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Old-fashioned fun was the order of the day at the 150th celebration of Grassmere United Church, south of Stonewall, on July 5 and 6. After a hearty picnic, families joined in classic games and races. Emilia Booth and Elizabeth Matheson led the way in the three-legged race.





Fit to be tied

**TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER** 

#### By Jennifer McFee

A group of Rosser residents is voicing concerns about a proposed land use redesignation.

The South Interlake Planning District (SIPD) presented its draft development plan at a public open house event on June 5, and members of the public were encouraged to also share feedback through an online survey.

As one part of the draft development plan, SIPD asked for community input on the idea of designating a specific area in Rosser as rural residential, which would allow the land to potentially be rezoned and subdivided for rural residential development of lots that are typically two acres or larger.

Some members of the public expressed concern at the open house event about the proposed redesignation and possible rural development in the vicinity of Meridian Road. They also wrote a letter to SIPD expressing concerns and attended a recent RM of Rosser committee of the whole meeting to share their thoughts.

The residents collectively expressed concern about a lack of consultation with them prior to the public open house and survey opportunity. Another concern centres on the existing

**Colony Market** Fresh Veggies, Jam, Pickles and much more! Opens July 18 from 1pm to 5 pm **At Rock Lake Colony** 2 km west of Grosse Isle off Hwy #6 farm operations in close proximity to the proposed redesignated area, as well as impacts from potential increases to traffic.

The residents also expressed concern about trees in the area that might be destroyed if the land is developed in the future.

Coun. Lee Garfinkel said she thinks the community members have a legitimate concern about the area, which she said encompasses a former landfill, an Indigenous burial ground and a recently developed park.

SIPD confirmed that there is a former landfill included within the current boundaries. However, SIPD noted that there are no known Indigenous burial ground sites within the planned area, but there is one to the southeast of its boundaries. The Friendship Park property is owned by the RM of Rosser and is partially used for trail purposes, but it is not zoned as parkland. Most of the property is not developed.

Garfinkel believes there should have been discussion among all council members about the proposal before it went forward to SIPD.

"I think the community is saying strongly that they don't want that kind of development there. You're changing the nature of the area," she said. "The community gave council a message that they don't want to proceed in this direction."

As an alternative, the residents suggested that the townsites in Grosse Isle and Rosser would be better suited for potential future development.

Garfinkel said there was a positive outcome to the discussion, adding that this is the right stage in the pro-



PHOTO SUBMITTED

A group of Rosser residents shared concerns about a proposed land use redesignation area (outlined in red) that includes a former landfill and a recently developed park property that is partially used for trail purposes. An Indigenous burial ground is located to the southeast of its boundaries.

cess to jump in and try to make changes. She said Rosser's reeve and council agreed to write a resolution asking SIPD to remove the rural residential area from the draft development plan.

"This is how democracy works. When people are unhappy, they can step forward and have power in doing that. I think that's what we saw on display at the meeting — the community stepped forward and said 'We weren't consulted and we don't want it," she said.

"When we have a community that's united in saying this isn't what they want, part of my job is to be an advocate for those community members. ... Everybody is in agreement that we need more housing and we need some development, but it's important to consider where you put it."

SIPD noted that there are several issues related to this area that will require further investigation.

The SIPD board will review all feedback received about the draft development plan. Once a final draft is complete, it will advance to the statutory adoption stage, which includes a public hearing as part of the approval process. During the public hearing, members of the public will have the chance to provide input directly to SIPD about the plan before it is considered for adoption.



# **RM of Rockwood reduces mill rate for 2025**

#### By Jennifer McFee

Rockwood residents will notice a reduced mill rate for the 2025 property taxes.

The 2025 municipal rate is 7.852, down from 9.033 in 2024.

The budget anticipates slightly more than \$14 million in expenses, with the majority going towards transportation services (35%), fiscal services (15%), general government services (14%) and transfers to reserves (14%). Funds will also be allotted for recreation and cultural services (7%), protective services (6%) and economic development services (2%). A small portion of the funds will go towards environmental development services (\$66,000) and public health and welfare services (\$4,241.32).

The seniors housing complex project is pegged at \$3 million, with will be covered by borrowing against the aggregate reserve to loan to the Rockwood Community Development Corporation.

Another of the main expenditures will be \$1.596 million for the continuation of Stony Mountain lift stations and force mains. A couple grants will offset costs, with the rest being charged back to developers.

The municipality will also undertake \$505,000 in road improvements, while also spending \$1.07 million for new equipment. An additional \$500,000 will be added to the gravel budget as well.

The Stony Mountain Community Centre will see \$113,000 in upgrades, which will be funded through the recreation reserve and grants, if available. This



**TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

The RM of Rockwood's 2025 budget anticipates slightly more than \$14 million in expenses.

upgrade will only move forward if the municipality is successful in getting a provincial From the Ground Up grant.

In addition, the community safety officer program will be \$50,000 plus operational costs.

The RM's budget aims to align with its 2025-25

strategic plan with a focus on several major areas: economic growth and development, recreation, regional planning, quarry development, residential development, environmental sustainability and community enhancement.



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# **4** *The Stonewall Teulon Tribune* Thursday, July 17, 2025 Norris Lake derby reels in families, fun, lessons

#### By Emma McGill

Teulon Game and Fish hosted its annual Family Fishing Derby Day on Saturday, June 7 at Norris Lake, where participants of all ages braved high winds and approaching storm clouds for a day of outdoor fun and environmental education.

Despite the weather, spirits remained high as families gathered at the newly improved provincial park. This year's derby drew 65 prize entries, including 35 youth participants who each received a free tackle box. As a catch-and-release event, every participant who caught a fish received a ticket, automatically entering them in the prize draw. The youngest angler to take part was just three years old.

"We just want to try and make it so that you don't need to catch a fish, as long as you're there supporting the outdoor experience," said Debbie Coverdale of Teulon Game and Fish.

Selkirk–Interlake–Eastman MP James Bezan and Lakeside MLA Trevor King were on hand to speak about the value of having a public park like Norris Lake in the region. Both were also briefed on recent Game and Fish initiatives, including extensive garbage cleanup efforts, structural upgrades to the washroom facilities, and the installation of a new dock, 10 new picnic tables, and fire pits donated anonymously. Parks Canada also contributed lumber and supplies.

The derby officially opened at 10 a.m., welcoming families eager to see



Debbie Coverdale (right) presented Jace Gretchen (left) with first place in the youth category.



Debbie Coverdale (right) presented Pat Burdett (left) with first place in the adult category.

the refreshed grounds and enjoy a no-

verv





TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Despite an incoming rainstorm, the fishing derby crowd stayed to see the prizes distributed.



Game and Fish vice-president Doug Coverdale (right) presented \$500 to support wildfire efforts to MLA Trevor King (left) and MP James Bezan (middle).

that, for anybody that came out, the day sparked something in these little boys and girls—a lifelong love for the outdoors and the opportunities that Manitoba has. I've been fishing my whole life, and now just to continue that and see the responsibility these kids are learning—it helps keep lakes like this available for everyone."

M

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Each child in attendance was able to select a prize from the table — choices included kites, bird houses and Frisbees — and food and beverages were provided throughout the event.

Proceeds from the derby will go back into the club's programming, with the exception of a \$500 donation presented by Game and Fish vice-president Doug Coverdale to Bezan and King in

#### Continued on page 6



# **Teulon farmers' market welcomes farm-fresh eggs**

#### By Emma McGill

Fresh eggs are back on the table literally — at Manitoba farmers markets, thanks to new provincial regulations that now allow the sale of ungraded eggs direct to consumers.

The change, championed by groups such as Direct Farm Manitoba, means market shoppers can now pick up farm-fresh eggs alongside their vegetables, fruit, and meats.

In Teulon, those eggs are among the many offerings available each week at the community's long-running farmers market. Held every Friday from 3 to 7 p.m. in the lot south of the Red River Co-op gas station off Highway 7, the market runs through the summer, wrapping up Sept. 5.

The Teulon Farmers' Market began in the 1980s under the leadership of the Teulon Agricultural Society. In 2020, the Teulon Seniors Resource took over as a way to support its programming — despite the initial challenge of launching during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since then, the market has grown steadily, hosting between 10 and 16 vendors each week and offering a range of fresh produce, baking, jams, jellies, pickled goods, honey, and frozen meats including beef, pork and chicken.

There's plenty more than food on display. Local makers also bring handcrafted jewelry, beeswax wraps, personal laser engraving and custom pet tags. This season will also mark the return of Janet Dyrda of Blue Skies Bakery, who is rejoining the market with her baking after several years away.

"We're just happy that we have this market in town. It gives our locals somewhere different to go and it's a little socializing for the people in town," said Dianna Shymko, a member of the Seniors Resource team. Shymko said they're always trying to bring in more local growers, even if they can't commit to all nine weeks of the market.

"We're trying to get local people to come when they can, when their produce is ready," she said. "It is difficult to be with our market for nine weeks straight, but we're trying to see if they can come even one or two times during the season."

The Teulon Farmers' Market continues every Friday until early September, offering farm-fresh food, handmade goods and a place for neighbours to connect.

# New active transportation path coming to Rosser

#### By Jennifer McFee

The RM of Rosser is taking strides towards becoming a more walkable community.

Council approved a \$25,000 contribution towards the construction of an active transportation path that's being developed by Steele Business Park and InksPort Business Park on Red Fife Road.

In total, the two developers will also contribute between \$125,000 and \$200,000 towards the active transportation path.

The municipal funds will come from the capital levy reserve.

#### IN OTHER COUNCIL NEWS:

• The RM of Rosser will buy a new firefighting aerial ladder truck from Keewatin Truck Service for \$1,993,600 plus tax. The municipality needs the additional firefighting equipment due to the growth in the CentrePort area. The RM budgeted \$2.75 million for the purchase in its 2025 financial plan.

• The RM will transfer \$175,000 to the machinery replacement reserve and \$75,000 to the fire reserve.

Reid and Miller Chartered

Professional Accountants will be the appointed auditor for the RM of Rosser for 2025. They also completed a report for 2024, which council approved.

The RM will proceed with steps for expropriation to acquire lands to build a drain in an effort to prevent and control flooding. Due to increases in the quantity of rainfall during major rain events over the last couple of years and functional issues with the city protection drain, the RM of Rosser has been acquiring land to build an additional drain to move water parallel to the Brookside Boulevard drain. The RM's goal is to alleviate water holding in the Brookport Business Park drainage area, which leads to some short-term floods in some of the ditched and roadways during a major rain event.

• The RM of Rosser appointed Kelly Dyck to the South Interlake Regional Library board.

• The RM will enter into an agreement with Brookport Business Park regarding a donation of land to the municipality. The developer of Brookport Phase 2 had about 0.4 of an acre on the northern edge of their de-

velopment that has restricted development and use due to the potential extension of Chief Peguis Trail. They are donating the land to the municipality.

• A public hearing will take place on Monday, July 28 at 5 p.m. at the Grosse Isle Community Hall regarding a conditional use application to allow for the expansion of Lilyfield Quarry's existing aggregate quarry operation. The land is designated as an agricultural area in the South Interlake Planning District's development plan and is currently cultivated; however, it's appropriately designated and zoned for an aggregate extraction operation. It has medium aggregate potential.



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## Woodlands declares state of agricultural emergency

#### By Jennifer McFee

The RM of Woodlands has declared a state of agricultural emergency, and it's urging the provincial and federal governments to provide assistance to affected producers.

Due to extreme drought conditions in Woodlands, the recorded precipitation levels are less than 40 per cent of the normal level since March. These dry conditions have impacted local ag operations, including grain, hay, straw and cattle production.

As a result, local producers are facing significant economic hardship due to reduced crop yields, diminished forage supplies and increased costs to sustain livestock.

The RM of Woodlands has also forwarded its resolution to the Association of Manitoba Municipalities and other agencies.

#### IN OTHER COUNCIL NEWS:

The provincial Department of Transportation and Infrastructure has proposed a detour on municipal roads during a bridge repair project on Provincial Road 227. However, council and residents have some concerns about the proposed detour route and would like to explore other options.

Council gave first reading to a bylaw to establish spring road re-

#### strictions.

Council defeated a resolution to accept a \$982.69 quote from Pro Image Signs to put a sign on municipally owned property in the Warren Business Park.

Council conditionally ap-. proved a request to subdivide an 80.36-acre property to create a 9.05acre yard site with a residual 71.31 acres.

The RM of Woodlands will sponsor the youth prize for \$800 for the Woodlands Waterfowl Shoot, and representatives are authorized to attend the dinner on Oct. 18.

Council approved the draft audited 2024 financial statement prepared by Reid and Miller Chartered Professional Accountants.

Council accepted a \$78,100 quote from T.I.C. Parts and Service to buy a 2025 Schulte XH1000 Series 5 mower with a flex arm mount.

Council will enter into an agreement with the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 987.

The RM of Woodlands will amend the speed limit bylaw to extend the 50 km/h zone on Road 77N to 300 metres east of Road 4W. Currently, the 50 km/h zone on Road 77N runs from Provincial Trunk Highway 6 to 100 metres east of Road 4W.

The RM of Woodlands will submit several nominations for the Manitoba Good Roads 2025 competition: Road 82N for the rebuilt gravel road contest, the LUD of Warren for the urban beautification contest, Judy and Glen Nichol for the best rural home ground category, Kyle and Kelley Sigurdson for the best urban home ground category and Van Kemenade Farms for the best farm home ground category.

Council conditionally approved a request from residents to extend an existing driveway and have the culvert end at the property line.

The RM of Woodlands is appointing Joy Ogilvie as the citizen representative for the Teulon and District Handi-Van board.

Council accepted a \$1,251.86 quote from Abloy Canada Inc. for an eight-hour day of on-site training for the Abloy Cliq locking system.

Council did not authorize reimbursement for damages to a septic tank in Warren that occurred during the annual pump-out process.

A public hearing is set for Tuesday, July 22 at 5:10 p.m. in the council chambers regarding a requested site area variance to establish an equestrian establishment to train quarter horses.

### > NORRIS LAKE DERBY, FROM PG. 4

support of local wildfire initiatives.

Top honours went to Jace Gretchen, who won the youth category by catching multiple fish and collecting the most tickets. In the adult category, Pat Burdett took home first place. Looking ahead, Teulon Game and Fish hopes to revive its Junior Rifle Program, which teaches youth safe gun handling practices at the Gun-

ton Memorial Hall. The group is also exploring partnerships with regional sports and activity committees to offer programming such as archery and other outdoor skills.

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#### The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, July 17, 2025 7

## Saskatoon berry season winding down at Purple Orchard near Stonewall

### U-pick operations to wrap up soon as mechanical harvest begins

#### By Lana Meier

It's been a strong year for Saskatoon berry production in the Interlake, and Purple Orchard Saskatoons is nearing the end of its 2025 picking season.

Located just north of Stonewall on the perimeter, the family-run operation began U-pick on July 4 and expects it to wrap up in the next few days, depending on the weather and condition of the fruit.

"We generally U-pick for seven to 14 days, and we're right on track this year," said Sheila Wolfe, who operates the orchard with her husband Brent, his parents Dwight and Theresa Wolfe, and their four children. "After that, we bring in the mechanical harvester to finish up and begin preparing fruit for our frozen berry boxes."

The farm spans nine acres on the Wolfe family's property in the RM of Rosser. Alongside their own home orchard, the Wolfes also maintain rental orchards near Stonewall and serve as caretakers for the research orchard owned by the Stonewall Agricultural Society.

Most of their mechanically harvested berries go into freshly frozen four-litre boxes, which are sold through the fall — or until sold out. Wolfe noted they never carry frozen stock over from one year to the next.

"Saskatoons freeze individually, so you can grab just what you need for oatmeal, smoothies, baking or sauces," she said. "They're a great substitute in any recipe that calls for blueberries."



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Pickers enjoy a sunny afternoon harvesting ripe Saskatoon berries at Purple Orchard Saskatoons, located just north of Stonewall. The family-run farm offers both U-pick and pre-picked options during its short summer season.

The Purple Orchard team manages everything from planting to sales, with additional help during the busy season from Brent's sister and her two children.

Purple Orchard Saskatoons maintains a website and social media presence, and is a listed member of the Prairie Fruit Growers Association. Updates on berry availability and hours can be found by calling 204-461-2623.

"We really appreciate the support we've had from the community over the years," Wolfe said. "It's a lot of work, but we love what we do."

**DID YOU KNOW: SASKATOONS** 

#### THRIVE IN DRY PRAIRIE SUMMERS

Saskatoon berries are naturally adapted to the dry conditions of the Canadian Prairies. Their deep root systems allow them to access moisture from well below the surface, making them more resilient than many other fruit crops during hot, dry summers.

The shrubs grow best in sandy, welldrained soils and require relatively little irrigation once established. While extended drought can still impact overall yield, Saskatoons typically continue to produce reliably with limited water.

Their hardiness and low maintenance needs have made them a popular choice for commercial orchards and backyard growers across Manitoba.



In a poem he entitled "God's Perfect Timing", J.J.Lynch writes: God's help is always sure, His methods seldom guessed; Delay will make our pleasure pure, Surprise will give it zest.

His wisdom is sublime, His heart profoundly kind; God never is before His time, And never is behind.

Some years ago, my wife's aunt Geraldine was visiting us and told us of her experiences of teaching a weekly Bible class to a group of children while she was in Bible college in the 1950's. One Thursday afternoon as she prepared to leave for the class on the city bus, she realized she did not have any money for the bus fare. "I didn't even have a 5 cent stamp I could sell and get money from," she told us. Bus fares in those days were 10 cents.

She prayed and told God her problem and He responded, she said, by telling her to just go. So she got her things together, put on her coat and walked towards the bus stop. She was concerned about not having any money and once again, she prayed. Once again, she heard God assure her to keep on walking to the bus stop.

When she got there and saw the bus rounding the corner, she began to panic. Once again, she heard God tell her to go to the bus.

The busdriver pulled up to the stop and opened the door. She stood there not knowing what to do. Again, God said, "Get on the bus." As she did, she looked down and there on the ground was a dime. She picked it up, paid for her fare and went to her Bible class. God's perfect timing.

And so also, in the same way for you, God will come through: in His perfect timing.

Psalms 40:1 "I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry."

# **Stonewall RCMP investigating homicide in Teulon**

#### By Lana Meier

RCMP are investigating a homicide following a fatal shooting in Teulon on Sunday night.

Stonewall RCMP responded to a report of a shooting at a residence on 7th Avenue SE at approximately 10:40 p.m. on July 13. When officers arrived, they found a 37-year-old man suffering from life-threatening injuries. He was transported to hospital, where he was later pronounced dead.

His death is being investigated as a homicide.

While officers remained at the scene, another RCMP officer on patrol attempted to stop a vehicle believed to be connected to the shooting. The suspect vehicle fled, leading to a pursuit that ended when the vehicle drove into a cornfield.

The area was contained and the RCMP Emergency Response Team was called in. A 24-year-old man, the

lone occupant of the vehicle, was arrested without incident. Police say a firearm was located and seized.

The suspect remains in custody. Investigators say no other suspects are being sought at this time.

Stonewall RCMP, with assistance from RCMP Major Crime Services and Forensic Identification Services, continue to investigate.

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## 8 The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, July 17, 2025 Joy Smith Foundation grateful for \$75,000 grant

Joy in Action returns Aug. 9 to Bird's Hill Park with family-friendly activities to raise awareness about human trafficking

#### By Jennifer McFee

There is joy in giving — and also in receiving.

The Joy Smith Foundation is a grateful recipient of \$75,000 in funding from the Interlake Community Foundation, which will go towards the charitable organization's efforts to combat human trafficking.

Janet Campbell is the president and CEO of the Joy Smith Foundation and she's also the daughter of the organizations founder and namesake.

"Our foundation is Canada's only national and independent organization that's dedicated to ending human trafficking. We focus on education, collaboration and healing," Campbell said.

"We officially started this work in 2011 as far as the foundation goes, but in fact we have been involved in this work for over 30 years now and we've helped over 7,000 individuals through education, direct support and empowering communities. We want people to be able to recognize the signs so they can prevent it and respond to risks in their community."

Tracy Holod, executive director of the Interlake Community Foundation, said they're pleased to provide the Joy Smith Foundation with a top-up grant of \$75,000 as part of the Communities for Gender Equality. The Fund for Gender Equality is part

#### Al-Anon and AA Meetings Information

Balmoral Al-Anon Family Group Balmoral Community Hall basement 6003 E MB-236, Balmoral, MB Contact: (204) 470-8972 Meets every Wednesday 7-8 PM Everyone welcome

> Selkirk Red River Al-Anon Family Group Christ Church Anglican 227 McLean St., Selkirk, MB Contact: (204) 482-6287 Meets every Monday 7-8 PM

Teulon AA Christian Education Building 3rd Ave. SE, Teulon, MB Contact: (204) 461-0155 Meets every Tuesday 8-9 PM

Stonewall AA Parochial Hall 291 1st St. W., Stonewall, MB Contact Denis: (204) 981-7747 Donna (204) 461-0892 Meets every Sunday 7:30-8:30 PM of a partnership between Community Foundations of Canada and the Equality Fund.

"This ground-breaking collaboration is delivering new momentum for women's movements in Canada and around the world," she said. "As part of the collaboration, Community Foundations of Canada and the Equality Fund have developed a five-year initiative to advance gender equality in Canada with support from the Government of Canada."

The Interlake Community Foundation is the only Manitoba Community Foundation to be involved in this program, and has been since 2019, Holod added.

"Our first grant made to the Joy Smith Foundation was in 2021, and since then we have granted to them \$330,000," she said.

"The Communities for Gender Equality program had specific guidelines, and the Joy Smith Foundation was a great fit. The grants were used to focus their education and support work right here in the Interlake. Working with Ms. Smith and her team has been very satisfying."

Campbell said the funds will help expand education and prevention programming.

"We'll be able to continue that work, which includes community presentations and youth workshops that focus on resilience building. We have materials that have been specifically designed for youth impacted by a complex trauma, and it really helps them with their well-being and their resilience," Campbell said.

"This is really important work. It is something that you see happening all the time in communities across the country, and the Interlake is no exception. So it's tremendous to be able to have resources that put a dedicated



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Left to right: Janet Campbell, president and CEO of The Joy Smith Foundation; Michael Heppels, treasurer of Interlake Community Foundation board and representative for the Town of Teulon; Joy Smith, founder of The Joy Smith Foundation; and Tracey Holod, executive director of the Interlake Community Foundation.

effort towards prevention and community well-being."

Campbell extends heart-felt thanks to the Interlake Community Foundation, as well as to the broader community for standing with them in their work.

"We're very honoured and incredibly grateful for the funding because it is a meaningful investment in our mission to prevent human trafficking. We are beyond thrilled to be able to continue our work in the Interlake and build on the investment that's been made in the community so far," Campbell said.

"There's so much work to be done, so we're very grateful to the Interlake Community Foundation for recognizing the importance of this work. We've had amazing engagement throughout the community from those who care about this issue and want to ensure the Interlake is a safe community. It is an effort for all of us." Joy Smith also took a moment to share her gratitude for the contribution.

"It's a real encouragement to continue our work helping vulnerable kids in the area," Smith said.

Coming up, Joy in Action Week will kick off in Bird's Hill Provincial Park on Aug. 9. This free family-friendly, community-oriented event helps to elevate the profile of the issue of human trafficking.

"People can come and walk, bike, run and participate in fun activities. We will have a police car, fire truck, face painting and a Slurpee truck," Campbell said. "It's just really a fun community event — and it helps start the conversation in our communities."

To learn more about the Joy Smith Foundation, or to register for Joy in Action, visit joysmithfoundation. com, email info@joysmithfoundation. com or call 204-691-2455.



## The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, July 17, 2025 9 CIB Yard of the Week honours

# Warren CIB goes hog wild





**TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED** 

Congratulations to Judy and Terry Hogg of 15 Forester, winners of Week 2 in Warren's Yard of the Week. Their meticulously groomed yard features raised beds, colourful planters and a whimsical "Hogg" theme throughout. A Miracle-Gro sign marks their selection, part of Warren's participation in the 2025 regional yard program.

## The Liliane Baron, South Interlake Breast Cancer Support Group

Contact: Claudette 204 886-2393 Eileen 204 861-8107



"The human spirit is stronger than anything that can happen to it." -C.C. Scott

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TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Rose-Marie and Denis Dandeneau of 2 Gray St. received the first Stonewall Communities in Bloom Yard of the Week honour of the season. The couple moved to Stonewall from their Century Farm in Fisher Branch four years ago and have transformed a yard that had gone unattended for three years into a lush garden bursting with lilies, daylilies, peonies, annuals and shrubs. Clients of Community Living Interlake selected the winning yard. The program runs for seven weeks, with a new yard recognized each week. Nominations can be submitted at Stonewall Home Hardware or the Stonewall library using special ballot boxes marked Yard of the Week for the next seven weeks.





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TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

It was smiles, strawberries and song at the South Interlake 55 Plus Annual Strawberry Social Fundraiser on July 10 at the Oddfellows Hall. The full house clapped and sang along as Tannis Tyler took the stage with her guitar and accordion, playing tunes that had many guests reminiscing. Mabel Armstrong went home \$130 richer after winning the 50/50, and 13-year-old Eva Learmond enjoyed an early birthday celebration with her grandma, Kathy Turner.



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# Grassmere United Church marks 150 years of faith and fellowship

#### By Jo-Anne Procter

Nestled in the quiet countryside of the RM of Rockwood, just south of Stonewall, Grassmere United Church celebrated a remarkable milestone this past weekend — 150 years of worship, community, and tradition.

Established in 1875, the church has stood the test of time as a place of gathering and spiritual reflection. It all began with the purchase of three acres of land for just \$10 from A. Sellers, and over the past century and a half, Grassmere United has remained a steadfast symbol of faith and rural resilience.

On July 5 and 6, the sesquicentennial celebration brought together nearly 300 guests — longtime residents, returning families and visitors — to honour the church's deep roots and enduring presence.

A picnic meal catered by Prairie Fusion Catering was served up with homemade pies baked by volunteers,, fed close to 300 guests and evoked memories of simpler times.

Displays inside the church showcased historical records, old photographs, and memorabilia, allowing guests to reflect on the church's rich









Outside, the laughter of children and the joy of community spirit filled the air. Old-fashioned games like sack races, three-legged races, and wheelbarrow races saw participants of all ages join in the fun, while the ever-popular fishing game drew long lines of excited children.

The long-standing Grassmere picnic tradition began in 1898 as a fundraiser to fence the churchyard and continued annual for many years and became part of Grassmere's cherished traditions..

The celebration concluded Sunday morning with a worship service led by guest minister Rev. Eric Matheson, who reflected on the legacy of the congregation and its future.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Local artist Bev (Harcus) Jasperson donated an original painting of the Grassmere Church for the 150th celebration. Jasperson's great-great-grandfather was one of the founding members of the church and is buried in the cemetery. Pictured with Bev is her youngest son Bruce Jasperson.







## 12 The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, July 17, 2025 Wood spirit carver brings magic to Arnes Market July 19–20

#### By E. Antonio

With just a chisel and a block of bark, Marcel Desilets transforms fallen trees into mythical beings—each one etched with personality, whimsy and imagination.

The Winnipeg-based cottonwood bark carver will be showcasing his creations at the Arnes Farmers' Market July 19 and 20.

"Carving is one of my creative outlets," he said. "I have always had a passion for all things mythical, and this led me into carving these creatures into wood."

Desilets carves wood spirits into bark he collects along the Red and Assiniboine rivers, and also creates canes and walking sticks. His spirits feature a variety of expressions some have beards, some appear to be peeking out of the wood, and many simply have funny faces.

The tradition of carving "wood spirits" dates back centuries in European folklore, where it was believed that faces hidden in trees protected travellers and brought good luck.

Desilets has more than three decades of carving experience, all sparked by an encounter with Kenora carver Brock Blosser at the Winnipeg Folk Festival's Hand-Made Village.

"I remember being completely mesmerized by what he had created — he carved the most amazing wood spirits—and this led me to the work I am doing today."

Desilets said most of his spirits' expressions come from his own imagination and are shaped by skills he's developed over the years. He has no formal training and describes his work as a "learn-as-you-go" process.

"I usually have a plan of what direction I want to take my faces in, but that can always change. Even though I've been doing this for many years, I still do a 'Whoops! Carved too much,' and that can alter my original plans."

Each carving takes him approximately two to 10 hours, depending on the size and complexity of the design. He uses a combination of palm chisels



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY KATIE WALLMUTH

Marcel Desilets shows off his whimsical wood spirit carvings, which he'll be showcasing at his stand at the Arnes Farmers' Market July 19 and 20.







The faces carved into Desilets' bark range from gentle and wise to mischievous and wild-eyed — some with flowing beards; others frozen in a wide-eyed laugh, all capturing a moment of whimsy locked in wood.

and mallet chisels in various sizes — a collection he says has grown to nearly 50 pieces.

"Êvery time I progressed, I learned that some tools would make things easier than others. So, I just kept adding them to my toolbox."

Once a carving is complete, Desilets either finishes it with wax or adds paint to give the spirit a pop of colour. He collects his own cottonwood bark from fallen trees, choosing it for its thick bark and soft consistency. "Overall, it lends itself to be a friendly wood to work with," he said. Thanks to the nearby rivers, he's able to find pieces two to five inches thick and up to three feet long.

At this time, Desilets doesn't offer commissioned pieces, preferring to let his creativity lead the way. However, he's happy to recommend a friend for anyone seeking a custom carving.

"I just want to enjoy what I do. If I happen to end up selling my items at markets — that's great, and it adds to the enj o y m e n t of being creative. If people enjoy my



work as well, that's an added benefit and the real icing on the cake for me."

Desilets shares photos of his work on Instagram @marceldesiletscreative. He'll be returning to the Arnes Farmers' Market July 19 and 20 after making his market debut in June, likely for his final appearance of the season.

"Arnes was my first market in many years, and I figured I'd give it a go. It was such a wonderful atmosphere, and I can't wait to go back again to share my passion with others."

#### The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, July 17, 2025 13

## Town of Teulon invites feedback on new secondary plan

#### By Jennifer McFee

Teulon residents are invited to share their feedback on a proposed new secondary plan to promote growth over the next two decades.

The zoning bylaw will also be updated in order to implement Teulon's secondary plan and the South Interlake Planning District's development plan, once approved. The town's current zoning bylaw was adopted in 2003.

The new zoning bylaw would address topics such as secondary suites. The new policy restricts that no more than one secondary suite is allowed within a principal residence and no more than one attached and one detached secondary suite is permitted on a site.

The new policy would permit two-unit dwellings in residential conservation, residential peripheral, residential intensification and town centre zones, as well as multi-unit dwellings in the residential peripheral, residential intensification zones and town centre zones.

In addition, a new section and definition has been provided for tiny homes.

For home occupations, all uses would be permitted in the new policy as long as they're contained within the home.

More information is posted on the Town of Teulon's website at teulon.ca. The town's website also includes a survey that's open until Teulon residents can share their feedback on a proposed new Aug. 6.



#### PHOTO SUBMITTED

secondary plan through a survey that's available on the town's website until Aug. 6.

## Fisher Armstrong Planning District seeks community input for new development plan

#### By E. Antonio

Residents of the RM of Fisher and the RM of Armstrong are invited to help shape the future of their communities by taking part in a virtual Community Visioning Workshop on July 24 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The Fisher Armstrong Planning District is currently updating its development plan and is asking residents to weigh in on local priorities, needs and long-term goals. The updated plan will serve as a roadmap for managing growth and guiding physical, social, environmental and economic development across the two municipalities.

The existing development plan, established in 2003, provides policy direction on land use and development. But project manager David Paton said a complete update is now required to ensure the plan aligns with current community priorities, provincial legislation and best practices for practical land-use management.

"The development plan identifies areas that are suitable for development and outlines policies that new development must adhere to," said Paton, who is overseeing the plan update with WSP, the consulting firm leading the process. "As part of the development plan review process, we will identify whether there is a need to designate additional areas for development."

The project began in March, with adoption of the new plan expected in early 2026 and full implementation by summer. WSP is collecting public feedback as part of its four-phase process: project start-up; background study and visioning; development plan preparation; and public hearing and adoption.

"Public feedback will be used to draft a vision statement for the future of the planning district and to identify key concerns and opportunities to be addressed in the development plan," Paton said.

While WSP is still finalizing the issues to be addressed, Paton said housing affordability, senior living, shortterm rentals and public health concerns are anticipated to be among the priorities-factors that affect land use, economic development and tourism.

The new plan will also aim to strengthen existing development restrictions in flood-prone areas, aligning with updated provincial legislation and integrated watershed management plans that apply within the district.

Paton said any changes resulting from the new plan may lead to updates to municipal zoning bylaws. If required, those would be addressed through a separate project at a later date.

"The plan must be adopted by the Planning District Board, with final approval given by the province," he added. "Once adopted, decisions made by the board and local councils must be consistent with the development

plan."

To receive a link for the workshop or to learn more, contact WSP planner Brett Hampton at

431-485-0765 or by email at brett.hampton@ wsp.com.



### The Fisher Armstrong Planning District is updating their Development Plan and seeking your input.

To ensure the new Development Plan reflects the needs of the community, we will be holding a virtual Community Visioning Workshop on July 24 to gather information and provide you with the opportunity to share your vision for the future of the Planning District. Please join the online discussion to learn about the project, ask questions and have your say.



### Attend the virtual workshop

Thursday, July 24, 2025 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m

Formal presentation followed by a facilitated discussion.

#### What is a development plan?

The development plan is a policy document that guides development in the RM of Fisher and the RM of Armstrong. The development plan sets the community's vision for the future through policy statements that address physical, social, environmental and economic objectives.



### **Contact Us**

To receive a link for the workshop or for more information, please contact:

Brett Hampton, Planner at WSP

T: 431-485-0765 E: brett.hampton@wsp.com





# Watershed technicians unite for field learning in southern Manitoba

#### **By Annaliese Meier**

Technicians from Watershed Districts across Manitoba came together in late June for a hands-on, two-day field tour designed to build collaboration, share knowledge, and showcase best practices in watershed management.

Organized by the Manitoba Association of Watersheds (MAW) through its Watershed District Capacity Fund, the event brought together GROW and PWCP coordinators, including participants from the Redboine Watershed District, for site visits in southern Manitoba.

The tour followed up on a more design-focused technical meeting held in March, where attendees discussed mapping and planning strategies. This latest gathering allowed partici-

pants to see those concepts in action through on-site demonstrations and peer-to-peer learning.

Gerrit Maxwell, watershed technician with the Pembina Valley Watershed District, and Rob Nichol, technician with Redboine, led the group through a variety of active project sites. Stops included shelterbelt installations, a tree planter demonstration, and more than eight sites featuring erosion control, low-level crossings, and water retention infrastructure.

"Seeing how these projects play out in real conditions gives us valuable insight," said Nichol. "We can talk through what's working, what might be improved, and how landowner collaboration plays into success."

Such in-person exchanges are essential for professional development,



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Technicians from watershed districts across Manitoba take part in a two-day field tour in late June, organized by the Manitoba Association of Watersheds, to share knowledge and explore best practices in watershed management.

according to organizers, providing a lenges and refine approaches collecplatform to troubleshoot design chal-

tively.





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The second day included a demonstration by Lewis Instruments of a Real-Time Kinematic (RTK) Survey Drone, which can collect precise geographic data in real time. The tool enhances technician safety, reduces post-processing workload, and helps streamline planning work in the field.

"Events like this not only keep us current with technology, but also build relationships across districts," said Maxwell. "We're stronger when we share knowledge."

MAW continues to support watershed staff across Manitoba through training opportunities and funding initiatives aimed at enhancing service delivery and conservation outcomes.

The Watershed District Capacity Fund is part of MAW's broader mission to protect Manitoba's soil and water resources while helping districts provide top-tier support to landowners.

## Ghosts of the Sea headlines GIFF with a story of family, shipwrecks and the search for truth

### Tangvald's emotional documentary retraces the mysterious deaths of her father and brother at sea

#### By E. Antonio

Blending personal memoir and maritime mystery, *Ghosts of the Sea* headlines the Gimli International Film Festival with a powerful story of family, shipwrecks and the search for truth.

Written, directed and researched by Virginia Tangvald — the daughter and sister of the late sailors featured in the film — *Ghosts of the Sea* screens July 23 and 26 as part of this year's festival lineup.

The documentary follows Tangvald's journey as she searches for answers about the mysterious death of her brother, Thomas, who died in a 2014 shipwreck, much like her father, Peter, did in 1991.

Featuring a variety of real-life characters who crossed paths with both Thomas and Peter, *Ghosts of the Sea*  provides viewers with a candid look into Tangvald's quest. "I don't want to be lost the way you are lost," she states — a line that encapsulates the film's central theme.

She travels across the globe — Canada, France, French Guiana and Andorra among the stops — trying to understand the reasons behind Thomas's "unnautical" trek, as described by his godmother.

The documentary uses actual newspaper articles, photographs, nautical logs and a television interview with Thomas to add authenticity and emotional depth.

The cinematography heightens the emotional weight of the narrative. B-roll footage, lighting and a carefully written script support the cast's integrity. One notable artistic choice





PHOTO SUBMITTED

Virginia Tangvald steers through open waters in a scene from Ghosts of the Sea, her personal documentary about the deaths of her father and brother at sea. The film screens July 23 and 26 at the Gimli International Film Festival.

by Tangvald is the use of subtitles for francophone characters instead of dubbing, allowing viewers to hear the raw emotion in their original voices.

*Ghosts of the Sea* is ideal for anyone who enjoys solving puzzles. Stirring emotions of suspense, anger and sadness, the film invites viewers to draw their own conclusions through subtle foreshadowing, effectively casting them in the role of investigator alongside Tangvald. The thought-provoking themes remain engaging throughout the 97-minute runtime.

Although not forewarned, viewers should be advised that the film contains brief nudity, including several images of a woman's bare breasts.

*Ghosts of the Sea* plays at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 23 in the Asper Theatre at the Unitarian Church and at 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 26 in the Lady of the Lake Theatre. For tickets and a full list of GIFF programming, visit www.gimlifilm.com.

#### **GIFF 2025 AT A GLANCE**

July 23–27

- Gimli, Manitoba
- Screenings at venues including:
- Asper Theatre, Unitarian Church
- Lady of the Lake Theatre
- Johnson Hall
- Gimli Theatre

Tickets available online at gimlifilm. com or at the GIFF box office

Featured Films:

A few of the 2025 lineup highlights: • *Ghosts of the Sea* – July 23 at 9:30 a.m. (Asper Theatre)

July 26 at 4 p.m. (Lady of the Lake Theatre)

• *Odd Fish* – LGBTQ2SIA+ story set in Iceland

• Snow Leopard Sisters – Indigenous-led environmental documentary

• *Becoming Air* – short film documentary

• *Best in Show* – Canadian comedy throwback screening

## **GIFF** celebrates 25 years with packed lineup of films, beach screenings and special events

#### By Annaliese Meier

The Gimli International Film Festival is celebrating its 25th anniversary this summer with a full slate of film screenings, special events and its signature beachfront cinema experience.

Running July 23 to 27, the festival will showcase more than 100 films, including international features, documentaries, short films and regional premieres. Programming will span themes such as social justice, climate action, Indigenous storytelling and LGBTQ2SIA+ voices.

Among the most anticipated titles is *Agatha's Almanac*, a Western Canada premiere that follows a 90-year-old woman's efforts to save her family farm in southern Manitoba. Other

feature highlights include *The Teacher*, a Palestinian drama set in the West Bank, and *U Are the Universe*, a Ukrainian-French sci-fi about a space-truck driver navigating distant worlds.

Festivalgoers can also expect animated fare like *Endless Cookie*, which tells the story of mixed-heritage siblings on a journey from Toronto to Shamattawa, and *How to Live*, a documentary spotlighting Nairobi's queer ballroom scene. Rounding out the lineup are *Tight Lines*, a story of female fishing guides in Iceland, and *When We Became Folk Fest*, a new film documenting the roots of the Winnipeg Folk Festival. The ever-popular RBC Sunset Screenings will return each evening with free films projected on a giant screen at Gimli Beach. This year's beachside lineup includes *Best in Show* (2000), *Space Jam* (1996), *Stop Making Sense* (1984, newly restored), *Almost Famous* (2000) and *The Thing* (1982).

In addition to film screenings, the festival will host the RBC Emerging Filmmaker Pitch Competition on July 26, where five finalists will present their ideas for a chance to win \$15,000 in production funding. Other events include the 48-Hour Film Challenge, a new Global Industry Summit, and a 25th anniversary awards gala.

Sunday morning is the family friendly screenings with the All-You-Can-Eat Cereal Cartoon Party for \$20. Short film packages will highlight works from across the globe, with dedicated programs for circumpolar cinema, environmental storytelling and Manitoba-made films.

A special shuttle service between Winnipeg and Gimli will run daily during the festival to help attendees make the trip to the lakeside community.

Full program details and screening schedules are available at gimlifilm. com.

# Stonewall's Faskerti captures first MJT win in Winnipeg

#### By Lana Meier

Young golfer Easton Faskerti brought home a big win for Stonewall last weekend, topping the Boys 8U division at the Maple Leaf Junior Golf Tour's Mini Tour stop in Winnipeg.

The eight-year-old posted a round of 88 at Kildonan Park Golf Course on June 28 to claim his first-ever MJT title in a field of rising junior golf talent from across the province.

"Good, really good. I have never won an MJT tournament before now," said Faskerti, who added that the best part of the day was "just playing and making new golf buddies."

It was a proud moment from the first tee.

"My tee shot on Hole 1 — I flushed my drive — that made me feel really proud," he said.

As for nerves? "I was feelin' good walking out there," he added. "Not much going through my head, I just kept thinking, 'Easy day, baby.""

After the win, the celebrations were short and sweet.

"We got some food, had some laughs, headed home — and it was back to the grind," Faskerti said.

The event featured athletes 12 and under competing for division titles and qualification spots for the MJT Mini Tour National Championship, to be held later this summer at Tsawwassen Springs Golf Course in British Columbia. Faskerti was one of several players from Manitoba to qualify for nationals, joining top finishers from other age groups including Noah Lafreniere (St. Pierre-Jolys), Aaron Hill (Winnipeg) and Ethan Sitarz (Winnipeg).

"Super excited — I hope we can go!" Faskerti said of the upcoming trip.

Faskerti's love for the game started early — at just 14 months old.

"My dad taught me the game," he said. "He's been my coach and caddy my whole life."

Now, the young golfer puts in regular practice using a hitting net and mat at home and gets on-course time mainly in Teulon.

His favourite club? "My driver. It's my favourite," he said.

Faskerti said he definitely hopes to play in more MJT events this summer. Long term, he has his sights set even higher.

"I'd like to one day play professionally," he said.

When he's not golfing, Faskerti enjoys reading, biking and hanging out with his dad. His role models include Kobe Bryant — "I like the way Kobe talks about achieving your goals" and Rory McIlroy, whose swing he's always admired.

"The challenge of the game and meeting new golf buddies — that's what I love most about golf," he said.

**United rested up after** 

back-to-back cancellations



**TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Pictured in the middle, Easton Faskerti celebrates his first MJT tournament win alongside his dad, coach and caddy at Kildonan Park Golf Course on June 28.



Stonewall's Easton Faskerti lets it rip off the tee during the MJT Mini Tour stop at Kildonan Park Golf Course on June 28. The eight-year-old fired an 88 to win the Boys 8U division and earn a spot at nationals.

He also credits his parents for the many ways they've helped him get here.

"My mom and dad have done so much — there's too much to list," he said. "They've put in so much time to make sure I've gotten a chance to play and learn from a young age."

Above all, Faskerti is grateful for the person who's guided him every step

of the way.

"I want to thank my dad for teaching me everything I know about the game so far."

The next MJT Mini Tour event in Manitoba is scheduled for July 19 at The Players Course in Winnipeg.

For full results and more information on the MJT, visit www.maplejt. com.

**By Kieran Reimer** It was an unexpected off-week for Stonewall United.

The Manitoba Major Soccer League Division 3A club had been scheduled to play two games last week but ended up spending just 20 minutes on the pitch.

On Monday, United travelled to Steinbach to face the Hanover Sting. However, the match was delayed and ultimately postponed due to rain and lightning after just 20 minutes of play.

Then on Friday, United were preparing to host the Sting in Stonewall when another wrench was thrown into the schedule. The MMSL officially cancelled all Friday games due to air quality concerns, leaving United without a completed game last week.

Both matches are expected to be rescheduled.

Stonewall's record remains unchanged at 4-2-3, holding them in fifth place after earning a draw in their most recent match on July 4.

United are next scheduled to play this Wednesday against third-place CA River Plate at 7:30 p.m. at Buhler Recreation Park. Stonewall is 1-0 against River Plate this season.

# Fingas finds her footing with Nomads after Thunder folds

#### By Annaliese Meier

When the Interlake Thunder girls football team folded for the second straight year due to low numbers, Gracie Fingas feared her time on the gridiron might be over.

Instead, the 17-year-old from the Interlake found a new home with the North Winnipeg Nomads — and a season to remember.

"I was relieved that I still had the opportunity to play this year," said Fingas, who had suited up for the Thunder previously. "But I couldn't help but feel guilty joining an opposing team. I thought it would be awkward, but luckily I couldn't have been more wrong."

With the Thunder unable to field a girls team in 2024, the organization helped connect Fingas to the Nomads, a Winnipeg-based club with a strong girls football program. The move paid off. Fingas played primarily as a wide receiver, occasionally slotting in as a running back, and helped her new team reach the provincial champion-ship game.

Her season highlight came in that



Fingas played wide receiver and running back, helping the Nomads reach the provincial championship.

very game — playing injured, with the team barely fielding enough healthy athletes.

"We were exhausted, we were hurting, we were losing, and we just needed something to motivate us," she recalled. "I think we were at least



**TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY DAN NOORDMAN - DGN PHOTOS** 

Cracie Fingas, a student at Collège Stonewall Collegiate, wrapped up her final season of girls football with the North Winnipeg Nomads after the Interlake Thunder were unable to field a team.

50 yards from the end zone and minutes away from halftime, and as soon as I got the ball, I just ran as fast as I

Continued on page 19

# Sweeping changes to World Curling broom standards

#### By Siobhan Maas

Effective June 20, World Curling (WC) has adjusted their compliance regulations for curling brooms in WC competitions — which includes the Olympics — based on sweep testing that took place at the Morris Cargill Curling Training Centre (CCTC) in May.

For three days, the CCTC was centre ice for broom manufacturers from around the world, world-class curling ice makers Greg Ewasko of Beausejour, current chief ice technician for Curling Canada, and former Olympic chief ice technician Hans Wuthrich of Gimli, as well as several athletes from across the country, including Brett Gallant and Kates Lawes, who acted as test sweepers.

"The world was in Morris to test existing brooms already on market in use by various companies," explained Level 4 NCCP Olympic coach and host Lorne Hamblin. Together with wife Chris, the Hamblins hosted the event organized by WC director Jill Officer and designed by former WC vice-president Graham Prouse. "Broom performance was compared against each other, with the manufacturers watching."

Many curling brooms currently on the market are made using multiple components, including sleeves or covers over moulded foam, bringing into question the accuracy of the different foams used.

"There is science to the testing," said Hamblin. "With the CTCC's Canadian rock thrower, we have achieved accuracy of 99.9 per cent on every throw."

Throw consistency eliminates variability from the throw itself, allowing the broom's impact to be the primary focus. Only two curling rocks were used in the testing — one control rock and one sweeping rock — to contain and control the results.

"After each throw, we weren't allowed to push the rock down the ice," Hamblin explained. "Instead, we dragged the rock back on a plastic board because even slight wear between throws can affect performance."

To maintain a high level of consistency, "we threw over 2,000 rocks," Hamblin noted.

The outcome of the testing has prompted changes to World Curling standards. Several broom models are now disqualified from competitions, including BalancePlus RS with Firm 2.0 foam, Goldline Impact with Evader foam, Hardline Ice Pad with Competitive foam, and SmartBroom by Curling Tools with its current foam.

The updated regulations require component-style brooms to use soft-



SUPPLIED PHOTO

The results of sweep testing at the Morris Cargill Curling Training Centre this spring has led the World Curling organization to make changes to what brooms are allowed in its competitions, which includes the Olympics.

er, less-firm foams, ensuring greater minimum compression and promoting fairer play.

While this was an interim step to move the sport of curling forward from processes established in 2016, the game continues to modernize alongside elite performance. Longer-term testing processes will continue. "Fast forward to 2025, any new product needs to be sent for testing," said Hamblin. "This testing is about what athletes want to try and is unique because it brings everyone together in a cooperative atmosphere."

Full details of the regulation changes can be found at worldcurling.org.

# Turner sinks hole-in-one at Junior Golf Manitoba Championship

#### By Annaliese Meier

A young golfer from Stonewall made an unforgettable mark at the Golf Manitoba Junior Championship, held July 7–9 at Quarry Oaks Golf Course.

Nick Turner, competing in the tournament's second round, aced the 133-yard third hole — a par 3 — with what turned out to be a perfectly judged shot.

"I asked my playing partner what yardage he marked — he told me 133," Turner said. "Knowing that was too much for a pitching wedge and too little for a 9, I decided to go with a smooth 9. When I hit it, I immediately knew it was going to be a good shot — but not that good. It tracked the whole way, landed just short, took two hops and rolled in."

The hole-in-one was Turner's first, made even more memorable by the fact it happened during a championship.

"I didn't know how to react," he said. "I was so shocked, especially since it happened during the championship."

Turner said the experience of playing in the Junior Boys division has been a positive one, even with some early-round struggles. After shooting a 77 in his practice round, Turner opened the tournament with back-to-back scores of 89 and 90, before piecing it together on the final day to post a much-improved 80.

"It's been lots of fun, even though I had a rough first two rounds," he said. "It's great getting out, competing, and meeting new people."

Now in his third year of golf and second year playing in tournaments, Turner said he got into the sport because of his friends.

"I got into golf because all of my friends were playing, so I thought I should give it a try," he said. Though he doesn't have any formal role models

in the sport, one professional golfer does stand out. "I've never really had any role models or any golfers I looked up to, but I always loved Rory's swing,"

he said, referring to PGA Tour star Rory McIlroy. As for what's next, Turner's goals are simple: "I just hope to keep having fun and enjoy the game

with friends." He also credited his family for supporting his golf journey.

"My family have given me opportunities to explore new courses and drive me wherever I go," he said.

Turner's hole-in-one was a highlight of the tournament and a proud moment for the local golf community.



**TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED** 

Nick Turner celebrates his first career hole-in-one during the second round of the Golf Manitoba Junior Championship at Quarry Oaks Golf Course on July 8. The 133-yard ace on hole 3 was a standout moment for the young golfer.

## Orioles Report: Interlake jousting for position as regular season winds down

#### By Kieran Reimer

All three AAA Interlake Orioles teams are inching closer to provincials, but with a couple of weeks left in the regular season, there's still some unfinished business.

Like the 15U and 18U squads, the **13U Orioles** were looking to make up ground in the standings this past week.

They hosted a pair of games at Quarry Park against the South Central Cubs and Bonivital Black Sox, coming up just short against Bonivital.

Final scores were a 19-3 loss to the Cubs on Tuesday and a 13-8 loss to the Black Sox on Wednesday.

The 13Us now sit at 2-10 in regular

## season play, good for seventh place in Zone 2.

They'll head on the road Tuesday to face the Carillon Sultans in La Broquerie before hosting a rematch Friday at Quarry Park. Then on Sunday, they travel to Souris for a doubleheader against Oildome at the Ag Field Campgrounds.

#### UPCOMING GAMES (13U):

Tuesday, July 15 vs. Carillon Sultans, 6:30 p.m. at La Broquerie – Diamond 4 Friday, July 18 vs. Carillon Sultans, 6:30 p.m. at Quarry Park

Sunday, July 20 vs. Oildome, 1 and 4 p.m. at Ag Field Campgrounds (doubleheader)

The **15U AAA Interlake Orioles** capitalized on their opportunity to climb the standings last Wednesday.

They picked up a dominant 17-1 road win over West Winnipeg, earning their third victory of the season. With the win, they now hold sole possession of sixth place in Zone 2.

#### UPCOMING GAMES (15U):

• Sunday, July 27 vs. Midwest, 1 and 4 p.m. at Hamiota Diamond #4 (doubleheader)

The **18U AAA Orioles** faced two middle-of-the-pack opponents this past week in the Elmwood Giants and

West Winnipeg A's.

They got on the board in both contests but couldn't come away with wins, falling 9-3 to Elmwood on Tuesday and 9-4 to West Winnipeg on Wednesday.

With the losses, the Orioles remain in 11th place with a 2-22 record on the season.

They return to action Friday night for the first of three weekend games.

#### **UPCOMING GAMES (18U):**

• Friday, July 18 vs. Winnipeg South Wolves, 7 p.m. at Charleswood Place #1

• Sunday, July 20 vs. Elmwood Giants, 1 and 4 p.m. at Atree Field

## Stonewall set to host U17 AAA Softball Manitoba Provincial Championships

#### By Lana Meier

Manitoba's top U17 AAA female softball teams will descend on Quarry Park Ball Diamonds July 17–20 as Stonewall hosts the 2025 Softball Manitoba Provincial Championships.

Seven teams are set to compete in the round-robin tournament: Central Energy, Winnipeg Lightning, Eastman Wildcats, Manitoba Angels, Interlake Phillies, Westman Magic and Smitty's Terminators.

The opening pitch will be thrown at 11 a.m. on Thursday, with Central Energy facing Winnipeg Lightning on Diamond 3. Round-robin play continues through Saturday, with all teams scheduled for six games over three days.

The top four teams at the end of the round-robin will advance to Sunday's playoffs. Semifinal games (PO1 and PO2) will be played at 10 a.m. The winners will meet in the gold medal final at 3 p.m., while the losing sides will battle for bronze at noon.

With provincial bragging rights on the line and a weekend forecast calling for sunshine, Stonewall is gearing up to welcome teams, fans and families for a high-calibre championship weekend.

# GAME SCHEDULE FOR THE INTERLAKE PHILLIES:

#### Thursday, July 17

Game 3 – 1 p.m. | Diamond 3 Interlake Phillies vs. Smitty's Terminators

Game 7 – 5 p.m. | Diamond 3 Interlake Phillies vs. Central Energy **Friday, July 18** 

Game 9 – 12 p.m. | Diamond 5

Interlake Phillies vs. Eastman Wildcats

Game 12 – 3 p.m. | Diamond 3 Interlake Phillies vs. Westman Magic

#### Saturday, July 19

Game 15 – 11 a.m. | Diamond 3 Interlake Phillies vs. Winnipeg Lightning

Game 18 – 2 p.m. | Diamond 4 Interlake Phillies vs. Manitoba Angels

# Sr. Jays bats run cold against top ball clubs

#### By Kieran Reimer

Home field advantage wasn't enough for the Stonewall Blue Jays to stop two of the league's top ball clubs.

The Jays hosted the Elmwood Giants and West Winnipeg A's at Quarry Park last week in a pair of games that saw their offence largely stifled by dominant pitching from the opposition.

On Tuesday, the Jays held the Giants scoreless through six innings, but Elmwood broke the deadlock with a run in the top of the seventh. Stonewall couldn't respond in the bottom half, falling 1–0 in a tight finish.

That led into Thursday's matchup with the West Winnipeg A's — the class of the Winnipeg Senior Baseball League this season. The A's proved why they're at the top of the standings, crossing the plate 13 times and allowing nothing in a 13–0 rout of the home side.

It was a tough final score and a potential measuring stick for the Jays as the playoffs approach. Stonewall now knows what it's up against if it hopes to make a postseason run.

The Jays dropped to 6–11 with the loss and now sit seventh in the WSBL, tied with the North Winnipeg Pirates and ahead of the winless Pembina Phillies.

The club will regroup for a crucial three-game home stretch to wrap up the regular season — all key matchups as they look to shake up the standings ahead of the playoffs. The trio of games will also close out a seven-game homestand at Quarry Park.

#### **UPCOMING GAMES:**

• Tuesday, July 15 vs. Carillon Sultans, 7:30 p.m. at Quarry Park

• Wednesday, July 16 vs. North Winnipeg Pirates, 7:30 p.m. at Quarry Park

• Thursday, July 17 vs. Elmwood Giants, 7:30 p.m. at Quarry Park

# **Do-or-die: Jr. Jays season comes down to Game 3**

#### By Kieran Reimer

The Interlake Blue Jays' season comes down to one game Monday night.

The Jays are in do-or-die mode after the St. Boniface Legionnaires stretched their Manitoba Junior Baseball League first-round series to a winner-take-all game three on Sunday. After finishing the regular season with a .500 record, the fourth-place Jays met the fifth-place Legionnaires in game one of the series Friday at Whittier Park.

Despite being the road team, the Jays stormed out to a 17-10 win to move within one victory of advancing to the semifinals.

The Legionnaires, however, had

other plans for Sunday's game two, pulling out a 19-3 win in Stonewall to knot the series.

Now, Stonewall must win on the road again to advance, while a loss would end their season.

First pitch in game three went at 7 p.m. Monday night at Whittier Park. Due to press deadlines, the result was unavailable at press time.

#### **ELSEWHERE IN THE MJBL:**

Sunday, July 13

Game 2: Elmwood Giants def. Altona Bisons 9-4 (Giants win series 2-0)
Game 2: Pembina Valley Orioles def. Winnipeg South Wolves 6-5 (Series tied 1-1)

## **Stonewall to host U19 AAA provincial softball championships July 18-20**

#### By Lana Meier

Manitoba's top U19 AAA female softball teams will square off in Stonewall this weekend as the 2025 Softball Manitoba Provincial Championships take over Quarry Park Ball Diamonds from July 18 to 20.

Five powerhouse teams — Smitty's Terminators, Central Energy, Angels-Phillies, Westman and Winnipeg Lightning — will compete in round-robin play over two days, with standings determining who advances

#### to Sunday's playoff bracket.

The tournament opens Friday at 11:30 a.m. with Smitty's Terminators facing Central Energy. The Angels-Phillies take the field in their first game at 1:30 p.m. on Diamond 4, going up against a strong Westman squad.

Round-robin games continue through Saturday, wrapping up with the final qualifying matchup between Westman and Central Energy at 6 p.m.

At the conclusion of the round-robin, the top four teams will advance to Sunday's playoffs. Semifinal games are scheduled for 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., followed by the bronze medal game at 1 p.m. and the gold medal final at 3 p.m. — all on Diamond 5.

# GAME SCHEDULE FOR THE ANGELS-PHILLIES:

#### Friday, July 18

• Game 2 – 1:30 p.m. | Diamond 4 Angels-Phillies vs. Westman

• Game 4 – 5:30 p.m. | Diamond 4

Angels-Phillies vs. Smitty's Terminators

#### Saturday, July 19

Game 6 – 11:30 a.m. | Diamond 5 Angels-Phillies vs. Central Energy
Game 8 – 3:30 p.m. | Diamond 5 Angels-Phillies vs. Winnipeg Light-

ning

### > FOOTING, FROM PG. 17

That long touchdown brought her team back to life.

"Hugging my teammates after and seeing the score go up just created this euphoric feeling that reminded me why I love playing football."

Nomads head coach Stacey Keown said Fingas had an immediate and lasting impact.

"If I needed to sum it up in one word, I would say she was outstanding," Keown said. "She made an immediate impact and I could tell right away she was a special player."

Keown pointed to that same championship touchdown as a defining moment.

"She was hurt the week before and had sprained her ankle. She attended every practice that week but didn't participate physically. Then game day came around and she was ready to play," Keown said. "She was determined. We taped it up, and she played. It was right before halftime, the game wasn't going our way, and Gracie said, 'Give me the ball.' She ran it over 50 yards for the touchdown and gave us the boost we needed."

Fingas first picked up the sport in 2023 when Thunder coaches visited her Stonewall high school, recruiting rugby players to help relaunch the team after its pandemic pause.

"The way the coaches talked about football, the stories they shared, and just their overall openness and kindness is what motivated me into giving it a try," she said.

Now, two seasons later, football has given her far more than wins and stats—it's helped her find her voice. "I've always been more quiet and would rather let someone else speak than hear my own voice," she said. "This past year, I've started developing the confidence to speak up when needed. I'm not afraid to ask questions anymore or make suggestions to my coaches about a play."

Keown said Fingas led by example and brought a strong work ethic and positive attitude to the team.

"She was quick to pick up on adjustments, and she practiced like she played—full steam ahead," Keown said. "Even though she was only with the Nomads for one season, she left a lasting impression on the staff and her teammates."

Though she's aged out of the varsity girls league, Fingas isn't finished with the sport. She's eyeing the Winnipeg Wolfpack and Manitoba Fearlesstwo senior women's tackle teams—as possible next steps. She also hopes to return to the Nomads as a coach.

"I'd love to go back and help coach the offence for next year's team," she said.

Fingas is also passionate about encouraging other girls in the Interlake to consider the sport.

"Give it a try, it's worth it," she said. "Coaches are amazing at teaching you, pushing you to your highest potential, and will always find somewhere on the field for you to belong." She believes it's time to challenge

the idea that football is only for boys. "Wearing shoulder pads and a helmet doesn't make you any less of a woman or any more of a man," she said. "It makes you a football player with potential—something anyone should be proud to say."

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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row. column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



### RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF WOODLANDS **PUBLIC NOTICE** 2024 Annual **Financial Report**

Public Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 194 of The Municipal Act, the Municipal Auditors Financial Report, together with the related Financial Statements, for the year 2024, have been deposited in the Office of the Administrator of the Rural Municipality of Woodlands and are available for inspection during regular business hours. This information is also available on the RM of Woodlands website.

Kaitlyn Griffith Chief Administrative Officer **Rural Municipality of Woodlands** 

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IN THE TRIBUNE



Sudoku Answer



### **REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ) 03-2025**

#### **Town of Teulon Tourist Sign Replacements**

The Town of Teulon invites Proponents to submit a quotation for the construction of new billboard panels to be placed at four (4) locations in accordance with the Request for Quotation (RFQ) Terms and Conditions and Specifications outlined on the website at www.teulon.ca

Please contact the town office at 204-886-2314 or info@teulon.ca to arrange a site visit.

RFQ's will be accepted until 12 noon on Friday August 8, 2025. Tenders may be submitted by email or dropped off at the Town office:

TOWN OF TEULON 44-4th Ave SE PO Box 69 Teulon, MB R0C 3B0 Email: info@teulon.ca

#### CONDO FOR RENT

Immediate condo rental in Stonewall. 1038 sq. ft. plus finished basement, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, 7 appliances. Attached single car garage. Mature couple (preferred). No pets, no children, no smoking. \$1900 per month plus utilities. Contact Lil at 204-781-8764.

#### HELP WANTED

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#### MISCELLANEOUS Wooden shed 12 x 14

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**News Tips? Story Ideas?** call the Tribune 204-467-5836



The Narcisse WI would like to Thank everyone who donated items and came out to support our 1st Annual Yard & Bake Sale that ran June 21<sup>st</sup> through 22<sup>nd</sup>, making our weekend a success! Congratulations to our

50/50 winner Joyce Dziadek!

Eddie's Gravel Supply Ltd. is Hiring



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#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE MATTER OF: The Estate of Margaret Medwid, late of the Postal District of Balmoral, in Manitoba, deceased.

All claims against the above estate, duly verified by Statutory Declaration, must be filed with the undersigned at their offices, P.O. Box 1400, Stonewall, Manitoba, R0C 2Z0 on or before the 27th day of August, 2025. DATED at Stonewall, Manitoba, this 14th day of

July, 2025. **GRANTHAM LAW OFFICES** 

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## **CLANDEBOYE AVE in Selkirk** Executive Mall

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For information please contact: 204-485-0010 email bigandcolourful@mts.net



The West Interlake Watershed District is Hiring! The West Interlake Watershed District (WIWD) is currently seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

1. Financial Operations Administrator (Part-Time: 1-2 days/week) We are seeking a highly experienced accounting professional to manage the District's financial framework. Compensation: Based on experience and qualifications

2. Administrative & Outreach Coordinator (Full-Time: 40 hours/week) Duties include reception, communication, event planning, and assisting with WIWD's Community Programs. Compensation: Minimum \$20.00/hour

Location: WIWD Office - Lundar, MB Start Date: When position is filled

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## Announcements

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IN MEMORIAN



Marlene Kiel August 28, 1938 - July 16, 2024 Sadly missed along life's way, Quietly remembered every day. No longer in our life to share, But in our hearts, you're always there. -Kevin and Bev, Tyler, Carter and Hailey Brad and Debbie, Riley and Haley, Cameron

IN MEMORIAM



**Brian Brindley** March 25, 1952 - July 19, 2018 The world changes from year to year, Our lives from day to day; But the love and memory of you, Shall never go away.

-Love Bev. Donna and Ken. Jackie, Val, Mary, Karen and families

#### IN MEMORIAM

Cal Sinclair July 22, 2023 Sadly missed along life's way, And quietly remembered every day; No longer in our life to share. But in our heart's you are always there ...



Lori and your dog "Trouble" Ralph, Shirley and family Darlene Grandmont and family



Russel and Margaret Beirnes are celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary! Married on July 17, 1965 in Stonewall, Manitoba, Russ and Margaret have shared a beautiful life together filled with love, laughter, and devotion. Over the years, they have built a strong and loving family who are proud to celebrate this incredible milestone with them.

-With love from their family: Lance and Jen, Martin, Lianne, and Graeme. Tyler who is dearly missed, Tucker and Harlan.

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**Reporter/Photographer** Wanted

#### Are you a natural born storyteller with an eye for photography and a passion for community news?

The Carman-Dufferin Standard is currently seeking a full-time reporter and photographer who lives in the area to join its multi award-winning weekly community newspaper.

We are looking for someone who is both motivated and passionate about being the best outlet of interesting and breaking news stories and event coverage.

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ANNIVERSAR

Forty years of love's sweet song, Through thick and thin, you've carried on. Your ruby hearts, a vibrant hue, Happy 40th, we cherish you! Happy 40th Ruby Anniversary TNT! -With Love 3D, D, B & OVE хо хо хо

#### **CARD OF THANKS**

A sincere and heart filled thanks to my dear family and friends who came out to celebrate my 90th birthday. A special thank you to my children for organizing it all. Also, thank you for the beautiful flowers, gifts, cards and well wishes. It was wonderful to see everyone and make this day so very special.

-Thanks again, Bernice Comberbach

#### **CARD OF THANKS**

A huge thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make the Grassmere 150th Anniversary Celebration such a success. A great time of remembering and celebrating was had by all.

-The Grassmere 150 Committee

# igraphic@mts.net CELEBRATE



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



Katrina Chelsea Faith Chaboyer May 28, 1991 – July 7, 2025 It is with profound sadness and broken hearts that Karen and

Mike, her father, along with her mother, Melanie and Steve, must inform you of the passing of our beloved beautiful daughter Katrina, after a long and hard battle that she ultimately lost. Katrina was predeceased by her brother Noah, her grandparents Frank and Esther Chaboyer and Norm and Katrina Neufeld. She will be sorely missed by her brothers Cody and Zachary, Aunty Glenda, along with many other aunts, uncles, cousins and a nephew Aaron.



#### OBITUARY

Mark Edward Patterson January 13, 1969 – July 9, 2025 Peacefully after his courageous battle with lung cancer Mark passed away with family by his side.

A service of Remembrance will be held on Monday, July 21, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the Stonewall Legion. Everyone in attendance please consider yourself an honourary pallbearer. A private family burial will take place.

KEN LOEHMER 204-886-0404



24 The Stonewall Teulon Tribune Thursday, July 17, 2025

