. He earned a pair of impressive wins while allowing just two goals in a two-game weekend sweep on a northern road trip.

Also, the Steelers signed defenceman Ayden Collins (07) to a Letter of



Owen Warnick



Ayden Collins



Kayden Turner



Noel Olsonawski

Intent for the 2024-25 season. Collins was selected by the Steelers in the second round (16 overall) in the 2023 MJHL draft.

Collins is currently playing for the Rink Hockey Academy U18 program.

In another addition, the Steelers announced that they have signed forward Kayden Turner (07) to a Letter of Intent for the 2024-25 season.

Collins was selected in the first round (second overall) in the 2023 MJHL draft.

He is currently playing for the Rink Hockey Academy U18 program.

On the trade front, the Steelers have acquired forward Owen Warnick (06) from the Swan Valley Stampeders in exchange for 2024 second and fourth-round picks and future considerations.

Warnick had four goals and six points in 25 games with Swan Valley



RECORD PHOTOS BY BRETT MITCHELL

The Steelers' Rohan Guevarra (24) scored his first MJHL goal in Selkirk's 5-2 home win over the Winnipeg Freeze on Dec. 5.



Selkirk's Mathieu Catellier (11) had a good scoring opportunity against the Freeze. He notched a first-period goal in the Steelers' impressive win.

this season.

Earlier this month, Selkirk traded Lucas Brennan to the Alberta Junior Hockey League's Sherwood Park Raiders for a player development fee.

Selkirk will host Dauphin Friday, Niverville Saturday and Portage on Dec. 19. All three games will start at 7:30 p.m.



Ogal off to nationals

RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Callie Ogal placed first at the Manitoba Pre Novice Sectional championships held at the Winnipeg Winter Club last weekend. She earned her points and has now qualified for the 2024 Skate Canada Pre Novice Challenge which will be held in Oakville, Ontario from Feb. 1-4. This is the Canadian championship for her level.

Royals' hockey teams earn wins

By Brian Bowman

The Selkirk Royals' girls' hockey team has had struggles scoring goals this season.

But that wasn't the case, though, on Dec. 5.

Selkirk ripped five goals in a 5-4 home win over the Churchill Bulldogs.

Mikayla Clarkson scored the game winner on the power play in the third period. It was her first goal of the season - and it was a big one.

Selkirk's Liberty Aime continued her stellar play this season with two goals and a pair of assists. She leads the team with eight goals and 15 points.

Elara Nazimek was also very good, scoring twice for the Royals.

Churchill goals were netted by Isabella Huculak, Kadence Cress, Ireland Cook-Tymchak, and Kate Cairns.

Sarah Ernstberger stopped 26 shots

for the win.

Last Thursday, Selkirk lost 3-1 to the VMC Trojans at the Sam Southern Arena.

Serena Reeb scored for Selkirk in the first period.

Trojans' goals were notched by Cate Bracken (two) and Charleen Wong.

The Royals played the St. Mary's Academy Flames on Tuesday and then will take on the Shaftesbury Titans Thursday (4 p.m.) at the Hockey For All Centre.

In WHSHL Platinum Promotions Division action, the Royals continued their strong play this season, dumping the Garden City Gophers 2-1 last Thursday at the Recreation Complex.

Dayton Desjarlais scored a second-period goal for Selkirk and then the Royals' Gaven Berry netted the game winner while the club was shorthanded.

Selkirk's Deacon Kemp had two assists in the game.

Garden City's goal was scored by Noah Banera. He was the only Gopher to put the puck past Royals' goaltender Easton Robertson.

On Dec. 4, Selkirk doubled the Beliveau Barracudas 4-2 on home ice. The Royals erased a 2-1 third-period deficit with three unanswered goals.

Selkirk goals were scored by Ryan Cromie (two), Desjarlais, and Tony Pyner.

Kemp, once again, had two assists. Beliveau goals came from Jeremy Panco and Parker De La Ronde while Jonny Enns-Demchuk earned the win in goal.

Selkirk, now 11-5 and in first place, will host the St. Paul's Crusaders on Dec. 18 - which should be a great battle between the division's top teams.

Game time is 4 p.m.



RECORD PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL
The Royals' Dayton Desjarlais (11) scored a second-period goal in Selkirk's 2-1 home win over the Garden City Gophers last Thursday.



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Rush win silver

The U12A River East Rush ringette team won the silver medal earlier this month at the Interlake 'Rings of Steel' tournament, losing out to the BVR Blaze. Player of the Game went to Maranda Kubic. The Rush were one of the host teams as they have five Interlake players - Ellasyn Kett, Madison Leferink, Tayte Chatfield, Marissa Kubic and Maranda Kubic. Other notable River East Rush players of the game throughout the tournament went to goalie Paisley Jones, who recorded her first shutout, Kennedy Young, Marissa Kubic and Payton McAllister. The Rush have had a great start to the season, going 6-0 to place first in their division as of last week. Pictured back row, left to right, coach Nicole Cayer, Ellasyn Kett, Addy Hutton, Sarah Podaima, Maranda Kubic, Elizabeth McCormack, Anika Ploegman, Marissa Kubic, coach Deana Cayer, and coach Bree Matthews. Front row, left to right, Tayte Chatfield, Madison Leferink, Maliyah Miller, Kennedy Young, Matea Morgadinho and Payton McAllister. Goaltender is Paisley Jones.



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sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Boehmer wins bronze at senior men's curling nationals



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

Skip Dave Boehmer and his team had a packed house with their own cheering section.

By Brian Bowman

Skip Dave Boehmer of the Petersfield Curling Club led his team to an 8-5 victory over Mike Kennedy's Moncton, N.B. rink in the bronze-medal game at the Canadian senior men's curling nationals last Saturday.

Kennedy grabbed a 5-3 lead after five ends but Boehmer answered with three in the sixth and then added singles in the seventh and eighth ends for the comeback victory.

Boehmer's crew was relegated to the bronze-medal game after a tough



RECORD PHOTO BY CURLING CANADA/WAYNE EMDE

Team Manitoba's rink of Dave Boehmer, Dale Lott, Sean Bracken, George Hacking, and Scott Szydluk from the Petersfield Curling Club won the bronze at the Canadian Senior Men's Curling Nationals in Vernon, B.C.

7-1 loss in six ends to Saskatchewan's Bruce Korte.

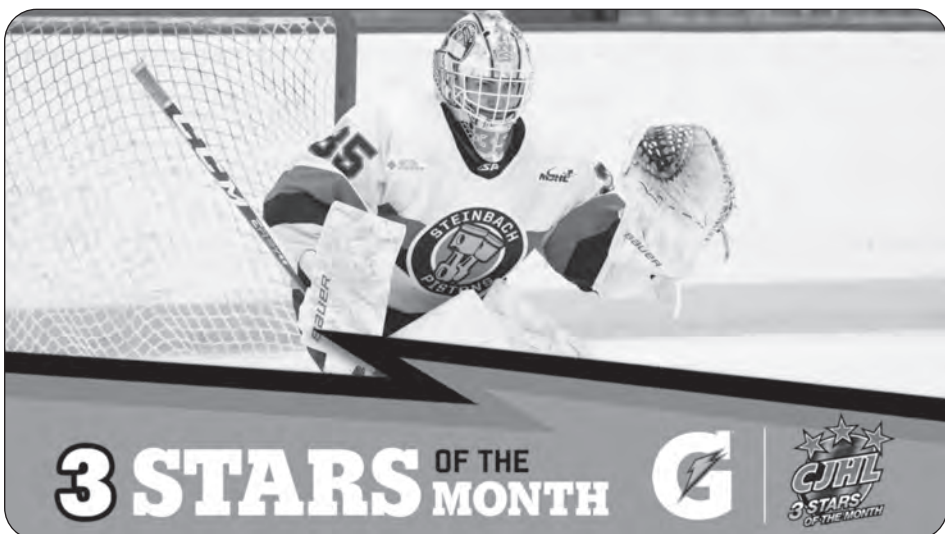
Paul Flemming's team from Nova Scotia defeated Korte 4-3 to win the national championship.

Boehmer's rink was really good at nationals, posting an impressive 8-2

record to earn a berth into the medal round.

Boehmer and his team will defend their Manitoba senior title at the 2024 provincials in late March at Winnipeg's Heather Club.

Plowman named CJHL first star



RECORD PHOTO BY SCOTT STROH

Steinbach Pistons' goaltender Cole Plowman was named the CJHL First Star of the Month for his outstanding performance in November.

In six starts last month, Plowman earned a perfect 6-0 record to go along with a 0.83 goals-against average and .966 save percentage. Heading into last weekend's MJHL action, Plowman, a St. Clements' product, sat second in goals-against average (1.82), third in save percentage (.935), second in wins (14), and has played the third most minutes in the MJHL (1,089).

Fishermen golden



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The U9A Selkirk Fishermen were the champions of a Winkler U9 tournament on Sunday evening, going 5-0 along the way. Pictured front row, left to right, Enzo Loschiavo, Hayden Beech, Tucker Johannson, Bentley Lavoie, Easton Surminski, Emmett Lemoine, Sam Larter, and Jayce Feleduchuk. Middle row Eric Kotowich, Zander Schmidt, Eric Weber, Tate Papineau, and Blaine Beer. Back row coaches Kyle Johannson, Tyson Papineau, Chris Loschiavo (head coach), and Jarod Larter.

Graduating all stars Fishermen win bronze



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Selkirk Royals were very well represented at the MHSAA Graduating All-Star volleyball event last Saturday in Winnipeg. Pictured are Royals' players Megan Carpenter, Carley Catellier, Madi Freiter and Paige Bravo Bernier along with head coach Chad Whiteside.



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Lord Selkirk Fishermen U11 'A1A' hockey team won bronze at an eight-team tournament in Minot, North Dakota which wrapped up Dec. 3.

Raiders notch pair of MMJHL wins

By Brian Bowman

The Raiders Jr. Hockey Club defeated the Charleswood Hawks 3-2 in MMJHL action on Sunday.

Davis Koga, Logan Klippenstein, and Ethan Geard scored for the Raiders while Jason Ruff and Nicholas Guberman replied for the Hawks.

Evan Banera stopped 30 Charleswood shots for the win.

Last Thursday, the Raiders downed the St. Vital Jr. Victorias 5-2.

Samuel Semchuk, Nate Goodbrandson, and Koga scored first-period

goals for the Raiders and then Brody Melsted and Owen Lourenco tallied in the second.

Brady Jacquet tallied twice for the Vics.

Owen Savoie made 26 saves for the win.

The Raiders, now 12-9-1-0 and in fourth place with 25 points, will visit the Ft. Garry/Ft. Rouge Twins on Friday (7:30 p.m.) and then host the River East Royal Knights Sunday (2 p.m.).

Gators lose pair of HTJHL games

By Brian Bowman

The St. Clements Gators were defeated 10-2 by the Steinbach Huskies in a HTJHL road game on Saturday.

Dillon Tower and Darien Meyer scored for St. Clements while Ethan Unger (three), Cole Topham (two), Logan Funk, Eric Mateychuk, Ethan Plett, Brandon Thiessen, and Ian Friesen replied for the Huskies.

Last Friday, St. Clements lost 14-1

to the Red River Mudbugs.

Daemon Macdonald scored a second-period goal for the Gators while Ty Tarnick (four), Bryson Lowen (three), Cole Martens (two), Andy Boger (two), William Sawatzky (two), and Eric Avelar replied for Red River.

The Gators will play the Macdonald Swarm on Friday and the Huskies Sunday.

Both games will start at 8:15 p.m.

Viterra and Scotties regional berths awarded over the weekend

By Ty Dilello

The Viterra Championship and Scotties Tournament of Hearts regional playdowns were played this past weekend across the province.

At the Interlake Viterra regionals in Gimli, Emerson Klimpke of Stonewall was a 9-3 victor over Justin Richter of Beausejour to earn a berth, while Justin Reynolds of Winnipeg Beach won 7-2 over Wayne Ewasko of Beausejour to claim another Interlake berth to provincials.

Joey Witherspoon (Assiniboine Memorial), Daniel Birchard (Pembina),

Thomas McGillivray (St. Vital), Steen Sigurdson (Deer Lodge), Hayden Forrester (Fort Rouge), Darren Perche (Charleswood) and Devon Wiebe (Charleswood) won the seven Winnipeg Viterra Berths that were available.

Jeremy Sundell (Holland) won the first of the available berths in the Central zone in Clearwater. Sundell will go on to skip the first provincial entry from Holland in many years after a win over Dean North (Carman) in an A-Side berth final.

Other Viterra berths over the weekend were awarded to Steve Irwin

(Brandon), Cale Dunbar (Brandon), Jace Freeman (Virden), Glenn Toews (Dauphin), Grant Brown (Thompson), Greg Todoruk (Dauphin), Justin Richter (Beausejour) beat Wayne Ewasko (Beausejour), Dean North (Carman), Jesse Janz (Balduf), Mark Lowdon (La Salle), and Jeff Stewart (Gladstone).

The berth winners from this past weekend have now advanced to compete at the 2024 Viterra Championships, which will be held in Stonewall from Feb. 6-11.

In Scotties' regional action, Carman's Shaela Hayward won a berth

to provincials after winning both games of a best-of-three showdown with Manitou's Rhonda Varnes in the central zone.

Other Scotties berths awarded over the weekend went to Tiffany Armstrong (Dauphin), Zoey Terrick (Heather), Rachel Kaatz (Assiniboine Memorial), Emily Cherwinski (Assiniboine Memorial), and Emma Jensen (Heather).

The Manitoba Scotties Tournament of Hearts will be held from Jan. 23-28 in Morden.

Fishermen, Andrushko family hosting a toy drive for the Children's Hospital

By Brian Bowman

The Selkirk Fishermen have done a lot of great things on the ice in recent years.

They are going to do another great thing, once again, on Sunday - but it has nothing to do with hockey.

Selkirk will be part of the Andrushko Family's fantastic Christmas Toy Drive to gather new toys for the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg on Sunday against the Arborg Ice Dawgs.

Game time is 3 p.m. It will be the fifth year that the Fishermen have been part of this - that's really cool.

Monetary donations are also accepted.

"As a family, it's something we look forward to every year," said Dayna Andrushko, adding this project has been very well supported over the years. "It's something we have been doing...I'll call it our 16th year. We do it because the Children's Hospital helps out tremendously.. It's a great way to get the community involved."

Andrushko's son Kasen, 21, is currently the CRJHL's leading scorer with the Selkirk Fishermen while the younger son, Karter, 18, is in his second season with the Beausejour Comets.

That's kind of neat.

The Comets will also host a toy drive on Dec. 15.

On the ice, the Fishermen were upset 5-4 in overtime by the Lundar Falcons on Sunday afternoon at the Recreation Complex.



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Selkirk Fisherman, once again, will be part of the Andrushko Family Toy Drive to gather new toys for the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg this Sunday at their 3 p.m. home game against the Arborg Ice Dawgs.

Zachary Halldorson scored the game winner in OT.

Kasen Andrushko, Dawson Bergagnini, Gaige O'Neill, and Peyton Moneyas scored for Selkirk.

Andrushko leads the league in scoring with 11 goals and is in a three-way tie for the points lead with Bergagnini and Arborg's Tyson Barylski.

Lundar's goals were scored by Cayden St. Laurent, Kade Laughlin, Riley Zdan, and Troy Johannesson.

Selkirk will host the Arborg Ice Dawgs this Sunday at 3 p.m.

Selkirk Judo Club athletes win medals at recent events



RECORD PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Selkirk Judo Club's Eva Everett won a gold medal at the provincials held at Sport Manitoba's Qualico Training Centre.

Submitted by Brian Jones

Selkirk Judo Club athletes competed at the Manitoba Provincial Championships held in Winnipeg on Dec. 10 and returned with three gold and one silver medal.

Eva Everett won gold in U14 Female under 58 kg, while Daniel and Sarah Ekosky won provincial championships in U21 Male under 81 kg and U21 Female under 70 kg, respectively.

Sarah's win at provincials came the day after she earned her second-degree black belt (nidan) following a grading test before the Provincial Grading Board at the University of Manitoba.

"On Judo Canada's grading points system, Sarah needed 170 points to be eligible to test for nidan. In only two years since her last grading, she accumulated over 650 points, mostly based on her competitive wins," said Brian Jones, one of the club's coaches.

Some of those points were earned on a recent trip to Montreal with the provincial team. On Nov. 11-12, Sarah and her brothers, Daniel and Damien, competed at the Quebec Open.

Sarah placed third in the U21 Female under 63 kg division. Daniel finished just off the podium in fifth place in U21 Male under 81 kg, while Damien was seventh in Senior Men under 73 kg.

"The Quebec Open is the largest tournament in Canada with around 1,200 entries this year. Our athletes had good performances in a very difficult tournament," said Jones.

Following a training camp at the

National Training Centre, Daniel and Sarah then competed in the Montreal Pan Am Cup held on Nov. 16-19, an international event drawing competitors from across Canada as well as teams from numerous other countries including the U.S., Brazil, Denmark, Great Britain and Slovenia. Sarah won a gold medal in the U21 Female under 63 kg division at this tournament.

Sarah will next compete at the Elite 8 National Championships which will be held in Edmonton on Jan. 13-14.

Selkirk Club athletes will also be in action at the Selkirk Open which will be held at the Lord Selkirk High School on Jan. 20.

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IN MEMORIAM



Juliette Hope Wilkinson
 September 3, 2012 - December 16, 2013
 There's a little place within our hearts,
 That's with us every day;
 A place where all our memories,
 Are safely tucked away.
 It is the perfect place,
 At special times for us to go;
 For words could not explain,
 How very much we miss you so.
 And now that once again
 Christmas time has come a round,
 It's where the sweetest memories
 And thoughts of you are found.
 -We Love and miss you,
 Daddy, Nannie and Papa, Uncle Steve,
 Aunties Carrie and Rachel and
 cousins Kyra's and Hunter

OBITUARY



Florence Kuz (née Samborski)

Peacefully, with family by her side, Florence passed away on Friday, Nov 3, 2023. Florence, as the youngest of 8 children, was predeceased by her father Michael, her mother Frances, all of her brothers and sisters and our Dad, Peter Kuz. She is survived by her son Bob (Paulette), daughter-in-law Christine and granddaughters Sara & Natalie, son Greg (Joanne) and grandsons Gregory (Sheleah), great granddaughter Gila and Jonathan, her daughter Barbara and granddaughters Melissa (Chad) and Kelsey (Daniel) great grandsons Peter and Otto and daughter Cathy (Ross).

Mom had a full and active life. The youngest of 8 children, she was born in Meleb, MB on May 1, 1930. At the age of 16, she was asked to teach grades 1-8 in a one room schoolhouse and loved it. When this teaching assignment ended, Mom attended Normal School where she graduated with her teaching degree in 1949 and began teaching. Shortly after graduating, she met and married Peter Kuz. They moved to Winnipeg where they began their family. After several moves,

the family settled in Selkirk where the red house on Moody Avenue became the cornerstone for family gatherings.

Mom was a loving and caring person. She found the balance of working while making sure her children were looked after and ready for school and activities. She became known as and cherished her title of "Hostess with the Mostest". Her table was always surrounded by family and friends, and full of delicious food and conversation. On the big holidays, Mom regularly set an extra place as she always wanted to be ready to welcome any surprise guest that might appear.

Mom believed in the value of hard work and having pride in a job well done. She always said, "if you're going to do it, do it right or don't do it at all". Her working career was varied. She taught grades 4/5 for several years and was highly praised for and very proud of the Christmas concerts she organized. She was also a business woman, owning a series of hotels over time. Being in the hotel business afforded Mom and Dad the opportunity to have dinner with Queen Elizabeth II when she made a visit to Regina in 1973. Mom's last career was as a telephone operator for MTS where made many cherished lifelong friends.

During her lifetime, Mom was never afraid to try new things and never tired of learning new skills. She always told us kids that everything we learned was to our advantage. Along with many other things, it was this love of learning that inspired her to learn the game of cribbage at age 75, a game she spent many happy hours playing with family and friends and never missed an opportunity to tease you about the last time she skunked you. No challenge seemed insurmountable to her.

In the 1980s, Mom became interested in politics. She could tell you what was happening here at home and south of the border. This interest created many lively discussions, depending on what side you were on. Mom also volunteered at election time and took her position as Supervising Deputy Returning Officer very seriously. This newfound love of politics followed her into her 90s.

Mom tried to be as close to her grandchildren as time and distance allowed. She asked them questions about school, sports, activities, boyfriends, girlfriends and later, husbands. She offered opinions and counsel, provided warmth and comfort and plenty of hugs. They knew Grandma/Nana was there for them if they needed anything.

In her retirement years, Mom's yard was the focus of her daytime attention. She spent hours planting, watering and pruning her flowers so that her yard came alive with their beauty. People she knew and worked with got the same treatment. Her door was always open, her hospitality always ready and her appreciation always front and center.

Later on in her retirement, "Auntie Dolly" would regularly house sit for her niece in Alberta. This allowed her to spend time with her daughters and their families as well as her niece Gwen and her family. She wanted to know how things were going in all their lives, to maintain a connection with each and every one. It also allowed her the opportunity to travel to Phoenix and Palm Springs. It was in Palm Springs, that she drove a golf cart for the first time so she could see for herself firsthand one of the sports her children love to play while allowing her to go "whizzing around the corners" as she put it while driving the golf cart. It was also in Palm Springs, at the tender age of 85, she wanted to learn how to play Ping Pong and picked up a paddle for the first time. She had a blast and her only regret was that she hadn't started to play it sooner.

For over 50 years, Mom was blessed with wonderful neighbours. She was also fortunate to have the companionship of three respectable men with whom she shared things in common - Ed Gorber, Nick Perron and Vernon Calder. We gratefully acknowledge their families for welcoming Mom as a member of their own, she valued the time spent with you.

Mom loved music and the 3 things that were a part of it - playing, singing and dancing. She learned to play the violin as a young girl and later enjoyed playing duets with Barbara on accordion. She enjoyed singing and encouraged others to join her in song and for years, she could be found dancing up a storm at the Legion and family weddings. She loved card games and sports. In school, she was the only girl on the boy's baseball team. She also participated in bowling and curling and was known to play the occasional game of volleyball and badminton. She enjoyed watching curling and CFL football on TV and had the opportunity to attend the Grey Cup twice. She also loved a good conversation, watching people at the mall, VLT's, perogy parties and a really good egg salad 'bunwich', but most of all, she loved family gatherings, surprise visits, her friends and every member of her family and she was loved in return.

Her love and care has set a high bar for us to follow and her passing leaves a void that cannot be filled....

Special thanks from Catherine to her 'church children' for their love and support during the last 4 years, but especially for the kindness, love, shared laughter and respect given to Auntie/Jajja Dolly. Deepest appreciation to her companions Jaspreet and Ifrah and to certain members of the staff at Villa Marguerite and Miller Crossing, who went above and beyond their duties with Mom's care. Last but not least, our deepest gratitude to the staff at Shepherd's Care Kensington, not only for their tireless care of Mom, but for walking with and supporting us during Mom's final months and hours.

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Announcements



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OBITUARY



Beau Donald Vielhaber

It is with heavy hearts we announce the sudden and unexpected passing of Beau Donald Vielhaber. Beau was born on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 6:53 a.m. at the Selkirk Regional Health Centre. He weighed 7 lbs 2 oz and was 20 inches long.

Left behind to cherish his memory are his parents Sean and Laura Vielhaber, grandparents William and Joanne Vielhaber, and Glen and Linda Ukena; his Great-Oma Elsie Vielhaber and Great-Grandma Shirley Ukena; as well as his Uncle Robert Vielhaber, Auntie Shelbie MacDonald and Uncle Michael Ukena; cousins Lennie and Huxley Ukena along with many extended family members.

Beau is predeceased by his Great-Opa William Vielhaber, Great-Grandpa Stewart Holms, Great-Grandma Leona Holms

(Oni), Great-Grandpa Donald Ukena, Great-Grandpa Emil Szpak and Great-Nana Joan Szpak.

Beau our sweet son, Mommy and Daddy loved you the moment we knew you existed and we were over the moon waiting for your arrival. On November 30th you changed our lives forever and gave us the greatest gift in life, becoming your parents. You entered this world as an angel and are the most beautiful one. We held you in our arms and gave you endless kisses and told you the life on earth we had planned and wanted for you. Unfortunately, you don't get to experience those dreams but we know you were greeted with so much love and are being well taken care of. This isn't goodbye our sweet son, this is see you later. We love you so much Xo - Mommy and Daddy

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba or to a charity of your choice.

Cremation has taken place and a private service will be held at a later date.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



OBITUARY



Donna K. Tillett 1939 - 2023

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved wife, mother, grandmother, Donna Tillett at the age of 84, after battling a short illness.

A private memorial service for friends and family will take place at Glen Eden Memorial Gardens, 4477 Main Street, West St. Paul, on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, a donation to the Gordon Howard Seniors Centre, in Selkirk, Manitoba would be appreciated.

Family and friends may sign a Book of Condolence at www.glenedenmemorial.ca



Glen Eden Funeral Home & Cemetery
204-338-7111

OBITUARY



Colleen Borlase (nee Joseph)

It is with heavy hearts that the family of Colleen Borlase of Winnipeg Beach, formerly of Victoria Beach, announce her passing on December 4th, 2023 at the age of 71 years at the St. Boniface Hospital with her husband by her side.

Colleen leaves to mourn her beloved husband of 50 years, Don; her son David; daughter Cynthia (Trevor); grandchildren, Daly, Brooklyn (Brett), Dillon (Camryn), Ayden, Thomas; sisters, Diana (Don), Debbie (Anthony) and Verna; brothers-in-law Laurie (Corinne) and Sonny; sisters-in-law Valeria (Doug), Janice and Barb as well as many nieces, nephews and friends who she loved dearly.

She was predeceased by her parents Clifford and Mary Joseph; brothers Tommy, Brian, Bradley, Ray and Clifford Jr.; sister Marcia, and brothers-in-law Tony, Ric and Bill.

Colleen was born October 11, 1952 in Victoria Beach. She grew up in a fisherman's household and was extremely proud of her family roots in Victoria Beach. She went to Victoria Beach school, later attending Selkirk Composite High School where she was active in curling. For many years she worked at the bakery in Victoria Beach until moving to Winnipeg in 1971 to live with her sister Debbie where she later worked in the bakery department at Safeway in 1972. It was at this time she met Don through her sister Debbie and brother-in-law Anthony and were married in 1973.

Colleen and Don lived in Transcona and welcomed their first child, David in 1976 and daughter Cynthia in 1981. Colleen was an active community member assisting in Beavers with David and was an active member in the slow pitch ladies league and mixed bowling league. In 1985, Colleen and Don purchased Beachside Service in Winnipeg Beach later known as Interlake Service which they owned and operated together for 35 years. Even after moving to Winnipeg Beach, Colleen would travel back to Transcona to play on her slow pitch team. When she wasn't running with her children to various sporting or extracurricular events, or jumping to the pump, she could be found handing out candy to children who came in to the garage. She was always ready to work the Halloween shift!

Colleen can be remembered for her many years running both the Winnipeg Beach Curling Rink and Arena Canteens where she would occasionally offer "fancy sandwiches" as a menu item and would boast about her French Fries which were "the best in the Interlake".

She loved her BINGO, Shooting Star and South Beach trips and was an avid sports fan. She was so happy to be able to see her Blue Jays in both Toronto and Minneapolis in the most recent years. Colleen never missed an opportunity to brag about a Stampeders win and although she was a Jets fan, a part of her heart would always be with the Maple Leafs just like her dad.

She enjoyed travelling with her friends and was able to experience trips to Las Vegas, Barbados, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Cuba as well as multiple cruises. She loved music and made sure all of her grandchildren knew how to jig at a young age.

More than anything, Colleen loved her grandchildren. She was a proud "nana" who couldn't wait to play a joke or prank, entertain and spoil her babies. She took pride in helping them learn and encouraged academic achievement in all of them.

Colleen was a generous person and was always willing to lend a helping hand whenever she could, including local fundraisers in and around Winnipeg Beach such as the annual Halloween event, meat draws and assisting at Minerva Hall to name a few. She never turned down an opportunity to help another person and always felt it was better to give than receive. She was the last person to need recognition and was the first to offer it to another.

The family would like to thank the staff at Gimli, HSC and St Boniface hospitals for the care over the past few weeks especially the exceptional care received at the Palliative Care unit at St. Boniface.

A celebration of life will be held in her honor on Saturday, December 16th at 2:00 p.m. at the Winnipeg Beach Legion.

Tributes: www.gilbartfuneralhome.com

Gilbart Funeral Home, Selkirk in care of arrangements.



ANNOUNCEMENT

IN MEMORIAM



Mike Chanas

November 13, 1939 - October 2, 2019

Sharon Chanas

April 17, 1943 - December 15, 2021

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