

# Tavistock Gazette

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## MAIN STREET

A Quick Look at our Town!

### ■ THIS 'N' THAT

Sunny, hot, humid weather for the World Crokinole Championship and Town Garage Sales held over this past weekend ... plenty of rain late Sunday and into the week making lawns and gardens flourish ... tonight June 6th is the Tavistock Men's Club Annual Fish Fry held at the Men's Club Hall ... coming up June 17th is Father's Day ... also approaching quickly is the Southwestern Ontario Fiddle and Stepdance Competition held in Tavistock on June 29 and 30.

### ■ BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Morgan Weicker is one year old today, June 6; Ashley Ropp is 2; Chad Garner, 17 ... on June 7, Elijah Sommers-Bamberly is 5; Ryan Albrecht, 16; Kelitta Zehr, 19 ... Emily Wettlaufer celebrates her 7th birthday June 8; Alyssa Hohner is 15; Tanner Campbell, 18 ... on June 9, Tessa Mogk is 13; Laura Lawry, 13; Braden Wilhelm, 13; Andrea Zehr, 13; and a wedding anniversary for Bruce and Donna Swartzentruber that day ... Jeremy Munro is 15, June 10; Devin Kaufmann, 11 ... on June 11, a 2nd anniversary for Roy and Bessie Longmire ... Nicholas Danen is 8, June 12; Shawn Schultz, 11; Sophia Bailey, 9; anniversaries for Gordon and Tanya Waters, 8th; and Tim and Jayne Whetstone, 14th. Congratulations!

## New sign policy for fire dept.

In response to recent requests regarding the Fire Department Fire Safety Signs, the Township has decided to review its current policy. The signs were purchased with funds designated for Fire Prevention, Education and Safety efforts and the main use of these signs will continue to be for that purpose. At the discretion of the Station Chiefs and the Township, it has been decided that community organizations with *life safety messages only* may apply to post that message on the fire department signs. The signs may also be used by the Township for important public notifications. The stations and the Township will reserve the right to accept or refuse any submission.

Any further questions may be directed to the Township Office at 519-462-2697.



BILL GLADDING / TAVISTOCK GAZETTE

2007 WCC Adult Singles champion Brian Cook concentrates on a shot in the final round against Bruce Hartung.

## Cook crokinole champ

After finishing in second place for the past three years, Brian Cook of Toronto finally took home the top prize in the World Crokinole Championship (WCC) held this past Saturday in Tavistock.

"If I stayed focused," he said, "I would be fine," he said about the final rounds. "It's 100 per cent mental at this point," he said. During the qualifying rounds, however, he said, "I was ten times more nervous playing an 80-year-old lady."

Winning the singles title trophy and \$1,000 in cash, Brian, an Owen Sound native, defeated 2005 champion Bruce Hartung of Palmerston in the final round by a score of 12-2. Raymond Beierling of Varna earned third place by edging three-time champion Joe Fulop of Exeter 14-8.

"Ray gave me the most trouble in the first round," Brian said.

Brian Cook, a researcher with Toronto Public Health, also earned the most 20's in the preliminary portion of the tournament with 86 in the adult singles competition consisting of 144 players. He has been a crokinole player most of his life and is currently a member of the St. Jacobs Crokinole Club. His father, Elmer Cook, has a photo of his son at age five playing on an arborite board he made in the 1960's. Elmer is the current champion at the Owen Sound Senior Crokinole Club where 24 players meet every other Tuesday

at 7:00 p.m. from October to May in the Harrison Park seniors' building.

Brian first placed in the WCC tournament back in 2000 when he teamed up with Joe Fulop to earn fourth place in the doubles division. After a brief hiatus, Brian returned in 2004 to earn second place behind Joe Fulop, then second again in 2005 against Bruce Hartung, and then again in 2006 placing second behind champion Jason Beierling.

Saturday's championship also saw Brian Cook's niece and nephew playing in the tournament. M a x w e l l H o s k e n earned second place in the Junior division while Emma Hosken participated in the Intermediate division.

"They got interested when they saw me coming home with cash every year," Brian says.

Some crokinole players are in a league of their own and every year on the first Saturday of June, hundreds of crokinole enthusiasts congregate in Tavistock. This year, 552 participants gathered for the ninth annual event which saw \$5,000 in cash prizes and trophies handed out.

Players this year came from as far away as California, Texas and Pennsylvania in the U.S. and from all over Ontario and as far west as

British Columbia, Canada.

New to the tournament this year was a Skills Competition designed and operated by Varna brothers Raymond and Jason Beierling. The adult and youth skills consisted of 10 shots plus a bonus shot with predetermined positions for opponent's discs. It was possible to score 3 points per shot with deductions for missed chances. Wide open, hit and roll, tight squeeze, long double, double down, and money in the bank are some of the names for these tried

**"I was ten times more nervous playing an 80-year-old lady."**

- Brian Cook, 2007 WCC Champion

and true shots. Each one tests your skill as a player and works well for practising techniques outside the one-on-one game. "It removes the psychological factor that some players face when playing other well-known competitive players," says Jason.

Working in conjunction with the World Crokinole Championship Committee, this event and the sample shots "should encourage more players to sit down and set up some practice shots," Jason says. The more you play the game and the more you practice, the better you will become.

Winners in this year's Skills Competition were Nathan Walsh and Jesse Wiseman in the youth

(See "Crokinole..." on page 6 ➡)

LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

## No more Block Parents in Tavistock

Dear Parents/Guardians and members of the Tavistock Community,

A little over a year ago the Block Parents put forth an urgent request for a number of volunteers to step forward in two different capacities. There was a minimal response in our need for more block parent homes around our community. Several people showed an interest, some even went and had the police check done. We did not issue any new Block Parent signs as the Ontario organization is looking at re-vamping all signs throughout the province and we wanted to see what would become of this new implementation. This process is still not completed but will be within the near future.

The second and most vital request went with not even one inquiry. Which was the need for a minimum 6 people to step forward to take over the Block Parent Executive. The time commitment for this can be as much or as little as the people involved would like it to be. With people picking other volunteer commitments and leaving the community the present Block Parent Committee stands at only three people, all of whom have been involved with it for ten plus years.

At this time we regret to inform all Tavistock residents that the Block Parent Program no longer exists in our community. Homes that are presently displaying the signs are asked to remove them immediately. Someone will be contacting you within the next four weeks to claim your sign. Signs are not to be destroyed as they are the property of the Ontario Block Parent Corporation and must be returned to the organization.

It was a difficult decision to make as it is the youth, elderly, and those in need who will no longer have the benefit of even knowing there is somewhere they can go, should they ever need it.

Thank you to everyone who over the years has been involved with this organization in one capacity or another. It was greatly appreciated.

Should anyone have any questions in regards to their sign collection please feel free to contact 519-655-3042.

Sincerely and regretfully,  
Chris Schultz, President  
Tavistock Block Parents

## SEE WORLD CLASS FASTBALL!

**DOUBLEHEADER ON TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007  
7:00 P.M. START • TAVISTOCK OPTIMIST PARK**

Tickets available at the gate or at Home Hardware, I Scream Ice Cream, and Smully's.

A Night of Sportsmanship, Prizes and Family Fun • A fundraising event for the Tavistock Minor Ball Association • Tickets **\$7** each. • No rain date!

**NEW ZEALAND**  
BLACK SOX NATIONAL TEAM

**KITCHENER HALLMAN TWINS**