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Edition 582 - September 17, 2020 Next Issue Oct. 1 • Deadline is Mon. Sept 28

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Smile Cookies are back supporting local healthcare at GBGH



Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign is back! Tim Hortons restaurant owners in Midland, Penetanguishene, Waubaushe and Port Severn will donate the full \$1 from every freshly baked chocolate chunk Smile Cookie purchased from September 14-20, 2020 to help buy telemetry packs for the ICU at GBGH. From left: Tim Hortons restaurant owners Kimberley Trude & Joanne Smith; Gail Hunt, president & CEO, GBGH; Nicole Kraftscik, executive director, GBGH Foundation; Christine Baguley, philanthropy officer, GBGH Foundation; Dr. Dan Lee, chief of emergency medicine, GBGH.

September 10, 2020 - What's better than a cookie that tastes good? A cookie that does good! Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign is back supporting charities in communities across the country, including Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) – one of 550 Canadian charities, hospitals and community programs supported through the annual campaign.

For one week, from September 14 – 20, the Tim Hortons restaurant owners in Midland, Penetanguishene, Waubaushe and Port Severn will donate the full \$1 from every freshly baked chocolate chunk Smile Cookie purchased to help buy Telemetry Packs for the ICU at GBGH.

“The Smile Cookie campaign has provided more than \$270,000 to our hospital since 2012, and we are incredibly grateful for the support of our local Tim Hortons restaurants,” says Nicole Kraftscik, executive director, GBGH Foundation. “Because of this program, we have been able to purchase 24 stretchers for the Emergency Department, renovate patient rooms, purchase 10 IV Infusion Pumps, and so much more.”

This year's campaign will look a little different, in light of COVID-19 distancing guidelines and face covering requirements, but staff and volunteers from GBGH and the GBGH Foundation will be smiling behind their face coverings as they give their time to help support the campaign.

“There is so much excitement in the community around Smile Cookie week,” says Gail Hunt, president & CEO, Georgian Bay General Hospital. “Our staff help sell cookies in the restaurant drive-thrus, our volunteers deliver pre-ordered cookies and thousands

of local residents support the campaign by buying smile cookies every day.”

The GBGH Foundation is taking pre-orders for cookies, which will be delivered by volunteers throughout the week. Anyone interested in ordering cookies should contact Christine Baguley, philanthropy officer at the Foundation (baguleyc@gbgh.on.ca or 705-526-1300 ext.5338).

“The real magic behind the Smile Cookie campaign is the local impact and we're excited to be able to support local charities, hospitals and community programs again this year. Our guests, restaurant owners and their team members can feel incredibly proud knowing that the money raised during the campaign directly supports local Tim Hortons communities.” - Mike Hancock, Chief Operating Officer, Tim Hortons

Smile Cookie Campaign Facts

- In 2019, the Smile Cookie campaign raised a record \$9.8 million across Canada
- For over 24 years, Tim Hortons has been spreading smiles – the Smile Cookie Campaign began in 1996 to help raise funds for the Hamilton Children's Hospital in Ontario
- The Smile Cookie Campaign has grown to become a major fundraising event at Tim Hortons Restaurants

Join the Smile Cookie Conversation

- Use the hashtag #SmileCookie
- Tag or follow us on Instagram @TimHortons & @GBGHFoundation0
- Tag or follow us on Twitter @TimHortons & @GBGHFoundation
- Like us on Facebook Tim Hortons & @GBGHFoundation

Helen Coutts Memorial Park Dedication

A new park in Springwater has been named after former Mayor Helen Coutts. Mayor Allen and Councillor Moore joined Snow Valley Developments and members of the Coutts family for the official dedication on Friday.

Helen Coutts served as Councillor and Reeve of Vespra Township for 6 years and was the first Mayor of the newly amalgamated Township of Springwater in 1994, where she served for an additional 9 years. She served as Warden of the County of Simcoe in 1999. Ms. Coutts was also an active volunteer and served on the board of the Royal Victoria Hospital, along with many other volunteer activities.



Helen Coutts Memorial Park

Helen Coutts served for 6 years as Councillor and Reeve of Vespra Township.

She was the first Mayor of the amalgamated Township of Springwater in 1994, where she served for an additional nine years, and in 1999, Helen served as the Warden of the County of Simcoe.

Helen was also a long-time volunteer within the community serving on the board of the Royal Victoria Hospital as well as many other volunteer activities.

The Cookie Campaign through the Tim Hortons in Elmvale donates their revenues to the Elmvale Food Bank.

The Cookie Campaign through the Tim Hortons in Barrie and Stroud donate their receipts (\$1 from every freshly baked chocolate chunk Smile Cookie) to RVH's Birthing Unit and Hospice Simcoe

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DOUG DOWNEY
Member of Provincial Parliament
Barrie - Springwater - Oro-Medonte

Governments Help Ontario Farmers Bring High-Quality Products to Market

Four local farmers are receiving a boost from the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The Canadian Agricultural Partnership helps farmers to improve their business operations, and provides them with resources to bring more safe, high-quality foods to markets.

The Canadian Agricultural Partnership is a five-year, \$3 billion investment including the federal, provincial and territorial governments to strengthen the agriculture and agri-food sector. The Partnership feature simplified and streamlined programs and services which are easier for farmers to access, as well as key enhancements to programs that help farmers manage significant risk that threaten the viability of their farm and are beyond their capacity to manage.

Examples of projects supported through this programming include:

- Improving food safety standards on farms to meet or exceed international certification standards;
- Planting over-wintering cover crops to improve soil health and reduce soil erosion losses;
- Actions to help prevent pest damage at greenhouse operations;
- Developing a product that will open new sales markets for a farm business; and
- Upgrades to animal-handling equipment and

improved biosecurity measures
This funding is in addition to the programming launched earlier this year to assist farmers, and the farming sector, in meeting challenges related to the COVID-19 outbreak. This programming includes the launch of a portal to connect farms and other agri-food sector businesses with labour needs to job seekers; the creation of the Enhanced Agri-food Workplace Protection Program; and the recent investment of an additional \$50 million into the Risk Management Program for this year.

Locally, the impact of this funding, and the other funding in the Agri-food sector, has been felt through the continuous stock of high-quality Ontario products remaining on our grocery store shelves despite the pandemic. Though the rest of the world was forced to slow down and quarantine, our farmers, and other essential workers, continued to work tirelessly and provide all Ontarians with healthy local choices for their families. As always, I want to extend my personal thanks, and that of all the constituents across Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte to these essential workers and farmers for their Ontario spirit during this difficult time.

As we transition back to a more normal standard of life, it is important to remember that COVID-19 measures are still in place across the province. Wearing a mask, physical distancing and frequent handwashing are just three examples of ways to keep yourself and your family safe. For more information about COVID-19 procedures, or to learn more about the Canadian Agriculture Partnership, please visit my website at www.DougDowney.ca. Stay safe!

Vanishing Barns



Remembering The Gentle Giants Through Photographs, Stories, Diaries and Genealogy
by Cathy Johnson Walton

Available from Cathy Walton at 705 728-1388 for \$40.

A popular Houston fountain turned into a curiously clean mess when a massive amount of soap bubbles filled the landmark and spilled out into the surrounding area. The Gus S. Wortham Memorial Fountain, a Buffalo Bayou Park landmark known for its dandelion-like shape, spilled suds into the park when soap was added to the water in an apparent prank. A video recorded by a witness shows the soap bubbles traveling as far as a nearby Parkway. Video shows the street corner covered in bubbles while firefighters attempted to clean up the mess.



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Springwater News pays for 20,000 papers per edition. 18,850 are delivered by Canada Post to;

- 755 in the Utopia/Grenfell area L0L 1B0 and L0L 1B2
 - 3012 in the Barrie City/Rural area
 - 4280 in South Springwater Township
 - 138 to the new boxes in Minesing.
- If you know of someone not getting the paper, who got it before the restructuring, please let me know.*
- 625 in Phelpston L0L 2K0
 - 630 in Hillsdale including the Rural Routes L0L 1V0
 - 2550 in Elmvale including the former R R# 1, 2 & 3 L0L 1P0 which includes Orr Lake, Waverley and some Tiny Beaches Road areas
 - 265 in the Wyebridge area L0K 2E0
 - 975 in Wyevale L0L 2T0 including Conc. 8 and some TBRS areas,
 - 1325 in Perkinsfield including Balm Beach to Whipoorwill
 - 1100 in R.R.# 1, L4R 4K3 (775) & 2, L4R 4K4 (300) areas of Midland which includes Vasey, Ebenezer and the area North-West of Wyebridge
 - 2900 in Northern Tiny including SS 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8 of Rural Penetanguishene (Postal Codes L9M -1R2, -1R3 & -2H7)
 - 150 through mail outs and subscriptions in Canada

Subscriptions are available across Canada for \$60/year and \$100/year in U.S. of A.

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Vanishing Barns - Cathy Walton has been researching barns in Flos and Vespra Townships (now Springwater) for the last six years and has published the results in the book "Vanishing Barns".

If you are interested in a copy, please contact Cathy at 705 728-1388 or snow-flake53@mail.com.

Michael Coughlin - Anten Mills

Owners	Built: rebuilt 1955
1975-present Michael Alphonses Coughlin	Dimensions: 50 x 80'
1945-1975 Frank and Helen (Moran) Coughlin	Materials: metal sided barn
1891-1945 Michael J. and Mary (Stone) Coughlin	Water Source: drilled well in 1980

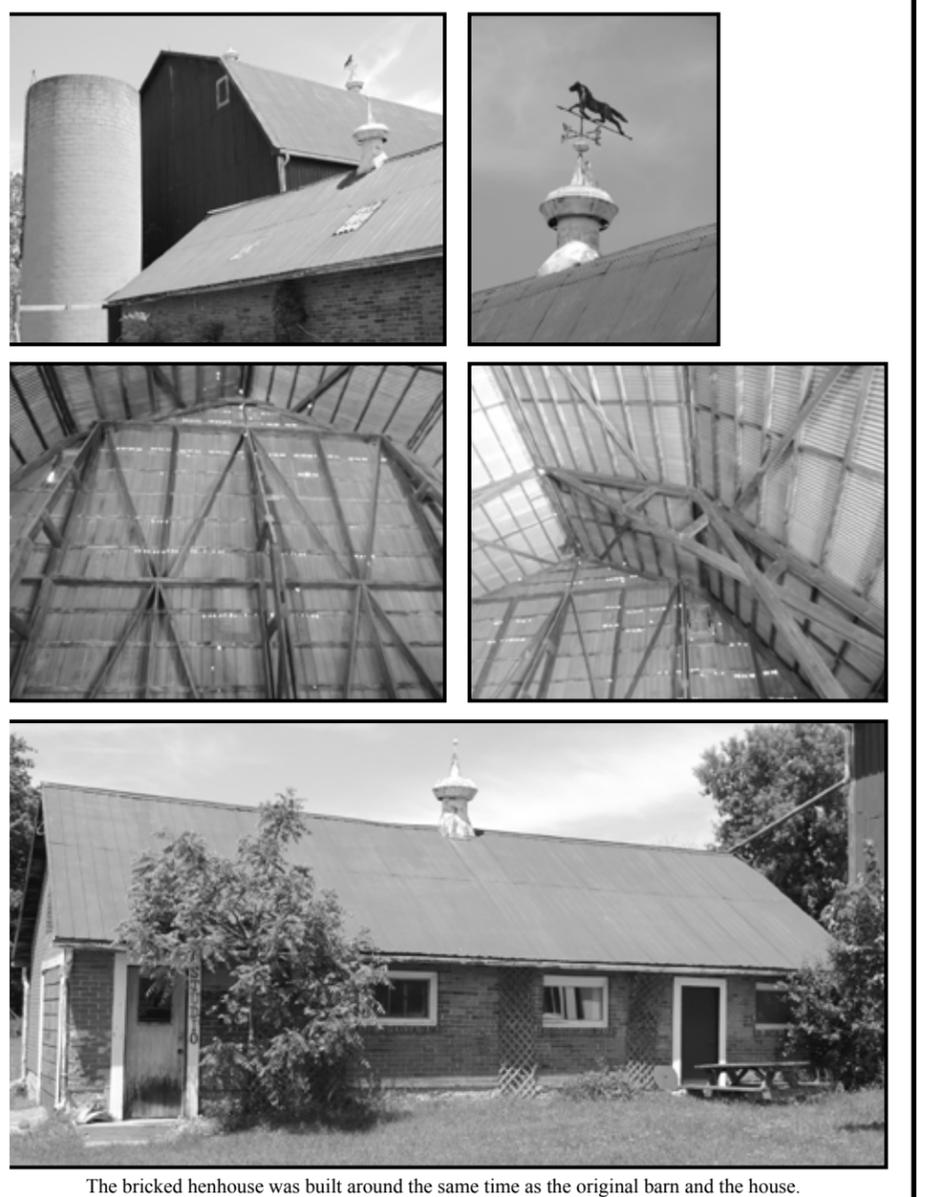
There were three listings for possible owners for this farm in 1887. They were Charles Anderson of Anten Mills, Edward Durmin of Wyevale and Jn. Fitzgerald of Mt. St. Louis.

A dug well and small pump house was in a gully on Lorne Scott's property across the road. It supplied Lorne's store, Tom Moore's house, the church, school and this barn. The original house was probably built around 1898. As well as building the brick house, it is believed Michael Coughlin also built the barn and brick henhouse. The Grand Trunk Railway was partly on Michael Coughlin's farm with a siding for box cars and livestock cars. Michael bought grain from farmers and usually stored it on the siding until spring.

The fire which burned down the barn in the mid 1950s was thought to have originated in the henhouse. The new barn was dismantled in North York near Highway 7 when subdivisions were being built. Jack Pickering, with the help of George Wicklum, reassembled the barn. This barn is not of beam construction, but is of interest in how the construction of barns changed.

Over the summer of 1988, 1989 and 1990 Mike Coughlin renovated the barn into four studio spaces with one in each corner of the stable area. The central area became an exhibition space. It is called the Double Door Studios and Gallery. There are double doors on each studio and double doors upstairs on both the east gangway and the west side. Mike had a barn dance and Eugene Moran and Bernard Loftus attended. They had helped with the barn raising and Eugene had put the horse on the cupola.

Michael A. Coughlin, A History of Vespra Township p. 196-197.



The bricked henhouse was built around the same time as the original barn and the house.

ANTEN MILLS NEWS by Dennis Gannon

If you passed by the Community Centre this past weekend or any of the Township properties where our National Flag flies, you may have noticed that it was flying at half staff. The second Sunday of September is Firefighter's National Memorial Day. On this Sunday we remember the over 1500 Canadian firefighters who have lost their life over the years in service to their community. We are fortunate to have a dedicated group of volunteer firefighters in our community who give their all when called to an emergency and always ready to help their community when asked. Fortunately there have been no lives lost by our firefighters and for that we are eternally grateful. We must also thank our fire service leaders who ensure the safety of our firefighters and to our Council for their continued support. On Sunday, September 27 the flags will again be lowered. This time it will be in honour of our police and peace officers who have died in the line of duty on the Peace and Police Officers National Memorial Day. Take a moment and thank our firefighters and police officers for their dedication and service.



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Doug Sanders, professional golfer: "I'm working as hard as I can to get my life and my cash to run out at the same time. If I can just die after lunch on Tuesday, everything will be perfect."



It was just over one year ago when Springwater Township became the very first Savestation community in Canada. With Automated External Defibrillators conveniently located in Savestation outdoor cabinets throughout the township, we have the ability to save a life from sudden cardiac arrest. The current health crisis and closure of our community facilities hasn't limited the ability to get to the Savestation and AED which is located by the main entrance to the community centre. If you would like a refresher on how to use an AED, check out the Springwater link to Savestation.

While there may be limits on what activities can be safely carried out, the Anten Mills Community Recreation Committee has been busy. On the Labour Day weekend they held a socially distant movie night in the pavilion. Springwater Township has purchased new audio visual equipment and it was successfully put to use. The visual quality of the movie and audio sound was superb and those in attendance enjoyed the evening. It is hoped that next year there can be a movie night more frequently. The CRA met recently

to discuss potential future events. For the past several years a Halloween and pumpkin event has been held. One thing is for certain with the CRA is that the members think out of the box. Doing so, they are excited to announce that, subject to guidance, a Food Bank, Thanksgiving, Halloween combined celebration will occur. This will be a unique combination assisting the food bank and ending with a safe Halloween night. More details once approvals have been obtained will be on the Anten Mills Community Facebook page and in this column. It will be a truly memorable event and something our community can be proud of!

The food bank is the recipient of the Tim Horton's Smile Cookie campaign this September so if you are in Elmvale stop by and enjoy a cookie and support the food bank. The Springwater Station 3 firefighters are also supporting the food bank with a drive through collection on Wednesday, September 30. Following the route taken on their Canada Day celebration, the firefighters will be collecting food left at the end of the driveway. Watch for more details on the Township of Springwater website.

In the fall of 2021, our community will have had the benefit of having a group of volunteers who have been a driving force to ensure that we have had a gathering place and activities for all to enjoy for 50 years. For the next year we will try to highlight events and people that have made our community what it is today. This is the first installation.

From the A History of Vespra book we learn that in the fall of 1971, John Shannon, who lived on Lawrence Ave and a relative new resident to Anten Mills, suggested that there should be a rink for the children to skate on in the winter. The school house, which became our community centre, had reopened for a Grade 5 class. A meeting was held in the school on October 17 with 18 local residents in attendance. A second meeting was held on October 27 and following advice from Vespra Council, the group elected an executive with the intent of organizing a community centre. The first executive consisted of John Shannon, President, Glen Wagner and Ivan Skinner, Vice Presidents, Robert VanNispen, Secretary and Roland Wagner, Treasurer. Seven members were elected to a Recreation Committee and Lorne Wilson was named as Chairman. Next issue, the ice rink.

If you have photographs, newsletters or items that can be shared about our history please contact me.

For now, Stay Healthy, Stay Safe, Stay Strong.
Antenmills1@gmail.com.

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A little boy goes to his father and asks, "Daddy, how was I born?"
The father answers, "Well son, I guess one day you will need to find out anyway! Your Mom and I first got together in a chat room on Yahoo. Then I set up a date via e-mail with your Mom and we met at a cyber-cafe. We sneaked into a secluded room, and googled each other. There your mother agreed to a download from my hard drive. As soon as I was ready to upload, we discovered that neither one of us had used a firewall, and since it was too late to hit the delete button, nine months later a little Pop-Up appeared that said: "You got male!"

One of the advantages of being disorderly is that one is constantly making exciting discoveries. --A. A. Milne

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Dress for Success women's pre-employment program

Finding meaningful employment can be difficult, especially during a global pandemic. The long hunt for a job can be hard on one's confidence and mental health. But you don't have to go it alone. To continue supporting womxn in the community with achieving economic independence, Dress for Success Orillia and Barrie is going to be running their pre-employment program, Breakfast Club, virtually. The Breakfast Club program is free and designed to help motivate and inspire womxn to continue their job search. The program supports clients as they address any possible obstacles to securing employment. Through the tools and resources they receive, participants are empowered to continue and succeed in their job searches.

The virtual Breakfast Club sessions will be running live every Wednesday from 9:30am-11:30am, beginning September 23rd. They will also be recorded for clients who aren't able to participate in the live discussion. Any womxn can participate in Breakfast Club as long as they're looking for work or are precariously employed.

Topics covered in the workshops will include goal setting, communication skills, professionalism, confidence, motivation and mental health, interview skills, personal branding and career stepping stones. The workshops will be led by community partners and volunteers.

If a womxn participates in 7 out of the 9 workshops, she will receive gift cards for a haircut and groceries. This is in lieu of the makeovers and headshots that are normally done at Breakfast Club, but are not currently possible due to COVID. The clients will also receive two interview outfits from Dress for Success, as well as a dress rehearsal (a mock interview) with a community partner.

To register for Breakfast Club or for more information, contact program director Samantha at samantha@dfsorilliabarrie.org or (705) 333 7200. If you're working with a referral agency, please have the agency email Samantha the referral for the program.

To stay up to date on Dress for Success Orillia and Barrie's news and programs, visit their website (<http://orilliaandbarrie.dressforsuccess.org>) or follow them on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/DressforSuccessOrilliaandBarrie>), Twitter (@DFSOrilliaBarri), and Instagram (@dressforsuccessorilliabarrie).

"A company called Dog Nation just launched an IQ online test for your dog. It covers understanding hand gestures and learning words. It's actually a secret IQ test for humans. If you pay \$60 to give your dog an IQ test, you failed."



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- Twelve Commandments For Seniors
- #1 - Talk to yourself. There are times you need expert advice.
 - #2 - "In Style" are the clothes that still fit.
 - #3 - You don't need anger management. You need people to stop pissing you off.
 - #4 - Your people skills are just fine. It's your tolerance for idiots that needs work.
 - #5 - The biggest lie you tell yourself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."
 - #6 - "On time" is when you get there.
 - #7 - Even duct tape can't fix stupid - but it sure does muffle the sound.
 - #8 - It would be wonderful if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, then come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller
 - #9 - Lately, You've noticed people your age are so much older than you.
 - #10 - Growing old should have taken longer.
 - #11 - Aging has slowed you down, but it hasn't shut you up.
 - #12 - You still haven't learned to act your age, and hope you never will.
- And one more:
"One for the road" means peeing before you leave the house.

Small kitchen appliances that perform only one task are money wasters for many consumers. Designated gadgets for making quesadillas, paninis, heroes/subs, grilled cheese, and breakfast sandwiches accomplish nothing that ordinary kitchen appliances cannot. They also create annoying cleanup and take up kitchen space - that is, until they're relegated to storage or a garage sale.

A friend had a waitressing position open at his diner and asked job seekers to fill out an application. Under "Salary Expected," a woman wrote "Friday."

COVID-19

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This project is funded by the Government of Canada through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario.

Ce projet est financé par le Gouvernement du Canada au travers de l'Agence fédérale de développement économique pour le Sud de l'Ontario.



LINX Transit Service schedule changes starting September 8

Midhurst/September 3, 2020 – Starting Tuesday, September 8, County of Simcoe LINX Transit Service is altering schedules for Routes 1, 2, 3 and 4. Transit Route 5 scheduling will remain the same. Regular fare rates will also start on September 8 for Route 5 (Alliston-Beeton-Bond Head-Bradford).

Effective September 8, 2020, the following schedule will be in effect:

Route 1 (Penetanguishene/Midland to Barrie) LINX service will operate Monday to Friday with the first bus starting at 6 a.m. and the last drop off occurring at 7:12 p.m.

Route 2 (Wasaga Beach to Barrie) LINX service will operate Monday to Friday with the first bus starting at 5:30 a.m. and the last drop off occurring at 7:25 p.m.

Route 3 (Orillia to Barrie) LINX service will operate Monday to Friday with the first bus starting at 5:45 a.m. and the last drop off occurring at 7:05 p.m.

Route 4 (Collingwood to Wasaga Beach) will operate Monday to Saturday with the first bus starting at 6 a.m. and the last drop off occurring at 8:58 p.m.

Route 5 (Alliston to Bradford West Gwillimbury) will operate Monday to Friday with the first bus starting at 7:20 a.m. and the last drop off occurring at 6:10 p.m.

The safety of travellers and staff on LINX Transit is our priority. The County continues to closely monitor COVID-19 and adapt services accordingly. We are following the advice from our partners at Public Health and have increased the cleaning and sterilization schedule on LINX buses, vehicles and facilities. In addition, our contractors, in collaboration with the County, are required to provide sanitizers or disinfectant wipes to all drivers.

Riders are reminded that it is mandatory for those above the age of 6 to wear a mask or face covering while on public transit, unless they are prevented from doing so because of health, ability, cultural or religious reasons. No proof of exemption is required, and people should not be judged or mistreated in any way if they do not wear a face covering. It is also suggested that riders carry personal disinfectant when traveling, such as hand sanitizer or wipes, and wash their hands often. Please follow all other public health and safety guidelines.

To help residents to plan the journeys, the County has partnered with an existing app company to link real-time bus and route information through the popular app. Residents are encouraged to download the "Transit app" on their Apple and Android devices.

Visit linx.simcoe.ca to learn more about the LINX and LINX+ service or to review our full schedule.

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.

Friends of Simcoe Forests Pleased with Minister Clark's decision not to issue an MZO for County's waste project.



SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP, SEPTEMBER 4, 2020 – The County of Simcoe asked the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing by a letter dated April 17, 2020, that a Minister's Zoning Order

(MZO) be issued for the County's Environmental Resource Recovery (ERRC) project. The letter cited delays at the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) as well as the COVID-19 pandemic, costs incurred to date and the risk of losing over \$2 million in provincial funding as some of the reasons for its request.

The Friends of Simcoe Forests (FSF) is a local non-profit organization that seeks to protect and conserve forests in Simcoe County. FSF is one of three appellants of this project and has expended significant time, resources, and money through tireless fundraising efforts to prepare for the LPAT hearing process which is currently underway. The issuance of an MZO would have terminated the LPAT proceeding and would have left the legal, planning, and technical issues with the ERRC unresolved.

While in Oro Medonte Township with Premier Doug Ford on August 20, 2020, Minister Clark made the following statement referring to the issuance of MZO's. "No projects currently going through the Local Planning and Appeals Tribunal process are being considered," pointing to the County's ERRC project as an example.

FSF is very pleased with Minister Clark's decision not to intervene with the LPAT hearing process underway on this project.

FSF is not opposed to the ERRC project as a whole; rather the group has consistently stated that it opposes the County's decision to locate the ERRC in the middle of a Simcoe County Forest

Help Us Protect Simcoe County Forests

Donations always graciously accepted to:

Mailing Address:

2928 Horseshoe Valley Road W
Phelpston, On. L0L 2K0

email: info@friendsofsimcoeforests.com

website: www.friendsofsimcoeforests.com

facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofsimcoeforests/>

THE BAY STUDIO TOUR



October 3 & 4 2020 • 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Discover the exceptional artistic talent hidden within the Georgian Bay community. Come on this free, self guided Tour and step into 15 unique studio locations throughout Penetanguishene and



Tiny Township near the beautiful shores of Georgian Bay.

Celebrating their 11th year, 23 Tour Artists invite visitors into their

studios for this once a year event to showcase their work and experience first hand, their one of a kind creations. Inspired by the beauty and drama of their landscape, you may discover your treasure in painting, sculpture, pottery, jewellery, fibre-art, glasswork, woodwork, metalwork and so much more.

Artists include: Nahthanha Woods, Mira Kirov, Stephen St.Amand, Hilary Slater, Roger Beausoliel, Antje Gagne, Deb Grise, Joe Atikian, Barbara Simmons, Christine Marshall, Kathryn Gorman Lovelady, Brian Lovelady, Monica Ironside, Rod Prouse, Don Pettit, Cynthia Blair, Jana Caissie, Amber Blair, Jerry Kulyk, Kim Maticiw, Arthur Karasik, Laura Randall, Melanie Robitaille,

Tour maps and guides, which include artist biographies, are available at the Midland and Penetanguishene tourist information centres and local businesses.

A full list of artists and locations can be viewed online or downloaded to an electronic device at www.thebaystudiotour.com.

And see us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/BayStudioTour/

Call Christine Marshall at 705-533 2731 or christine.wildlifegallery@bell.net

COVID-19

Precautions will be in place at each Studio

Remarried Parents Face Challenges

In past columns I dealt with strategies for making life easier for children in blended families. This time we will look at some of the issues faced by adults.

If both parents re-marry, there are now four parents instead of the traditional two. Each of the four likely has a different idea as to how life should be managed. This can create conflict not only between the two sets of parents, but also within each pair.

It is important, firstly, to acknowledge that this is an incredibly complex situation, and secondly, that there will need to be a lot of compromise. If you are a step-parent, the most loving thing that you can do is to find out what your partner really needs in relation to his/her children, and support that. If she gives in too often to her ex-husband, just to keep the peace for the sake of the children, that's her decision. Only if this directly creates difficulty for you should you pressure her about her choice. If decisions need to be made about the children, it is best to leave those to the natural parents to work out, again intervening only if something directly affects you in a negative way.

It can be hard enough for two parents to come to agreement, much less three or four. Be sensitive to the difficulties that arise when your partner feels caught between you and an ex. Avoid allowing an issue between them to become an issue between the two of you. Try not to make inappropriate generalizations about your relationship based on what is happening in the negotiating process. If she's bending over backwards to work out an agreement with him, don't jump to the conclusion that her ex is more important than you are.

Discuss with your partner your role in relation to his/her children. Find out if he wants the two of you equally involved in the care and discipline of his children, or if he prefers you to act in a supportive role. For the sake of your partner and the children, it is best to move into a parenting role gradually, building the trust of all as you go. Try not to attribute selfish motives to other parties, for you will only upset yourself more. Assume that others are acting in accordance with what they need, and may be so caught up in their own emotions that they aren't even thinking of yours.

This is different than if they were consciously trying to make things difficult for you. Ideally, in time, all parties will be able to look at blended family issues in terms of what is fair and equitable, and also what is in the best interests of the child. If there are ongoing troublesome issues that keep coming up, it may be wise to seek counseling.

Often there are simple solutions that just have not occurred to those directly involved. Remember too, how quickly the children will be grown and gone, and try to keep things in perspective.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for daily inspiration.

Missing Persons

Between 1,800 and 2,000 Americans are reported missing every day. This includes both children and adults.

But many of those reports are later cancelled.

When a child goes missing, the first 3 hours are the most crucial in finding the child safely. Approximately 76 percent of abducted children who are murdered are dead within three hours of the abduction.

Unfortunately, it can take over 2 hours to get information about a missing child from a panicked parent.

There are as many as 100,000 active missing persons cases in the U.S. at any given time.

The FBI designates severe, urgent missing person cases as "endangered or involuntary." Approximately 15 percent of missing person cases are given that classification each year; most of them are applied to children.

In the mid-1980s, milk cartons with photos of missing children on them made their debut. The first child to appear on one of those milk cartons was Etan Patz, a 6-year-old from New York who disappeared walking to

the bus stop in May 1975.

According to the U.S. Department of State, there are no statistics that track the number of Americans who go missing in a foreign country in a given year. The United Kingdom does, however. In 2008, 481 British disappeared abroad, an increase from 401 the previous year and 336 in 2006.

In 2008, there were 30 officially documented disappearances on cruise ships in the preceding five years.

The industrial revolution transformed cooking forever. Food could be mass-produced, mass-marketed, and standardized. The rise of fast food and the decline of cooking has undermined family dinners and increased obesity rates. Consumers in America spend more money on food in restaurants than they do on food they can cook at home. A chef's hat is officially called a toque, which is Arabic for hat.

The largest item ever found on a menu is stuffed camel. A whole camel is stuffed with a couple of lambs, 20 whole chickens, and 60 eggs, just to name a few ingredients.

French cuisine, or fine dining, emerged after the French Revolution. After the conflict, chefs who had worked for the nobility lost their jobs, so they opened their own restaurants for the masses.

Elmvale Home building centre

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GET A **BONUS**

GIFT CARD

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September 10—October 21, 2020

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Upcoming Meetings

Heritage Advisory Committee

Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Committee of Adjustment

Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Special Council Meeting - Backyard Chickens Licensing Workshop

Monday, September 28 at 4:00 p.m.

Special Council Meeting - Public Meetings

Monday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m.

Council meetings are live streamed online at springwater.ca/live. A call in option (audio only) is also available. View the agenda for details.

For details on participating in the public meeting visit springwater.ca/planning

Join our team!



Springwater Fire Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment

Are you ready to help your community and be part of a team that saves lives every day? Springwater Fire & Emergency Services is looking for people to answer the call and become a Volunteer Firefighter! Find out how to join our passionate crew of Firefighters at springwater.ca/careers

Survey closes
Sept. 20



Accessibility Survey

Springwater is committed to providing accessible service to all residents and stakeholders. We are updating our Multi-year Accessibility Plan and want to know what is important to you. Share your thoughts by filling out a brief survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/AccessibleSpringwater

Now Hiring

The Township of Springwater is currently recruiting for the following positions:

Development Engineering Coordinator

Closes: September 25 at 12 p.m.

Director of Finance

Closes: September 30 at 12 p.m.

For job descriptions and details visit springwater.ca/careers

Bid Opportunity

The Township of Springwater is currently accepting bids for the following:

Queen Street Sewage Lift Station
2020-44-PW

Closes: September 24 at 2:00 p.m.

Visit springwater.bidsandtenders.ca for details and to register for upcoming bids.

Cannabis Production Survey

The Township is preparing a Cannabis and/or Hemp Production Review Study to look at tools available to the municipality to guide policies, regulations and zoning related to these facilities.

Your input is needed! A survey has been created to gather resident feedback on the topic. Complete the survey online at: surveymonkey.com/r/CannabisProductionStudy

Paper copies of the survey can be requested by emailing planning@springwater.ca or calling 705-728-4784 Ext. 2019

We want
your
input!

2020 Fall Watermain Flushing Notice

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) will be flushing watermain for the Township on operated water systems in Springwater. Please REDUCE water use from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. so that OCWA can effectively complete the maintenance.

Dates and Locations:

- **September 21 - 25:** Midhurst and Minesing Water Systems
- **September 28 - October 2:** Snow Valley and Vespra Downs Water Systems
- **October 5 - 9:** Del Trend (includes Carson Road, Glen Huron Drive, Paddy Dunn's Circle, Anthony Court, Deluca Court, Kanata Court, Channen Court and Wendat Trail) and Hillsdale Water Systems
- **October 12 - 16:** Anten Mills, Phelpston and Elmvale Water Systems

For more information, visit springwater.ca/water



Open Fridays until October 9
9 am until 2 pm
33 Queen Street West, Elmvale
springwater.ca/FarmersMarket



Midhurst Scarecrow Contest

Presented by: Midhurst Community Recreation Association

1. Build and display a scarecrow on your lawn.
2. Snap a photo and email it to MidhurstScarecrowContest@gmail.com
3. Beginning September 26, vote for your favourite scarecrow at midhurstON.ca
4. The top 3 scarecrows will win a prize!

Additional details are available at www.midhurston.ca

Elmvale Virtual Thanksgiving Celebration

Presented by: Flos Agricultural Society and the Township of Springwater

Fall Craft & Photo Contest

Due to COVID-19 and the cancellation of the 2020 Elmvale Fall Fair, the Flos Agricultural Society and the Township of Springwater have come up with a creative way for our community to share their passions. Using the categories below create a craft, display or complete an activity and submit a photo online for your chance to win a great local prize! This contest is open to all residents of Springwater.

Categories:

Each entry equals one ballot for the prize draw. Full contest details are available at springwater.ca/SpringwaterGivesThanks

- Photography
- Property Display
- Children's Categories
- Baby Show
- Flower Competition
- Vegetable Competition
- Things from the Past
- Home Craft
- Quarantine Corner
- Livestock/Animals
- 4-H Beef & Dairy Clubs

Fall Scavenger Hunt

Visit springwater.ca/SpringwaterGivesThanks for details on an upcoming fall scavenger hunt!

Stuff the Truck for the Elmvale & District Food Bank!

Springwater Firefighters will be driving through the neighbourhoods of Springwater collecting food for the Elmvale & District Food Bank.

When: Wed., September 30 at 6 p.m.

Where: Anten Mills, Elmvale, Hillsdale, Midhurst, Minesing, Phelpston & Orr Lake.

How: Leave food at the end of your driveway to be collected by the firefighters as they drive by.

View route maps: springwater.ca/calendar



Serve Up FIRE SAFETY in the Kitchen

Fire Prevention Week

Contest Details

1. Read and follow the kitchen safety tips below.
 2. Snap a picture of you demonstrating one of the tips.
- Submit your photo online at springwater.ca/fireprevention for your chance to win the grand prize featuring an air fryer, microwave and fire extinguisher.

Kitchen Safety Tips

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking, if you need to leave for any reason, turn off the burner
- If children are doing the cooking, always have an adult supervise
- Clear away clutter and give cooking appliances space to lessen the chance of a kitchen fire
- Clear oven mitts, utensils, food wrappers and towels from the stove top
- Have a kid-free zone of 3 feet from the stove
- Clean up any spilled food and grease
- Wear short, close-fitting clothes or rolled up sleeves when cooking
- Always keep a lid nearby to smother a grease fire
- Turn pot handles away from the stoves edge
- Keep hot food away from the table and counter edges and out of reach of children



Letters to the Editor Please include phone number with any L to E
You might not appreciate seeing your name on something you did not write.

Federal AG Lametti interfered in court business

<https://torontosun.com/news/national/federal-ag-lametti-interfered-in-court-business-judge/wcm/40ea6c79-4854-48f6-8934-9e224309296d/>

Thought of the Day - Do Canadians fully understand the ramifications of this ruling in light of the legislation and Orders In Council which have been put through since the SNC debacle?

That is for you, your elected officials and the courts to decide...

It would seem this ruling which came down from the Federal Appeal Court has damning consequences for Canada. We have an Attorney General who is also a Law Professor at McGill University allowing legislation to be put forward which violate fundamental constitutional rights.

<https://www.mcgill.ca/law/about/profs/lametti-david...>
What does this tell Canadians about the various documents brought forward including the Order In Council to ban certain firearms? Not to mention the WE Charity fiasco with a Minister signing a contract with "draft" criteria in it.

There is also the issue that this Attorney General may have placed the Crown and Sovereign representative in disrepute with the Order In Council to ban specific firearms and the other various unconstitutional actions of this government. The Attorney General is to ensure that legislation presented to the Governor General meets the criteria allowed under our Constitution as all power flows from the Crown. In presenting bad advice to the G.G. and to allow certain documents to be brought forward as "law" has the A.G. violated those principles he is to exercise his authority under?

All of this being said - how many other documents do not pass the test of law or the constitution? How many Canadians are going to be harmed by these actions of the A.G.? And how does this affect McGill University considering it is their reputation on the line? And how will the legal community react to this as it has not been often, in the history of Canada, that something has been struck down by the Federal Court of Appeal which had just recently been presented?

In light of this ruling every and all documents created by this federal government must be tested to ensure the lawfulness and legality of them, shouldn't they?

Should McGill University continue to allow Mr. Lametti to be on their list of instructors considering they have a Law Professor - now Attorney General - who has failed the test of lawfulness in and by the Courts? And what does this tell Canadians about any and all graduates from his tutoring? Are they credible or should they be retrained in law?

These are all very serious questions which need to be answered in light of this ruling...

Do Canadians fully understand the ramifications of this ruling in light of the legislation and Orders In Council which have been put through since the SNC debacle?

That is for you, your elected officials and the courts to decide...



Elizabeth F. Marshall, President
All Rights Research Ltd.,
Non-Partisan Advocate
Director of Research Ontario
Landowners Association
Author – "Property Rights 101: An Introduction"
Board Member/Secretary –

Canadian Justice Review Board
Legal Research – Queen's Counsel, Lawyers, Law Offices, etc.,

Legislative Researcher – MPs, MPPs, Municipal Councillors,

I am not a lawyer and do not give legal advice. Any information relayed is for informational purposes only. Please contact a lawyer. "The rule is the public interest is always paramount but NEVER when it is at the expense of a private individual." Ontario Legislative Assembly, February 11, 1965 – Vol. 1, p. 478.



Here's an average-sized giant African land snail

Seniors need homes!

Dear editor,

When home care is no longer possible for a senior member of our society, a safe, healthy long term care facility is needed.

A Long Term Care facility must be a home for seniors, not an investment for shareholders. Good food, exercise, medical care are some of the essentials for residents. Care giving personnel must be paid a living wage.

Many of the Long Term Care residents are people who have been leaders in their community, citizens who have contributed to the prosperity many of us enjoy. These residents are still contributing to our society. These people deserve to retain their human dignity.

Each Long Term Care facility must be a place any one of us would be glad to call home.

Sincerely, Beverley Trounce

Back To School with COVID-19

Dear Editor,

Seeing children going to school wearing face masks really has me concerned. There are many studies showing that this does nothing to prevent the spread of any virus, and science indicates that healthy people should not wear masks. There are also many side effects that are being overlooked.

The moist warm air inside the mask provides an excellent place for various bacteria and other pathogens to grow. Eye irritation and infections are reported due to the exhaled air, saturated with pathogens, as it is forced up in front of the eyes. Some dentists have coined a new word from the effects of mask-wearing, called Mask Mouth. These symptoms may include dry mouth, a more rapid decaying of teeth, receding gums, mouth sores and sour breath. There are also reports of face irritation from the mask itself and pathogens in and around the mask. Some will find it harder to breathe while wearing a mask especially those suffering from asthma, bronchitis, etc. These many side effects are made considerably worse by touching these masks. It is hard enough for adults not to touch their masks, and so much harder for our children!

I see social distancing as mainly a psychological issue, which together with masks, interfere with a child's ability to socialize and communicate properly, not to mention the constant reminder of an invisible enemy.

I cringe when I hear certain officials say that we will wear these masks until we get a fast-tracked COVID-19 vaccine. One of the most likely vaccines is from Moderna, and it, unlike all previous vaccines, actually makes changes to your DNA. Not to be taken lightly!

Normally I would be totally supportive of any measure to reduce disease and death, but I do not believe we have a pandemic as the death rates are so low. In Canada, the death rate is about 0.025% and most of these deaths occur in people like myself, of over 70 years of age, especially in those suffering from other diseases. For children, it would be much, much less. I focus on death rates rather than the number of cases since cases increase with the number of tests given which include false positives and asymptomatic cases.

The test for COVID-19, the PCR test, was initially developed as a way of replicating DNA sequences, and not as a test for any virus. When a sample is taken it is amplified to produce a readable amount of material. If you amplify it 30 times most people would be found to be negative, and at 50 most would be positive. So the number of positive results generated depends on the chosen number of amplifications. This would help explain the number of false positives and negatives.

In the flu season, many would carry the flu bug but only those with a weak immune system would get sick. Would you include the asymptomatic carriers as flu cases? No! Then why do it for COVID-19?

Bill Gates and Tedros Ghebreyesus, the head of WHO, are not medical doctors, yet they are directing our governments in their response to COVID-19! These vaccines and the under-the-skin record of vaccination will make these people and their associates many billions of dollars. Seems like a little conflict of interest.

Like the men I mentioned above, I am not a doctor so I cannot give medical advice, but I can read scientific publications and use my critical thinking to arrive at my own conclusions. If you would like further information on this topic I've included a link that I found to be very helpful:

<https://questioningcovid.com/>

Please, let's not do this to our children!

B. Consiglio Tiny, ON

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39	40	41				42		43		
44					45			46		
47					48			49		

Across

- 1 Place to stop
- 4 Didn't participate in a hunger strike
- 7 Desktop item
- 11 Indeed!
- 12 Enclose, in a way
- 13 Real estate figure
- 14 Enjoy a smorgasbord
- 15 Adversary
- 17 Soap, for example
- 19 Young male
- 20 It may get you to first base
- 22 Help for the stranded
- 25 Honoured with
- 28 Word with fly or ball
- 29 Support provider
- 30 Academic
- 32 Tackle
- 33 Guitar fret, e.g.
- 34 Cocoa vessel
- 35 Leans (on)
- 39 Clear-cut
- 43 Little digit
- 44 They can be prying or crying
- 45 Be liable to
- 46 Christian, e.g.
- 47 It's sometimes breaking
- 48 Go to sleep, with "off"
- 49 Bird or basset e.g.

Down

- 1 Appraised
- 2 Get closer
- 3 Numerical information
- 4 On the plane, e.g.
- 5 Sweater, say
- 6 Went boom
- 7 Camera man
- 8 "Who You": 1978 album by The Who
- 9 Stag party attendees
- 10 Too simple
- 16 Rowing device
- 18 Word with "bagatelle" or "technicality"
- 21 Creed
- 22 Word with ear or horn
- 23 Seam-y stuff?
- 24 Acquired in-laws
- 25 Formal decision
- 26 Big conflict
- 27 Indefinite number
- 28 Complimentary
- 31 "No argument here!"
- 33 Word before and after "Forrest"
- 34 Air ball, e.g.
- 36 Dance fundamental
- 37 Wrenched apart
- 38 Broadway "score"
- 39 Place for mounted antlers, maybe
- 40 Scan
- 41 Handful of
- 42 Early afternoon hour

My musings

I have just read Edition 581 and have the following observations which you are free to do with as you like:

Climate change

You list a number of sites which lead you to the conclusion that climate change is being subjectively reported, which is precisely what you are doing.

You could mention the major fires in Australia and California; you could mention the record typhoons and hurricanes but you don't. Doubtless these may all have occurred before as well but we must deal with the present and take steps to minimize its effects for our own sakes and those of our children and grandchildren.

Internet services

I have spoken with Bell and they informed me that plans are there to vastly upgrade the system but not until the end of 2021 at the earliest.

This put me in mind of the politician who met with a local leader and asked what the cover could do for the community. "We have two big needs" was the answer. "First, we have a hospital but insufficient doctors".

The politician whipped out his cellphone, spoke for a while and then said, "I have sorted it out. A doctor will arrive here tomorrow. What is your other need?" We have no cellphone reception at all in our village."

My View - Bill French

It is not clear to me whether this is a commercial column (based on the information included at the bottom of the column) or an oped column of your paper but I must say that it is as divisive as the person to whom he is referring in it. It is clear that he is spouting the Republican line so I guess that he watches Fox News. There is not the least consideration of the aggrieved parties in his piece. It would have been gracious of you to allow someone the courtesy of equal time.

Joel Rubinovich 63 Green Point Rd iny

I was on a long line at 7:45 am today at the grocery store that opened at 8 for seniors only. A young man came from the parking lot and tried to cut in at the front of the line, but an old lady beat him back into the parking lot with her cane. He returned and tried to cut in again but an old man punched him in the gut, then kicked him to the ground and rolled him away. As he approached the line for the 3rd time he said, "If you don't let me unlock the door, you'll never get in there."



DOUG SHIPLEY
Member of Parliament
Barrie - Springwater - Oro-Medonte

48 Alliance Blvd, Unit 104
Barrie, ON L4M 5K3
dougshipleymp.ca
doug.shipley@parl.gc.ca
705 - 728 - 2596

Her Greenhouse

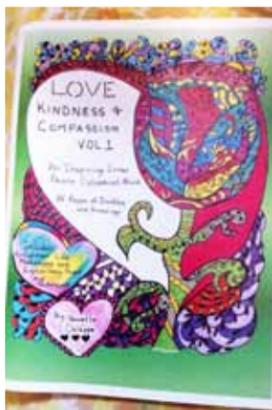


Annette enjoys her renovated greenhouse in New Lowell where her colourful artwork lines the shelves. Annette is a Human Whisperer Author, Artist and Speaker. This is Annette's sacred space where she retreats to paint, doodle, write and hold private & confidential sessions for those suffering with traumas and for those seeking enlightenment to self care and growth.



Annette has struggled with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) throughout her life, stemming from sexual abuse and neglect as a child. For the first 43 years she didn't even know and just suffered with depression and anxiety.

Annette has published inspiring mindfulness adult colouring books and cards titled "Love, Kindness & Compassion" which designs, and inspiration messages are based on the series principles, love, kindness & compassion. She uses these books as a creative tool for sessions. Each of the messages have a history from something from her healing. The act of doodling and colouring is one of mindfulness and bringing someone into the present moment. In the back of her books is a section with suggestions and she encourages readers to do their own doodling and "explore their own creativity".



When Annette's mental health fell apart, she began to awaken and realized that she had to take care of herself and heal. She'd been separated over 17 years from her children but has recently reconnected with her now-adult children.

She gave up a job as a paralegal and in February of 2019, launched herself as an artist, author and Human Whisperer (a person who "holds space" listening lovingly, without judgment and completely present for others).

Today, totally at peace with life it's her purpose to lovingly be of service helping humanity and to bring more Love, Kindness & Compassion to the planet.

Volumes of Love, Kindness & Compassion are available at www.amazon.ca

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Minesing Moments

Greetings to all who have taken a few minutes to sit and read our little village news article within the Springwater Newspaper. I hope this finds you well.

The schools are back and not without hiccups I am sure. The new rules and regulations, masks, space between students, taking the bus and eating their lunches have all been changed. I think of everyone going through these changes and wish them the best of luck. Living close to the school in Minesing, I see that many people have opted out sending their children on the school bus due to the significant increase in vehicles flying by my house for drop offs and pick ups. I do have to comment on the sounds of laughter and voices that are heard from the school yard at recess hasn't changed. It sure sounds like the kids are having fun so that's great to hear.

Recently I have heard about and have personally witnessed the speed of some of the vehicles that are travelling in our neighbourhood, and also those who fail to stop at the signs around town. Seriously, this is crazy! Please make a mental note to yourself to remember to slow down, especially now that school is back and kids are walking around the neighbourhood to/from school. I am sure the same people who speed will be the ones who will complain about the speed bumps if that is the direction we have to go in around town. We don't want any accidents, that would be horrible so please do your part to keep it slow and stop at the signs! It will be greatly appreciated by all.

With the return of schools, both elementary, secondary and colleges/universities, we are no doubt going to creep back up with our COVID infection numbers. Do not let your guard down with this illness, it's still around and it is not picky about who gets it! Keep washing your hands, wear your masks and definitely keep social distance (6 feet +) apart from others. If someone gets too close to you, take a step back or ask them to respect your space. Let's do our part and keep Springwater, Simcoe County and Ontario healthy!

There have been posts on social media about Halloween I am not sure what the rules will be on that but it would be really nice to be able to keep it for the kids. They've had to adjust so much in the last several months, and a little fun would be nice for them if we can just think of some great ideas of how to keep our distances and be super safe. I look forward to updates from the government about this and will pass on anything I hear in the next issue.

Wishing everyone a great week ahead, stay safe and keep smiling. ☺

Lorrie Norwood - lorachalli@sympatico.ca

Wyevale's News

Ruth Ann Caston
527-5274

Happy birthday wishes go out to Matthew Webb, Tyler Griffith, Grace Mertz, Anissa Webb, Marg Irvine, Kylie Marshall, Peter Wilson, Michael Molto, Hunter Reynolds, Kim Fische, James Chilvers, Jackie Webb, Foster & Nicklas Webb, Crystal Smith, Yvonne Giffen, Morley Marchant, Brooke Bumstead, Dave Smith, Rae Henry, Sean McNamara, Ralph Rawn, Doug Brown, Alexander Wickett, Chris Caston, Darreus Molto, Taylor Horgan, Joan Taylor, Jeff Caston, Jason Eisenberg, Olivia Pauze, Wayne Savage, Linda Desroches, Nathan Lacroix, Isaac Trace, Jim Clause, Elwn Kargus, Brian Handy, Chris & Paula Desjardins, Madison Wakelin, Scott Archer, Travis Stephenson, Jayde Isaac, James Caston, Alaina VanderVoort and a happy 70th to Betty Rawn.

The community has had two special anniversaries this month. A happy 60th wedding anniversary to Fran and Morley Marshall and a happy 50th anniversary to Glenn and Francie Hall. We wish both couples many more.

Anyone with news items for the paper, please call me and leave a message at 705.527.5274

What is a horse latitude?

Answer: A horse latitude is an area of high pressure and low winds that exists at about 30 degrees north latitude and 30 degrees south latitude. Early sailors dreaded these parts of the sea because the winds would become unpredictable, with periods of total calm. Particularly near Bermuda, ships were often stopped in their tracks when the winds gave out. To conserve the crew's water supply, one survival tactic for a becalmed ship was to abandon any horses on board by letting them die of thirst or tossing them overboard. There were reports that the seas in these areas were "strewn with bodies of horses," and hence the name "horse latitudes."

Meet Erin O'Toole.

It is my pleasure to officially introduce the new Leader of the Conservative Party, Erin O'Toole to the riding of Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte.

On August 21st, Mr. O'Toole was elected by the party membership and therefore becomes the Leader of the Official Opposition in the House of Commons.

Erin O'Toole was born in Montreal and is bilingual. He began his military career in the RCAF when he was 18 and attended the Royal Military College. He completed basic training in Chilliwack, BC, received his wings in Winnipeg, Manitoba and was posted to Halifax, Nova Scotia. In his role as a tactical navigator, he participated in search and rescue missions and retired from the military as a Captain after 12 years of service.

Mr. O'Toole is a founding member of the Board of Directors for the True Patriot Love Foundation, a charity that serves veterans and military families across Canada. He spent the next decade working in the private sector as a lawyer.

Mr. O'Toole has been elected three times to his riding of Durham in Ontario and served as Minister of Veterans Affairs in 2015, a beleaguered file he successfully turned around within 10 months at the end of the Harper government. For the last two years, Mr. O'Toole served as Shadow Minister of Foreign Affairs and played an integral role in the development of the special committee on Canada-China relations.

With his years of experience in the House of Commons, Mr. O'Toole has earned the respect of many. I am confident he will fulfil his role with integrity while holding the government to account as we move forward through these unprecedented times.

On August 18th, the Prime Minister prorogued parliament. This decision resulted in the collapse of committee investigations into his WE scandal. This denied the opposition parties the opportunity to ask questions in the House of Commons regarding the circumstances surrounding the scandal. I believe when Parliament resumes on September 23rd, there is a possibility that we could be heading into election.

I am confident that our new Leader of the Conservative Party will provide strong leadership and direction to achieve our goals. We are offering Canadians a compassionate, intelligent, stable, and ethical alternative to the Liberal government under Justin Trudeau.

Should there be an election in the fall, I will be proud to serve under the leadership of Erin O'Toole.

I look forward to the future and will continue to work hard for the betterment of our communities.

Sincerely,

Doug Shipley, MP
Barrie - Springwater - Oro-Medonte

Doran Road Reconstruction Notice

The Township of Springwater will begin the reconstruction of Doran Road from the County Road 27 intersection extending 620 metres to the crosswalk located at 44 Doran Road. The construction is expected to commence the week of September 15 and is anticipated to be substantially complete by November 6, 2020.

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Inflation is a word we hear on the news almost every day, but many of us don't understand exactly what it is. The term was first used in a monetary sense to describe "an increase in the amount of money" in 1838. Today, economists argue over the exact definition of inflation but generally agree that it means a continued rise in prices while the value of money declines. Nations who were on the Gold Standard during the 19th century until 1914 experienced little or no inflationary trends. In 1971 the U.S. under President Richard Nixon decoupled the value of the dollar from gold altogether. Now a U.S. dollar is only worth 12 cents of what it was worth in 1950. Hyperinflation is a situation where the price increases are so out of control that the concept of inflation is meaningless. The post-WWII hyperinflation of Hungary holds the record for the most rapid monthly inflation increase ever: 41,900,000,000,000,000 percent for July 1946, which means prices doubled every 13.5 hours.

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Editor's Musings

In Northern Ontario, there is possibly 3,000,000 acres of class 2, 3 and 4 fertile land which is largely undeveloped. The area is rated at 2355 heat units (Earlton Airport).

The 8 year average for heat units here is 2930 with this year running at 2885 (farmwest.com).

My son talked about flying up to the Earlton Airport. He was flying over trees and rocks then suddenly he came out into the agricultural area. When he landed at the airport, it was so quiet, he could almost hear the corn growing. In the few hours he was there, he heard one aeroplane come in and one leave.

Part of the problem in that area is getting your product to a market. It is 10 hours to get to the Cargill beef processing plant in Guelph. It is six hours to the grain elevators in Thunder Bay. But as more farmers come and begin working the lands and producing produce, new avenues are expected to come online.

The Mennonites moved into Matheson eight years ago and have established a variety of businesses including poultry, pork and a variety of crops.

A farmer from Alberta who was renting land for \$300 an acre, moved into the Kapuskasing area and bought land for that price.

I have been told that one of our local tile drainage firms spent a fair amount of time up in that area. Cost share programs are available for tile drainage work.

With land prices in our area running in the \$10,000 an acre range and twice that amount in southern Ontario, there are some great opportunities in northern Ontario.

You may read that airports / flights are down 75 to 80%. As these aeroplanes fly around the country, they are constantly relaying air temperature, relative humidity, air pressure, wind directions and speed back to the meteorologists for up to date and accurate weather reports. Because only a quarter of the planes are in the air, there has been less weather data available for various parts of the world. I would suppose that is the reason some of our weather reports may not be as accurate as one would like.

The provincial government is thinking about releasing the names of all registered farm businesses in response to a Freedom of Information request. Farm organizations vociferously objected to any information being released and in a government survey, only 3% (15 farms) were in favour of releasing their information.

Why does someone want it.

In these days of 'peaceful' activists, some wonder if they want to know where all the dairy or pork or beef or mink farms are. Another "Peaceful" protest is about the names and if someone is offended by your identification, there may be some reckoning there.

There is a 30 day period in which an appeal can be made re the decision. The Ontario Federation of Agriculture has indicated that they are protesting the decision.

There are 35 potential coronavirus vaccines in human trials across the world, and countries are making plans for how they will eventually be used. China says there's no need for everyone in the country to get vaccinated, just frontline workers and high-risk populations. It's a sign of growing confidence among governments that they can get the virus under control.

A straw poll or is an ad-hoc or unofficial vote. It is used to show the popular opinions on a certain matter, and can be used to help politicians know the majority opinion and help them decide what to say in order to gain votes. Straw polls provide dialogue among movements within large groups. Their accuracy depends on the demographics of the people polled. Online and internet based polling are not considered random samples.

I checked out a few.

A question was - "What scares you the most?" Covid 5%, the government 79% and other 16%.

In the Team Daily Opinion Polls, owned and operated by the Conservative Buzz LLC, the question asked "Should Trump win the Nobel Peace Prize? Of 2772 votes, over 92% of the voters thought he should.

Another question was "Do you trust Dr. Fauci?" - 7042 votes and only 26.38% said yes.

Another question with 7573 votes was "Are the Oregon Fires caused by arson or climate change?" 95.71% said arson.

Another question - "Was 9/11 an inside job?" How come two towers got hit but three imploded? 3480 votes split almost evenly 51% yes and 49% no.

94.58% think Trump will win the election!

A local poll had 25% of the parents saying that they would not send their kids back to school. I have not read anything lately to see what portion are keeping their children home.

In another Canadian poll out Tuesday where they surveyed 1539 people, it found that a 1/4 say they believe public health and government officials exaggerate the warnings. That means 75% do not think these officials exaggerate so why are they emphasizing the negative?

Do you wonder if we are in the minority?

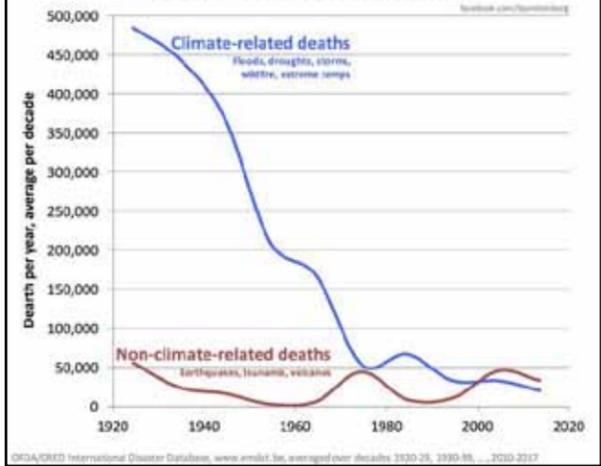
An update on my solar panels - the revenue from August was \$542.12 plus HST, the return on 1430 kWh. That was about a smidgen below average for the 5 years I have had them.

In July, I was right on average with 1663 kWh.

June was great with 1790 kWh. It was the most lucrative this year when July is usually the number one producing period.

In 4 years and four months, the revenue has been approximately \$19,400. The system cost \$30,000 installed. My contract with Ontario Hydro is for 20 years and I get paid 38.4 cents per kW.

Deaths from Climate and non-Climate Catastrophes, 1920-2017



The students are back to school amid the worries that there is not enough social distancing to prevent the spread of the Covid virus despite the wearing of masks.

I have a grand-daughter in grade 8. She is one of the 27 students. Another is in Grade 5 and she is one of 23. Their brother is in grade 3. He doesn't want to be there. He would rather be riding his bicycle, fishing or doing half a dozen other things. He has 17 classmates.

On Friday, we took the oldest to the high school. Off the grounds, there was a group of 10-15 with no masks on kibitzing about whatever.

In numerous places we saw very few masks and not much social distancing. If any of the students get the virus, people will claim "I told you so!" If any students get the virus, there is a greater chance that it was contacted in their groups outside of the classroom.



Not everyone is in favour of the mask rule. They are protesting. That is why we live in a democratic country. It is legal.

An interesting website is Worldometer. In their Coronavirus part you can see the cases and deaths in each of the 215 countries and territories. Here you can find the number of cases and/ or deaths per one million people.

In total case United States (20,371) is in 11th place behind Qatar (43,527), Bahrain, French Guinea, Aruba, Panama, Chile, Kuwait, Peru, San Marino, and Brazil. Sweden which was criticized for not locking down is in 34th spot with 8638 cases per million. Canada is in 83rd spot with 3650 per mil. The average is 3785.

In total deaths per million, the US is again in 11th place with 601. Doing worse than them we have, San Marion 1237, Peru, Belgium, Andorra, Spain, Bolivia, Chile, Brazil, Ecuador and the UK. Sweden is in 13th spot with 579. Canada (243) is in 29th. The average is 119.8 per mil.

Total deaths are at almost one million. If there is any good news in that, it is that the experts predicted between 10 and 20 million.

In the world as of Tuesday, there were 29,631,542 positive tests for COVID 19 and 936,229 deaths - a rate of 3.17% of those sick and 0.01% of the world population.

In Canada (37,810,245), there have been 138,463 cases and 9,179 deaths - 6.65% of those that tested positive or 0.02% of the Canadian population. There have been 6,235,465 tests and 2.1% were positive.

In Ontario (15 million) we have had 44,817 cases with 2816 deaths - a rate of 6.2 deaths. - 14 in 100,000 sick and 19 in a million dying.- one in every 5263 people.

In Simcoe Muskoka, there have been 770 diagnosed and 37 deaths, a rate of 4.8% and 0.007% of out 540,249 people. In our area, one in every 14,600 people have died. There is one person in the hospital today with the virus.

When over 80% of the people have almost no symptoms, I wonder if there is too much emphasis put on the number with COVID 19. We don't record how many people had the flu, or the common cold or the number that went for a car ride.

Charles - do you want me to promote you as a handyman available for hire? You can show them pictures of your house and all you have done there. Do you have pictures of the before and after?

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MIDHURST PHARMACY

Let's Talk About...
Influenza Vaccine (Flu Shot)

With Pharmacist Owners Jenna Lougheed & Carolyn Glover

For the past two years, pharmacies have surpassed physicians' offices as the destination for the influenza vaccine. Canada's provinces and territories have ordered more influenza vaccine this year to meet an anticipated surge in demand as more people seek protection from the flu during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Typically, the influenza vaccine arrives in October to allow for administration to take place ahead of the influenza season of December to April. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) meets in late summer to determine the specific strains of influenza A and/or B that the vaccine will contain based on what transpires in the southern hemisphere. This year, the high dose influenza vaccine will be available for administration at pharmacies for people 65 years and older.

Administration of the influenza vaccine will look different this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pharmacies will need to adhere to COVID-19 safety and distancing guidelines to protect staff and the public. We await further information from the ministry and the health unit to finalize our plans for administration. We have started a list at the pharmacy to call patients when the vaccine becomes available. Please call to be added to the list or if you have any questions related to your health and wellness; our Pharmasave pharmacists are here to help.

94 Finlay Mill Rd, Midhurst ON
 705.503.7333 | www.pharmasavemidhurst.com

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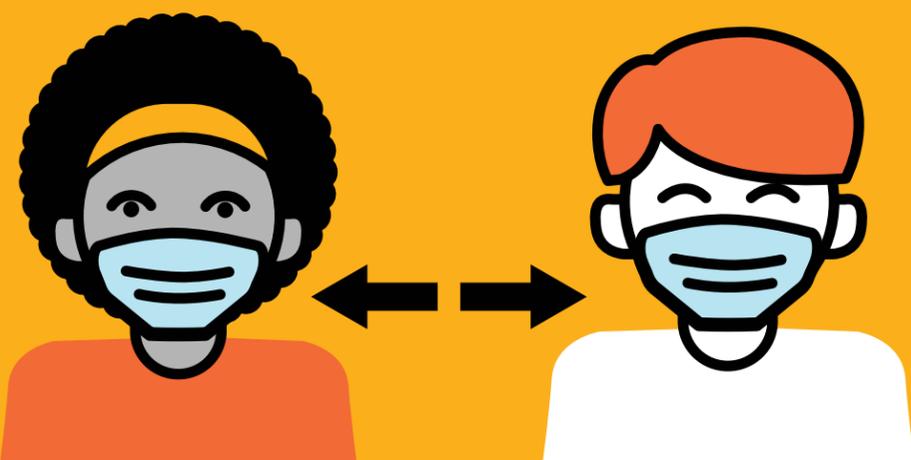
Covid Chart in Ontario

Day	Total Cases	Deaths	Resolved	W/virus
Apr 6	309 = 4,347	13 = 132	1624	2591
Apr 14	606 (11,184)	31 = 584	3568	4051
Apr 24	640 (13,519)	50 = 763	7087	5669
Apr 25	476 (13,995)	48 = 811	7509	5675
Apr 29	347 (15,728)	45 = 996	9612	5120
May 6	412 (18,722)	68 = 1429	13,222	4071
May 10	294 (20,238)	35 = 1634	14,774	3030
May 17	340 (22,653)	23 = 1881	17,360	3412
May 19	427 (23,384)	15 = 1919	17,889	3576
May 26	287 (26,191)	21 = 2123	19,958	4110
June 5	338 (29,047)	19 = 2312	22,802	3933
June 12	182 (31,726)	11 = 2498	26,174	3054
June 18	173 (32,917)	3 = 2553	28,012	2352
June 25	189 (34,205)	10 = 2641	29,519	2046
July 2	153 (35,370)	4 = 2680	30,737	1953
July 9	170 (36,348)	3 = 2703	31,986	1659
July 21	203 (37,942)	1 = 2753	33,617	1572
Aug 5	86 (39,714)	4 = 2782	35,743	1260
Aug 11	33 (40,194)	0 = 2786	36,456	952
Aug 30	112 (42,195)	1 = 2810	38,186	1198
Aug 31	114 (42,309)	1 = 2811	38,277	1221
Sept 1	112 (42,421)	1 = 2812		
Sept 2	133	-1 = 2811		
Sept 3	132	0 = 2811		
Sept 4	148	0 = 2811		
Sept 5	169 (43,003)	0 = 2811	38,974	1374
Sept 6	158 (43,161)	0 = 2811		
Sept 8	185	2 = 2813		
Sept 9	149	0 = 2813		
Sept 10	170	0 = 2813		
Sept 11	213	0 = 2813		
Sept 12	232 (44,300)	1 = 2814	39,717	1769
Sept 13	204 (44,504)	1 = 2815		
Sept 14	313 (44,817)	1 = 2816	39,974	2027
Sept 15	251 (45,068)	4 = 2820	40,091	2157

Reopening schools safely matters to everyone

That's why the government of Ontario has worked with health officials, school boards and educators to develop a comprehensive plan to keep kids and staff safe.

- **Physical distancing** measures will be implemented such as desk separation, signs, floor markings and one-way hallways.
- **Face coverings** will be required for staff and students in Grades 4-12.
- **Hand hygiene** will be enabled with hand sanitizer and hand washing.
- **More nurses** will be in schools.
- **School cleaning** will be enhanced.



Our New Warriors

This article was written for the Royal Canadian Legion in an effort to formally recognize healthcare workers as veterans within the Royal Canadian Legion. At the Royal Canadian Legion, we have pledged to take care of our veterans and their families. To us they fought for freedom. Throughout our history many men and women have died in conflict after conflict fighting for what they love. It could be the nation's flag, or simply the person standing next to them. Regardless of why or for whom they do it for we recognize these great sacrifices and remember them every year on November 11th. We recognize those who did not make it home, those who did not make it home in one piece, and those who are still with us. A freedom that we all enjoy in Canada. Well now we are here again.

Now we face a new enemy. An enemy that does not care what our beliefs are. An enemy that does not care what colour uniform we wear or the flag we fly. This is an enemy that will kill us just simply because we are humans. Its weapons are our everyday human interactions. This enemy threatens freedom and our very lives greater than any other enemy we have ever faced. However, we are not alone in this. We have thousands of healthcare workers who devote their lives and take the greatest risks to save us. They do this much like a soldier out of love. Love for life and their fellow human beings.

Our new frontline soldiers who will be involved in these battles deserve the respect and notoriety of their ancestors who fought for the same reasons and gave the same sacrifice. Once this war is over our healthcare workers will need our support to help them with their everyday lives and dealing with the aftereffects of this virus. Therefore, it is important to recognize healthcare workers perhaps not the same, but as on equal standing with our veterans. It is up to us to do the right thing and help those who have risked everything to help us. Much like the soldiers of physical conflicts in the past, these new soldiers will have wounds.

The key element in all of this is love and empathy. Two basic character traits that right now do not seem as common as they should be. Perhaps this pandemic will serve as a reminder that we must love and respect those around us because it is our only chance of survival. Perhaps this should be seen as a sign to stop fighting each other in needless battles with guns and bombs and focus our attention on the real enemies that can kill us. The non-human enemies.

Kelsey Quesnelle, Laurentian University Student, Parry Sound, ON

Challenging the Firearms Ban – an Update

Published September 1, 2020 If you have forgotten the Order in Council that banned 1500 firearms (and counting) on May 1st, 2020, its really not surprising with everything that has been going on, most notably the WE scandal, the appointment of Chrystia Freeland to replace Bill Morneau as Finance Minister, and the proroguing of Parliament. But I am sure it is still top of mind for the millions of legal gun owners in Canada, who overnight suddenly discovered their property was now illegal.

There are now six Federal Court proceedings seeking to overturn the Order in Council. Lawyer, Arkadi Bouchelev reports that they are all being case-managed as one proceeding and will likely be heard at the same time, possibly not before late 2021.

He further states that "Regardless of the outcome of the case, there will likely be an appeal to the Federal Court of Appeal and eventually perhaps even to the Supreme Court of Canada, which could take years to make their way through the Court system. For these reasons, I have been instructed by my clients to apply to the Court for an interim injunction that would allow owners of firearms affected by the Order in Council to continue enjoying their private property while this case is being litigated. As it stands now, the owners of such firearms may only keep them at home under lock and key and cannot use them for hunting and target shooting. My clients feel that this is neither reasonable nor fair. To be clear, my clients will be asking that the injunction be for the benefit of ALL Canadian gun owners and not just the nine people that I represent."

The injunction motion is a significant and expensive undertaking, and will require its own witnesses, affidavits, cross-examinations, etc. It is the best chance we have, with the current political climate, to remove the restrictions imposed by the Order in Council.

The OLA is asking if you can help with a donation to our Go Fund Me page. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/gun-ban-court-challenge-judicial-review/> And thank you to all those who have donated.

From the Canadian Sport Shooting Association's website (<https://cssa-cila.org/cssa-supports-three-legal-challenges-of-sor-2020-96/>) "Toronto lawyer Arkadi Bouchelev represents a group of ten public interest litigants in their judicial review. The case is supported by the Ontario Landowners Association.

For those who remember the Peter Sedge case, Mr. Bouchelev is the attorney who successfully defended Mr. Sedge and negotiated a settlement between Mr. Sedge and the Toronto Police Service for their gross misconduct. Mr. Bouchelev has welcomed the CSSA's considerable expertise and assistance."

BRIDGE BITES from The American Contract Bridge League

THE ART OF CONCEALMENT

By: Brian Gunnell

♠ T32 ♥ J43 ♦ AK62 ♣ AT9	North	♠ AJ95 ♥ 765 ♦ 9843 ♣ K5
♠ K74 ♥ T982 ♦ QT5 ♣ 432	West	East
	Declarer	
♠ Q86 ♥ AKQ ♦ J7 ♣ QJ876		

South opens 1NT, which nowadays usually shows 15-17 HCP. North bids 3NT, and West leads the ♥T.

Declarer can see enough tricks once the ♣K is out of the way, but those Spades look somewhat fragile. We have two questions. Firstly, how do you play the Hearts? Secondly, how do you play the Clubs? These questions are not misprints, we'd really like to know!

Declarer can see that the opening Heart lead is from T9xx or some such holding. But, from East's seat, it might well be from holdings such as AT9x or KT9x or QT9x. How can Declarer muddy the waters and create some doubt in East's mind? She could routinely play low from Dummy, as most would, but the play most likely to cause confusion is surely the Jack! Declarer then wins the trick with the Ace, and East will say to himself: "I've seen this movie before. Declarer was hoping that I had the Queen and would cover. Clearly she is laying a false trail and has AK doubleton in the suit"

Now Declarer plays on Clubs. If she leads the ♠Q then that pretty much advertises the situation. So, instead, she runs the less informative Jack, and when East wins the King he'll have some thinking to do. Declarer has a maximum of three points in Diamonds, and appears to have seven points in Hearts. The Club situation won't be clear, and East might visualize Declarer's hand as: ♠KQx, ♥AK, ♦QTxx, ♣J87x, or something similar. If so then a Heart continuation beats the contract.

A less devious Declarer will play a low Heart from Dummy on Trick 1, and will run the ♠Q at Trick 2. When East wins his King, he'll have more clues, and is more likely to diagnose Declarer's Spade weakness. If he does, he will be sure to switch to the Spade Jack, a so-called "surrounding play" which allows the defense to grab four Spade tricks, setting the contract.

Visit www.acbl.org for more about the fascinating game of bridge or email marketing@acbl.org
For games in Barrie see www.barriebridge.com
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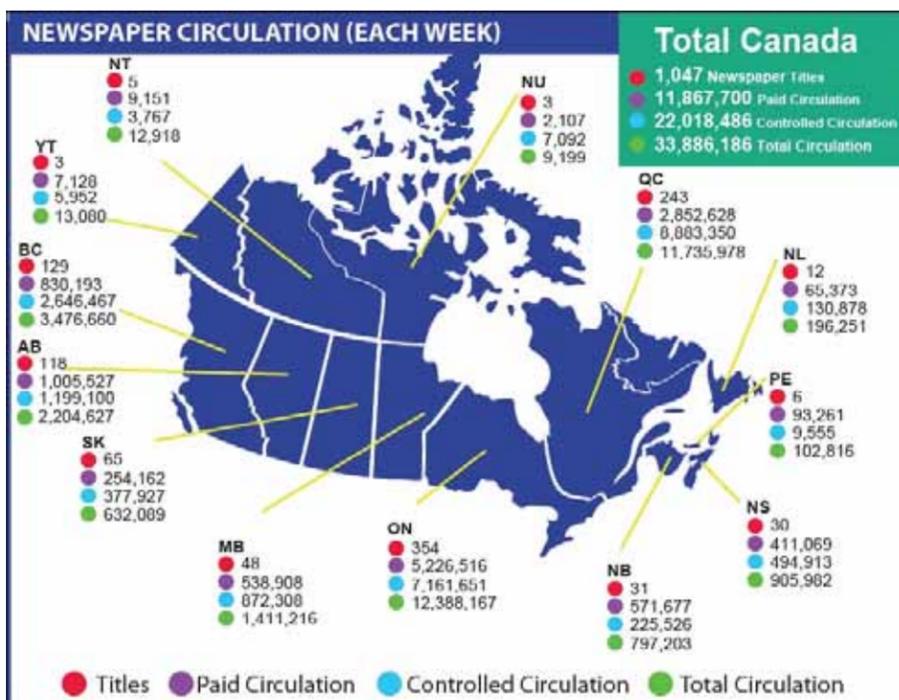
Snapshot 2020: Canada's newspapers have a total weekly circulation of almost 34 million



Canada's newspaper industry includes both daily and community newspapers, with a combined total of 1,047 titles. Last year's Snapshot fact sheet focused on community newspapers, but for 2020, we have expanded our scope to include daily newspapers, giving Canadians a better understanding of the complete industry.

In the 2020 newspaper industry, daily newspapers make up almost 20 million of the near 34 million copies circulated weekly. On the whole, 35 per cent of newspaper circulation is paid and 65 per cent is free (controlled). In terms of newspaper format, most daily newspapers are published in broadsheet format, while community newspapers are largely in tabloid format.

To read more about the data from this year, download the new fact sheet by clicking [here](#).



My View – Bill French

Leadership Void on Springwater Council? You decide.

Since I have been asked, and prompted by a few people, I have decided to put forth my two cents worth. I was also not impressed by the Mayor's sarcastic response to my question at the last Council Meeting or his vile response to a question from a Midhurst resident who also questioned why Council would even be considering downsizing when the Township is growing. I think the Mayor's true colours and temperament are surfacing.

How's this for an unfiltered start, "My opinion is that the Mayor and Deputy Mayor you elected (I didn't vote for either!) together could not come up with a new idea that would benefit the residents of Springwater in any real way, if their life depended on it." They both seem to be of that new generation of elected officials who like the position and will do their utmost to protect it but, for the most part, act as security guards and rubber stamp staff driven initiatives. Don't get me wrong, many staff generated ideas are quite good, so that comment is not intended to be an insult to Township management or staff. During my four years as Mayor, we got the job done with a vibrant collaborative Council working cooperatively (not always agreeing but not polarized as today) but Council was driving the bus and moved the township forward in many ways. Times have changed in two years. By way of an analogy, if our current Mayor and Deputy Mayor had been on the Titanic they would be gleefully rearranging the deck chairs rather than trying to get people into the lifeboats.

I would like to address two examples recently where the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were two peas in a pod on matters that should have all residents questioning their motives. It also brings into question their leadership abilities.

The first was the Delegation of Power to the CAO at the start of the Pandemic. There was absolutely no reason to do such a thing and few municipalities took that route. For a Council to relegate its function to a senior staff member showed a total lack of leadership on the part of both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor in a time of crisis. It appears they wanted to distance themselves from anything that might go wrong. It's their job to guide the ship in stormy waters, not abandon it or pass it off to the harbour master. At first, I somewhat excused them for this lapse in judgement as it somewhat appears, by their actions, that neither have worked in a real world challenge or crisis, but when things settled down, it took a new Councillor from Ward 4 to table a motion to rescind the delegation. Guess who argued strongly against it? The Mayor and Deputy Mayor wanted the Delegation to stay in place, and their arguments, if you watch the Council meeting, were less than impressive. The Deputy Mayor suggested it was an example of strong leadership. Not sure what planet she lives on. It took the leadership of two new and two veteran Councillors to bring back control to Council. I felt sorry that before the vote, the CAO, who had been delegated the authority, made a passionate plea that he would like to see a unanimous resolution, one way or the other instead of a split decision. Thank God, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, to avoid looking like morons, voted with the rest of Council to give authority back to the Council members we all elected to lead and guide the Township in good times and bad. The point is that the returning control of the Township to Council should have been initiated by one of the Heads of Council, not a new Councillor.

Let's face it, we are in the midst of this terrible pandemic, but our Two Heads of Council are just going through the motions and don't seem to get it. At the Council meeting earlier this month, the Deputy Mayor put a motion forward, which would have been a waste of time and tax dollars, having staff review and investigate the possibility of changing our ward system to Councillors at large and possibly reducing the Council from 7 members to 5 for the next election. Think about it. Since this Council is advancing the Midhurst Secondary Plan (MSP), a new smaller governance model would be ludicrous. (For those that are new to Springwater the MSP will see Midhurst and area grow to close to 30,000 from the 3,500 of today over the next 10 plus years and will become the poster child for the worst type of urban sprawl, possibly in Ontario. It will make Bramalea look like a well designed community). The point is that the township will more than double in size in the next decade or so and the brilliant mind of the Deputy Mayor supported by the Mayor thinks this is a time to consider changing the governance model that works perfectly. She probably comes from the school of "change for change sake". The arguments against the motion were well presented by the councillors from Ward 1, 2, 4 and 5. Of course, in lock step, after these arguments were presented and those that spoke against the motion voted against it, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor still voted in favour and ended up again on the wrong side of the decision. I might also suggest to our Ward 3 Councillor, you don't always have to vote with the Deputy Mayor. In times like these we need true leadership at the top with some vision and plan of what Springwater should look like in 5, 10 and 15 years especially when we rise from the impacts of COVID-19. The good news for all of us is that some of the new Councillors understand their responsibility, so we are at least going in a positive direction with leadership coming from the bottom up. The one positive thing that came out of the arguments on the motion was the consideration of possibly dropping the Deputy Mayor position in any governance model change. The DM position was only created to provide two members to County Council from the lower tier municipality. Since the County is considering a whole new governance model with less members, we might be able to eliminate this unnecessary DM position and replace it with more direct representation, such as another Councillor. The Deputy Mayor, as a separate position is not even recognized or required under the Municipal Act and therefore has the same power and status of a Ward Councillor anyway. Stay tuned.

Now is the time to start finding out who your Councillor really is and educate yourself, as our local Council Members, with positive ideas focused on their constituents, can make our living in Springwater either wonderful or barely tolerable. The good news is we get to decide.

Please remember these are my thoughts and I am not asking you to agree. I respect your freedom of expression and encourage you to SPEAK UP, before that freedom is taken from us!!

Bill French is a seasoned business leader with over 40 years experience and served in senior positions of International Enterprises. Bill served as Mayor of Springwater and a County of Simcoe Councillor from 2014 to 2018 and has taught business at the college level for over 15 years

Fraser Institute News Release: Canada lags behind U.S. in economic freedom, China threatens Hong Kong's top rank in annual report

TORONTO, Sept. 10, 2020 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Canadians are less economically free than Americans for the second straight year, according to the Fraser Institute's annual *Economic Freedom of the World* report released today.

The United States ranks 6th in this year's report compared to Canada, which ranks 9th. "Due partly to higher taxes and increased regulation in Ottawa and among provinces, Canadians are less economically free than their American cousins, which means slower economic growth and less investment in Canada," said Fred McMahon, Dr. Michael A. Walker Research Chair in Economic Freedom at the Fraser Institute.

The report measures the economic freedom—the ability of individuals to make their own economic decisions—by analyzing the policies and institutions of 162 countries and territories. Indicators include regulation, freedom to trade internationally, size of government, property rights, government spending and taxation. The 2020 report is based on data from 2018, the latest year of comparable statistics.

According to this year's report, Hong Kong again ranks 1st followed by Singapore, New Zealand, Switzerland, Australia, the United States, Mauritius, Georgia, Canada and Ireland.

However, China's heavy hand threatens Hong Kong's top ranking.

"While Hong Kong remains the most economically-free jurisdiction in the world, interference from China, including the violent crackdown on pro-democracy protests, severely undermines Hong Kong's rule of law, which helps ensure equal freedom for all," said McMahon, adding that there's a two-year data lag for the annual report, so he expects Hong Kong's score to decline in future years.

The rankings of other major countries include Japan (20), Germany (21), Italy (51), France (58), Mexico (68), India (105), Russia (89), China (124) and Brazil (105).

People living in countries with high levels of economic freedom enjoy greater prosperity, more political and civil liberties, and longer lives.

For example, countries in the top quartile of economic freedom had an average per-capita GDP of US\$44,198 in 2018 compared to US\$5,754 for bottom quartile countries. And poverty rates are lower. In the top quartile, 1.7 per cent of the population experienced extreme poverty (US\$1.90 a day) compared to 31.5 per cent in the lowest quartile.

Finally, life expectancy is 80.3 years in the top quartile of countries compared to 65.6 years in the bottom quartile.

"Where people are free to pursue their own opportunities and make their own choices, they lead more prosperous, happier and healthier lives," McMahon said.

The Fraser Institute produces the annual Economic Freedom of the World report in cooperation with the Economic Freedom Network, a group of independent research and educational institutes in nearly 100 countries and territories. It's the world's premier measurement of economic freedom.

The report was prepared by James Gwartney, Florida State University; Robert A. Lawson and Ryan Murphy of Southern Methodist University; and Joshua Hall, West Virginia University.

-- Health Help with a Hearty Glass of Wine --

First things first, a proper glass of wine is a 5-ounce pour. So when I say "moderate drinking", that means what is clinically considered to be healthy. For women, it's one glass a day and for men it's two.

Wine contains antioxidants that attack free radicals. White wine is going to be your go-to if you're looking for one that is high in antioxidants.

As we get older, our bones get more brittle. You can always increase your calcium intake by drinking milk...but that's not nearly as enjoyable as sipping on a glass of red wine. The silicon in red wine is great for your bone density and it also reduces your risk of osteoporosis.

Moderate consumption of wine - and alcohol in general - can prevent blood clotting. Wine acts as a natural blood thinner, breaking up any blood clots that could lead to a stroke. This lower risk of blood clotting is more beneficial to females than males. HOWEVER, light to moderate consumption may be good in preventing a stroke, heavy drinkers are more likely to have the opposite effect, resulting in a higher risk of heart attacks, not a lower risk.

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Sports with Patrick Townes

Rules, Rules, Rules! The world is full of rules, and they are there for a reason. This is no different in sports. Some rule changes that were made this year in baseball are here to stay in most folks' opinions.

The extra-inning rule where a runner begins the inning on second has been a game changer and a time-saver for baseball this season. In prior years, baseball has been thinking of ways to make the games shorter. Ending the games earlier by having a runner on second during the extra inning has accomplished making the game shorter and saved pitchers from numerous extra innings. It has also made the game more exciting. Fastball has longed use the "international tie breaker" rule in games. Not only does this help complete the game but it brings real strategy and the need for execution in order to be successful. Not surprisingly, there have not been many bunts in the major leagues to move the player over. Players will not even bunt when they are afforded a free base when the defenders play in a shifted position. Because games are being ended quicker, this rule is likely here to stay.

Another rule that was implemented is the minimum batters faced for relief pitchers. Unless an inning is ended, a relief pitcher must pitch to at least three batters. This cuts down on pitching changes during an inning, and also requires managers to think more ahead as to who they put in to pitch. It always makes the managers deliberate more how they craft their lineup. It is now more important to shape your lineup with a mix of left and right handed batters. This is an area of strength for the Blue Jays compared to other years where their lineup was dominated by right handed hitters. This rule is likely also here to stay. The major thing that was implemented prior to this year was a pitch clock on the pitcher to also speed up the game.

To DH or not to DH? This rule is a tough one. Common sense tells us that it makes really no sense at all to have a DH in one league and no DH in another league. Over an entire career, it would be interesting to see the detailed statistics of how many more strikeouts a pitcher has in the National League due to facing the opposing team's pitcher between two and three times a night. Not having a DH at the end of the day is embarrassing to the pitchers who are, in most cases, an automatic out. Baseball wants more homeruns, and this is a certain way to help increase these numbers. The American League ERA is usually 0.30 higher than the National League because they face a DH instead of the opposing pitcher. This rule is also likely here to stay.

The above rule changes were primarily implemented due to a shortened season, but after using them in real games, it is likely that they will be in the game for the long run. Now onto the unwritten rules of baseball. These are tough to administer and judge, but one thing should be made clear, they do not apply to professional sports.

Professional athletes get paid on a performance basis. Asking someone not to hit a homerun or give outs away is like asking a banker not to make too much money, a construction worker not to work at a pace higher than anyone else, a doctor seeing more patients in a day than another. It is amazing to know that down 10 runs a team will still play the shift on defence and get mad at someone bunting. If you do not want them to bunt or you think the game is over, do not play the shift. If you are losing big, do not let the count get to 3-0 before throwing a ball right down the middle and getting smashed over the fence. Not to mention, teams are trying to weaken the opponents pitching staff before they have to face them the next day or the day after. It is professional sports. It is a job, and there should be no whining or commenting on the lack of respect for the unwritten rules of baseball (or another sport). At the end of the day, forget the bad game and move into the next. Each day comes with a fresh score.

For those who play amateur sports, and for seasoned veterans on the ball field, you usually can tell when a game is out of reach and it is time to play station to station. But at the same time, I can remember back to games where huge leads were given up and the game was lost due to taking the foot off the gas pedal. Likely the best thing to do is to play the game out, knowing that throughout your career you will may be on the winning "big" side just as much as the losing "big" side? That's sports.

A couple of bad innings for the Yankees pitchers in Buffalo and they are complaining about the lights and the Blue Jays stealing signs. Sounds like a team that is quickly falling in the standings after having high expectations for this season. To be fair, they are dealing with injuries to star players this season. The Blue Jays are surviving and winning close games.

There have been some questions on how the team has used their pitchers this season -- specifically regarding the length the starting pitchers have been going in games. There are some advantages of taking starters out of the game early, such as not seeing the opposing batters more than twice in a game. However, time and time again, Buck and Dan will mention how over-worked the bullpen is getting. It is time to stretch out the starters a little bit more. Tanner Roark was removed from a start against the Yankees after only four innings and two times through the lineup, and he voiced his displeasure over the radio. He may be right, but he should only make these comments in the manager's office, in private. He does have the highest



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Boston Pizza Midland Donates \$395,235 to Wendat



Photo: (L to R) Verna Porter Wendat, Andy Staffen, owner BP Midland and Andrea Abbott-Kokosin Executive Director of Wendat Community Programs. (Note: this photo was taken in December 2019, pre COVID-19)

Established in 1990, Boston Pizza Foundation is proud to be celebrating 30 years of giving back. And thanks to our loyal guests and franchisees, we have raised and donated over \$30 million in support of charities across Canada and around the world. In addition, through the Local Community Program, locally owned and operated Boston Pizza restaurants support registered charities operating within their communities. BP Midland has chosen to donate their Local Community Program funds to Wendat Community Programs. Since 2005, BP Midland has donated over \$395,235.05 in support of this great organization.

The funds have been raised through both the annual Charity Golf Tournament and Local Community Program fundraising events held at BP Midland. All the funds given to Wendat have been used to purchase passenger vans to transport clients to and from a range of programs provided by Wendat Community Programs.

"Wendat Community Programs is so grateful for the generous, ongoing support of Andy Staffen and the staff of Boston Pizza Midland" said Andrea Abbott-Kokosin, Executive Director.

Wendat Community Programs was founded in 1987 and provides high quality care, treatment and rehabilitation services to both frail elderly and to persons experiencing a mental illness who are living in the North Simcoe-Muskoka area.

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earned run average on the team and that likely assisted in the decision to pull him early from the start. The Jays eventually lost that game. Pitchers like Roark have to remember one thing -- that the manager who removed him from the game is the same manager who decides who to pitch the next games. With a deep pitching rotation, if he is not careful, he may find himself on the outside looking in.

Overall, the coaching on the Blue Jays needs to get a little more forceful. There have been way too many base running blunders over the past two weeks. When you thought they got all of the mistakes out of their system, they just kept coming. These are huge plays that give momentum back to the other team. Players need to start sitting innings or being pulled from games for not making a full effort or making mistakes (continually) on the bases. For those that think it is good that the team is being aggressive, this base running goes well beyond and is simply careless.

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Beware of Wolves in Sheep's Clothing!

In the 1970's Doctor Horowitz, an American GP walked away from the medical model of healing to pursue a more holistic approach to treating patients. His greatest work however was his book exposing Big Pharma's *goal* which is to ensure that every person walking the face of the earth is vaccinated. These unprecedented times have realized Big Pharma's goal with mandated vaccination even though this is simply a 'flu' which has been experienced before--just under a different name.

Although we are being enanded with controversial reports, I encourage you to seek out the truth for yourself rather than relying on mainstream media. Let us all make an effort and seek out the *hidden* agenda for these unprecedented times--for this is a 'silent war.' Let us all take a stand and refuse to be 'muzzled' and trained to be obedient little children--for this is the 'slave' mentality rooted in fear. It has taken me many years to comprehend what the greatest *Philosopher of Love* meant by the title of this article which appears in the Bible. At a first glance, this statement could apply to any of us.

However, when I read Dr. Horowitz's book, I realized that this phrase is referring to Big Pharma. In the past thirty years, many people worldwide have transitioned from prescription drugs to a more humane way of treating physical symptoms as well as *broken hearts*. This shift has been a major financial loss for Big Pharma in addition to many lawsuits from family members whose loved ones died as a result of prescription drugs. One of my dear young friends, age 39, an Architect, and a new father jumped in front of an oncoming train while on anti-depressants. Big Pharma paid the family \$10 million to keep their mouth shut!

Hippocrates, the father of medicine, as well as many other well-known Doctors worldwide tell us that all disease begins in our mental body, and in time these negative thoughts manifest as physical dis-ease. Our body is constantly communicating with us when we have taken a wrong turn on the road. Our thoughts impact our brain, the brain impacts our 7 major organs. As most of us know there are millions of beliefs, but most of these beliefs are not Universal Truths! For when we are living the truth, we are free! Only you know if you are free from fear, anger, guilt, shame, and so on!

According to Reliable News, Moderna is in the 3rd and final stage of their vaccine development. Anthony Fauci, a Cornell graduate was a roommate with none other than Bill Gates, who designed the RFID (*Radio-frequency identification*) and patented it under US2006257852. Moderna was a pharmaceutical company that started in Germany under the name IG Farben. IG Farben is infamous for it's mass production of Zyklon-B, the primary gas used to kill millions during the Holocaust. After Germany fell, IG Farben was dissolved and its assets sold off by a Nazi turned American by the name of George Soros. Soros rebranded the company as Moderna. Jeffrey Epstein was the primary stockholder, where he made his fortune, but all his wealth could not save him from his emptiness and self-loathing which he tried to fulfill by engaging in carnal pleasure with young teenagers--the ultimate power for an 'emotionally' stunted and *soulless* billionaire whose lifetime sentence was cut short to silence him for naming other *soulless* powerful men.

Let us take a stand and exercise our Canadian Constitution of freedom of choice and be courageous enough to say 'no' to being vaccinated! For nearly a century, scientists have been using various organs from 3-1/2--5 months gestation *forcibly* aborted, fully intact babies in polio research, noting that in many cases, 'the baby's heart was still beating' when the delivery was made to the virus laboratory. (For more information on this very disturbing information contact Children of God for Life 727.483.9251 or <http://www.cogforlife.org>).

Be the change you want to see in the world!
*Rita Be-Still, Healer of Broken Hearts, Author,
Be-Still Foundation for Higher Spiritual Learning,
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Is there a spelled-out version of the abbreviation Mrs.?
Answer: Mrs. is an abbreviation for *mistress*. In early England, *missis* and *missus* were used in place of the more formal *mistress*. By the 17th century, they had been replaced by Mrs., at least in written form. In time, Mrs. alone was deemed rather disrespectful and was used only when attached to a name. If you wish to write the abbreviation as it is said, *missus* would be correct. As in the past, however, it has a rather disrespectful connotation when used alone.

Captain's Invitational golf tournament raises more than \$354,000 in one evening!

On Friday, August 28, 2020, a small group of 56 golfers gathered at the Midland Golf & Country Club for the first-ever Captain's Invitational Golf Tournament, raising more than \$354,000 in support of Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH). Presented by Toronto-based Urbacon, and hosted by Glenn Howard, the tournament commanded \$8,000 per foursome, with a goal to raise \$110,000 for GBGH.



Marco Mancini, Chairman of Toronto-based Urbacon, welcomes guests of the first Captain's Invitational Golf Tournament in support of Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH). In addition to his annual \$50,000 gift, Mancini pledged to match all donations made to the event, inspiring others to step up and bringing the day's record-breaking total to more than \$354,000 for GBGH.

Urbacon Chairman, Marco Mancini, has a 10-year, \$500,000 pledge to GBGH through the annual Glenn Howard Charity Golf Classic, which, like many other events, had to be cancelled this year. Determined to rally others to join him in supporting the hospital, Mancini proposed the smaller, executive tournament with a dinner and celebration at his private residence in Tiny Township.

"It is my privilege to assist the Foundation to help make a difference in people's lives. Over the 20 years my family has been in Georgian Bay, we have made several trips to GBGH.

We are lucky to have this outstanding facility in our region," said Mancini. "I am thrilled with the results of the Captain's Invitational. Urbacon is in the business of building, but we are also committed to building better, stronger and healthier communities."

This unique tournament brought together loyal Glenn Howard Charity Golf supporters and a handful of teams associated with Urbacon. The results were nothing short of inspiring. Mancini challenged everyone involved to step up for GBGH, and committed to matching every donation made at the event.

"Marco's challenge had an immediate and contagious effect," says Nicole Kraftscik, executive director, GBGH Foundation. "Ten individuals pledged gifts ranging from \$1,000 to \$30,000, with a grand total of \$104,000 committed in less than one hour. I am overwhelmed by the amazing generosity and incredibly grateful to everyone who is helping ensure that critical health care is available close to home. Most of us don't expect to be admitted to hospital – until we are. Nothing is more important than the health of our community."



Officers gathered at the Midland Golf & Country Club on Friday, August 28th for the first Captain's Invitational Golf Tournament in support of Georgian Bay General Hospital. Marco Mancini, Chairman of Toronto-based Urbacon, pledged to match all donations made to the event, in addition to his annual \$50,000 gift, inspiring others to step up and bringing the day's record-breaking total to more than \$354,000 for GBGH. From left: Donny Woods, Gilles Hammel, Glenn Howard and Matt Stone.

The funds raised will complete the surgical expansion project, which began with the Glenn Howard Charity Golf Classic in 2018. The \$300,000 project expanded the surgical services at GBGH to include laparoscopic hernias, three specialized urology procedures, two specialized ENT (ear, nose and throat) surgeries, and orthopedic shoulder surgeries. Additional funds will help address the hospital's significant investment in COVID-19 pandemic preparedness, which totals more than \$500,000. Add this to the hospital's unmet capital equipment requirements of more than \$7-million, and it is clear that supporting the hospital has never been of greater urgency.

"I am thrilled to see the fundraising for the hospital's surgical expansion project completed," says Glenn Howard, world champion curler and host of the Captain's Invitational Golf Tournament. "Kudos to Marco and Urbacon for ensuring we could get this wrapped up for GBGH this year and support the most ongoing critical needs. A donation to our hospital is really a donation to everyone within the community. I want to share my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who pitched in."

Defending Water Supplies: From Elmvale Ontario to Guapinol Honduras

Simcoe County Donations Heralded in El Progreso Honduras

Defending the Water

Springwater Township residents, particularly those who live in the Elmvale area, understand the upset and upheaval that is caused when the water source is threatened. In 2009, protests by local residents and members of the indigenous community stopped Dump Site 41 that was threatening the region's water supply. Indigenous community members camped overnight for months, farmers brought their tractors to block the dump site road, and local residents regularly protested along the road. Some were charged with various offenses for protesting but all charges were dropped.

In Honduras, defending water sources as the residents of Elmvale did and still continue to do so, would be a criminal offense, punishable by long prison sentences. Since the coup d'état of 2009, protesters are considered criminals and are defined as being part of a criminal group that commits criminal acts. When the people of Simcoe County united to stop Dump Site 41, according to Honduran prosecutors, they would be associating as a criminal gang, committing crimes against the state.

In early 2019, a similar situation to the Simcoe County Dump Site 41 protests occurred in the small community of Guapinol in the Aguan Valley in Honduras. Eight men were arrested and sent to prison for defending the water supply of their Guapinol community. They were arrested on trumped up charges of arson, property damage, illegal detention, criminal association amongst others, and through a court created to hear cases of organized crime. They were then sent to maximum-security prisons (see photo courtesy of uusc.org).

In late August, the cases of the 8 defendants went to court but the men were denied bail, despite having already served over a year. Today they remain in prison amidst many COVID-19 cases in the facilities. The men are in prison with very dangerous criminals for merely defending their water supply. Their health is deteriorating, and their chance of freedom is slim.

The Guapinol River provides water for many different communities; the river flows to the valley from the watershed in the mountains. The mountain region surrounding the Aguan Valley is a protected area, yet the government of Honduras changed the rules so that mining company – Inversiones Los Pinares - could excavate. This mining company is owned by Lenir Perez and his wife Ana Facussé. Ana is the daughter of one of the largest oligarchy family landowners in Honduras. The family heads Dinant, a large producer and marketer of palm oil.

The Guapinol defendants' cases are similar to the cases of Edwin Espinal and Raul Alvarez. They too were charged with criminal association to commit criminal acts because they spoke against the government. Yet Edwin and Raul had never met until a month after they had been sent to La Tolva Prison.

Edwin and Raul's cases were sent to be tried in a specially created court for organized criminal groups; this was the first time that 'protesters' were labeled as 'criminal organizations.' The Guapinol case is following a similar legal path to the cases of Edwin and Raul, implying that all protesters who speak against the government are extremely dangerous and that groups of protesters are in fact, people that are illicitly associated with the intention of committing criminal acts. This is setting a serious precedent as protesting is not an offense, it is a right.

The illegal arrest and incarceration of the 8 water defenders of the Guapinol region has garnered international attention. On September 12, 2020 an international panel was featured on a live stream broadcast from Radio Progreso, Honduras, to bring attention to the Guapinol defenders. Speakers from Canada, United States, Mexico, and Honduras united on FaceBook live to bring attention to the injustices of the



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case. Louise Casselman of the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), one of the largest labour public sector unions in Canada, served on the panel. Casselman was representing Common Frontiers and the PSAC Social Justice Fund. She brings attention to the fact that the Canadian

government has tacitly supported every US led coup in the hemisphere from Brazil in 1964 to Honduras in 2009.

It is unfortunate that both the Conservative and Liberal governments have adopted a foreign policy that back Canadian corporate interests on the backs of the people of Central and South America. Casselman states, "International solidarity must be strengthened to build a momentum that can eventually impact policy from the ground up." The Guapinol water defenders must therefore be released and all charges dropped.

Dimitri Lascaris, a Canadian politician and author, has toured the Guapinol community, met with residents, and has researched the Guapinol cases. He is running in the October 2020 leadership race for the Green Party of Canada. His case study can be found at: <https://dimitrilascaris.org/2019/06/10/rampant-human-rights-abuses-in-honduras-a-view-from-the-ground/>

The Aguan Valley communities have been targeted by state and transnational companies for their lands and water for many years. This region has some of the most fertile lands in the country but unfortunately now the land is mostly planted with African palm. Fraught with state sponsored violence, over 150 small farmers have been murdered for defending their land against large takeovers by palm oil corporations such as Dinant.

Many environmentalists have been murdered or disappeared for defending water resources and land in Honduras. One of the most compelling cases is the murder of indigenous Lenca leader, Berta Caceres in 2006, who was defending the water of the Gualcarque River in Rio Blanco, Honduras.

The case of the 5 indigenous community leaders of Tela Bay that were recently kidnapped in July 2020, has yet to be solved. They too were defending their rights to ownership of their land. The men were taken in the early morning by state police and have not been seen since.

Simcoe County Donations Help Children in El Progreso - he Springwater community continues to help support the children's food program in El Progreso. An excellent article about the project was published this week, announcing the international solidarity and funding they have been receiving from us and how beneficial it has been in building support in troubling times. Here is the link to the article: <https://radioprogreso.net/np/reconstruirnos-mejor-el-reto-post-pandemia/> As SCHRMM continues to send monies to help support the program, the children and elderly benefit greatly. They receive a meal a day in a time when many families have lost their jobs due to the pandemic.

Since the government of Honduras has imposed social controls through the suspension of people's civil rights and have only selectively assisted those who support them, many people are without employment and cannot provide for their families.

We thank you for your continued donations and support.
Janet Spring and the
Simcoe County Honduras Rights Monitor Committee

These lockdowns are getting annoying and quite frankly I've had enough. I've discussed the matter over a cup of tea with the kitchen sink, and we both agree that the experience is draining.

I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she puts the wrong spin on everything. Same with the fridge. He only gives cold shoulder. I asked the lamp, but she couldn't shed any new light on the situation.

The vacuum cleaner was rather rude and told me to suck it up Princess.

The threshold was no better, it suggested I get over it.

The carpet advised me to sweep my feelings under the rug.

But the fan was more upbeat and thought that the crisis would soon blow over.

The toilet looked a bit flushed and didn't offer an opinion.

The wall didn't say a word either, just gave me a blank stare.

The doorknob was more forthcoming - told me to get a firm grip on the situation and move on.

The front door declared I was unhinged and so the curtains told me to.....you guessed it right - pull myself together.

Then the chair told me to table it, and the table remarked, I didn't have a leg to stand on.

When I told the table to break a leg, the mirror said that my comments reflected poorly on my thinking.

However, in the end, the iron set things straight. She said everything will be fine.

No situation is too pressing for long any ways. Stay safe everyone

Ontario Extends Support for Employers and Employees Impacted by COVID-19

Protecting jobs by helping businesses avoid costly payouts and closures

TORONTO - The Ontario government is helping protect jobs and businesses by extending protection to prevent temporary layoffs from automatically becoming permanent job losses. Although Ontario is now in Phase 3 of reopening, this extension will give businesses more time to reopen and return to full operations. This extension will last until January 2, 2021.

Under Ontario labour laws, termination of an employee after 13 weeks of being temporarily laid off triggers costly payouts which, for many businesses, could be the difference between survival and closure. This regulatory amendment delays these terminations and severance liabilities.

“As our government continues to take the necessary steps to safely reopen the economy, we need to protect the businesses and employees impacted by COVID-19,” said Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development. “The cost of termination and severance pay can make it impossible for a business to survive and reopen. That’s why we acted to make sure businesses survive and workers have jobs to come back to.”

Quick Facts

- Termination and severance obligations can create a significant financial burden for business. For example, a restaurant with 30 employees could be liable for termination payments as high as \$100,000.
- This measure does not apply to employees represented by a trade union. The government encourages parties in collective bargaining relationships to work together to resolve workplace issues.
- Ontario’s unemployment rate in July was 11.3%.
- Employees at businesses that have fully reopened continue to have job protection through the Infectious Disease Emergency Leave if they need to stay home to isolate or quarantine or take care of a loved one due to COVID-19. This includes parents who decide not to send their children back to school due to concerns about COVID-19.

Ontario Expands Driver Testing Services Provincewide

Road tests for class G driver’s licences will resume September 8

TORONTO - The Ontario government is expanding driver testing services across the province with strict protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Beginning Tuesday, September 8, Ontarians will be able to book class G road tests and access all classes of driver testing services at DriveTest centres across Ontario.

“Our government has taken great care to ensure the health and safety of staff and customers as DriveTest centres have gradually reintroduced services,” said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation. “The resumption of full driver testing services at DriveTest centres will help more people to get back to work as our province continues to reopen.”

All full-time DriveTest centres will be offering 100 per cent of their services with restrictions removed, such as knowledge tests being accessible only by birth month.

Some examples of resumed services include:

First come, first served:

- Class G1 and M1 knowledge tests
- Driver’s licence exchanges and upgrades

By Appointment only:

- Class G2 and class G road tests
- Class M2 and class M motorcycle road tests; and,
- Commercial driver road tests for all classes of commercial driver’s licences.

Part-time Travel Point locations will continue to reopen for driver examination services as the shared facilities they are located in become available for public use. People can visit DriveTest.ca to receive the most up to date information.

To protect the safety of Ontarians, DriveTest continues to require customers to wear face coverings inside centres and during road tests, sanitize their hands when they enter the building and submit to temperature checks and screening questions for those taking road tests. Exceptions will be made for those taking motorcycle road tests and for people with a medical condition or a disability.

All DriveTest staff will wear appropriate personal protective equipment when serving customers and driver examiners will also be equipped with face shields, sanitizer packages and seat covers when conducting road tests.

The government continues to ask the public to be patient when visiting DriveTest centres and is encouraging people who can wait to get a driver’s licence to delay visiting DriveTest centres in an effort to reduce crowding. Ontario has temporarily extended the validity of all driver licences so that no one will lose their licence as a result of COVID-19.

“Throughout this outbreak, Ontarians have made many sacrifices to stop the spread of COVID-19,” said Minister Mulroney. “We appreciate the public’s continued patience and understanding with the health and safety requirements as we are trying to protect you, other customers and

Governments Extend Child Care Funding to Support Working Parents

Bilateral agreement will ensure child care is safe, accessible and affordable

TORONTO — Today, Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, and Ahmed Hussen, Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, announced an additional investment through the one-year Canada-Ontario Early Learning and Child Care Agreement (ELCC) of nearly \$147 million to Ontario for 2020-21. This funding will help licensed child care providers and EarlyON child and family centres.

In 2020-21, ELCC funding supported measures to minimize the impacts of COVID-19. It will also continue to support initiatives outlined in the initial three-year agreement, including increased access for families and professional learning for staff. Funding provided through the ELCC is in addition to \$234.6 million being provided through the Safe Restart Agreement to keep children and staff safe in child care and early years settings.

“We are investing more in child care to ensure it is safe, accessible and affordable for working moms and dads,” said Minister Lecce. “This agreement will ensure funding continues to flow so that child care remains available to parents as they return to work today and into the future.”

During the closure and reopening periods, provincial funding was available to all child care operators to help them remain financially sustainable following the COVID-19 outbreak. Ontario also fully funded emergency child care for health care and other frontline workers during the closure period, and protected parents by preventing child care fees from being charged where care was not provided.

“Child care is not a convenience, it is a necessity. High-quality early learning experiences are essential to the intellectual, emotional and physical development of our children,” said Minister Hussen. “The Government of Canada is pleased to continue working with the Government of Ontario to ensure that all children and families in Ontario have equal access to the quality early learning and child care they need to succeed.”

This is an additional investment through the Early Learning and Child Care Agreement between the federal government and Ontario that was signed in 2017. It builds on commitments made in the [Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework](#) that was signed by all of the provinces and territories.

QUICK FACTS

- There are over 5,500 child care centres and 124 licensed home child care agencies across Ontario.
- As of September 1, 2020, licensed child care centres are permitted to operate at full capacity. [More information about reopening protocols and guidelines.](#)
- The government is [investing up to \\$1 billion over five years](#) to create up to 30,000 licensed child care spaces in schools, including 10,000 spaces in new schools.
- Under the initial ELCC agreement, the federal government allocated \$439 million to Ontario over three years, from 2017-20.
- The [Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework](#) is guided by the principles of providing high quality child care, accessibility, affordability, flexibility and inclusivity.

A synonym is a word you use when you can't spell the word you first thought of. --Burt Bacharach

One reason I don't drink is that I want to know when I am having a good time. --Nancy Astor
Age is mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter. --Satchel Paige

The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age. --Lucille Ball

DriveTest staff.”

Quick Facts

- All DriveTest centres and Travel Point locations were closed on March 23, 2020, in response to COVID-19.
- All full-time DriveTest centres reopened June 22, 2020. Part-time Travel Point locations began reopening August 4, 2020, as the shared facilities they are located in become available for public use.
- Please visit DriveTest.ca to schedule your road test.

The Elms’ Leaflet

WE HAVE NOT BEEN ON HOLIDAYS!

September 4, 2020 It has been several months since the last newsletter, and you may have thought that we were in quarantine or on holidays. Not so! We had hoped to share news with you long before this, but we have all been WAITING.



You will remember that we had written a proposal to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Steve Clarke, requesting a “Minister’s Zoning Order” to expedite the purchase of property on the east side of Elmvale. In February, the Township of Springwater unanimously supported our request for an MZO. In April, the County of Simcoe unanimously supported our request, and the documents were submitted to the Minister.

We all know what happened this spring. COVID-19 arrived! The pandemic has altered the whole flow of everyday life and has profoundly affected the normal government processes. Premier Doug Ford and local MPP Doug Downey, who is also the Attorney-General for the Province, have been preoccupied with the challenges of the pandemic. We submitted our “Request for an MZO” on April 22nd and were asked to wait for a response. We have been waiting for over four months! The Directors of the Elmvale Active Seniors Residence have not been idle, however. We have investigated several new and exciting concepts in the building industry, in preparation for our own retirement village. We have had several ZOOM conferences, have met formally, but with ‘social distancing’, several times and have reviewed documents, plans and suggestions from some other retirement housing projects.



The “Project Updates” page on our website, [www.theelms.ca](#) has a very complex and sequential timeline that has been stalled for several months. Please be assured that as soon as we hear from the Ministry, we will be ready to proceed with the plan that has been shared with you. We hope that the MZO will be granted, but in the event it isn’t, we are already actively exploring other options.

Thank you for your patience and your ongoing support.

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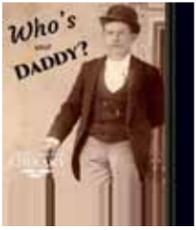
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YES WE ARE OPEN!

Library staff are excited to welcome back our customers at Midhurst branch and Elmvalle branch for limited services. MASKS MUST be worn at all times when inside the library.

Note: The Minesing branch will continue with Thursday curbside

service only.

Computers are available for ½ hour timeslot a day and require pre-booking.

New hours are as follows for Midhurst and Elmvalle

Monday 1-4:30 at Midhurst only

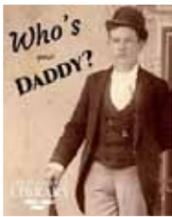
(Elmvalle closed Mondays)

Tues. & Thurs.: 10 - 6:30, Wed. & Fri.: 10 - 4:30,

Saturday: 10 - 3:30

Curbside is still available by contacting staff.

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



GENEALOGY VIDEO SERIES ON YOUTUBE

Whether you're just starting your genealogy journey or are just looking for some helpful hints, we have this 4 part series for you.

September 14: **Beginning your Genealogy Journey**

We will help you start from the beginning by highlighting some handy sites and helpful hints for genealogy research.

October 5th: **How to Search Ancestry Library Edition.** Learn how to search and to maximize your results.

October 26th: **Organizing your Research**

Learn how to organize your findings and your sources,

November 16th: **Common Brick Walls and How to Work Around Them**

Learn a variety of skills that can help you work around your brick wall and help avoid some of the common pitfalls in family research.

Videos will be made available on our Youtube channel and can also be viewed after the posted date.

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



VIRTUAL STORYTIME TUESDAYS

On our Virtual Programming page and on our YouTube channel you'll find Miss Amanda doing a fun interactive Storytime Program with rhymes, songs and stories. New themes will happen each week including unicorns.

Stay tuned for special guest appearances.

Ask for your free Storytime Kit to interact with Miss Amanda.

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



FREE STORYTIME TAKE AND MAKE

Due to COVID-19, our Storytime has moved online! Signup for a Storytime kit at your library and receive materials that will help make Storytime more fun and interactive! (Please note that kits are

limited and will be served on a first come first served basis).

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca

LIBRARY ANIMAL CROSSING



Do you enjoy playing Animal Crossing: New Horizons? Come hang with us and visit our virtual branch! During your visit, you will have the chance to: explore the island, including our virtual library branch, meet animal

villagers, pick up some fun mystery gifts, learn something new with DIY recipes, shop at Able Sisters and Nook's Cranny, grab a fossil and play games.

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



KRAFTING WITH KATHY

Every Thursday on our Springwater Public Library Facebook page, on our Virtual Programming page and on our YouTube channel, Kathy will share a craft or

project for the whole family to enjoy. New themes include Marbling Paper, Amazing Catapult, Interactive Butterfly and

Personalized Photo Box

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



KRAFTS IN THE PIT - MIDHURST

Book your 30 minute time slot to complete a fun FREE Krafting with Kathy activity at the Midhurst Branch. Crafts dates run through October. Appointments may be made during library open hours. Last appointment will be

Elmvalle BIA Business Highlights

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Far and away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing. --Theodore Roosevelt, Speech in New York, September 7, 1903

Courage is doing what you're afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you're scared. --Eddie Rickenbacker one hour before close. First appointment in on September 14. Craft materials and laptop with craft video tutorial will be set up in the pit in the children's area. One family unit per booking.

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca

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New time and location: October 17th, 10 am -12 pm, Elmvalle Community Church, 12 Queen St. E.

PUPPY MATILDA IS GETTING BIGGER

Watch Joanne's future Literacy Dog Matilda, grow and experience lots of fun new things. Check out these videos on our "Virtual

Programming" page and on our YouTube channel (search Springwater Library)

For more information:

www.springwater.library.on.ca



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we'll hop right to it and help you find your next favourite author or book! You can find the link on our website: <https://www.springwater.library.on.ca> and click on the How Do I Tab.

This is a free and confidential service for adult and teen readers. If you have any questions, please email our Technical Services Librarian, amanda.mills@springwater.ca or call her at 705 322-1482.

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To sign up please email info-library@springwater.ca

Times Higher Education ranks Lakehead University among world's top universities



September 10, 2020 – Thunder Bay and Orillia, Ont.

For the second year in a row, Lakehead University has been included in the top half of the *Times Higher Education's* list of top universities from around the world.

The 2021 *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* has Lakehead University in the 601-800 category out of more than 1,500 universities from 93 countries.

"Thank you to our fantastic faculty, staff, students and partners for helping Lakehead University remain in the top half of *Times Higher Education's* list of top universities from around the globe," said Dr. Moira McPherson, Lakehead's President and Vice-Chancellor.

"This ranking acknowledges Lakehead's commitment to delivering high quality programs, fostering excellence in research and scholarly work, and providing unique and transformative learning experiences that put our graduates on the path to success," Dr. McPherson added.

This is the second year that Lakehead University has participated in the rankings and, once again, Lakehead was the only primarily undergraduate university from Ontario to have participated. The University ranked in the same bracket as a number of larger Canadian universities, and ranked above the worldwide median in three of the five categories: Research, Citations, and International Outlook.

"Our notable showing in the *Times Higher Education* ranking is strongly influenced by the continued recognition of our research impact," said Dr. Andrew Dean, Vice-President, Research and Innovation.

"Good citation results show that our faculty are viewed as influential in their respective fields," Dr. Dean added.

In terms of Lakehead's position in the International Outlook category, James Aldridge, Vice-Provost, International, explained that "this ranking is a testament to the efforts we've made toward the ongoing internationalization of Lakehead University by developing global perspectives through student mobility programs, through promoting cultural intelligence, and by continuing to grow our international student population.

"In 2019, Lakehead was the university of choice for over 1,800 students from more than 75 countries, including over 1,450 undergraduate and graduate international students," Aldridge said.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings judges research-intensive universities across each one of their core missions: teaching (the learning environment); research (volume, income and reputation), international outlook (staff, students and research); citations (research influence); industry income (knowledge transfer).

It uses 13 carefully calibrated performance indicators to provide the most comprehensive and balanced comparisons, and all data is independently audited by professional services firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), making the *World University Rankings* the only global university rankings to be subjected to full, independent scrutiny of this nature.

Lakehead University is a fully comprehensive university with approximately 9,700 full-time equivalent students and over 2,000 faculty and staff at two campuses in Orillia and Thunder Bay, Ontario. Lakehead has 10 faculties, including Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Graduate Studies, Health & Behavioural Sciences, Law, Natural Resources Management, the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Science & Environmental Studies, and Social Sciences & Humanities. In 2019, Maclean's 2020 University Rankings, once again, included Lakehead University among Canada's Top 10 primarily undergraduate universities, while Research Infosource named Lakehead 'Research University of the Year' in its category for the fifth consecutive year. Visit www.lakeheadu.ca.

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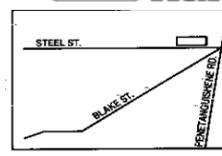
What is the average length and width of the path of a tornado?
Answer: Tornado paths tend to be a quarter of a mile wide and rarely more than 16 miles long. One of the longest tornado paths stretched 293 miles across Illinois and Indiana. This tornado, which occurred on May 26, 1917, moved at a speed of 40 miles an hour and traveled for 7 hours, 20 minutes.



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Meaning of Life

I work with many clients, some with crisis issues, and others working on personal growth. Inevitably, a question arises as to the meaning of our experiences, and, ultimately, the meaning of life.

Members of the human species have probably always speculated about these things, as though there might be a mysterious answer just outside of our grasp. Actually, it may only be with the evolutionary development of the logical left brain that we began looking for "answers" and logical explanations. Prior to that, there was more likely a simple acceptance of the earth and the sky, and the cycles of life. A person with an untrained ear may be brought to tears by a beautiful symphony. The mind does not even enter into the analysis of the technical merits of the piece.

I have a deep appreciation for the philosophical nature of the human mind, and my bookshelves have more books on philosophy than any other subject. However, sometimes I find more meaning, more richness, in a shaft of light breaking through a few clouds. The song of the wren singing happily in my willow tree touches my heart directly, and tells me more about the meaning of life than all the reading in the world.

When we look to other sources to find the meaning of life, we deprive ourselves of the essence of our journey here. People who choose partners or careers on the basis of what parents or peers expect, wake up in mid-life feeling like strangers in their own bodies. If we adopt what someone else decides is the meaning of life, then we might miss the point of being here. It is for each one of us to create or develop meaning in our own lives and experiences. There is no one all-encompassing meaning to life.

Meaning is not somewhere "out there," or an answer at the back of some cosmic workbook. Meaning is something we create within our own minds. Those who feel there is nothing to live for, no purpose to their lives, are the ones who have not created a higher purpose. They have not stepped outside themselves enough to have meaningful interactions with the world, other living things, and their own psyches.

If no apples fall into my basket, then there is no point sitting under this apple tree. If the blessings of life are not coming to me, then why stay? The focus becomes so narrow, that it is impossible to be happy.

If our goal is to be happy, then we are bound to be disappointed. Happiness is what comes when we accept that our soul has its own journey, independent of the demands of our egos.

Even if we have a life filled with suffering, we can find a noble path through the pain. It is not easy to do this, but the difficulty of the endeavor makes its accomplishment that much more precious. We experience our own souls whenever we are deeply touched, whether it is with joy or with sorrow. This is what the experiences of life facilitate, and why sometimes it is best not to analyze, but simply to be.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for daily inspiration.



On Gas Gauge - This is something you may or may not have noticed before. Next to the gas gauge of nearly every car that's been manufactured since 2010, there is an arrow that either points to the left or the right. A lot of people may not have even noticed it before it was pointed out to them. This is simply a way to indicate to the driver whether their gas cap is on the left side of the car or the right side of the car. Most people don't need a reminder because after filling their tank once or twice with a new car, it becomes instinct what side to pull into at the gas station. However, next time you drive a rental car, remember that the arrow is there; otherwise, you'll look foolish when you try to fill your tank only to realize the cap is on the other side.

Ontario Takes Extraordinary Steps to Reopen Schools Safely

Provincial Back-to-School Plan Includes Substantial Investments in PPE Along with More Teachers, Nurses, and Custodians

TORONTO — As students, teachers and staff return to school, the Ontario government is providing up to \$1.3 billion in critical supports and has delivered more than 37 million pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) to safely reopen classrooms across the province. These investments are part of Ontario's comprehensive back to school plan which was developed in consultation with medical experts, school boards, and educators.

"Our entire team has been working around the clock over the last few weeks to make sure all of the public health measures are in place to safely welcome back our students and staff," said Premier Ford. "This school year will be unlike any we have ever seen, but by working together, we can all play a part to keep our children, teachers and education workers safe and ensure our students continue to thrive and be inspired to learn during these extraordinary times."

The government has taken the following steps to make schools as safe as possible:

- Providing more funding than any jurisdiction in the country to implement physical distancing measures, support hiring of up to 1,300 custodians and adopt enhanced cleaning protocols in schools and on school buses, and hire more teachers to reduce class sizes.
- Hiring up to 625 school-focused nurses to provide rapid-response support to schools and boards, and facilitate public health measures, including screening, surveillance testing, tracing and mitigation strategies.
- Working in collaboration with the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services to ensure that sufficient PPE has been delivered to all 72 school boards and 10 education authorities, including more than 19.5 million masks, 16 million gloves, 317,000 face shields, 320,000 bottles of hand sanitizer, and 218,000 containers of disinfectant, among other critical supplies; and,
- Providing students and families with clear and transparent standards for those that choose fully remote virtual learning, which is teacher-led, timetabled, live, synchronous, and on a regular daily schedule.

"Our plan is the most cautious, safe and comprehensive in the country, fully funded and fully informed by leading medical leaders to ensure we reduce the risk, support positive mental health, and improve the safety of all students and staff," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education. "I remain inspired by our students, and we owe it to them to continue to do our part to stop the spread in our communities to ensure schools can remain safe and positive learning spaces."

The following public health protocols and procedures will be implemented to help protect students, teachers, staff and visitors:

1. Parents must screen their children and all staff must self-screen every day before attending school. Students and staff who are unwell must stay home from school.
2. Schools must immediately report any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school to the local public health unit. Every day, school boards must report any staff or student absences due to confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the ministry.
3. Students in Grades 4-12 will be required to wear face coverings (non-medical or cloth masks) indoors in school, including in hallways, entrances and during classes. Face coverings are not required but are encouraged for students up to Grade 3. The province

is funding each school board to provide PPE to teachers and other school-based staff, including medical masks and eye protection (for example, face shields).

4. Schools will teach and remind students about appropriate hand hygiene and provide breaks in schedules to allow students to wash their hands. Teachers and staff are also receiving additional health and safety training.
5. Each student will be kept with the same group of children and teachers as much as possible throughout the school day.
6. Schools will significantly limit visitors, including parents.
7. Schools will keep rigorous daily class attendance records, seating charts, lists of bussed students, and approved daily visitors (e.g. supply and occasional teachers, custodians) for contact-tracing purposes.

"With the new school year beginning, the health and safety of students, teachers and staff is our government's top priority," said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "We have been working closely with our public health experts and making the necessary investments to ensure safety measures and protocols are in place for returning to the classroom."

"Our government's top priority is to ensure students, teachers, and staff have what they need to stay safe when they return to school," said Lisa Thompson, Minister of Government and Consumer Services. "By leveraging our government's collective buying power and introducing new domestic sources of supply, we were able to successfully secure sufficient supplies to support the safe reopening of over 4,800 schools and over 5,000 child care facilities this fall."

Quick Facts

- The Ontario government has named Dr. Dirk Huyer as Coordinator, Provincial Outbreak Response. In this role, he will lead the province's efforts to prevent and minimize COVID-19 outbreaks in a number of sectors, including the education, child care, agriculture, and health care sectors.
- The Ontario government has released a Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) that ensures students receive a high quality and consistent teacher-led remote learning experience. This directive will significantly strengthen the quality and regularity of instruction that students and families can expect, as well as provide a consistent approach across the province to ensure students are fully engaged in their learning, and have a timetable for regular daily learning.
- The commitment of up to \$1.3 billion in funding to support the safe reopening of our schools is in addition to the landmark investment of over \$25.5 billion in education, which represents an increase of over \$700 million for the 2020-21 school year.

West Nile virus season nearing peak

SIMCOE MUSKOKA - As summer lengthens, the risk of being bitten by a mosquito infected with West Nile virus (WNV) increases. Continue to enjoy your summer by protecting yourself. Prevent mosquito bites by avoiding going outside when mosquitoes are most active, wearing light-coloured, loose-fitting pants and long-sleeved shirts and using insect repellent according to the manufacturer's directions.

For more information about WNV, call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or visit simcoemuskokahealth.org.

Why doesn't lightning come with snowstorms?
Answer: Actually, lightning can occur during a snowstorm, although it is very rare. Some people call this thunder snow. It's unusual because snowstorms are cold, and cold air doesn't rise and create thunderclouds as warm air does. But if there is enough energy in the atmosphere and a lot of moisture, thunderclouds can form and drop snow instead of rain when the temperature is just below freezing.



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The OPP Report - Scams

Orillia OPP Fielding Many Calls for Gunshots
 (Orillia, ON) - The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Orillia Detachment have received a number of calls from citizens hearing gunshots in the nearby townships.

Over the past few days the Orillia OPP have received many calls from concerned citizens that report hearing gunshots. The same volume of calls is reported every year during the fall hunt. These calls are often generated from the Townships of Ramara, Severn and Oro-Medonte.

The Orillia OPP would like to remind people that hunting season is upon us and in many areas hunting is legal. The Orillia OPP would also like to remind hunters to be aware of their surroundings and abide by the laws and best practices for a safe, enjoyable and respectful hunting season.

If you are concerned of illegal shooting of firearms or feel there is an immediate danger to the public please call police. If you have questions about hunting season and regulations please visit the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) at www.Ontario.ca and search for their page. Alternatively, you can call the local MNRF office at 705-325-7500 with questions or concerns.

OPP REPORT LONG WEEKEND FATALITIES, 8,200+ TRAFFIC-RELATED CHARGES

(ORILLIA, ON) - The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to **two** fatal motor vehicle collisions and **one** fatal off-road vehicle incident that claimed the lives of **three** people over the Labour Day Long Weekend.

The OPP laid more than **8,200** traffic-related charges during its four-day traffic safety initiative, with speeding leading the list of offence categories.

Among the charges (OPP-patrolled roads only):
 Speeding: **5,821**
 Stunt driving/street racing: **157**
 Failure to wear seat belt: **250**
 Distracted driving: **98**
 Alcohol/drug-impaired driving: **110**

Over and above the charges, officers initiated more than **8,400** traffic stops aimed at educating the public about safe driving practices.

The OPP thanks all drivers and other road user who contributed to safe roads over the long weekend by being compliant with Ontario traffic laws.

OPP Investigating for Missing Midland Man

(MIDLAND, ON) - Members of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are currently investigating the disappearance of Duncan William BALL of Midland who left his residence at 5:00 p.m. September 13, 2020 and has not been seen since. He may be driving a 2010 Mazda M 3 silver in colour bearing Ontario plate CFYX194. (see attached photograph)

He is described as male white, 35 years of age, 5' 7" in height, 150 lbs, brown hair, green eyes. Clothing description - unknown. He may have left for the Stouffville or Mattawa area's. (see attached photograph)

Family and police are investigating out of concern for Duncan's health and well being and anyone with further information about him is asked to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122, opp.southern.georgian.bay@opp.ca or by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). You can submit your information online at www.p3tips.com. Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to call display and you will remain anonymous. Being anonymous, you will not testify in court and your information may lead to a cash reward of up to \$2,000.00. You can follow Crime Stoppers of Simcoe Dufferin Muskoka www.crimestoppersdm.com on [Twitter](https://twitter.com) or [Facebook](https://facebook.com).

OPP Seeking Assistance In Solving Fail to Remain Car vs Cyclist Crash on County Road 6 in Tiny Township

(TINY TOWNSHIP, ON) - Members of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are asking for your assistance solving a fail to remain car vs cyclist crash which occurred shortly before 8:53 p.m. September 10, 2020 on the north bound lane of Simcoe County Road 6 just south of the village of Wyevale, Tiny Township.

Officers responded to a request by County of Simcoe Paramedic Services to attend the crash scene after a motorist located an injured cyclist and made the 911 call to Emergency Services. The injured 44 year old male cyclist of Wasaga Beach was triaged at the scene and transported to Georgian Bay General Hospital where he remains for treatment of serious injuries sustained in the crash.

Scene investigation indicates that the north bound cyclist was struck from behind by a north bound vehicle believed to be a 2019-2021 Nissan Infiniti QX60 blue (hermosa blue) in colour which could have damage possibly to its passenger side front headlights, outside rear view mirror and exterior body trim parts (see attached photograph of similar suspect vehicle).

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OPP LAY OHIP-RELATED HEALTH INSURANCE ACT CHARGES

Anti-Rackets Branch / Health Fraud Investigation Unit (ORILLIA, ON) - Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Anti-Rackets Branch have charged a Greater Toronto Area resident following an identity fraud investigation involving false Ontario health cards.

Members of the OPP Health Fraud Investigation Unit were called to investigate when three Ontario health cards were seized by municipal police during a criminal investigation in January 2020. Identity fraud related criminal charges were laid in the original investigation and a referral was made to the Ontario Ministry of Health. Through further investigation, OPP Health Fraud investigators learned of false information given on an Ontario health card application which is an offence under the Health Insurance Act.

The OPP has charged Maad Samad IBRAHIM, age 27 of Toronto, with Providing False Information in an Application contrary to section 43(3) of the Health Insurance Act.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice at 2700 Eglinton Avenue West in Toronto on October 13, 2020.

The OPP Health Fraud Investigation Unit investigates criminal and provincial offences involving the payment and delivery of health care services and products.

Orillia OPP Make Arrest after Driver Flees From Collision Scene

(Severn, ON) - The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Orillia Detachment made an arrest after the driver of a vehicle involved in a collision, in the Township of Severn, fled the scene.

On September 05, 2020, at approximately 3:15 PM police were dispatched to Highway 400 Northbound near Port Severn Road with reports of a single-vehicle roll-over.

Prior to police arrival, the driver of the vehicle fled into the nearby bushes. County of Simcoe Paramedics attended the scene and transported the passengers to a Midland area hospital as a precaution. A child was who was in the vehicle was transported to a Toronto area hospital as a precaution.

Central Region Canine and Central Region Emergency Response Unit (ERT) were called in to locate the driver of the vehicle. The driver was located a short time later by Canine and ERT officers and subsequently arrested.

Orillia OPP arrested and charged Joshua SOMMERVILLE, 23, of Penetanguishene with:

- Dangerous Operation contrary to Section 320.13(1) of the Criminal Code;
- Failure to Stop at after an Accident contrary to Section 320.16 of the Criminal Code;
- Obstruct Police contrary to Section 129(a) of the Criminal Code; and,
- Driving While Under Suspension contrary to Section 53(1) of the Highway Traffic Act.

The suspect was released on a Form 10 Undertaking and set to appear next on November 10, 2020 at the Ontario Court of Justice, Orillia.

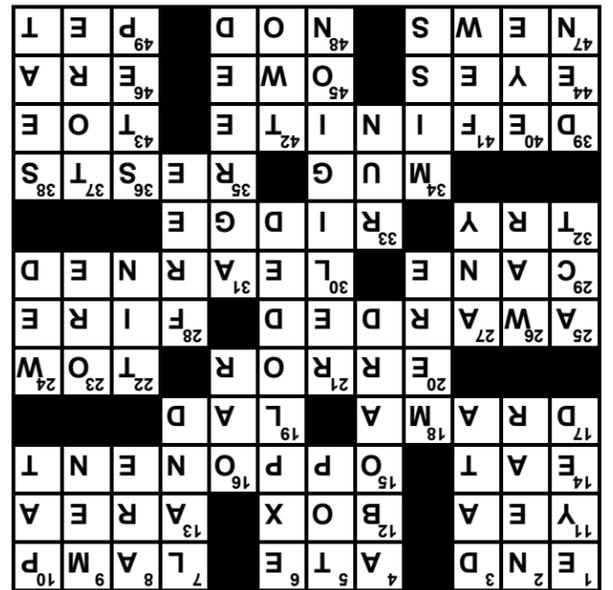
Orillia OPP Arrest Driver for Impaired by Drugs and Weapon Offence

(Oro-Medonte, ON) - The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Orillia Detachment arrested the driver of a vehicle for driving while impaired by drugs and possession of a weapon in the Township of Oro-Medonte.

On September 09, 2020 at approximately 3:15 AM Orillia OPP members were conducting traffic enforcement on Line 7 South in the Township of Oro-Medonte. At this time officers stopped a vehicle for a traffic infraction. Upon speaking with the driver an investigation under the Cannabis Act was commenced. A subsequent investigation was conducted for driving while impaired by drugs. A Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) was dispatched to evaluate the driver of the vehicle.

As a result of the investigation undertaken by Orillia OPP members Christopher KEMMERS, 28, of Barrie was arrested and charged with:

- Impaired Operation by Drugs contrary to Section 320.14(a) of the Criminal Code;
- Possession of a Prohibited Device contrary to Section 92(2) of the Criminal Code;
- Possession of Proceeds of Property Obtained by Crime contrary to Section 354(1)(b) of the Criminal Code;
- Possession of Illicit Cannabis contrary to Section 8(1)(b) of the Cannabis Act; and,
- Possession of Cannabis for the purpose of Selling contrary to Section 10(b) of the Cannabis Act.



The suspect was released on a Form 10 Undertaking and set to appear next on November 17, 2020 at the Ontario Court of Justice, Orillia

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

The school year is under way and there is no more important time than now for the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) to urge drivers to slow down and to watch for school buses in an effort to keep our children safe.

The OPP would like to take this time to remind motorists to pay close attention when meeting or following a school bus. Motorists in both directions must stop when approaching a stopped school bus with its stop arm extended and red lights flashing. Drivers cannot start moving until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm has been retracted and the bus has started to move.

Patience on the part of drivers is encouraged as many young children will be excited as they return to school this fall. This means they might require extra time boarding and departing the bus.

SEARCH WARRANT YIELDS SEIZURE OF GUNS AND STOLEN PROPERTY

In July 2020, the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) commenced an investigation into counterfeit currency and identity fraud, which has led to arrests.

As a result of the investigation, on July 13, 2020, a search warrant was executed at a residence in Angus, Essa Township. Members of the Nottawasaga CSCU have arrested and charged two people with numerous offences.

April ROWLEY, 25 years of age, of Wasaga Beach, has been charged with:

- Identity Theft, contrary to s.402.2(1) of the Criminal Code of Canada (CC)- 29 counts;
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime, contrary to s.354(1)(a) CC;
- Possession of Counterfeit Money, contrary to s.450(b) CC;
- Possession of a prohibited device or ammunition, contrary to s.92(2) CC- three counts;
- Careless storage of a firearm, weapon, prohibited device or ammunition, contrary to s.86(1) CC- three counts;
- Unauthorized Possession of weapon, contrary to s.91(2) CC;
- Failure to comply with undertaking, contrary to s.145(4)(a) CC;
- Fail to attend court, contrary to s.145(2)(a) CC; and
- Theft Under \$5,000- Shoplifting, Contrary to s.334(b) CC.

Cody VERECHAKA, 28 years of age, of Barrie, has been charged with:

- Possession of a Firearm or ammunition contrary to prohibition order, contrary to s. 117.01(1) CC- three counts;

The rest of this article and many more can be read in the police report at www.springwaternews.ca

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County of Simcoe Forestry to conduct controlled burn in the Packard Tract in Essa Township

Midhurst/September 2, 2020 – The County of Simcoe will be executing a controlled burn on approximately 27 acres within the Packard Tract in the Township of Essa, located at 8398 Line 9 (at the end of the 9th Line of Essa, south of Highway 90). The controlled burn is expected to be completed in one day and will occur as early as conditions allow between mid-September and the end of October 2020. The exact timing of the burn will be dictated by site and weather conditions and cannot be determined at this time.

The controlled burn will support the second phase of the County's Kirtland's Warbler Habitat Restoration project. More information about the project can be found at <https://www.simcoe.ca/Forestry/Pages/Packard-Tract.aspx>

Once the date of the controlled burn has been confirmed, media, stakeholders and the public will be informed through a variety of communication channels, including:

- County website: www.simcoe.ca
- Twitter: @simcoecounty and @simcoecountyCS
- Facebook: @CountyofSimcoe
- Instagram: @countyofsimcoe
- Details will also be published through local media outlets (should timelines permit)
- Stakeholder and near-neighbour communications

A highly experienced company has been retained to plan and conduct the burn, and trained personnel will be on site until the fire is completely extinguished. The impact of the smoke will be minimized by burning under specific wind and atmospheric conditions, however there will be times when large amounts of low-lying smoke will be present. At other stages in the operation, a smoke column may be seen for many miles. There is no cause for alarm, as this is all part of normal operations for the type of fuels being burned. The County does not anticipate any road closures or any major impact or disruption to local residents.

While controlled burns differ from wildfires, in that they are often managed to control smoke exposures to the public and are of much shorter overall durations than forest fires, concerns can arise regarding smoke exposure and health. Smoke exposure may pose a risk for more vulnerable individuals such as children, elderly and those with pre-existing respiratory conditions. Here are some simple steps you can take to minimize your exposure to smoke:

- If you live close to the controlled burn site and have chronic health conditions such as asthma and chronic lung disease, you may wish to minimize your exposure by staying indoors during the burn. If you have health concerns, follow up with your health care provider.
- If you have concerns regarding exposure to smoke while outdoors, consider reducing your outdoor physical activities near the affected area.
- To help reduce smoke in your homes and businesses, keep windows and doors closed.

County Council approved the Simcoe County Forest Management Plan to guide our policies through 2030. The Plan outlines that fire has historically played a primary role by influencing the composition, structure and patterns of our forests, and states that fire will continue to be used as a strategy moving forward. This particular controlled burn is part of an international effort to create habitat for the Kirtland's Warbler, a globally endangered migratory bird, in its natural range in Simcoe County. The burn will help to reduce non-native vegetation, create structure important for Kirtland's nesting habitat, and establish a diverse forest of native species.

Controlled burns have been conducted previously within the County Forests. The two most recent burns occurred in 2018 within the Museum Tract in Springwater Township and in 2014 within the Brentwood Tract in Clearview Township.

Public questions and inquiries can be directed to our County Forestry Department by contacting Service Simcoe at 1-800-263-3199 or service@simcoe.ca. More information about the controlled burn can be found at <https://www.simcoe.ca/Forestry/Pages/Controlled-Burn-Notification.aspx>

About the Kirtland's Warbler

The Kirtland's Warbler is a globally rare and endangered migratory bird which was nearly extinct 50 years ago but has since begun to recover due to multiple habitat projects in North America and abroad. Overwintering occurs in the Lucayan Archipelago (Bahamas, Turk's & Caicos) while its summer breeding grounds are historically within Michigan, Wisconsin and Ontario. Kirtland's Warbler requires large tracts of young, dense conifer forest for its nesting habitat, which was probably commonplace within Simcoe County prior to European settlement, land conversion and fire suppression. Suitable habitat also existed in the mid 1900's due to the significant levels of reforestation which occurred at that time.

This project is the second of its kind in Canada, both of which are located in Simcoe County. This project is being funded by Ganawenim Meshkiki - Henvy Inlet First Nations through The Eastern Georgian Bay Initiative with assistance from the Ontario Heritage Trust and the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority. The first project was a joint international effort between the County of Simcoe, The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), American Forests, Forests Ontario, Savanta Environmental Consultants, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the US Forest Service.



Springwater Mayor Don's Update – September 2020 Cannabis Production Review Study

The Township of Springwater is currently undergoing a Cannabis Production Review Study to look at tools available to the municipality to guide policies, regulations and zoning recommendations related to these facilities.

An Interim Control By-law was enacted by Council on June 3 to place a one-year moratorium on the establishment of new cannabis facilities for lands in Springwater zoned Industrial and Agricultural. This 'freeze' allows the consultants, WSP, the time to complete the Cannabis Production Review Study. On August 24, WSP provided an update to Council on the current regulations for licensed cannabis facilities at the federal, provincial and municipal levels and an overview of possible options for the municipality to regulate such facilities. Options identified include: site plan control, licensing and property standards. These options may assist the municipality in mitigating some of the concerns related to these facilities, including: air quality, noise, lighting, setbacks, security, fencing, waste management, traffic and outdoor storage.

A survey requesting feedback on regulating these facilities in Springwater is available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/CannabisProductionStudy. All residents are encouraged to take the time to fill it out and share their thoughts. For a paper copy of the survey please email planning@springwater.ca or call 705-728-4784 Ext. 2019.

If you missed the meeting and would like to learn more, you can view a playback of the presentation on the Township's YouTube channel.

Broadband Review

Concerns regarding the lack of high-speed internet access is something Council and Township staff hears about on a regular basis. This issue has been further exacerbated due to the number of people attempting to work or run their business from home as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council has directed staff to proceed with issuing a request for expression of interest for community broadband services. Community broadband is a public alternative to the privately-owned services such as Bell, Rogers or Telus. These larger internet service providers are reluctant to invest in rural areas, due to the significant infrastructure required with a relatively low return on investment. Municipalities may be better positioned to provide less expensive, more reliable and more community-tailored options, as they are best equipped to address their own local needs.

For a community, implementing a municipal broadband service can be cost-effective and promote job creation, efficiency and greater savings on cost. It also introduces additional competition and alternatives to the current market, providing additional options for current users.

The request for expression of interest, is the first step in the municipality exploring the potential for broadband internet improvement.

Service Delivery Review

The Township is currently undertaking a Service Delivery Review to determine how services are delivered throughout the Township and whether any efficiencies can be found. The review examines levels of services, methods of delivery and administrative processes, as well as assessing organizational structure. A Special Council Meeting has been scheduled for September 16 at 5:00 pm to receive an update on the study from the consultants. The meeting will be live streamed online at www.springwater.ca/live

ERRC MZO Request

The Provincial Government has indicated the Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) being proposed in the Freele Tract of the Simcoe County Forest (Horseshoe Valley Road west) has been denied a minister's zoning order (MZO). An MZO would have fast tracked the process and restricted concerns being expressed by residents and the Township in the decision review before the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal. Three appeals were submitted to the board in January 2019 by resident groups and those appeals will be addressed through the ongoing LPAT process. The Township will also make representations during this process.

For additional information on the ERRC please visit www.springwater.ca/en/business-and-development/current-development.aspx or www.simcoe.ca/errc

Waste Collections Contract

The County of Simcoe and Waste Connections Canada have worked together to ensure curbside collections will continue for residents without changes or impacts to service levels until the next contract takes effect in November 2021. This was necessary to deal with increased costs related to the pandemic, monthly net losses due to increases in industry/service related costs and ongoing labour challenges.

Additional costs will be covered by a combination of reserves and/or recently available COVID-19 funding opportunities. It is projected that these costs will not be directed passed on to residents through new taxes.

Elmvale Blood Drive

Sign up to save a life on the Thanksgiving long weekend by donating blood. Canadian Blood Services will be in Elmvale at the Community Hall on October 10 from 9am

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to 2 pm. Appointments are required and can be booked online at blood.ca or by calling 1-888-2DONATE.

Helen Coutts Memorial Park Dedication

It was my pleasure to join Snow Valley Developments (Brian Smith and Ron Sheardown), members of the Coutts Family, Councillor Moore, past Mayor Linda Collins and Deputy Mayor Dan McLean and other friends for the official dedication of the Helen Coutts Memorial Park. Helen Coutts was the first Mayor when Springwater was newly amalgamated in 1994 and served Springwater for an additional 9 years. Prior to that she served as Reeve and Councillor of the Township of Vespra. She also served as Warden of the County of Simcoe in 1999. In addition to her political life, Ms. Coutts was active in the community and served as a volunteer for the Royal Victoria Hospital, the Women's Institute and the Midhurst United Church. The park naming is a fitting dedication to a woman who made such strong and important contributions to our community.

The park is located on Walter James Parkway in the Cameron Estates subdivision off of Seadon Road.

Canopy Coworking Grand Opening

Congratulations to Chad Ballantyne and Brandon Day on the opening of Canopy Coworking on Snow Valley Road. I was pleased to attend the opening and view the new space which is providing coworking office space.

Coworking spaces provide excellent opportunities for networking and collaboration and will assist many entrepreneurs with the opportunity to realize their dreams. The new space features extra high speed (for our area) internet, boardrooms and individual office space and is adjacent to beautiful trails through the forest to help with stress relief.

I look forward to seeing this business grow in Springwater.

Springwater Fire – Stuff the Truck for the Elmvale & District Food Bank

The Springwater Firefighters will be out collecting donations for the Elmvale & District Food Bank on Wednesday, September 30 beginning at 6 p.m. The firefighters will drive through Anten Mills, Elmvale, Hillsdale, Midhurst, Minesing, Phepston and Orr Lake and collect and donations left at the end of driveways. Route maps are available on the Township website at www.springwater.ca/calendar Thank you to our firefighters who are volunteering their time to help stock up our Food Bank for the busy fall months.

Farmers' Market Extended until October 9

The Springwater-Elmvale Farmers' Market has extended the season this year. The Farmers' Market will continue to operate on Friday's from 9 am – 2 pm until October 9. Make sure you get out and support our local farmers, producers and artisans.

Fall Events

This year we are unable to gather together for the many events that typically take place each autumn. As a result, some community groups have come up with creative ways to celebrate virtually.

The Midhurst Scarecrow Contest is taking place throughout September. Residents are encouraged to build a scarecrow to display on their front lawn or porch and submit a photo of it to MidhurstScarecrowContest@gmail.com until Friday, September 25. From September 26 to October 2 you will have the opportunity to vote on your favourite scarecrow at www.midhurston.ca and the top three scarecrows will win a prize. Full details are available at www.midhurston.ca/scarecrows

The Elmvale Virtual Thanksgiving Celebration was created in lieu of the Fall Fair this year. The Flos Agricultural Society and the Township of Springwater have teamed up to create a contest whereby residents are encouraged to create a craft or complete an activity based on predetermined categories and submit a photo online for a chance to win a great local prize. Each submission is equal to one ballot entry. The contest is open to all residents and details, including category information, are available online at www.springwater.ca/SpringwaterGivesThanks

This article expresses my thoughts and not those of Council. With the recent slight increase in COVID cases, please maintain strict adherence to the rules we have heard since March, to reverse this trend and stay healthy. We owe it to ourselves and to others. Enjoy the rest of summer.

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"We have been robbed of 6 months of our lives and continue to be systematically stripped of our human rights and freedoms. The truth is emerging; this is a 'man-made, fear-based pandemic propagated by our elected, and non-elected leaders for the sake of the almighty \$!"

- I am concerned that people are being labelled conspiracy theorists, simply because they question government, corporate and industrial motives, and question arbitrary laws revoking our basic human rights.
- I do not consent to the Government making decisions about my health.
 - They were elected to serve, not control me!
 - I do not consent to living in a police state.
 - I do not consent to the extreme censorship that is taking place on social media platforms toward doctors, scientists and activists, who present and uphold valid data that challenges the 'official narrative' the media would have us believe. This concerns me far more than the virus.
 - I do not consent to the tracking and tracing of citizens.
 - I do not consent to Government making decisions without a democratic process.
 - I do not consent to Politicians or other individuals, whose greed is focused on the lucrative 'financial interest' in the Pharmaceutical Industry; they have no right to make decisions about my health and well being.
 - I do not consent to being told that all these decisions are for my own safety.
 - I do not consent to censoring free speech under the guise of protecting me from the spread of misinformation.
 - I do not consent to the closing of small businesses while multi-million dollar companies continue to reap the benefits of closure.
 - I do not consent to being labelled an 'anti-vaxxer', because I have concerns about MANDATORY, enforced vaccines or rushed procedures, without proper protocols - especially high risk ones, with limited testing that are deemed highly profitable to the most questionable of interests.
 - I do not consent to the amount of division and hatred that is being encouraged between friends and families, simply for upholding opposing beliefs, or for speaking openly about what THEY believe!
 - I do not consent to the idea that pharmaceuticals and vaccines are the ONLY way to prevent or heal from illness and the outright dismissal of good nutrition and natural prevention and therapies.
 - I do not consent to the media covering only fraudulent and misleading 'case' counts, or grossly exaggerated death counts, when the survival rate is immensely higher.
 - **Fear** compromises our immune system, so why aren't we talking about the excellent (99.9%) recovery rates, successful treatments and therapies?
 - I do not consent to the lack of care and consideration for 'non-Covid' patients, who have been denied access to essential treatments, consultations and surgeries for Cancer, Cardio-vascular and other life threatening conditions.
 - Their lives matter too I don't consent to 'House Arrests' and Lock Downs... staying home doesn't protect against domestic violence, sexual abuse, depression, anxiety, starvation and suicide; all of which are costing many more lives than the virus.

Here's what I DO consent to;

- Being a free and critical thinker.
- A parent, who is protecting the future of all children.
- An individual who cares about tomorrow... someone who understands the connection between the health of our planet and our own health.
- A caring person, who will never stop fighting injustice and tyranny... or questioning and condemning the lies and manipulation of the Government and the Media
- We all come into this world with nothing and we'll leave with nothing... the bit in the middle is called LIFE...
- Life is a precious gift from our Maker... none of us know how long that gift will last, so make the most of every second, every minute and every hour of every day.
- Live, love, take chances, not orders... be kind, be tolerant and be happy.
- Don't waste another second waiting for things to change.

LET US BE THE CHANGE WE WANT TO SEE IN THE WORLD!
I found the above well-thought out, heart-centred wisdom on Facebook. I do not know the name of the author, but I am in agreement with her insight.
*Rita Be-Still, Healer of Broken Hearts
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1 in 5 Ontario nonprofits expected to close in the next six months

Ottawa, ON: COVID-19 has had a devastating impact on Ontario nonprofits and charities, with one in five organizations expecting to close within six months, more than 30 per cent laying off staff and more than half losing volunteers.

The new data comes from a bilingual survey conducted by L'Assemblée de la francophonie de l'Ontario (AFO) and the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN) to understand the impact of the pandemic on the nonprofit sector three months into the crisis, with over 1,100 nonprofit organizations responding.

Ten per cent of respondents are using their own personal funds to meet the financial needs of their organizations. Twenty-three per cent of respondents expect their situation to get worse, including 40 per cent of sports, recreation and other social clubs and 31 per cent of arts, culture and heritage organizations.

"With the results of the various surveys that AFO has conducted since the pandemic started, we know that one in five nonprofit organizations is in a critical situation. Francophones in Ontario have taken 400 years to build a network of institutions and nonprofits. Losing them would represent a dangerous step towards assimilation and would inevitably lead to a reduction in the supply of services in French in the province. Governments would lose as well, with many nonprofits providing services on their behalf," said Carol Jolin, AFO President.

"Piecemeal solutions, although helpful in the short-term, are not working and federal and provincial government supports not reaching organizations," said Cathy Taylor, executive director of ONN. Three-quarters of respondents did not benefit from any provincial funding measures, while two-thirds did not benefit from any federal relief measures. Many social service and health organizations that delivered services through the worst days of the crisis were still waiting for pandemic pay at the end of June.

COVID-19 is not only affecting the communities nonprofits and charities serve, but will have a ripple effect on Ontario's economy. The province's 58,000 nonprofits and charities employ one million workers and contribute \$50 billion to the province's GDP.

Said Taylor, "Ontarians count on nonprofits every day for child care, affordable housing, summer camps, seniors visiting programs, art galleries, faith spaces, food banks and more. If our sector loses 20 per cent of its organizations, it will be devastating for Ontarians and will put significant pressure on governments to fill these big gaps."

The good news: nonprofits are collaborating in new ways to adapt and serve, with 43 per cent of respondents collaborating locally with grassroots groups to respond to the needs of their communities.

The two organizations are recommending a suite of solutions based on the results of the survey:

- A nonprofit sector stabilization fund from the Ontario government.
- Accelerating deployment of provincial pandemic pay, and other supports, which has taken too long to reach front-line organizations
- Making the federal emergency wage subsidy program more flexible and responsive to nonprofit business models.
- Investment in rural broadband by the federal and Ontario governments to help nonprofits and small businesses thrive in small communities across Ontario.

As a sector, Ontario nonprofits receive less than half of their revenue from governments, which means they can leverage these public investments - via business activities, donations, and volunteer contributions - into programs and services that directly benefit the people of Ontario.

What is the single largest biological cell found in nature?
Answer: Among the largest is the egg yolk of an ostrich, which is about 3 inches (8 centimeters) in diameter. The smallest cells are bacteria-like mycoplasmas, which can be as small as 0.00004 inch (0.1 micrometer) in diameter.

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**NVCA Board Meeting Highlights
August 28, 2020**

Next Meeting: September 25, 2020, location to be determined

For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors

The August 28, 2020 board meeting was held electronically through WebEx, and streamed on YouTube for public viewing due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Our next scheduled board meeting will be held on September 25, 2020.

Deputation from Paul Neal from Orion Environmental Solutions

Paul Neals from Orion Environmental Solutions addressed the board on behalf of Hamount Investments regarding the fee of \$13,000.00 that was charged for Block 24 in the Stone Bridge Development in the Town of Wasaga Beach.

Hamount Investments felt that the amount charged was too high and requested a deputation in front of the NVCA Board of Directors to seek relief from the full fee.

NVCA staff will provide more details regarding this deputation in a staff report for the September 2020 Board Meeting.

2020 Second Quarter Budget Report

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NVCA suffered a \$73,000 deficit in the first six months of 2020. This is mainly due to several departments being negatively impacted by the pandemic, including Education and Lands (parking, weddings, Spring Tonic festival, other events).

NVCA was also not qualified to receive relief from any government grants, including the Federal government's 75% wage compensation grant, or the payout from the federal government.

NVCA is attempting to mitigate losses as much as possible to reduce deficit. Some actions include the emergency layoff of 15 out of 50 staff, delaying capital expenditures and shifting work originally planned to be completed by contractors to be completed by staff.

Staff anticipates a deficit of \$100,000 by the end of 2020 and will be taking funds out of reserves to cover the deficits.

Conservation Ontario is currently acting on half of all Conservation Authorities to determine if there would be relief coming from the Province of Ontario.

2020 NVCA Asset Management Plan

The Board approved NVCA's 2020 Asset Management Plan.

The development of an asset management plan was an essential part of NVCA's ongoing liability and fiscal responsibility framework, as it guides the purchase, use, maintenance, and disposal of every asset NVCA needs in order to conduct business and reduce the NVCA's liability.

Preliminary Budget Guidance

The NVCA Board of Directors approved the preliminary budget guidelines to increase municipal levy by 1.5%.

This number was developed after considering factors like the COVID-19 pandemic, provincial transfer payment from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, economic factors, and the board direction to replenish reserves to 25% - 30% of the operational budget.

Based on this approval, staff will prepare a draft budget for Board consideration for the September Board Meeting. The draft budget will be circulated to member municipalities after the September meeting for a 60-day review and consultation process. Staff will present to Municipal councils if requested during this time.

The final budget will be presented to the Board of Directors at the December meeting for approval.

2020 - 2030 Land Securement Strategy

The NVCA Board of Directors approved the 2020 - 2030 Land Securement Strategy. This Land Securement Strategy furthers NVCA's mission and goals by securing interests in land, both through purchase and holding rights to property, thereby protecting ecological and flood hazard areas from potential future development and incompatible uses (e.g. intensive agriculture).

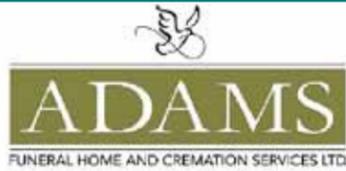
With the updated Land Securement Strategy NVCA can move towards an achievable goal of securing more ecologically significant lands in the watershed.

Where possible, the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded land will be implemented by NVCA and other partners. Further, working with farmers and the Ontario Farmland Trust can help bridge the preservation of both ecologically significant and prime agricultural lands.

For the full Land Securement Strategy, please visit the NVCA website.

Upcoming events

There are no upcoming events.



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Obituaries

Brown, Allan Wesley - Passed away peacefully at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre on Monday, September 14, 2020. Allan Brown in his 94th year loving husband of 68 years to Betty Brown (nee Kneeshaw). Loved father of Gregory (predeceased) his wife Karen Johnson, Scott (Connie) and Kevin (Michelle). Proud poppa of Alison (Cameron) MacDonald, Denise (Mark) Thomson, Julie Brown (Matt Beddows), Tyler, Alex, Ryan, Jeffery and Eric Brown.



Cherished great grandfather of Lyla, Claire, Nora. Allan is also survived by his sister Donna (Rino) Stradiotto. Predeceased by his brother Murray (the late Lillian and Una) Brown and sisters Gwen (the late Hap) Lowe and Myrna (the late Robert) Sinclair. Allan will be fondly remembered by his brother and sister-in-law Robert and Donna-Marie Kneeshaw, his many nieces, nephews and friends.

Allan was proud to say that he was born, raised and lived his entire life on lot 27 Concession 1 of Oro Township (Dalston). Allan will be remembered for his involvement in the Agricultural Community and also his passion for volunteering in his community. Past President of the Ontario Soil and Corp Improvement Association, Past President and Life Member of the Barrie Probus Club and Oro-Medonte Township Citizen of the Year in 1995.

Friends and family will be received at **ADAMS FUNERAL HOME, 445 St. Vincent St. Barrie (just north of Cundles Rd.)** on Thursday from 2 – 4 and 7 – 9 p.m.

Funeral service will be held virtually on Friday, September 18, 2020 at 1 o'clock p.m. though the following link <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv01OP9TCdLAKuSOVIZupmQ> A private family interment will be held in Dalston Union Cemetery. Memorial donations to Dalston Union Cemetery, First Baptist Church Barrie, Muscular Dystrophy Association (in memory of his son Greg) would be appreciated by the family.

Messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family through adamsfuneralhome.ca

In accordance to directives put in place by provincial governing bodies and the Public Health Unit there will be a limit on the number of people permitted into Adams Funeral Home at one time. Please note that wearing a facial covering and adhering to physical distancing directives is mandatory. No gathering is permitted in the funeral home parking lot please.

Orser, Francis Harold (Frank) - Passed away peacefully at Sara Vista Long Term Care on Thursday, September 3, 2020 with loving family at his side. Frank Orser in his 92nd year loving husband of Jean. Proud father of Ray (Karen) Dobbs, Bonnie (Bruce) Beatty, Rick (Laura) Orser and also the late Dan and Randy (Deb) Dobbs. Cherished grandfather of Chris, Jen, Lee, Lawrence, Becky, Miranda, Kyle, Liam, Megan, Haily and Courtney and great grandfather of 7. Frank is also survived by his brother Lorne (the late Doreen) Orser and predeceased by his brothers Bill (Diane) Orser and Mel (Isabel) Orser. A private family interment will be held in Barrie Union Cemetery. Memorial donations to the Kidney Foundation or the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.



Messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family through adamsfuneralhome.ca

Human activity and interference on the Earth's surface, from mining activities to shipwrecks, have led to the creation of over 200 new minerals. Simonkolleite, a glowing mineral first discovered in a mine in Arizona, was formed by the mixture of natural properties like water and mining artifacts.

Thanks

Jones, Pauline - Thank you to extended family, neighbours and friends for your support, visits, phone calls, emails, cards, flowers and donations in memory of Pauline.

To the Local Health Integration Network for your guidance and quality services provided. A special thank you to Case Manager Bobbi Jo and Nurse Colleen.

Thank you to Dr. Verhaeghe for your end of life care.

Compassionate care provided by Hospice Simcoe. A special thank you to Garrett who went above and beyond.

Professional services provided by Matt and Doug c/o Adams Funeral Home were much appreciated.

Thanks to David Archer for your inspirational thoughts and comforting words during the memorial service.

Your love, kindness and generosity will always be remembered.

Doug Sr., Doug Jr., Glenn & Family

Ritchie - A big thank you to friends and family for your cards, gifts, and flowers and mostly for joining us for a BBQ to celebrate our 5th Anniversary on August 29.

We would also like to thank Shaw's Catering for the delicious B.B.Q meal.

Joining us made a fun, enjoyable outdoor evening.

Bob & Joanne Ritchie

Mosquito pool tests positive for West Nile Virus

SIMCOE MUSKOKA - The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is reminding residents to protect themselves against mosquito bites following confirmation that mosquitoes collected from a trap in Alliston, Town of New Tecumseth, tested positive for the West Nile virus (WNV).

This is the first lab confirmed evidence of WNV in Simcoe Muskoka this year.

The health unit recommends the following personal protection measures to help protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites:

- use an approved mosquito repellent, following the manufacturer's instructions
- wear light-coloured clothing and cover up in areas where mosquitoes are present
- try to stay indoors when mosquitoes are most active (at dusk and dawn)
- remove standing water around your house or cottage.

Although most people will not become sick if bitten by an infected mosquito, WNV can cause severe illness in some people. Symptoms of WNV include fever, muscle weakness, stiff neck, confusion, severe headache and a sudden sensitivity to light. In very rare cases, the virus may cause serious neurological illness. Those experiencing symptoms should seek medical advice.

The health unit will continue its surveillance for the virus in Alliston as well as throughout Simcoe Muskoka. www.simcoemuskokahealth.org or 705-721-7520

We must dissent from the fear, the hatred, and the mistrust. We must dissent from a nation that buried its head in the sand waiting in vain for the needs of its poor, its elderly, and its sick to disappear and just blow away. We must dissent from a government that has left its young without jobs, education, or hope. We must dissent from the poverty of vision and timeless absence of moral leadership. We must dissent, because America can do better, because America has no choice but to do better. -Thurgood Marshall, US Supreme Court Justice (2 Jul 1908-1993)

Two employees are talking. One of them asks the other, "How long have you been working here?" The other one replies, "Since they threatened to fire me."

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Obituaries

RYAN, Blanche Edna - Passed away peacefully at the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital on Thursday, September 3, 2020. Blanche Ryan (nee Phillips) of Woodland Beach in her 101st year. Beloved wife of the late Cliff Ryan. Dear mother of Paul Ryan (Linda Miller) of Scarborough, Sheila Ryan of Etobicoke, and Maura Ryan (Roderick Smith) of Oakville. Loved grandmother of James and Alyson. Sister of the late Harvey and Frank.

A private family service will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home. Cremation with inurnment at Allenwood Cemetery.

Memorial donations to the Tiny Marsh would be appreciated.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to

www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com

NORTON, David Lorne - Passed away peacefully at the Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland on Sunday, September 6, 2020. David Norton of Wyevalle in his 86th year. Beloved husband of Joan Norton. Dear father of Brian (Danielle) Norton of Coldwater. Loving grandfather of Alanna and Jake. Brother-in-law of Ken (Donna) Chambers. David will be missed by his great friends, Bill (Joanne) Clop, Gary (Frances) Kenny, Brent (Marg) Barton, and Morris (Karen) Hopper.

Cremation with a service at a later date.

If desired, memorial donations in David's memory, may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to

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Estate of Terry Kiryluk, Guelph - Sept. 27-Oct. 1
Estate of Margaret Ostroski, Toronto - Oct. 4-8
Downsizing Auction for Mr. & Mrs. Kyle, Snow Valley - Oct. 11-15
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Governments Help Ontario Farmers Bring High-Quality Products to Market

Funding will improve the competitiveness of Ontario's farms

September 10, 2020
Woodstock — The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing more than \$7.9 million through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership to help farmers improve their business operations and bring more safe, high-quality foods to markets. This funding will support more than 670 projects across Ontario for eligible farmers and agri-food businesses.

“On-farm enhancements are essential to the sustainability and continuous improvement of the agriculture sector,” said the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. “Through this investment, we are supporting a range of farmer-driven projects to improve on-farm practices, strengthen the food value chain, and support public trust in farming.”

Examples of projects supported through this programming include:

- Improving food safety systems on farms to meet or exceed international certification standards;
- Planting over-wintering cover crops to improve soil health and reduce soil erosion losses;
- Actions to help prevent pest damage at greenhouse operations;
- Developing a product that will open new sales markets for a farm business; and
- Upgrades to animal-handling equipment and improved biosecurity measures.

“Our farmers work tirelessly to supply the array of safe, high-quality agricultural products that feed our province, our country and the world,” said the Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. “By making these strategic investments we are helping to improve the competitiveness of our agri-food sector and secure it for long-term sustainability, especially during these difficult times.”

“These 670 projects support farmers, rural communities, and the agricultural value chain,” said Neil Ellis, Parliamentary Secretary to the federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food. “It’s about supporting growth at the farm level, which will have positive environmental, food system, and market impacts across the Ontario agri-food sector.”

The funding is in addition to programming launched this year to assist the sector in meeting challenges related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Such programming includes the launch of a portal to connect farms and other agri-food sector business with labour needs to job seekers; the creation of the Enhanced Agri-food Workplace Protection Program; and the recent investment of an additional \$50 million into the Risk Management Program for this year, one year earlier than originally promised.

Since June 2018, both the federal and provincial governments have committed cost-share support to more than 2,500 projects through the Partnership to help eligible Ontario farmers, processors, businesses and sector organizations innovate and grow.

Quick Facts

- The Partnership is a five-year, \$3 billion investment which includes \$1 billion for federal activities and programs, and \$2 billion in cost-shared programs delivered by provinces and territories on a 60-40 basis.
- This cost-share funding is supporting projects in the following key priority areas:
 - Economic development in the agri-food and agri-products sectors.
 - Environmental stewardship to enhance water quality and soil health.
 - Protection and assurance to reinforce the foundation for public trust in the sector through improved assurance systems in food safety and plant and animal health.
- More than 670 projects were approved following



CNE Estimates a 95% Loss of Projected Revenue Due to the Pandemic

Without significant financial investment and relief, the long-term economic viability of Canada's largest fair is uncertain beyond next year

Toronto, ON (September 3, 2020) -- On any other Labour Day weekend, the CNE would typically be drawing out record crowds during its final stretch, packed with visitors soaking in the last days of summer and Air Show fans lining the lakeshore. This year, under unprecedented circumstances and in the interest of protecting public safety, the CNE made the historic decision to cancel its 18-day attraction; and prepares to wrap the 2020 season with a significant financial loss that will impact the future of the fair. The CNE is reporting a loss of more than \$6 million

CNE CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION FACTS & FIGURES

GENERATES
GREATER TORONTO AREA \$93,100,000
The CNE's economic impact on the Greater Toronto Area each year!

ONTARIO
Young Farmers \$128,300,000
The CNE's economic impact on Ontario each year!

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140 Farm Animals
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3 Food Festivals
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this year; and estimates a 95 per cent drop in projected revenue from cancelling its event, conservatively totalling more than \$35 million of lost potential earnings from ticket sales, exhibitor commitments, sponsorships and other income streams as a result of the pandemic. Not to mention the absence of the significant boost to the regional economy in tourism, jobs, supplier contracts, artist fees, and millions of dollars in retail transactions that support the livelihood of vendors, exhibitors, midway concessions, and neighbourhood business effected by the cancellation of the fair typically amounting to a \$128 million economic impact to the province.

The CNE is governed by the CNE Association (CNEA), which is a not-for-profit agricultural organization. Since 2013, the CNE has been financially independent and responsible for producing the large-scale 18-day event out of its own resources without any sustained government funding. The revenue generated each year is reinvested into the next year; therefore, the 2020 loss has a significant impact on the CNE's long-term economic viability.

“Government relief programs have largely excluded fairs, exhibitions, and agricultural societies, and have not considered the unique challenges of our industry – most important of which is that fairs rely on 90+ per cent of its annual revenue on a few days or months of the year; unlike the typical funding recipients of arts and cultural sector grants that support museums, galleries and attractions that are able to generate year-round revenue streams,” says Darrell Brown, CNE Executive Director.

While the CNEA recognizes that the pandemic has had a sweeping effect on businesses across sectors and that there are many hands reaching out for assistance, Brown adds that “Basic business sense should guide government policy. Allocating a grant of \$6 million to help the CNE produce an event that generates \$128 million dollars to the province annually, is a sound investment when you consider the greater gain to the regional economy and tourism; saving 5000 seasonal jobs, many of which support

- a competitive, merit-based application intake that took place from January 8 to January 29, 2020.
- In Ontario, cost-share programming to support farmers and other businesses through the Partnership is delivered by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA).

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youth; and the artists, vendors and businesses that benefit.”

The CNE is in the process of securing a loan under the federal Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) and has tapped into COVID-19 economic support programs to help bridge its financial gap; however, it will still need to repay the loan and find alternative sources for funding over several years in order to fully recover from this year's \$6 million deficit. Were it not for the BCAP loan, the CNEA would not be able to support its annual

operating costs through to 2021. On the municipal level, the CNE continues to work in close cooperation to discuss relief options with the City of Toronto and Exhibition Place, from which the organization leases the grounds and buildings as well as contracts with its union labour.

The total financial losses to the CNE as a result of the pandemic are still uncertain, and likely to increase as the pandemic continues to affect businesses, public events and large-scale gatherings. We also have to factor in considerations such as how the consumer behavior of our visitors might change; and putting safety first in all aspects of our planning,” said John Kiru President of the CNE Association. “Our road to financial recovery is a long-term proposition; however, we are encouraged by the public support of our fans who have connected with our virtual fair, and are optimistic that visitors will come out to support us again in person next year to help make it a banner year.”

Historical precedence suggests that after challenging years for the CNE, attendance figures tend to surge the following year to double-digit increases. Notwithstanding factors related to the pandemic, CNE organizers are confident that with the combined support and investment it hopes to receive this year, along with next year's forecast in attendance, it will be able to put on a successful 2021 season.

Kiru adds, “Generations of Torontonians have grown up with the CNE, it is part of our city's identity and is deep-rooted in our country's heritage. We know that, when we are able to open our gates again, Torontonians will join us in celebrating what we've collectively missed out on this year.”

The 2021 Canadian National Exhibition dates are set for August 20 to September 6

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Glenn & Francie Hall

September 12th 2020

Stolen

The night of Wednesday Sept 2, a 26 foot, black enclosed snowmobile trailer from the corner of Bayfield St and Snow Valley Road. Trailer is an ATC Raven with Huron Perth stickers. License plate S6638B.

Within the trailer was a 2017 Polaris XCR 800 and a red 2000 Indy Sport 340. These sleds may have been transported via an open trailer Thursday am along Bayfield Street.

Anyone with info please contact me -. 705.790.0891

Wyebriidge Community wishes Grace Mertz • Happy 99th Birthday!!!

Blood Donor Clinics

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**DYING MATTERS – CHILDREN & GRIEF
 Conversations on Life, Death & Bereavement**

Hospice Simcoe invites the community to join us virtually for our Dying Matters event on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 from 6:00PM - 8:00PM.

Dying Matters is an open forum presented by Hospice Simcoe, designed to encourage individuals in our community to start talking about dying, death & bereavement. This event is open to all community members, free of charge.

This Dying Matters topic is 'Children & Grief'. We invite you to bring your questions, comments, and thoughts for an open discussion with our panelists, live on zoom. All are welcome to participate and/or listen in. We want to engage with our community! Our panelists will share information, experiences and strategies on supporting children who are anticipating, or have experienced the death of a loved one.

Quote:

"I truly believe that as a community when we give children the support they need throughout their lives, they will grow into adaptable and resilient adults.

When children experience a significant death loss it is more important than ever to wrap community support around them; to nurture their grieving process and to assure them that their feelings are valid and that they are loved and cared for by the people around them.

This virtual 'event' is for anyone who has loved a child, currently loves a child or may love and care for a child in the future."

- Panelist, Danielle Marshall, Community Care Coordinator, Hospice Simcoe

Our Panelists are:

- Danielle Marshall, RSW, Community Care Coordinator, Hospice Simcoe
- Victoria Northcott, PhD, Hospice Simcoe Volunteer
- Joan Kennedy, RN, Program Director, Seasons Centre for Grieving Children

For further information about the upcoming Dying Matters, you can visit our website or Facebook event page.

Website: <https://hospicesimcoe.ca/education-and-awareness/>

Dying Matters Flyer: <https://hospicesimcoe.ca/wp-content/uploads/website-Dying-Matters-Sept2020.pdf>

Facebook Event page: https://www.facebook.com/events/465290700808070?active_tab=about

Please RSVP to receive the Zoom link to 705-725-1140 | doris@hospicesimcoe.ca

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Garage Sale: September 19th 10-5 p.m.
1751 Cty Rd. 92 – Downsizing: some tools lge & small, assortment of other items for women & men.
 Drive in & park on lawn.
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Nice work if you can get it

A Virginia brewery announced it is seeking a "Chief Hiking Officer" who would be paid \$20,000 to spend five to seven months hiking the Appalachian Trail and drinking beer. The Devil's Backbone Brewing Co., based in Lexington, said it is accepting applications from people to "love hiking and beer" to take on the unique job. The winning applicant will be granted the "Chief Hiking Officer" title and be flown out to trail head in 2021 for a 2,200 mile hike. The hiker, who would tackle the trail between May and September 2021, would be outfitted with equipment by the brewery, as well as being treated to "some big ol' beer parties along the way." The application on the company's website consists of some personal information, proof of social media or blogging savvy, and a video explaining why the applicant should receive the position.

Is there a rhyme about the color of the Moon and how this color can foretell the weather?

Answer: There are several, but the one most familiar to us is "Pale Moon doth rain, red Moon doth blow, white Moon doth neither rain nor snow".

Quarantine Day 5: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.

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GBGH continues gradual expansion of visitation

September 8, 2020 – Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) is continuing to gradually expand hospital visitation to enhance the patient experience. Effective September 8, GBGH is allowing two visitors at a time for inpatients within the set visiting hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. This is an increase from one visitor per patient per day. Inpatient visits will also no longer need to be booked in advance during specific blocks of time.

"We are re-opening visitation in a slow, phased approach to ensure we can maintain the safety of our patients and GBGH team," says Gail Hunt, president and CEO, GBGH. "The ideal scenario would be to resume unlimited family presence, meaning patients can have visitors 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Unfortunately, that's just not possible at this time, but this is a positive step forward to ensuring patients can see their loved ones which we know improves their experience and outcomes."

Emergency department patients may have one visitor remain with them if support is required. Circumstances where support could be required include:

- Pediatric patients – i.e. children under 18 (one guardian permitted with child)
- Language barrier (translation required)
- Mental health/competency/confusion challenges
- Palliative

Patients attending the hospital for scheduled appointments or procedures may have one visitor accompany them if support is required for similar reasons as in the Emergency department (listed above).

All permitted visitors will continue to be screened upon entering the hospital. Any visitor who screens positive for COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to not visit. In exceptional circumstances (such as a support person for a woman in labour, a parent/guardian of a child in the Emergency department or a palliative/end of life patient), a visitor who screens positive for symptoms will be reviewed by GBGH's infection prevention and control practitioner or hospital coordinator prior to entry.

All visitors must comply with hand hygiene practices, wear a hospital-provided mask and follow physical distancing. Visitors could also be asked to wear additional personal protective equipment as determined by the care team based on a patients' condition.

Visitor guidelines are subject to change based on the status of the pandemic within the region GBGH serves.

<http://gbgh.onca/covid-19-visitor-restrictions/>.

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Good Vibes Coffeehouse goes Virtual



'By Lu LaFrance Good Vibes Coffeehouse, where good music and good friends come together', good motto, but how can we *come together* during a pandemic? That is a problem. Our soundman, John Vella, came up with the solution – a virtual coffeehouse. Every Thursday from 7 to 8:30/9pm, John hosts the Good Vibes Virtual Coffeehouse. Performers and audience zoom in from their own homes. Guitars, piano, mouth organ, fiddle, jokes, buzzword – it's all still there, depending on who happens in on which night. Musicians offer two songs each, be it country, folk, rock and roll, by their favourite artists, even some of their originals. Spoken word, in the form of jokes, poems, or whatever are allotted ten minutes per performer. The time goes quickly and all enjoy not only the entertainment, but especially the wonderful comradery that has always been a special part of Good Vibes Coffeehouse.



To join in the fun, zoom into <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81090875569> the link can also be found on the Good Vibes Coffee House facebook page.



Ontario Supports Training for the IT & Tech Sectors

Innovative programs will help hundreds of job seekers establish well-paid careers

OTTAWA — The Ontario government is investing more than \$2.2 million to help over 600 job seekers in Ottawa develop the skills they need to establish careers in the technology and Information Technology (IT) sector.

The announcement was made today by Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, and Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries and MPP for Nepean, at the Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre.

The funding is being distributed as follows:

- Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre is receiving \$499,254 for an employer-led IT training project that will help up to 400 workers rapidly upgrade their skills and prepare them for high-demand jobs;
- Lighthouse Labs is receiving \$456,646 to train up to 60 newcomer women in technical IT skills;
- Information and Communications Technology Council is receiving \$497,155 to train 25 jobseekers in financial technology skills, followed by a work placement;
- Carleton University is receiving \$466,302 to create accessibility videos and materials for employers and employees to support the employability of post-secondary students with disabilities; and
- Le Collège La Cité is receiving \$313,951 to train up to 120 francophones in IT.

"Our government is committed to helping Ontarians gain in-demand training so they can be ready for future employers," said Minister McNaughton. "This investment will help our communities in Ottawa, and we are excited to partner with local organizations to address unique economic challenges while helping people find work."

Online job postings in the region show that software engineers and designers, and information system analysts are two of the top four in-demand workers. These projects encourage synergies between industry, education and training providers to drive innovation, help employers find skilled workers, and help job seekers find well-paid careers.

"These investments will create and provide the people of Ottawa with over 600 job opportunities," said Minister MacLeod. "Continuing to train and upgrade skills will be essential to advancing the Ottawa community, as we develop to meet the changing needs of our communities."

"Thanks to the generous support of the Ontario Government and Ministry of Labour, Training, and Skills Development, the GO4IT project will be able to provide upskills training to over 120 employers to help fill their skills shortage, improve their competitiveness, innovation and productivity, and allow 400 trainees to retain and find jobs in the growing digital economy," said Ying Xie, Senior Manager, In-TAC.

Quick Facts

- These Ottawa training projects are part of Ontario's \$37 million investment to help more than 15,000 people train for new jobs and upgrade their skills to fit the evolving needs of the province's economy.

RVH expands access to virtual mental health care

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) is expanding access to virtual mental health support for patients. Thanks in large part to a generous \$50,000 donation from RBC Foundation, patients can now receive timely and clinically-appropriate care from the comfort of their own home.

"Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were forced to shut down our programs in March, presenting us with an opportunity to re-evaluate how we provide our services" says Brian Irving, manager, Addiction Services and North Simcoe Muskoka RAAM services. "To prevent a lapse in care, we transformed a number of RVH's Mental Health and Addiction outpatient programs for virtual care delivery to ensure patients continue to receive mental health support during the pandemic."



Eric Dean, RVH Foundation CEO; Ronda MacPherson, RBC assistant vice president, Barrie/Muskoka & North Central Commercial Financial Service; Nancy Savage, RVH executive vice president Patient and Family Experience; Janice Skot, RVH president and CEO; Frank Berdan, VP, Barrie/Muskoka & North Central Commercial Financial Services; Martha Cope, RVH operations director, Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program and Mental Health and Addictions Program; Brian Irving, manager, Addiction Services and North Simcoe Muskoka RAAM services

RVH's Adult Mental Health Day Program and the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Clinics (RAAM) brought all counselling appointments online through the use of telemedicine. Thanks to a generous donation by RBC, the Day Program was able to make considerable changes by developing online learning modules to guide patients.

The introduction of virtual care has reduced the Adult Mental Health Day Program's waitlist by 85 per cent and brought the average wait time from eight months to 11 days. The number of patients attending follow-up appointments has also increased in both programs.

"When we heard about RVH's intention to offer more tools and counselling virtually in the Barrie community, we knew we had to help, especially right now as more people are struggling," says Marjolaine Hudon, Regional President - Ontario North and East, RBC Royal Bank. "By shifting so quickly, RVH has addressed a growing need and offers greater access to specialized mental health services."

The success of the program's virtual delivery has surpassed expectations. Many patients are finding this new model of care more accessible with one patient from the Day Program stating, "The online platform has made it much easier to attend. Also, with my social anxiety, I feel that it is easier to open up and participate using this format."

If you would like to support patient care at RVH, you can at www.RVHHero.ca

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Where did the term "spaghetti western" come from? - The term originated in the 1960s, when it was cheaper to make movies in Italy than the United States. Moviemakers made their westerns there and had English dubbed in for the Italian actors. That's how Clint Eastwood's early movies were made. One definition we found for spaghetti western is "a European western, usually filmed in Spain or Italy, and popularized in the 1960s by the films of Sergio Leone." Leone's films, in case you're interested, included *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly* (1966), starring Eastwood. His last film was a mob movie called *Once Upon a Time in America* (1984).