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Kruze Ottenbreit (left) races Kallie Malofsky and Dolly down Jimm's Hill in Stonewall during Family Day festivities on Feb. 16. A balmy +5 C, about 15 degrees warmer than a typical mid-February day, made for perfect outdoor fun.

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Community Hero honour highlights Stonewall rescue's lifesaving work

By Lana Meier

What began as a high-school volunteer commitment has grown into a province-wide animal rescue effort — and recently earned Stonewall resident Desiree Griffin recognition as a Community Hero during a Winnipeg Jets game.

Griffin, founder of Grateful Friends Animal Rescue, said the honour felt both surprising and meaningful.

"I felt proud of what I've created knowing that it's made a positive impact within the province and felt honoured to have been selected and for my volunteer work to be acknowledged by the Winnipeg Jets organization," she said.

For the rescue's volunteers, she added, the recognition affirmed years of behind-the-scenes effort.

"The recognition validates the efforts and tireless energy we put into the rescue and that everything we are doing is making a difference."

Her journey began in 2017 while attending Teulon Collegiate, where she joined the Helping Hands social justice committee and started volunteer-

ing with animal rescues. After several years building connections and experience, she launched Grateful Friends Animal Rescue in April 2020.

Six years later, the foster-based, 100-per-cent volunteer-run non-profit has grown dramatically, with thousands of online followers and a dedicated website.

The organization relies entirely on donations and fundraising to operate and has saved approximately 3,000 animals across Manitoba while spending more than \$665,000 on veterinary and rescue-related expenses.

In 2021 the rescue took in 358 animals and spent \$86,000. In 2022 that climbed to 550 animals and \$104,000 in care. Since 2023, the rescue has consistently helped about 600 animals annually, with yearly costs ranging between \$138,000 and \$178,000.

"The more donations we receive, the more animals in need we can bring into the rescue to care for and adopt out to their forever homes," Griffin said.

Roughly 70 per cent of the animals are cats and 30 per cent dogs, largely depending on foster availability.

Daily operations can include arranging veterinary appointments, coordinating animal transport from northern communities or out of province, handling adoption logistics, and responding to calls for injured animals. The rescue



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Stonewall's Desiree Griffin, founder of Grateful Friends Animal Rescue, was recognized as a Community Hero during a Winnipeg Jets game for her volunteer work rescuing and caring for animals across Manitoba.



Grateful Friends Animal Rescue is raising funds to support Gretel, a Saint Bernard currently receiving life-saving heartworm treatment.



Griffin attempts to coax a stray animal with food while working to safely bring it into care.

One recent local call stands out. A passerby contacted the rescue after a cat was struck by a vehicle near Red Sun Gas Bar on Highway 236. Griffin frequently responds to situations in Stonewall, Stony Mountain, Teulon and surrounding rural municipalities, including stray animals, emergency injuries and rehoming litters.

Continued on page 5

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STONEWALL

St. Laurent hosts CFRY Amateur Radio Talent Night March 7

By E. Antonio

The St. Laurent Recreation Centre is ready to showcase the finest talents they have to offer on March 7 during their inaugural CFRY Amateur Radio Talent Night.

From singers and musicians to performers of all ages, the evening promises to spotlight the hidden talents that call St. Laurent and surrounding communities home — all while raising funds for much-needed upgrades to the beloved community hub.

“We have a quite a bit of local talent to share and are looking to make some upgrades to our facility,” Cailey Anderson, St. Laurent Rec Centre board member, said. “It’s an opportunity for our community to get out and enjoy the evening.”

The show begins at 7 p.m., with 11 acts already registered and more welcome to sign up before the March 1 deadline by calling or texting 204-280-0281. Performers young and old are invited to take the stage with any act suitable for radio with cash prizes being awarded to the top three contestants decided by a panel of judges.

For Anderson and the board, the event is about more than applause. It’s about preserving and improving a space that serves as a cornerstone for local gatherings, events and recreation.

“Anything we can do to bring in more activity to our community helps,” she added.

The Rec Centre is in need of general upgrades after several years with limited improvements. Renovated washrooms, fresh paint and updated flooring are among the projects be-

ing considered — changes that would enhance the experience for everyone who walks through the doors.

Admission to watch the show is free, and organizers expect the evening to run approximately three hours, depending on the number of acts. For those unable to attend in person, the entire show will also be broadcast live on CFRY 920 AM beginning at 7 p.m.

Listeners tuning in from home can call during the broadcast to pledge their support for a favourite act. Donations can be sent by e-transfer to stlreccentre@gmail.com or dropped off at the rec centre by cash or cheque.

Ahead of the show, a community spaghetti dinner will be served from 5 to 6:30 p.m., giving residents a chance to gather before the curtain rises. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for children and free for kids under five. The meal includes spaghetti, garlic bread and a drink, with gluten-free options available. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the RM of St. Laurent office or at the door.

The canteen and cash bar will also be open throughout the evening.

Local businesses are invited to get involved as well. Sponsorship packages start at \$50 and all packages include two weeks of advertising on CFRY radio along with recognition during the event.

As anticipation builds, Anderson hopes the evening will not only raise funds but also celebrate the spirit of the community.

“We’re excited to witness the hidden talents our municipality and beyond brings,” she said.

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PHOTO SUBMITTED

Come to the St. Laurent Recreation Centre on March 7 at 7 p.m. in support of their inaugural CFRY Amateur Radio Talent Night. Performer registration remains open until March 1. The rec centre is also hosting a community spaghetti dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. ahead of the show.





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Coldwell March Madness Ice Fishing Tournament runs March 1- April 5

By E. Antonio

As winter begins to fade, the RM of Coldwell is inviting residents and visitors alike to make the most of the season's final stretch with its annual March Madness Ice Fishing Tournament.

Running from March 1 to April 5, the tournament encourages anglers of all ages to head outdoors for a chance to win weekly prizes and five grand prizes awarded at the end of the competition. Categories include weekly largest walleye and perch, along with weekly participation draws.

"We want to get people of all ages outside to enjoy the fresh air and take in the last bit of winter fun," said Breanna Malcom, recreation director for the RM of Coldwell. "It's a moment for others to enjoy the outdoors and experience our municipality."

The tournament is open to everyone, though all fishing must take place within municipal boundaries. Participants must register through the

FishDonkey app by selecting "Fish in a Tournament" and joining "Coldwell March Madness." The \$30 registration fee helps cover a portion of the app's operating costs, with the remainder going toward the prize fund. Prize details will be announced on the RM of Coldwell Recreation Facebook page.

To qualify, anglers must submit their catches in real time using the app. Entries require a properly measured photo, a trophy-style image and a video showing the fish being released back into the water. Submissions must be completed live at the time of the catch, though internet service is not required to make an entry.

"Recreation comes in all shapes and sizes and we are excited to host this tournament again as we see the impact recreation opportunities have within our communities," Malcom added. "This is just one more way to celebrate what the Interlake has to offer, especially right here in Coldwell."



Nolan Smith with the longest walleye in the 2025 tournament; Cameron Johnson with the longest perch in 2025; and Paul Monkman with the longest jackfish in 2025.

RM of Coldwell March Madness Ice Fishing Tournament



For more information, contact Breanna Malcom at rec.coldwell@myrms.net. Follow us at "RM of Coldwell Recreation" on Facebook to see photos of the prizes!

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How to join the tournament!

1. Download the app by searching "fishdonkey" in your app store
2. Tap: Fish in a Tournament
3. Search & Join: Coldwell March Madness

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The RM of Coldwell's March Madness Ice Fishing Tournament runs March 1 to April 5. Download the FishDonkey app to register for a chance to win prizes.

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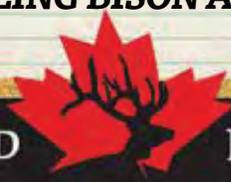


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Interlake property owner shelters in place during Puerto Vallarta shutdown

By Lana Meier

A Stonewall woman spending time at her property with her husband and family in Puerto Vallarta says a quiet morning quickly turned tense after smoke began rising across parts of the city.

Sheri Labossiere said it was around 8 a.m. when she first realized something unusual was happening.

"I first smelled the smoke and then saw smoke," she said.

Labossiere was inside her condo watching the Olympic gold medal hockey game when she heard loud popping sounds.

"I heard the bangs so I looked out and saw the smoke. It was very black and covered the sky," she said. "There was some as close as three blocks away."

She later learned the popping sounds were tires on burning vehicles exploding.

"You could smell the rubber," she said.

The unrest followed reports that Mexico's army had killed cartel leader Nemesio Rubén Oseguera Cervantes, known as El Mencho, prompting retaliatory violence in parts of Jalisco state and beyond.

Labossiere said the Mexican government issued a stay-at-home advisory, and she and others in her building remained inside for the day.

"We stayed at the condo all day. The city is very quiet — no traffic, no people. Everything is closed."

She described Puerto Vallarta as largely shut down, with no Uber ser-



Mexican federal security forces, including the Secretaría de Marina, flew helicopters over areas of Puerto Vallarta as part of a security operation after significant violent incidents were reported Sunday and Monday.

vice, taxis or buses operating. A nearby corner store opened briefly but allowed only four customers inside at a time.

"There was a lineup and things are getting picked over," she said.

Labossiere said eight condos in their building are currently occupied and residents chose to stay indoors.

"We all felt safe and stayed inside. We are all waiting for the city to open up."

She said she has not registered with



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Thick black smoke rises over Puerto Vallarta on Sunday morning as unrest unfolded across parts of the city following reports of retaliatory violence in Jalisco state.

Global Affairs Canada and has not been contacted by officials but has kept family back home informed.

"Yes, I have contacted everyone at home to let them know we are safe. I am staying in contact with them."

Despite the disruption, Labossiere said she felt informed and secure throughout the situation.

"The stay-home alert was to keep ci-

vilians safe — don't get in the way," she said.

By Monday, she and her husband were back outside for a walk.

"What went on is crazy, but I felt very safe through it all," she said. "The air is better today. We closed our windows on Sunday."

For now, the couple do not plan to change their travel arrangements.

> COMMUNITY HERO, FROM PG. 2

rushed from home in Stonewall and transported the animal to an emergency veterinary clinic. Although the injuries were too severe and the cat had to be humanely euthanized, the rescue covered roughly \$1,000 in care.

"It wasn't the outcome we had hoped for but at least he received care and didn't suffer very long," she said. "This example highlights that the work the rescue's doing is making a difference even if we can't save all the animals in need."

In recent years the rescue has expanded beyond adoptions, hosting community spay-and-neuter and vaccination clinics and partnering with Petland Canada stores across Manitoba to offer adoptable cats.

Currently, the organization is running a 50/50 raffle fundraiser with a March 15 draw date. Tickets are \$5 each, with a potential \$3,750 prize if all tickets are sold. Proceeds will support daily operations including food, supplies and medical treatment

— particularly urgent cases such as Laa Laa, a cat requiring \$2,000 FIP treatment, and Gretel, a Saint Bernard needing approximately \$1,500 in heartworm care.

Tickets can be purchased by emailing GFAR.raffle@gmail.com and sending an e-transfer to the same address, in person at Teulon & District Seniors Resource, 54 Main St., Teulon, or by calling or texting Cherise at 204-886-7018.

Community members can also support the rescue by fostering or adopting animals, volunteering at events, donating supplies such as food and litter or sharing social media posts to raise awareness.

After years of growth, Griffin said the mission remains simple: help as many ani-

mals as possible. The Jets recognition may have shone a spotlight on her work — but she hopes it ultimately

shines one on the animals still waiting for homes.

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Jennifer McFee



REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER
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Manitoba adds CMV to newborn screening program

By Lana Meier

Manitoba families will now receive earlier answers about a little-known infection that can quietly affect a child's development after the province expanded its newborn screening program to include congenital cytomegalovirus (CMV).

The province launched universal screening in December 2025, and more than 1,500 newborns have already been tested.

"When you bring a baby into the world, you have to trust the health-care system is doing everything possible to protect your child from day one," Premier Wab Kinew said during the announcement. "Families are receiving answers sooner, clinicians have critical information earlier, and there are more opportunities to intervene when that intervention can mean all the difference."

Congenital CMV is a common virus passed from mother to baby during pregnancy. It affects roughly one in 200 births and is among the leading infectious causes of permanent hearing loss and developmental disability in children.

Health officials say pregnant people can lower the risk of CMV infection through simple hygiene precautions, including washing hands after contact with young children's saliva or diapers, avoiding sharing food or utensils and not kissing toddlers on the lips. The virus commonly spreads through contact with bodily fluids from young children, who often show no symptoms.

"Without screening, families may not know something is wrong until months or even years later, when hearing loss or developmental delays appear," Health Minister Uzoma Asagwara said. "Universal screening closes a gap that has existed for far too long."



MANITOBA GOVERNMENT YOUTUBE LIVESTREAM

Rob Tétrault speaks alongside his son Alex and Health Minister Uzoma Asagwara during the announcement of Manitoba's expanded newborn CMV screening program on Feb. 17.

The test is performed using the same heel-prick blood sample already collected from newborns and analyzed at Cadham Provincial Laboratory.

"If we can identify babies early, we can treat them early, and that leads to better outcomes. That's why screening at birth matters — it can change a child's future," said Rob Tétrault, president and co-founder of the Canadian CMV Foundation.

"There is no risk to the child whatsoever — just a few drops of blood," Tétrault added.

Tétrault began advocating for screening nearly 18 years ago after his son Alex was born with CMV and diagnosed only because of an unrelated prenatal concern.

"Had that random occurrence not happened, I hate to think what would have happened," he said. "I meet families all the time whose outcomes aren't as positive. We knew we had to change this."

Early treatment must happen quickly, he added.

"You have a very small window — usually the first month of life — where antiviral treatment can dramatically

reduce hearing loss and cognitive impacts," Tétrault said.

He called Manitoba's adoption of universal screening a milestone after years of advocacy.

"I sent my first advocacy emails about 10 years ago," he said. "To finally see this in place means kids will have better outcomes and parents will have less uncertainty. That brings me a lot of joy."

Alex Tétrault, now a young adult, said he's glad other children will benefit.

"I'm very happy more children are going to get treated," he said. "After all this time, it finally happened."

The province estimates the program costs about \$1.3 million and says it plans to continue tracking outcomes and ensuring families have access to follow-up care and supports.

Officials say the goal is simple — identify infections early rather than after permanent complications develop.

"This comes from listening to parents, advocates and clinicians," Asagwara said. "Earlier answers really do change outcomes."

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ads@stonewallteulontribune.ca
Lana Meier 204-292-2128
news@stonewallteulontribune.ca
PHONE 204-467-5836
FAX 204-467-2679

OUR EDITORIAL STAFF

Jennifer McFee 204-461-5352
jen@stonewallteulontribune.ca
Autumn Fehr 204-998-1993
Reporter/Photographer
asfatcos@academic.rrc.ca

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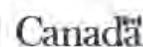
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More than \$1.2M announced for Manitoba community festivals

By Haley Cvar

The Government of Manitoba is investing more than \$1.2 million to support festivals across the province in 2025-26, including more than \$359,000 for winter events, Sport, Culture, Heritage and Tourism Minister Nellie Kennedy announced.

"Festivals connect people, celebrate community spirit and support local businesses," Kennedy said in a news release. "Our government is proud to help communities host events that strengthen neighbourhoods, attract visitors and showcase Manitoba's culture, especially through Manitoba's winters."

Funding is delivered through the Community Festivals and Events program for signature community events, as well as through dedicated funding for major stand-alone festivals.

Among the largest winter investments is \$324,600 for Festival du Voyageur Inc. to host the 2026 Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg from Feb. 13 to 22, and \$25,000 for the Northern Manitoba Trappers Festival in The Pas from Feb. 18 to 22, 2026. Aurora WinterFest in March 2026 received \$3,000, while the Canadian Power Toboggan Championships' 2026 Canadian Open in March was allocated \$7,000.

Major summer stand-alone festivals include \$370,000 for Manito Ahbee Festival Inc. for Manito Ahbee in May, \$290,500 for Folk Arts Council of Manitoba to present Folklorama in August, and \$40,600 for the Valley Agricultural Society's Manitoba Stampede and Exhibition in Morris in July.

Dozens of community fairs and celebrations across rural and northern Manitoba also received support, most in the \$6,033 range. These include the Arborg Agricultural Fair (\$6,033.52), City of Winkler Harvest Festival and Exhibition (\$6,033.52), Hanover Agricultural Fair (\$6,033.52), Icelandic Festival of Manitoba, Islendingadagurinn (\$6,033.52), Morden Corn and Apple Festival (\$6,033.52), Nickel Days in Thompson (\$6,033.52), Niverville Olde Tyme Country Fair (\$6,033.52), Norway House Cree Nation Treaty and York Boat Days (\$6,033.52), Richer Rough Stock Rodeo and Country Fair (\$6,033.52), Sagkeeng Annual Treaty Days (\$6,033.52), Sioux Valley Dakota Nation Powwow (\$6,033.52), Stonewall

Quarry Days (\$6,033.52), Summer in the City in Steinbach (\$6,033.52), Grandview Mud Bog Weekend and Homecoming (\$6,033.52), Victoria Beach Summer Winds Family Music Festival (\$6,033.52) and the Virden Indoor Rodeo and Wild West Daze (\$6,033.52).

Other supported events span the province and calendar, including the 4P Festival (\$1,255.57), Springfield Chicken Daze (\$6,033.52), Baldur Summer Solstice Days (\$1,263.42), Belmont Jamboree Festival (\$486.90), Carrick Days (\$1,427.53), Prairie Winds Music Festival in Cypress River (\$2,273.43), Eriksdale Creamery Days Fair and Rodeo (\$2,973.92), Flin Flon Trout Festival (\$2,428.43), Frog Follies in St. Pierre-Jolys (\$3,702.77), Harvest Sun in Kelwood (\$2,756.11), Canada Day celebrations in Lac du Bonnet (\$2,083.37) and Vita (\$4,436.44), Lundar Fair (\$5,664.26), Threshermen's Reunion and Stampede in Austin (\$6,033.52), MMF Ste. Madeleine (\$3,475.30), Whitemud Music Festival in Glenella-Lansdowne (\$1,182.57), Festival du Patrimoine Montcalm Heritage Festival (\$1,145.42), Pina-

wa Birthday Celebration (\$1,977.79), Plum Coulee Plum Fest (\$2,293.94), Holiday Alley in Selkirk (\$6,033.52), Reston Fair (\$867.62), Dominion City SummerFest (\$1,281.52), Mitchell and Area Fun Days (\$3,390.23), Blumenort Fun and Fair Days (\$2,090.61), Fête de la Saint-Jean-Baptiste in La Broquerie (\$2,696.38), Melita Banana Days (\$5,472.40), Stony Mountain Family Festival and Canada Day (\$352.96), Teulon Rodeo (\$3,703.37), Manitoba Sunflower Festival in Altona (\$5,322.16) and Prairie Pioneer Days hosted by the Turtle Mountain Flywheel Club (\$558.70).

The province noted that the \$882,300 invested in 49 summer festivals plays an important role in supporting local businesses, boosting tourism and fostering community pride. With festivals taking place year-round, the government says Manitobans will continue to have opportunities to gather, celebrate culture and experience the province's diverse and vibrant communities.

Quiz night success



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Lake Francis Community Centre hosted a quiz night on Feb. 21, drawing 16 teams for an evening of friendly competition. Participants tested their knowledge across a range of categories, including Olympic trivia, local news, famous quotes, riddles and music. The Hungry, Hungry Hippos claimed top honours and generously donated their winnings back to the club. In total, the event raised \$1,200, which will go toward kitchen upgrades. Up next for the community centre is its annual Spring Fish Fry, set for April 26 from 12 to 3 p.m. Pictured from left: Darren Hueging, Loralie Capner, Michelle Monkman, Allison Pylypuk, Lanna Mason, Lyndsey Forsyth, Aaron Forsyth and Derek Monkman.

worship

with us > FAITH

Things still happen in the seasons of waiting.

Winter has a way of settling, not just on the landscape but on the spirit as well. When the days feel short, the light feels thin, and motivation seems to freeze over, winter fatigue can feel like quite a weight.

Winter slows everything down. The body moves differently, the mind feels foggier, and even simple tasks can feel like trudging through snow.

The winter season often exposes our limits, and that can feel discouraging.

But winter also invites a different kind of strength — the strength of resting, receiving, and trusting.

Farmers often speak about winter with a kind of reverence—not because it's easy, but because it fits into God's larger pattern of rest, renewal, and balance.

Under the frozen ground, roots are strengthening. The trees look barren, but they're conserving energy for spring.

Winter is not wasted time — it's preparation time — and in the same way, God may be doing quiet, unseen work in you as well.

Winter is a season of rest, renewal, and anticipation. It encourages stillness and reflection, symbolizing the waiting for new beginnings and the return of Christ, while highlighting trust in God's timing.

Genesis 8:22

"As long as the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

Winter is part of God's ordered design. When life feels cyclical or slow, this verse reminds us that the seasons are purposeful, and that the rest and renewal of creation are built into God's plan.

You don't have to push through winter on your own. God is not waiting for you to "get it together." God is walking with you, step by slow step, offering grace for every moment.

Maybe this season is teaching you to slow down. Maybe it's teaching you to depend more deeply. Maybe it's teaching you that you don't have to carry everything alone.

Pastor Desmond P. Penner
Carman Christian Fellowship

New signs coming to Rockwood Rail Trail

By Jennifer McFee

A local business is cooking up a few changes as it continues to grow.

Danny's Whole Hog spoke to council about having conditional use items removed that were put into place nearly two decades ago.

These conditional use items relate to a restriction that only allowed the sale of products that had been processed on site and prohibited the introduction of any products produced elsewhere.

"Our business has evolved and changed over the last 19 years since this conditional use was issued. At the time, it made sense for the size and nature of Danny's Whole Hog, but we have grown and evolved where we no longer meet these conditions," states the letter of intent. "We have grown into a well-known Manitoba brand, known for our pulled pork, pulled beef, brisket, barbecue sauce and meat pies."

The business continues to cook and smoke all its meats in house, and it has had to expand some of its production through outside partnerships such as bottling their barbecue sauce offsite.

"Unfortunately, this puts us in conflict with the original conditional use. We want to remain transparent and in good standing with the RM of Rockwood about the nature our business," the letter states.

"We also have many good-standing relationships with local businesses who promote us by selling our products in their store. You may have seen our barbecue sauces and pulled meats in the grocery stores in Stonewall and around the province."

The letter also notes that it might be a good fit for the local business to feature products in their store from other local businesses.

"This gives our customers more choices and promotes local businesses. This coming year, we will be celebrating 25 years in business; a key to our success is to build great relationships with peers in our industry. A good example of this is how we have worked with our distributor, De Luca's, a family-run business in Winnipeg," it states.

"They sell all our products in their two stores in Winnipeg, and they have some excellent products that we would love to sell in our store. Having more items in our store will not only help us keep our doors open but will provide residents with more options and more convenient than having to go to Winnipeg."

The South Interlake Planning District noted that the owners have been very cooperative in their efforts to resolve all permit issues and had no significant concerns about their request. Council conditionally approved the request.

IN OTHER COUNCIL NEWS:

- Council authorized the operations department to buy 10 signs about trail etiquette at a cost of up to \$2,500 to install along the Rockwood Rail Trail.

- Rockwood council approved remuneration for election officials at \$250 per day for the upcoming municipal election. They'll also receive \$20 per hour for training, 73 cents per kilometre for mileage and \$30 per day for a meal allowance.

- Council gave second and third readings to a bylaw related to election expenses and contributions for municipal election purposes, as well as a bylaw related to using municipal resources during the 42-day period before a general election.

- Council has formed an ad hoc committee for the Rockwood District Quarry Advisory Committee. The ad hoc committee is made up of Coun. Curtis McClintock, Coun. Hintz, Coun. Wirgau, the chief administrative officer and the director of corporate services.

- Council will send a letter to the provincial government requesting that they make the required repairs to Netley Creek on Road 13E from Road 97N to 98N.

- Some Rockwood residents expressed concern about excessive noise caused by engine retarder breaks, also known as Jake brakes, within and around the quarry areas. A bylaw prohibits the use of engine retarder brakes in these locations. As a result, council agreed to buy and install three roadway signs to inform commercial and industrial traffic that engine retarder breaks are prohibited in designated quarry areas.

- Council authorized paying \$750 for the 2026 membership fee for the Hudson Bay Route Association. In addition, council authorized paying \$157.50 to the Stonewall and District Chamber of Commerce for the 2026 membership fee.

- Council conditionally approved a request from the 3P Cycling Club to hold a Manitoba Cycling Association sanctioned bike road race in Stony Mountain on Tuesday, June 6

from 6 to 10 p.m.

- Council also approved a request for the Stony Mountain Community Association to host several events, including a concert and beer gardens at the outdoor Bison Bandstand on June 30 followed by a Canada Day celebration parade on July 1. On Aug. 22, the Stony Mountain Run will take place in the quarry, along with a concert and beer gardens at the Bison Bandstand. Council authorized fireworks on June 30, subject to fire department approval and as long as there's no fire ban at the time.

- Council authorized \$175 to Skate Stony Mountain for a program advertisement for the 2026 provincial championships.

- A four-person team from the RM of Rockwood will participate in the 53rd Annual Interlake Municipal Curling Bonspiel in Argyle on March 13.

- Council authorized paying \$2,305.24 to the Red River Basin Commission for the 2026 membership fee. However, council defeated a resolution to cover the \$95 registration fee for a councillor to attend the 15th annual Red River Basin Commission dinner gala on March 19 in West St. Paul. Council also defeated a request for a silent auction donation for the same event, which aims to raise funds for educational presentations and events.

- Council authorized a silent auction prize valued at \$100 for the annual Stonewall Legion curling bonspiel, which took place from Feb. 13 to 15.

Wheelchair sports program builds inclusion at Stonewall school

By Jo-Anne Procter

Students at École Stonewall Centennial School recently experienced a different perspective in physical education after partnering with the Manitoba Wheelchair Sports Association (MWSA) for a hands-on learning opportunity focused on inclusion, opportunity and fun.

Physical education teacher Jodi Bodnarchuk has brought the initiative to the school for several years, and over the past four years has worked closely with Grade 8 student Amaya Dawson to help lead the program.

Dawson was injured in a vehicle accident in 2020 that damaged her spinal cord, leaving her paralyzed from the chest down. Since then, she has become a leader in helping shape a

more inclusive phys-ed environment at the school.

The program introduces wheelchair sports to all students while supporting classmates with mobility challenges who may find it difficult to participate in traditional activities.

Bodnarchuk said offering a diverse physical education program helps ensure every student can discover an activity they enjoy and build habits that support lifelong physical activity.

Students with mobility issues — including those who do not use wheelchairs — can sometimes miss out on physical education activities, limiting opportunities to develop skills along-



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Grade 8 student Amaya Dawson (middle) helped teach Ecole Stonewall Centennial Grade 5 students techniques of wheelchair basketball on Feb. 13.

Continued on page 17

SIPD invites feedback on proposed quarry buffer zones

By Jennifer McFee

Community members have the chance to share their opinions on proposed quarry policies included in the South Interlake Planning District's draft development plan.

South Interlake Planning District (SIPD) provides planning and building development services for the district, which includes Rockwood, Rosser, Stonewall and Teulon.

The development plan guides direction for future land use, development and growth within the planning district. It considers the needs of current and future generations while also balancing community interests.

At a come-and-go event in June 2025 at the Heritage Arts Centre, attendees learned about the development plan process, discussed land use policy and shared feedback on the draft development plan.

The current process to review SIPD's development plan began in 2023. It focuses on multiple issues, including the compatibility of neighbouring land uses, appropriate mix and amount of development, effective management of natural resources and preservation of heritage resources. It also addresses cost-effective infrastructure, protection of surface and groundwater resources, and sustainable economic and community growth.

At the same time, the development plan must be generally consistent with provincial land use policies.

The development plan contains policies and regulations that apply to aggregate extraction operations, or quarries, including those in the RM of

Rockwood the north of Stonewall.

Quarry development and operations are regulated at the planning district, municipal and provincial levels.

The RM of Rockwood's zoning bylaw doesn't allow quarries to be established within 800 metres (half a mile) of the Town of Stonewall. This zoning bylaw hasn't been updated to reflect current town boundaries following the annexation of land from the RM of Rockwood.

In addition to SIPD's development plan and RM of Rockwood's zoning bylaw, provincial legislation also regulates the quarries. Current provincial regulations require a minimum setback of 400 metres between quarries and a residence.

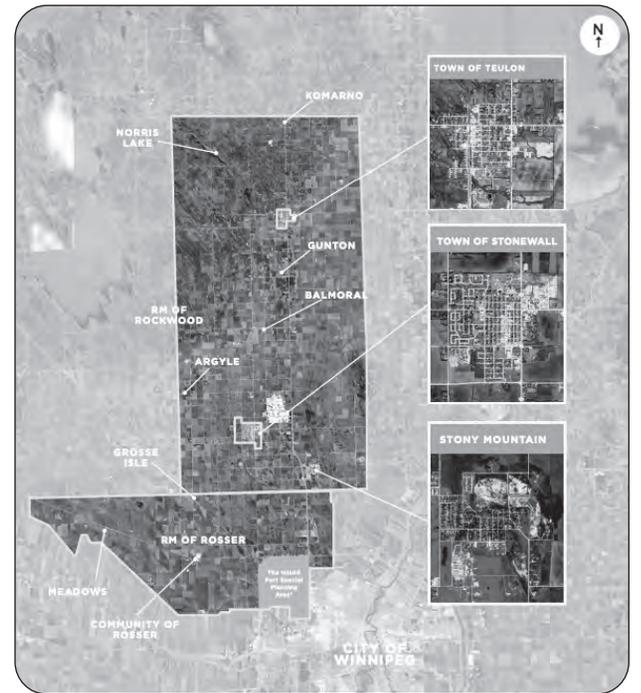
The draft SIPD development plan prohibits the establishment of new quarries or expansion of existing quarries within a 1.6-kilometre (one-mile) buffer area of the Town of Stonewall, which is an increase to the buffer outlined in the existing development plan.

In response to the feedback received at the open house event last June, the SIPD board and WSP Canada Inc. are conducting additional study on the proposed quarry policies and maps, specifically in relation to quarries near Stonewall.

The study could lead to recommendations to revise the draft development plan, while also considering technical analysis and public input.

An online survey allows residents near quarry developments to share their views and experiences. The survey is available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/GFSKJTG until Friday, Feb. 27.

"We appreciate residents and landowners taking



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

This map shows the geographic jurisdiction of the South Interlake Planning District's draft development plan.

some time to share their views and experiences through the survey," said Eric Shaw, SIPD's general manager.

Visit the South Interlake Planning District website at sipd.ca to view SIPD's draft development plan review under the "Planning Documents" tab.

Honouring Cooper: seventh annual memorial all-star event returns

By Kieran Reimer

The seventh annual Cooper Nemeth Memorial All-Star Day will return to Gateway Recreation Centre on Saturday, March 28.

The day serves as an all-star event for AA hockey players from around the province while honouring the life of Cooper Nemeth, a former River East Marauders player who was murdered in 2016 at 17 years old.

Funds raised from the day will go to the Cooper Nemeth Memorial Player Assistance Fund, which helps families with the cost of their child playing at the AA level in Hockey Winnipeg.

Over the years, the day has raised \$105,000 for the player assistance fund, a number that grows by more than \$10,000 each year.

"It means the world to us. This year will be the 10th year Cooper's been gone, and people are not forgetting. They're still supporting us. In turn, we feel that supporting the community is the way we can give back," said Cooper's father, Brent Nemeth.

Now 10 years since Cooper's passing, Brent and his wife Gaylene enjoy seeing the many people they haven't seen in years at the event.

Friends of Cooper take part on the ice in the alumni game following the three all-star games from the U13, U15 and U18 AA levels.

Throughout the day, there will be plenty of off-ice activities around Gateway including silent auctions and a 50/50 draw, along with a mini-stick rink and face painting for kids.

Much of the organizing is done by event director Angie Beaque. A year after Cooper's passing, Beaque's son Charlie and Cooper's sister Kiana were playing on the same hockey club.

Their club found sponsors for the first rendition of the day, which in its first year raised proceeds for Bear Clan Patrol Inc.

The number of sponsors and team involvement has continued to grow, and the event has now become a community staple.

"The first time it was done, it was basically one exhibition game, just a few select players from four different teams, just trying to raise a little bit of money, and to our surprise we raised \$13,900," said Brent Nemeth. "After that it expanded a little bit more. I started getting players from more



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

The 2026 Cooper Nemeth Memorial All-Star Day will feature U13, U15 and U18 AA Hockey Winnipeg All-Star Games, along with an alumni game with friends of Cooper Nemeth. Other activities include a mini stick rink, face painting, 50/50 and live auctions.

teams, and as the years have gone on, we now have teams from across Hockey Winnipeg. At U13, we have representation from 19 teams in the league — kids from Kenora, throughout the

city, southern Manitoba, Selkirk, St. Andrews and Brandon playing in this game. The first couple of years you'd

Continued on page 11

Manitoba bars open early as Stonewall fans gather for Olympic gold medal game

By Haley Cvar

Manitoba bars and restaurants were given the green light to open their doors early Sunday morning as Canadians tuned in to watch the Olympic men's hockey team chase gold.

The provincial government announced the temporary change ahead of the gold medal matchup, allowing licensed establishments to begin serving as early as 5 a.m. for the nationally televised game.

"When Team Canada plays for gold, the whole country leans in," Premier Wab Kinew said in a news release. "From Elkhorn to Winnipeg, Manitobans will be waking up early to cheer together. That's why we're allowing bars and restaurants to open early, so friends, families and neighbours can gather, share that energy and celebrate what unites us."

Under Section 11(5) of Manitoba's Liquor Regulation, the executive director of the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Authority of Manitoba may au-

thorize extended liquor service hours for events of community, provincial or national significance.

Licensed establishments that applied for early opening were required to serve liquor no earlier than 5 a.m. and no earlier than one hour before the televised event began, ensure the premises were closed and vacated for at least one hour the previous night, and open specifically for the purpose of televising the Olympic event.

In Stonewall, a small group of early risers gathered at the 19th Hole to watch Team Canada face the United States in the gold medal game.

The atmosphere was hopeful at puck drop, with fans sporting red and white and coffees sharing table space with breakfast wings and poutine. The tightly contested game remained scoreless through regulation before heading to overtime tied 1-1.

The United States sealed a 2-1 victory in overtime, silencing the small but spirited crowd.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY HALEY CVAR

The 19th Hole became a popular gathering spot for fans throughout the two-week Olympic event.

While the outcome did not go Canada's way, the morning gathering reflected the national pride and ca-

maraderie that accompany Olympic hockey — even in defeat.

Rosser formalizes snowmobile trail agreement

By Jennifer McFee

Happy trails!

The RM of Rosser has entered into an agreement with the Northern Lites Snowmobile Club for snowmobile trail usage in the municipal jurisdiction.

"The club had contacted us advising that it had come to their attention that they had landowner agreements for their trails in Rosser but never had any official agreement with the RM of Rosser to use municipal right

of ways," said chief executive officer Larry Wandowich.

"The trails have been operating successfully for years. The RM agreed to have an official agreement done, and this was created and passed by council."

IN OTHER COUNCIL NEWS:

- The RM of Rosser submitted an application for a provincial government grant through the From the Ground Up program. The request is for \$100,000 towards funding a mobile power generator and trailer.

- Council approved a \$36,195 levy for the South Interlake Regional Library. The expense will be budgeted in the 2026 financial plan.

- Council approved a \$23,838 levy for the Rockwood Rosser Weed Control District, which also be budgeted through the 2026 financial plan.

- The RM of Rosser will buy a 500-mm gate water valve for \$35,100 plus tax. The RM contracted Taillieu

Construction to buy and install the water valve at the end of Red Fife Road.

"The valve is being purchased to eventually install on one of our main water lines so that when we have to shut down water further down on that line, we do not affect the Steele Business Park water supply," Wandowich said.

- Council approved a donation of \$200 worth of gift cards to the Stony Mountain on Ice skating competition, which will be put on by the Stony Mountain Skating Club at Veterans Memorial Sports Complex and Ice Palace in Stonewall from March 20 to 22. Council also authorized a donation of \$200 worth of Keg gift cards and \$200 worth of grocery gift cards to the Red River Basin Commission Manitoba North Chapter Fish Dinner Gala in West St. Paul on March 19. Council and guests are authorized to attend.

- The RM of Rosser will partic-

ipate in the AlertMB public alerting system.

- Council agreed to pay a \$50 membership fee for 2026 for the Hudson Bay Route Association.

- RM of Rosser staff will co-host the Interlake Municipal Bonspiel with the RM of Rockwood at the Argyle Curling Club on March 13. Two staff teams will also be entered in the bonspiel.

- The RM of Rosser will buy a 1998 E-One Custom Heavy Rescue Truck for \$70,000 USD from Command Fire Apparatus LLC, which is about \$97,300 in Canadian currency. Council will budgeted up to \$100,000 in the 2026 financial plan to replace a 2021 24-foot enclosed V-Nose Forest River Trailer, used for storing and transporting rescue equipment, and a 2004 Ford F550 E1 Mini Pump. Coun. Palmer abstained from the vote. Council will sell the 2021 24-foot enclosed V-Nose Forest River Trailer.

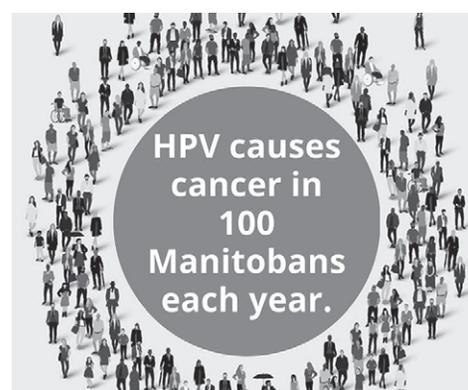
Al-Anon and AA Meetings Information

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



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Jeffery's Environmental Services changes hands after three decades

By E. Antonio

When South Interlake residents needed a septic tank pump-out, many came to recognize the friendly face behind the front desk at Jeffery's Environmental Services — or the warm, reassuring voice answering the phone.

After more than three decades of service, Edna Jeffery is retiring from the business she built and nurtured from the ground up.

Jeffery and her then husband, Joe, purchased the septic company from an owner in Gunton on Aug. 1, 1993. Both were working full-time jobs at the time and saw the opportunity as a way to create employment for Jeffery's father-in-law. Although he remained with the company only a few years, the couple continued to grow the business, steadily building a loyal client base while offering septic tank pump-outs and portable restroom rentals throughout the southern Interlake.

About 15 years ago, Jeffery left her original full-time job to focus entirely on Jeffery's Environmental Services. What began as a practical opportunity evolved into a nearly 33-year career — something she admits she never expected.

"Septic certainly wasn't a business I thought I would ever get involved in," she said. "But providing this service to customers gave me a sense of purpose and made me feel good."

Jeffery credits her customers as one of the most rewarding parts of the job. Even as other septic companies entered the area, many clients remained

loyal.

"I want to give the best service we can, and I think our clients are proof that perseverance is worth it in the end," she said.

Running a business also came with challenges. In recent years especially, Jeffery balanced caring for her elderly parents while coping with the loss of her son following a cancer diagnosis — all while keeping the business operating.

"But I still had a business to run," she said. "I knew customers needed this service, and I needed a place to be."

Over the years she witnessed significant changes in the industry, from advancing technology and truck upgrades to increasing provincial regulations and paperwork requirements. Through it all, customer loyalty and referrals made the hard work worthwhile.

Jeffery became known for responding when emergencies arose, though she often helped customers troubleshoot problems over the phone before dispatching a driver.

"Sometimes it was just the breaker that needed to be flipped or the PIL switch that got hung up," she explained. "But when we needed to be there, I made sure I was tracking down a driver."

Beyond her day-to-day work, Jeffery also supported community causes, annually donating portable toilets for the Children's Wish Ride in Woodlands — a fundraiser for sick children that has been held every August for more than 30 years.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Edna Jeffery has owned Jeffery's Environmental Services for more than three decades. She will soon be retiring and has officially sold the business.

Without that support, organizers would face significant rental costs that would otherwise reduce funds raised for the cause.

"The event has been very dear to my heart," she said. "When special-needs twin grandsons were added to my life, I became more aware of how important it is to help support this cause. I can only hope the new owners of Jeffery's will continue to support the Children's Wish Ride."

While she will not miss the stress of running a septic service, Jeffery is looking forward to slowing down. She plans to spend more time volunteering and enjoying a quieter pace of life, while helping ensure a smooth transition to the new owners.

"Thank you to all my customers for your continued loyalty," Jeffery said. "It's important to support local businesses, and I wish the new owners all the best moving forward."

> HONOURING COOPER, FROM PG. 9

always get, 'no, sorry, we're busy with planned trips or something like that,' and now it's very rare for someone to say they can't make it."

In late March, volunteers and arena staff will begin preparing Gateway for the big day.

All games will once again be played on the Blue Rink, beginning with the U13 game at 11 a.m.

Admission is \$5, with children 12 and under free. Proceeds go toward the Cooper Nemeth Memorial Player Assistance Fund.

The alumni game will conclude the on-ice activities with a 5 p.m. puck drop.

"There are multiple reasons — part of it is to keep Cooper's name alive, but most importantly it's trying to show these younger players that one person or a handful of people can make a difference in a community if you put your mind to it," said Brent

Nemeth. "Anybody can fundraise for something and donate every year, but it's people finding the inner drive to do it. It makes all of us — not only my family but the entire board of directors, from Angie to the people who help with the on-ice activities, player invites, dressing rooms and all the volunteers — feel good knowing somebody is benefitting from it."

What's *Your* story?

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

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Clubroom Events for the Week of February 23

Wednesday 4-Close 8:30 Chase the Queen Draw Pot is at \$3,072.00

Thursday 4-Close 7:00 Crib

Friday 4-Close 6:30 Meat Draw and 50-50

Saturday 2-close 3pm Meat Draw 5:30 Dinner 7pm Darts

Dinner Tickets on Sale for Saturday February 28th \$15.00

Chicken, Fettucine Alfredo, Caesar Salad, Garlic Naan and Desert

All are welcome - please support your local legion!

get inspired

> MEAL IDEAS



Recipe adapted from Tastes Better from Scratch

Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Servings: 8
1/2 tablespoon butter
2 ribs celery, diced
3-4 large carrots, diced
1 clove garlic, minced
10 cups chicken stock or broth
1/8 teaspoon dried rosemary
1/8 teaspoon dried thyme
1/8 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
salt, to taste
pepper, to taste


FamilyFoods

Phone 467-5553

Sick Day Chicken Noodle Soup

chicken bouillon cubes (optional)
4 cups dry egg noodles
3 cups cooked rotisserie chicken

In large stockpot over medium-high heat, saute butter, celery and carrots 3 minutes. Add garlic and cook 30 seconds.

Add chicken stock or broth and season with rosemary, thyme and crushed red pepper. Add salt and pepper, to taste. Taste and add chicken bouillon cubes, if desired, for flavor.

Bring to boil. Add noodles and cook until al dente. Remove from heat once noodles are tender.

Add chicken. Taste and adjust seasoning as desired.

Photo courtesy of Shutterstock



Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 9 minutes
Servings: 1-2
1 Minute Butter & Sea Salt Jasmine Rice Cup
1/4 cup frozen mixed vegetables, thawed
1 egg
1/4 cup cheddar cheese, shredded
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

Air Fryer Veggie Rice Bites

1/8 teaspoon salt
barbecue sauce or ranch dressing (optional)

Preheat air fryer to 390 F. Heat rice according to package directions.

In blender, roughly chop vegetables. In bowl, combine vegetables, egg, cheddar cheese, garlic powder and salt. Freeze 5 minutes to slightly firm up.

Divide rice mixture into four portions and hand form into mounds.

Air-fry 8 minutes, or until golden brown. Serve with barbecue sauce or ranch dressing for dipping, if desired.



Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Servings: 2-4
2 Minute Sticky Rice Cups
2 tablespoons sesame oil
1 pound boneless, skinless chicken breast, cut into thin strips
1 cup mixed vegetables
3 tablespoons soy sauce
2 green onions, chopped
1 tablespoon sesame seeds (optional)

Simple Chicken Stir-Fry

Heat rice according to package directions.

In large skillet or wok over medium-high heat, heat sesame oil. Add chicken and saute 6 minutes until chicken is evenly browned and cooked through.

Add mixed vegetables to skillet and stir-fry 4 minutes, or until tender but still crisp.

Add cooked sticky rice to skillet. Pour in soy sauce and mix thoroughly, ensuring rice is evenly coated and heated through.

Remove from heat, stir in chopped green onions; garnish with sesame seeds, if desired; and serve hot.

Tips: Chicken can be substituted for shrimp or tofu. Frozen vegetables can be used in place of fresh; cook 5 minutes, or until cooked through.

Ask the Money Lady

Dear Money Lady: My nine-year-old daughter has MS. I read your newspaper column about government programs. It's not exactly easy to make sense of all the information out there. What are the first steps I should take? Thanks, Marlene

Great to hear you're looking to take advantage of what's available to you and your family, Marlene! The most important first step is getting the Disability Tax Credit (DTC), which helps those people living with disabilities and their families reduce the income tax they pay each year. It's also the first step to becoming eligible for important supports like the Registered Disability Savings Account (RDSP) that offers government contributions of up to \$90,000.

To be eligible for the DTC, your daughter's medical practitioner must certify that her disability causes a severe and prolonged impairment in one of the following categories, or she has significant limitations in two or more categories, or she receives therapy to support a vital function. Categories include walking, mental function, dressing, feeding, elimination, hearing, speaking, vision or a life-sustaining ongoing therapy.

Today, over 21 million Canadians live with a medical condition that may potentially qualify for the disability tax credit, but most are unaware of this benefit. In fact, according to a 2025 survey shared with me by Concentra Trust, 23% of caregivers incorrectly believed that DTC eligibility was based on having a specific diagnosis they didn't meet the criteria for. The reality is that the DTC eligibility doesn't require a specific diagnosis but rather considers other restrictions or limitation factors that are certified by a medical practitioner.

With the DTC, you can then open the Registered Disability Saving Plan (RDSP), which I wrote about in my previous column. To recap: the RDSP is a tax-deferred savings plan for Canadians and their families living with disabilities that can provide up to \$90,000 in government-contribution grants and bonds. Of this, \$20,000 in bonds does not require any contribution for beneficiaries from low-to-modest



income households – which means it's worth opening even if you have nothing to contribute.

While RDSPs are offered by many financial institutions, I always recommend going with a team that knows RDSPs, which are often not as well-understood as other registered plans like the RRSP or TFSA. Concentra Trust, a reputed provider of RDSPs, has an experienced, knowledgeable team who can help you with the ins and outs of opening an RDSP. If you are a member of a credit union, that's also a great way to explore the RDSP given their community involvement and understanding of their members.

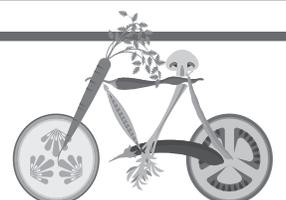
Other benefits worth exploring include the Canada Disability Benefit and the Canada Pension Plan Disability Benefit (CPP-D). For any readers caring for a child with a severe disability, look into the Child Disability Benefit (CDB) if you haven't already. It's also a good idea to apply for any provincial benefits such as the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP), the Alberta Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) or the British Columbia Persons with Disabilities benefit (PWD). I hope more Canadians, like you, explore and take advantage of these benefits if they are dealing with a disability.

Good Luck and Best Wishes,
Money Lady

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author, Finance Writer and Syndicated Money Coach on BNN Bloomberg. Christine is also part of the everyday lineup on CTV Your Morning in every province. No AI. Follow Christine on Instagram @askthemoneylady, or on Facebook (Christine Ibbotson)

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Perfect trail conditions



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

With temperatures about four degrees below the daily average — ranging from -13 C to -20 C and a northwest wind chill near -23 C — Trevor and Christine Buchanan, Jeff Meier, Ryley Holod, Darren Minaker, Jeff Slatcher and Riley Buchanan rode from Argyle to Grand Marais, where abundant snowfall made for ideal trail conditions.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Papa Cyril Lillies of Woodlands and his granddaughter Lovella savoured maple taffy poured fresh onto the snow while taking in the sights and sounds of Festival du Voyageur last weekend. Despite brisk winter temperatures, they stayed warm and busy exploring towering snow sculptures, enjoying live music and embracing the vibrant spirit of Manitoba's iconic winter celebration.

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Revved up for reading at local libraries this month



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

South Interlake Regional Snowmobile Association's Inwood club president Todd Campbell presents copies of a sled-safety book by Big Daddy Tazz to the Teulon and Stonewall branches of the South Interlake Regional Library on Feb. 20 in support of I Love to Read Month. Campbell made the presentation on behalf of SnoRiders. Left photo: Teulon library clerk June Makowski with Campbell. Right photo: Stonewall library clerks Tanis Grandmont (left) and Kelsey Dingwall (right) with Campbell.

Celebrating 55 years of denture services in Manitoba

By Elisha Vandor

This year we are celebrating our 55th year as a family-owned and operated business. We are so grateful to serve Winnipeg, Selkirk and the surrounding areas with trusted quality denture care for you, our patients, who often become feeling more like family. Certainly, our favourite part of what we do is helping people get their smile back, starting from first greets and finishing with full smiles, happy handshakes, hugging and sometimes tears of joy. We love seeing all the smile transformations throughout the years, but most importantly witnessing how an excellent denture can improve someone's life is truly why we passionately do what we do, as Denturists.

The beginning of January is often just as busy for us as December because dental insurance renews and people wait all year to receive dentures for the first time or upgrade from their current ones. Jo-Ann was one of those people who

had been eagerly waiting for her final denture (supported by dental implants) to be finished. When she walked out of the room with her new teeth in and smiled at me, she looked happy, confident and comfortable. She said, "from the minute I first walked in, the staff were very friendly. Brock was very informative about the implant procedure and the end result of going through with this is fantastic. I am no longer embarrassed to smile as my new dentures look so natural."

Our talented Denturist Matthew, who's been with us for the past 9 years, seeing patients for almost ten hours a day, has the ability to make you feel like you've known him for years all the while creating your perfect smile, it's an art and his patient truly love coming to see him. Jackie came to see Matthew at the end of last year for a consultation needing to transition to an upper denture for the first time. When she received her denture in January, she

said, "my experience with Matthew at Vandor clinic was amazing. Everyone there made the process so great. Highly recommend Vandor Denture Clinic. Thank you for everything."

As featured in the picture, Lorene's smile transformation was full of happy tears as she gleamed with her very own recreated 'Farrah Fawcett' smile saying she felt beautiful and confident again, after even being called ugly without teeth. Brock was able to create dentures that replicated Lorene's desire to have the perfect Farrah Fawcett smile by mimicking the shape, size and way the teeth aligned, which matched Lorene's look perfectly.

If you think it's time for new dentures, filling the gaps in your smile or upgrading to a dental implant supported denture, then call us today. We can direct bill to your insurance and accept the Canadian Dental Care Plan. We look forward to seeing you soon!



Lorene, pictured with Denturist Brock, is gleaming with her CNC milled dentures supported by dental implants. **SENIOR'S PRICING**

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Stonewall Jets players celebrate reading month in classrooms



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League players from the Stonewall Jets — Rylan Slatcher, Adam Newcombe and Evan Deprez — visited École RW Bobby Bend School last week as part of Interlake School Division's I Love to Read Month celebrations, sharing stories and encouraging students to make reading part of their daily routine. A planned visit to Balmoral School on Wednesday was postponed due to weather.

Attempted arson under investigation

By Jennifer McFee

RCMP are investigating an attempted arson in Stonewall.

On Feb. 19 at 1:56 a.m., Stonewall RCMP responded to a commercial alarm on 4 Street E in Stonewall. Upon arrival, officers noticed that someone had tried to set the building on fire.

An ongoing arson investigation is ongoing.

Stonewall RCMP, with the assistance of the RCMP forensic identification section and the Office of the Fire Commissioner, continue to investigate.



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

A broken window is seen at Craving Restaurant on 4 Street E in Stonewall following an attempted arson early Feb. 19.

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Cheers to the newlyweds!



4 meal types to consider for treating your wedding guests

Perfect ambiance 101: discover our tips for decorating your reception hall



Are you looking for inspiration for decorating your wedding reception hall? Let these expert tips be your guide.



- **Decide on a theme.** Starting with a theme will help you tie everything together seamlessly. Whether it's the elegance of the roaring twenties, rustic country charm, fairytale magic or retro vibes, you have a wealth of possibilities.
- **Curate your colours.** Select two main colours and a complementary one to add that extra pop to your decor.
- **Create your centrepieces.** Whether you prefer classic elegance or an extravagant flourish, remember that your centrepieces should enhance the table without adding clutter or preventing your guests from seeing each other across the table.
- **Incorporate lighting.** From string lights and exotic lanterns to romantic candles and bold neon, your lighting choices will set the mood for your reception. Use different light sources to create the perfect atmosphere.

To add that extra WOW factor, consider incorporating other decorative elements like balloons and flowers to make your reception hall shine.



From appetizers and salads to main courses and desserts, choosing what to serve at your wedding is a big decision. That said, the food itself is just as important as how you'll serve it. Here are four meal styles to consider for your celebration.

1. Traditional banquet. This classic option includes at least three courses. Guests remain seated at assigned tables throughout the meal while catering or venue staff serve each dish.

2. Buffet. A wedding buffet offers a relaxed, social atmosphere that's growing in popularity. Typically, guests are asked to serve themselves, usually when their table number is called by the master of ceremonies. Buffets often include hot, cold and vegetarian options to accommodate as many guests as possible.

3. Potluck. In a potluck-style meal, the couple provides part of the menu, such as the main dish and cake, and the guests each bring something to share. It's the perfect way to save on the cost of food while highlighting the culinary skills of your close family and friends.

4. Cocktail reception. This option features elegant appetizers or tapas served on circulating trays. Guests aren't forced to sit in one place; rather, they can sit or stand and are encouraged to mingle freely. This makes for a lively, sociable atmosphere.

Each meal style has its pros and cons. Discuss your options with your partner and choose the one that best suits you and your tastes.

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Photo by: Anna Bellia Photo

Many companies specialize in decorating reception halls. Entrust the job to the experts in your area to ensure the best results and give yourself peace of mind.

Olympic spirit



TRIBUNE PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Students and staff at Teulon Elementary School embraced the spirit of the 2026 Olympic Games over the past few weeks with a variety of themed activities, culminating in their own Olympic Day on Feb. 20. Dressed in red and white, participants cheered on Team Canada's men's hockey team while rotating through activity stations set up throughout the school. The day featured floor curling, floor hockey, hill sliding and Olympic bingo, along with creative projects such as a Canada sports mural and handmade Olympic medals. To top it all off, everyone enjoyed hot chocolate and popcorn served in homemade Olympic torches, adding an extra spark to the celebration.



> WHEELCHAIR, FROM PG. 8

side their peers. The sessions aim to remove those barriers.

Dawson plays an active role in helping teach the classes, sharing her experience maneuvering and navigating a wheelchair. Her leadership gives classmates valuable perspective while building confidence and understanding throughout the school community.

The Manitoba Wheelchair Sports Association also hosts recreational wheelchair basketball nights Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Sundays from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Sport for Life Centre, 145 Pacific Ave. in Winnipeg. The sessions are open to anyone interested in trying wheelchair basketball. More information is available at mwsa.ca.

JOIN US FOR THE MARCH CONSIGNMENT SALES 2026

MARCH Week 1 Consignment Sale 2026

Viewing: March 2nd from 9 AM to 5 PM.
 Bidding starts: March 5th, 2026 at 9:00 AM
 Lots start closing on March 12th, 2026 at 10:00 AM.
 Pick up days: Friday, March 13 & Saturday March 14th from 9 AM to 5 PM

MARCH OFFSITE Consignment Sale

Viewing: March 16th-19th from 9 AM to 5PM.
 Bidding starts: March 19th, 2026 at 9:00AM
 Lots start closing on March 25, 2026 at 10:00AM.
 Pick up days: Friday, March 27th & Saturday March 28th from 9 AM to 5 PM



MARCH ONSITE Week 2 Consignment Sale

Viewing: March 16th-19th from 9 AM to 5PM.
 Bidding starts: March 19th, 2026 at 9:00AM
 Lots start closing on March 26, 2026 at 10:00AM.
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Warm weather boosts Stonewall Family Day



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Families celebrate Family Day at the Quarry Park Heritage Arts Centre in Stonewall on Feb. 16, enjoying outdoor activities, hands-on crafts and a live concert by Interlake Métis fiddler Morgan Grace and dad.



sports & recreation

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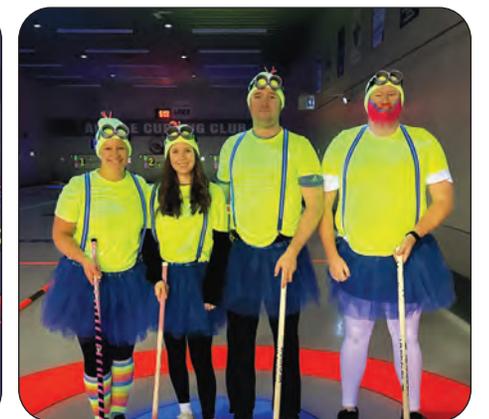
Interlake Lightning U18 wrap up league play



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

The Interlake Lightning U18 girls closed out their regular season with a 7-3 loss to the Pembina Valley Hawks in Warren on Feb. 13. Ella Riddell opened the scoring for the Lightning, with additional goals from Blake Darragh and Lily MacGregor. Interlake then turned its focus to the playoffs, where it faced the first-place Winnipeg Ice in the opening round of the best-of-five Manitoba Female Hockey League postseason series. Game 1 was played Feb. 21, with the Lightning falling 5-0. Game 2 was played Feb. 22 at the Hockey for All Centre, where the Lightning lost 7-1, with Ella Riddell scoring her team's lone goal. Game 3 returned to VMSC on Feb. 24. No score was available at press time. Prior to puck drop, the Lightning recognized graduating players Lola Parkinson and Brianna Malmstrom. Both skaters spent one season with the club and plan to continue their hockey careers at the post-secondary level. Pictured, left: Sam Strassburger (assistant coach), Brianna Malmstrom, Lola Parkinson, Kelsey McHolm (head coach) and Allison Sexton (assistant coach). Right: Blake Darragh celebrates her goal.

Glow Bonspiel lights up Argyle weekend



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY RILEY BUCHANAN

Eighteen teams hit the ice for the Argyle Mixed Glow Bonspiel, Feb. 13-14, with several rinks travelling from outside the Interlake to join the fun. Adding to the festive atmosphere, The Minions earned top honours as the weekend's best-costumed team. Pictured left to right; left photo: the Mitch Wicklund rink captured first place with Jaret Thiessen, Chris Krychuk, Mitch Wicklund and Ashley Wicklund. Middle left: finishing second was the Trevor Buchanan rink, made up of Ryan Holod, Jacqui Holod, Christine Buchanan and Trevor Buchanan. Middle right: the Blake Good rink placed third, with Adam Newcombe, Alycia Galbraith, Tasha Thiessen and Blake Good. Right: Dianne Minaker, Justine Holod, Riley Holod and Chad Thoresby.

Lightning close season with wild win, tough weekend losses

By Lana Meier

The Interlake Lightning closed out their 2025-26 Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League regular season with one of their most explosive offensive performances of the year before dropping their final two contests.

Interlake finished the season 11th overall with a 13-34-1-2 record and 27 points in 48 games.

The Lightning opened their final week with a 10-7 victory over the Pembina Valley Hawks on Feb. 17 at Teulon-Rockwood Arena.

Ryder Kirk set the tone just 11 seconds into the game, scoring his ninth of the season off feeds from Thoren Corbett and Damon Marquart. Interlake built a 2-1 lead after the first period and pulled away with four goals in the second.

Madden van Kemenade scored twice, while Damon Marquart and Brody Huver also had two-goal performances. Marquart added two assists for a four-point night, while Huver chipped in a goal and an assist. Thoren Corbett and Branden Mickall each had a goal and an assist, and Jacob Keck rounded out the scoring.

Interlake led 6-2 after two periods before a chaotic third that saw Pembina Valley score four power-play goals. The Lightning responded with key tallies from Marquart and Huver, including two empty-net markers, to secure the win.

Goaltender Grayson McDonald turned aside 56 of 63 shots in the victory as the Hawks fired 38 shots in the third period alone.

The Lightning were unable to carry that momentum into Friday's matchup, falling 3-1 to the Southwest Cougars on Feb. 20 in Teulon.



Interlake Lightning defenceman Logan Jacobson leads the rush up ice against the Pembina Valley Hawks.

Prior to Friday's game, the team honoured its graduating players in a pregame ceremony. Each player presented their mother with a bouquet of flowers and thanked their families for years of support throughout their hockey careers. Recognized were Ben den Teuling, Ryder Kirk, Corwyn Bear, Kyler Zulyniak and Mathias Sibilleau.

After trailing 1-0 through two periods, Sam Corbett tied the game early in the third, scoring his first of the season off a pass from Thoren Corbett. However, Southwest regained the lead midway through the frame and added an empty-net goal in the final seconds.

McDonald made 26 saves on 28 shots in the loss, while Interlake was unable to convert on four power-play



PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

Interlake Lightning graduating players, left to right, Corwyn Bear, Mathias Sibilleau, Kyler Zulyniak, Ryder Kirk and Ben den Teuling.



PHOTOS BY RICK HIEBERT

Hawks Ragnar Gillis tries to avoid a shot in front of Lightning's net-minder Seth Schaeffer.

opportunities.

The regular season concluded Sunday in Steinbach, where the Lightning dropped a 4-2 decision to the Eastman Selects.

Branden Mickall and Corwyn Bear scored for Interlake, while McDonald again shouldered the load in net, stopping 40 of 44 shots. Eastman broke open a tight contest with two third-period goals, including a

short-handed marker.

Despite the challenging season, the Lightning showed flashes of offensive firepower down the stretch and continued to compete against play-off-bound teams in their final weekend.

With the regular season complete, Interlake will now turn its focus to off-season development and building toward next year's campaign.



Interlake Lightning defenceman Sam Corbett battles for puck possession with Pembina Valley Hawks forward Daniel Tormey during Manitoba U18 AAA Hockey League action Feb. 14 in Morden.

STONEWALL JETS HOCKEY — MMJHL ACTION



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Wednesday, February 25, 2026 • 7:15 p.m.

Stonewall Jets at St. James Jr. Canucks Hockey for all centre - PCL Rink

Thursday, February 26, 2026 • 8 p.m.

St. Vital Jr. Victorias at Stonewall Jets Stonewall Veterans Memorial Arena

Sunday, March 1, 2026 • 7 p.m.

Charlewood Hawks at Stonewall Jets Stonewall Veterans Memorial Arena

Fast-paced junior hockey • Family fun for all ages

Stonewall Jets split final week, lock up third ahead of playoffs

By Annaliese Meier

The Stonewall Jets will enter the postseason on a winning note after taking two of three games in their final full week of Manitoba Major Junior Hockey League regular season action.

The Jets (24-14-2) opened the week with an emphatic 5-2 win over the Pembina Valley Twisters on Feb. 19 at Stonewall Veterans Memorial Arena.

Stonewall's special teams made the difference, converting three of five power-play opportunities while outshooting the Twisters 42-32.

Gavin Holod (16) and Dylan Vitelli (5) scored late in the first period to erase an early Pembina Valley lead, before Alex Kaczorowski added a second-period power-play marker. Kai Smith and Brody Stovin struck with the man advantage in the third to put

the game away.

Ron Cailo was steady in goal, turning aside 30 shots for the win.

The following night at Ab McDonald Arena, the Jets edged the St. James Jr. Canucks 4-3 in a potential first-round preview.

Holod opened the scoring just 1:16 into the game on the power play, and Wylie Garchinski followed with another man-advantage marker midway through the first. After the Canucks tied the contest 2-2 heading into the second, Brody Stovin restored the Jets' lead early in the third before Alex Kaczorowski netted the eventual winner at 16:09.

Spencer Hunnam made 28 saves on 31 shots as Stonewall completed the weekend sweep and strengthened its hold on third place in the standings.

However, the week ended on a sour



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY LANA MEIER

Stonewall Jets forward Dylan Vitelli releases a shot late in the first period of Stonewall's 5-2 win over the Pembina Valley Twisters on Feb. 19 at Stonewall Veterans Memorial Arena.



Pembina Valley goaltender Rowan Cherkas makes a save on Stonewall's Alex Kaczorowski during MMJHL action Thursday night at Stonewall Veterans Memorial Arena. Cherkas turned aside 37 of 42 shots in the 5-2 loss.

note Sunday in Morris, where the Jets fell 7-2 to the Twisters in a high-scoring affair at the Morris MultiPlex.

Pembina Valley jumped out to a 2-0 first-period lead and never looked back, despite a strong push from Stonewall in the third. Holod scored his 18th of the season just 40 seconds into the final frame, and Austin Lourenco added a power-play goal to cut the deficit to 4-2. But the Twisters responded with three unanswered goals, including two from Ethan Wilde, to seal the win.

The Jets poured 45 shots on goal, including 26 in the third period, but were unable to solve Twisters netminder Myles Ganske, who made 43 saves in the victory.

With 50 points through 40 games,

Stonewall sits third in the MMJHL standings behind the Transcona Railer Express (67 points) and the St. Boniface Riels (58 points), and ahead of both the River East Royal Knights and the Charleswood Hawks, who are tied at 47.

Stonewall closes out the regular season with three games in four nights: Feb. 25 on the road against St. James, Feb. 26 at home versus the St. Vital Jr. Victorias, and March 1 when the Hawks visit Stonewall Veterans Memorial Arena.

With playoffs looming, the Jets will look to carry their balanced scoring and potent power play into the postseason as they chase an MMJHL championship.

Interlake duo driving Nighthawks' dominant season

By Lana Meier

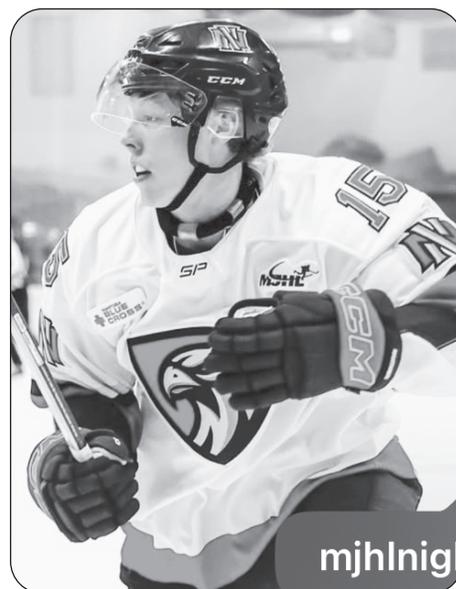
Two Interlake products are playing key roles for the first-place Niverville Nighthawks this season, with both forwards ranking among the Manitoba Junior Hockey League's elite scorers.

Stonewall's Hayden Wheddon continues to lead the league offensively. The 2005-born forward sits first overall in MJHL scoring with 79 points in 49 games, tallying 31 goals and 48 assists for a 1.61 points-per-game average. Wheddon has also contributed five game-winning goals and 16 penalty minutes while helping power a Niverville offence that leads the league in goals for.

Gimli's Adam Vigfusson has also delivered a standout campaign. In 37 games, the 2005-born forward has re-



Niverville Nighthawks forward Hayden Wheddon



Niverville Nighthawks forward Adam Vigfusson

corded 23 goals and 34 assists for 57 points — good for a 1.54 points-per-game pace, placing him among the MJHL's top 3 scorers. Vigfusson has six game-winning goals and continues to provide consistent offensive production every night.

As a team, Niverville has been nothing short of dominant. The Nighthawks lead the MGEU East Division with a 43-6-1-0 record for 87 points through 50 games. They boast a league-best .870 winning percentage, have scored 240 goals while allowing just 103, and carry an impressive +137 goal differential.

Niverville sits ahead of the Steinbach Pistons (84 points) and has already clinched a playoff berth.

Continued on page 24

Team East athletes set to represent Interlake in Thompson

By Kieran Reimer

The Interlake will be well represented when the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games open March 1-7 in Thompson, with more than 100 athletes suiting up for Team East Region across 10 of the 12 sports on the program.

The province's best young athletes will compete over seven days in two phases, beginning with alpine skiing, archery, curling, gymnastics, boys hockey and ringette from March 2-4, followed by badminton, cross-country skiing, curling, figure skating, futsal, girls hockey, speed skating and wrestling from March 5-7.

The Games will kick off with the opening ceremony at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 1 and wrap up Saturday, March 7, with the closing ceremony at 2 p.m.

Both will be streamed on Sport Manitoba's YouTube channel and the Manitoba Games' Facebook page.



The U18 doubles Team Smith/Kowalchuk: Sierra Smith throws the first and last rocks, and Jake Kowalchuk throws the middle three. The team is coached by Sheldon Kowalchuk.

Bittner (Cooks Creek), Bentley Jordan Dueck (Pinawa), Ezra Giesbrecht (East Selkirk), Connor Kent and Jack Davien Martin (Oakbank), Kate Willow Martin (community unavailable), Rorie James Patrick McDonald (Beausejour), Murdoch John McLeod (Whitemouth), Maryna Nychaia (Pinawa), Kailyn Pineau (community unavailable), Cash Schwabiuk, Aubree Taylor Terri Button, Bella Jane Reid Thomas, Elyse Unger, Silas Kane Whynot, Khloe Wold and Alexis Theresa Zimmer (all Lac du Bonnet), Ben-

ALPINE SKIING

Evan Michael Czarnecki of Winnipeg, Charlie Jekat of East St. Paul and Amy Robinson of Cooks Creek will represent the region in alpine skiing.

ARCHERY

Archers include Alex Haley (Selkirk), Beck Moyer (Brandon), Theo Salem (East St. Paul), Jazmyn Rae Sanderson (East Selkirk), Callen Jake Teeple (Brandon), Alyssa Thomas (Powerview-Pine Falls) and Aj Yates (Carberry).

BADMINTON

Competing in badminton are Raina Andrelunas (Lac du Bonnet), Nolan



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Interlake Lightning members, left to right, Jocelyn Hueging, Lilyanna Kotelko, Kylie Brunel, Adree Williams and Charlie Miller.

ett James Skrabek (Cooks Creek) and Anita Tetrault (Seven Sisters Falls).

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Cross-country skiers are Beckett Blyth and Tucker Blyth (Longbow Lake), Ethan Martin and Josh Perrier (Kenora) and Graham Brian McKinley Tinker (Teulon).

CURLING

Curlers include Kamryn Einarson and Khloe Einarson (Gimli), Nadine Jolicoeur (Clandeboye), Ella Lavoie (East Selkirk), Jake Kowalchuk (Camp Morton), Sierra Smith, Bennett Mead, Colby Van Ryssel and Hunter Van Ryssel (Oakbank), Graham Brian McKinley Tinker (Teulon), James McEwen, Callum Blanco, Mason Burdy Ostermann and Liam Werenich (communities unavailable).

FIGURE SKATING

Figure skaters competing are Isabela Cabral (East St. Paul), Nate Gerald Greenbank (Moosomin), Anna Hoff, Lacey Learning and Gaia Turner (Stonewall), Carys Rayne Jenner (Morden), Paige Newman (Seven Sisters Falls) and Callie Donna Ogal (Lockport).

FUTSAL

Futsal athletes include Andres Mauricio Aguirre Jaramillo, Bourooj Al Nahar, Selina Cotroneo, Beckett Derlago, Ellie Hammond, Hudson Cole Kroeker, Claire Rebecca Elizabeth Parkes and Maddy Prairie (all Winnipeg), Jace Van Lam (Selkirk), Hai-Ting Lao (East St. Paul), Cristiano Morais (West St. Paul), Ryden Kade Poirier (St. Clements), Hunter Princeton James Strongquill (Cooks Creek),

Maksym Shevel (Kyiv), and Keshia Elva, Ellis Rocke, Emmett John Rogers and Mackenzie Jane Rogers (communities unavailable).

GYMNASTICS

Gymnasts are Jaycee Berezowski (Selkirk), Addison Olafson (West St. Paul), Fiona Grace Black, Patricia Paz and Emery Rose Sawatzky (Oakbank), Isla Daye, Talya Lewthwaite and Hannah Singer-Abrams (Winnipeg), Morgan Edwards and Emily Klippenstein (Tyndall), Islay Eisbrenner and Hailey Olfert (East Selkirk), Natalie Garner (West St. Paul), Danika Hansen (Ste. Anne), Jordan Kavanagh (Matlock), Kayci Bo Anne Robertson (Clandeboye), Elly Roth (East St. Paul) and Sophie St. Hilaire (Dugald).

RINGETTE

Ringette players include Michelle Tibold (Garson), Rye Bellisle, Elizabeth McCormack, Ruby Wiebe and Morgan Willsey (Winnipeg), Macklyn Bjarnarson (Beausejour), Adriel Bruce and Ellasyn Kett (St. Andrews), Sara Jeanne d'Auteuil (Selkirk), Tianna Hollins, Lexi Irvine, Harlow Merrells Lapoint, Ella Marie Penman and Everly Randall Spelchak (Oakbank), Brea Lila-Dawn Suszczyński (Sunnyside) and Kadence Lambkin (community unavailable).

HOCKEY

Boys hockey players are Rory Ray, Oliver Sokolowski, Xavier Daneault, Lockelan Harvey, Ryden Mykichuk, Hudson Reich and Jason Woznesensky (coach) and Russ Reich (coach)



Stonewall Figure skating club members, left to right, Lacey Learning, Anna Hoff and Gaia Turner.

> WINTER GAMES, FROM PG. 22

(East St. Paul), Jordan Hallock and Maxwell Boonstra (Stonewall), Owen Mathison and Lincoln Rivard (St. Andrews), Luka Paulic and Easton Kormylo (East Selkirk), Adrian Sinclair (Woodlands), Maksym Chernenki and Wyatt Woznesensky (West St. Paul).

Girls hockey players are Sophie Melanie Bazin (Lorette), Kaitlyn Beech and Brooklyn Surminski (Selkirk), Brooke Boychuk and Charley Joy Malaschuk (Oakbank), Mya Fagerstrom (Ste-Genevieve), Lilyanna Kotelko (Warren), Nadelyn Marie Louise Ritchot (Lac du Bonnet), Ellie Robertson (Beausejour), Adree Williams (Balmoral), Kylie Brunel (Stonewall), Aela Carty and Haddie Taylor (West St. Paul), Jocelyn Hueging (Woodlands) and Charlie Miller (Eriksdale). Team staff include Megan Humeniuk (coach, Stonewall) and Allison Pylypjuk (manager, Woodlands).

NORTH BOYS HOCKEY

North team call-ups are Bennett Katcher and Hudson Dech of East St. Paul.



U15 Team Einarson will represent Team East Region in Pool A of the four-person female curling event. Pictured left to right: lead Nadine Jolicoeur, second Kamryn Einarson, coach Kerri Einarson, third Ella Lavorie and skip Khloe Einarson.



The U15 boys Team McEwen is based out of the West St. Paul Curling Club and Garden City Collegiate. Pictured, front row, from left: James McEwen (skip), Callum Blanco (third), Mason Burdy-Ostermann (second) and Liam Werenich (lead). Back row: coach Bryce McEwen.

Selkirk gymnastics club sends four to MWG

By Kieran Reimer

The 2026 Manitoba Winter Games will mark the biggest competition yet for many Manitoba athletes heading to Thompson in March.

This year marks the long-awaited return of the Winter Games, last held in 2018 after the 2022 edition was cancelled due to COVID-19.

Some athletes have had the Games marked on their calendars for months, others for just days, due to stretched-out qualification processes across various sports.

In gymnastics, Selkirk Selects Gymnastics Club athletes Jaycee Berezowski (Selkirk), Kayci Robertson (Clande-

boye), Natalie Garner (West St. Paul) and Hailey Olfert (East Selkirk) saw their Manitoba Games dream realized just a few weeks ago when they qualified on Jan. 31.

By qualifying, all four will join Team East Region in their quest to bring hardware back to the Interlake.

“Manitoba Games is a big accomplishment. This is definitely going to be the biggest competition they’ve ever gotten to go to so far,” said Nicole Mulder, head coach and program director of Selkirk Selects.

Robertson and Garner will compete in Level 4, while Berezowski and Olfert will compete in Level 3 in Thompson, with gymnastics running from March 1 to 4.

They will also be accompanied by Selects coach Harrison Douglas, who will also be making his first appearance at the Games.

Formerly a gymnast with the Selects, Douglas has used his expertise to coach the current generation over the past five years and is now excited to see four of his athletes get their Manitoba Games opportunity.

“We’ve been training extra hard, and the girls have been putting in extra work as well because they really want to do well at this meet. To qualify, they were really excited to have the opportunity,” said Douglas.

The athletes train between eight and 10 hours a week at the club and have



PHOTO BY E. ANTONIO

Selkirk Selects gymnasts competing at the Manitoba Winter Games, pictured left to right: Jaycee Berezowski (Level 3), Hailey Olfert (Level 3), Natalie Garner (Level 4), Kayci Robertson (Level 4) and Harrison Douglas (coach).

attended multiple invitational tournaments over the course of the season.

For the Selects, 2025-26 has seen continual growth in new gymnasts and their accomplishments.

They now have athletes up to Level 6 who are training for provincial competitions.

Coaches such as Mulder, Douglas and Riley Adams have played large roles in the athletes moving up levels.

Selects has also increased its coaching investment, with coaches continuously advancing their certification levels.

To Mulder, having five total members from the club attending the Games is an example of hard work paying off.

“I think it just shows how much development there has been in a smaller program,” said Mulder. “To have four athletes going, we have as many athletes going as some of the bigger city clubs on the East team. I think that shows the commitment from our coaches, and we also have a really great parent board. We’re expanding so quickly we’ll probably need a new space soon.”

Keystone Kips Gymnastics



Members of the Keystone Kips Gymnastics Club, from left, Jordan Kavanagh, Islay Eisbrenner, Addison Olafson, Elly Roth and coach Nicole Schwab (Gonor), will represent Team East Region in artistic gymnastics at the 2026 Manitoba Winter Games, scheduled for March 1-7 in Thompson.

MerCs' season ends in five-game battle with Northstars

By Annaliese Meier

The Warren MerCs' season came to a close Sunday evening in Ile des Chenes, but not before a gritty five-game playoff battle that saw momentum swing both ways in their South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League Series C matchup.

The Northstars ultimately claimed the best-of-five series three games to two with a 6-4 victory in Game 5, but the MerCs were in the fight from opening puck drop on Feb. 14.

Warren opened the series with an offensive explosion, earning an 8-6 road win in Game 1. After falling behind 2-0 early in the first period, the MerCs responded quickly. Stephen Kleysen got Warren on the board with a power-play marker before Eric Swanson tied the game just 31 seconds later.

The teams traded chances in a wide-open contest that featured 14 goals. Drake Lindsay, Johnny Lazo (two), Josh Roche, Jesse Korytko and Gianluca Esteves all scored for Warren. Esteves' third-period tally stood as the game-winner, and he finished with three points. Carson Ouelette added two assists, while Korytko and Kleysen each had a goal and a helper. Evan Baty turned aside 34 shots in the win as the MerCs capitalized on one of five power-play opportunities.

Ile des Chenes responded in Game 2 with a 7-2 win in Warren. Brett Brooks opened the scoring for the MerCs in the second period and Patrick D'Amico added a third-period marker, but the Northstars controlled much of the play. Baty faced heavy pressure, stopping 35 shots in the loss.

Game 3 was another tightly contested affair, with the Northstars edging Warren 4-3 on home ice. After trailing 1-0 following a short-handed goal in the first period, the MerCs grabbed the lead in the second on goals from Esteves and Kleysen. Ile des Chenes answered with two of their own before Matthew Osadick netted the eventual

game-winner midway through the third. Esteves brought Warren within one on a late power play, finishing with two goals, but the comeback fell short. Baty made 29 saves in the defeat.

Facing elimination in Game 4 at home, the MerCs delivered one of their strongest defensive efforts of the series. After two scoreless periods, Lindsay broke the deadlock at 9:05 of the third period, finishing a play set up by Esteves and D'Amico. Ile des Chenes tied the game just over three minutes later, but Esteves answered at 16:45 with the go-ahead goal, assisted by Brett Brooks.

Goaltender Travis Bosch was outstanding, turning aside 37 of 38 shots as Warren secured a 2-1 victory to force a decisive Game 5.

Sunday's winner-take-all contest began in disastrous fashion for the MerCs. Ile des Chenes struck three times in the opening 2:53 to seize early momentum. Lindsay halted the surge with a late first-period goal, and the teams exchanged tallies in the second, including a goal from Stephen Kleysen.

Trailing by two entering the third, Warren mounted one final push. Wayde Johannesson cut the deficit to 5-3 midway through the period, and Kaden Stewart brought the MerCs within one at 15:45, finishing a play from Lindsay and Kyle Lundale.

Despite outshooting pressure late, Warren could not find the equalizer. The Northstars sealed the game with a late goal at 18:28. Bosch was busy once again, making 41 saves in the loss, while Lindsay led the MerCs with a goal and two assists in the finale.

Over the five-game series, Esteves was a consistent offensive presence, scoring four goals and adding multiple assists, including two game-winning goals. Lindsay elevated his play late in the series, recording four



TRIBUNE PHOTOS BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Drake Lindsay (22) of the Warren MerCs opened the scoring in the third period of Game 4 against the Ile des Chenes Northstars on Saturday night in Warren.



MerCs goaltender Travis Bosch turns aside one of his 37 saves to backstop Warren to a 2-1 victory and force a deciding Game 5 in the South Eastern Manitoba Hockey League playoff series.

points across Games 4 and 5. Kleysen and Lazo also contributed key goals, while Bosch's Game 4 performance extended the series.

Three of the five games were decided by a single goal, underscoring how evenly matched the teams were

throughout the series.

Though their playoff run ends in the opening round, the MerCs demonstrated resilience and offensive depth, battling until the final minutes of Game 5 in a series that could have swung either way.

Warren set to open series against Linden Christian

By Annaliese Meier

In the Winnipeg High School Hockey League's Price Division, Warren opened its first-round playoff series against Linden Christian this week.

Warren hosted Game 1 on Monday, Feb. 23 at 3:15 p.m.

No score was available before presstime.

The series then shifts to Linden Christian for Game 2 on Thursday, Feb. 26 at 3:30 p.m.

If necessary, a decisive Game 3 will be played Friday, Feb. 27 at 4 p.m.,

with Warren returning home for the contest.

The best-of-three series will determine which team advances to the next round of the Price Division playoffs.

WILDCATS TO FACE DAKOTA IN MWHSHL WEST DIVISION QUARTERFINAL

The Warren Wildcats opened their Manitoba Women's High School

Hockey League West Division playoff series against Dakota this week.

Warren travelled for Game 1 on Feb. 23. No score was available before press time. The series then shifts home for Game 2 on Feb. 26 at 3:15 p.m.

If necessary, a deciding Game 3 will be played Feb. 27 at 4:30 p.m.

The best-of-three series will determine which team advances in the MWHSHL West Division playoffs.

> DOMINANT, FROM PG. 21

The Nighthawks close out the regular season with three home games at the Niverville CRRC: Feb. 25 against the Portage Terriers (7:30 p.m.), Feb. 27 versus the Swan Valley Stampeders (7:30 p.m.), and Feb. 28 against the Waywayseccappo Wolverines (7:30 p.m.).

With first place secured and the postseason approaching, Wheddon and Vigfusson will look to keep their offensive momentum rolling as the Nighthawks prepare for what they hope will be a deep playoff run.

Former Wildcat named MCAC Rookie of the Year for Pilots

By Kieran Reimer

It was only 11 months ago that Colby Darragh was named the AA Female Basketball Player of the Year for the Warren Wildcats.

Since then, she has joined the Providence University College Pilots, where the shots have continued to fall as a freshman guard averaging 6.1 points, 4.9 rebounds and 1.7 assists per game.

Her play has helped the undefeated Pilots capture the Manitoba Colleges Athletic Conference championship title.

The MCAC has taken notice of the young star's resume and officially named her MCAC Rookie of the Year last week.

"It was really nice to be acknowledged in that way — it was kind of unexpected," said Darragh last Thursday.

She is one of eight freshmen on the Pilots this season, including former Wildcat Lauren Voth.

On Nov. 14, Darragh made her Pilots debut against the Canadian Mennonite University Blazers, scoring 13 points in 16 minutes of floor time.

She then leveraged her strong debut into her first career start on Dec. 5.

As the season has gone on, Darragh has continued to start for coach Kendall Perpall's team, even playing 40 minutes in a 79-75 win over CMU on Jan. 31.

"It was a big shift from high school to college and just playing on a larger team and being kind of the younger one and trying to find my role on the team," said Darragh. "Part of that was figuring out that maybe my role on the team wouldn't be as big as it was in high school because we had more girls, and so the scoring and opportunities and stuff were more spread out. Just through practice and playing, I kind of figured out where I fit in and contributed offensively and defensively wherever I could and just trying to help the team out."

Darragh credits Providence captains Adrian Alley and Faith LaRocque for taking her, and the other freshmen, under their wing this season.

The club went 8-0 in the MCAC regular season,



Providence's Colby Darragh pulls up for a shot against the CMU Blazers. The freshman guard has posted per game averages of 6.1 points, 4.9 rebounds and 1.7 assists this season for the MCAC Champion Pilots.

which features only three teams — Providence, CMU and Université de Saint-Boniface.

They also mixed in Northern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference games against small college and university programs in North Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa, where they were still very successful.

On Sunday, Feb. 15, Providence defeated CMU 69-58 for its second MCAC championship in three years.

The winning this season has made their locker room all the more fun.

"I'm really enjoying the basketball side of things and just all the girls on the team. Even off the court, the bus trips and stuff like that, it's been a really



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Providence Pilots teammates Lauren Voth (right) and MCAC Rookie of the Year Colby Darragh with the championship trophy following the team's Manitoba Colleges Athletic Conference title victory.

good environment and I've made lots of really good friends because of it. Especially the other rookies, as we're kind of coming from the same place, these are people that I've played against and now we're playing together and it's just been a really fun experience. I'm glad that we were able to go undefeated this year because I feel like we've worked really hard, and so it's nice that we were able to win all our games like that, and give our coach in his first year an undefeated record," said Darragh.

The Pilots still have trips south where they will need to perform well to reach their next goal, the National Christian College Athletic Association Nationals from March 11 to 14.

Until then, the Pilots will look to win both the NIAC championship and the NCCAA regionals.

Rams drop tight series to J.H. Bruns

By Annaliese Meier

The Stonewall Rams saw their Winnipeg High School Hockey League season come to an end last week after a hard-fought three-game playoff series against J.H. Bruns in the Winnipeg Free Press Division.

Stonewall opened the best-of-three first-round matchup with a strong offensive performance, claiming a 7-5 victory in Game 1 on Feb. 17.

After J.H. Bruns struck first, Daniel Halleux answered from Dustin Campbell to even the score. Campbell then gave Stonewall the lead on the power play from Liam Cox, and Matthew Hawryluk added another from Chase Corbett to build a 3-1 advantage after the opening period.

The Rams continued to press in the second as Hawryluk netted his second of the night from Mason Bernier. Campbell added his second goal in

the third period from Kale Wait. Aiden Jonasson and Bernier rounded out the scoring late as Stonewall held off a push from J.H. Bruns to secure the 7-5 win.

Game 2 on Feb. 18 proved to be another tightly contested battle. J.H. Bruns edged Stonewall 6-5 in overtime to even the series at one game apiece.

Aaron Orsulak opened the scoring for the Rams before Hawryluk buried a power-play marker from Brody Slatcher and Alec Harrisko. In the third period, Bernier and Harrisko both found the back of the net, and Corbett scored late to force overtime. J.H. Bruns capitalized in the extra frame to send the series to a decisive Game 3.

In the winner-take-all final on Feb. 20, J.H. Bruns pulled away for a 5-0 victory, ending Stonewall's playoff run in the opening round.



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Stonewall's Matthew Hawryluk fires a shot during second-period action against J.H. Bruns in Winnipeg Free Press Division playoff play. Hawryluk scored twice in the Rams' 7-5 Game 1 victory on Feb. 17.

JV Rams top Winnipeg Tier 2 standings after revenge game against Portage

By Kieran Reimer

The Stonewall Rams junior varsity girls basketball team continues to roll through the season, reclaiming first place in the Winnipeg Tier 2 standings with a decisive victory over the Portage Collegiate Saints last week.

Stonewall's only regular-season loss had come against Portage on Feb. 4, but the Rams responded Tuesday with a 53-26 win on home court.

Katie Braid led a balanced offence with 12 points, while Sara Vande added 10. Drea Fournier and Avery Patrick chipped in nine and eight points respectively.

"They were missing a couple of players too, but the girls were very focused going into the game, and actually very excited for the challenge that the game brought," said coach Jason Cassils. "We've improved a lot since the time that we played Portage, back in Portage, so it was good to see."

The win improved Stonewall to 7-1 in league play. The Rams followed it up Wednesday with a 68-8 victory over the Elmwood Giants, pushing their record to 8-1 and their season point differential to +272.

Despite the strong results, Cassils said the team is still building toward the postseason.

The Rams will attempt to secure first place in the regular-season finale Tuesday against the Grant Park Pirates before turning their attention to the JV AAA Urban Provincial qualifier later in the week.

Stonewall reached provincials last season, finishing seventh in Dauphin

— experience the coach believes is paying off.

"That was really good last year because we were really young," said Cassils. "We had a few Grade 10s, but we were quite young, so that experience is helping this year for sure. Those Grade 10s can step up to be leaders, and now the grade nines are kind of doing the same thing. They have progressed really well."

Nine of the team's 13 players are Grade 10 students, giving the club both maturity and depth — something Cassils says has been crucial, especially with injuries affecting the lineup.

"It's very important to have depth and especially right now we've got some injuries that have kind of hit our lineup a little bit, so it's nice that we've got the depth and girls can kind of go in different roles and still execute well. It's a great group of girls, they work well with each other and they all get along, so it's really nice to see. Nice to see the cohesion and the depth. It's just so important to have when you got anybody that can come off the bench and score or play their defensive role or whatever their role is."

Stonewall closes the Winnipeg Tier 2 regular season Tuesday with a 4:30 p.m. tip-off at Grant Park High School.

Provincial Round 1 begins Thursday, with the Rams receiving a bye to Friday due to their ranking. They will host the winner of the St. John's-Ravenscourt Eagles and Springfield Sa-



TRIBUNE PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Stonewall Rams' JV girls' Katie Braid is one of her team's top scorers. The Rams defeated the Portage Saints 53-26 in Stonewall on Feb. 17.

bres at 7:45 p.m., with the winner advancing to provincials March 12-14 at Linden Christian School in Winnipeg.

Local couple headed to Canadian Stick Curling championship

By Jo-Anne Procter

Stonewall's Judy and Bill Kitching are headed east to represent Manitoba at the Canadian Stick Curling Championships in Wolfville and Windsor, N.S., March 25 to 29, after capturing the Manitoba Stick Curling Association's inaugural Sun Life Mixed Two-Person Provincial Championship, held in Stonewall Feb. 20-22.

The Kitchings finished second in their six-team pool before advancing to face 2025 Canadian Open champion Ralph Nespor and mixed partner Norma Purdy (Stonewall/Assiniboine Memorial). A key win over the Nespor-Purdy duo propelled them into the semifinal, where they defeated 2023 Canadian Open champion Norm Magnusson and partner Melanie Shura (Fort Rouge).

In the championship final, the Kitchings squared off against 2019 Canadian Open champion Ross McMillan

and his partner and sister, 2024 Manitoba women's champion Bev Schick (Warren/St. Vital). McMillan and Schick had edged the Kitchings in round-robin play to claim top spot in the pool.

In a tightly contested final, McMillan and Schick trailed by one coming home but managed a single to force an extra end. With hammer in the extra end, the Kitchings scored one for a 4-3 victory.

To reach the final, McMillan and Schick defeated David Green and Arlene Deprez (Stonewall), who had topped their pool with a perfect 5-0 record.

In the bronze medal game, Magnusson and Shura used a pair of deuces and a stolen single to build a 5-2 lead over Green and Deprez heading into the final end.



TRIBUNE PHOTO SUBMITTED

Manitoba Stick Curling Association's Jim Anton presents provincial mixed stick curling champions Judy and Bill Kitching with the sponsor Sun Life championship trophy in Stonewall on Feb. 22.

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RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF ROCKWOOD UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE PLANNING ACT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the date and at the time and location shown below, a **PUBLIC HEARING** will be held to receive representations from any person(s) who wish to make them in respect to the following matter:

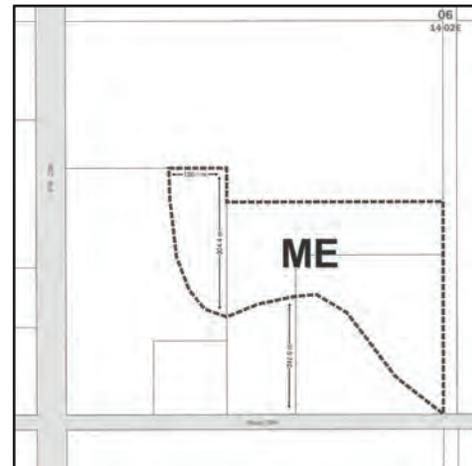
R.M. OF ROCKWOOD BY-LAW NO. 38/25
Being an AMENDMENT to the R.M. OF ROCKWOOD ZONING BY-LAW NO. 20/19, as amended.

HEARING LOCATION: Stony Mountain Community Centre
117 School Road, Stony Mountain, MB

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 6:00 PM

GENERAL INTENT:
To rezone Pt. SW ¼ 6-14-2 EPM in the R.M. of Rockwood from "MEH" Industrial Extractive Holding Area Zone to "ME" Industrial Extractive Zone to facilitate the expansion of an existing quarry operation (Heidelberg Materials).

AREA AFFECTED:



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Romeo Agominab, Planner
South Interlake Planning District, 5-15 Davis Way,
R.M. of Rosser, MB, R4B 0A3, Phone: 204-467-5587

A copy of the above noted proposal and supporting material may be inspected at the South Interlake Planning District offices (5-15 Davis Way, CentrePort, or 285 Main Street, Stonewall) during normal office hours (8:30 AM to 4:30 PM), Monday to Friday.

Anyone who wishes to attend and present at the public hearing is encouraged to pre-register by emailing the R.M. of Rockwood at: stacey.goodwill@rockwood.ca. You may also register at the hearing.

Note: property owners are responsible for notifying lessees

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MORTGAGE SALE

The land and building known as 22 First Street, Argyle, Manitoba, as described in Certificate of Title No. 2490289/1 will be sold at auction on Wednesday the 18th day of March, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. The auction sale will be held by way of video or teleconference. There will be no in-person attendees at the auction. In order to participate you must pre-register at least 24 hours prior to the auction by contacting Dan Ransom at either 204-988-0443 or dransom@tmlawyers.com. On the date of the auction, an email will be sent to all attendees at the email addresses provided. The attendees will need to follow the instructions in the email, which will include a video link or teleconference call-in information. The successful bidder shall have a period of 24 hours to provide the deposit in certified funds payable to Taylor McCaffrey LLP and sign the auction sale conditions.

TO THE BEST of the Vendor's knowledge, the house is a Single Family Dwelling Bi-Level, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom house, built in 2005 with approximately 936 square feet of living space. The house has a living room, kitchen, laundry, deck, porch and fence. The house has a fully finished basement with rec room. The utilities include a forced air electric furnace, 50-gallon electric hot water tank and 200-ampere breaker panel. The house has an insulated double attached garage, which is approximately 22 feet x 24 feet The approximate lot size is 130 feet x 90 feet.

PRIOR ENCUMBRANCES: NIL

REALTY TAXES (excluding any accruing water charges) are paid to **December 31, 2025.**

TERMS OF SALE: a deposit of **\$36,000.00** by way of cash, certified cheque or bank draft payable to Taylor McCaffrey LLP, and the balance according to Auction Sale Conditions will be available to all registered auction participants. The property will be sold subject to a Reserve Bid of \$266,000.00 plus such other additional and incidental costs which may be incurred by the Vendor from the 18th day of March, 2026 to the date of auction and which costs will be announced prior to the commencement of the sale. The maximum amount of cash that may be provided as part of the deposit is **\$7,500.00**. The auction sale will be conducted pursuant to an Order for Sale issued by the District Registrar. Certain parties may be prohibited from purchasing the property, including but not limited to, parties who by virtue of their employment or relationship to a person involved in the sale process would have special knowledge of the circumstances pertaining to the sale. For more information and a list of prohibited purchasers please visit: www.teranetmanitoba.ca.

FURTHER information may be obtained from:

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BIRTHDAY

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To honour
Shirley King
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from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
at Oddfellows Hall
374 - 1st Street West, Stonewall
No gifts please.

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to sincerely thank everyone for the kindness and support shown to us following the passing of our beloved husband, father, father-in-law, and Grampa, Chuck Lefley.

We are deeply grateful for the beautiful flowers, cards, gifts, food, messages, calls, social media tributes and visits. Your thoughtfulness has meant more to us than we can express.

We feel incredibly fortunate to have such wonderful family and friends surrounding us during this difficult time.

-With love and appreciation,
Sandy, Sarah, Chris, Kit, and Wren

IN MEMORIAM



In Memory of
Marion (Lyle) Procter (nee Hallett)
December 29, 1913 - February 26, 2001
Lyle, it has been 25 years since your passing. You continue to be missed and ever remembered by family members and friends. Mom, you are especially missed by your children and grandchildren.
-Gail and (John) Sinclair and family
daughter-in-law Cindy Procter and family
Orval and Merilee Procter and family

IN MEMORIAM



Larry McMahon
November 1, 1961 - February 25, 2023

May the winds of love blow softly,
And whisper so you can hear;
We'll forever love and miss you,
And wish that you were here.
For all that life has given us,
And all that's left to do;
We'll know no greater treasure,
Than the days we had with you.

-Lovingly remembered by
Mom and Dad and family

IN MEMORIAM

Donald Smith
April 6, 1943 - February 23, 2001

25 years since we last met,
Your love for us we won't forget;
Winds will blow strong and clear,
But memories stay ever near.
Seasons change and life goes on,
Occasions still remind you're gone;
We live and strive to make you proud,
One day we will see you in the clouds.

-Love,
Eileen,
Roger, Lisa, Dean, Linda,
Jordan and Bea

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OBITUARY



Ryan Oscar Hicks
February 23, 1989 – February 5, 2026

Ryan Oscar Hicks passed away suddenly on February 5, 2026, having the time of his life snowmobiling in Revelstoke, BC.

Ryan's passing has left many to mourn including his wife Angela Zimmerman Hicks, and their beloved daughter, Verra Hicks; parents Wanda and George; his brother Wayne (Darla Palmer), their children; and aunts, Sandy (Stonewall), Gail (Airdre) and Jane (Brooks), cousins Brent and Jennifer (Brooks), Julie and Sarah (Calgary) and Lisa (Okotoks). There are many extended family members, friends and community members that touched Ryan's life.

Ryan graduated from Stonewall Collegiate and made his way west in the fall of that year as he was drawn to the mountains for his love of snowboarding. Near the end of that first season Ryan

met up with his cousin Brent who helped him get started working in the oil fields. Ryan was never without work through the ups and downs of that business and was working for Devon Oil in the US as a consultant.

Ryan bought his first home in Brooks, AB and then through his love of snowmobiling and his work in the states, decided to make the move to BC. He bought a home in Sicamous, BC in 2019 and married Angela in 2020 their little girl arrived in 2021.

Ryan had an incredible work ethic, drive and ambition to reach his goals. He worked hard and played hard. Ryan loved his little girl Verra with all of his heart and had many adventures with her.

Ryan was the kind of person who lit up every room he entered. His bright smile and electric energy were impossible to ignore. He lived boldly and passionately — when he set his mind to something, there was no stopping him. He loved being surrounded by family and friends and was known for his generosity and loyalty.

He will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

A celebration of life will be planned to include family and friends, there is no date set as of this time.

OBITUARY



Richard Earl Harrison
August 29, 1954 - February 18, 2026
Stony Mountain, MB

Rick was born on August 29, 1954 in Grandview, Manitoba. Despite arriving in late summer, he was only the 4th baby registered in town that year — a detail he found amusing. His parents, Rose and Lawrence Harrison, brought him home to big sister, Cathy. In time, siblings Wayne, Laura, and Brian joined the family.

The Harrisons later moved to Winnipeg, settling on Craig Street — a place filled with childhood adventures, and fond memories. Rick was an energetic kid who kept his mom on her toes and rarely came home without a new scrape or bruise. After a time, his name was well known by the local ER nurses.

As a teenager, Rick moved to Stony Mountain and graduated from Stonewall Collegiate Institute. He went on to study computer

programming at Red River Community College. In 1972, he married Donna, and together they raised their daughters, Sherianne and Melanie, in Stony Mountain.

Rick wore many hats over the years, but his longest and proudest career was with All-Fab/Olympic (formerly PB Truss and Pallet). Starting at the Stony Mountain plant in 1982, he quickly moved into truss design and sales, eventually stepping into management. When the All-Fab plant was devastated by fire in 2009, Rick was plant manager. Through resilience and steady leadership, he helped keep the operation moving forward. He retired in 2019.

Work gave Rick the opportunity to travel across much of North America, and he made the most of it. He also explored farther afield, visiting Africa, both coasts of Canada, and sunny destinations like Curaçao and Cuba. In recent years, local road trips around Manitoba with his companion, Cathy V, brought him particular joy. Rick loved a long drive, especially the tiny roadside stops along the way — camera always in hand.

As a father and grandfather, Rick valued experiences over things. He was known to gift tickets to dinner theatre, ballet, sporting events, and even axe throwing. Special pancake breakfasts, guitar lessons, and swim classes allowed him time with grandsons Thomas, Braden, Alex and Ashton. Many summers included family trips on the Prairie Dog Central and stays at Victoria Beach, where bakery smiley cookies became a cherished tradition.

Rick also loved animals — from Fluffy the cat and Sandy the three-legged dog to Dusty, Biff, and, as he fondly called her, "The Unholy Terrier, Winnie." He appreciated life's simple pleasures: family game nights, park picnics, quiet time by the duck pond in Kildonan Park, good music, and a solid sci-fi TV series. A lifelong reader and largely self-taught on many subjects, Rick took pride in his vocabulary and challenged himself to learn new words every day. He enjoyed photography and woodworking, but above all, he loved to travel.

To his nieces and nephews, he was "Uncle Rick" — the quieter, more reserved uncle with a perfectly timed deadpan delivery. He once convinced the younger generation that an alligator lived in his backyard pond. His understated humour reflected his love of British comedy.

Rick faced cancer with bravery and strength. The staff at Selkirk Regional Health Centre provided exceptional care, ensuring his comfort and dignity. The family extends heartfelt thanks to the nurses, doctors, and health care aides who supported him.

A memorial and interment will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, family and friends are invited to plant a tree in Rick's honour or make a donation to CancerCare Manitoba.

OBITUARY



Jessie Betty Ogilvie (Teed)
September 21, 1932 – February 19, 2026

Jessie passed away peacefully at Rosewood Lodge in Stonewall on February 19, 2026.

She will be lovingly remembered by daughters Judy (Roy); Lindsay (Bruno); Leanne (Brad) Stella, Audrey, Owen; Matthew (Adrienne); and Pat (Jim); Chelsea (Byron) Erik, Sam; Patrick (Vanessa) Luca, Rowyn, Hayes; Brock (Randi) Ryenn, Will; Evan (Jenn); sons Jack (Joy); Ryan (Candy) Isla, Ava; Jennifer (Carel) Annika; and Jim (Connie); Lyle, Brooke.

Predeceased by her husband Bill in 2016 and infant great-granddaughter Emma in 2012, sisters Thelma and Helen, brother Evert, sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law.

Jessie was the youngest child born to Swedish immigrant parents John and Christine Teed. She was extremely proud of her Swedish heritage and she grew up on the family farm west of Teulon.

In November 1952, she married Bill and they moved to the Ogilvie family farm in Erinview and had four children. She was a true farmer's wife, working inside and outside, doing whatever had to be done and then always having a meal prepared. She was the community organizer, planning picnics, dances in the one room school, church lunches, Christmas parties at the fire hall, and family BBQ's and any other reason to have a get together. Their house was a meeting and gathering place. Rarely a day went by without someone stopping in for coffee and a bite. She was a great cook and loved to dance. The grandchildren could heel - toe polka and do the Schottische around the kitchen. Mom was the glue that held the family together, knowing what everyone was doing and loved attending the grandchildren's sporting events and activities.

They sold the farm in 2015 and moved to Teulon. Jessie enjoyed the town life visiting with her friends and socializing. Due to her declining mobility, she moved into Rosewood Lodge Personal Care in 2021. There she enjoyed the social activities, watching curling on TV, playing tile rummy and doing her Swedish weaving.

The family would like to especially thank Dr. Graham and all the staff at Rosewood Lodge for all the care and compassion they gave to Mom, and also to Ken Loehmer for his kindness and expertise.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, February 28, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at Gunton-Greenwood Community Hall, Gunton, Manitoba.



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OBITUARY



Roger Bouvier

With great sadness we announce the passing of our dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Roger Bouvier, at the age of 88. Formerly from Teulon and Fisher Branch, Roger passed away peacefully on February 20, 2026 in Winnipeg.

A longer tribute will follow.
In accordance with his wishes, no service will be held.
In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to a community-serving organization.

The family would love if you would share a favourite memory of Roger, www.klfuneralservices.ca



OBITUARY



Jean Mary Proctor
November 7, 1931 – February 16, 2026

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Jean Proctor (nee Summers), 94, of Woodlands, MB. on Monday, February 16, 2026, following a brief and unexpected illness.

In her final days, she was surrounded by the love and care of her family, who were grateful for the time they had to be with her. Her passing leaves a profound emptiness in all our hearts.

Jean was a devoted mother, cherished grandmother and great-grandmother, beloved sister, and aunt. She was known as Granny not only to her family but to many others. Her kitchen was always open – a place where anyone could find a warm meal, a cold drink, cup of coffee or tea, and a welcoming chat. Her hands were rarely still - she found great joy in knitting and sewing, sharing her handmade creations with family and friends.

Jean was strong-willed and deeply resilient, her strength carrying her through life's greatest hardships, yet her mind remained sharp to the very end. Her strength, wisdom, and steady presence will be deeply missed and forever cherished.

Jean will be lovingly remembered by her children Eldon (Carie), Weldon, Richard (Tracy), and son-in-law Gerald; her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; her sisters Archeena (Trevor) Hogg and Edna Smith; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

She was predeceased by her husband, the love of her life, Dean, in 1975; her children Diane in 2018, Elaine in 2019, and Dennis in 2020; her parents Wilfred Summers in 1963 and Olive Toogood in 1989; and her sister Ruby Durrant in 2023.

A private family celebration of Jean's life will be held later this year.
The family extends their sincere appreciation to the doctors, nurses, and staff at Stonewall Hospital for their compassionate care.



OBITUARY



Douglas John Hogg

After a lengthy battle with cancer, Dad passed away on February 20, 2026.

Born August 10, 1944 during the end of WWII where his dad served as a flight instructor, Dad grew up in Warren on the family farm. These two aspects of his early life were very formative in his interests throughout life as he had a lifelong passion for aviation and farming that were part of his thoughts right through his final days.

Predeceased by his parents James and Norma and son Todd, he leaves his wife Audrey, daughters Paula (David) and Jlee (Delmar) and his very special grandchildren Reed, Bryn, Matthew (Anthony), Emily (Mitch) and Graydon.

Dad started with Manitoba Hydro right out of high school as a linesman and spent many decades working in many roles and departments that took him all over the province and the world. He and Mom married November 7, 1974 where he had an instant family with Mom, Paula and Todd. Jlee arrived the following year. They enjoyed just over 51 years of marriage with most of those in Warren raising their family and creating a home that had an open door to all, and many neighbors, friends, family and even a few whom they did not know were welcome. He was very involved in the community throughout his life serving as a scout leader, on town council, helping build the golf course including designing the clubhouse and a founding member of the local Lions Club.

Dad was a skilled handyman, woodworker and painter and enjoyed airshows, history, golf, travelling and spending many summers camping and later at the family cottage at Sugar Point. Nothing brought him more joy than his grandchildren. Watching them grow up and attending their activities and sports he was exceptionally proud of all of their achievements.

The family would like to thank Dr. Dawe and staff at CancerCare Manitoba and the many nurses and health care aides at Grace Hospital that cared for him during his final days.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. at Prairie Spirit United Church, 207 Thompson Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba.



OBITUARY



Wayne Wesley Felbel
May 29, 1951 to February 17, 2026

It is with profound sadness we announce the sudden passing of our Dad, Wayne Wesley Felbel. Dad passed away at the Selkirk Hospital, with family by his side.

Wayne will be dearly missed by his children Candace (Scott), Ginger (Jeff), Devin (Ashley), Cameron (Melissa), and grandchildren Damien, Samantha, Hannah, Glorianna, Deidre, Xander, Danica, and Maddox. He was predeceased by his parents, William and Alma, and his brother George. Wayne is survived by his sister, Eileen Rapke, and several nieces and nephews.

Dad's passions were his family and the farm. He loved that his family all lived so close to him and spent many summers swimming in his pool and haying together. He enjoyed the summers when Eileen would stay with him at the farm while catching up with family. Dad took great pride in the fact that he and his dad built his house with their own hands and often mentioned how sturdy it was right up to his final days. The farm was his pride and joy, and he enjoyed wandering around the farm checking on the animals making sure they were taken care of. He would often be found looking for deals on cars, farm equipment, and anything else the farm needed.

After Dad's health started to fail him, he was blessed and thankful to stay on his beloved land, closely surrounded by his children and grandchildren. He gratefully welcomed family and friends, often with ice cream, when they visited and shared stories with them up until his last day.

There are no words to express how greatly Dad will be missed by his family, and the many friends he made through the years.
No service will occur, as per Dad's wishes.



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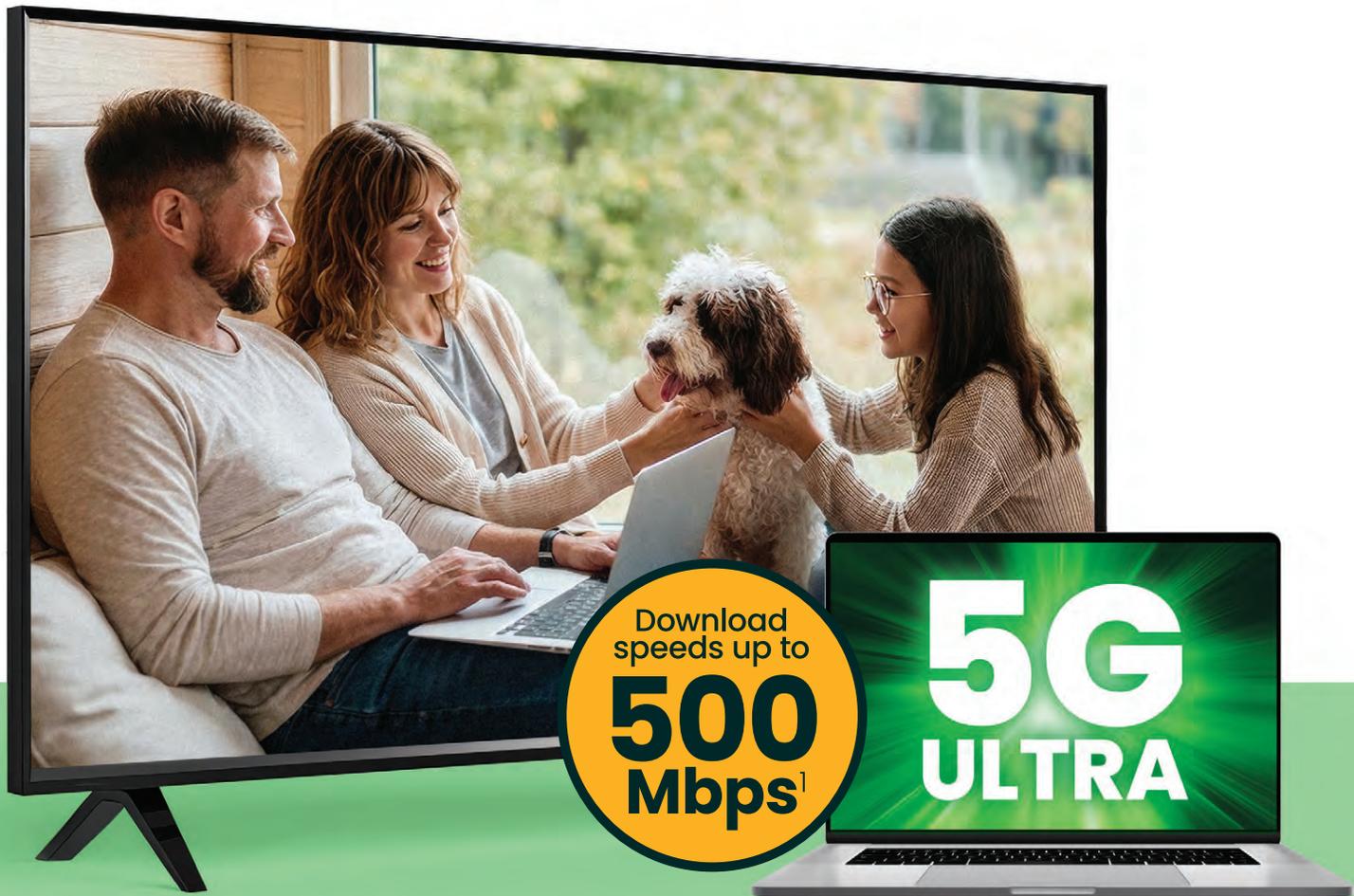
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